Where's Your Diploma?

January 25, 2012, 5:31 pm

By Gina Barreca

Where’s your diploma?

Is it magisterially framed and displayed with due pride and ceremony on your office wall? Is it part of a row of impressive documents in your home, standing square-shouldered next to your partner’s diploma, as if in a family portrait? Is it still stuck inside the blue cardboard folder it came in somewhere under a book in your parents’ library? Is it hanging in your bathroom, behind a door, so that nobody ever sees it but you—and even when you see it, you’re not exactly at your best?

Or was it lost in a move, burnt by an ex, peed on by your dog?

Know those ads saying “It’s 10 o’clock: do you know where your children are?” Well, it’s 2012: do you know where your diploma is?

Do you care?

The only diploma I have framed is the honorary doctor of humane letters degree I received from Shepherd College in 2000. It never occurred to me not to have that degree matted and framed in as ostentatious a manner as possible; it hangs near my desk at home and it makes me feel proud of myself because it was a gift.

The diplomas I earned, in contrast, are all in one big manila envelope in my office closet. The last time I looked at any of them was when I was showing a friend’s daughter the fancy calligraphy on my undergraduate degree. She was interested in the script, not the document itself. But I was drinking coffee while we looked at the envelope’s contents and, as I lack grace, I spilled a drop—not much, but some—so now there’s a blot (but not on the escutcheon, just on the paper).

It’s okay. I’ve been more upset at ruining really nice dresses the same way. After all, I haven’t ruined my education or, I hope, any evidence of it. When I wreck my clothes, they remain wrecked.

But I know a lot of people who have a far deeper sense of connection to their diplomas. Even if they pretend not to care, those who do care find a way to show it. In a trend that seemed hip in the early ’90s, for example, several pals had their degrees copied and laminated, making them into “diploma-ts.” (There might have even been a place in the West Village catering to that crowd.) It was sort of cute for fifteen minutes. The point was to dismiss the conventional display of the diploma while still, umm, displaying it.

Of course it’s also true that folks in various (but not all parts) of the medical field, some in the financial world, and many in the legal profession assert that it is imperative that they display their diplomas in their offices.

I’ve been in the offices of university administrators who hang their degrees on the wall and the offices of elementary school principals who do the same. But only in America and Canada. (I do not remember seeing any degrees displayed on the walls of British universities, but perhaps that’s changed over the years.)

So, folks, does the actual piece of the paper—the fabled sheepskin—mean anything to you?

Or would you have been happy enough to receive an email saying “Congratulations. You’re finished”? 
Yellow house on Shepherd University campus has colorful history

Topics
- Home Improvement
- Colleges and Universities
- Renovation

By RICHARD F. BELISLE
richardb@herald-mail.com
9:26 p.m. EST, January 29, 2012

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. — Over the centuries, the 18th-century log house being renovated on the Shepherd University campus has been a private home, a sorority house, a day-care center, a home-economics classroom, and, until last month, a storage unit.

The university has spent about $68,000 on renovations so far.
The one-and-a-half story frame house is believed to have been built between 1772 and 1793 by Femandge and Clarkson Freeman. It's on East High Street between Snyder and Knutti halls. It's easily recognized by its peeling yellow paint.

The university was founded in 1872 as Shepherd College.

Keith D. Alexander, who teaches environmental studies, and Dan Yanna, director of facilities management at Shepherd, are coordinating the renovation project.

Alexander said the house was a private home until 1926, when the university bought it. The house was built on one of Thomas Shepherd's original lots that were laid out when Shepherd founded the town. It was one of a line of houses along High Street that were built on original Shepherd lots, Alexander said.

Wade Banks, a Shepherdstown native and retired Shepherd professor, remembers the house and several next to it when he attended Shepherd in the early 1960s.

Banks recalls when the house was used as a preschool.

"Two of my sons went there," he said. "The guy who was in charge of maintenance at the college lived there at one time," he said.

Alexander said it was a sorority house in the 1950s.

"The house survived because the college used it," Alexander said.

Banks said he was a member of the Theta Sigma Chi fraternity in a nearby house along that stretch of East High Street.

He also recalled that there was a large home called the Boswell House, on the corner of East High and North Princess streets across from White Hall. That area is now a university parking lot.

The university received two grants totaling $66,000 to spend on the renovations. The first phase included installing new roof headers, removing a rear dormer and putting on a shingled roof.

The limestone foundation was stabilized and repointed.

The renovations are not intended to restore the building to its original condition. Much of the building is not original, including the floors and exterior German siding that covers the overall log construction, which is "significantly deteriorated," Alexander said.

"We're repairing versus replacing," Alexander said.

He said no decision has been made about what to do with the house once renovations are completed.
Tara Randi Craig of Lakeland was named to the dean's list at Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, W. Va.
Shepherd University set to host dance troupe

January 30, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Children of Uganda dance troupe will perform at Shepherd University at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Storer Ballroom, Student Center. The event is free and open to the public.

The group has toured since 1996. The music and dance troupe has performed on "The Late Show with David Letterman," "The Sharon Osbourne Show," at the White House, the 2003 Grammy Week's MusiCares benefit honoring U2's Bono and more. This year, the group will continue to share the rich culture of Uganda through rapid rhythms, quicksilver movements, commanding drums, haunting flutes, funny folktale and songs of joy and hope.

The music and dance troupe, hailed by The New York Times as a "euphoric ... celebration of dignity," is comprised of 18 children along with their young adult leaders. This troupe will serve as ambassadors for Uganda's estimated 3.5 million orphans, left homeless by the AIDS crisis. In addition to raising global awareness about this leading cause of death in Uganda, the group will help raise funds for two schools established to provide shelter, education and a bright future for children orphaned by AIDS.
‘Sweeney Todd’ on tap at Shepherd in February

January 30, 2012
journal-news.net

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SHEPHERDSTOWN - Stephen Sondheim's Tony Award-winning "Sweeney Todd" will come to Shepherd University at 8 p.m. Feb. 3, 4, 10 and 11 and 3 p.m. Feb. 5 and 12 in the Frank Center.

The Shepherd production is directed by Richard Helldobler, with musical direction by Erik Reid Jones, and features live orchestra accompaniment.

"Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" is a musical thriller with music and lyrics by Sondheim and libretto by Hugh Wheeler, presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI). The musical tells the story of Benjamin Barker, alias Sweeney Todd, who returns to London after being imprisoned for 15 years on false charges. When he learns from his former landlady Mrs. Lovett that his wife poisoned herself after being raped by Judge Turpin, who wrongly imprisoned him, he vows revenge.

Admission and seating for Sweeney Todd is on a first-come, first-served basis. The box office will open one hour prior to each performance. General admission is $15; $10 for faculty, staff, and students 18 and under; and free for Shepherd students with Rambler ID and Friends of Music Gold and Silver MAC cardholders.

More information is available by calling 304-876-5555 or visiting www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.
Shepherd University donor establishes three scholarships

January 30, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDTOWN - 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 in a release. "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.

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

"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.

Now retired from a 34-year run in the Georgia General Assembly and a 16-year role as the director of the Southern Center for Studies in Public Policy, Holmes resides in Atlanta, Ga. He also served as an administrator and faculty member at several colleges and universities, including Columbia University and Clark Atlanta University. Holmes is still active in numerous professional and civic organizations, including the Shepherd University Foundation. He previously established the Dr. Robert A. Holmes Scholarship and the Harry V. Klug Memorial Scholarship.

To learn more about how to contribute to these scholarships, or to honor or memorialize someone by establishing a named fund 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/ftnrweb.
Professor a finalist in international competition

Mark Cook’s ‘Piano Sonata’ recognized by National Academy of Greece

January 30, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - 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.

"I was very pleased and quite frankly surprised and shocked to see that I had been named a finalist in the master composing category," Cook said.

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, Md., and is currently writing an online textbook, "Foundations of Music Theory," to be released in July by Flat World Knowledge Publishing.
Singing Praise

Annual tribute to Dr. King also celebrates town anniversary

January 30, 2012
By Edward Marshall, Journal Staff Writer, journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Their voices echoing through the rafters with songs and hymns of praise, choirs from churches throughout Shepherdstown gathered Sunday at St. Agnes Catholic Church for the Shepherdstown Ministerial Association’s yearly choir festival.

It serves as an annual tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and this year it took on a dual role as one of the many celebrations of Shepherdstown’s 250th anniversary.

Choirs representing seven different congregations from Shepherdstown performed during the event.

"The choir festival has been happening for a number of years. It celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King primarily, as well as music. This year we are also focusing on the 250th anniversary of Shepherdstown. This is actually St. Agnes’ contribution to that yearlong celebration," said St. Agnes Parish Director of Music Rob McClimans, who developed Sunday’s program.

Among those performing were choirs from St. Agnes Catholic Church, Christ Reformed Church, the Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church, the Parish Pipers of Shepherdstown Lutheran Parish, the New Street United Methodist Church, St. John’s Baptist Church and the Baha’i faith community of Jefferson County. It was the first time that St. Agnes Parish, which has been a part of Shepherdstown for 217 years, hosted the choir festival.

"We moved into our new building a couple of years ago. Before we were too small to host anything like this, so this is a new thing for us," McClimans said. "It’s really an honor. We like inviting the community in and the different faiths."

A collection is taken up each year at the festival for the Multicultural Leadership Team Scholarship at Shepherd University. The scholarship assists those who might not otherwise be able to pursue a college degree who demonstrate leadership qualities and a commitment to improving race relations, enhancing cultural diversity and promoting multiculturalism.

Besides music, the festival also included dramatic readings of King’s Feb. 29, 1954, speech called “Rediscovering Lost Values” and the slain civil rights leader’s famous Aug. 28, 1963, "I Have a Dream" speech.
"This is an amazing experience to have this many choirs come together to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,” said Kim Lowry, a New Street UMC choir member. “I think it’s an excellent practice that the Shepherdstown Ministerial Association has started, and I hope that they continue it for many years.”

Betty Washington, a member of the St. John’s Baptist Choir, praised the ministerial association’s efforts to unite churches for the event.

"It made me feel real great that we were all coming together as one. ... God loves us all, and it just makes me feel great that we were participating in this program (and) service this evening,” Washington said.

Shepherdstown Ministerial Association President Bob Snipes said the festival is something the association has sponsored for several years. The association is made up of representatives from several Shepherdstown churches who meet monthly and undertake projects of common interest for the community.

"We have several worship services that we do together as well, but this is a particularly fun one because the community can all join in and sing with us,” Snipes said. “... It’s a wonderful reflection of Shepherdstown’s unity and togetherness.”

Sunday’s event was one of many that will honor Shepherdstown’s 250th anniversary. The kickoff to the yearlong celebration was held in December, and a variety of events will take place throughout the year.

Christ Reformed Church will host next year’s event.

- Staff writer Edward Marshall can be reached at 304-263-8931, ext. 182, or emarshall@journal-news.net
Shepherd gets 4-legged cop

January 31, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Shepherd University Police Department introduced the newest and youngest addition to the campus department: Gunther, a 2-year-old golden Labrador retriever, who is handled by K-9 Officer Jim Cummings.

Gunther, who was bred in Germany, received 12 weeks of training at Southern Coast K-9 Academy in Florida before arriving on campus on Dec. 9, 2011.

Cummings has worked with K-9 dogs for three years and was trained at Battle Ridge K-9 in Madison. Cummings had worked part time with the campus police department for two years before joining the department full time in December. Cummings previously worked for the Shepherdstown Police Department.

Gunther is trained in narcotics detection, and one of his jobs will be to conduct random, free-air searches around cars, buildings and sidewalks. 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 will also 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 will also do demonstrations in the community.

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

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.

Ed Boober, acting chief of the Shepherd police department, said that having a K-9 dog on campus will diminish the sales and usage of narcotics on campus and break down barriers between law enforcement officers and students.

"Our focus is education, and we hope to provide an education without distractions of the abuse of narcotics," Boober said.
Botetourt County resident has been named to the Dean’s List at Shepherd University

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.

Located in West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle, Shepherd University is a public liberal arts university. Shepherd is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association.

Congrats, Troy Walker McNeill!
Free piano lessons now being offered.

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 26.

For more information or to set up an interview, email Gary Mullenax at gmullen@shepherd.edu.
Pendleton students make dean’s list

January 31, 2012
The Inter-Mountain

Three Pendleton County residents have been named to the dean’s list at Shepherd University.

Those achieving the honor are Matthew Thomas Dunkle of Franklin, Samantha Ann Jones of Sugar Grove and Michael Troy Mallow of Upper Tract.

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.

Located in West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle, Shepherd University is a public-supported university with a strong liberal arts emphasis in its curriculum. Shepherd is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. From its beginnings more than 130 years ago, the university has evolved into a comprehensive center of higher learning.

It offers baccalaureate degrees in a wide range of fields, encompassing the liberal arts, business administration, teacher education, the social and natural sciences and other career-oriented areas.

More information is available at www.shepherd.edu.
Local students achieve the dean's list

Daily Record/Sunday News
Updated: 02/01/2012 04:07:28 PM EST

Local students have achieved the dean's list:

**Mansfield University** - Samantha Roberts of Dover, Robert Davis of Felton, Andrew Csuri of Glen Rock, Kiley Birgensmith of Hanover, Melissa Doty of Hanover, Kattyn Roth of Hanover, Virginia Bruder of McSherrystown, Nicole Eshleman of Wellsville, Kathryn Jones of Wellsville, Joshua Inners of Windsor, Sarah Eline of York, Chelsey Reisinger of York, Margaret Bambling of York and Dillon Mulroy of York.


**Wheaton College** - Michael Evans of East Berlin.

**McDaniel College** - Kira Young of Glen Rock with high honors, Sarah Belivakic of Hanover with honors, Jason Dubs of Hanover with honors, Katelyn Duck of Hanover with honors, Melissa George of Hanover with highest honors, Daniel Green of Hanover with highest honors, Kelsey Hetrick of Hanover with honors, Megan McCole of Hanover with highest honors, Megan Robinson of Hanover with honors, Steven Wheeler of Hanover with highest honors, Danielle Sirk of Littlestown with high honors, Kathryn Dales of New Freedom with honors and Luke Schmidt of Red Lion with high honors.

**Shepherd University** - Amy Sultner of York, Bailey Brosse of York and Laura Sterner of Hanover.
Jefferson County residents named to Shepherd’s dean’s list

February 1, 2012 0 Comments

One hundred twelve Jefferson County residents have been named to the dean’s list at Shepherd University. 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.


Keameysville: Morgan Elizabeth Creamer, Stephanie Noel Crum, Kelsey Lynn Fry, Rebecca Ann Herdering, Cara Elizabeth Jeffries, Darryl Villa Johnson, Rachel Louise Johnson, Christopher Andrew Koresmaros, Kristy Lee Manocchio, Steven David Orrence, Sara Michelle Roque, Michael Vincent Smith, Brenda Vences, Zachary Jordan Sharp, Miranda Rachel Beahm, Christa Marie Knock, Angela Dawn Seal


Ranson: Jessica Lynnette Bibb, Desire Marie Miller, Hannah Rachel Parker, Olivia Lauren Sundstrom, Chelsea Louise Walters

Summit Point: Emily Nicole Liber, Michael Cameron Viands, Kelsea Anne Weiant

Shenandoah Junction: Jacqueline Holland Binkley, Matthew Drew Myers

Halltown: Kari Leeann Edge

Rippon: Sarah Jean Loy
Shepherd University is preparing for the 10th annual Relay for Life. This year’s event will be held on Friday, March 30 at the Wellness Center.
This year’s theme for Relay for Life is “I Believe …” to coincide with Shepherd’s Common Reading program selection, Jay Allison’s “This I Believe.”
Rachel Crum, AmeriCorps VISTA community service coordinator, said that organizers plan to have committee chairs, survivors, and participants share their personal “I Believe” statements at the this year’s Relay for Life and are also starting a collection from the Shepherd community of cancer survivors.
This year’s fundraising goal for the American Cancer Society is $80,000. So far, $6,288 has been raised.
Since 2003, Shepherd’s Relay for Life has raised $429,631 and has brought students and community members together each spring to raise money for cancer research.
Team captains are meeting each Wednesday leading up to Relay for Life at 4 p.m., with the exception of midterm week and spring break recess, in the Rumsey Gallery in the Student Center.
Upcoming fundraisers include a Valentine’s Day spaghetti dinner at Christ Reformed Church, 304 E. German St., Shepherdstown, from 5:30-8 p.m.
Tropical Smoothie Cafe in Martinsburg will be hosting a fundraiser on February 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.
Chick-fil-a in Ranson will host a fundraiser on Feb. 10 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
To date, 197 participants and 41 teams have registered for this year’s event.
Those interested in participating in this year’s event can register online at www.shepherd.edu/relayforlife.
Preliminary work to begin on Shepherd University pedestrian underpass

By RICHARD F. BELISLE
richardb@herald-mail.com
7:30 p.m. EST, February 1, 2012

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. —

Motorists entering Shepherdstown over the Potomac River bridge should expect delays over the next nine months as work begins on a long-awaited safe pedestrian underpass linking the East and West campuses of Shepherd University.

Shepherdstown police said last month that a 21-year-old Shepherd student was hospitalized with serious injuries when she was struck by a vehicle while walking through the busy crosswalk on North Duke Street, the route that brings traffic from Maryland into Shepherdstown.

Construction of the $4 million underpass has been in the planning stages for several years.

A letter from university officials to Shepherdstown residents and business owners said the construction of the underpass itself will be done between May and August during the school’s summer break.

Preliminary work scheduled to start this month includes moving underground utility and overhead electrical lines, building a short detour road or bypass through the Bavarian Inn property onto Shepherd Grade Road and building a temporary access road around the construction site across West Campus Drive and back onto North Duke Street.

The final stage, scheduled for September and October, will be restoration of the work site, according to the letter.

Travelers heading west toward Martinsburg from the Potomac River bridge will be encouraged to take a right off the Bavarian Inn bypass onto Shepherd Grade Road, then left onto University Drive and follow it around the West Campus to W.Va. 480.

Students and other pedestrians who currently use the crosswalk will have to cross North Duke Street at High Street during construction.

University officials said delays for motorists while the work is being done will range from “rare” to “minimal.”

The letter includes a map of the construction site featuring the new bypass and a construction timetable.

“During the construction phase, pedestrian and vehicular routes will be altered to provide for the safest and easiest navigation to points on campus and in Shepherdstown,” the letter said.

Richard Staisloff, acting vice president for administration and finance at Shepherd, said that detouring traffic through the Bavarian Inn property will be less of an inconvenience to motorists than if they had to wait for a flagman to wave them through single lanes during construction of the underpass.

Additional information on the project, including changes to the construction schedule plus an electronic version of the detour map, can be found on the university’s Web site, www.shepherd.edu/underpass, or by calling 304-876-5107.
"Sweeney Todd" set to be performed

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Stephen Sondheim's Tony Award-winning "Sweeney Todd" comes to Shepherd University at 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Feb. 10 and 11; and at 3 p.m. Sunday and Feb. 12 in the Frank Center.

The Shepherd production is directed by Richard Helldobler, with musical direction by Erik Reid Jones, and features live orchestra accompaniment. Scott Donaldson, senior vocal performance major, is featured in the role of Sweeney Todd; Joanna Moomaw plays the role of Mrs. Lovett; Jessica Adkins, a sophomore vocal performance major, is Johanna; Megan West, senior music education and music theater major, plays the Beggar Woman; Ross Tannaccio, sophomore music major, plays the role of Anthony; Brian James, junior music theater and music education major, plays Toby; Daniel Plante, a junior music performance major, is the Judge; Paul Cabell, a junior music education major, is Pirelli; and Nick Bavani, a junior music education major, is Beadle.

"Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street," is a musical thriller with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and libretto by Hugh Wheeler, presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI). Admission and seating for "Sweeney Todd" is on a first-come, first-served basis. The box office will open one hour prior to each performance. General admission is $15; $10 for faculty, staff and students 18 and under; and free for Shepherd students with Rambler ID and Friends of Music Gold and Silver MAC Cardholders.

For more information, call 304-876-5555 or visit www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.
Scholarships available to students at Pocahontas County High School

By Suzanne Stewart, sastewart@pocahontastimes.com
Feb 02, 2012

The Pocahontas County High School guidance office collaborated with the Pocahontas County Conventions and Visitors Bureau to create a notebook of scholarships for every junior and senior. Below is a full list of the scholarships that are found in the notebook and in guidance counselor Linda Beverage's office.

Shepherd University
Shepherdstown
www.shepherd.edu

Academic Department Scholarships

Alumni Scholarship: Deadline March 1.

Charles Town Kiwanis Club Scholarship

Dr. David Dunlop Scholarship: Deadline March 1.

General Moler Scholarship

Honors Tuition Waiver: Deadline March 1.

Mark and Barbara Stern Scholarship: Deadline March 1.

Ralph and Margaret Burkhart Honors Scholarship

Rubye Clyde McCormick Scholarship: $5,000 per year. Deadline March 1.

William Randolph Hearst Foundation Scholarship: Up to $1,500 per academic year. Applicants must be female or minority Honors students.
INWOOD - The Musselman High School Guidance Office has arranged a Financial Aid workshop for its students from 6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 8. Shepherd University Financial Aid officers will be available to assist Musselman High School students and their parents through the filing process. For more information or to register, call the Guidance Office at 304-229-1962.
AHA! exhibit being held locally

CHARLES TOWN - The current exhibit at the AHA! Fire Hall Gallery puts the spotlight on the theme of conservation.

Artworks 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.
‘Sweeney Todd’

“Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street” will be performed by Shepherd University students. 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 3 p.m. Sundays through Feb. 12. Shepherd University’s Frank Center, off University Drive, Shepherdstown, W.Va. $15; $10 for faculty, staff and students ages 18 and younger; free for Shepherd students with Rambler ID and Friends of Music Gold and Silver MAC cardholders. Call 304-876-5555 or go to www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.
Local MU students participate in Undergraduate Research Day at the State Capitol

Published 9:36am Thursday, February 2, 2012
Email  Comments

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Thirty-one students from Marshall University were among 106 students from throughout West Virginia who presented their research projects in poster format during the ninth annual Undergraduate Research Day last week at the State Capitol in Charleston.

The following is a list of local Marshall students who participated, along with their hometowns, fields of study, research project titles and advisors:

Edwin Warnick of Proctorville (computer science/information technology), “CRES – Cyber-security Research and Education System” — Dr. Paulus Wahjudi, advisor

Joseph Hall of South Point (computer science/information technology), “Document Retrieval to Identify Evidence of Protein Roles” — Dr. Hoil Han, advisor

Warren Shelton of Proctorville (computer science/information technology), “Lockout” — Dr. Hoil Han, advisor

Mark Carroll of South Point (computer science/information technology), “RSS with TTS” — Dr. Venkat Gudivada, advisor

The event, which is held in the Capitol rotunda, helps state policymakers understand the importance of undergraduate research by giving them an opportunity to talk directly with the students who conduct the research. The student projects are original research and their posters are designed for a general audience.

“This is a fun event for both students and members of the Legislature,” said Dr. Michael Castellani, professor and chair of Marshall’s chemistry department, and co-chair of the event’s organizing committee. “Students engage in original research projects for as long as four years and this event provides them a chance to share their work with delegates and senators.”

Featured projects included research in the fields of biochemistry, biology, chemical engineering, chemistry, communications, computer science/information technology, economics, engineering, English, environmental sciences, environmental studies, geology, mathematics, physics and psychology.

In addition to Marshall, the other 14 universities and colleges represented at the event were Alderson-Broaddus College, Bluefield State College, Concord University, Fairmont State University, Glenville State College, Ohio Valley University, Shepherd University, the University of Charleston, West Liberty University, West Virginia State University, West Virginia University, West Virginia Wesleyan College, Wheeling Jesuit University and WVU Institute of Technology.
“Descriptions of some projects are distributed worldwide and much of the work is on par with that done at the best universities in the country,” Castellani said. “This event provides a unique opportunity for members of the legislature to see an aspect of higher education that is normally hidden from public view, but is one of the most important tools for developing students for entry into the workplace or postgraduate education.”

Marshall University is the oldest public institution of higher learning in West Virginia and one of the region’s most dynamic universities, serving students from 47 states and more than 60 countries.

Marshall offers undergraduate, graduate and professional degree programs, and competes in Division I intercollegiate sports in Conference USA. Located in the college town of Huntington, West Virginia, Marshall is known for its safe and beautiful campus, dedicated professors, small class size, successful graduates and great value.
Upward Bound welcomes new participants

February 2, 2012
The Inter-Mountain

Upward Bound is a federally funded TRIO program designed to prepare high school students for post-secondary education.

The program provides services to students who would be the first generation in their family to complete a four-year degree or those who meet income guidelines. The program's goal is to ensure that these students graduate high school and pursue and complete post-secondary education.

The Davis & Elkins College Upward Bound programs serve students from Barbour, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph and Tucker counties.

New recruits became active members during the November monthly activity on the Davis & Elkins College campus. For their December group activity, participants toured Shepherd University. They also planned a visit to Massanutten WaterPark.

Students not selected are placed on a waiting list. If an opening becomes available, the program will select from that list.

The staff members of Upward Bound wishes congratulated the new participants and said they look forward to working with them for many years to come.

More information regarding Upward Bound is available at 800-624-3157, ext. 1389, or www.deubwv.com.
SHEPHERDSTOWN - Three Shepherd University student affairs staff members recently were promoted to new positions.

David B. Cole Jr., of Williamsport, Md., now is the university's 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 his bachelor's degree in sociology from Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College) and a master's degree in psychology from Hood College in Frederick, Md. He has worked at Shepherd for 15 years.

Holly Morgan Frye, of Shenandoah Junction, was hired as assistant vice president for student affairs for student engagement. In her new role, she will provide leadership and supervision for student affairs programming and will oversee the Washington Gateway Program, crisis management and disaster preparedness, student affairs communications, and student engagement, in addition to overseeing the award-winning student community services and service learning program at Shepherd.

Frye earned a bachelor's degree in communications from Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College) and a master's degree in college student development and administration from Shepherd.

Frye has worked at Shepherd for 12 years, most recently as director of student community services and student learning for 10 years and as coordinator of alumni affairs for two years.

Christana J. Johnson, of Stephens City, Va., was hired as assistant vice president for student affairs for student success. She will supervise the student health center and counseling services, coordinate professional development and assessment efforts for the division of student affairs, in addition to overseeing multicultural student affairs and disability support services.

Johnson earned a bachelor's 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.
SHEPHERDSTOWN

Gift: The Shepherd University Foundation has accepted a significant gift from Dr. Joseph J. Renn III and his wife, Robin.

Renn is retired from practice and serves as an adjunct professor at the West Virginia University Medical School. He established the Elsie Brown Renn and Joseph J. Renn Jr. Memorial Scholarship in memory of his parents to undergraduate students majoring in the biological sciences.

Renn and his two sisters, Roberta Renn Absher and Emma Renn Borden, all are second-generation Shepherd graduates.

In 1959, the siblings were photographed with President Oliver Ikenberry for the student newspaper. Last spring, they recreated the photograph with Suzanne Shipley, Shepherd's current president.
Shepherd hosting series of political documentaries  
February 3, 2012  
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies at Shepherd University will host a series of recent political documentaries. The series, titled "Documented," consists of five remaining films. Each screening will be followed by a discussion facilitated by a person versed in the issues raised by the film. All films will begin at 7 p.m. and all showings are free and open to the public.

Feb. 7: "Casino Jack and the United States of Money," portrays Washington super lobbyist Jack Abramoff from his early years as a gung-ho member of the GOP political machine to his final reckoning as a disgraced, imprisoned pariah. A tale of international intrigue with Indian casinos, Russian spies, Chinese sweatshops and a mob-style killing in Miami, this is the story of the way money corrupts our political process. The film follows the ongoing indictments of federal officials and exposing favor trading in our nation's capitol.

www.takepart.com/casino-jack. Discussion leader: Dr. Max Guirgis, Shepherd University.

Feb. 16: "Default: The Student Loan Documentary," chronicles the stories of borrowers from different backgrounds affected by the private student lending industry and their struggles to change the system.

defaultmovie.com/. Discussion with film creators via Skype after the screening.

Feb. 21: "How to Start a Revolution," profiles Gene Sharp and his ally Retired U.S. Army Colonel Robert Helvey (who is originally from West Virginia). Together they have trained nonviolent activists around the world. The film sketches a portrait of how one man's thinking has contributed to the liberation of millions of oppressed people and how his work in direct action and civil disobedience continues to be used today to topple dictators using the sheer force of nonviolent people power.

howtostartarevolutionfilm.com. Discussion with film creator via Skype after the screening.

Feb. 28: "Gasland." The largest domestic natural gas drilling boom in history has recently swept across the United States. The Halliburton-developed drilling technology of "fracking" or hydraulic fracturing has unlocked a "Saudi Arabia of natural gas" just beneath us. But is fracking safe? When filmmaker Josh Fox is asked to lease his land for drilling, he embarks on a cross-country odyssey uncovering a trail of secrets, lies and contamination.

www.gasandthemovie.com/. Discussion with Ed Snyder, Shepherd University.

March 5: "War Redefined," challenges the conventional wisdom that...
war and peace are men's domain through incisive interviews with leading thinkers, Secretaries of State and seasoned survivors of war and peace-making. Narrated by Geena Davis, the film reframes our understanding of modern warfare through probing conversations with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and former Secretaries of State Condoleezza Rice and Madeleine Albright; Liberian peace activist Leymah Gbowee, among others. Co-sponsored with the Shepherd University Women's Studies Program. Discussion leader: Betty Elzey, Shepherd University. [www.pbs.org/wnet/women-war-and-peace](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/women-war-and-peace).

The Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies is a private, nonpartisan, and nonprofit educational organization administered by the Congressional Education Foundation with facilities on the campus of Shepherd University. The mission of the Center is to help foster better public understanding of the United States Congress, the Constitution and representative democracy both historically and in a contemporary setting.
A little off the top

Shepherd to perform 'Sweeney Todd'

February 3, 2012
By Kelly Cambrel - Chronicle Staff, Shepherdstown Chronicle

Shepherd University Music Department will tackle another well known musical with its production of "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street."

According to director Richard Helldobler, the show is an opportunity to showcase the talent Shepherd University has to offer.

Helldobler said that Stephen Sondheim’s Tony Award-winning musical is known to be a more difficult piece to perform, but that the students have risen to the challenge.

"It says something about our students," he said.

Helldobler, who now serves as Shepherd University's Vice President of Academic Affairs, began his university career as part of the theater faculty more than 20 years ago and has directed more than 150 plays. He is joined by musical director Dr. Erik Reid Jones.

Helldobler's direction of Sweeney, his second production at Shepherd after last year's "Candide," is a return to familiar territory.

"It's nice to stretch those academic muscles," he said.

The play features a cast of 40 students, both music and non music majors.

Helldobler said that though audiences have come to associate "Sweeney Todd" with blood and gore, the university production will be performed in a slightly different way.

"This is done in a melodrama style," he said.

He explained that it focuses on a heightened sense of suspense.

Audiences who may or may not have seen a performance of "Sweeney Todd" will find relevance in the story's message, Helldobler said.

"It has lessons to teach today about choices and what happens when people in power don't make the right choices," he said.

"It's really about moral choices and revenge," he went on to say.

Despite its "dark" tone, Helldobler seemed confident the student-driven piece would entertain and impress.

"Come out and watch these young students deliver a very quality production," he said.
“Sweeney Todd” will be performed tonight, Feb. 3 and Friday, Feb. 10, Saturdays, Feb. 4 and Feb. 11 at 8 p.m., as well as Sundays, Feb. 5 and 12 at 3 p.m. in the Frank Center Theater.

General admission is $15; $10 for faculty, staff and students 18 and under; and free for Shepherd students with Rambler card and Friends of Music Gold and Silver MAC Cardholders.

For more information, call 304-876-5555 or visit www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.
Faculty forum set for Feb. 21

February 3, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

The first lecture in the Shepherd University's Faculty Research Forum will be held Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 4 p.m. in the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies with "Early stages of lens induction in Xenopus embryos," presented Dr. Carol Plautz, assistant professor of biology.

In a search for genes with lens-inducing activity, ldb1 was isolated through an expression cloning strategy. Further investigation revealed the activity to be dependent on the nucleus, suggesting that its action is due to an indirect mechanism. To test the hypothesis that ldb1 mediates induction of an early lens gene by transcriptional activation of lens-inducing signals, ldb1 was tested in several gain- and loss-of-function assays. These data suggest that an ldb1-regulated mechanism comprises the early signal for Xenopus lens induction, laying the groundwork for linking this molecule to activation of known early lens genes.

Other Shepherd Faculty Research Forums topics to be presented this spring are "ADHD Symptoms and Executive Functioning in Young Adulthood" presented by Dr. Anne Murtagh, assistant professor of psychology, Wednesday, Mar. 7 at 4 p.m. in the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies, and "A Woman's View of Tibet" presented by Dr. Joyce Webb, associate professor of communications, Tuesday, Apr. 10 at 4 p.m. in the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies.

For more information about the Shepherd Faculty Research Forum, visit www.shepherd.edu/aaweb
Shepherd planning 10th Relay for Life fundraiser

February 3, 2012
Toni Milbourne - Chronicle Editor, Shepherdstown Chronicle

Friday, Mar. 30 is the day set for the 10th annual Shepherd University Relay for Life event. This year’s theme is "I Believe..." which coincides with the school’s Common Reading program selection, Jay Allison’s “This I Believe.”

The monetary goal set for this year’s event, according to a recent press release issued by the University, is $80,000. To date, more than $6,000 has been raised.

According to Rachel Crum, AmeriCorps VISTA community service coordinator and previous chair of the event, team captains are meeting each week to plan fund raising events and plan for the Mar. 30 walk.

"Coming back and helping plan this year’s Relay is exciting," Crum said. "To see how it’s grown is exciting." She went on to say that "Becoming an indoor event is probably the coolest thing we’ve done since we’ve started. It’s either freezing or raining and everyone has to be so flexible. It’s exciting to take all that out of the equation and see what we can really do."

The Relay for Life concept was begun by a colorectal surgeon from Tacoma, Wash., who decided to run marathons to raise funds for cancer research. In May 1985, Dr. Gordy Kliatt spent 24 hours circling a track at Baker Stadium at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma. Friends paid $25 to run or walk with him over the 24-hour period. After traveling 83 miles, he raised $27,000 to help fight cancer.

In 1986, he, along with friends, developed the relay concept. Relays are now held nationwide and generate hundreds of thousands of dollars for cancer research.

Shepherd University’s Relay has raised $429,631 since 2003 and has brought the community and students together in a concerted effort to help eliminate a dreaded disease.

Several fund raisers have been scheduled gearing up for the March Relay. On Valentine’s Day, a spaghetti dinner will be held at Christ Reformed Church, 304 East German Street, from 5:30-8 p.m. Feb. 18 will see a fundraiser at Tropical Smoothie Cafe in Martinsburg from 2 to 4 p.m. and another event at Chick-Fil-A in Ranson on Feb. 10 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.