Shepherdstown Shutterbugs

Photographs taken by Shepherdstown Elementary School students answering the question, "What Makes Shepherdstown Unique," will be exhibited at the Enter Hotel from 2-6 p.m. July 29.

The photos were taken during a "photo safari" developed and organized by Keith Alexander, coordinator of Shepherd University's Historic Preservation Program.

The photo safari involved Shepherdstown Elementary School fifth graders taking photographs of Shepherdstown with digital cameras. The cameras were purchased through a grant received by Alexander from the Two Rivers Giving Circle. Alexander worked with three teachers at the elementary school — Amanda Groff, Leslie Boyd and Ashley Snow — to plan and implement the event. Stephanie Ann Osborn, a recent graduate of Shepherd University and one of Alexander's students, also helped with planning.

According to a news release from Shepherd University, common themes in the children's photos included the tree in front of the Shepherdstown Library, McMurrin Hall, the Ramsey Monument, Town Run and the Little House.

The photos will be available to view online after the exhibit. The Historic Shepherdstown Commission contributed in-kind support to make the exhibit possible.
Shepherd officials to visit White House

POSTED: July 29, 2011

Shepherd University President Suzanne Shipley, Tom Segar, vice president of student affairs, and Holly Frye, director of community service and service learning, will visit the White House on Wednesday, Aug. 3 as part of the President's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge.

The President's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge is an initiative inviting institutions of higher education to commit to a year of interfaith and community service programming on their campuses. The program is designed to gather diverse campus groups to work together to implement a specific yearlong service project in their communities.

Shepherd will be working with United Way of the Eastern Panhandle and the Burke Street Promise Neighborhood Initiative, a grassroots group of committed and concerned citizens, to create a promise neighborhood in a designated 40 square block area of Martinsburg that has been identified as low-income.

During the yearlong project, Shepherd students will serve as volunteers for many programs and events undertaken by the Burke Street Promise Neighborhood, and will host a block party for residents, provide workshops on inexpensive, healthy food options, host after school activities, tutor at-risk youth, help families develop a budget, and assist with neighborhood beautification projects.

"Our goal for this initiative is to provide personal experiences for our students as they discuss and dialog about spirituality, faith, belief, and non-belief with the intention that when they leave our campus community, they will be prepared to embrace a pluralist society where our differences can be our strengths," Frye said in a press release.

Shipley said that the challenge allows Shepherd to highlight one of its most effective student leadership development efforts, the role of community service projects that create in students a lifelong dedication to community involvement.

"The President's Interfaith and Community Service Challenge is a great opportunity to engage students in service to others, while introducing parallel investigations into how belief shapes action," Shipley said.

According to Frye, Shepherd's initiative will include administering an Interfaith Youth Core student survey to measure four areas of campus life as it relates to students' attitudes, knowledge, behaviors, and overall campus climate; creation of an Interfaith Council including students, staff, and faculty who will be charged to determine campus needs related to religious diversity; and creation of a speaker series to discuss further interfaith dialog.

"The President's Interfaith and Community Service Challenge has given us pause to reflect on this tendency to stray away from religious dialog and programming," Frye said. "This challenge has presented our campus with an opportunity to give our students permission, both literally and figuratively, to explore how faith and spirituality intersect with community service."

Subscribe to Shepherdstown Chronicle
Six hundred and fifty six students received degrees during Shepherd University's 138th Commencement on May 14. Jim Lehrer, executive editor and anchor of the PBS NewsHour, delivered the commencement address.

*Students receiving master's degrees.

Shepherdstown:
Bisher, Benjamin Harrison
Black, Maxine Jill
Bouderhan, Nader
Burke, Martin Joseph
Bush Jr, Calvin Monroe
Clark, Marshall Heath
Collins, Katherine Marie
Ford, Andrew Palmer
Griffith, Jennifer Allison
Guild, John Douglas
Hansbury, Brendan James
Henderson, Katherine Tinsley
Hockman, Tyler Marshall
Horner, Jeremy D H
Humphries, Robert Anthony
Keller, George Emmett
Larsen, Emily Anne
Lowman IV, John Dudley
Mansfield, Jason Andrew
Normandy-Dolberg, Jaimee Nicol
Phalen, Gary Lee
Rantanen, Edward A
Ray, Courtney E
Siler, Jennifer Louise
*Thompson, Heather Nicole
Thompson, Jane Linn
Wheeler, William Franklin
Whitaker, Carrie Anne
Wilson, Carley J
Hess, Jennifer Michelle
Charles Town:
Alegret, Beth Ann
Arbaugh, Stephanie Ruth
Ballenger, Ashley Blake
*Britton, Shane C
Burwell, Michelle Marie
Cassell, Leigh Anne
Considine, John Thomas
Dailey, Justin Alexander
Faunteroy, Ramai Khalid
Hart, Eric Scot
Hughes, Lauren Jo
Irving, Brigit Anne
Johnson, Stacie Lee
Koczera, Daniele Jeanne
Lutman, Karen Marie
Masi, Margery Caitlin
Moreland, Brittany Suzanne
Mullins, Amanda Jane
Murray, Tamarra Darcell
Nicewamer, Justin Douglas
Osborn, Stephanie-Anne
Pegues, Joseph Franklin
Riley, Sean Michael
Rogers, Kevin
Rogers, Steven Matthew
Russell, Hillary Erin
Rust, Amanda Dickinson
*Smith, Jason Scott
Staub, Shawn Robert
Whitaker, Peter Daniel
Wilt, Lindsay Brooke
Stewart, Chad Scott
*Patterson, Joshua Thomas
Camp, Karen Marie
McDonough Jr, Robert Douglas
Pegues, Melissa Danielle
Morrison, Heather Elizabeth
Blair, Jonathan
Cameron Sr, James Gregory
Harpers Ferry:
Hallock, Rachael Lynne
Hawkins, Ashley Megan
Henry, Brian Cham
Jenkins, Westley Aaron
*Mattis, Jennifer Sue
Mlam, April Lee
Morgan, Regina Louise
Nelson, Elisabeth D
Odden, Shepherd
Powell, Kelly Kathleen
Rover, Laine Elise
Russell, Lou Ann
Simpson, Mary Kathleen
Stoebig, Quirispina Lagarde
Szymanski, Katrina Lee
Trenary, Traci Lee
Van Horn, Melissa Anne
Vance, Lisa Rae
York, Sarah Caitlin
Bryan, Sarah Margaret
Pierce, Lucas Marshall
Perkinson, Amanda Gail
Proctor, Jessica Lane
Murrow, Candice Nicole
Kearneysville:
Beahm, Joselyn Noelle
Coleman, Brad Nathaniel
Dunn, Jeremy Scott
Holohan, Michele Renee
Jensen, Whitney Elise
Ring, Jessica Louise
Smoot, Jeffrey Boward
Woelkers, Kenneth Philip
Horton, Ariel Katherine
Ranson:
Alexander, Mallory Eve
Armstrong, Gregory
Askew, Chasty Lynn
Boddorf, Bethany Mercelle
Bitto, Lindsey Brooke
*Lemon, Tina Marie
Nelson, Steven Craig
Parker, Kalah JoAnn
Thomas, Timothy Wayne
Williams, Alexandra Leigh
Waiters, Michael Christopher
Shenandoah Junction:
Duffy, Neil William
Henderson, Ashley Christine
Hodder, Courtney Ann
Myers, William Kirk
Simon, Brett Lucas
Summit Point:
Blickenstaff, Lisa
Gustines, Corie Brooks
*Lorenzen, Patricia West
Stillions, Tina Marie
Lawmakers hear views on Indiana's marijuana laws

Written by
Najib Aminy
najib.aminyn@indystar.com
12:33 AM, Jul 29, 2011

A reform of Indiana’s marijuana laws, considered to be among the toughest in the nation, was supported by a majority of speakers at a hearing at the Statehouse on Thursday.

Suggestions included legalizing the medical use of marijuana and reducing the state’s criminal penalties for possession of small amounts of the drug.

State Sen. Karen Tallian, D-Ogden Dunes, who was troubled by the amount of money and time the judicial system spends on marijuana-related cases, called for the hearing earlier this year.

"As a state legislature, we should look at our reasons for banning marijuana," Tallian said. "Are we trying to punish people or are we trying to prevent something?"

In 2006, it cost the Indiana criminal justice system $148.8 million to combat marijuana, according to a study by Jon Gettman, a professor at Shepherd University in West Virginia. Gettman is a former head of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

"Prohibition only works when society can effectively control the technology of production," Gettman said in testimony before the legislature’s Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee.

"Marijuana prohibition has no chance of being effective when people can grow marijuana in their homes and closets."

In 2010, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration seized 60,844 cultivated marijuana plants in Indiana, the 15th-highest amount that year among the states.

Gettman said legalizing marijuana and taxing its use could raise about $50 million in annual revenue for the state.

"There is a rare consensus among economists of every political persuasion that legalization plus taxation would be such a policy that could work," said Marc Bilodeau, an associate professor of economics at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

Indiana is considered to have some of the
country's strictest laws against marijuana possession, specifically in small doses. Possession of 1 ounce of marijuana can lead to a maximum sentence of one year and a maximum fine of $5,000.

And while there is discussion about changing Indiana's marijuana penalties, some lawmakers don't expect a radical shift in the law.

"We're on the very high side on penalties of small quantities, so I question whether that is effective and whether we ought to rethink that," said state Rep. Ralph Foley, R-Martinsville.

"But there's a lot of political paralysis when you use the phrase 'soft on crime.' . . . I certainly hope we can think through the issue and try to use our resources the best we can for a safe environment and to discourage the use of marijuana," Foley said.

His stance is supported by groups such as Yes MAMM, which stands for Mothers Against Meth and Marijuana.

"We're not for legalizing marijuana, even if it's for medical reasons, because marijuana is very addictive," said Pastor Sarah Barbour, who started the Indianapolis organization five years ago. "We believe that healing comes through God and through holistic means, rather than through marijuana."

But there's still hope for those who want the state to someday legalize the drug.

Indianapolis resident Jordan Wier, 25, who sat outside the hearing due to a lack of room and watched the testimony on TV, says the time for reform is now.

Wier watched his father use marijuana to help him deal with the pain from a devastating disease.

"He was dying of pancreatic cancer, and they still put him in jail," Wier said of his father. "It helped him through his last days and through the pains and struggles of his cancer, and I feel we have a good chance to finally change this law around."

Call Star reporter Najib Aminy at (317) 444-6044.
Undergraduate students take part in summer research

July 31, 2011 @ 12:00 AM
The Herald-Dispatch

HUNTINGTON -- Fifteen undergraduate students from nine institutions are spending their summer doing biomedical research in Marshall University's laboratories.

The students are participating in two nine-week programs - one sponsored by the West Virginia IDEA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (WV-INBRE) and the other by the university's Biomedical Sciences Summer Research Internship for Minority Students program.

Elsa Mangiarua, a professor in the cardiovascular disease, obesity and diabetes research cluster at Marshall, is the director of the WV-INBRE Summer Research Program. She said both programs allow participants to gain valuable, hands-on experience doing graduate-level research in the labs of some of Marshall's top scientists.

"We are providing in-depth, mentored research opportunities for very talented undergraduates," she said. "The programs also promote awareness of graduate degree programs and careers in biomedical research."

While at Marshall, the interns are working in state-of-the-art facilities on research projects related to cancer, cardiovascular disease, obesity and diabetes, toxicology and environmental health, and infectious diseases. The students will present their research results at a symposium held during the last week of the program in late July.

In addition to the formal research training they each receive from their Marshall faculty mentors, the interns are taking part in workshops and seminars about a variety of topics related to research and graduate education. Students in the two programs attend many of the same seminars and interact socially through a bowling outing, ice cream socials and other special events intended to help them get to know one another outside of the laboratory environment.

The students participating at Marshall include Rebekah Sine of Wardensville, W.Va., and Megan Smith of Huntington, Alderson-Broaddus College; Daniel Mai of Seal Beach, Calif., and Sarah Monsheimer from Silver Spring, Md., from the University of Charleston; Benjamin Kordusky from Sod, W.Va., Emma Levin-Nielsen from Vienna, W.Va., and Richard Phil Thomas from Elizabeth, W.Va., from West Virginia Wesleyan College; Hannah Cavender of Charleston, Josh Kim of South Charleston and Niraj Nepal of Dunbar, W.Va., from West Virginia State University; and Andre Lamyathong of Man, W.Va., from Wheeling Jesuit University.

The students participating in the Internship for Minority Students program are Kelsey Cowen of New Hudson, Mich., from Cedarville University; Rebecca Furby of Charles Town, W.Va., from Shepherd University; Amber Mills of Carbondale, Ill., from Murray State University; and Marie
Southerland of Ravenna, Ohio, from Ashland University.

The WV-INBRE Summer Research Program is funded through a $16 million grant from the National Institutes of Health. Marshall -- in partnership with researchers at West Virginia University -- received the award to help build expertise in biomedical research.

Support for the summer research program for minority students comes from the university's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology/Minority Access to Research Careers program.

Each student receives a stipend. Depending on the program in which they are participating, they may also receive room and board, lab fees, and reimbursement for travel to and from Marshall.
WVU is improving quality of health care

July 31, 2011
Layne Diehl / Community business columnist (layne@diehl.com), journal-news.net

Having spent the better part of a week with a close family member in WVU's City Hospital, I know too well what quality health care options mean to families in our community. Three Christmas Eves ago, we took my stepfather to City Hospital with chest pains. When he crashed soon after being admitted to the emergency room, the doctor at City saved his life. However, he had to be transported to another hospital for further treatment as it could not be done in Martinsburg. The resulting ambulance transit out of town and subsequent surgery proved difficult, as complications typical of such long-distance transfers emerged.

We have enjoyed the last three years and consider the time a blessing, but once again, his health has gotten the best of him and now we wait, hoping and praying for complete healing, whether that be in this life or the next. This time, however, we are closer to home, as the folks at City Hospital are now more than equipped to manage the care related to his illnesses. My mother doesn't have to drive 30 minutes both ways to two or three times a day between Martinsburg and Winchester. We can be there within a few minutes if a call is made and our presence by his bedside becomes necessary. It is a relief to know we can be close and continue the day-to-day stuff that tends to permeate the lives of busy families. It is because of all of this, that when I heard of some of the recent developments at the WVUH-East Health Sciences Division, I jumped at the chance to write about it.

When West Virginia University took over City and Jefferson Memorial hospitals in 2005, there were a lot of questions. How would the university manage the hospital from Morgantown? What would be the objectives of the merger? And how can WVU's influence contribute to what then was a significantly underserved population? WVU was quick to educate the community and to gain the buy-in necessary to move the project forward. A research hospital influence would attract more physicians, including those with specialties; it would enhance the quality of care and give the hospital the opportunity to expand services to include those that typically required that patients go out of state to obtain. It was a community vision, not a self-serving one, and the staff at WVU pledged to demonstrate that over time.

Well, it's been several years now, but as I often say, "Small promises, delivered, over time, builds trust," and trust is exactly what WVU is creating by delivering on its promises over the last several years. Today, WVU can announce that four of the five residents just completing their studies have opted to stay in the area and provide medical services to the local community rather than relocating. The impact of these decisions is significant to all of us, both from an economic sense and for our peace of mind.

Dr. Mitch Jacques, associate vice president and dean of WVU's eastern health sciences division, was one of the first staff on board to establish the WVU connection in the Panhandle. Jacques said "the 20-year goal here is to change health care permanently in the Panhandle." Jacques described how educational programs and teaching hospitals improve care. He "research indicator that outcomes are better, safety is better..."
and hospital ratings go up." Where a teaching component is added to a hospital, Jacques suggested that the number of physicians who want to be involved goes up as well, so the ability to attract talented and skilled providers becomes less of a challenge. Along with incoming doctors and specialists come the practices that they establish here, which add a considerable economic contribution to the area. While he qualified that a formal analysis had not been completed, he estimated that annually "doctors starting a small business have about a $1 million to $2 million dollar economic impact," which includes not only the value of services they provide, but also the staff they employ and the operational costs that are expended in the community.

One of the first programs WVU launched upon coming to the Panhandle was a partner program with Shepherd University. The Medstep program is one of three WVU/Shepherd partner programs that allow students studying at Shepherd priority admission into WVU's medical, dentistry, and pharmacy programs, provided that adequate progress is made during the student's undergraduate education. The program allows local students to stay closer to home for a larger percentage of their studies. The goal of the program is to increase the number of medical school graduates with contacts in the area to stay in the area and to practice medicine.

Jacques described the Medstep program as "just one of several in a pipeline of health sciences programs that WVU offers to the Eastern Panhandle." Others in the pipeline include the Rural Scholars Program, which helps to finance eligible students' medical education when they choose to focus on rural area practice; and the Rural Family Medicine Residency Program, where opportunities at hospitals in the Eastern Panhandle are given to students to prepare for practice in rural settings. The Health Science and Technology Academy program is another WVU contribution to our community, as this program provides health sciences and technology educational opportunities to high school students in the area. Jacques said that through these programs WVU is trying to provide the educational resources necessary from high school to medical school to residency through employment for the benefit of aspiring doctors and the community they will hopefully one day serve.

Dr. David Baltierro, director for WVU's Rural Family Medicine Residency program, is pleased that his students have elected to stay in the Eastern Panhandle region and describes his program as giving students an early start practicing in the area so they have more comfort starting out as they become doctors with practices here.

"We have had very strong students stay with us and many have stayed on in the community and as faculty," Baltierro said. He said that WVU has "done a wonderful job in upgrading the facilities" while still working toward the long-term plan of building a new hospital. Baltierro described Jefferson's once small community hospital as growing into an active part of WVU's university system, having recruited several quality doctors and specialists over time, and making it "a very solid hospital especially for the services it provides and its size." He also offered that the changing metropolitan influence in the community has given WVU the opportunity to have a hospital here that is adequate to train doctors, not just for the Panhandle, but for other underserved areas in the state, as well. He distinguished the state's flagship as having a different approach from the hospitals serving local residents out of state.

"WVU is interested in serving the state ... and is asking how can we help you serve your community rather than how can we draw business away from you," he said.

Teresa McCabe, vice president of marketing and development at WVUH-East, is someone who has been with City Hospital long before it was part of WVU. McCabe recognized early on how a residency program could assist in recruiting primary care physicians in the Panhandle.

"Both Jefferson Memorial Hospital and City Hospital began working with WVU to establish a medical residency program in the Eastern Panhandle and to bring medical students here to study long before the merger in 2005 to form WVU Hospitals-East," McCabe said. "We knew that this would be a key to our success in recruiting primary care physicians in the Panhandle."
physicians to the area to practice. McCabe described now being a part of WVU gives the staff a "sense of pride," particularly due to their ability to look "at the list of physicians we have gained here in the Eastern Panhandle because of the residency program." McCabe said that "what was once a vision is now becoming a reality, and we are all proud to be affiliated with a top-notch program that has brought so many dedicated and caring health care professionals to the communities that we serve."

Health care will continue to be a hot-button issue throughout our nation, as it is one that can turn an election, divide parties or separate close friends and family. And while we all will grapple with issues of our own health care eventually, as for those of us in the Eastern Panhandle, we can rest assured in this. WVU has charted upon a course to change the nature of health and health care here. It has delivered on its promises to bring more doctors to the area. It has prepared quality health care providers who will be here to take care of us and our families when we need them. As our state mate says that "Mountaineers are always free," we can trust that WVU is looking out to preserve that freedom as it relates to the freedom that comes through good health and health care options. Jacques closed his comments by saying it is about providing "the cutting edge of care," and he promises to continue to work toward "state of the art care" as they take on new challenges like research trials in cancer and in other areas in the coming years.

So the next time you put on blue and gold in preparation for watching WVU beat the tar out of the Tar Heels, remember that WVU means more than just football. And if you have the opportunity, remember to thank the capable and committed staff at WVU Health Sciences East for tackling the issue of health care in true Mountaineer fashion.

- You can contact Layne Diehl at layne@diehlaw.net

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Underpass meeting set for Wednesday

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd University will sponsor an open meeting for the community to hear a presentation about the pedestrian underpass planned for W.Va. 480 at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Reynolds Hall.

Engineering designers for Alpha Associates Inc. will present the project design and anticipated timeline. University personnel will be available to answer questions about the project.

The pedestrian underpass is slated to be constructed at the intersection of W.Va. 480 and West Campus Drive. A 2010 federal appropriation through the efforts of Rep. Shelley Moore Capito will provide $400,000 toward the project, approximately 10 percent of the expected total cost.
News at Noon: Shepherd gets grant to restore 18th century house

August 1, 2011
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. (AP) - Shepherd University plans to restore and renovate an 18th century house that the school says is one of the oldest structures in Shepherdstown.

Shepherd said Monday in a news release that the Division of Culture and History has awarded a $34,419 grant for the $68,838 project. Shepherd will provide the remaining funds.

The work includes replacing the roof, repairing the foundation and removing the modern dormer over the front door.

The building has been owned by Shepherd since 1926.

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August 1, 2011

Shepherd gets grant to restore 18th century house
By The Associated Press

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. — Shepherd University plans to restore and renovate an 18th century house that the school says is one of the oldest structures in Shepherdstown.

Shepherd said today in a news release that the Division of Culture and History has awarded a $334,419 grant for the $688,838 project. Shepherd will provide the remaining funds.

The work includes replacing the roof, repairing the foundation and removing the modern dormer over the front door.

The building has been owned by Shepherd since 1926.
Washington County residents receive degrees from Shepherd U.

9:16 AM EDT, August 1, 2011

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va.

The following Washington County residents received degrees at Shepherd University’s commencement in May:

Bachelor’s degrees

- Boonsboro — Travis Hahn, Justin Ledden, Whitney Sheppard
- Big Pool — Maggie Wolford
- Clear Spring — Amber Hendershot, Allison Keeney
- Hagerstown — Kelly Bamhart, Thomas Cochrane, Michael Crumrine, Alicia Deppen, Aleksander Griesmann, Lawren Hill, Derek McCarty, Michelle Merritt, Jennifer Miller, Michelle Moore, Andrew Murray, Andrew Nesler, Matthew Reynolds, Karen Rice, Sara Sandeen, Laura Sheffield, Rebekah Sirokman, Kiona Thomas, Scott Wilson, Amir Zaeir, Krista Zueca
- Keedysville — Yarrow First-Hartling, Luis Flores, Jerica Hewett, Aubrey Rainbow, Kristen Trevey
- Maugansville — Zachary Mathews
- Sharpsburg — Justin Ebersole, Donald Warner II
- Smithsburg — Kasie Beaver, Ashley Fogle
- Williamsport — Robin Colbert, Brittany Horn, Jessica Haspel-Puckett, Braden Myers

Master’s degrees

- Boonsboro — Chasen Deener
- Fairplay — Jessica Draper
- Hagerstown — Omer Arslan, Joseph Nelson

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Shepherd gets state grant to restore, renovate 18th century Entler-Weltzheimer House

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
First Posted: August 01, 2011 - 9:58 am
Last Updated: August 01, 2011 - 9:58 am

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. — Shepherd University plans to restore and renovate an 18th century house that the school says is one of the oldest structures in Shepherdstown.

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The work includes replacing the roof, repairing the foundation and removing the modern dormer over the front door.

The building has been owned by Shepherd since 1926.
Professor to lead Shepherd program

August 2, 2011
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Local entrepreneur and Shepherd University professor Dr. Chip Zimmer has been selected to lead Shepherd's Master of Business Administration (MBA) program, which will celebrate its sixth anniversary this fall.

Zimmer, the owner at Zimmer Marketing Group and Senior Compass Resource Guide in Hagerstown, Md., joined the Shepherd faculty in 2010 and teaches business and marketing classes.

"I've always enjoyed teaching and working with young people," Zimmer said. "The opportunity with Shepherd came when my businesses afforded me the ability to give something back for all the help I was given along the way." Prior to forming ZMG in 1998, Zimmer served as the vice president of RehabSolutions in Cumberland, Md.; vice president of City Hospital in Martinsburg; senior vice president of DelWiber Associates in McLean, Va.; and director of athletics for George Washington University. He received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from West Virginia University and his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland.

"Dr. Zimmer brings a wealth of experience in the business community to his new position. We look forward to his leadership role at Shepherd," said Dr. Richard Helidobler, vice president for academic affairs.

For additional information about Shepherd's MBA or other graduate programs, call 304-876-5313 or go online to www.shepherd.edu/graduate-studies.

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Construction of Shepherd U. pedestrian underpass to begin in Feb.

By RICHARD F. BELISLE

richardb@herald-mail.com

9:46 PM EDT, August 3, 2011

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va.

About 50 residents Wednesday learned when and how an underpass connecting both Shepherd University campuses under W.Va. 480 will be built starting in February.

The public meeting, at Shepherd's Reynolds Hall, was hosted by university officials and representatives of the firm designing the structure, West Virginia Division of Highways and the town.

During the school year, up to 1,500 students per day cross W.Va. 480 (North Duke Street) to get to the university's east and west campuses for classes, the physical education facilities, the arts center and the cafeteria, among other destinations, said Richard Staissloff, acting vice president for administration and finance and moderator of the meeting.

The crossing, which has a guard posted at peak student and vehicle traffic hours during mornings and evenings, is dimly lighted after dark.

Several students have been struck by vehicles, but there have been no fatalities.

Town and university officials have discussed the possibility of building a bridge over or an underpass under the crossing for years.

The project, which now has the go-ahead, will cost about $4 million in federal, state and university funds.

Construction will begin in February with changes to utilities and storm-water management systems.

The real work will begin in May with completion of the underpass slated for July, when there are few students on campus. A geotechnical study to determine if any blasting is needed will be finished in the next few months.
The underpass and reopening of W.Va. 480 will be done in time for the fall 2012 semester beginning in August.

A detour shifting traffic coming from the Potomac River bridge into town will begin on the road leading to the Bavarian Inn property. It will end at a new temporary intersection with Shepherd Grade Road.

Shepherd Grade traffic will cross West Campus Drive and connect back onto W.Va. 480 south of the construction site, according to sketches from Alpha Associates Inc. of Martinsburg, W.Va., the company designing the underpass.

The underpass, to be built slightly north of the current student crossing, will be 28 feet wide and 10 1/2 feet high.

W.Va. 480 will be raised to accommodate its height.

Pedestrians on their way to the West Campus will cross W. Va. 480 at its intersection with High Street during construction.

Residents of Shepherd Grade Road can avoid the construction by detouring through University Drive, which connects with W.Va. 45 and points west.

"This is the right project at the right time," Staisloff said.

It will improve safety for students as well as improve the flow of traffic, he said.

"It will benefit the university and the town," Staisloff said.

High Street resident Karene Motivans was one of two residents to raise the issue of increased danger to pedestrians crossing W.Va. 480 at High Street since traffic no longer will have to slow down or stop at the student crossing.

"It (W.Va. 480) will become a speedway," she said. "This intersection is the most dangerous one in town. It should be part of this plan."
Shepherd creates Transfer Opportunity Program

The presidents of Shepherd University and Montgomery College (MC) have signed a collaborative agreement, the Transfer Opportunity Program at Shepherd (T.O.P.S.), providing financial and advising benefits and paving the way for a smoother transfer from MC to Shepherd.

Under the T.O.P.S. agreement, MC students can receive academic advising to assist them in choosing appropriate courses for transfer, and students who meet specific GPA and credit requirements are eligible for a discounted tuition rate when enrolling at Shepherd.

"We are pleased to offer this opportunity to the students of Montgomery College," said Dr. Suzanne Shipley, president of Shepherd University. "This program provides a clear pathway for transfer students on their journey to Shepherd, with support every step of the way, from advising to finances to housing."

Both presidents are committed to creating a seamless pathway of programs and services for students. Together, the partnership can foster even greater degree completion for Montgomery College students.

"Our exciting new partnership with Shepherd will minimize the financial challenges that students face upon transferring to a four-year university," said Dr. DeRionne Pollard, president of Montgomery College.

"Students will also benefit from advising that will ensure they successfully complete their degrees and contribute to a stronger, more competitive workforce of tomorrow."

Shepherd's academic advisers will also meet periodically with students in the program to review their MC course selections to ensure maximum transfer of credits. Advisers will also work with students to prepare them for a timely completion of bachelor's degree requirements once the students enroll at Shepherd.

In addition, transfer students have the opportunity to live on campus, study abroad, and participate in athletic and leadership programs. All transfer students are guaranteed housing if they apply before July 1.

Outside of Maryland, Montgomery College students select West Virginia as one of their top three states for transfer. Leaders from both institutions see this agreement as a way of increasing that trend as they welcome even more diverse students to Shepherd University.

Graduates from MC who meet the program's requirements will be eligible for the discounted tuition starting with fall 2011. President Shipley and Dr. DeRionne Pollard, president of Montgomery College, will participate in a signing ceremony for the T.O.P.S. agreement this fall.

For more information, contact Kelly Pannill, associate director of admissions at Shepherd University, by emailing kpannill@shepherd.edu or call 304-876-5199. Dr. Debra A. Bright, director of articulation, transfer, and academic services at Montgomery College can be reached by emailing debra.bright@montgomerycollege.edu or call 240-567-5006.
Three Shepherd officials to visit White House

August 3, 2011  0 Comments

Dr. Suzanne Shipley, president of Shepherd University, Tom Segar, vice president of student affairs, and Holly Frye, director of community service and service learning, will be visiting the White House on Wednesday, August 3 as part of the President’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge. The President’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge is an initiative inviting institutions of higher education to commit to a year of interfaith and community service programming on their campuses. The program is designed to gather diverse campus groups to work together to implement a specific yearlong service project in their communities.

Shepherd University will be working with United Way of the Eastern Panhandle and the Burke Street Promise Neighborhood Initiative, a grass roots group of committed and concerned citizens, to create a promise neighborhood in a designated 40 square block area of Martinsburg that has been identified as low-income.

During the yearlong project, Shepherd students will serve as volunteers for many programs and events undertaken by the Burke Street Promise Neighborhood, and will host a block party for residents, provide workshops on inexpensive, healthy food options, host after school activities, tutor at-risk youth, help families develop a budget, and assist with neighborhood beautification projects.

“Our goal for this initiative is to provide personal experiences for our students as they discuss and dialog about spirituality, faith, belief, and non-belief with the intention that when they leave our campus community, they will be prepared to embrace a pluralist society where our differences can be our strengths,” Frye said. Dr. Shipley said that the challenge allows Shepherd to highlight one of its most effective student leadership development efforts, the role of community service projects that create in students a lifelong dedication to community involvement.

“The President’s Interfaith and Community Service Challenge is a great opportunity to engage students in service to others, while introducing parallel investigations into how belief shapes action,” Shipley said. According to Frye, Shepherd’s initiative will include administering an Interfaith Youth Core student survey to measure four areas of campus life as it relates to students’ attitudes, knowledge, behaviors, and overall campus climate; creation of an Interfaith Council including students, staff, and faculty who will be charged to determine campus needs related to religious diversity; and creation of a speaker series to discuss further interfaith dialog.

“The President’s Interfaith and Community Service Challenge has given us pause to reflect on this tendency to stray away from religious dialog and programming,” Frye said. “This challenge has presented our campus with an opportunity to give our students permission, both literally and figuratively, to explore how faith and spirituality intersect with community service.”
Shepherd University recently received a $34,419 grant from the West Virginia Division of Culture and History to restore and renovate the Entler-Weltzheimer House, otherwise known as the Yellow House, located on High Street adjacent to Snyder Hall and the Byrd Science Center. The grant will be matched from Shepherd’s capital budget, for a total of $68,838, which will be used to replace the roof, repair the foundation, and remove the modern dormer over the front door. Shepherd has owned the former residence, which was built in the late 18th century, since 1926. Since then, it has been used as a sorority house and a domestic science classroom and is currently used for storage.

The structure is one of the oldest structures in Shepherdstown, dating as far back as the 1790s. It is believed to be the oldest log cabin built in Shepherdstown and occupies a site where Fort Shepherd once stood during the French and Indian War and was a part of the first mixed-race community in Shepherdstown.

Dan Yanna, director of facilities management, and Dr. Keith Alexander, coordinator of the Historic Preservation Program, will serve as project directors. Alexander said that one possible vision for the house is for it to be used as a living laboratory for historic preservation students to work on and to give tours of the residence.
The following students earned degrees in May from Shepherd University, in Shepherdstown, W.Va.:

Molly Pope and Brian Taylor, both of Elkridge; Jennifer Nicewarner, of Hanover; Rachel Benedict, of Clarksville; and Jessica Raskin, of Woodbine.
University, local officials discuss 480 underpass

Kelly Cambrel / Chronicle Staff

A meeting was held Wednesday evening, Aug. 3 at Shepherd University to discuss plans for the proposed pedestrian underpass to be constructed between the East and West Campuses, across Route 480.

Meeting attendees included residents of the local community, as well as some Shepherd University students, faculty members, Shepherdstown Mayor Jim Auxer, representatives from the Department of Highways and Shepherd President Suzanne Shipley.

Richard Klein, CEO of Alpha Associates, the company tasked with the planning and design of the underpass, gave a presentation detailing its look and dimensions.

Klein also discussed the timeline for construction and provided logistics for traffic detours that will go into effect during the three-month construction period, scheduled to take place May through July 2012.

Attendees were invited to ask questions regarding project specifics and its impact.

Rick Staisoff, acting vice president of Administration and Finance for the University moderated the event and helped field questions.

The project, which is estimated to cost $4 million, is designed to provide better safety for current and future students who cross between campuses.

“We want people to cross there and cross safely,” Staisoff said.

Illustrative drawings of the underpass from several elevations can be found by visiting www.shepherd.edu/underpass/.

For more information, you can find the full story in the Aug. 12 edition of The Shepherdstown Chronicle on newsstands next Friday.
Professors co-author book

Work is anthology of keyboard ensemble music

August 4, 2011

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Scott Beard, Shepherd University professor of music, with co-author Lucy Mauro, assistant professor at West Virginia University, have released their fourth anthology of keyboard ensemble music, “Essential Keyboard Duets, Vol 5: 12 Transcriptions for Late Intermediate to Early Advanced Pianist,” published by Alfred Publishing Co.

Included are well-known works by Grieg and Saint Saens as well as works by Debussy, Brahms and Rimsky Korsakov. The book culminates with Korsikov’s transcription of “The Neapolitan Song - Funiculi Funicula.”

“I am thrilled that Alfred Publishing has continued their commitment to making this important body of literature available to today’s students,” Beard said.

The anthologies are used in the piano ensemble courses at Shepherd and are available for sale to students.
Businesses prepare for SU student return

Mary Stortstrom / Special to The Chronicle

As Shepherd University students ready for another school year, businesses in Shepherdstown prepare for an increase in the town's population - and hopefully their business.

The Fall 2011 semester at Shepherd begins on Monday, Aug. 22. Incoming and returning students may want to revisit or discover places to eat, drink, shop and listen to live music.

Garth Janssen, owner of Lost Dog Coffee, calls his store a community hub.

"It's a place where people will hang out and meet each other," Janssen said.

In the summer and school year alike, Shepherd students and town residents can be seen sitting outside the Lost Dog enjoying beverages and chatting with each other.

"I'm going to be really stoked when the students get back to town," Janssen said. "The town gets kind of gray, colorless and lifeless. When the students come back, the town gets a lot of color, and the energy is up."

Roxanne Shields of Shepherdstown Paint and Art said she is hoping for an increase in business with the start of a new school year.

Shields has been ordering art supplies recently in hopes that art students will buy their class materials from her store once school starts.

"I got an email from somebody in the art department (at Shepherd University) that had a list of the basic art supplies that art students need for their classes," she said.

Shields said that she would like to have received more specific lists from individual professors but hopes that she can stay up-to-date with the curriculum.

She would also like to see the store partner with the university and host more student art shows at the neighboring War Memorial Building throughout the school year.

Shepherdstown Liquors offers of-age students a selection of beverages if they decide to skip the bar scene.
some nights, Manager Courtney Lehman is making sure the store is well-stocked with new products as well as old favorites.

"I'm thinking of maybe offering discounts the first week school's back in session," Lehman said. "As holidays come around, we'll be offering gift sets. We'll also be doing promotional stuff to promote certain products, such as giving away T-shirts or keychain lanyards."

Lehman said that the store's popularity spread by word-of-mouth. She said that business picked up toward the end of the last school year because more and more students discovered the store's location along Princess Street.

Elizabeth King, owner and general manager of Blue Moon Cafe, is preparing for the arrival of Shepherd students by partnering with the university for the first Late Night in the Zone event of the school year.

"It's kind of a meet-and-greet, a mixer - a safe one that doesn't involve alcohol - with lots of events and activities," she said.

King said that the Blue Moon and other restaurants and businesses in town have signed up to cater the event.

King said that students can pick up to-go menus during the Late Night event. She said that by offering a to-go menu, students can pick up their orders between classes if they want a change from dining hall food.

King said that she also plans to use the table at Late Night to promote Blue Moon as a live music venue where students can hang out.

"We want to give all of those new students an opportunity to see what we offer in terms of food and entertainment in the town," King said.
Shepherd receives grant for restoration

August 5, 2011

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd University recently received a $34,419 grant from the West Virginia Division of Culture and History to restore and renovate the Estler-Weitzheimer House, otherwise known as the Yellow House, located on High Street adjacent to Snyder Hall and the Byrd Science Center.

The grant will be matched from Shepherd's capital budget, for a total of $68,838, which will be used to replace the roof, repair the foundation and remove the modern dormer over the front door. Shepherd has owned the former residence, which was built in the late 18th century, since 1926. Since then, it has been used as a sorority house and a domestic science classroom and is currently used for storage.

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A more vibrant town with the students

POSTED: August 5, 2011

As we set out on the month of August, perhaps the biggest event to look forward to in the coming weeks is the return of the Shepherd University student population.

After what was the Contemporary American Theater Festival’s banner season, the streets have quieted once again in our historic Shepherdstown. They will remain so just long enough for residents and business owners alike to catch their breaths before an influx of the town’s population happens about mid-month.

Like Garth Janssen, owner of Lost Dog Coffee, believes, we at The Shepherdstown Chronicle also agree the town is more vibrant with students bustling about.

But it’s not just that.

Students bring business to various venues and shops in town that are within their means. We hope to see more students getting out and taking advantage of what is available about town this year as well as more partnerships between the university and town establishments.

This year, Blue Moon is working alongside Shepherd for its Late Night in the Zone event, a meet-and-greet for new and incoming students.

So, until the masses trickle into Shepherdstown, enjoy the next couple of weeks of peace. But await the vibrancy ahead.

For more on how businesses are preparing for the student return, read the story on Page 3.

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CATF has record-breaking season

Tricia Fulks / Chronicle Editor

POSTED: August 5, 2011

Fact Box

- 5,899 single tickets sold
- 1,079 CATCards sold
- Approximately 1,000 individuals attended West Virginia Humanity Council-sponsored events
- 62 attended the Lunch and Arts series
- 109 attended the Breakfast with Ed series
- 200 more CATF subscriptions were sold

After setting goals for both their organizational and marketing budgets, Contemporary American Theater Festival officials can tally the totals and confirm that Season 21 was a record-breaking year for the organization.

James McNeel, director of development and marketing, said the marketing goal for this year's festival was $400,000, and box office numbers came back earlier this week totaling $440,000, a 30 percent jump from last year's mark.

"We obviously sold more tickets than we ever did in the past," he said.

But the apparent increase was not in sales alone.

"What's really exciting for me is we filled approximately 12,600 seats," McNeel said, up from the almost 11,000 filled during the 2010 season.

But, McNeel said, that does not mean over 12,000 individual people attended the festival. Some purchase tickets to multiple shows. McNeel calculates that around 7,000 individual patrons came to this year's festival, about 1,500 more than ever before.

McNeel said that with marquee names like David Mamet and Sam Shepard being part of the rotating repertoire, more individuals purchase single tickets to their shows. He said these "marketable names" bring in new patrons or those who have perhaps not come for years.

McNeel said while Mamet's "Race" sold at a 91 percent capacity or 3,300 seats, one of the biggest-selling shows in CATF history, Kyle Bradstreet's world premiere of "From Prague" sold at an 84 percent capacity.

He said this large selling capacity for Bradstreet's show could be attributed to a few things. He said the show, held in the Center for Contemporary Arts, was the first in the four years CATF has performed in the CCA that
the actors were not cast in other plays. This allowed "From Prague" to show 28 times in that space as opposed to the 17 times "White People" was shown in the same space last year.

"It gave people more of an opportunity to see all five shows," McNeel said.

But, McNeel said, Bradstreet's premise also intrigued the theatergoers.

"(The CCA) has built a reputation for a place a little bit out of CATF fare," he said.

As far as the entire season's overall success, McNeel has a few theories about that, as well.

He said last year's buzz surrounding the festival's 20th anniversary helped bring in people who were interested but could not fit the festival into their plans in 2010. And aside from a targeted marketing strategy and knowing how to work with the media, McNeel said the success of the large 2011 opening weekend seemed to have a trickle-down effect.

"It really helped propel us through the rest of the festival," he said.

Moving forward, McNeel said having the season CATF is still reeling in from definitely "solidifies the organization," but as officials prepare for the next season, they will start with a clean slate.

"We don’t bank on having another great season like this," he said.

McNeel said there isn't an expectation to bring back those big marquee names. He said Founder and Producing Director Ed Herendeen simply will pick what he believes are the best five plays, which will shape Season 22.

But, McNeel is confident that the festival will have repeat customers.

"If we can get people here once, we'll get them here again," he said. "I want the town to feel full, even more full than it did this season."
Shepherd VP will participate on panel

SHEPHERDSTOWN — On Monday and Tuesday, Richard Helldobler, vice president for academic affairs at Shepherd University, will participate as a panelist and small-group facilitator for the panel titled “CFOs and CAOs Solving Problems Together: Effective Campus Leadership” at the joint meeting of the American Council on Education and the National Association of College and University Business Officers in Washington, D.C.