New campus construction:
Pedestrian underpass and
Center for Contemporary Arts II
For hundreds of alumni returning to campus on Saturday, October 6, Homecoming 2012 began on the lawn of McMurran Hall with the annual alumni and friends breakfast sponsored by the Shepherd University Alumni Association and Shepherd University Foundation. Breakfast attendees had the best seats in town to watch the Homecoming parade on German Street.

Other Homecoming events included the Office of Advancement’s alumni and friends tailgate and an Alumni Association-sponsored post-game party at the Clarion Hotel in Shepherdstown. Fans cheered on the Rams to a 37-6 win over West Virginia Wesleyan.

Above: Alumni line the wall at McMurran Hall to watch the annual Homecoming parade on October 6.

Below: Homecoming princess Meghanna Vodela, a junior, took part in the Homecoming parade.

Photos by Carolyn Wilkie

Founders Day was celebrated Friday, October 5, 2012 with the traditional campus parade led by the Ram Band. Faculty, staff, and students walked from McMurran Hall to the amphitheater to hear to Dr. John Stealey III (above), Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, deliver the Founders Day address. His topic, “Another Shepherd Founder,” addressed the role William Augustine Morgan played in Shepherd’s early history.

Below: Founders Day parade participants march from McMurran Hall to the amphitheater to hear the program and attend the ice cream social. Among the revelers are President Suzanne Shipley, Dean Dow Benedict, Catherine Irwin, and Athletics Director B.J. Pumroy.
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Front Cover: Carolyn Wilkie
The new pedestrian underpass and Center for Contemporary Arts II viewed from Ram Stadium.

Back Cover: Carolyn Wilkie
The ribbon-cutting ceremony on January 7, 2013 officially opened the pedestrian underpass.

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CLASS NOTES may be e-mailed to alumni@shepherd.edu. The deadline for the fall 2013 issue is June 14. Photos are welcomed; digital images must be 300 dpi.

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From the President

Shepherd is glad to be in Martinsburg

When I became Shepherd University’s president five years ago, two things were obvious to me. Shepherd had a well-deserved reputation as one of the best performing small state universities in the country but our service to the greater Eastern Panhandle region could be strengthened.

A critically needed improvement to that service was establishing an education center in Martinsburg. I began exploring the idea.

Non-traditional students (who are increasingly becoming the norm) have difficulty obtaining higher education on a traditional college campus. The 15-20 minute one-way trip from Martinsburg to Shepherdstown (30-40 minutes round-trip) makes it difficult for a single parent working full-time to further his or her education. Plus, the traditional organization of the academic year on campus does not fit with the schedules of many fully employed people.

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College offers great service to the area by providing the first two years of college at in-state tuition rates. But no such public institution exists in Martinsburg for junior, senior, or graduate-level courses.

The Martinsburg Center is closer than the Shepherdstown campus to adult learners living in Martinsburg, Inwood, Hedgesville, Berkeley Springs, and other Eastern Panhandle locations. The center will offer courses that fit adult learners’ busy schedules, with many classes offered during evenings or weekends. With scheduling flexibility being a priority alongside convenience and location, many of the Martinsburg Center’s courses will be completed in shorter time frames than the traditional semester by including course time spent online in addition to classroom instruction.

Now that we have found a suitable location, a Shepherd presence in Martinsburg is coming to fruition this summer. Shepherd’s new location at 261 Aikens Center just off Edwin Miller Boulevard will allow us the best opportunity to serve the residents of Martinsburg and our region.

Shepherd’s planning committee led the search for a suitable location, looking at more than a half dozen locations. We wanted a place that is near Interstate 81, because we want the Martinsburg Center to be convenient for the entire Eastern Panhandle. We also needed lots of parking and proximity to restaurants (since we’re not going to have a cafeteria). We believe that the 261 Aikens Center location meets all the University’s needs, and, as we are always aware of our responsibility to spend our taxpayers’ money in the most prudent manner possible, we negotiated a good deal for the location. Moreover, we will need and are now seeking additional financial support from the state for this endeavor. We know the legislature will be watching our decisions and our spending.

I appreciate the enthusiasm of the Shepherd University community for this new concept. At a time in higher education when we need to rethink pricing and ways of delivering education to be affordable and accessible, this approach is “just in time.” The programs and delivery models have been created by our faculty and staff in new and exciting ways, and these new approaches will enrich what we do in Shepherdstown as well as in Martinsburg.

Shepherd really is glad to be in Martinsburg! The greater the center’s success, the more Shepherd can do for economic, cultural, and social development in Martinsburg and the entire Eastern Panhandle. We look forward to the days ahead.

Survey shows Shepherd’s strong regional standing

A recent public opinion poll survey affirmed Shepherd University’s strong position in the region as the most known and most liked college or university in the region. In an open-ended question, 36 percent of adults volunteered Shepherd University as the first college or university that comes to mind—three times the share of the second most popular (West Virginia University and Shenandoah University received 12 percent each). Further, half of regional adults (50 percent) have a very favorable impression of Shepherd University and 81 percent have a favorable impression overall while just two percent have an unfavorable impression overall. Shepherd University’s level of intense favorability outpaces that of West Virginia University, Shenandoah University, and Shippensburg University.

President Suzanne Shipley said the survey shows that the public recognizes Shepherd’s commitment to provide a quality education through a personalized, hands-on approach.

“We are very pleased with the results from the survey. It shows that a Shepherd University education touches so many families throughout eastern West Virginia and the neighboring areas across Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania,” she said. “As we move forward into this new century, our commitment to the region is stronger than ever.”

Washington, D.C.-based Widmeyer Communications conducted the regional telephone survey among 900 adults between the ages of 21 and 64. The region included Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan counties of West Virginia; Washington and Frederick counties of Maryland; Clarke and Frederick counties of Virginia; and Franklin County, Pennsylvania. The survey was conducted September 20-25, 2012 and has a margin of error of +/- 3 percentage points.

The survey shows favorability toward Shepherd is consistently very high across demographic and geographic groups and is particularly high in the West Virginia counties of Jefferson and Berkeley (64 percent and 63 percent very favorable, respectively).

Other data show Shepherd has touched the lives of many adults across the region, including 59 percent who have a connection to Shepherd through friends and family; 39 percent who have a connection through coworkers; and 15 percent of adults who have a connection to Shepherd as an alumnus or alumna.
Klein named director of Shepherd’s Martinsburg Center

James W. Klein is the director of Shepherd’s Martinsburg Center. He oversees daily operations including scheduling, facility operations, planning, marketing, enrollment, and delivery of the new Martinsburg Center’s educational services. Klein works directly with students, faculty, and industry stakeholders to plan and execute academic programs and services. As director, Klein is partnering with the community to identify the classes most needed by area businesses to be included in future course offerings at the Martinsburg Center.

“With his experience in developing educational centers in higher education, Jim Klein is an outstanding choice to serve as the first director of the Martinsburg Center,” said Dr. Diane Melby, vice president for advancement, who is serving on the center’s leadership team. “He brings just the right blend of skills and experience to get Shepherd’s new center up and running smoothly.”

Located in the new Berkeley Commons building at 261 Aikens Center just off Edwin Miller Boulevard, Shepherd’s Martinsburg Center is designed to serve adult learners who are juggling career and family. The Martinsburg Center will offer courses in the popular credit-for-experience degree, the Regents Bachelor of Arts, and an R.N. to B.S.N. track. Master’s program offerings will include courses in the M.B.A. and the M.A. program in curriculum and instruction.

Klein spent a decade with Kaplan University, where he most recently served as the regional director for seven years. He led the expansion and creation of new campus locations, growing the locations from two to 14 during his tenure and managing a staff of 50. In addition to training admissions advisors and managing site director performance, he was responsible for budgeting and meeting monthly goals.

Klein earned an associate of arts in general studies from Hagerstown Community College and a bachelor of science in business administration from Kaplan University.

Martinsburg Center committee members

Many individuals worked to make the Martinsburg Center a reality. Involved in planning the academic experience at the new center were Dr. Diane Melby (chair), Dr. Scott Beard, Dave Cole, Dr. Stephanie Slocum-Schaffer, Bea Stottlemyer, Dr. Bob Warburton, Tracy Seffers, Rhonda Donaldson, Dr. Chip Zimmer, Reza Mirdamadi, Dr. Joe Robbins, Nan Snyder ’90, Dr. Belinda Mitchell, Dr. Laura Porter, Dr. Sharon Mailey, Lauryl Lewis, Dr. Michael Groves, and Dr. Laura Renninger.

Involved in the site search were members of the Martinsburg Center Leadership Oversight Committee including President Suzanne Shipley, Shelli Dronsfield, John Doyle ’66, James Vigil, Rick Staisloff, Kimberly Scranage, and Dr. Diane Melby.

The new theater in the second phase of the Center for Contemporary Arts will be called the Stanley C. and Shirley A. Marinoff Theater when it opens later this spring. This naming opportunity is in recognition of a recent legacy endowment contribution to the Shepherd University Foundation by Dr. Stanley C. Marinoff, of Shepherdstown and Chevy Chase, Maryland, in memory of his late wife Shirley.

The endowment fund is established to support the educational initiatives and artistic programming of the Contemporary American Theater Festival (CATF), hosted at Shepherd University since 1991. There has been a Marinoff on the CATF Board for the past 22 years: Shirley Marinoff was an original trustee of the theater festival and Dr. Marinoff currently serves on its board; their daughter, Allison Marinoff Carle, finished her mother’s board term after Shirley’s passing in 1996 and is currently on the festival’s honorary board.

“The Stanley C. and Shirley A. Marinoff Theater is the centerpiece of Shepherd’s newest academic and creative arts venue,” said President Shipley, “and I look forward to enjoying many outstanding student and CATF productions there with the Marinoff family. Endowment gifts to the Shepherd Foundation serve as the backbone to the long-term growth and future of the University. We are grateful to Dr. Marinoff for his ongoing support of our campus community.”

In a private announcement with the CATF board, Dr. Marinoff spoke about the value and impact the arts have in the lives of local residents and Shepherd students. “CATF’s partnership with Shepherd remains paramount to my support as both education and the arts share a mutual mission of opening minds and inspiring critical thinking. This organization and university are pillars for the continued vibrancy of Shepherdstown. With this gift, I know that future CATF seasons and University students will be supported—in perpetuity—by our family.”

Dr. Marinoff is originally from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he and Shirley met. They came to the Washington area in 1973 where he was a practicing physician for over 30 years. They built a home in Shepherdstown the same year as CATF’s inaugural season and became early supporters and advocates of the theater festival.

“The Marinoff family understood our dream to create a home for new American theater,” said Ed Herendeen, CATF producing director. “They embraced our imagination and creativity and the power of storytelling. They embraced the value of educating Shepherd University students through the arts. Their legacy gift will invigorate and inspire generations of future students and artists. I am humbled by their generosity.”

The Marinoff Theater, a 180-seat theater and multipurpose venue, will feature its first professional productions this summer as part of the 23rd season of the Contemporary American Theater Festival, July 5-28. • James McNeel
Taggart-Perez receives $3,500 Benjamin A. Gilman study abroad scholarship

Senior Valerie Taggart-Perez has received a $3,500 Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for her study abroad.

Now in her second semester in St. Petersburg, Russia, the fine arts major from Martinsburg thought it was too good to be true when she learned of the award.

“It felt like someone had not only taken a huge burden off my back but also given me the essential tool I needed in order to continue to strive forward and realize my dreams,” she said.

Taggart-Perez sought to study in St. Petersburg after having visited the city as a child and plans to use her artwork to share her Russian experiences when she returns home.

“During my nine-month stay here, I will be able to collect a significant amount of materials, ideas, and visual resources from which to draw upon and work with when creating current and future series of artwork,” she said.

She has been taking classes in English about the city’s history, literature, and culture, as well as an intense Russian-language class at St. Petersburg State Polytechnic University.

As part of her study abroad program, Taggart-Perez is also participating in weekly cultural excursions which enhance her classroom studies.

“They have created a deeper understanding of the people and the environment which I’ve surrounded myself with,” she said.

“By far, they have greatly enriched my study abroad experience.”

Ann Henriksson, study abroad director at Shepherd, said studying abroad can be a transformative experience.

“Being exposed to new ways of thinking and living encourages independence, self-confidence, and academic and personal growth,” she said.

Taggart-Perez agreed. “Aside from my academic and career goals, my time spent here has already been and continues to be very influential to my own personal growth and professional life,” she said.

The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program offers grants for undergraduate students to pursue academic studies abroad. It aims to diversify the kind of students who study abroad and the countries and regions where they go. Such international study is intended to better prepare U.S. students to assume significant roles in an increasingly global economy and interdependent world. The congressionally funded program is sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State and is administered by the Institute of International Education.  

Ames named vice president for academic affairs

Dr. Christopher Ames, of Chestertown, Maryland, joined the Shepherd University administration as vice president for academic affairs in January.

Reporting to the university president and serving as a member of the executive staff, Ames provides collaborative academic leadership and management for faculty, academic staff, and students. He supervises the deans of Shepherd’s four schools, graduate studies, library, and teaching and learning center.

“With his considerable background and experience in the liberal arts, Dr. Ames will strengthen the university’s academic programs and help solidify Shepherd’s position as a premier public liberal arts university,” said President Suzanne Shipley.

Ames most recently served as the special assistant to the president of Washington College where he had served as the provost and dean of the college for five years. Previously he served as provost and senior vice president at Oglethorpe University for five years and taught at Stanford University and Agnes Scott College.

Ames earned a Ph.D. in English literature from Stanford University and a bachelor’s degree at the University of Texas, Austin. He attended the Aspen Institute Executive Seminar on Leadership and is a graduate of Harvard University’s Institute of Educational Management. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, Ames was named to a Danforth Foundation Graduate Fellowship and a Fleur Cowles Fellowship at the Humanities Research Center in Austin, Texas.

Shepherd announces 140th Commencement speaker, honorees

D avid Hendrickson, chair of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, will be the commencement speaker at Shepherd’s 140th Commencement on May 4. He also will be awarded an honorary degree. As chair of the HEPC, Hendrickson has engaged in and promoted all facets of higher education in order to provide greater opportunities to current and former students. He is a graduate of West Virginia University and West Virginia University College of Law and is the founding managing partner of Hendrickson and Long, P.L.L.C.

Also honored during the 140th Commencement will be Shepherdstown residents and alumni William E. “Bill” Knodé ’58 and Jo Ann Jackson Knodé ’58 who will receive the President’s Award in recognition of their service and support to Shepherd University and to the community. The President’s Award annually recognizes those in the community who demonstrate selfless civic involvement.

Shefner’s...
EPSCoR awards $40k in grants

Dr. Jordan Mader and Dr. Ralph Wojtowicz have been awarded West Virginia EPSCoR grants totaling nearly $40,000 for equipment to use in their classes as well as for research.

Mader, an assistant professor of chemistry, will receive $20,000 for a thermal gravimetric analyzer used for stability determinations.

She said the analyzer measures weight loss in relation to temperature of the material being tested. “You get a more realistic idea of how material will behave,” she said.

Mader said students in her organic chemistry classes will use the analyzer. “They’re going to be able to make their own compounds and then actually determine the stability,” she said. “They’ll actually be able to run their samples and see whether real-world stuff meets our theoretical possibilities.”

Wojtowicz, an assistant professor of mathematics, will receive $19,069 for a Hadoop cluster for teaching and researching phenomena associated with the analysis of massive data sets.

He said today’s research involves too much data for a desktop computer. The new equipment consists of two large computers with a lot of disk space and several workstations.

“We can have students gain experience with the mechanics of how you work with data like that and then how to study the kinds of algorithms that we apply to this kind of data,” he said.

In addition to having students work with cutting-edge technology, other departments working with big data problems, like science and IT, will be able to use the equipment, he said.

Shepherd was the only institution to receive two grants.

Disability support services expands staffing to meet student needs

Shepherd University has expanded its disability support services with three new staff members to meet the growing population of students with disabilities on campus.

Dr. Dorothy Hively, director of disability support services and associate professor of special education, said the program supports students in terms of their learning, social, and medical needs to facilitate success. “Our office serves to provide academic accommodations to even out the playing field for students so they can achieve their academic potential here at Shepherd,” she said.

Students can take advantage of a variety of accommodations depending on their needs and must submit a request form as well as supporting documentation. The most frequently requested accommodations are extended-time testing and isolation during testing, followed by recording of lectures and note taking.

Helping Hively and the students are Frank Turk, sign language interpreter and transition specialist, and Kathleen Kuss, assistant to the director of disability support services and graduate assistant. Together, they serve more than 300 students with disabilities from every major. Those seeking accommodations might have had an illness or accident that affects their learning, be a veteran with a service-related disability, or have been diagnosed with Asperger’s or autism.

The staff encourages anyone with questions to stop by the office in the Student Center. “We want to make it more commonplace so students and faculty feel more comfortable to use our services,” Hively said. “We’re here to serve.”

Staffing the disabilities support services office are (l. to r.) Frank Turk, Dr. Dot Hively, and Kathleen Kuss.
When Hagerstown, Maryland, resident Bob Wantz ’55 visited Shepherd College as a high school senior in 1951, there was no telling the impact the university would have on him—or he on it.

His guidance counselor at the old Hagerstown High School had invited students on a field trip to visit Shepherd. Bob agreed to go simply because he wanted to get out of class for the day.

“Frankly, there was a little bit of luck involved. I didn’t know what I was getting into,” he said.

The visit that spring day included touring the campus, listening to the school choir sing “The White Cliffs of Dover” in front of Reynolds Hall, eating lunch in the old cafeteria behind Snyder Hall, and taking in a few innings of Ram baseball.

“I just said to myself, ‘I like this place. Why not?’” he said and asked his counselor, Dr. Atlee Kepler, his thoughts. Kepler told the future Ram that he thought colleges were like businesses, in that they were either moving up or going down. “Bobby,” he says, “I feel Shepherd College is on the up,” Bob remembered.

“Fifty years later we probably have ten times the brick and mortar today than we had then.”

And 50-plus years later Shepherd University has named Bob Wantz its Outstanding Alumnus 2012.

“He is a funny, outgoing, dedicated alumnus for Shepherd,” said Alexis Reed ’06, director of alumni affairs. “He has a lot of affinity and a big heart.”

The annual award recognizes an alum for his or her dedication and volunteer commitments which have significantly enhanced the goals and mission of Shepherd University and the Shepherd University Alumni Association. Recipients have given of themselves for the enrichment of others, the university, and the betterment of the community.

Bob has been a member of Shepherd’s Alumni Association board of directors for more than 20 years and frequently represents it and serves on its marketing and membership committee.

“We never have to ask him; he always shows up,” said Reed.

He has also been a guest speaker in classes and has worked with the art department, helps raise money for non-revenue sports, has rarely missed a Shepherd football game, and was inducted into Shepherd’s Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society in 2000.

Bob’s close friend Dick Snively ’56 nominated him. They were next-door neighbors and fraternity brothers while at Shepherd and have remained close friends since. He described Bob as interesting and pleasant with a great laugh and sense of humor. He said that Bob is a loyal friend and devoted to his family, art, and Shepherd.

“I think Bob is devoted to Shepherd because that was four of the best years of his life. An avid football fan, he played four years for Shep and loved every minute of it. His studies there prepared him for a career in teaching and administration,” Snively said. “He is proud of the growth and progress of the school and wants to stay involved to help further the growth and reputation of Shep.”

In addition to playing football on scholarship, the former right halfback was also a record-holding diver on Shepherd’s swim team. For his first two years of college he rented an apartment a few blocks from German Street for $3 a week with fellow football player and friend Jack West ’55, then moved into a new dorm on campus for the second two. He was a member of Zeta Sigma fraternity and the Varsity Club. He fondly remembers his time on the football field, hanging out in the student union, and a trip to New York City to see a couple of live television shows with his speech class.

He graduated in 1955 with a bachelor of science in biology and a bachelor of arts in secondary education in a commencement ceremony held in front of Knutti Hall. He spent his career in Washington County, Maryland, first teaching in the classroom and on educational TV and then moving into administration. He was vice principal at Williamsport Junior Senior High School and Williamsport Middle School and then principal at Clear Spring Middle School for 16 years until retirement in 1990.

Then with some time on his hands, he joined Shepherd’s Alumni Association and said he has served on just about every committee the association has.

“My feeling was the school has always been good to me, and I wanted to pay it back,” he said.

Several years ago, Bob travelled to a school in Pennsylvania to watch the Rams play football and parked in a field. “There (continued on page 15)
Class Notes

’33
T. Guy Reynolds, Jr. celebrated his 100th birthday in November 2012 by flying his Evktor SportStar aircraft around the Eastern Regional Airport in Martinsburg. Guy, the oldest known licensed pilot in West Virginia, has a long standing tradition of spending his birthday with other area pilots who fly in to help him celebrate.

Guy, who among his other jobs served as an electro-mechanical designer for the Thieblot Aircraft Co., took his first flight in a Ford Trimotor airplane from Shepherd Field in 1929. In 1943, he organized and served as the first commander of the Martinsburg Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol. He also served as chair of the West Virginia Aeronautics Commission for two terms after World War II.

On his 93rd birthday, Guy fulfilled a lifelong ambition by parachuting with the Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, Parachute Club. This feat made him the oldest person to parachute in the state of Pennsylvania. He already has plans to continue his traditional flight on his 101st birthday later this year.

’51
Ed Strauss was the 30th contributor to be enshrined in the Youngstown State Athletics Hall of Fame. Ed earned letters in both football and basketball while attending Woodrow Wilson High School. He entered the military after graduating in 1945. While in the service he played basketball and baseball with the First Cavalry Division. Ed enrolled at Shepherd in 1947 where he not only served as vice president of both his junior and senior class, but also earned 11 letters in football, basketball, and baseball and was inducted into Shepherd’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000. Following graduation, Ed began a teaching/coaching/filming career that would last seven decades. He earned his master’s degree in guidance from West Virginia University in 1967.

’64
Dr. Robert A. “Bob” Holmes, of Atlanta, Georgia, has been chosen as one of Atlanta’s Men of Influence 2012 by the Atlanta Business League. The honorees are 25 African American men in the metropolitan Atlanta region who have reached senior-level positions in their professions, are leading entrepreneurs in their industry, have a history of many noteworthy achievements, or have demonstrated an ability to influence large public bodies politically. In addition to professional accomplishments, the Men of Influence have demonstrated their commitment to the citizenry of metropolitan Atlanta by providing outstanding leadership for many years in community and civic activities.

Bob was Shepherd’s first graduate to be awarded a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship and received his Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University at age 25. Now a retired businessman, Georgia state legislator, and Atlanta University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Bob has received more than 100 honors and awards, including being the first living African American and the fourth living Georgian in history to have a section of an interstate highway (I-285) named in his honor in 1999. Bob received a doctor of humanities honorary degree from Shepherd in 2001 and served on the board of the Shepherd University Foundation for many years.

’66
Charles “Jerry” Derr has joined Snyder Bailey & Associates real estate firm. Jerry, a native of Shepherdstown, is a top producing agent with 20 years of experience selling luxury real estate in Florida, Maryland, and West Virginia. Before entering the real estate field he was employed as a professional sales representative by Motorola Communications and Electronics and Schering Plough Pharmaceuticals.

’68
Jane Baker was selected in January to serve a six-month appointment as interim president of Dawson Community College in Montana. Jane retired as the dean of Montana Tech’s College of Technology. A resident of Montana since 1990, she previously worked for Virginia Electric Power Company, Richmond, Virginia, as director of media and community relations and as promotion manager for the Des Moines, Iowa, Chamber of Commerce. She was selected as the Montana Educator of the Year by the Montana Ambassadors in 2008.

’73
Bruce Myers is retiring after working 30 years for the state of Maryland, with the last 15 years spent as director of the Office of Legislative Audits.

’74
Ellen Hayes is retiring after 38 years with Washington County, Maryland, Public Schools, including 21 years teaching and several years serving as principal at four primary or elementary schools. Ellen’s most recent job was serving as the first principal of Ruth Ann Monroe Primary School. She met her future husband while teaching at Fountain Rock Elementary School, near Saint James southeast of Williamsport. She also taught at Springfield and Western Heights middle schools. Later, she became a principal, a post she held at Winter Street, Salem Avenue, and Eastern elementary schools before becoming principal at Monroe Primary.
'75
Clayton Anders was inducted into the Washington County, Maryland, Sports Hall of Fame in July 2012. Clayton has been the head football coach at Boonsboro High School since 1985. His career 162 wins rank second in Washington County history. He led the Warriors to the Maryland 1A championship game in 1993 and 1994, winning the school's only title in 1993, and was recognized as Maryland's 1A Coach of the Year. He has been honored as the county's coach or co-coach of the year 10 times, most recently in 2011 when Boonsboro went 10-2 and advanced the 1A West title game. He and his wife Dana '78 and '80, reside in Shenandoah Junction.

'85
Raymond Shriver, head indoor track coach at Smithsburg, Maryland, High School, recently led his boys' team to the Maryland 1A state title. It was the first boys' indoor track state championship in school and Washington County history.

'90
Brent Poffenberger and three partners established their first Cottage Café restaurant in Ocean City, Maryland, in 1993. He and partner Tom Neville '93 were students in hotel, motel, and restaurant management and also members of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, where they met Geoff Clopton '91, who also became one of the original four partners. Brent’s friend from a previous restaurant job, Howard Hopkins, became the fourth partner. The partners identified a niche they believed needed to be filled on the Maryland shore—one for a quality, casual restaurant open year-round. With financing from Brent’s parents, they opened the Ocean City location. That first restaurant was such a success in its first year that they expanded with a second location in Bethany Beach followed by one in Salisbury, which was soon closed. Brent and Tom became the sole owners of the business. In March 2003, when the lease on the original Ocean City location expired, the Cottage Café group shifted to a single location in Bethany Beach.

'93
Mark Kessler, an executive specializing in business development, has joined Gulf Coast Enterprises, the Lakeview Center entity responsible for providing employment opportunities for people with significant disabilities. As GCE’s vice president for strategic business development, Mark is charged with building the company’s business volume in new and emerging lines of business. GCE’s goal is to increase its government and private contracts so that it can provide more jobs for people with disabilities.

'94
Dr. Jennifer S. Shank was named chair of the Department of Music at Tennessee Tech University.

'06
The National Contract Management Association (NCMA) announced the members of its 2012-13 Contract Management Leadership Development Program (CMLDP). From more than 70 applications, 25 members, including Marcus Soriano '06, were selected for the program, which met as a whole at the NCMA Government Contract Management Conference in November 2012 and will finish with the graduation ceremony at World Congress in July 2013. This will be the seventh year of the program.

Hello…from Shepherd!

It’s that time of year again…Phonathon! Kristin Sabol ’14 is one of our student callers who connected with Shepherd alumni, friends, and supporters during February this year.

Did you miss her call?

No worries, you can still make a gift to support scholarships for students through The Shepherd Fund.

You can mail your tax deductible annual gift, payable to the Shepherd University Foundation, P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443.

Or you can make your gift online using our secure website at shepconnect.shepherd.edu.
The Highams celebrate family in Shepherdstown

About 2,500 runners took to the streets of Shepherdstown on a crisp, cold Saturday morning in mid-October 2012 for the fourth annual Freedom’s Run. The event attracted runners from 40 states this year, including one family with deep ties to Shepherd University and the Shepherdstown community.

Early in May 2012, following a health scare for the family’s patriarch Joseph Russell Higham ’52, the Highams and their extended family in the local area made the decision to combine a trip to Shepherd for Homecoming with Freedom’s Run as a challenge that would rally the group and ultimately demonstrate the love, support, and endurance of the entire family.

Born and reared in Shepherdstown, Sarah Ann “Tudie” Rush Higham ’52 has strong ties to the Shepherd community. Growing up on Shepherdstown’s Prospect Avenue, known as “The Boom,” with other local stalwarts Barbara Knott Nickell ’52, Elizabeth “Betty Ann” Snyder Lowe ’52, and Dr. Jim Price, Ann built lifelong friendships that are strong to this day.

Shepherd became a part of Ann’s early life. As a young girl she helped Professor Florence Shaw tidy up the Little House on Princess Street. Ann decided to attend Shepherd to pursue a degree in biology in 1947. She became active on campus as a member of Phi Sigma Chi and her biology major resulted in the chance meeting of a young man named Joe Higham.

Joe lived a lifetime before even setting foot on Shepherd’s campus. A native of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, Joe joined the U.S. Navy at age 17 and at age 19 participated in the Omaha Beach invasion of Normandy on D-Day in 1944. Upon arriving at Shepherd in 1947, Joe joined the football team, playing all four years as the lightest defensive end in the West Virginia conference. He graduated in 1952 with a B.S. in biology. Joe and Ann were married in Trinity Episcopal Church in Shepherdstown on August 26, 1951, two days following their graduation.

Joe entered the University of Maryland graduate school and graduated in 1955 with an M.S. in marine biology. In the same year, he began his 26-year government career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Beaufort, North Carolina. The family lived in several states including the Carolinas, South Dakota, and Texas, where Joe retired in 1980 as area manager for the states of Texas and Oklahoma.

The Highams’ first child, Joseph Russell “Russ” Higham III, born in 1952, was followed by second son Timothy in 1957 and daughter Susan in 1960. In addition to rearing the couple’s three children, Ann worked in various positions as laboratory technician and assistant hospital and college administrator. All three of Joe and Ann’s children attended college in Texas—Russ at Texas A & M, Tim at Texas State University, and Susan at University of Texas.

In August, the Highams celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary at their home in Georgetown, Texas. Joe underwent surgery in September and their trip to Shepherdstown and Freedom’s Run in October followed shortly thereafter.

Regardless of the places they have lived in or traveled to over the years, Joe says that his “life began in Shepherdstown,” which is one of many reasons why the family considers this their second home. The Highams’ trip to celebrate Homecoming 2012 was truly a reunion for the family members that attended Shepherd. Ann and Joe were joined for festivities on campus by Ann’s niece, Amy Rush ’87, a retired lieutenant colonel from the 167th Air National Guard in Martinsburg and currently an endoscopy nurse at the Veteran’s Hospital, as well as Ann’s cousin Mary Beth Dalgarn Dotton ’80 from Fredericksburg, Virginia. They spent the day visiting with friends at the alumni (continued to page 14)
New arrivals
CHRISTAL FINK AKERS '96 and SHELDON AKERS '95, a son, Elliott Kenly, born February 17, 2011. He joins big brother Benjamin, 6.

KIMBERLY HOSE LINVILLE '97 and husband Eric, a daughter, Bella Jul, born July 12, 2012.

MARY HALL-KRUM '02 and husband Jeremy, a daughter, Alexa Christina, born July 25, 2012. She joins big brother Jonathan, 3.

DANA SALAS '08 and Drew Norris, twin daughters, Hope Skyler and Faith Aria Norris, born August 16, 2012.

Alumni Office notes
Directories: Alumni directories are still available. If you would like to purchase a directory, please contact Alexis Reed at 304-876-5157.

Reunion ideas: If you have reunion or event suggestions, please send them to alumni@shepherd.edu.

Alumni Association hosts
21st annual golf tournament
The 21st annual Alumni Association golf tournament was held Friday, October 5, 2012 at Cress Creek Country Club in Shepherdstown. Opening remarks were made by Shepherd University President Suzanne Shipley, B.J. Pumroy, athletic director, and SOUPY HILLYARD ’58, Alumni Association board of directors member and chair of SUAA golf committee.

This year’s first place team (gross) included Keith McCall, Larry Ringer, Phil Constantino, and Ted Johnson. Placing first as the net team were KEN LOWE ’71, TRIPP LOWE ’95 AND ’97, BOBBY CHEUY ’91, and D. Johnson. Closest to the hole winners were Keith McCall and Bob Pope ’74. Longest drive winners were KIM MERCIER ’78 and Keith McCall.

The Alumni Association would like to thank the following sponsors for making this year’s tournament a success: Golden Ram Sponsor—Valley Proteins, Inc.; Pillar Sponsors—Jefferson Security Bank and Dr. Pepper Bottling Co.; Cornerstone Sponsors—KRM Associates and Dr. Troy Foster; Eagle Sponsors—Chick-Fil-A, Jefferson Distributing, Co., Ameriserv Financial, William Douglas, GINA MILLER ’10, and Yount, Hyde and Barbour; and all tournament hole sponsors.

Alumni reception held in Maryland
Alumni (above) gathered at the Bonefish Grille in Glen Burnie, Maryland, on August 16, 2012 for a reception sponsored by proprietor JASON ROACH ’00.
Alumni

Visit ShepConnect for news, to pay dues

Visit ShepConnect today to renew your membership to the Shepherd University Alumni Association (SUAA).

Being a member of the Alumni Association is a way for you to have an impact on Shepherd. Your dues help support great traditions such as Homecoming, Athletic Hall of Fame, and Emeritus Club. A strong Alumni Association helps all alumni maintain that special connection they have with Shepherd even when they’re away from campus. Through its programs and activities, the Alumni Association is committed to connecting all alumni to Shepherd and to each other.

For a list of member benefits, to reconnect with old friends, and for event details, please visit shepconnect.shepherd.edu. If you have not already registered, contact the Office of Alumni Relations to receive your constituent ID.

Obituaries

MYRTLE MAE MCMILLAN STANFIELD WHITE ’31, of Falling Waters, died October 7, 2012. She was a retired school teacher from Marlowe Elementary School.

JANE ALEXANDRA TROUPE ’45, of Martinsburg, died September 26, 2012. She retired in 1980 after 36 years with the Berkeley County Board of Education, where she was a Spanish teacher at the former Martinsburg South Junior High School and Hedgesville High School. She studied Spanish at Bucknell University, Middlebury College, Georgetown University, and the University of Madrid.

Winston E. Gordon ’51, of Eaton, Ohio, died September 13, 2012. He was an award-winning coach and history teacher.

JOANN MENTZER ’60, of Martinsburg, died, August 19, 2012. A member of the West Virginia Retired Teachers Association, the McMurran Society of Shepherd University, and Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority, she retired from the Berkeley County Board of Education as an elementary school teacher. Among her survivors is her cousin, SUSAN MENTZER-BLAIR ’72.

SIGMUND L. FINE ’67, of Plymouth, Minnesota, died August 15, 2012. He earned his master’s degree in criminal justice from Coppin State University and worked in the field of corrections for more than 40 years, including stints at the Maryland State Penitentiary from 1973 to 1977 and the Hennepin County, Minnesota, Community Corrections from 1977 until his retirement in 2011.

KENT PINE HEDGES ’67, of Martinsburg, died November 15, 2012. He was a retired sanitarian with the Washington County, Maryland, Health Department in Hagerstown and earned a master’s degree from Shippensburg University. He is survived by his daughter, JENNELL R. HEDGES ’02, of Carroll County, Maryland.

CAROLYN S. PIMENTEL ’79, of Indianapolis, Indiana, died May 23, 2012. She graduated from Shepherd at the age of 19 and was also the recipient of the McMurran Award. After earning her master’s degree and professional certification in school psychology, she served for 31 years as a school psychologist at the Indiana School for the Deaf in Indianapolis.

EDWARD ADAM HAMMANN ’07, of St. Michaels, Maryland, died March 27, 2011 after a battle with liver, lung, and kidney cancers. He retired to St. Michaels in 1999 with his wife of 44 years, ANN BRADY HAMMANN ’66. He worked for 3M Company for 33 years, retiring as divisional sales manager for the highly coveted New York territory. After retirement he was a consultant for many marine distributors on the eastern shores of Maryland and Virginia. His survivors include daughter KARIN HAMMANN DUNN ’93 and son-in-law LARRY DUNN ’97.

AMANDA MINER ’10, of Jefferson, Maryland, died April 16, 2012. She was attending Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, pursuing an M.B.A. She was employed by the Frederick County YMCA as lifeguard, swim instructor, and assistant swim coach.

Faculty

Sharon R. Drummeter, assistant professor of nursing education, died August 27, 2012. She had been a member of the Shepherd nursing faculty since 2009.

Visit ShepConnect breakfast on the lawn of McMurran Hall which gave them a great view of the Homecoming parade and a chance to catch up with Joe’s football buddies. The women were treated to a special tour of the Yellow House which served as the meeting place on campus for the Phi Sigma Chi sorority when Ann was a member.

Later that week, son Russ and his wife Debby, and daughter Susan arrived from Texas and Florida, meeting at the starting line in front of Town Hall Saturday morning. They chose to participate in various events and were all smiles afterward, and equally proud of their individual accomplishments and the opportunity to participate as a family. This memorable Shepherdstown visit may become an annual event so perhaps we will see the Higham family crossing the finish line in the coming years.

Julia Krall
must have been four or five hundred cars in that field, and it cost me $5 to park. I’m going back through the field, and I’m looking at all these cars, and I’m seeing $5,” he remembered and thought, “Oh my God, why can’t we do something like this at Shepherd?”

And so, back at Shepherd, Bob started the program to charge for premier game-day parking which then gave the proceeds to the golf team.

In addition to his alumni work, Bob spends much of his time on his artwork, specifically watercolors. Though his middle and high school art teachers noticed his talent, his painting took a backseat while he was busy with college, military service, starting his career, and marrying wife Cassandra (Sandy) and together raising their two children, Susan and Gary.

But when he saw an advertisement in the newspaper for art classes offered at Washington County Museum of Fine Arts (WCMFA) during his first year of teaching, he picked up his brushes again.

“I just really loved it,” he said.

In 1973 he entered his painting of a seascape in his first art show at Hilltop House in Harpers Ferry and won. “First show. First prize. First sale,” he said. “A bank down there bought it for $100. Boy, a hundred dollars back then was a lot of money.”

He was hooked. Since then, he has studied with Mac Fisher, Ray Loos, Tom Nicholas, Zoltan Szabo, Larry Webster, Murray Wentworth, and at the Edgar Whitney School. He has won dozens of awards for his art and is a signature member of the Baltimore Watercolor Society. His pieces hang in private collections, businesses, and public spaces in the area, including at the state house in Annapolis and most recently at Cornerstone Wealth Management Group in Hagerstown.

Bob was featured in a one-person show at WCMFA in 2002. The retrospective included 30 of his paintings representing his 30 years of painting. He favors painting land and seascapes, which he does in his basement studio. He started teaching the medium in 1987 and still does so at the museum four times a year.

Throughout the academic year at Shepherd, the university has been honoring its outstanding alumni at different events, which began with Homecoming in October 2012 and will end with Commencement in May. A reception was held in his honor at the university February 9.

“I just think it’s a wonderful college. I learned a lot there,” he said. “And from my studying of biology, I springboarded from that to have a very successful and happy life.” —Carolyn Wilkie

**Shepherd supports Wounded Warrior Project**

During Military Appreciation Day at the Shepherd-Glenville game on November 3, 2012, the Office of Advancement organized pre-game festivities on the Midway that included raffles, music, and games with proceeds benefiting the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP). One of the featured raffle items was an electric guitar autographed by members of the multi-platinum record rock band Candlebox, whose members were more than willing to participate in Shepherd’s event to honor service men and women. The group was on tour to promote its CD release *Love Stories and Other Musings.*

**Spring Events**

- **April 5:** Relay for Life. Join or support this year’s alumni team, Shepherd Alumni, Greatest Hits.
- **April 6:** Football Spring Game at noon and Pre-game Meet and Greet at 9 a.m. in Erma Ora Byrd Hall. Ram Gridiron Club members free; R.S.V.P. to alumni@shepherd.edu or 304-876-5527 or 5524.
- **May 2:** Emeritus Club Lunch and Class of 1963 Induction Ceremony, Student Center.
- **May 4:** Zero-Year Reunion, complimentary reception for Class of 2013 and their families after Commencement ceremony, Wellness Center.
- **May 10:** SWAA Golf Outing, Maryland National, Middletown, Maryland.

For event ticket and registration information, please contact Texie Roden at alumni@shepherd.edu or 304-876-5524.
The Athletic Hall of Fame inducted four new members during the annual banquet held at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, Shepherdstown, on November 9, 2012.

Members of the 27th induction class are (above, l. to r.) Joe Reel ’72 (football), Jodie Runner (women’s basketball coach 1997-2009), Vic Holmes ’74 (basketball and baseball), and Greg Stup ’96 (football). The foursome brings the total Hall of Fame honorees to 129.

Also honored was Paul “Soupy” Hillyard ’58, who was awarded the Hall of Fame medallion for his dedication to the Hall of Fame. Pictured with the honoree are B.J. Pumroy (l.), athletics director, and Luella Jo Hillyard.
Mike Doran Scholarship raises funds

The Mike Doran Soccer Scholarship continues its efforts in 2013 to build a bridge between Shepherd soccer’s historic roots and the promising direction of the current program. Big things are on the horizon for Shepherd soccer, with a new facility in the works, a seasoned core of veteran players, and a continuation of the solid finish to the 2012 season.

Mike Doran arrived at Shepherd in 1989 and turned a fledgling club team into a conference powerhouse by the mid-’90s. Nearly 25 years have passed since Shepherd soccer’s inception, and a bright future can only be guaranteed with the collective efforts of the program’s many supporters.

This scholarship was established in 2011 to continue the great legacy of Coach Doran by supporting Shepherd soccer. To follow the endeavor’s history and current efforts, find us on Facebook at The Mike Doran Soccer Scholarship or contact us directly at mikedoranscholarship@gmail.com.

Men’s basketball tournament raises $7.5k

The Big Horn Club Corporate Challenge Golf Tournament was held on Monday, September 10, 2012 at Cress Creek and raised $7,500 for the Shepherd Men’s Basketball Scholarship Fund. Special thanks go to silver sponsors Holtzman Propane, Jefferson Security Bank, and United Bank; lunch and dinner sponsors, Cress Creek, Holtzman Propane, and Whale of a Wash; and beverage sponsor, Jefferson Distributing.

Hank Walter, chair of the Big Horn Club, is the driving force behind the tournament and a big reason why it is such a successful event for the men’s basketball program.

Next year’s tournament will be held on Monday, September 9. For more information, contact Hank Walter at 304-676-7500 or hwalter@frontiernet.net or Head Men’s Basketball Coach Justin Namolik at 304-671-2319 or jnamolik@shepherd.edu.

Rams football golf outing raises $6k

One hundred twenty-five alumni and friends participated in the annual Rams Golf Tournament at the Maryland National Golf Club in Middletown, Maryland, on July 13, 2012. First flight winners this year were Meredith Polen ’71, Joel Polen ’98, Randy Davis, and Randy Pierson.

Steve D’Antuono ’82, of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, was the title sponsor of the event, which raises money to offset scholarship costs of the football program. Special thanks to Ken Boone ’76, who graciously donated back his 50/50 winnings to the program.

For more information about the upcoming Rams Golf Tournament on July 12, please contact Coach Ernie McCook at emccook@shepherd.edu or 304-671-1281 or Aaron Ryan at aryan@shepherd.edu or 304-876-5527.
Shepherd University retired the jersey number 34 of former Shepherd baseball great Nathan Minnich ’12 during halftime of the Shepherd-Fairmont State football game.

Minnich was selected as the winner of the 2012 Tino Martinez Award as the most outstanding player in NCAA Division II college baseball. The annual honor is named after the former University of Tampa Spartan, United States Olympian, first round draft pick, and MLB All-Star Tino Martinez. Minnich was also named NCAA Division II National Player of the Year by four other awarding agencies. He was named 2012 Player of the Year by D2Baseballnews.com, Daktronics, the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA), and Rawlings/American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA). Minnich was honored with a special recognition night at a Hagerstown Suns game.

During Minnich’s career, the team won two WVIAC titles and played in a pair of NCAA regional tournaments. Over his four years Minnich was a two-time First Team All-American, two-time WVIAC Player of the Year, and was selected as All-Conference all four years. Minnich also became the first Shepherd baseball player to be selected in the Major League Baseball draft in 2012. He was selected in the eighth round by the Boston Red Sox and spent the summer playing for two of Boston’s minor league affiliates and was invited to Fall Instructional League.

Minnich is the first student-athlete to have his number retired at Shepherd.

Miller, Voytell named NFCA All-America Scholar-Athletes

Sophomore softball infielder Desiré Miller, Ranson, and junior outfielder Alysha Voytell, Frederick, Maryland, have been named as 2012 National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) All-America Scholar-Athletes.

The award is bestowed to players submitted by a member coach who achieved a 3.50 grade point average or higher during the 2011-12 academic year. The honor marks the second component of the association’s academic award program. In October the squads with the highest GPAs in each membership category were recognized as 2012 NFCA Top Ten All-Academic Teams.

Desiré Miller

Alysha Voytell
Senior men’s soccer defender Robel Desta, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and senior forward Shane Lowery, Boonsboro, Maryland, were recently named to the 2012 National Soccer Coaches of America (NSCAA) Division II All-Atlantic Region team. Desta gained first team honors, while Lowery was a second team selection. Both players gained All-Region accolades for the second time in their careers.

Desta, who is the first Shepherd player to win first team honors since Jamie Richie in 2002, was a third team All-Region choice in 2010. He started in all 19 games for the Rams. Desta recorded one goal on the year. He helped anchor a defense that recorded nine shutouts and allowed only one goal in two contests.

Lowery, who earned second team honors in 2011, was a repeat selection on the second team. He started in all 19 games for the Rams. He led the team in goals (9), scoring (21 points), and tied for the team lead in game-winning goals with three. His three assists were second on the team.

Junior defensive lineman Robert Hayes, Sterling, Virginia, of the Shepherd football team, has been named to the 2012 Capital One Academic All-America® NCAA Division II Football team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). He is the first Shepherd football player to gain Academic All-America® honors since Ron Branch in 1997.

Hayes, who boasts a 3.56 grade point average as a fitness and exercise science major, was a second team selection. A first team All-WVIAC selection for the Rams this season, Hayes recorded 30 tackles with 18 solo stops. Hayes added nine tackles-for-loss for 44 yards and two sacks for 20 yards. He also added a pair of blocked kicks.

To be eligible for Academic All-America® consideration, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.30 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standings at his/her current institution and be nominated by his/her sports information director.

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Spring 2013
Football

The football team, ranked 25th in the final 2012 AFCA Division II Coaches’ Poll, recorded an 8-3 overall mark with a 7-1 record in conference play en route to gaining the WVIAC title and its second postseason appearance in the past three years. Shepherd earned its 18th WVIAC title and edged Fairmont State (17) for the most football titles in conference history. The Rams also gained a record 15th outright crown.

Shepherd leads NCAA II in rushing defense (52.64), while ranking eighth in tackles for loss (8.73) and 10th in scoring defense (16.64).

Fifteen team members were named to the 2012 All-WVIAC Football Team as voted on by the league’s coaches.

First team selections were senior quarterback Bobby Cooper, Davidsonville, Maryland; senior tight end John Frick, Greencastle, Pennsylvania; sophomore offensive lineman Isaiah Shelton, Temple Hills, Maryland; junior defensive lineman Robert Hayes, Sterling, Virginia; junior defensive end Howard Jones, Woodbridge, Virginia; junior defensive lineman Mike Franklin, Silver Spring, Maryland; senior linebacker A.J. Parrish, Madison Heights, Virginia; and senior cornerback DJ Scott, Fredericksburg, Maryland, and senior linebacker Dominique Dixon, Westover, was an honorable mention selection, while freshman wide receiver Billy Brown, Gaithersburg, Maryland, and junior cornerback Scott Frazier, Prince Frederick, Maryland, were special honorable mention choices.

Five team members were named to the 2012 All-WVIAC Men’s Soccer Team. Senior forward Shane Lowery, Boonsboro, Maryland, and senior defender Robel Desta, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, were first team selections, while junior midfielder/forward Kevin Doyle, Leesburg, Virginia; junior midfielder Griffin Frazier, Prince Frederick, Maryland; and freshman defender Chris Mashinski, LaPlata, Maryland, gained honorable mention accolades.

Lowery started in all 19 games for the Rams. He led the team in goals (9), scoring (21 points), and tied for the team lead in game-winning goals with three. His three assists were second on the team.

Desta started in all 19 games for the Rams. He recorded one goal on the year. Desta helped anchor a defense recorded nine shutouts and allowed only one goal in two contests.

Doyle started in all 19 games for the Rams. He had three goals on the year that were all game-winners.

Frazier started in all 19 games for the Rams. He posted a pair of assists for the Rams.

Mashinski played in 19 games with 18 starts. A main cog in the Shepherd defense, he had a goal and an assist on the year.

Men’s Soccer

Rams men’s soccer posted a 9-9-1 overall mark with a 5-4-1 record in WVIAC play. Shepherd won four of its last five games including a 2-0 upset win over Wheeling Jesuit in the first round of the WVIAC Tournament.

Five team members were named to the 2012 All-WVIAC Women’s Soccer Team. Sophomore midfielder Kasey Canterbury, Berryville, Virginia, earned first team honors, junior defender Erika Martin, Germantown, Maryland, was a second team choice, while junior forward Morgan Gabriel, Egg Harbor

Women’s Soccer

Women’s soccer finished the 2012 season with a 7-8-3 overall mark with a 5-3-2 record in WVIAC play to place fourth in the conference. The Rams hosted a home WVIAC Tournament game for the second consecutive year.

Three members of the team have been named to the 2012 All-WVIAC Women’s Soccer Team. Sophomore midfielder Kasey Canterbury, Berryville, Virginia, earned first team honors, junior defender Erika Martin, Germantown, Maryland, was a second team choice, while junior forward Morgan Gabriel, Egg Harbor
City, New Jersey, gained honorable mention accolades.

Canterbury started in all 18 games for the Rams. She recorded three goals and added three assists for nine points on the year. She tied for second place on the team in scoring (nine points) and also ranked second in assists (three).

Martin started in all 18 games for the Rams. She had one assist on the season. Martin helped anchor a Shepherd defense that posted seven shutouts and surrendered just one goal on five occasions on the year.

Gabriel tied for the team lead in goals with four and led the team with three-game-winning tallies. She added one assist for nine points to rank second on the squad in scoring. She earned WVIAC Player of the Week honors in late October.

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Volleyball

Rams volleyball finished the season with a 12-17 overall record with a 7-7 mark in conference play. Shepherd won six of its last seven matches to advance to the WVIAC Tournament quarterfinals before falling to nationally-ranked and regional champion Wheeling Jesuit.

Junior outside hitter Melani Lewis, Bay Shore, New York, and junior middle hitter Meg Kenny, Lynchburg, Virginia, were selected to the 2012 All-WVIAC Volleyball Team. Lewis gained first team honors, while Kenny was a second team selection.

Lewis had 194 kills, 125 digs, 43 blocks (one solo), 12 aces, and 10 assists. She is third on the team in kills and tied for fourth in blocks.

Kenny recorded 203 kills, 84 blocks (12 solo), 54 digs, 21 aces, and four assists. She leads the team in blocks and is second in kills and aces.

Women’s Tennis

Women’s tennis recorded a 1-14 overall mark with a 1-8 record in WVIAC play. The Rams posted a 9-0 triumph over Alderson-Broaddus to highlight the season.

Men’s Golf

The Rams placed ninth out of a 13-team field at the WVIAC Championships. Other highlights include eighth place finishes at both the WVIAC Northern and Central Regional Tournaments. Chip Ransom
Scarborough Society bus trip scheduled to the National Constitution Center

The Scarborough Society will head to the National Constitution Center (www.constitutioncenter.org) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for its annual spring bus excursion on Thursday, April 18, with the bus departing from Shepherd at 8 a.m. and returning to Shepherdstown at 7 p.m.

The outing will feature the center’s main exhibit titled The Story of We the People. Trip goers will also be treated to a theatrical performance of “Freedom Rising,” along with an insider’s talk delivered by Dr. Ray Smock of Shepherd University’s Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies, whose research helped create the life-size bronze statues depicting the signing of the Constitution.

Sponsored by the Scarborough Society and the Shepherd University Foundation, the bus trip is open to the public. The cost is $75 and includes lunch at the Delegate’s Café (a special student rate is being offered for $50). To reserve your seat, please send your check to Shepherd University Foundation, P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443-5000, or contact Phyllis Smock at 304-264-0560. Confirmation is required by April 1.

McMurran Society dinner slated for April

The Joseph P. McMurran Society will hold its annual dinner reception on Saturday, April 27 at 6 p.m. in the atrium of Erma Ora Byrd Hall. Recognized as the first president of Shepherd University, Joseph McMurran set standards of academic excellence that required him to make personal financial sacrifices in order to keep the college open. Through his dedication to Shepherd, Professor McMurran began a tradition of philanthropy which is carried on today by constituents of this distinguished membership society who have chosen to provide for the future of the University with a bequest or other planned gift. The annual dinner reception honors these individuals and is open to other alumni and friends who may also be interested in providing for the future of Shepherd University. Hosted by President Suzanne Shipley and sponsored by the Shepherd University Foundation, the event features a four-course dinner prepared by Chef Scott Anderson and Shepherd University Catering.

The Foundation welcomes new Society member Ann Wilson Hummer ’69. For more information about the Joseph P. McMurran Society or the reception, please contact Monica Lingenfelter at 304-876-5397 or mlingenf@shepherd.edu or visit www.shepherd.edu and click on Alumni and Friends.

Common Reading receives national attention

The Common Reading Program, sponsored in part by the Shepherd University Foundation, was highlighted as a model for other universities in the October 2012 issue of E-Source. As part of Shepherd’s First-Year Experience Program (FYEX) administered by the Center for Teaching and Learning, the initiative seeks to bring students, faculty, staff, and community members together through the written word. The article, written by former FYEX director Judi McIntyre and titled “Building a Fully Integrated University Common Reading Program,” showcases the campus-wide process by which the common reading is selected and discusses the multiple opportunities through which the program achieves its goal.

Women for Shepherd University launched

The Foundation is excited to introduce a new network allowing like-minded women to connect with one another through activities involving personal, professional, and philanthropic growth. As they shoulder responsibilities surrounding retirement, estate planning, eldercare, and more, women are discovering that their family and financial obligations are growing faster than their knowledge. Comprised of alumnae, faculty, and local community leaders, the Women for Shepherd University seeks to demystify these life issues with the help of trusted experts, all while engaging in fun social activities that tap into the academic and cultural life of Shepherd. The initiative kicked off in December 2012 with a living history holiday walking tour of historic Shepherdstown, followed by a festive wassail dinner in McMurran Hall. Additional events are being planned for the spring and beyond, with a focus on topics pertaining to money matters for wise women, women and wellness, women embracing change, and connecting through social media. To learn more about the Women for Shepherd University or become a part of this new endeavor, contact Meg Peterson at 304-876-5021 or e-mail mpeterso@shepherd.edu.
Foundation welcomes new board members and officers

The Shepherd University Foundation welcomed six new members to the board of directors at its annual meeting on September 13, 2012. Dr. Heidi M. Hanrahan was appointed as the organization’s faculty representative recommended by Shepherd University President Suzanne Shipley, while J. David Rickard ’56 is the Alumni Association’s appointed representative. Additionally, Melinda Merk ’91, Gina M. Miller ’10, and Mary Elizabeth Oates were each elected to the board. Christopher M. Colbert ’95, president of the Shepherd University Alumni Association, joined the organization as a director-at-large.

In addition to its new directors, the Foundation also elected three new officers to the board. Former president Ramon A. Alvarez ’62 assumed the role of vice president, while former treasurer Michael A. Smith ’89 was elected the Foundation’s new president (see page 30 for a story about Mike). Director Julia M. Connell ’84 assumed Smith’s former role of treasurer. Allen L. Lueck ’67 will continue in his role as the organization’s secretary.

“Our new directors bring excellent business backgrounds and a fresh perspective to our board, while our newly elected officers display the strong leadership qualities necessary to continue growing our support,” Smith said. “I’m excited to welcome all of them aboard and look forward to the continued success of the Shepherd University Foundation.”

12th Annual Scarborough Society Gala will have southern charm

The stage has been set for the 12th annual Scarborough Society Gala with a theme surrounding Gone With the Wind, Margaret Mitchell’s epic novel of love and loss during the Civil War. The Bavarian Inn will provide the promenade for southern belles and their beaus (or scalawags) at this popular event, to be held this year on Friday, August 9.

For more information about the gala or to receive an invitation, contact the Foundation office at 304-876-5397 or visit the Scarborough Society’s web site at www.shepherd.edu/fndtn-web. Then begin fashioning your finest drapes into a ball gown and prepare to dance the night away!
It was not your typical thank-you letter. But then, Paloma Nathan is not your typical college student. A self-proclaimed “super senior” due to her double major in sociology and economics, Paloma is the 2012-13 recipient of the annual Njouve Scholarship, established in 2005 by Kevin Howley ’95 in recognition of his own graduation from Shepherd 10 years earlier. Having also majored in sociology, Kevin chose to create his scholarship through the Shepherd University Foundation, in part, to encourage and support Shepherd students pursuing their sociology degrees.

After graduating, Kevin utilized his degree by joining the Peace Corps in Zambia, and for the last 12 years has worked with the U.N. World Food Programme in Congo, Tanzania, Indonesia, Thailand, and Italy. Unbeknownst to Paloma when she penned her letter, Kevin chose the name Njouve (in-joo-vay) for his scholarship specifically for its emblematic Bantu translation, explaining that in Africa elephants represent strength, power, and beauty.

The symbolic nature of her award is not lost on Paloma, who gratefully expounds her fortune, even in the face of significant personal and financial challenges throughout her college career. In fact, it was through these otherwise inopportune circumstances that she discovered her own passion for humanitarian aid work.

“I have experienced firsthand what it is like to struggle. I have a 13-month-old son named Oliver. It has not been an easy road being a single mother in college, but that is no excuse to give up.”

“I was a teen mom,” Paloma bluntly states, admitting that she arrived at Shepherd as a freshman with no major, career aspirations, or life goals. Her grades and lifestyle choices, she says, reflected this general lack of direction.

“I was just lost,” she said.

Getting pregnant at age 19 brought life into focus and forced Paloma to take charge of her education. But such perspective did not come easily.

“I was scared. I didn’t know how I was going to provide for a baby and attend college. I thought I would have to drop out,” she said.

Paloma confided her fears to Shepherd sociology professor Dr. Momodou Darboe, who offered a different point of view.

“He told me I could still do anything I wanted with my life,” she said of the man who inspired her to major in sociology and became a sounding board during her time of crisis. “He really straightened me out.”

Bolstered by Dr. Darboe’s encouragement and the support of her family, Paloma chose to continue her college education. She became involved with a local support group for teen moms and sought financial aid through various programs and scholarships. She uses the money she receives from the Njouve Scholarship to pay for her books.

“It might not seem like much, but it’s a lot in terms of helping me study and attend my classes,” she said. “You can’t go to class without books!”

In retrospect, Paloma acknowledges that she would have never been able to remain in college without the financial and emotional support she received as a young, single mother. At the same time, she realizes such resources are not readily available to many others in her situation.

“I have seen the impact of teen pregnancy on young moms in a country less fortunate than the United States. This, coupled with my own experience, has inspired me to want to help teen mothers in Mexico.”

Born in Durango, Mexico, Paloma moved to California at the age of two. Her family later relocated to Charles Town, where she has resided since eighth grade. Her uncle and grandmother, however, still reside in Durango, where she occasionally visits them. Overcome with maternal empathy during her first trip after the birth of her son, Paloma noted the stark socioeconomic contrast between the United States and her homeland.

“As a teen mom, I received help through government programs, scholarships, and my local support group. But when I went to Mexico to introduce my son to my grandmother, I noticed that they do not have these things—things that I take for granted.”

And so during her last trip to Mexico, Paloma brought boxes of her son’s outgrown infant apparel and her own maternity clothes to give to young mothers and mothers-to-be at a local “swap meet” in a particularly destitute area of town.

“I just wish I could do more to help them,” she said. “There’s so much they need—clothing, living spaces, food…I don’t know where to start. But the inspiration is there.”
Paloma plans to continue her charitable efforts after graduation. Hoping to eventually expand her aid with a more global focus, she chose to double major in economics, feeling it would help her better understand the issues she will face as she works toward her goals. She also hopes to further her education by earning a master’s degree.

“I will surely show how appreciative I am of receiving this scholarship through my grades and my actions.”

“It’s hard,” she said of attending college as a single mother. But she feels a responsibility to set a good example for her son, now 22 months old, whom she calls the best thing that’s ever happened to her. “I want to teach him that you don’t give up—you just try harder.”

Benjamin Franklin once said that diligence is the mother of good luck. Given the personal and societal obstacles she’s overcome in her drive to succeed, it’s fitting that Paloma Nathan should be awarded a scholarship whose name represents good fortune. And as her benefactor continues to pepper the world with his own humanitarian aid, Paloma is both inspired and touched by his generosity.

“The little bit he’s given me is helping me give a little bit to other people,” she said, reflecting on the unforeseen cause she shares with Kevin Howley.

He is equally moved by her efforts. “I’ve always hoped whoever received my scholarship would take what I’m able to give and give back to others,” he said upon learning of Paloma’s remarkable journey.

Despite the symbolic nature of their bond, however, Paloma and Kevin are living proof that it’s not luck that makes a difference in the lives of others. It’s kindness and a helping hand.

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Foundation announces 12 new named funds

The Shepherd University Foundation announces the establishment of 12 new named scholarship programs which recognize donors for their contributions to Shepherd University or offer them the opportunity to honor or memorialize a loved one. The awards provided through these funds will support the educational future of Shepherd students.

Boyle Family Scholarship

John Boyle established the Boyle Family Scholarship in tribute to the wonderful experience his daughter, Colleen Boyle ’12, had as a member of the Shepherd University Marching Band while attending Shepherd. Not only was he impressed by the close interaction Colleen enjoyed with Shepherd’s faculty and administration, he also appreciated the band’s unfailing ability to evoke spirit from the Ram Nation. Rather than donate to the overall program, however, John instead chose to express his gratitude as a father by investing in the lives of individual student members with this annual scholarship award. “My daughter benefited from Shepherd in so many ways,” he said. “I wanted to give something back, particularly to the marching band.”

Mike Doran Men’s Soccer Scholarship

When former soccer coach Mike Doran arrived at Shepherd University in 1989, he assumed control of a fledgling group of young men with a lot of vision but very little direction. Seven years later, he had led the Shepherd men’s soccer team to a position as Division II champs in the WVIAC, in addition to growing and nurturing the University’s soccer program. The road to triumph was often bumpy, but Mike’s philosophy never wavered as he maintained, “We might lose, but we’ll be better for it.” And in the end, he was correct. After a fall 2011 reunion, former Shepherd student-athletes who played under Coach Doran announced the establishment of the Mike Doran Men’s Soccer Scholarship in tribute to the man who believes one should always leave a place a little better than one found it. The annual award will benefit the Shepherd men’s soccer program.

Jonathan P. Daily Endowed Scholarship

Jonathan P. Daily was a promising young mathematician when he tragically passed away in 2011 at the age of 24. In 2009, he received his bachelor’s degree in applied mathematics with a minor in biology from George Mason University and went on to utilize these degrees modeling insect populations in streams at the U.S. Geological Survey in Leetown. He had been published in the Journal of Ecology in addition to successfully questioning a methodology in his field at a professional conference.

“Jonathan was making a name for himself,” said his father, Dr. Larry Daily, an associate professor and chair of the Department of Psychology at Shepherd University. “He was going to be remembered.” Larry established the Jonathan P. Daily Endowed Scholarship in support of applied mathematics in tribute to his son. “I feel like Jonathan was well on his way to creating a legacy,” he explained. “Part of my motivation in establishing this fund was to do that for him.”

SU Offensive Line Scholarship

Al ’67 and Sara ’67 Lueck are well-known for their enthusiasm for the Shepherd football program, having previously established four scholarships in support of it. Now they have created one more: the SU Offensive Line Football Scholarship, an annual award to benefit Shepherd student-athletes who hold the position of offensive lineman on the football team. The award and the position hold a special place in Al’s heart. “I have an affinity for OLs because I was one,” he explained. “Offensive linemen don’t get as much recognition and I thought this would be a good way to honor them.”
Edward and Mary Ann Rogers Education Scholarship

Both natives of the Eastern Panhandle, Edward ‘48 and Mary Ann ‘60 Rogers began their careers in secondary education in Jefferson County. A former history and civics teacher, Ed later served as principal at Charles Town High School and Shepherdstown High School, where Mary Ann was a teacher. After they married, each pursued successful careers at the board of education level in Colorado and Wyoming before returning to Berkeley County.

Ed graduated from Shepherd College in 1948 after serving in the U.S. Army under General George Patton, where he acted as a WWII cryptographic code clerk. As the first member of her family to attend college, Mary Ann’s own graduation from Shepherd in 1960 was a source of great pride and joy. Following her husband’s death in October 2011, Mary Ann created the Edward and Mary Ann Rogers Education Scholarship in support of education. Establishing the deferred endowment through a bequest enabled Mary Ann to join the Joseph P. McMurran Society along with other alumni and friends who have pledged to provide aid to Shepherd students long into the future.

Michael W. Hudson Scholarship

Shepherd University was the third college Michael Hudson ‘72 attended and the one from which he ultimately earned his degree. Michael began his college career at a small school in New England with aspirations of becoming an engineer. His grades reflected the eventual realization that this was not his ideal career path, however, and he transferred to a local community college. From there, he enrolled at Shepherd, where he earned his B.A. in history with a minor in mathematics.

“I really feel Shepherd gave me an opportunity to pursue a college education,” said Michael, who recently endowed a scholarship in his name to support students with a demonstrated financial need whose transcripts from a previous institution demonstrated the drive and ability to succeed. The deferred gift places Michael among other members of the distinguished Joseph P. McMurran Society who plan to include Shepherd University in their estate plans.

Donald L. Myers Scholarship Endowment

As the CFO, vice president, and treasurer of American University, Donald L. Myers ‘68 is well aware of the crucial need for private gifts to fund student scholarships at state-assisted universities, where state support is in decline for institutions of higher learning. Donald chose to give back to his alma mater with the creation of the Donald L. Myers Scholarship Endowment in support of Shepherd students majoring in business administration, economics, or accounting. Recipients must also be from the state of Maryland, with first preference given to residents of Washington County. Myers received his B.S. and B.A. in economics and accounting from Shepherd in 1968.

Dr. John B. Morrill Research Award

Dr. John B. Morrill enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a professor of biology at New College of Florida, where he strongly encouraged and mentored undergraduate researchers. Many notable researchers in the field of biology received their start from working in Dr. Morrill’s lab. Following his retirement as professor emeritus of biology, Dr. Morrill donated many items from his laboratory to Shepherd’s Department of Biology, in addition to helping to create a colony of pond snails in the laboratory of Dr. Carol Plautz. Following his death in 2010, the Dr. John B. Morrill Research Award was established to support summer research efforts for a biology student working with a Shepherd faculty member. It is the wish of the Shepherd University biology department—a wish shared by Dr. Morrill in his years of mentoring students—that this annual award will lead its recipients along a lifelong path of scientific inquiry.
Elizabeth J. Snyder Memorial Scholarship

Clarence and Delores Burdette established the Elizabeth J. Snyder Memorial Scholarship endowment in memory of their late granddaughter, who suddenly passed away in 2009 at the age of 28. A National Merit Finalist, Elizabeth attended both the University of Virginia School of Architecture and Marshall University, before returning to her home in Martinsburg and enrolling at Shepherd University. As a student at Shepherd, she was a member of Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honor society, and planned to pursue a degree and eventually a Ph.D. in history. During her time at Marshall, Elizabeth resided with her grandparents, with whom she became extremely close. Clarence remembers his granddaughter as a “brilliant girl.”

The Burdettes funded their gift with a bequest in their will, joining the distinguished Joseph P. McMurran Society comprised of alumni and friends who have let Shepherd know they wish to provide for the future of the University with a planned gift. “We love young people and want to see that those in need have opportunities at Shepherd that they might not have had,” said Clarence who, along with his wife, had a long career in education. “That’s always been our life and we are extremely dedicated to it.”

Eugene and Christine Lugat Defensive Player Football Scholarship

With a firm belief that the focus and appeal of Division II football lies with the student-athlete, Eugene Lugat ’83 and Christine Lugat established this annually funded award in their names to benefit defensive players on the Shepherd University football team. As a student at Shepherd, Gene was a defensive lineman on the 1982 and 1983 football teams. Through the creation of this fund, he would like to see his fellow teammates and other former players step up to the challenge by pledging private gifts in support of defensive positions. Gene is an active alumnus and a charter member of the Ram Gridiron Club. He is also among the members of the distinguished Joseph P. McMurran Society who intend to provide for the future of Shepherd University with a planned gift.

Michael M. Athey, Ed.D., Endowed Scholarship

Following his father’s death in 1995, Dr. Michael M. Athey ’62 began to consider his own legacy, which led him to create the Michael M. Athey, Ed.D. Endowed Scholarship through the Shepherd University Foundation. The award, funded through a bequest in his will, supports science education students and student-athletes, with a preference for those participating in men’s and women’s basketball and volleyball. As a newly inducted member of the Emeritus Club, the former teacher and supervisor with Berkeley County was certain he wanted to include his alma mater in his estate plans, saying, “Going to Shepherd was great because it allowed me to get a degree in my own backyard. I wanted to help future students have the same opportunity I did.”

A native of the Eastern Panhandle, Mike spent more than a decade as a high school teacher and supervisor with Berkeley County Public Schools. He then transferred to West Virginia University, where he served as a professor of teacher education courses and later as a fire safety instructor with the WVU Extension Service. Now retired and living in Shepherdstown, Athey is a longtime member of the Shepherdstown Volunteer Fire Department. Deeply committed to his involvement in the Shepherd community, Mike’s gift reflects his varied interests. And with his bequest, he joins other members of the Joseph P. McMurran Society who, through planned gifts, have pledged to aid Shepherd in its endeavor to provide quality education to deserving students.

How do I establish an annually funded award?

Awards may be funded annually through gifts or pledges. Please contact the Shepherd University Foundation for more information.

800-344-5231 ext. 5397
304-876-5397
mlingenf@shepherd.edu
The Tiano family: ‘Blessed Be the Tie that Binds’

If the Tiano family had a motto for their endowment, it might be “Blessed Be the Tie that Binds.” The large clan, consisting of Shepherd alums Lou ’72 and Marina ’74 Tiano and their four sons, Marc, Scott, Sam, and Matt, are spread out over the entire United States. Yet the Tiano Family Endowment has created a lasting legacy that not only links them to each other, but ties them infinitely to the town and the university that shaped their lives.

Both Lou and Marina knew they wanted to give back to their alma mater, and in 2010 during Shepherd’s comprehensive campaign, the opportunity to do so presented itself. Originally established as a collaborative effort among the pair, oldest son Marc, and Marc’s wife Kristin, the fund could have reflected

soley Lou and Marina’s passion for education. Instead, Marc, a West Virginia University graduate, requested that his parents consider branching out to a more generalized scholarship.

Marc, who now resides in New York City and works in the finance industry, suggested that the criteria for the award be expanded outward from the education discipline, especially since his own degree fell outside of that realm. This feedback ultimately influenced the decision to make the scholarship one open to any student meeting the financial need background.

“While my parents are lifelong educators and always stressed the importance of that to us, I wanted to make sure the endowment had a different focus,” said Marc.

The value Lou and Marina placed on Marc’s input is just one small indication of the mutual respect among family members. Though none of the Tiano sons followed in their parents’ footsteps with respect to their college choices, they all were more than willing to help give back to Shepherd University. This willingness stems in large part from the importance Shepherd has played to the Tiano family. Living in Shepherdstown meant that the university, and all that it had to offer, became a key fabric in their daily lives.

“Our children went to football, basketball, and baseball games, used all the facilities, went to camps, graduated from the pre-school program, and knew lots of people who attended the college,” said Marina. “It was kind of their playground in a sense.”

That sentiment is echoed in all four sons’ viewpoint of the hometown in which they once lived. Scott, who resides in Los Angeles, California, reiterated the importance of giving back to the community that shaped his childhood. For him, participation means more than gaining accolades and publicity.

“This endowment has created a permanent tie, one that sup-

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Meet the Foundation’s new president

The Shepherd University Foundation is pleased to introduce Michael A. Smith ’89 as its fifth president.

Mike is the vice president of Valley Proteins, Inc., a family-owned business located in Winchester, Virginia, with 14 plants and a total of 22 locations servicing 20 states. Creating renewable resources for animal feed, contributing to a cleaner environment, and developing clean energy biofuel are the essence of this truly green company founded by Mike’s grandfather more 60 years ago.

In spite of his successful career, however, Mike did not set out to be a businessman. Prior to attending Shepherd, his first love was horses. An avid horseman, he is a two-time national champion and was at one time in consideration to be an Olympic showman. He was pursuing that goal when he took a fall from a horse, resulting in a serious back injury.

With his Olympic dreams dashed, Mike enrolled as a student at Shepherd University due to its close proximity to his home and his horses. In retrospect, he says it was a serendipitous decision that resulted in a fantastic experience.

Mike graduated from Shepherd in 1989 with a B.S. in business. As a student, he spent four years in Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, serving as its fundraising chair—a foreshadowing to his work with the Shepherd University Foundation’s board of directors, for which he previously served as treasurer. During that time, he appreciated the opportunity to be mentored by former Foundation president Ramon A. Alvarez ’62, who will continue to serve the organization as vice president.

Recently married to his wife, Wendy, who shares his love of horses,

Mike has two children, daughter Victoria and son Mitchell, and is an active member of the Winchester community. He’s the past president of the Winchester Youth Development Center and Eastern Region Renderers Association, and sits on the boards of several organizations. He also enjoys spending time at his Middleburg horse farm and traveling the world.

Having never forgotten his Shepherd roots, Mike has given back to his alma mater in many ways. He is a regular fixture at the University’s annual Professional Connections Day as a popular and engaging speaker with students. Through his creation of the Gerald F. Smith Memorial Scholarship and the Edward L. Snyder Chair for Business, honoring his father and grandfather respectively, Mike has proven his willingness to perpetuate and cultivate the growth and development of the Foundation. ⬤ Kristin Alexander
The Tiano family

(continued from page 29)
ports my beliefs to never forget where you came from,” said Scott. “It’s for kids who really want to go to school.”

Sam, who works in the nightclub and entertainment industry, appreciates this lasting association with Shepherd and Shepherdstown, especially since he has no plans to move from his current city of Las Vegas, Nevada, back to the east coast.

“It feels nice to be a part of something like this, especially since it involves my parents and all my brothers,” said Sam. “We actually lived very close to the college, and I recall from my childhood we were always in and/or around campus.”

Matt, youngest and a recent college graduate himself, is the only one in the family still close enough to visit Shepherd’s campus on a semi-regular basis. Though barely out of school,

“If your family, like the Tianos, has been positively influenced by Shepherd University and you would like to establish your own fund, please contact the Shepherd University Foundation at P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443, 304-876-5397, or e-mail Monica Lingenfelter at mlingenf@shepherd.edu.

You may also visit the Foundation website at www.shepherd.edu/fndtn-web/.

Meg Peterson
Among the dignitaries joining President Suzanne Shipley (sixth from the right) in the ribbon-cutting ceremony marking the official opening of the pedestrian underpass was Congresswoman Shelley Moore Capito (fifth from right). The $5.65 million underpass increases pedestrian safety and improves traffic flow on one of Shepherdstown’s main thoroughfares.