

Shepherd

UNIVERSITY

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Monte Cater:
Vince Lombardi
Foundation
Coach of the Year

Senior Alyson Hehr honored for her philanthropic efforts on behalf of families of neonatal intensive care children

Alyson Hehr, a senior from Wheeling, received an Outstanding Young West Virginian Award from the Jaycees in recognition of the work she's done to help the families of children staying in the WVU Medicine Children's Hospital neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) in Morgantown.

Seven years ago, when Hehr was 14, she and her mother started Alyson's Angels, Inc., a non-profit organization that raises money to provide care packages for families with children in the NICU. Hehr said her entire family is involved, helping to organize fundraisers and making two trips to Morgantown each year to deliver the packages.

"Over the years, we've created about 900 care packages," Hehr said. "They

include everything from snacks to personal hygiene items and a \$25 gas card for each family."

Hehr and her mother started the charity because they wanted to support other families who are going through what they once went through. Right after Hehr was born, she stayed in the NICU for six days, forcing her parents to drive back and forth between Wheeling and Morgantown. It's a story Hehr has heard every year on her birthday.

Hehr said after she received the award in Wheeling in January, a member of the Jaycees told her the hospital her charity supports was the organization's main project in the 1980s and 1990s. "So the organization that honored me is part of the reason I'm alive today," she said. "That is really awesome."

Hehr said being involved with Alyson's Angels has taught her practical lessons—like how difficult it is to start and sustain a nonprofit organization. It's also taught her that she can have a positive effect on the world.

"I've learned that no matter what you do, the smallest actions can make a difference, because I never thought Alyson's Angels would make such an impact," she said. "But then we started getting all this recognition and all these thank you letters, so it's really a bigger impact than anyone thought it would be."

Her advice to others—find what you're passionate about and get involved, even if you can't start your own nonprofit.

✦ Cecelia Mason



Cecelia Mason

Alyson Hehr

Sociology professor trains puppy for Guiding Eyes for the Blind

Dr. Amy DeWitt, associate professor of sociology, has been teaching a unique student for the past few semesters. Since December 2015, DeWitt has been serving as a puppy raiser for Guiding Eyes for the Blind, working with Luther, a black Labrador retriever.

Guiding Eyes for the Blind, located in Yorktown Heights, New York, has provided specially trained dogs to the blind and visually impaired since 1954. DeWitt has wanted to be a part of the Guiding Eyes program since she was a teenager and saw a film about Buddy, a German shepherd dog that was the first guide dog in the United States.

"I've always been fascinated with these service dogs and what they're able to provide," she said. "My role in raising the puppy is socialization and teaching good house manners."

DeWitt had to go through an application process to become a puppy raiser. When Luther was very young, the two of them attended a training class once a week in Purcellville, Virginia. As the pups age, raisers attend classes twice a month. Luther's training involved introducing him to busier environments like malls, airports, grocery stores, restaurants, a college campus, and public transit so that he

learned to be relaxed and confident.

Luther spent much of the day on Shepherd's campus. DeWitt took him for long walks in the morning and afternoon. He attended class with her sometimes and stayed in her office when he was not in the classroom. Luther accompanied DeWitt to meetings, the library, and the Ram's Den.

Luther returned to New York in February where, according to DeWitt, he "aced his guide dog test and he did so well that he is under evaluation for breeding. Thus, I may have a little Luther in the fall."

✦ Cecelia Mason

Cecelia Mason



Dr. Amy DeWitt and Luther were featured in USA Today in November 2016 (see photo inset, right).

Shepherd Today

From President Hendrix.....	4
Nursing, music reaccredited	5
Human brain used in psychology, biology classes...	5
Friends of Popodicon restore house, gardens.....	6
Dual enrollment program open to high schoolers...	7
Social work, accounting obtain high pass rates.....	7
Shepherd honored for military outreach	9
Mary Tyler Moore left lasting legacy to Shepherd ...	9

Alumni

Class Notes.....	10
Strite '60 named Outstanding Alumnus	12
Weddings	13
Obituaries.....	14
Homecoming 2016.....	15
Wachtel '68 volunteers to support athletics	16
New arrivals.....	17

Athletics

Hall of Fame inductees honored.....	18
Football finishes season at 13-1	19
Fall sports recaps.....	20
Cater named Lombardi Coach of the Year	21
Brown plays in East-West Shrine game.....	21

Foundation

\$650K raised for new business school	22
Seven named scholarships announced	24
Your gift makes a difference.....	27
Reynolds '33 leaves \$222K gift.....	28
New Foundation board members named.....	29
Foundation scholars: All in the family.....	30

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Front Cover: Coach Monte Cater is named the Vince Lombardi Foundation Coach of the Year.
Photo by Pam and John Boyle

Back Cover: Participants in the inaugural season of the President's Lecture Series

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From the President

Excellence and alumni support enhance Shepherd's reputation

Shepherd University continues to evolve and to advance its reputation. Recently, Shepherd moved up from its former U.S. News and World Report regional university (south) category to the National Liberal Arts Colleges list, which includes academic heavyweights such as Williams, Wellesley, Swarthmore, Washington and Lee, Colgate, Smith, U.S. Naval Academy, Vassar, Grinnell, and Oberlin, to name just a few.

In this regard, we are working on a number of initiatives to raise Shepherd's visibility and to improve the university's standing among our new, highly distinguished, and better-financed peers in the national liberal arts group.

For example, Shepherd's Center for Regional Innovation (CRI) has been established to attract current and future business leaders to a venue that allows interactions with our students, faculty, staff, and other businesses—to launch the next big idea. Shepherd's CRI seeks to unlock the great potential in the region for strategic growth of the innovation economy. The CRI has sponsored presentations about economic development and innovation and how to translate innovation to practice.

Appalachia Advancing is an economic development project that Shepherd has joined, teaming with BROCADE (Building Resilient Opportunities in Culturally Aware, Diverse Environments) and George Mason University to identify the needs of southern West Virginia and to work with communities to propose solutions that aid economic stabilization of that region. The first step in that process was convening national thought leaders on Shepherd's campus for a summit in December 2016. This year's implementation will use students in Shepherd's Appalachian Studies program and service learning program while partnering with George Mason on system engineering student projects, such as studying broadband access as a basic step in improving the economy.

Shepherd is becoming the training ground and pipeline for companies seeking employees in cybersecurity, human performance, biomedical diagnostic equipment development, IT coding, and power and energy compliance and regulation. We have had much success matching our students with these companies—many students have landed job opportunities before they graduate.

Leveraging the in-house experts among our faculty and staff, Shepherd has hosted a series of working groups in disciplines ranging from photobiomodulation to aviation. The object of the working groups is to bring together representatives from a variety of businesses and agencies to problem solve and seek solutions that benefit all participants—and help train the next generation of leaders and innovators.

Shepherd aspires to be an All-Steinway School, joining other All-Steinway universities, including George Washington, James Madison, Shenandoah, University of Maryland, Radford, and two of our COPLAC (Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges) peers, University of Montevallo and Keene State, and signaling a major commitment to excellence for our students.

There is one thing that you, as alumni, can do to help us compete with our peers and help us advance in the rankings in the National Liberal Arts Colleges list—consider giving a gift to Shepherd University. One of the measurements that U.S. News uses to rate colleges and universities is the percentage of alumni who donate to their alma maters.

This year's top-rated school had an alumni giving rate of 56 percent; by comparison, Shepherd's giving rate was seven percent. If Shepherd alumni would make a gift each year—no matter how small—it would improve our giving rate and help us advance in the rankings that so many prospective students and their parents consult when making decisions about selecting a college. Please consider making a gift to Shepherd today and know that you will have a major impact! ☘



Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix '74

Cecelia Mason

Shepherd named to list of promising places to work in Student Affairs

Shepherd University is one of 18 colleges and universities on the 2017 Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs list. This is the third time in four years that Shepherd has made the list, which examines the administrative structures, commitment to diversity, and workplace and staffing practices of the student affairs department through a study conducted by the Center for Higher Education Enterprise at Ohio State University in partnership with the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) member institutions.

"We are among a group of outstanding institutions, and it's good to know we are in good company," said Dr. Tom Segar, vice president for student affairs.

Segar said Shepherd completed a survey that required a large quantity of data, and staff members were interviewed. Segar thinks Shepherd made the top 18 list for a variety of reasons.

"We're a family-friendly place," he said. "I think it reflects our commitment to diversity and social justice in terms of who we have on our staff, how we program, and what we value."

Segar said this acknowledgment shows Shepherd is consistent in the professional development offered to staff and places an emphasis on diversity in both staff and programming. He said this adds up to offering a better and more personal experience for each student.

"It reflects our care for students, and it shows that the work we do ultimately helps them," Segar said. "We are working to serve them so they are in the best place to learn, grow, and get a world class education."

Shepherd has 64 full-time and 28 part-time employees in student affairs serving about 3,800 students. The official results from the 2017 Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs were published in the March edition of *Diverse* magazine. ☘

Nursing and music programs receive reaccreditation for 10 years

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

The nursing baccalaureate program has been reaccredited for 10 years by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Dr. Sharon Mailey, chair of the Department of Nursing Education, said the CCNE Board of Commissioners issued the accreditation without making any recommendations.

The department had to meet a series of goals under four standards, which are mission and governance, institutional commitment and resources, curriculum and teaching-learning practices, and assessment and achievement of program outcomes.

"They praised us in terms of meeting the four standards," Mailey said. "They were very objective in terms of the elements under each standard and how we had successfully met those criteria. It was very clean and very professional."

Mailey said when considering mission and governance, CCNE looked at how well the mission and goals of the nursing program fit with those of the university and community.

"When you do accreditation, it's for the program but it's not in a silo," Mailey said. "It reflects the whole university and also our community of interest. We pulled those individuals in to give evidence of how this program contributes to the hospitals, to the clinics, to the health department, and all the agencies we work with." §

National Association of Schools of Music

Shepherd's Department of Music has been reaccredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) for 10 more years. The accreditation covers Shepherd's Bachelor of Arts in music, Bachelor of Music Education, Bachelor of Music in Performance, and Preparatory Program.

Dr. Robert Tudor, chair of the Department of Music, said the accreditation includes approval for a new program—a Bachelor of Music in Performance with a concentration in jazz studies. Tudor said he's particularly excited about the addition of the jazz program and thinks it will be a popular choice for students.

Tudor said NASM's accreditation report complimented Shepherd for having several strengths, including its music education, composition, piano, and performance offerings; the ensembles students can participate in; and the quality of the faculty.

"They said we have dynamically talented faculty that have relevant professional and current experience in all the areas that we're teaching," Tudor said. "Faculty are all very active in performance, composition, research, and music education. None of us are, if you will, 'retired' from the active, professional aspect of what we do." §

Human brain obtained for use in psychology and biology classes

Students in a biopsychology class taught by Dr. Chris Lovelace, associate professor of psychology, were given the opportunity to work with Shepherd's newly acquired preserved human brain.

Through her contacts in the medical research community, PRESIDENT MARY J.C. HENDRIX '74 was able to help procure the human brain specimen for teaching purposes. The brain came from a 62-year-old man who died of a heart attack and had donated his body for scientific and educational use. It is available to help students in psychology and biology classes who are learning about anatomy and how the brain functions.

"In class we see lots of pictures of brains, but it's very difficult to get a sense of how the brain is organized in 3D just from those two-dimensional pictures," Lovelace said. "There's more to it than just seeing where the parts are. There's something about holding an actual human brain that used to be a person that's really a remarkable experience."

Lovelace used the brain to show students the locations of the medulla, cerebellum, and hypothalamus. Each student was able to hold the brain and get a closer look at where the parts are located.

Katie Rakes, of Allentown, Pennsylvania, is interested in pursuing a career in forensics. She was the first student in line to hold the brain after Lovelace delivered a short lecture about the parts of the brain and how they function.

"It was surreal. It was a really great experience," Rakes said. "I am a visual learner, so the tangibility aspect helps because instead of looking at a book and seeing the pictures, which are so linear, you can pick the brain up and see it and gain a better grasp of the

concept."

Psychology students are not the only ones who will benefit from Shepherd having a human brain. It will also be utilized in some biology classes. Dr. Carol Plautz, associate professor of biology, plans to use the brain when she teaches the Comparative Anatomy class.

"I have always felt it is important for students to experience handling animals, live or in necropsies and dissections, as well as humans, either live or post-mortem, before embarking on a career in medicine—whether med school or some other health profession—to gain some exposure to what they will encounter in their training and career," Plautz said. "Students can have the unique and awesome experience of learning the physical dimensions and structural features of the brain by personally holding it in their hands." §

Katie Rakes holds the human brain specimen after Dr. Christopher Lovelace (r.), associate professor of psychology, delivered a short lecture about where the parts of the brain are and how they function.



Cecelia Mason

Shepherd Today

Friends of Popodicon mobilize to renovate house and gardens

Popodicon, the traditional home of Shepherd University's presidents, is getting some much-needed T.L.C. now that current PRESIDENT MARY J.C. HENDRIX '74 has chosen to live in her family home near Shepherdstown and to use Popodicon on Shepherd's West Campus as her business residence.

A new group—the Friends of Popodicon—has formed to help renovate the house and gardens. One committee is focusing on repairing and updating the house and another is working to restore the gardens.

Popodicon is a three-story, 16-room, 9,717 square-foot Colonial Revival house that was built in 1907-1908 by Henry W. Potts, a civil engineer who came to Shepherdstown in 1879 to survey a section of the Norfolk and Western Railroad running between Hagerstown and Shenandoah Junction. Potts met and married a local woman, Eleanor Powell, and the family settled in Jefferson County. Potts eventually bought several parcels of property on the edge of Shepherdstown along Shepherd Grade where he built Popodicon. The house was named in honor of Delaware Indian Chief Popodick, who was said to be buried on the grounds of the Potts ancestral home in Pennsylvania.

Popodicon was designed by architect Stuart H. Edmonds of Winchester, Virginia, and constructed by S.A. Westenhaber of Martinsburg. The gardens were designed by noted Philadelphia landscape architect Oglesby Paul. The state of West Virginia purchased the 126-acre estate for Shepherd in 1964 for \$125,000.

"It's a wonderful house," said John Douglas Miller, owner of Miller Interiors and chair of the friends group. "The house is in structurally very nice condition, totally air conditioned, and has a good heating system. I think it's been brought up to date nicely. It just needs to be loved a little bit, which we're trying to do."

Over the past half century, many campus and community members have seen the first floor of Popodicon when Shepherd



Cecelia Mason

John Douglas Miller, owner of Miller Interiors and chair of the friends volunteer group, stands by Popodicon's staircase.

presidents have hosted events there. The front door opens to a wide entry hall with large living rooms on each side. The living room on the left leads to a formal dining room. There's a kitchen beyond the dining room, complete with a butler's pantry. A back staircase goes to second floor rooms that would have been used by household help.

Few members of the public have been on the upper floors, which were traditionally private space for the president's family. A wide staircase winds up the center of the house to the second and third floors, pausing at sizable landings between each floor.

On the second floor there are three large bedrooms and two bathrooms in the main portion of the house, and one bedroom, one bathroom, and a small sitting room in back portion over the kitchen where household help would have lived. The third floor sits under a mansard roof with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a small sitting room.

The Friends of Popodicon group has already made some minor improvements to the first floor using furniture and art that are already in the house or have been donated or loaned. For example, four committee members volunteered to repaint the dining room, even providing the paint.

"The dining room was red and the committee decided it was more functional to have it a neutral color," Miller said. "That was sort of a gift of love to the house and it went very well. It was very easy to do and everyone enjoyed making a difference."

The walls in the first floor rooms have displayed original work loaned by art professor Sonya Evanisko and her students. Miller has also loaned a few pieces from his personal collection.

"The artwork will change as tastes
(continued on page 8)



Cecelia Mason

Popodicon is shown with updated plantings along the driveway and newly painted dark shutters.

Dual enrollment program with Jefferson County Schools announced

Beginning fall semester 2017, Shepherd University will offer a new dual enrollment program where juniors and seniors at Jefferson and Washington high schools can take college classes and earn credit for both high school and college.

Jefferson County high school students can sign up for the college classes if they complete a high school dual enrollment application; have a letter of recommendation from a principal, guidance counselor, or home school evaluator; have an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher; meet required standards on the ACT or SAT college entrance exam; and have a signed approval form from their parents. Dual enrollment courses are also available to home school and private school students who meet the eligibility requirements.

"The majority of the classes will be held right here on campus," said Dr. Virginia Hicks, assistant provost for academic community outreach. "The students will have the opportunity to get a feel for our wonderful academic setting, they can take classes with our great professors, and they can mingle with the students. It's a great opportunity to have an understanding of what it's like to be on campus."

Hicks says Shepherd has agreed to offer at least one dual enrollment class at each high school for students who aren't able to come to campus. Shepherd is offering more than 60 dual enrollment classes covering a wide range of topics.

For more information, visit www.shepherd.edu/admissions/high-school-students. ☞

Social work graduates have 100% pass rate on ASW Boards exam

Shepherd University social work graduates once again did very well on the Association of Social Work Boards exam. Craig Cline, assistant professor of social work and director of the social work program, said nine students from Shepherd took the 2015 exam and the pass rate was 100 percent.

For the past 10 years, Shepherd students have averaged a 96 percent pass rate. Cline pointed out that not all states require social workers to be licensed, so whether students take the exam depends on where they end up finding a job.

"It is an improvement over previous years, and it is significantly higher than the North American pass rate of 71 percent," Cline said. "It demonstrates that the social work faculty are dedicated to making sure that the students are obtaining the skills and information that they need to practice safely with their clients."

Cline said Shepherd's social work program places a huge emphasis on ethical practice.

"We're working with very vulnerable populations," Cline said. "As we send students out into the field to practice, it's important that they're doing so ethically and professionally. We're very proud that the students are able to achieve such a significant pass rate and that they are prepared to practice ethically with their clients." ☞



Cecelia Mason

President Mary J.C. Hendrix '74 recently met with Jefferson County School Superintendent Bondy Shay Gibson to discuss the dual enrollment classes Shepherd is offering to high school juniors and seniors in Jefferson County. Pictured (l. to r.) are Hendrix, Gibson, and Dr. Virginia Hicks, Shepherd's assistant provost for academic community outreach.

Accounting students have highest pass rate in state for second year in a row

For the second year in a row, Shepherd University accounting students had the highest passing rate in the state of West Virginia on the certified public accountant exam administered by the American Institute of CPAs.

Eleven students from Shepherd took the exam in 2015 and 61.9 percent passed with an average score of 73.5 percent. This is both the highest passed percentage and highest average score in the state; the second highest passed percentage was 48.4 percent and the second highest average score was 72.2. Of the Shepherd students who took the test for the first time, 58.8 percent passed, earning an average score of 75.4, which is also the highest rate for first-time test-takers in the state.

The exam is given in four sections—auditing, business environment and concepts, financial accounting and reporting, and regulation. Shepherd students had a 44.4 percent pass rate in auditing, an 80 percent pass rate in business environment and concepts, a 75 percent pass rate in financial accounting and reporting, and a 66.7 percent pass rate in regulation.

"Shepherd students succeed! The accounting graduates are an example of Shepherd's prior motto," said Roger Hamood, associate professor of accounting and accounting department chair. "This is what has kept me at Shepherd for 37 years."

CINDY VANCE '88, assistant professor of accounting, and Daniel Williams, associate professor of accounting, credit the challenging curriculum with the students' success.

"The CPA exam results represent the knowledge and the analytical skills of our students," Vance said. "Not only am I proud to be a faculty member at Shepherd, but I am also proud to be an alum."

"As you can see from our graduates, having challenging classes pays off for the students when they sit for the CPA exam," Williams said. "The fact that our graduates have earned the top scores in the state in multiple years means our program is doing a great job of educating them with the skills they need for a career in accounting." ☞

Friends of Popodicon

(continued from page 6)

change,” he said. “We’d like to develop a nice art collection that will be somewhat permanent. There is a lot of wall space here and it’s a great venue to show off student and faculty artwork and also things the community might want to offer to us, either on a loan or a permanent basis.”

The friends group has compiled a wish list of improvements needed in Popodicon ranging from smaller jobs, like repainting all the walls on the upper two floors and restoring two grandfather clocks, including a circa 1820 Jacob Craft clock (Craft was a famous late 1700s Shepherdstown furniture and clockmaker), to big ticket items like renovating the kitchen and bathrooms.

The kitchen, which recently received plaster work and paint, is large and the cabinets appear to be relatively new, but Miller said it’s not equipped to serve all the catered events that take place in the house.

“We have plans to put an island in the center with a granite top,” Miller said. “The catering staff say that the ovens are not really adequate so we’re putting in a stove with a big oven underneath, a gas cook top, and better dishwashers.”

Miller estimates the kitchen renovation will cost around \$12,000. An even bigger expense will be the upstairs bathrooms, which he said are completely inadequate by today’s standards. He thinks each bathroom could cost around \$20,000 to upgrade. Miller envisions giving each of the bathrooms a makeover using nice tile and all-new fixtures. Fundraising efforts will allow for the future improvements.

“We certainly want to be true to the architecture of the house and I don’t think any structural changes are needed other than in the bathrooms, and that’s minor,” he said. “We would probably mostly stay within the same framework of the present bathrooms but just modernize.”

There are also plans to paint and fully furnish all the bedrooms on the upper floors and possibly convert a sitting room off the master bedroom into a kitchenette, with a goal of creating suites where guests of the university could stay.

While Miller has been busy focusing on improvements to the house, Elisabeth Staro has been leading the charge to restore Popodicon’s gardens and grounds.

The gardens have great historic value because they were designed by Oglesby Paul (1876-1915), a noted Philadelphia landscape architect who, after graduating from

Harvard, served as a teaching assistant to Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. Paul came to Shepherdstown in 1906 to meet with the Pottses and to see the property. He subsequently drew up detailed plans for the formal garden, vegetable garden, and landscaping surrounding the house.

The gardens came alive under the leadership of Margaret Ikenberry, wife of Shepherd President

Oliver S. Ikenberry, who served from 1947-1968. It was President Ikenberry who recommended that Shepherd purchase the Popodicon property to provide crucial room for the expansion.

Mrs. Ikenberry greatly prized the beautiful gardens surrounding Popodicon. After her death, the Ikenberry family endowed the Margaret Ikenberry Memorial Fund for Popodicon Gardens and placed a bronze plaque on the pergola that is engraved with one of her poems written to celebrate her love of the gardens. This endowment continues to provide important funds for the maintenance and beautification of Popodicon and its surrounding gardens.

Staro hopes efforts by her committee will once again make the gardens something Mrs. Ikenberry would be proud of.

“Over the years, they’ve been restored many times and then somehow they always seem to fall into neglect again,” Staro said. “Hopefully, we’ll be able to prevent that this time and keep it an ongoing place for people to visit and have events.”

Volunteers were busy throughout last summer and fall cleaning out the flower beds, which had become overgrown with weeds, mulching, and removing some trees and other unwanted vegetation. Staro said the wisteria that grows on the pergola was in need of major trimming.

Volunteers from several local landscaping companies and student and community groups have done some of the work. The next step is to replant the flower beds.

“We do have pictures from when the Pottses lived here in the ’50s and ’60s when the gardens were in excellent condition,” she said. “Over the years you can see that many different ideas had been tried.”

Staro said one problem her group faces today that wasn’t an issue in the past is the increased number of vegetation-nibbling deer.

“We need to be mindful of maintenance expenses, deer issues, native plants, and coming up with something that’s workable in today’s landscape concepts,” she said.

Members of the Friends of Popodicon include Louise Hafer Corderman, Jim and Barbara Gibson, Connie Hoxton, Marty

(continued next page)



Cecelia Mason

Elisabeth Staro, pictured above decorating Popodicon for the holidays, heads the volunteer effort to restore the gardens at Popodicon.



Cecelia Mason

Popodicon’s staircase is viewed from the third floor.

Shepherd receives military friendly designation, kudos for meeting statewide 5 Star Challenge

Shepherd University was awarded the 2017 Military Friendly® School designation in November 2016 by Victory Media, publisher of *G.I. Jobs*®, *STEM JobsSM*, and *Military Spouse*.

“We are honored to serve our military and veteran students,” said William “Bill” Sommers, vice president for enrollment management. “This designation validates the hard work and commitment of so many members of our university community.”

“We continually strive to make Shepherd University a welcoming environment for veterans and their families,” said MARY BETH MYERS ’99, veterans support services coordinator.

Shepherd was commended in August 2016 for meeting the 5 Star Challenge, a statewide initiative that encourages all of West Virginia’s two- and four-

year institutions to adopt a set of standards to help veterans achieve an education.

The standards include:

- adopting best practices and standards
- working to increase access and affordability of higher education
- providing increased academic support
- priority registration for classes
- enhancing social networks for veterans on campus
- encouraging greater collaboration with community organizations working to meet the needs of military service members

There are at least 188 students at Shepherd who are veterans, dependents, or active military. The university has a Veterans Center located in Gardiner Hall that offers administrative support, computers, and a place to study and meet. Shepherd also hosts a chapter of Team River Runner, which offers therapeutic, recreational, and adaptive paddling programs to veterans and their families. ♡

Friends of Popodicon

(continued from previous page)

and Carol Kable, ERIC ’95 and JOY ’91 LEWIS, SARA LUECK ’67, Tia McMillan, Liz Oates, Ed Ringoot, ANNE SMALL ’67, LEE SNYDER ’72, JIM ’68 and MARY (PEACHY) ’70 STALEY, Mary Stanley, Terry Wills, and PAUL ’74 and PATTIE ’73 WILMOTH. The garden committee includes Marellen Aherne, Alice Barkus, LEE SNYDER ’72, Dave Swanberry, Tim Valerio, and Terry Wills. ♡ *Cecelia Mason*

Popodicon to be available for event rentals in late spring

After receiving requests from alumni about holding weddings and other formal events on campus, Shepherd is offering Popodicon, the loveliest building on campus with a beautifully restored garden, for event rentals beginning later this spring.

Contact Sonya Sholley at ssholley@shepherd.edu for more information about rental rates.



Gary Kable

Mary Tyler Moore is shown at Shepherd’s George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War in 1996.

Mary Tyler Moore left a lasting legacy at Shepherd

Actress Mary Tyler Moore, who died January 25, left a lasting legacy at Shepherd University.

In 1995, Moore donated her great, great, great grandfather’s home—the Conrad Shindler House—to the Shepherd University Foundation to serve as the home of the Civil War center. Alumnus BILL KNODE ’58, then-vice president of the Shepherd University Foundation, was instrumental in obtaining the gift of Moore’s ancestral home for Shepherd.

In May 1996, she presented a key to the house at a ceremony renaming the center the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War, in honor of her father.

Moore was Shepherd’s commencement speaker in 1996 and was awarded a Doctor of Humane Letters honorary degree. ♡



Gary Kable

Mary Tyler Moore leads the 123rd Commencement procession in 1996 with Interim President John Pierce Watkins.

Alumni

Class Notes

'67 SHIRLEY BOND was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. She joined 4-H at the age of 10. While in college, Shirley worked as a county 4-H program assistant and, upon graduating from Shepherd, accepted a 4-H agent's position in Grant and Pendleton counties. She transferred to Jefferson County after a year where she continued to work until 1973 when she married and moved to Florida. She continued her career in 4-H in Florida until retiring in 2002.

'68 JIM STALEY, a U.S. Army veteran, was the guest speaker at Shepherd's Veterans Day Program November 11, 2016. Jim served for many years as the 4-H extension agent in Jefferson County before his



Cecelia Mason

Jim Staley '68

retirement. He was the master of ceremonies during President Mary J.C. Hendrix's inauguration ceremony in April 2016. He and his wife, MARY BARNEY "PEACHY" STALEY '70, who is one of the founding members of the women's philanthropy group WISH (Women Investing in Shepherd), live in Shepherdstown.

'75 STEVE LOGSTON has published a nonfiction book, *Even Her Tears Were Yellow*, with Austin Macaulay Publishers Ltd. Steve's writing follows the journey of his stepdaughter, Chelsea, who suffered from hepatocellular carcinoma, as she waits to receive a donor liver, ultimately losing her life. It also explores the special bond she had with her mother, Joni, and with Steve as well.



The book, which describes Chelsea's struggles and perseverance through her illness, was written to promote better organ donation awareness, something that Steve and Joni still actively work toward. *Even Her Tears Were Yellow* was released in the U.K. in April 2016 and in the U.S. in October 2016. It is available at Barnes & Noble, Books-A-Million, and Amazon.

'92 PENNY PORTER has been named chief executive officer of United Way of the Eastern Panhandle. Penny has served as United Way's director of community impact since early 2015. In this role, she has actively engaged with United Way partners and agencies to address community needs in the areas of education, income, and health. She currently serves on the Health and Human Services Collaborative and also manages the Day of Caring with more than 1,200 volunteers in the Eastern Panhandle. Penny served for 21 years in the office of U.S. Senator Jay Rockefeller, most recently as the regional area coordinator for the Martinsburg office. She is an active member of the Rotary Club of Martinsburg, having served as past-president and past-assistant district governor for the service organization. She is an elder with Tuscarora Presbyterian Church.



Penny Porter '92

'96 HAL M. HOLDEN-BACHE is the executive chef and owner of Lockland Table in Nashville, Tennessee. Hal pursued a culinary arts degree at Shepherd and after graduating was accepted into the Culinary Apprenticeship Program at the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs. Recognized as a rising star, he was given the opportunity to intern under world-class chefs including Harmut Handke, Peter Timmons, Tom Colicchio, and butcher Larry Griffin. He graduated with top honors and traveled to Nashville where he began working as executive chef at the famed Nick and Ruby's Steakhouse, joined the team

of executive chef Tyler Brown at Capitol Grille at the Hermitage Hotel, and then became executive chef of Eastland Café for five years. While at Eastland, Hal decided to venture out and open his new restaurant Lockland Table in 2012.

'01 SCOTT NELLIS graduated from Trinity Lutheran Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. In June 2016, he was called to be pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in New Philadelphia, Ohio, and was ordained as a minister of word and sacrament in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. While now on a new career path, Scott has found that he's still able to use his degree in graphic design from Shepherd in his duties as a pastor by creating multimedia slides, logos, and illustrations.



Scott Nellis '01

CRAIG DODSON '01 made the list of top 10 CNN Heroes for 2016 and was featured on the 10th anniversary *CNN Heroes All Star Tribute* show hosted by Anderson Cooper and Kelly Ripa. Craig is a former semiprofessional bicycle racer who started the nonprofit Richmond Cycling Corps, which offers children from Richmond public housing the opportunity to participate in racing and other cycling activities. Danielle Brooks from the Netflix series *Orange is the New Black* introduced Craig during the television special that aired December 11, 2016, calling him "a mighty force of a pain-in-the-neck goodness in order to help his kids bring change to their lives."

"I shouldn't have to be a hero, but the system has failed these kids," Craig said after Brooks introduced him. "If you want to fix the issues, then you have to understand that these kids aren't some number in a research paper. They are brilliant, they are complicated and courageous. I implore you to not see past them. Roll up your sleeves, get in the trenches with us. Our kids—they love, they hurt, they fail, they push, they succeed. They are my heroes and most of all, they are

heroes to themselves.”

Each of the 10 CNN Heroes who appeared on the show was awarded \$10,000 to help them continue their work. They also received free organizational training from the Annenberg Foundation, a leading supporter of nonprofits worldwide.

’03 JUSTIN MCCONNAUGHEY was named a National Assistant Principal of the Year by the National Association of Elementary School Principals. He was the only assistant principal from Maryland to make the list of 11 from across the country. Working for Frederick County (Maryland) Public Schools for 13 years, Justin was recently promoted to principal of Brunswick Elementary.

’10 BEN SCHONBERGER exhibited his work at the Toledo (Ohio) Museum of Art’s Glass Pavilion in August 2016. The exhibit, titled *Beautiful Pig*, was based on his first book which was published in 2014. The exhibit focused on photographs and memorabilia collected by former Detroit police officer Marty Gaynor during the late 20th century. Ben selected and arranged the photos and other documents, then had Gaynor write comments about them. The Toledo exhibit was the first in which the collection was shown in its entirety. Ben, who holds a B.F.A. in photography and computer imagery from Shepherd and an M.F.A. in photography from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan, is a visiting professor of photography at the University of Akron.

’13 JOSÉ LUIS MORENO has been named director of student diversity and inclusion at McDaniel College. In this role, José provides leadership and direction for McDaniel’s diverse student population by facilitating programming and services, in addition to collaborating with student groups. He has 10 years of experience working in higher education. He was most recently the assistant dean of students for student conduct and multicultural student affairs at Shepherd. He also served as assistant to the director of the multicultural leadership team at Shepherd. Previously, he worked



Cecelia Mason

Alumni participating in the Shepherd mini-conference in November 2016 were (l. to r.) Dean Manross ’88, Mark Manross ’86, and Deb Summers ’81.

The Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Sport hosted a mini-conference on November 7, 2016, with alumni MARK MANROSS ’86, DEB SUMMERS ’81, and DEAN MANROSS ’88 from PE Central serving as instructors. PE Central is a website that serves as a teaching resource for K-12 physical educators. Mark Manross serves as the executive director of PE Central and was a co-founder.

Students from Shepherd and Maryland’s Montgomery College attended the conference, which focused on effective teaching skills in the physical education classroom.

as assistant director of undergraduate admissions and coordinator of multicultural recruitment, as well as coordinator of orientation and first-year programs at Framingham State University. José received his bachelor’s degree in Spanish from Framingham State University and his Master of Arts degree in college student development from Shepherd.

JENNIFER HESS ’13 was awarded the first annual Distinguished M.B.A. Alumni Award during a June 16, 2016, reception. Jennifer completed her M.B.A. in health administration in 2013 with a 4.0 G.P.A. She served as the first president of the Student M.B.A. Advisory Council and

co-chaired and served as master of ceremonies for the 2012 senatorial debate between Senator Joe Manchin and his opponents John Raese and Bob Henry Baber that took place at Shepherd.

Jennifer earned a master’s degree from Johns Hopkins University in biotechnology of health science. On August 1, 2016, she began medical school at Marshall University with a goal of pursuing a specialty in neurology. Before entering medical school, Jennifer worked as an adjunct professor in health promotion and exercise science at Shepherd and as an exercise physiologist and health and fitness education specialist at Berkeley Medical Center in Martinsburg. ☞

Lowe ’71 named to W.Va. Racing Commission

KENNETH F. LOWE JR. ’71 was appointed by Governor Jim Justice as a commissioner on the West Virginia Racing Commission. He was sworn-in in February. Ken has served as president of the West Virginia Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association and was a member of Justice’s transition team for economic development. He previously served as chair of the Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council for former Governor Joe Manchin.



Ken Lowe ’71

Larry Strite '60 named Outstanding Alumnus of the Year

LARRY STRITE '60, Shepherd's Outstanding Alumnus of the Year, has been happy to do whatever he can to help the university he credits with giving him the tools he needed for a successful career with one of the country's major manufacturing corporations.

Larry's family moved to Martinsburg when he was 10 after Potomac Edison transferred his father from Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.



Cecelia Mason

Larry Strite '60

"It was a great place for a boy to grow up," Larry said of Martinsburg. "It was typical 1940s and '50s small-town America. The population was only around 15,000, neighbors knew one another, and it was a safe, fun place to play and live."

Larry recalls Martinsburg having four movie theaters. He attended St. John's Lutheran Church on Martin Street, which for him was the center of many activities, including basketball and softball teams.

"When I was 12, I delivered the *Martinsburg Journal* by riding my bike all over town," Larry said. "That same year, I caught a train to Washington, watched the Senators baseball game, rode the train back, and walked home—no adults!"

Larry had a job during high school pumping gas at a local service station. He also played football at Martinsburg High and was on the first-ever undefeated Bulldog team in 1954. A year later, Larry was enrolled at Shepherd and playing for the

Rams during their first undefeated season.

"I became interested in football at an early age," Larry said. "I remember going to see the high school games with my dad when I was still very young. It was a big deal—being with dad, lots of people, everyone cheering when we scored and won games. Football was talked about a lot before, during, and after the game. I wanted to be a part of all that excitement and be part of the team."

Larry chose to attend Shepherd because it gave him an affordable opportunity to get a college education and play football while still being close to home. His sister EMILY STRITE POTTS '64 is also a proud Shepherd graduate.

After graduating in 1960 with a B.S. in business administration and a B.A. in secondary education, Larry taught for three years at Martinsburg High School and Martinsburg Junior High. In 1962 he took a job with Corning, Inc., working at the Martinsburg plant until 1968 and then transferring to Corning, New York. Larry received the company's Marketing Excellence Award in 1989 and 1993, and the People Development Award in 1994. Larry and his wife, Nancy, moved to Shepherdstown in 1999 to be closer to family. Larry retired from Corning in 2000.

"It was a great career choice for me," he said. "I got to travel, I learned a lot, and I was able to progress through the company in supply chain management. I was humbled and honored to have been recognized for my work by the company several times during my career."

Larry is equally honored to be named Shepherd's Alumnus of the Year.

"I appreciate it very much," he said. "To be recognized by the school means a great deal. Shepherd gave me a lot. It gave me an education, which I'm very proud of. So I try to give back."

After returning to the Eastern Panhan-

dle, Larry did a lot to support Shepherd. He was a member of the Shepherd University Alumni Association Board of Directors from 2001-2016, serving as president from 2002-2008; was appointed director emeritus of the alumni board in 2011; was a member of Shepherd University Foundation Board of Directors from 2004-2016; and served on the Shepherd University Campaign Stewardship Committee from 2007-2011 and on the Alumni Golf Tournament Committee from 2001-2015.

Larry has also been involved in several university projects and programs over the years. He made a number of individual visits with alumni while serving on the Create the Future Campaign, helped raise \$150,000 for nonrevenue sports while serving on the Alumni Golf Tournament Committee, and helped create two endowments—the 1955 Undefeated Football Team Endowment and the Shepherd University Alumni Endowment. Larry was honored by the Athletic Department in March 2016 for his dedicated support of the Ram football team, and the 1955 championship team he was on was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Both Larry and Nancy, who now live in Midlothian, Virginia, are members of the Foundation's Scarborough and McMurrin societies, and they have been donors for many years supporting the Alumni Association, Foundation, and

(continued on page 17)



Larry Strite
1959 "Conhongoroota" yearbook

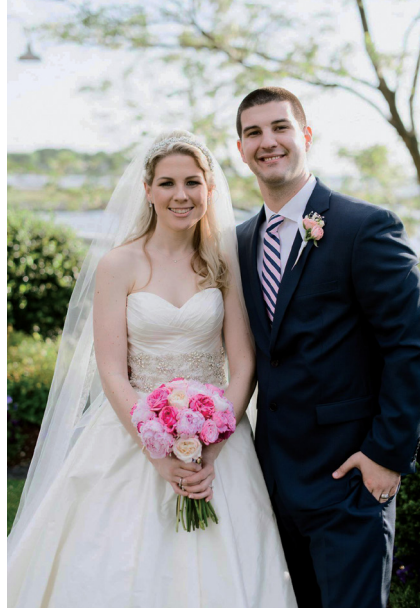


JAMES "J.R." COPLEY '07 and MEGHAN SPARROW '07 were married June 18, 2016 in Milton. The couple currently resides in Culloden.

Weddings



KATIE SWAYNE '12 and BRETT GORDON '13 were married at the Historic McFarland House in Martinsburg, on October 8, 2016. Alumni in the wedding party included bridesmaid LIZ MCCORMICK '14, groomsmen OWEN RYE '14, LEONEL URRUTIA '12, VINCE JUAREZ '15, and ZACH WATERS '13, and ushers DREW BARTOLDSON '13 and LEVI WINGERD '14. Many other alumni celebrated with the couple as guests.



KAILEY KENNY '12 and CLYDE YOUNG '12 were married May 14, 2016 at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club in Stevensville, Maryland. Included in their wedding party were Clyde's Lambda Chi Alpha brothers REID CARPER '12, AARON KESSEL '11, TREVOR PHADDEN '14, and STEPHEN RYAN '15, and Kailey's Alpha Sigma Tau sisters KRISTEN HADEL '09, ASHLEY SPRING '12, KELSEA WEICHT '13, HAYLEY KESSEL '14, and ASHLEY BENDER '14.



RACHEL CRUM '08 and JOSÉ MORENO '13 M.A. were married at All Saints Episcopal Chapel in Frederick, Maryland on April 30, 2016. Included as bridesmaids in their wedding party were JESSICA MCGOWAN MICHAEL '06, AMANDA AGEE FERENCHICK '08, and Heather DECKER WAUGH '08.



Wild June Photography

KASEY MERCIER '13 and BRYAN WOLFE '11 were married September 24, 2016 at St. Joseph Catholic Church-Fullerton. Kasey is associate manager, global events, for Under Armour, and Bryan is a project manager at Singleton Electric Company, Inc. in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Their reception at the Eastern Yacht Club in Essex, Maryland, was attended by two generations of Shepherd alumni. Pictured above, front row (l. to r.), are BRYAN WOLFE '11, KASEY MERCIER WOLFE '13, former student Shannin Gunther Tabler (2009-2011), and current grad student CARA MASON '16; second row, KIM DAVIS MERCIER '78, DANA HENDRICKS ANDERS '78, JENNY SUE SMITH CALING '77, PAM BROOKS HILLIARD '77, and ANNA ROPER '16; third row, current grad student MEG KENNY '14, PATRICK ARAGON '13, DANIELLE EASTON '15 M.A., JULIE CUMMINGS SHADLE '77, JOANNA MYERS '14, PATTY VELZY ANDREWS '75, and TED GILLETTE '76; fourth row, PATRICK SMITH '12, ANTHONY JACKSON '11 AND '15 M.B.A., student Kelsey Fletcher, LAURA HOFFTMASTER '13, PATTI RICHMOND SAYLOR '80, and PAM CLARK GILLETTE '76.

Alumni

Obituaries

KENNETH EARL “KEN” HAWES ’42, of Mathias, died March 30, 2016. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education. He joined the United States Navy after graduation, was stationed on a LST 724 ship, and served in Guam in 1951. He was honored as Hardy County Teacher of the Year in 1975. In 1964, he received a National Science Foundation Scholarship and attended WVU, where he received his master’s degree.

HARRIET VIRGINIA LEACH MUDGE ’49, of Martinsburg, died September 10, 2016. She received her bachelor’s degree in social studies and commerce and worked at the Old National Bank in Martinsburg before becoming a substitute teacher in Berkeley County in 1961. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and sang in the choir, played piano, and taught Sunday school.

ELEANOR ANN SHIRLEY ’51, of Shenandoah Junction, died July 22, 2016. She received bachelor’s degrees in mathematics and physical education, was a member of Phi Sigma Chi Sorority and Kappa Delta Pi National Educational Honorary Society, and was named to Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. She taught mathematics, driver education, and physical education and coached the girls’ basketball team at Martinsburg High School for 17 years. She served as mathematics and science supervisor for Berkeley County Schools and as elementary supervisor and director of elementary schools in Jefferson County until her retirement in 1989. She was past president of Eta Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and past recording secretary and second vice president of Alpha Phi State Delta.

BOBBY DONALD LACY ’67, of Viera, Florida, and Alderson, died August 10, 2015. He earned a bachelor’s degree in physical education. He retired in June 1999 after 32 years of service in the Alexandria City (Virginia) School System, where he taught physical and health education and was a football and basketball coach. He attended the Old Greenbrier Baptist Church in Alderson.

VIRGINIA GIBBONS ’68, of Alexandria, Virginia, died June 15, 2016. A political science major at Shepherd, she was a member of the

Student Government Association and was named to Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. A 1974 graduate of George Washington University Law School, she worked as senior attorney advisor for the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. She served for three years in American Samoa as assistant attorney general for environmental affairs.

DAVID A. KERR ’68, of Shepherdstown, died June 22, 2016. He served in the U.S. Army Military Police Corps from 1962 to 1964 and was a member of the Shepherdstown Fire Department from 1957 until his death. He had been employed by the Maryland Department of Environment and Washington County Health Department for 34 years as a public health sanitarian. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, CAROLYN J. KERR ’71, and two children, GINDY GOFF ’99 and BRIAN GEORGE KERR ’00. He was preceded in death by his sister, SANDRA K. BUSEY ’58.

REBECCA E. “BECKY” BLACK ’72, of Charles Town, died September 19, 2016. She earned a degree in English and modern languages at Shepherd and retired from the Bank of Charles Town as a loan processor. She was a member of St. Thomas Lutheran Church.

MARY ANN BRANNON ’72, of Bunker Hill, died October 13, 2016. She earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Shepherd and a master’s degree in communication from West Virginia University. She was employed with Berkeley County Schools, teaching at Inwood Primary for 32 years. She was a member of the Bunker Hill United Methodist Church, taught children’s Sunday school, served with the Bunker Hill-Musselman High School Alumni Association, volunteered with Meals on Wheels, and served as a PASS volunteer in the school system.

GREGORY A. GAMBLE ’75, of Hagerstown, Maryland, died September 4, 2016. He was the director of resources at SEEC, a progressive nonprofit agency providing support to people with developmental disabilities. Previously, he was the administrator of Workforce Development for Goodwill Industries of Monocacy Valley, director of Valley College of Technology, and a vocational counselor at the Western Maryland Consortium. He began his career as a banker after graduating from Shepherd with

a bachelor’s degree in business.

MAX F. HYKES ’83, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, died November 23, 2016. He worked at Corning Glass Works of Greencastle, and previously at Henry’s Floor Covering. He was a well-known self-employed guitarist and musician. He graduated cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in business administration and communications. He is survived by his sister, FRANCINE PHILLIPS ’82.

GENE MADDOX MERCHANT ’84, of Ranson, died September 10, 2016. He earned a Regents Bachelor of Arts degree at Shepherd and had most recently worked for the Charles Town Race Track. He was a certified lay speaker for the United Methodist Church.

STUART LEE YATES ’85, of Spotsylvania, Virginia, died July 18, 2016. He received a business degree from Shepherd and worked as a certified public accountant before becoming a contractor and home improvement specialist in his own company, Man Friday. He is survived by his wife Liz, children, grandchild, and parents Jacque and CHARLIE YATES ’56.

CAROLYN ANN BRYANT ’89, of Harpers Ferry, died September 9, 2016. She received a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and history education from Shepherd, where she was a member of Mu Alpha Theta math fraternity, and a master’s in history education from West Virginia University. She was a member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Daughters of the American Revolution, 4-H Club, and 4-H All Stars.

SUZETTE SMITH CRAUN ’91, of Harpers Ferry, died September 18, 2016. She earned a degree in nursing at Shepherd. She loved being in service to others and had a very tender heart toward animals. She is survived by her husband, STEVENS CRAUN ’94.

MICHAEL GEORGE BRENNAN ’06, died July 8, 2016. He received his bachelor’s degree from Shepherd in history with a concentration in Civil War and 19th-century America.

AUSTIN JOHN BERRIER, SR. ’07, of Martinsburg, died September 27, 2016. He received his Regents Bachelor of Arts degree from Shepherd and was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. He was a member of St. Augustine’s Roman Catholic Church in Williamsport, Maryland. ☞



Homecoming 2016

Clockwise, from top left: Betty Lowe '52 (l.) and Barbara Nickell '52 attended the '50s Decade Reunion held in the Dining Hall's lower level on Friday, October 21.

Shepherdstown Mayor Jim Auxer '69 and President Mary J.C. Hendrix '74 made an appearance in the Homecoming parade.

The Alumni Association hosted a post-game party on King Street in front of Reynolds Hall.

Alumni of the 1950s decade gathered for a group photo at the alumni breakfast at McMurrin Hall Saturday morning.

Accounting professors Roger Hamood and Cindy Vance '88 joined the Homecoming festivities. Cindy is an Alumni Association board member.



Rick Wachtel '68 volunteers at his alma mater to support athletics

Since graduating from Shepherd, Martinsburg resident RICK WACHTEL '68 has been actively involved in the local community, both as a small business owner and public official. Rick is now using his time and talent to voluntarily give back to Shepherd in a new role—as an athletics advocate.

After earning a degree in business, Rick worked at General Motors in Martinsburg for eight years before he and a partner decided to start WRNR radio, which went on the air in 1976. Rick and his brother, Gregg, sold the station in December 2015, freeing Rick to take on a new challenge—boosting Shepherd's profile in the community.

"I am focusing particularly in the area of enhancing our sports program and improving the academic and the athletic life for our student-athletes," he said.

Rick, who played one year of football at Shepherd, has been working to help raise money for a new Student-Athlete Performance Center, a proposed 11,000 square foot building that would house space for strengthening and conditioning training for student-athletes.

"Weight programs are critical for all men's and women's sports," he said. "The two small weight rooms in the Butcher Center are simply insufficient and not very competitive in comparison to the other schools in our conference. Certainly we have to improve upon that."

Rick has been a liaison between Shepherd and the local community, promoting opportunities that are available for businesses and industry to support the university. He said the new Smallwood and Small Insurance Pavilion overlooking Ram Stadium has been a great asset to this effort.

"It gives us the opportunity to invite a lot of community lead-

ers from Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan counties to see a good football game, have some fun, have some food and a beverage, socialize a bit, and, more importantly, to meet President Hendrix and find out what a dynamic lady she truly is," he said.

In helping Shepherd, Rick brings to the table nearly 40 years of radio station ownership and sales experience and leadership skills as a public servant. He was on the Martinsburg City Council from 1972-1996 and was a member of the Berkeley County Development Authority. He has been on the Eastern West Virginia Regional Airport Authority since 1982, serving as that body's chair since 1988.

"Having been involved in economic development at the airport, I know the value of Shepherd having facilities close by and how important that is to industry looking at this area," Rick said. "You know that companies coming into this area, like a P&G or a Macy's, want the hardware—the water, the sewer, the airport, rail, and public schools close by. But they also want to know that higher education opportunities are here, whether it's through Shepherd's Martinsburg Center or the Shepherdstown campus. Shepherd is a great asset to job creation."

Rick is also hoping to be a role model to other alumni, encouraging them to follow his lead and give back to Shepherd.

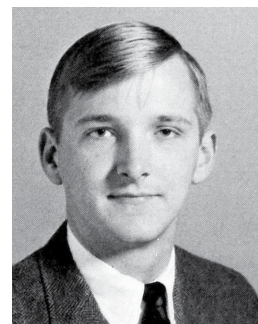
"I would like to see other alumni who have some time available and have certain advantages and assets that they can give or lend to the university at this point in their life and their career to come back and offer their services, whether it's in business, nursing, secondary education, or anything," he said. "There are lots of people out there frankly who I think would like to get involved with Shepherd, but somebody needs to ask them and open the door for them."

Asking and opening the door are exactly what Rick is doing in his new volunteer role as athletics advocate.

"Very few people realize what a strong industry Shepherd University is," he said. "It has about 700 employees. I know that state funding for the university, and all universities and colleges in West Virginia, has been dramatically decreased over the years. I know how important education is. To have a fine university so close to so many people in Berkeley, Morgan, and Jefferson counties, as well as neighboring parts of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania—it's just a huge asset to this area."

Rick sees his new role as just one way he can give back to the university that helped him

(continued on next page)



*Rick Wachtel
1968 "Conhongoroota"
yearbook*



Cecelia Mason

Rick Wachtel '68

Strite '60 named Outstanding Alumnus

(continued from page 12)

athletics causes. Although she did not attend Shepherd, Nancy helped found the highly successful Women Investing in Shepherd (WISH) giving circle and has volunteered for Relay for Life.

"I just felt from the beginning the Shepherd community was very welcoming, giving me the opportunity to be involved. It was a gift," Nancy said. "I wanted to support Larry, too. He was very active during our time there on different boards. I also strongly wanted to support education."

"I wanted to give back and to show my support as a way of saying 'thank you' for providing a solid foundation and helping pave the pathway for my career," Larry added. "I admire Shepherd for its enthusiasm and can-do attitude. The university receives limited funding from the state of West Virginia, yet Shepherd continues to maintain a high level of excellence. I believe in Shepherd University, and I am excited as we look forward to the future of this school and its students. I believe under the leadership of President Hendrix, Shepherd is and will be well positioned to serve the people of the Eastern Panhandle for many years to come."

Shepherd is very different from the college Larry attended in the late 1950s. The student population has about quadrupled in size, more students live on campus than they did back then, and Shepherd has become a university.

"I think having the students living and studying together on campus and in town is a change for the better and makes them more invested in the school and in Shepherdstown," Larry said. "This engagement in activities such as Relay for Life by folks at Shepherd has been absolutely critical in the success of that event over the past several years, and it serves to bring the school and the town together." ❖ *Cecelia Mason*



Larry Strite '60, third from right, was honored on the field at Ram Stadium during Homecoming. Pictured above (l. to r.) are Lexi Reed '06, former alumni director; Larry's wife Nancy Strite; Shepherdstown Mayor Jim Auxer '69; Strite; Larry's daughter Amy Strite; and Alumni Association board member Nelson Vazquez '86, who holds a Shepherd jersey signed by members of the 2016 Ram football team that was presented to Larry.

Athletics volunteer Rick Wachtel '68

(continued from previous page)

succeed in business.

"I'm just so pleased with what Shepherd did to prepare me to go out into the professional world," he said. "I was a business major, and Shepherd prepared me to do things like decipher balance sheets and profit and loss statements. It also taught me how to talk to people and to give them some indication that you know a bit about the world of business, which in turn created confidence in the relationship, which was extremely important."

Rick sees Shepherd's sports programs as a good starting point to engage more alumni in the university.

"I recognize, as many people do, that the first way and the most frequent way that alumni hear about their university is on the sports page," Rick said. "When schools have successful sports programs, competitive sports programs, it pleases the alumni that they can boast a bit about their school. I think, for the most part, they all know that Shepherd's academic standards are strong. When the athletic program is also doing well, that's a huge asset in the minds of alumni." ❖ *Cecelia Mason*

New Arrivals

SCOTT NELLIS '01 and MARY SEARFOSS NELLIS '03, a daughter, Adalynn Grace, on October 29, 2015. She joins big sister, Lydia, 7.

DANA SALAS NORRIS '08 and husband Drew, a son, Colt Peter, on July 18, 2016.



Warner Bentley Marcel-Rene

SARAH WALLER MARCEL-RENE '13 and husband Emmanuel, a son, Warner Bentley, on September 12, 2016. ❖



Colt Peter Norris

Shepherd offers many opportunities for alumni to follow in Rick Wachtel's footsteps by serving on advisory boards, fund-raising committees, and other vital activities to strengthen the university. Alumni and friends who would like more information about volunteering in support of Shepherd's academic and athletic programs should call the Alumni Affairs office at 304-876-5524 or email alumni@shepherd.edu. Please contact us to join the Ram team!

Athletics

Three individuals, '55 football team inducted into Hall of Fame

The Shepherd University Athletic Hall of Fame inducted three new members during the annual induction banquet on September 16, 2016, at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Shepherdstown.

Swimming standout KIM DAVIS MERCIER '78 and MIKE ESSIS '81 (football) joined GARY PHALEN '11 (men's basketball) as the 31st class to be inducted. The new inductees bring the total number of members of the Shepherd Athletic Hall of Fame to 143. Additionally, the undefeated 1955 Shepherd football team became the first team to be inducted.

Also honored during the ceremony were Pam and John Boyle for their dedicated support of Shepherd athletics. ■



Chip Ransom

Members of the 31st class of Hall of Fame inductees are (l. to r.) Gary Phalen '11, Kim Davis Mercier '78, and Mike Essis '81.



Chip Ransom

The 1955 team was the first team to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Team members attending the ceremony are, front row (l. to r.), Manny Velasquez '58, James Taylor '59, Neville "Bunny" Leonard '59, Claude Flagg '57, George Hott '57, and Bob Horn '55, second row, Paul "Soupy" Hillyard '58, Larry Strite '60, Barry Hall '57, Norman Lineburg '59, and Norm Bradford '59.

Football finishes at 13-1, wins Super Region One title, appears in national semifinals

The 2016 Shepherd football team posted a 13-1 mark for the second consecutive year and gained an appearance in the national semifinals. The Rams captured their 21st conference crown and 16th under head coach Monte Cater. Additionally, Shepherd earned its third Super Region One title. The 13-1 record ties the program record for most wins in a season set by the 2015 team.

2016 Season Highlights

- Head coach Monte Cater won conference Coach of the Year honors for the 12th time in his career at Shepherd.



John and Pam Boyle

- Eighteen team members garnered All-Mountain East Conference honors with nine gaining first team accolades. Senior quarterback Jeff Ziemba, senior wide receiver Billy Brown, junior offensive lineman Lavonte Hights, senior linebacker Octavius Thomas, junior defensive end Myles Humphrey, and senior defensive back Tre Sullivan were first team selections.

- Monte Cater led Shepherd to its sixth undefeated regular season and third MEC title in the last four years.

- Senior quarterback Jeff Ziemba set Shepherd single season passing records for completions (251), yards (3,627), and touchdowns (32). He also set a single season record for total offense with 3,615 yards. Ziemba finished seventh in the Harlon Hill balloting for the second consecutive year.

- Senior wide receiver Billy Brown set Shepherd single season marks with 99 receptions for 1,580 yards and 22 touchdowns.

- The 2016 senior class recorded a 45-5 (.900) mark in the past four seasons. The 45 wins are the most ever by a senior class and eclipse the old mark of 40 shared by the 2013 and 2015 classes.

- Shepherd's No. 3 final ranking in the American Football Coaches Association Division II Poll is the second best finish in program history. ■ *Chip Ransom*

Thirteen Rams gain All-Region honors

Thirteen members of the Shepherd football team earned All-Region accolades.

Senior quarterback Jeff Ziemba, Newark, Delaware; senior wide receiver Billy Brown, Gaithersburg, Maryland; junior offensive lineman Lavonte Hights, N. Chesterfield, Virginia; senior linebacker Octavius Thomas, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; junior defensive end Myles Humphrey, Upper Marlboro, Maryland; and senior defensive back Tre Sullivan, Accokeek, Maryland, were Don Hansen's Football Gazette first team selections. Ziemba, Brown, Hights, Humphrey, and Thomas also earned first team D2CCA All-Super Region One honors.

Ziemba completed 251-of-385 passes for 3,627 yards and 32 touchdowns. He completed 65.2 percent of his passes and had a 168.12 pass efficiency rating. He ranked fifth nationally in passing yards and seventh in pass efficiency.

Brown led the Rams with 99 receptions for 1,580 yards and 22 touchdown grabs. All three marks are school single-season records. Brown ranked second nationally in receiving yards and receiving touchdowns.

Hights anchored the Shepherd offensive line as a three-year starter at right tackle.

Thomas paced the Rams in total tackles (108) and solo stops (76). He added 11.0 tackles-for-loss (-39 yards) and 5.5 sacks (-31 yards). Thomas also had three forced fumbles, a pair of fumble recoveries, a pass breakup, and an interception.

Humphrey recorded 64 tackles (40 solo). He topped the team in tackles-for-loss (23.5 for minus 102 yards) and sacks (13.5 for minus 80 yards). Humphrey added a team-best five fumble recoveries.

Sullivan recorded 74 tackles (53 solo) to rank third on the team. He paced the team in pass breakups (9) and interceptions (2).

Freshman running back Brandon Hlavach, Baltimore, Maryland; junior defensive lineman James King, Thurmont, Maryland; and junior linebacker James Gupton, Waldorf, Maryland, were named

(continued on page 20)

Athletics

Fall sports recaps

■ Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team finished with a 7-9-1 overall record with a 6-9-1 mark in conference play.

Three Rams gained All-MEC honors. Junior midfielder Taylor Harwood, Capon Bridge, and junior midfielder Regan Stout, Williamsport, Maryland, were second team selections, while senior defender Ashley Warfield, Hedgesville, was an honorable mention choice.

Harwood appeared and started in 15 games, while Stout appeared and started in 17 games. Both Harwood and Stout helped control the midfield as the Rams were one of the league's top defensive squads with eight shutouts while allowing only one goal on six other occasions.

Warfield appeared and started in 17 games. She helped anchor a Shepherd defense in her first season with the Rams.



Chip Ransom

Junior defender Regan Stout, (above, left), was named to the 2016 NSCAA NCAA II Women's All-Atlantic Region Team. Stout was selected to the second team. She appeared and started in 17 games and helped key a defense that posted eight shutouts while allowing only one goal on six other occasions.

■ Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team finished the season with a 1-16 overall mark with a 0-12 record in conference play. Shepherd scored a season-high four goals in a 4-2 win over Washington Adventist.

Junior forward Jeff Kammerer, Woodstock, Maryland, and sophomore forward/midfielder Justin Poole, Jefferson, Maryland, led the Rams in scoring with two goals each. Poole also added a team-best three assists.

■ Volleyball

The volleyball team finished with a 12-20 overall mark with a 5-11 conference record.

Freshman outside hitter Peyton Lindblad, Spotsylvania, Virginia, led the team in kills (330), while sophomore setter Becca Kern, Martinsburg, topped the team in assists (593). Junior libero Kelsey Anderson, Leesburg, Virginia, was the team leader in digs (418), junior middle hitter Christine Jackson, Stafford, Virginia, paced the team in blocks (83 with 36 solo), and freshman setter Jessica Karcz, Westminster, Maryland, led the team in service aces (32).

■ Men's Golf

The men's golf team fired a three-day total of 923 (+59) to place fourth in the MEC Men's Golf Championship at The Resort at Glade Springs.

Senior Ryan Crabtree, Williamsport, Maryland, fired a 224 to place fifth individually to lead the Rams.

The Rams also tied for second place at the MEC Fall Classic and placed third at the Shenandoah Invitational.

■ Women's Tennis

The women's tennis team recorded a 2-8 overall record with a 2-5 record in MEC play. The Rams posted wins over Fairmont State (6-3) and Concord (8-1). ■ *Chip Ransom*

Thirteen football players gain All-Region honors

(continued from page 19)

to the Gazette second team.

Sullivan and Gupton also gained second team D2CCA All-Super Region One honors.

Hlavach led the Shepherd ground attack with 215 carries for 1,217 yards and 15 touchdowns. He added 13 receptions for 146 yards.

King recorded 29 tackles (18 solo) on the season. He added 11.0 tackles-for-loss (-52 yards) and 8.0 sacks (-46 yards). King also added a forced fumble, fumble recovery, and a blocked kick.

Gupton was second on the team with 99 total tackles (49 solo). He added 9.5 tackles-for-loss (-22 yards) and a half sack (-5 yards). Gupton also recorded three pass breakups, a fumble recovery, and an interception.

Senior tight end Jamie Deason, Fredericksburg, Virginia;

senior offensive lineman Jake Kingston, Pasadena, Maryland; sophomore punter Ruan Venter, Morgantown; and senior return specialist CJ Davis, Hagerstown, Maryland, were third team Gazette selections.

Deason had 16 catches for 225 yards and was a key blocker for the Rams.

Kingston was a key component of a Shepherd offensive line that had paved the way for several offensive records to be set in 2016.

Venter punted 53 times for a 41.5 average. He had 24 inside the 20-yard line and 14 punts of 50 yards or more.

Davis led the Ram in kickoff returns with 28 for 764 yards for a 27.3 average. Davis completed his career as Shepherd's all-time leader in kickoff return yards (2,407) and combined kick return yards (3,361). ■ *Chip Ransom*



Accepting awards at MetLife Stadium during the Eastern College Football Awards Banquet were (l. to r.) Billy Brown, American Football Networks DII Player of the Year; Chauncey Winbush '95 and '00, vice president for athletics; and head coach Monte Cater, Vince Lombardi Foundation Coach of the Year.

Rams win Lambert Award for second year, Cater named Lombardi Coach of the Year

Head coach Monte Cater, senior wide receiver Billy Brown, and the 2016 Shepherd football team were recognized February 23 at the Eastern College Football Awards Banquet at MetLife Stadium.

Cater was recognized as the Vince Lombardi Foundation Coach of the Year. The award encompasses all divisions and is not given on a yearly basis. Cater, the winningest active coach at all levels of NCAA football, has led the Rams to back-to-back 13-1 seasons as national finalists and semifinalists.

Brown, who earned numerous All-American honors, was selected as the American Football Networks DII Player of the Year. Brown led the Rams with 99 receptions for 1,580 yards and 22 touchdown grabs. All three marks are school single-season records. Brown ranked second nationally in receiving yards and receiving touchdowns.

The football team received the 2016 Division II Lambert Award from the Eastern College Athletic Conference after recording a 13-1 record and reaching the NCAA II Football Championship semifinals. The Rams won this honor for the second consecutive season. This prestigious award is symbolic of supremacy in Eastern college football. ■



Billy Brown

Hights, Brown gain All-American honors

Junior offensive lineman Lavonte Hights, N. Chesterfield, Virginia, and senior wide receiver Billy Brown, Gaithersburg, Maryland, were selected to the 2016 D2CCA All-America Team as released by the Collegiate Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Hights was named to the first team, while Brown is a second team choice. Additionally, Hights was named a third team Associated Press Little All-American.

Hights keyed a Shepherd offensive line as a three-year starter at right tackle. He was a main cog in an offensive line that paved the way for freshman running back Brandon Hlavach, Baltimore, Maryland, to rush for over 1,000 yards (1,217). The line was also instrumental in the Shepherd offense recording a program first with two receivers with 1,000 receiving yards or more this season in Brown (1,580) and senior wide receiver CJ Brown, Hagerstown, Maryland (1,235).

Brown recorded school records of 99 receptions for 1,580 yards and a school-record 22 touchdown catches in 2016. Brown, who accepted an invitation to compete in the East-West Shrine Game on January 21, had over 100 receiving yards in eight games this season, including a career-high 209 yards against Notre Dame. He completed his career as Shepherd's all-time leader in receptions (249), receiving yards (4,071), and touchdown receptions (43). ■ *Chip Ransom*

Brown plays in East-West Shrine Game, participates in NFL Combine

Senior wide receiver Billy Brown, Gaithersburg, Maryland, helped lead the West team to a 10-3 win at the East-West Shrine Game at Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, Florida, on Saturday, January 21. Brown had a pair of receptions for 15 yards with one catch setting up a field goal in the first quarter. He is the first Shepherd player to compete in this game.

Brown was also chosen to attend the NFL Combine in Indianapolis from March 2-5. Brown joins former Ram Howard Jones, now a member of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, as the only Shepherd players to garner this honor.

■ *Chip Ransom*

Foundation

Business leaders, alumni, community friends raise \$650K

Extraordinary volunteer engagement leads to successful fundraising initiative in support of School of Business

In late July 2016, Shepherd University and the Shepherd University Foundation launched the Business 2020 initiative, a public-private partnership whose goal was to raise \$600,000 to help fund a School of Business at the university. Led by alumnus and Shepherd Board of Governors member RAY ALVAREZ '62, the project brought together alumni, business leaders, and community friends in an effort to revitalize Shepherd's business program.

Just four months later they had not only met, but exceeded their goal.

"This is an extraordinary example of the commitment of our business community partnering with Shepherd to revitalize an important program and provide significant new opportunities for students," said PRESIDENT MARY J.C. HENDRIX '74.

MIKE SMITH '89, president of the Shepherd University Foundation, set the Business 2020 initiative in motion with a challenge gift that pledged to match additional gifts and pledges up to \$250,000 over the next five years. Smith's challenge gift is the first at this level for Shepherd.

"Mike Smith's generous matching gift really provided the momentum for this campaign," said Alvarez. In making this gift, Smith expressed his hope that it would "inspire others to support their choice of studies at Shepherd University to help continue to strengthen this great school we love."

The money raised during the initial Business 2020 fundraising phase will provide funding over the next five years to support a dean and additional faculty to strengthen the School of Business and attract new students. Dr. Ben Martz, chair of the Department of Business Administration and future dean of the School of Business, will lead the strategic planning to strengthen the program.

"The community and volunteer involvement in this initiative has been superior," Martz said. "The fact that we have people who are willing to donate their time, money, and expertise is

what will make the School of Business distinctive."

In the next year Martz will set up an advisory board and create a strategic plan for the business school. The strategic plan will continue to incorporate a high level of volunteer engagement as Martz works with business and community leaders to develop a curriculum for the program.

"The community has been asking for this for a long time," Martz said. "It reassures them that Shepherd is engaged in the business community. This will bring business administration, economics, and accounting to the forefront."

Martz also noted that the new School of Business will provide an opportunity for economic development.

"A School of Business interacts with the community through its curriculum," he said. "Businesses look at the curriculum and determine that they can place students in jobs and internships, whereas students look at the curriculum to determine if it will help them get a job. The curriculum is probably the strongest way we can communicate to the business community what we're doing."

More than 40 alumni, friends, and organizations have made gifts to support the Business 2020 initiative. Thanks to their generosity and forward thinking, the School of Business at Shepherd University will now become a reality.

Make a gift!

Every gift made to support the business initiative going forward will make a significant impact as it serves to strengthen the business program. To support the School of Business, contact Monica Lingenfelter, executive vice president of the Shepherd University Foundation, at 304-876-5397 or via email to mlingenf@shepherd.edu. For more information about the Business 2020 initiative, visit www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org.

Why is the School of Business important to Shepherd?

The initiative to fund a self-sustaining School of Business at Shepherd began on July 27, 2016, with a meeting of alumni, business leaders, and community friends who would make up the Business 2020 Committee. During this gathering at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Shepherdstown, Shepherd University Foundation president MIKE SMITH '89 offered an unprecedented challenge gift of \$250,000. The challenge inspired the committee and enhanced the group's confidence in attaining the goal as committee members responded generously with their gifts and pledges. Here several committee members explain why they feel a School of Business is important to Shepherd University.



Having graduated from Shepherd University with a degree in business, I find it imperative to bring the business program back to the forefront. I would like to see our business school grow to a level where it will be competitive with other schools of business in the region, and I believe that the strong leadership and operational restructuring resulting from this public-private partnership will help to make this happen. I am very proud of Shepherd's new president, Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix, for her willingness to support this new concept at our great school, and feel fortunate to have Dr. Ben Martz join us in our endeavor to revitalize the School of Business.

(continued next page)



Mike Smith '89

ness. It also makes me happy that so many local business and community leaders support the Business 2020 initiative. Their monetary support is crucial, but their moral support is even greater in terms of the encouragement it offers. Lastly, it is my hope as president of the Shepherd University Foundation that this fundraising initiative will also bring awareness to the need for private support to strengthen many other university programs and curricula. We have a great university, and we need to show the faculty and students we believe in their hard work."

• **Michael A. Smith '89**
President, *Shepherd University Foundation*



Cecelia Mason

Ray Alvarez '62

the region's economic development, that it keeps pace with the changing business environment."

• **Ramon A. Alvarez '62**
Chair, *Business 2020 Committee*

Years ago, Shepherd was known for its business department, under the direction of Charles F. Printz '40. Many graduates excelled throughout the Eastern Seaboard, giving Shepherd's business program a valid reputation as a great department at a fine institution. As Shepherd University surges forward under the dynamic direction of President Hendrix, the importance of a School of Business becomes paramount in terms of increasing student enrollment and making possible more and larger contributions to Shepherd University overall. A strong business school benefits all departments and athletics, present and future. It's fair to state that this rising tide would take Shepherd University to a much higher level and is long overdue to the benefit of everyone!"

• **Kenneth F. Lowe, Jr. '71**
Owner, *Clarion Hotel and Conference Center*

The establishment of a separate School of Business at Shepherd University is an important step forward in enhancing our business program. It will provide a focus to ensure that the business program upgrades its curriculum and resources to meet today's fast-changing business and student needs. Shepherd's business program has been one of the most successful at the university and annually graduated more students than any other department. It is vital to Shepherd's overall growth and financial success, as well as



Ken Lowe '71

By offering additional programs and allowing students to focus on the specific skills required for their area of expertise, the School of Business at Shepherd University will provide a well-rounded educational environment to give graduates the competitive advantage needed to succeed in today's markets."

• **Cynthia A. Kitner '97**
President and CEO
Jefferson Security Bank



Cindy Kitner '97



Cecelia Mason

Robert A. McMillan

in business under the leadership of Dr. Martz will enhance our business community. These alumni will help create new business ventures and add to those that are already here. As a result, we can expect our economy to continue to grow."

• **Robert A. McMillan**
Owner, *Jefferson Distributing Co., Inc.*

A strong and vibrant business school is not a new idea for Shepherd University. At one time, the business department was one of the leading programs at Shepherd, with employers from a wide regional area recruiting its graduates. An active School of Business at the university would create a much-needed catalyst for attracting jobs to the region and become a center for the creation of new businesses."

• **Howard S. Mills, Jr.**
Business 2020 Committee



Cecelia Mason

Howard S. Mills, Jr.

Foundation announces seven new named funds

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

Mentzer Award for Inspirational Teaching

The Mentzer Award for Inspirational Teaching (MAIT) at Shepherd University was created by SUSAN MENTZER-BLAIR '72 and her husband, William "Bill" Blair, to honor a full-time profes-



Bill Blair and Sue Mentzer-Blair '72

sor recognized by Shepherd students for being particularly inspiring and having a profound effect on his or her students. According to Sue, her brother, Dr. John Thomas "Tom" Mentzer, served as inspiration for the award. Tom received a similar accolade from his Ph.D. candidate students at the University of Tennessee in

Knoxville, where he held the Bruce Chair of Excellence in the business department. "My brother was very proud of having received that recognition," said Sue, a retired school counselor with Frederick County Public Schools in Maryland. Bill is also a retired educator, having taught history and worked as a school counselor with Jefferson County Public Schools.

The MAIT honors Sue's brother, who passed away in 2010, as well as her mother, who died in 2014. A portion of each of their estates was used to create the unique recognition.

"All teachers work especially hard, and Shepherd goes above and beyond," said Sue. "Since Bill and I are both educators, this seemed like the perfect opportunity for us to create an award that would make Shepherd stand out from other state schools in West Virginia."

The MAIT will be presented annually during the Spring Student Recognition Day ceremony. The first award will be designated in the spring of 2017.

All Shepherd students will be invited to nominate a professor for the MAIT and briefly describe how that instructor made a difference in their life or the life of a classmate.

Shepherd's Office of Academic Affairs will work with the Office of Student Affairs to establish a student committee that will review nominations and select the winning recipient.

Stargirl Scholarship

SARAH HALLEE '12 created the Stargirl Scholarship as a way to empower women, promote self-love and love for others, and embrace open-mindedness. "Stargirl is a book about a young high school student who is defined as weird by her peers," said Sarah, who graduated from Shepherd with a B.F.A. and now owns Sarah Marcella Photography, LLC. "She's passionate and artistic, loves all living things, and most of all shares her true colors with the world."

Sarah explained that embracing and loving one's self are two traits that are important to her as an artist and as a woman. "Much of my artwork deals with the concept of modern views on the female form and how media influences women to believe they are not attractive as they compare themselves to celebrities," said Sarah, adding that the book for which her scholarship pays homage truly changed her life with its empowering lessons for young women. In fact, she plans to include a copy of *Stargirl* for every Shepherd student who receives the award. "I would love for others to read its positive message," she said.

The Stargirl Scholarship is an annually funded award designated to support Shepherd students studying the digital arts, with first preference given to a female student.



Sarah Hallee '12 with her husband and high school sweetheart, Brian



Ruth Power Thacher Scholarship

The Pack Horse Ford Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution in Shepherdstown is honored to award two Shepherd University scholarships in memory of one of its most honored members, Ruth Power Thacher. Ruth was a member of the chapter for more than 50 years and served honorably in the role of regent. In recognition of her 50 years of service to the chapter, Ruth was named honorary regent.

Ruth attended Shepherd and received her bachelor's degree from West Virginia University, as well as a master's degree from George Washington University. She began her 38-year career as an educator at John Street School in Martinsburg and went on to serve as a principal at multiple elementary schools in Washington County, Maryland.

In 1939, Ruth married William R. "Pappy" Thacher, a professor of economics and sociology at Shepherd for 38 years and the first president of the Shepherd University Foundation. Thacher Hall was named in his honor. Ruth also served on the Foundation's Board of Directors for 15 years in the role of vice president. She was awarded an honorary doctorate from Shepherd in 1991 and the President's Medal in 1997. In 2001, she was made an honorary director of the Foundation. She also served as a member of Shepherd's Board of Advisors and as alumnae advisor to the Beta Delta Chapter of Sigma Sigma Sorority.

Ruth was a leader in the American Association of University Women, having served as state president of the West Virginia Division. During her term as state president, the International Study Program was established as a means of promoting goodwill in other countries. The first AAUW International Study Grant from West Virginia was named in her honor.

Ruth passed away on May 6, 2008. "Her legacy lives on in the hearts of those she touched with her outgoing personality, her gentle smile, and her passion for education," said KATHY SHOLL '00, regent of Pack Horse Ford Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. "That's why the Pack Horse Ford Chapter decided to fund a scholarship in her memory. This is one way that Ruth can still touch the lives of others."



Kathy Sholl '00 (c.) congratulates the Ruth Power Thacher Scholarship recipients Jacob Younker, a junior majoring in historic preservation, and Hannah French, a junior majoring in education.

Robert T. "Bob" Grant Memorial Scholarship and Robert T. "Bob" Grant and Elsie Turner Grant Scholarship

ELSIE TURNER GRANT '62 was dumbfounded when ROBERT T. "BOB" GRANT '62 asked her to dance at an American Legion dance they had both attended as students at Shepherd. After all, Bob had arrived at the dance with a woman whom Elsie described as "beautiful," and she didn't believe him when he told her the woman was his cousin. Nevertheless, attracted by Elsie's smile, Bob persisted and called to invite her to dinner, only to discover that he had briefly



Bob '62 and Elsie Turner Grant '62

dated her dorm mate prior to Elsie's arrival at Shepherd. Awkward beginnings notwithstanding, that same dorm mate later served as maid of honor at Bob and Elsie's 1960 wedding, and the couple went on to enjoy a 55-year marriage until Bob's passing in July 2015.

"Shepherd was a very special place to us because it's where we met," said Elsie, who established the annually funded Robert T. "Bob" Grant Memorial Scholarship to honor her husband, in addition to the Robert T. "Bob" Grant and Elsie Turner Grant Scholarship through a bequest in her will. Both scholarships are designated in support of education majors who are residents of Virginia and graduates of James Wood High School in Winchester. The school has special significance for the couple, who both worked as educators in Frederick County, Virginia.

An education major who earned her master's in education with a concentration in counseling, Elsie taught English at James Wood for eight years before becoming the school's director of guidance for the remainder of her 30-year career in education. After retiring from James Wood in 1991, she began working in counseling for the Shenandoah Women's Center and Tressler Lutheran Services, where she remained until her second retirement in 1998.

Although he majored in business administration at Shepherd, Bob also received his certification in secondary education and taught at middle schools in Frederick County before culminating his education career at James Wood with Elsie. Rather than retire, however, he went to work in the manufacturing industry, utilizing his business administration degree. Additionally, Bob served in the U.S.

(continued on page 26)

Foundation announces seven new named funds

(continued from page 25)

Army and the West Virginia Air National for 30 years, including four years of active duty. After inheriting his parents' family farm, he collaborated with his siblings to develop the land into Grant Acres Estates in Berkeley County. He retired from his real estate and development career in 1999, two years after he and Elsie bought their first home in Florida and became snowbirds. In 2012, they moved permanently to The Villages, Florida. Bob and Elsie shared several hobbies and interests, but their mutual passion was antique cars. At one point they owned 13 antique vehicles and became 50-year members of the Antique Automobile Club of America.

"That was something we really enjoyed together," said Elsie, who remains a member of four antique car clubs in Florida and one in Winchester. Before his death, Bob helped establish two car clubs in The Villages. "He was a real leader," Elsie said.

Having facilitated and managed student scholarships as guidance director at James Wood, Elsie wished to honor both her husband and her alma mater with two scholarships of her own creation through the Shepherd University Foundation. "It's always been a soft spot in my heart to help students," she said.

Dave Lewis Memorial Shepherd Football Offensive Line Scholarship

DAVID L. LEWIS '74 was a big fan of the game of football, according to his son, ERIC LEWIS '95. "He was an outstanding player for the Boonsboro High School, Shepherd, and the Hagerstown

Bears football teams, and he truly believed it was the best game in the world," said Eric. "He believed the game of football taught young men discipline and hard work, and that the teamwork involved was unlike any other game."

In 1989, Dave founded D.L. Lewis Construction Company with fellow Shepherd grad PAUL WILMOTH '74 and the two went on to build more than 100 houses and additions in Jefferson County over the next 25 years. Over

the years, Dave could be found on Shepherd football game days on "The Hill" with his friends and former teammates cheering on the Rams.

Dave's family created the Dave Lewis Memorial Shepherd Football Offensive Line Scholarship in tribute to his life and love of the game of football. The annually funded award is designated in support of nontransfer members of the Shepherd University football team in the position of offensive lineman, the same position Dave played. Award recipients, who are selected by Coach Monte Cater, must be in good academic and social conduct standing at Shepherd.



David L. Lewis '74 (l.) #71

Noah Jayce Washington Scholarship

ALLYSON ORNDORFF WASHINGTON '13 was in her junior year of Shepherd's nursing program and preparing for midterm exams when her infant son, Noah Jayce Washington, was born at 30 weeks gestation. Wishing to honor Noah's memory, Allyson and her mother, Brenda Orndorff, chose to establish the Noah Jayce Washington Scholarship. "I felt that this was a good way to remember him and also give back because people will benefit from this award money, and then other people will benefit from having qualified nurses," said Allyson, who believes her own loss has given her a unique perspective in her role as a hospice nurse for Hospice of Washington County, Maryland. "I believe that everything happens for a reason," she added.

For Allyson, nursing is more than just a job, or even a career—it's a calling. "I feel it's a privilege to go into people's homes and take care of them and their families at this particular time in their lives," she said. "Everything I've learned [about death] is from being hands-on, and what I've learned is that death is just as amazing as birth. My patients have taught me this."

In spite of her personal tragedy, Allyson graduated on time before taking a year off to process Noah's death and spend time with her two older children. She credits her professors for helping her through her loss while keeping her on track. "The professors are what did it for me," she said of Shepherd's nursing faculty. "They are very tender, kind-hearted, loving individuals."

The Noah Jayce Washington Scholarship is an annually funded award designated in support of nursing students with a 2.5 GPA or higher who display financial need. Recipients of the award will be chosen by Shepherd's nursing faculty.

Will Pindell Memorial Scholarship

When WILL PINDELL '86 arrived at Shepherd as a freshman, he was accompanied by his two close friends, KELLY COLBERT '87 and CRAIG KERSHNER '88. The three classmates had graduated from Jefferson High School in 1982 and remained close friends throughout college and beyond. After lettering in tennis in high school, Will continued to play as a member of Shepherd's men's tennis team. He graduated in 1986 with a B.S. in business administration and went on to work for Carlyle and Anderson as a general manager. He also was a former jockey manager. Wishing to keep Will's memory alive after his untimely death in January 2016, Kelly and Craig decided to establish a student scholarship in memory of their friend at his alma mater.

"Kelly and I were talking about how we could do something to help Will be remembered for the person he was," Craig said. "That's where this scholarship came from."

The Will Pindell Memorial Scholarship is an annually funded award designated for a member of the Shepherd University men's tennis team. Kelly and Craig invite anyone who would like to make a gift in Will's memory to contribute to the scholarship fund. Gifts may be made online at www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org or by contacting Meg Peterson at 304-876-5021 or mpeterso@shepherd.edu.

Your gift makes a difference

In the three years since he graduated from Shepherd and moved to New York City to pursue an acting career, BRIAN DOUGLAS JAMES '13 has worked with an impressive array of A-list actors, including Meryl Streep, Robert De Niro, and Anne Hathaway. But he was first bitten by the acting bug during his freshman year in high school, when he was cast as John in Musselman High's production of *Peter Pan*.

"The cool thing about *Peter Pan*, if you do it correctly, is that you get to fly. And so as John, I got to fly," said Brian. "That's when it happened for me."

Brian grew up in Martinsburg, playing football and baseball and singing in the school choir. At Musselman he continued to play football, but baseball ultimately took a backseat to the performing arts. Once *Peter Pan* wrapped, Brian enrolled in theater classes and continued participating in school musicals under the direction of theater teacher, Mike Stiles. He also became involved in community theater, performing in shows at the Old Opera House in Charles Town and the Apollo Civic Theatre in Martinsburg. But it wasn't until he won an award for Best Actor at the West Virginia State Thespian Festival that Brian began to seriously consider acting as a career choice. "Winning that award gave me the momentum to keep going," he said.

Brian came to Shepherd after completing a conservatory performing arts program at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy (ADMA) in New York City.

"I had experienced the conservatory life for two years, so I thought a liberal arts education would be a good fit for me," he said, adding that he also sought more training, particularly in voice work. "As an actor and as a person, I believe you should never stop learning and growing—that's my mantra. That's why a college education was important to me."

At Shepherd, Brian worked closely with the Office of Financial Aid, where he was encouraged to apply for as many scholarships as possible. His tenacity was rewarded in the form of six privately funded scholarship awards through the Shepherd University Foundation: the I.O. Ash Memorial Scholarship, BB&T Bank Scholarship, Nancy Miller Dockeney Memorial Scholarship, Bertha M. Thomas Memorial Scholarship, West Virginia Society of Washington, D.C., Book Scholarship, Carl K. Rauch Endowed Scholarship for Fine Arts, and the James and Katherine Moler Scholarship. For Brian, these scholarships made all the difference.

"A college education is something I've always wanted," he said, noting that he is the first person in his family to attend college. "But I would not have been able to afford college without these scholarships."

While he continued to be involved in community theater during his time at Shepherd, Brian became aware of a need for more performing opportunities on campus. In 2011, he co-founded the Shepherd University Scene Stealers to provide an outlet for students to perform and direct various productions from the world of musical theater.

"It's entirely student run, funded, and directed," said Brian of the group, which aims to stage two musical theater productions each year. "It was a major accomplishment."



Brian Douglas James '13

After graduating in 2013 with a Bachelor of Music Education degree, Brian moved back to New York City with his fiancé, Rob McCliman, whom he married in 2015. The couple resides in Manhattan, where Brian pursues television, film, and stage roles. He made his film debut in *The Intern* with Anne Hathaway and Robert De Niro and worked with Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline in the 2015 film *Ricki and the Flash*.

"I got to run a scene with Meryl, which was pretty much the pinnacle of my career so far," he said, adding that Streep was refreshingly humble.

Brian has also appeared in several television series, including *The Mysteries of Laura* with Debra Messing, and Netflix's *The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt* with Ellie Kemper, as well as the new CBS series *Bull*, in a role that has the potential to expand in the future. But his first love will always be theater.

"I love the thrill of being on stage in front of a live audience," he said. "Right now my film and TV career is more prominent, but it takes more time to break into musical theater. I think my musical theater career will happen next."

Working toward that goal, Brian was cast as the understudy for the lead role of Anthony in the off-Broadway musical *My Big Gay Italian Midlife Crisis*. It's a role he cites as his favorite so far because of the challenge it presented.

"I had 10 days to learn an entire two-act play," he said. "It was one of the most challenging things I've ever done, and it was very fulfilling."

While he certainly seems poised on the cusp of a successful entertainment career, Brian will never forget his college roots. "The only reason I am where I am is because of the help of my scholarships at Shepherd," he said. "Acting is what pays the bills right now, so I can say that I'm making a living acting in New York City, which is amazing."

"It's been a crazy three years," he added. **✶ Kristin Alexander**

If you would like make a gift of any size to Shepherd University and help make a difference in the lives of deserving Shepherd students, the Foundation stands ready to help. Please contact Monica Lingenfelter, executive vice president of the Foundation at 304-876-5397 or mlingenf@shepherd.edu.

Foundation

Foundation receives \$222K gift from estate of T. Guy Reynolds '33

With deep gratitude, the Shepherd University Foundation accepted a gift of \$222,000 from the estate of T. GUY REYNOLDS, JR. '33 to benefit Shepherd University students majoring in education. Martinsburg attorney Richard McCune, executor of the Reynolds estate, presented the gift during the Foundation's annual meeting September 15, 2016. The gift will be added to the Thomas Guy Reynolds, Jr., Scholarship fund, which is designated for students majoring in education who have financial need and have a 3.0 or better GPA. In 1999, Reynolds' son, JOHN T. REYNOLDS '64, established the endowed scholarship through the Foundation to honor his father, who was recognized in 2006 as a Shepherd University Outstanding Alumnus. Guy Reynolds was a member of Phi Kappa Phi and the Joseph P. McMurren Society at Shepherd, and also established an endowed scholarship for Shepherd students in honor of his son, John.

"Mr. Reynolds was a remarkable man," said Monica Lingenfelter, executive vice president of the Foundation. "He has been such a benefactor over the years and a great advocate for the value of a Shepherd education. His final legacy gift will increase the impact of his endowment and ensure that his name and generosity live on through the countless students who will receive his scholarship awards." ☛



Cecelia Mason

Martinsburg attorney Richard McCune (c.) presents a \$222,000 check to President Mary J.C. Hendrix '74 and Mike Smith '89, Shepherd University Foundation president, from the estate of T. Guy Reynolds '33 for the scholarship named in honor of Reynolds.

McMurren Society dinner to be held April 29

Each spring, members of the Joseph P. McMurren Society and their guests are honored at the organization's annual dinner reception. The Joseph P. McMurren Society recognizes alumni and friends whose optimism, forward-thinking charitable investment decisions, and intense loyalty to Shepherd have resulted in their generous decision to support the university through estate and other planned gifts. Sponsored by the Shepherd University Foundation and hosted by PRESIDENT MARY J.C. HENDRIX '74, the annual dinner reception features a four-course meal served in the atrium of Erma Ora Byrd Hall with its panoramic views of East Campus.

The Joseph P. McMurren Society was pleased to welcome ELSIE TURNER GRANT '62 and JEAN CARPER '52 as its newest members at the May 2016 dinner reception. This year, the event will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 6 p.m. If you would like to receive an invitation, please contact Monica Lingenfelter at 304-876-5397 or mlingenf@shepherd.edu. For more information about the Joseph P. McMurren Society, visit www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org. ☛

Scarborough Society Gala explores a tale as old as time

The 16th annual Scarborough Society Gala will be held Friday, August 11, at 6 p.m. at the Bavarian Inn in Shepherdstown. This year's theme, inspired by the fairy tale "Beauty and the Beast," will invite guests to celebrate the romance, adventure, and whimsy illustrated in this classic story. For more information about the gala, visit www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org. To receive an invitation, contact the Foundation office at 304-876-5397. ☛



Thinking about making a gift?

We're here to help!

Shepherd University Foundation

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Foundation welcomes three new board members



Kenneth J. Boone '76



Sandy Sponaugle '95



*Gregory W. Snellings '91
(pictured here with his wife,
Dr. Rebecca Wagner-Snellings)*

The Shepherd University Foundation is pleased to welcome KENNETH J. BOONE '76, SANDY SPONAUGLE '95, and GREGORY W. SNELLINGS '91 to its board of directors. The three new directors joined the board at the Foundation's annual meeting on September 15, 2016, and collectively bring a wealth of insight and experience to the organization.

Ken is the president of Tidewater Direct, LLC, located in Centreville, Maryland. As a former president of the Shepherd University Alumni Association, he founded the Alumni Golf Tournament during his previous tenure on the Foundation's board. Additionally, he led the Ram Stadium Expansion campaign, which led to the construction of the Ken Boone Field House. He is also the sponsor of the Gregg Warfield Memorial Scholarship, an endowed scholarship established through the Foundation for student-athletes from Dundalk, Patapsco, or Sparrows Point high schools.

Sandy joins the board as the new president of the Shepherd University Alumni Association. She is the founder of Platinum PR in Shepherdstown and has served on the Alumni Association's board of directors since 2008 in the role of chair of the organization's marketing and membership committee. After graduating from Shepherd with a Bachelor of Science degree in economics and business administration, Sandy worked for four years with the Jefferson County Economic Development Authority, which often collaborated on opportunities with Shepherd.

Greg works for the Montgomery Village Foundation in Montgomery Village, Maryland, where he is the chief financial officer. He graduated from Shepherd with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting and is a former member of the Shepherd University Alumni Association. ♠

Women for Shepherd University hosts the Bodice Project at Popodicon

Women for Shepherd University and the Shepherd University Foundation proudly sponsored the Bodice Project, a sculptural exhibit on the inner struggle and healing from breast cancer, at historic Popodicon from October 27-30, 2016. More than 100 alumni, community members, faculty, and staff attended the opening reception on Thursday, October 27.

The Bodice Project, created by Cynthia Fraula-Hahn, is designed to focus on the healing and recovery of those diagnosed with breast cancer. Eighteen pieces, each ranging in materials from gauze to porcelain to wood and hand painted or embellished by local artists, were displayed as a testament to the models' personal stories.



PRESIDENT MARY J.C. HENDRIX '74 spoke during the opening reception to welcome other guests in attendance. As a world-renowned cancer researcher who continues to focus on creating new strategies to target breast cancer and melanoma, Dr. Hendrix offered her valuable insight. "We are making progress in the war on cancer with advances in diagnosis, immunotherapy, and personalized medicine," she said.

Women for Shepherd University planning committee members Carolyn Vigil, BONNIE BAILEY '15, and Dr. Heidi Hanrahan, associate professor of English and modern languages at Shepherd, were instrumental in organizing the event. The exhibit, which was on display through Sunday, October 30, 2016, was staffed by student docents from the university's English and women's studies programs. ♠

Foundation

All in the family

No sibling rivalry here! For these Foundation scholars, their Shepherd experience is a family affair.

Jillian and Garrett O'Connell Martinsburg

Surviving triplets Garrett and Jillian O'Connell didn't plan to attend Shepherd together. While the close-knit siblings from Martinsburg grew up sharing the



Sam Levitan

Jillian and Garrett O'Connell

same friends, teachers, and social activities, when it came to choosing where they would attend college they made their decisions independently.

"We weren't allowed to tell each other until we had made our final decision," said Jillian.

In the end, both siblings enrolled at Shepherd, noting that being close to their family was important to them. But for Garrett, a secondary education major with a focus on social studies, his love of history also came into play.

"I chose Shepherd primarily because it's in such a historic area," he said. "I thought that would be a good fit for me."

Now in their sophomore year, Garrett and Jillian, an early education major, are both following in the footsteps of their mother, Shepherd alumna JANET WALL O'CONNELL '84, a former elementary school educator who now teaches sixth grade social studies in Hedgesville.

"I think we both caught the teaching bug," said Jillian, who grew up helping her mom in the classroom alongside her brother. "Ever since I was little, I wanted to be a teacher."

The siblings have drawn a great deal of career inspiration from their mother. For Jillian, reading to Janet's elementary school classes led to a desire to teach kindergarten before pursuing her master's degree in library media. Garrett, meanwhile, has been more influenced by his mom's career in the middle school classroom, as well as by his Hedgesville High School history teacher, Eric Brown.

"He was pretty much the one person who initiated a lot of my interest in teaching history," said Garrett, adding that he would eventually like to obtain his doctorate and teach on the collegiate level or become a museum curator.

Having been involved in many clubs and organizations in high school, Garrett and Jillian quickly immersed themselves in campus life upon arriving at Shepherd. They are actively involved in

Circle K, a sponsored program of Kiwanis International, as well as the Rotaract program sponsored by Shepherdstown Rotary, and they have helped to revitalize Shepherd's 4-H Club. Jillian and Garrett have been actively involved in 4-H for more than a decade. Jillian learned sewing skills that she now uses to run a small alteration business of her own. Garrett has gained fine woodworking skills through his work in 4-H under the guidance of his grandfather.

"After high school, we really just wanted to become more independent," she said. "I think that aspect of being on campus, getting plugged in, and meeting like-minded people was our goal."

Garrett and Jillian are both recipients of student scholarships established through the Shepherd University Foundation. Jillian received the James and Virginia Kinkead and Hilda Beall Kinkead Scholarship in support of West Virginia or Pennsylvania resi-

dents majoring in elementary or science education, while Garret was awarded the George and Margaret Tabler Scholarship in support of Berkeley County residents majoring in elementary or secondary education.

The siblings approached the task of applying for their scholarships the way they do everything else: together. "I saw a sign in Knutti Hall advertising student scholarship awards and shared it with Garrett," said Jillian. "We both applied for as many as we could. I figured the worst they could tell us was no!"

It was a collaborative effort that has served them well throughout their lives, from school projects to civic-minded activities.

"She's my best friend," said Garrett.

Ryan and Gavin McTavish Mount Airy, Maryland

The family that plays together stays together! That has certainly proven true for brothers Ryan and Gavin McTavish of Mount Airy, Maryland, who have both been members of the Shepherd University men's basketball team.

Gavin, 21, was recruited from high school to play for Shepherd and recommended that his coaches consider his older brother as well. Ryan was home after attending Presbyterian College in



Sam Levitan

Ryan and Gavin McTavish

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A great way to support Shepherd is to refer a future student to the Office of Admissions. Sending us a referral is easy: fill out the online form or complete the form below and drop it in the mail. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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the Big South Conference, where he also played basketball for two years. At the time, he was looking forward to returning to school to complete his degree. The brothers are both recipients of the James and Katherine Moler Scholarship through the Shepherd University Foundation.

"I received a scholarship offer to come to Shepherd, and Ryan was looking to transfer to a new school," explained Gavin. "So, they contacted him and ended up awarding him a scholarship to play here, too."

The brothers have shared a mutual love of basketball since they began playing the sport as children. And they're quick to note that it runs in the family; both of their parents played in high school and their grandfather, Jack Sullivan, maintains the top scoring record at Mount St. Mary's College, where he averaged 25.4 points per game before moving on to a brief career in the NBA.

While Ryan, a senior who will graduate in May, is no longer eligible for competitive play, he continues to assist the men's basketball team by designing their

strength and conditioning program. As a recreation and sports marketing major, he aspires to become a strength coach at a Division I or II university.

"I'm interested in athletes in general and how they prepare for competitive play," said Ryan, whose plans following graduation include working toward becoming a certified strength and conditioning specialist while interning at the Shepherd University Wellness Center.

For Gavin, however, basketball remains a hobby and not a career path. Following high school, he briefly attended a prep school in Maine, where he discovered an interest in psychology and was inspired by one particular instructor who had worked in the juvenile prison system. Having fought and overcome his own battles with depression as a teenager, he began to consider how he might help other young people who struggle with mental illness.

"I thought if I could overcome my own mental health issues, then I can help other kids who are less fortunate than me overcome theirs as well," said Gavin, noting

that many young people who lack the resources to seek treatment for mental illness wind up instead acting out and getting into trouble with the law.

Now a junior with plans to graduate in May 2018, Gavin hopes to work with underprivileged youth with mental and emotional health issues and would like to eventually earn his Ph.D. in clinical psychology. He currently volunteers with the Boys and Girls Club of the Eastern Panhandle in Martinsburg, and in 2015 he assisted Dr. Anne Murtagh, associate professor of psychology, with her five-week Mindful Meditation Workshop.

Both Gavin and Ryan also enjoy the outdoors and were drawn to Shepherd, in part, due to its proximity to national parks, the Potomac River, and the C&O Canal towpath. Plus, they appreciate Shepherdstown's eclectic culture.

"I like the whole small-town vibe," said Gavin. "The whole culture of Shepherdstown is very unique."

"It's just a cool place to live," added Ryan. *— Kristin Alexander*

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PRESIDENT'S LECTURE SERIES

PRESIDENT MARY J.C. HENDRIX '74 created a new lecture series in August 2016 that has featured talks by experts about water safety, economic development, financial decisions, Zika, the Nobel Prizes, and satellite digital mapping.

Speakers included Dr. Roberta DeBiasi, "Zika on our Doorstep: Key Information for the Community"; Dr. Jerry Callahan, "Reinventing West Michigan's Economy: A Story of Focus and Collaboration and a Possible Model for West Virginia"; John Amos, "SkyTruth: Using Satellites, Digital Mapping, and Big Data to Illustrate Environmental Issues"; Rob Hoxton, "Find Your Money Mind"; and Dr. Amy Horneman, "How Safe is Your Recreational Water?" Faculty members Dr. Jim Lewin, Dr. Joe Robbins, Dr. Kathy Reid, Dr. Sytil Murphy, Dr. Carol Plautz, Dr. Dan DiLella, and Provost Christopher Ames presented talks on the 2016 Nobel Prize winners.



Cecelia Mason



Cecelia Mason



Cecelia Mason



Cecelia Mason



Valerie Owens



Zi Wang