

Shepherd

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Outstanding Alumni
Jim '68 and Peachy '70 Staley

Shepherd produces copyrighted N95 mask that exceeds federal standards for COVID-19 fight

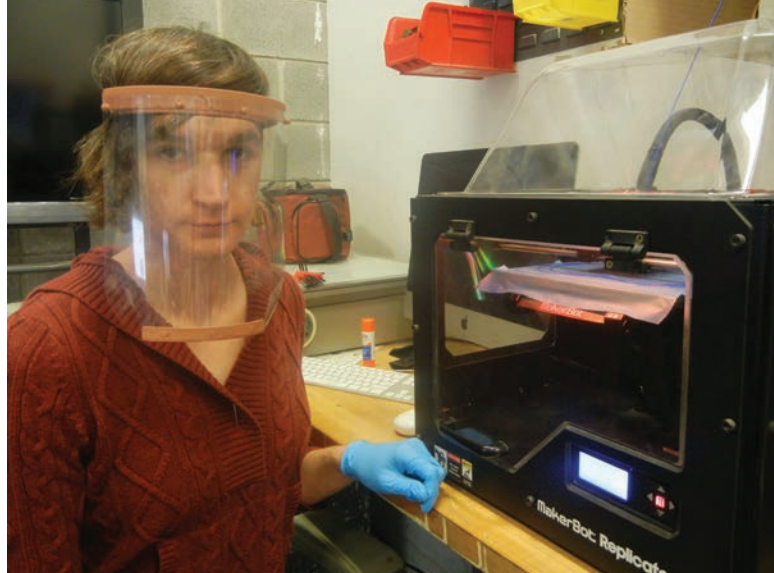
Shepherd University's FASTEnER lab, under the leadership of Kay Dantt, 3-D fabrication manager, began production of face shields for first responders in late March using 3-D printers, many on loan from local school systems, to help in the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Shepherd expanded its production of safety shields and masks to include a copyrighted N95 design that exceeds federal standards created by Dantt and Chase Molden, theater technical director, which the West Virginia National Guard can mass produce using silicone molds.

While the design for the mask can be 3-D printed in about five hours, Dantt said using molds allows production of up to 70 or 100 masks per hour, depending on how many molds and equipment are available. Molden and Dantt recently took 14 mask molds and six filter molds to the National Guard's 167th Airlift Wing in Martinsburg and provided training on how to make the masks.

"The molds that the National Guard is currently using are the fifth version that I have made in the last month," Molden said. "Each one started with a 3-D printed version that was then cleaned and smoothed. After each mold was made, Kay and I would look at the cast product and find ways to slightly adjust the design to make it more efficient. A new version would be drafted and 3-D printed by Kay, and I would make a new mold."

"Because the molds are made of silicone, they're very stretchable," Dantt said. "We chose that material for ease of use and ease of production. Theoretically these molds can travel across the state, you don't need any special material or machines to produce the masks, and the average person can be trained to use this process."



Cecelia Mason

ABOVE: Kay Dantt, clinical faculty/3-D fabrication manager, models a prototype face shield made in Shepherd's FASTEnER lab.

The mask has been named the Shepherd Mask according to a video produced by the West Virginia National Guard and distributed by the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service. In the video 1st Lt. Heather Kitay praised the Shepherd design team and said the mask will be used by medical support staff in West Virginia.

Dantt said they began working with a mask design made of more rigid plastic. As they adjusted, they started using a material that is more flexible, so the new N95 mask is rigid where it holds the filter, but more flexible where it meets a person's face.

"We're excited that the National Guard verified that our masks exceed current N95 standards," Dantt said. "Being able to make a quality product is exciting. Chase and I worked as a team figuring out better manufacturing processes, material choices, and design changes to make it better."

Molden said he and Dantt were also trying to find a way to produce as many masks as possible quickly and consistently while keeping the process from being so hard that it limits who can help during the mass production stage.

"After working with the 167th Airlift Wing airmen, I am proud to say we are making great strides," Molden said. "I am humbled to have been able to be a part of this project. When I first got involved I had no idea it would lead to something on this large of a scale and I am constantly in awe of how many people are working so hard for the common good, be it for this particular project or the hundreds of other makers out in the world right now doing their part to make face shields and cloth masks to protect people they will never know or meet." ■ *Cecelia Mason*



Courtesy 167th Airlift Wing

LEFT: Kay Dantt and Chase Molden show airmen with the 167th Airlift Wing how to use silicone molds to make N95 face masks at the Martinsburg air base on April 20.

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Editor and Art Director
Valerie Owens '76 and '86

Managing Editor
Monica Lingenfelter

Contributors this issue:
Chip Ransom '86, Kristin Alexander, Cecelia Mason,
Katie Gordon '12, Alexandra Stevens '13,
Meg Peterson, Stacy McFarland,
BreAnne Rugh '06, Cathy Nevy,
Sam Levitan

Front Cover: Outstanding Alumni Jim and Peachy Staley
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Back Cover: Springtime at the Frank Center
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ADDRESS CHANGES: Please contact BreAnne Rugh, Shepherd University Foundation database manager, 304-876-5195 or brugh@shepherd.edu.

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Shepherd meets the pandemic with resilience and spirit

COVID-19 has been a major disrupter in the lives of all Americans.

At Shepherd, our traditional May commencement, an annual rite of passage for 147 years, had to be postponed to late October due to the pandemic. A virtual celebration video was created so students could be recognized and their families could celebrate their accomplishments—remotely and safely.

In mid-March, students and faculty never returned from spring break as Shepherd's leadership made the decision to finish the semester online. Offices that could work remotely were asked to do so for the safety of our employees.

But positive things do occur in times of peril, challenge, and change. Our School of Nursing donated boxes of N95 and other masks, isolation gowns, gloves, full isolation suits, protective eye goggles, and other PPE to local hospitals that were running low on supplies. Kay Dartt, manager of our FASTEnER lab, devised a face shield and deployed a network of 3-D printers, many on loan from local K-12 schools in Berkeley and Jefferson counties, to mass produce the face shields, which were donated to area and regional first responders. Expanding her leadership role, Kay joined forces with theater technical director Chase Molden to develop a copyrighted N95 mask, and they taught the National Guard's 167th Airlift Wing personnel how to mass produce the "Shepherd Mask," as it was dubbed by the National Guard, for statewide distribution. In addition, our Agricultural Innovation Center donated fresh greens grown at Tabler Farm to help feed community members in need due to job loss. Shepherd's Ram Pantry also coordinated efforts to share food with local area charities.

Shepherd developed fundraising initiatives related to the pandemic, first for mask and face shield materials but then expanding to help students through the Student Relief Fund and Last Dollar Fund.

In early May, Shepherd rolled out a website to help qualified students navigate the CARES act in order to apply for this federal funding to reimburse their expenses caused when the pandemic forced the university's closure—computers, printers, internet, and Wi-Fi hotspots, as well as food, housing, and health care needs due to job loss, are among the expenses for which students can seek reimbursement. Additionally, Shepherd refunded unused housing and dining costs based on when students left campus in March.

Although our summer school sessions will be online, Shepherd leaders, along with our Campus Health Task Force and



Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix '74

external experts, are planning to reopen campus in phases this summer beginning with administrative offices. We are developing policies governing employee and visitor access to buildings, face mask usage, office staffing levels to enforce social distancing, and building cleaning and disinfecting protocols to ensure the safety and health of students, faculty, staff, and the community.

While much is unknown about COVID-19's continued progress through the summer, in May, as I write this message, we are planning to open the campus to students in the fall, possibly combining classroom and online study, and ending the semester

at Thanksgiving with final exams being conducted online.

But one thing I do know—Shepherd students, faculty, and staff are resilient and adaptable. They quickly deployed and adjusted to online teaching and learning in March and kept the university running smoothly while working remotely.

Whatever happens as the fall semester approaches, we will meet the challenge successfully. **RESPOND**—we did! **RECOVER**—we are! **SUCCEED**—we will! ■

Accounting students rank nationally on CPA exam pass rate

Shepherd accounting students ranked nationally for certified public accountant exam pass rates for first-time takers in 2018. Shepherd students ranked 28th out of 242 institutions nationwide with 10 to 20 first-time test takers. Additionally, Shepherd had the second highest pass rate in the state of West Virginia for first-time testing events. Shepherd had the highest statewide pass rate in the state in 2017, 2015, and 2014.

Ten students took the exam for the first-time in 2018, and 66.7 percent passed with an average score of 72.3 percent. This is the second highest pass percentage and second highest average score in the state's first-time testing events category; the highest pass percentage was 76.2 percent and the highest average score was 80.1. The national average pass rate for first-time candidates was 57.5 percent, and West Virginia's pass rate for first-time candidates was 48.4 percent. ■

Dr. Jeff Groff is a finalist for W.Va. Professor of the Year

Dr. Jeff Groff, chair of the Department of Environmental and Physical Sciences, is one of five finalists for the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia 2019 Professor of the Year.

“We are thrilled that Shepherd University has another finalist for West Virginia Professor of the Year,” said Provost Scott Beard. “Jeff was an obvious choice as our institutional nominee. He is not only an outstanding scholar, mentor, and teacher, but also someone who strives to make a difference in the world. His work with Shepherd’s Agricultural Innovation Center at Tabler Farm, research with bees, solar projects, and much more demonstrate his commitment to the Shepherd community and beyond.”

During his interview with the Faculty Merit Foundation, Groff highlighted his efforts to deliver transformative educational experiences for students that are memorable and will change them.

“I’ve done quite a bit of work on the curriculum trying to integrate project-based learning into classes,” Groff said. “I have an entire course, Physical Computing, that is project-based learning and is basically a research experience in the classroom.”

Groff also incorporates into the curriculum components where students go in the field for an extended period of time. One such course is a special topics class, Ecology, Geology, and Cultural Significance of Yellowstone and Grand Tetons National Parks, which includes a 10-day trip to Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons.

“The experience of connecting and being in wilderness after having prepared your mind for what you’re going to see leads to experiences that I think really do change students,” Groff said.

Groff, who has been at Shepherd for 11 years, said he’s been spending more time thinking about the challenges facing higher education and looking into how best to quantify the work faculty do.

“Some of the insights I’ve gotten from that work could actually be useful in the sense that some things scale really well and some don’t,” Groff said. “There’s a dimension to the experience that students have which is really a mentorship relationship that doesn’t scale really well when you have online or tremendously large courses. But, there are times when you can take advantage of technology and online resources to deliver content and to teach more effectively and efficiently.”

Groff said his teaching philosophy involves instilling a growth mindset in students.



Cecelia Mason

Dr. Jeff Groff

“Learning is not necessarily about the final outcome, it’s the steps along the way that count,” he said. “I believe that students learn more from failures than they do from success. It’s more about students not saying things like ‘I can’t do this,’ but saying ‘I don’t know how to do this now.’ Another part of that philosophy is that you’re never done learning and you’re never going to know it all.”

Groff tells his students that if they leave the university feeling like they know more than when they started, they did it wrong.

“It’s not that they should actually know less, it’s that their world has gotten bigger and their understanding of what they don’t know has expanded beyond the realm of what they do know,” Groff said.

Aside from his regular teaching duties, Groff has been heavily involved in helping develop infrastructure at the Shepherd University Agricultural Innovation Center at Tabler Farm. He received grant money to have solar energy production installed on the roof of the Scarborough Library and at Tabler Farm. He has served on board of directors of the National Conservation Film Festival and remains involved with the festival. Groff also keeps and does research on honeybees, a pastime that has taken him to conferences and beekeeping organizations throughout the area.

Each year the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia recognizes an outstanding faculty member at a West Virginia college or university. The April 7 announcement of the Professor of the Year has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Professor of the Year will receive a \$10,000 cash award and a special handmade glass trophy from Blenko Glass Co., with smaller awards going to the other finalists.

■ Cecelia Mason

Shepherd receives \$130K grant to launch PBM Center of Excellence

The Shepherd University Foundation has received a \$130,000 grant from the Foundation for Photobiomodulation Research to help the School of Nursing develop the Shepherd University PBM Center of Excellence. This first donation is part of a larger grant totaling \$470,000 over the next three years to support the program, which will include curriculum development and equipment purchases.

In photobiomodulation therapy, a practitioner applies low-level lasers or light-emitting diodes to the surface of the body to improve tissue repair and reduce pain and inflammation. PBM is seen as a way to treat some pain-causing medical conditions instead of using opioids.

“We are very grateful to the key donors and the Foundation for Photobiomodulation Research for supporting a photobiomodulation education and training center at Shepherd University in the School of Nursing,” said Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix, Shepherd president. “This technology holds great promise in managing pain as a viable alternative to opioid use. The PBM Center of Excellence will serve as a hub for training the next generation of practitioners addressing the opioid crisis.”

Dr. Sharon Mailey, dean of the College of Nursing, Education, and Health Sciences and director of the School of Nursing, said the funds for the first year will be used to purchase equipment and hire a director, faculty, and an instructional design team to develop online curriculum for training.

“I’m thrilled the School of Nursing

received this grant that allows us to establish the center,” Mailey said. “Providing PBM as an alternative or complementary method to treat pain and wound healing will equip our advanced practitioners with tools to better serve our most vulnerable populations in rural West Virginia.”

Mailey said utilizing photobiomodulation will allow the medical community to face the opioid epidemic head on.

“PBM therapy provides options for care that, up to this point, has only been treated with pills that frequently lead to addiction and loss of life and/or family crisis,” Mailey said. “With the establishment of the PBM Center of Excellence, we can develop and implement provider training in PBM and research initiatives. This is a day of celebration for our School of Nursing, Shepherd University, and our community.”

The Foundation for Photobiomodulation Research was established to help develop and maintain relevant and robust research in the role light therapy plays in health and healthcare. Shepherd has partnered with the foundation to

promote PBM as a preferred treatment in wound care, healing, and pain relief. Shepherd has also established relationships with leading research scientists in the field who serve as adjunct research professors at the university. Dr. Donald E. Pathoff, Jr., a Martinsburg dentist who uses PBM in his practice, presented the grant on behalf of the PBM foundation.

“In Star Trek, when someone was hurt or sick, they would get better almost instantly with laser light,” Pathoff said. “That was science fiction, but the idea that light can do that is well known. Much is already known in plants through such things as photosynthesis. What is just beginning to be explored is how animals photosynthesize. The Foundation for PBM Research was founded so those who are aware and skilled in this area of science can begin to better coordinate and fund the needed research in this new field.”

Another Martinsburg physician who has used photobiomodulation in his practice, Dr. Robert Bowen, is also

(continued on page 30)

RIGHT: Pictured (front row, l. to r.) are Dr. Robert Bowen, Martinsburg physician; President Mary J.C. Hendrix; and Dr. Donald E. Pathoff, Jr., Martinsburg dentist; back row, Provost Scott Beard, and Dr. Sharon Mailey, dean of the College of Nursing, Education, and Health Sciences and director of the School of Nursing.



Cecelia Mason

Success Academy receives \$78K Benedum Foundation grant

A \$78,000 grant from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation will allow the Shepherd Success Academy (SSA) to double the number of students the program assists.

The Benedum Foundation grant will allow SSA to hire a second success coach, a second graduate assistant, add peer mentors to the program, and accept additional students.

In December 2019, the program received a \$10,000 grant from the Carlson Family Foundation to provide scholarships to students to purchase needed materials such as books, online resources, and laptops/tablets to use in their classes.

This is the third year SSA has provided additional support and services to 36 students who have been identified as those who may struggle during their first semester in college.

Students in the program have weekly meetings with a coach who works with them throughout the first semester by creating a personalized plan to help them maintain good grades and positive relationships on campus. The program also connects students to key campus resources. The criteria for admittance includes, but is not limited to, standardized test scores, high school GPA, along with intended major.

“This is a dream come true for me,” said [Julia Franks '14 M.A.](#), director of student success. “This is a program that I’ve wanted to see developed since I was a graduate student here at Shepherd, and to watch it flourish and grow has been amazing.”

The Shepherd Success Academy is a unique program that helps a defined group of students succeed. SSA coaches work



Cecelia Mason

ABOVE: Members of the Student Success Academy team are, seated, Holly Morgan Frye '09 M.A., interim vice president for student affairs, and Julia Franks '14 M.A., director of student success and orientation programs; standing, Maya Gonzalez, graduate assistant for student success and orientation programs, and Hannah Williams-McNamee '16, success coach.

closely with other departments on campus, such as the TRiO Student Support Services program, faculty, staff, and others to ensure that all students who need support are connected. ■

Shepherd signs MOU with the VA for cybersecurity research

Shepherd's Center for Regional Innovation, Shepherdstown-based KRM Associates, Inc., and the Medical Device Plug-and-Play Interoperability and Cybersecurity Lab at Massachusetts General Hospital in Cambridge, Massachusetts, have signed memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to support advanced and emerging medical device and cybersecurity research.

The VA is collaborating with the three private-sector organizations in order to refine existing and emerging cybersecurity standards and practices for network-connectable medical devices, medical device data systems, and related health technology. These activities have potentially broad health sector impact, including the care of veterans within the VA health system and non-veterans in other health administration environments.

President Mary J.C. Hendrix said, “This collaborative opportunity offers unique and significant educational and professional services that will advance the mission of the university and address an emerging issue of our time.”

KRM Associates and Shepherd's Center for Regional Innovation will operate a federated lab to support medical device and Internet of Things (IoT) security assessment and validation. The initial focus of the Shepherd lab will be to test medical and IoT devices to certify security, based on Underwriters Laboratories certification criteria and other criteria established or identified by the VA as they relate to the VA environment.

Testing at Shepherd will be done in collaboration with the standards organizations and UL, and the Shepherd lab will be tasked with expanding and adapting the criteria to the VA environment and the devices pertinent to the VA. Another focus of the Shepherd initiative is providing an avenue for real-world experience and educational research opportunities for students interested in pursuing an emphasis in cybersecurity, especially with regard to IoT devices being used in medical settings, whether at-home or clinical care, thereby establishing a robust experiential environment for future security professionals. ■

Love of nature leads alumnus Wil Hershberger '82 to record more than 3,000 bird and insect songs

Users of the Macaulay Library of Natural Sounds at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, are no doubt familiar with the work of Shepherd alumnus **Wil Hershberger '82**, who has submitted more than 3,100 bird and insect recordings. Wil and his wife, **Donna Palmer Hershberger '83**, have carved out almost a second career capturing the sounds and sights of birds and insects from across the country. Wil, who grew up in Maudgansville, Maryland, had his first experience recording the songs of birds in the late 1960s.

"My mother got my brother and me cassette recorders, and mine had an external microphone," Wil said. "I used to hang it out the window of my bedroom. There were white-throated sparrows in the backyard in the winter and I would record them."

Wil earned an associate degree at Hagerstown Junior College (now Hagerstown Community College) then came to Shepherd, where he majored in biology and chemistry. He recalls taking classes from Dr. Carl Bell, Professor **Charles Woodward '59**, and Dr. Franklin Sturges, who was into birding.

"That was my first introduction that other people actually looked at birds," Wil said. "I got hooked on watching birds when I was 10 or 12 and a pair of Baltimore orioles nested in my backyard. We could watch them right out the window of the back door. It was great to be able to see that whole process of building the nest."

Wil spent 28 years working as a technician at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Appalachian Fruit Research Station in Kearneysville. He has also been active as a naturalist, including as a member and past president of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society, local Maryland Ornithological Society chapter, and vice president of the Shenan-

doah Photographic Society. In 1986, he became involved in a project by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources tracking loggerhead shrikes because they were disappearing from the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia and Western Maryland.

"By 1987 or '88 we were finding beautiful pasture lands that should have had loggerhead shrikes nesting in them, but there were none," Wil said. "We were brainstorming about whether there really were no shrikes, or whether we were just not seeing them."

Wil suggested making recordings to play back to encourage shrikes that might be in the fields to respond.

"So, I got a cassette recorder and microphone and made some really terrible recordings and we tried playing them back," Wil said. "If it looked like the fields were empty, then evidently

they were because nothing responded to those calls."

In 1989, he upgraded his equipment, purchasing a better recorder and microphone to record bird songs. He also bought a 30-inch parabolic reflector, or parabola, that focuses the sound to the microphone.

"So, it acts like a big telephoto lens, if you will, by making the bird sound closer," Wil said. "Sometime in mid to late July, the birds really go quiet but there are all these insects singing, so I started recording the insects. At that time, there was nothing for identifying insects by their sounds. There was one album that Dr. Donald Borror did out of Ohio State University. It must have been in the '50s or '60s and it had 40 species on it. The fidelity just wasn't very good."

Wil worked with Lang Elliott to



Cecelia Mason

ABOVE: Wil Hershberger '82 records bird songs with his parabola that focuses the sound to the microphone.



ABOVE: In addition to recording bird songs, Wil Hershberger '82 is a skilled photographer. Pictured (l. to r.) are mountain bluebird, white-breasted nuthatch, Carolina chickadee, red-headed woodpecker, Kirtland's warbler, and purple finch.

RIGHT: Wil was the co-author of *The Songs of Insects*, a book and CD collection of photos and recordings of common insects

create *The Songs of Insects*, a book and CD collection of photos and recordings of 77 species of crickets, katydids, locusts, and cicadas that are common and native to eastern and central North America. While Wil collects the sound of birds by taking his recording device, microphone, and parabola outside, the insects are sometimes recorded in more of a studio situation. He captures the insects and puts them in a container designed by Donna called a singing cage. It's a Tupperware container with most of the plastic cut out and the holes covered with no-see-um netting. He places the bugs in the container and records them in a carpeted walk-in closet in his house.

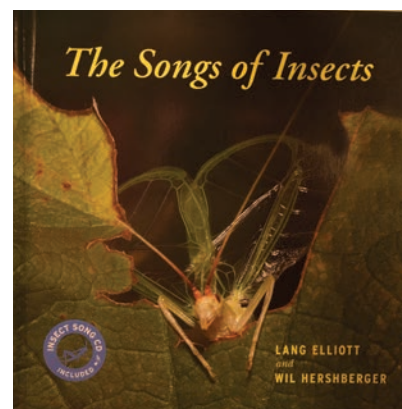
Wil has recorded locally at Shannondale Springs, Sleepy Creek Wildlife Management Area, Indian Springs Wildlife Management Area, Eidolon Preserve, Stauffer's Marsh Preserve, and Cool Spring Preserve.

"Ever since I really got addicted to bird song recording in '95, when we go on vacations we try to go in the spring," Wil said. He and Donna, who works at Washington Hospital Center in D.C. as a clinical laboratory manager, have gone to places such as Nova Scotia and Arizona. Donna takes photos of flowers, while Wil takes photos of and records birds.

"It's more of an organic process when you're recording a bird because you're trying to disappear in the background, be as quiet as possible, and let the bird to do its thing," Wil said. "Whereas with taking pictures, you're

trying to get the bird to come in closer. The closer the bird can get the better the picture. You're very much changing the behavior of the bird so you can get a better picture. It's the opposite with the sound recording, which I find more enlightening and more like a spiritual sojourn with that individual. When you have the headphones on with that big dish, it's like it's sitting right on your shoulder singing into your ear. You're hearing everything it does and you're trying to be as quiet and unobtrusive as possible."

In addition to taking photos and



recording sounds, Wil and Donna offer nature photography workshops, and Wil teaches birding workshops. Wil and Donna's webpage is <https://natureimagesandsounds.com/> and Wil's recordings can be heard on SoundCloud at <https://soundcloud.com/wilhershberger>.

■ **Cecelia Mason**

Enticing chimney swifts to their new campus home

It's been about a year since the Potomac Valley Audubon Society oversaw the construction of a chimney swift tower on West Campus next to Dunlop Hall. The new tower is intended to replace the chimney on Sara Cree Hall that swifts used for a roost before the building was torn down in 2017. So far, swifts have not moved into the new tower, but **Wil Hershberger '82** says that's not unexpected.

"It takes time for them to locate new roosts" Wil said. "The new tower isn't quite as big and obvious as the old chimney. The older birds in the flock know where chimneys are and show the younger birds, so it's going to take them a few years to find it."

Wil said swifts roost during their migration both heading north and south, but it's more spectacular when they're heading south because it's a shorter period of time before they leave.

"One purpose for these towers is the roosting," he said. "Then, during the summer one pair will nest per structure. They will allow other birds to roost in that structure, but it's only one pair nesting whether is a hollow tree, chimney, or whatever."

Wil said the Audubon Society plans to help the swifts discover the tower using recordings he's made.

"One of the things we're going to try is playing back the chitter calls of the swifts to see if that helps bring them toward the tower," he said.

Wil said chimney swift nesting season for the Shepherdstown area is mid-May through the end of July. Migration starts in September. The new swift tower was designed to host up to 5,000 birds, so Wil said it should be pretty phenomenal when they do find the tower. ■

Jim '68 and Peachy '70 Staley are named Outstanding Alumni

The last thing Jim '68 and Mary "Peachy" '70 Staley expected was to be named Shepherd's Outstanding Alumni of the Year. The couple thoroughly enjoyed being honored at various festivities during Homecoming week, including the Outstanding Alumni of the Year and Finest Under 40 Reception, Founders Day Celebration, and the football game on Saturday.

"It was totally unexpected," Peachy said. "It's an honor. We feel blessed. We had so much fun, and we really appreciate that the university let us bring our families in. That was nice."

"It was just four grand and glorious days, and the university just seemed to bend over backward to make sure we were well taken care of and well honored," Jim added. "Wow, what four days for us country kids to look back on!"

Both Peachy and Jim grew up locally—Peachy in the Falling Waters area of Berkeley County where her parents ran a small country grocery store, and Jim in Scrabble on a farm that straddled the Jefferson-Berkeley county line. Peachy graduated from Saint Joseph School in Martinsburg and Jim graduated from Martinsburg High School. They each chose to attend Shepherd because it was affordable and nearby. Peachy said she initially wanted to go to the beauty school that was across the street from Saint Joseph. She credits a priest at the school for steering members of her class toward higher education.

"He influenced me to think about going to college," said Peachy, who was the first in her

family to attend college. "I also had a sister who was born when I was 14 who had Down syndrome, and I had a lot of responsibility for her. It seemed logical to pursue education, and maybe special education."

As soon as she was accepted at Shepherd, Peachy applied for a job at Goldie's Restaurant in the Berkeley Plaza Shopping Center in Martinsburg. "Mr. Goldsmith wanted to hire primarily Shepherd students," she said. "I worked there the whole four years I attended Shepherd."

"I didn't think I was college material," Jim said. "I grew up on a little dairy farm and did farm work. But in my senior year I got in with a group of kids who were all talking about going to college. The draft was chasing all of us in 1964. I didn't think I wanted to stay on that farm the rest of my life, so I was probably looking for some way out. Shepherd was five miles away. I rode my bicycle the first semester to Shepherd."

Jim, whose mother, Fanniebelle Needy Staley '28, graduated from Shepherd, eventually ended up getting a car. He worked at Betty's Restaurant for 40 cents an hour and at the J.C. Penney's in Berkeley Plaza in Martinsburg to pay for his education. Both Jim and Peachy are glad they chose to attend Shepherd and have fond memories of their time here.

"I found that Shepherd was so comfortable," said Peachy, who joined Alpha Sigma Tau sorority her sophomore year and served as president her junior year. "A lot of my girlfriends went to Shepherd and I made so many friends there. I know I got a good education. I did very well with the beginning years of my teaching because I had a good background from Shepherd. All the professors were so friendly. You didn't feel like you were not special."

Some of Peachy's favorite professors were Veta Smith, assistant professor of English; Margaret Byrer, assistant professor of English; Dr. Sara Cree, professor of physical education; Kenneth Riley, associate professor of education; and Paul Saab, assistant professor of biology. Jim's favorite professor was Dr. Ruth Scarborough, professor of history.

"I think she injected all of us with an enthusiasm for history, and I think that's what instilled in me this desire to teach and be involved in history,"

(continued on page 17)

LEFT: Outstanding Alumni Jim '68 and Peachy '70 Staley are introduced to the Homecoming 2019 crowd in Ram Stadium.



Cecelia Mason

Weddings & Engagements



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Rachael McLoud '08 and '14 married Kegan Brophy on July 12, 2019 at Keuka Lake in New York. The couple resides in Carolina Beach, North Carolina.

Molly Reid '14 married James Newbrough on August 21, 2019 at Snowshoe Resort.

Myles Humphrey '17 and Kathlene Striano '17 were engaged in July 2019. Myles proposed on the Georgetown Waterfront. Their wedding will take place in July 2020.

Sara Demetrakis '15 and Brian Martin '15 are engaged. Brian played baseball for the Rams during the 2011-2015 seasons. Although Brian and Sara grew up in the same hometown, they did not meet until attending Shepherd. Their wedding will take place in 2020. ■

Emeritus Club welcomes Class of 1970

The 64th annual Emeritus Club induction ceremony, traditionally held in May during Commencement week, was canceled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 147th Commencement ceremonies have been moved to October 29 and 30.

This year marked the 50th anniversary year of the Class of 1970, whose members received their certificates in the mail.

The Emeritus Club is for all alumni who have reached their 50 year graduation anniversary and beyond.

We hope to see members of the Class of 1970 at Homecoming on October 31.



Class Notes

'76 Ken Boone has been named to the Printing Impressions/RIT Printing Industry Hall of Fame. Ken grew up in the direct mail industry and has spent the past 50-plus years adapting to the changes of the industry with a competitive approach. Though he is semi-retired and stepped down as president of the Centreville, Maryland-based Tidewater Direct earlier this year, he still remains actively involved.

Ken started his first business at age 13 by hiring three assistants on his route delivering circulars for Advertising Distributors of Maryland. He would pay them each a cut and keep the leftover for himself. He kept this job through college at Shepherd, working weekends and summers. After graduation with a degree in business management, Ken was hired full time by the same company, but the founder passed away and the business declined. Ken opened Direct Marketing Associates Inc. (DMA) in 1978, just two years after graduating from Shepherd. This was a small shop door-to-door distribution service. During the time with DMA, he also served as president of the National Association of Private Postal Systems. By 1985, door-to-door fell by the wayside, but DMA was already producing direct mail, using laser technology to innovate with personalization, and by 1999 it was a full-service, high-volume direct mail company in

Baltimore County with \$20 million in sales. DMA also became the first direct mail company to use trays and pallets instead of mail sacks. Ken sold the business to Harte Hanks and stayed on to manage for a year and a half until his position was suddenly terminated. Ken immediately started another company, American Direct Imaging, a direct mail continuous-form printer.

In 2006, Ken purchased the assets of Tidewater Publishing and recognized the synergy with American Direct and transformed the two companies into Tidewater Direct. The company, at last count, has 180 employees, generated \$35 million in sales, and is in three locations.

Ken was a member of the Rams football team and received his bachelor's degree in business management. He has the Ram Stadium field house named after him for his tremendous fundraising efforts for it and other areas of the university. In 2000 he was named Outstanding Alumnus of the Year.

'80 Cheryl Roberts was presented the 2019 Vocational Service Award by the Shepherdstown Rotary Club in November 2019. The Rotary Club gives this award each year to an outstanding community member who embodies values and principles that exemplify Rotary ideals, especially service above self and a commitment to high professional and ethical standards. Cheryl is a Shepherdstown native and graduated from Shepherd with a degree in recreational and sports studies. She

was a top player on the basketball and softball teams, and played tennis. She graduated with honors.

Her professional life has consisted of working as a recreation therapist, as well as being the first woman to be involved in coaching a men's collegiate basketball team in the history of the NCAA at the University of the District of Columbia. She coached at UDC until 1985 while earning her master's degree. Cheryl has since had a long career with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, most recently serving at the VA as a healthcare education specialist and national project manager. She has remained active in athletics as a volunteer, and has been involved for many years as a national official with the National Veterans Golden Age Games. Cheryl has been the head coach of the girls' basketball program at Jefferson High School for 10 years, as well as serving as a board member of the Shepherd University Athletic Club. Cheryl is active in the community as a member of the Shepherdstown Town Council and chairs the town's Parks and Recreation Committee. She is director of witness ministries at Asbury United Methodist and is a charter member of the Shepherdstown Lion's Club. She has held many leadership roles and is a lifetime member of her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta. Cheryl is also a life member of the NAACP and is active in the Boys and Girls Club, the United Way's Day of Caring, and the March of Dimes WalkAmerica. She has been recognized as one of America's Outstanding



ABOVE: Ken Boone '76, Cheryl Roberts '80, William Fritts II '85, and Dr. Cindy Vance '88

Young Women in 1980, was inducted to the Shepherd University Athletic Hall of Fame, and is listed in *Who's Who Among Black Americans*.

'82 **Mike Cusack**, founder and principal of O'Cusack Print Communications, celebrated the firm's 10-year anniversary in 2019. O'Cusack (www.ocusack.com) is a comprehensive source for print media products and services that specializes in marketing collateral for a variety of businesses and associations. Mike is grateful that among his customers are several Shepherd alumni and the university itself. The firm is based in the D.C./Baltimore metro area and continues to expand and welcome new clients.

'85 **William Fritts II**, CPA and CVA, a member of Smith Elliott Kearns & Company, LLC, has been voted the Number One Accountant in the Tri-State area by Herald-Mail Media readers for 2019. Bill graduated from Shepherd with a bachelor's degree in business administration and earned an M.B.A. from Mount St. Mary's. He joined SEK in 1996 and was admitted as a member of the firm in 2001. He serves as member-in-charge of the firm's Hagerstown office and leads the Accounting Services and Tax Department. He provides accounting and tax services to a wide spectrum of businesses and individuals, as well as valuation services primarily for estates and buy-sell agreements. Bill has been a guest speaker on various tax topics and an instructor of

numerous undergraduate and graduate-level business classes at Shenandoah University and Shepherd. In addition to client responsibilities, Bill serves as a member of the firm's management and tax committees.

'88 **Dr. Cindy Vance**, associate professor of accounting and chair of the Department of Accounting at Shepherd, has created, along with two other Certified Public Accountants, the Shenandoah Valley Chapter (SVC) of the Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants that will provide local opportunities for CPAs and accounting students in Winchester, Virginia, and the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. The mission of the SVC is to promote continuing education for its members, enhance leadership skills and technical competencies of CPAs, advocate for their interests, and influence students to become CPAs. This professional association will benefit CPAs, including Shepherd accounting faculty, by offering local continuing professional education events that CPAs need to maintain licensure. It will also benefit local accounting students by providing free membership and networking opportunities with CPAs and employers in the local region. Cindy is the president and board chair of the SVC. While a student at Shepherd, Cindy was awarded the McMurrin Scholar award, the highest academic honor available at Shepherd.

'92 **Cheryl Ringer** was featured in *Virginia Business* in July

2019 in an article titled "No hidden figures: Female CFOs have an impact throughout the state." Cheryl is the chief financial officer of the nonprofit Blue Ridge Hospice of Winchester, Virginia. She held positions at West Virginia and Virginia accounting firms, but developed an expertise for nonprofit accounting and was hired by Blue Ridge Hospice as its CFO after serving on its board of directors. Initially turning the position down, she realized after several months that it would be a great opportunity to combine public accounting with service to others. However, she did not know that the job would unleash her creative and entrepreneurial spirit as she examined the challenges of a nonprofit institution.

Trying to find new funding sources, she took the huge leap of opening a thrift shop. Cheryl spent many of her days helping run the 4,000-square-foot shop and many of her nights performing CFO duties. Knowing this was a risk, she helped Blue Ridge Hospice make it successful and now the hospice has eight shops and a warehouse. The shops are also part of a recycling program that takes unwanted computers, monitors, telephones, and other electronics, keeping them out of landfills while producing cash flow. Blue Ridge now has a staff of 250, brings in about \$18 million in revenue annually, which is six times the amount when Cheryl started, and provides end-of-life services to about 1,500 people every year (up a few hundred from 16 years ago).

(continued on next page)



ABOVE: Erika Juran '92, Tara Runkles '00, Brandon Dennison '08, and Nicholas Redding '08

Erika Juran '92 has been selected as the first executive director of the Carlisle Regional Performing Arts Center, Inc., which was previously led by the head staff role of theater manager. Erika has served in nonprofit leadership for more than 18 years, mostly in the arts sector. With this experience, she understands the importance of the arts in Central Pennsylvania. As a past executive director of the Perry County Council of the Arts, she led programming which included spoken word, poetry recitation, local and regional live music, an arts summer camp, and arts in education programming in seven counties as a partner with the Pennsylvania Council of Arts. She also oversaw the execution of STEAM projects, the connection of organizations and businesses with the arts in seven counties, and raised the profile of the organization. Erika is also a member of Americans for the Arts, a national arts advocacy organization, and has completed the group's Arts Marketing Training for the 21st Century while also being a guest blogger. She graduated with honors from Shepherd with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

'99 Amie Ashcraft, Ph.D. and M.P.H., is director of research for West Virginia University's Department of Family Medicine in the School of Medicine. A Shepherd McMurren Scholar, Amie is developing an app to train key personnel in rural areas how to identify and report child sex trafficking. She said drug users sometimes turn to trafficking as a cash

source, which is true in places of geographic isolation, such as West Virginia, which also have lower levels of education and fewer economic opportunities. Child victims are more likely to be trafficked by people they know, even their own mothers. Amie said that training efforts have largely been focused on West Virginia law enforcement, but many others need the skills to recognize trafficking too, including public school personnel and county health department staff. The first phase of the desktop and mobile app, called SexEx Rural, will focus on these groups. Content will be created with input from trafficking survivors, educators, healthcare providers, and members of the West Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force with support of initiative partners, the Randolph-Elkins, Cabell-Huntington, and Mid-Ohio Valley health departments. Content will include audio narration, video clips, real-world examples of trafficking, learning exercises, and interactive quizzes. For the video clips, student actors, directors and videographers will create scenes representing potential trafficking scenarios. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention and National Center for Injury Prevention are funding the development of the prototype app through a Small Business Innovative Research Phase I grant.

'00 Tara Runkles and her business partner Ann Raresheid have received the honor of having their Bar-B-Que Beast named the number one barbecue sauce in the

world. First concocted in Ann's Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, kitchen nearly 20 years ago, with Tara handling the marketing side, the Bar-B-Que Beast, LLC sauces are available in 19 Giant/Martin's stores in the Pennsylvania and Hagerstown, Maryland, area, as well as smaller market stores in the region. They say what sets their sauce apart from commercially produced barbecue blends are the ingredients. They don't use oils and start every batch with freshly steamed real onion and garlic. It all started with Ann using it at home, then beginning to sell pulled pork sandwiches out of a concession trailer and the sauce became popular. Tara and Ann have created four additional blends from the original sauce—Spicy, Carolina, Curry, and Hot. These sauces have captured the attention of chefs from as far away as Las Vegas and Canada, and earned multiple national and international awards, always placing in the top six in the National Barbecue and Grilling Association award of excellence. Both do this venture in addition to their full-time day jobs: Tara is a teacher and Ann works at a local bank.

'07 Matt Long created the official artwork for the 2020 National Cherry Blossom Festival, which was unveiled at an event on November 6, 2019. Previously, Matt was a finalist in the Sheetz Art Project in 2018, and won one of the 11 spots to redesign the new generation of Sheetz fleet tractor-trailers, as well as designing projects for local events, such as the 2015 Western Maryland Blues Festival. Matt graduated from Shepherd with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in graphic design and currently resides in Frederick, Maryland, where he works as an independent graphic artist. The National Cherry Blossom Festival, one of the world's greatest celebrations of spring, was canceled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



ABOVE: Justin Bryan '13, Alexandra Weakland '15, and Cameron Reynolds '18

'08 **Brandon Dennison** of Coalfield Development has been awarded \$250,000 from the Heinz Family Foundation. Brandon helped launch the Coalfield Development Corporation in 2010, an organization that employs people for a number of projects, including Solar Holler, which is one of West Virginia's first solar installation companies, and Refresh Appalachia, an enterprise designed to produce fresh, healthy local food. Employees with Coalfield Development spend more than 30 hours a week doing on-the-job training and six hours attending community college for an associate degree in applied sciences. Employees also spend three hours a week committed to personal development coaching and life skills. Brandon graduated from Shepherd with a bachelor's degree in history, minoring in political science, and was named one of Shepherd's 2018 Finest Under 40 alumni award recipients.

Nicholas Redding '08, executive director for Preservation Maryland, a partner to The Campaign for Historic Trades, has been selected by the J.M. Kaplan Fund as one of its 10 award recipients of the national prize for social innovation. The fund's nationwide search identifies 10 nonprofits and mission-driven for-profits with exceptionally catalytic social and environmental change initiatives for a biennially awarded prize of up to \$175,000 each over three years. Each organization must be tackling America's most pressing challenges through social innovation. The Campaign for Historic Trades is based in Maryland and aims to expand its efforts nationwide to offer a potential new model for the heritage conservation field. The campaign is training a diverse new generation of tradespeople to help restore and revitalize America's communities through an innovative partnership with the National Park Service. It supports six months of paid, on-the-job instruction plus post-training job placement services, while boosting equity and relevance for the preservation movement.

Nicholas, a McMurrin Scholar, was a history major at Shepherd with a minor in environmental historic preservation.

'09 **Raymond Weber** earned the highest award bestowed by the U.S. government to teachers of mathematics and science, the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Raymond has been an educator for 10 years, spending his career teaching fifth grade at Salem Avenue Elementary School in Hagerstown, Maryland, and serving as a team leader for five years. Developing a love for learning and creating a passion for innovation in his students have led his Destination Imagination team to four state titles and top performances at the international level. As a coach, Raymond helps students apply 21st-century skills to problem-solving challenges. On his 24-mathematics team, he supports students in sharpening skills like computation, number sense, and pattern sensing. Raymond also has led professional development and mentoring sessions for staff at Salem Avenue and has participated in the environmental and mathematics academies at Shepherd, Hagerstown Community College, and Claude E. Kitchens Outdoor School. He received his bachelor's in elementary education from Shepherd and his Master of Arts in instruction design and technology from West Virginia University.

'13 **Justin Bryan** has been made partner at Yount, Hyde and Barbour CPAs and Consultants (YHB). After graduation from Shepherd, Justin joined the YHB team in 2014 and became a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in 2015. He has specialized in tax and consulting services for individuals and businesses while supporting the YHB Healthcare team. Justin's tax expertise and extensive industry knowledge are key in supporting that team; he has worked tremendously to expand the team's service markets.

'15 **Alexandra Weakland Bartoldson** was named the 2019 Maryland History Teacher of the Year. She is a teacher at Boonsboro High School. See page 30 for more about Alexandra and her time at Shepherd.

'16 **Loretta (Lynn) Ober**, a graduate of the Master of Arts in Teaching program, accepted a position prior to the start of the 2019-2020 school year with Frederick County Public Schools in Maryland.

'18 **Cameron Reynolds**, an inside linebacker and special teams player for the Rams during the 2013-2017 seasons, played professional football in Europe in 2019. He was a middle linebacker for the Wurzburg Panthers in the German state of Bavaria. Cameron spent his off hours exploring Wurzburg and the surrounding areas to gain knowledge of the culture and history, as well as learning a bit of German, but also was able to help expand the coaches' knowledge of modern football strategy and physical conditioning, as German pro football is in its developmental stages.

'19 In September 2019, **Gabrielle Hersey**, **Claudia McCarron**, and **Caitlyn Sheets**, along with current student Linnea Meyer, led a roundtable presentation titled Nineteenth-Century Women Writers at Work at the Sigma Tau Delta Regional Conference hosted by Mount St. Mary's College. Their presentation was well received and their team was acknowledged by Dr. Indrani Mitra, professor of English at Mount St. Mary's, as being impressive and articulate.

Alexandria Fetty '19 has accepted a position with Randox's United States technical support team as a technical support specialist at the company's U.S. office in West Virginia. She will be traveling nationwide as part of her job duties. She received her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Shepherd. ■

IN MEMORIAM

Clyde R. "Dick" Springer '57, of Sykesville, Maryland, died October 4, 2019. He earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Shepherd and a graduate degree from George Washington University. Before beginning college, Dick enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving four years during the Korean War. Dick worked for Fairchild Aircraft Co. in Hagerstown before moving to Baltimore to work in personnel for the state of Maryland. He later worked as a personnel officer at Crownsville State Hospital, business manager at the Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center in Jessup, superintendent of Springfield State Hospital in Sykesville (now Springfield Hospital Center), and director of personnel training for the Maryland Department of Mental Health and Hygiene. Dick retired in 1985.

He was a member of Boumi Temple Drum Corps, Scottish Rite, Door to Virtue Masonic Lodge, Western Maryland Shrine, Westminster Elks, and the American Legion. He served as a member of the Carroll County Commission on Aging, Citizen Advisory Board, and was past president and treasurer of the retirees chapter of the Maryland Classified Employees Association. He was a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Richard L. "Dick" Knode '61, of Millersville, Maryland, died August 20, 2019. Dick received his bachelor's degree from Shepherd, with an economics major and a physical education minor. He worked in the Prince George's County Public Schools for 34 years teaching physical education and coaching, eventually becoming the athletic director. The last 25 years of his career were at Friendly High School, where he coached football and track. Dick received several recognitions including MSADA District 3 Athletic Director of the Year, Washington County Hall of Fame, the Washington

District Official Association Hobie D. O'Meara Award, and the MSADA Hall of Fame. He was actively involved in Maryland and Prince George's County Coaches Association, NIAAA, MRSPA, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Bowie Elks, and the Crofton Country Club.

Ronald "Ron" Dickerson '68, of Laurel, Delaware, died October 5, 2019. He earned a bachelor's degree in social studies and played football. As an alumnus, he was a member of the Ram Gridiron Club, which supports the Shepherd football team. Ron coached football at Seaford High School in Delaware for 32 years, joining the program in 1969 and taking over as head coach in 1973. He led the team to nine Henlopen Championships, 11 state tournaments, and won the 1981 Division 1 championship and the 1983 Division 2 title during his 28-year career. Upon retirement, Ron was ranked fourth among Delaware high school coaches with 191 career victories. He also coached baseball for seven years. The football field at Seaford High School is named in his honor.

Douglass James Hood '68, of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, died September 8, 2019. He earned a degree in economics at Shepherd and was on the swim team. He served in the U.S. Air Force before going into a culinary arts career, starting out at The Library restaurant when he moved to Myrtle Beach. Eventually, Doug owned and operated his own restaurant, The Bistro, which was a favorite of locals and tourists. He was affectionately known as "Santa" to friends and strangers alike in his later years.

John William Rauch III '69, of Basye, Virginia, died October 30, 2019. He graduated from Shepherd with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry. John is survived by four sons, two sisters, a half-sister, and three grandchildren.

McArthur Lee "Jerry" Buzzard, Jr. '69, of Hillsboro, died November 16, 2019. He

received his bachelor's degree in physical education and played football for the Rams during his four years at Shepherd. Jerry started his lifelong teaching career at Hillsboro School for the Pocahontas County Board of Education. He later taught at Marlinton Middle School until his retirement and remained a substitute teacher for a number of years. In addition to his love for teaching, Jerry loved sports and had a passion for football. He coached many children in a wide variety of sports, including community teams, but officially began coaching school sports in 1978 as head coach for both boys and girls basketball and football at Hillsboro Elementary/Middle School. Jerry also coached Pocahontas County High School Warrior football from 1990-1998. He was an avid outdoor sportsman and had a love of hunting and fishing.

Betty Lee Gray Easterday '72, of Hagerstown, Maryland, died November 20, 2019. Betty graduated from Shepherd with a degree in home economics. She taught home economics at Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, High School. Betty and her husband Irvin were also on staff at Hagerstown Community College for more than 30 years teaching dance. She had a deep love for dance activity, and she and Irvin became enthusiastic about ballroom choreography and began teaching in the early 1960s. They received two of the highest awards given to choreographers and dancers in their fields, the ICBDA Golden Torch and the Silver Halo awarded by Round-a-Lab. From 1964 to 2008, Betty choreographed more than 100 routines. In 1975, she and Irvin developed a school for dance teachers held at the University of Indiana, called Round-a-Rama Institute, that has lasted more than 40 years, and they began to organize trips through Round-a-Rama Adventures for dancers and golfers to China, other Asian countries, New Zealand, Australia, and Europe. In her spare time, Betty was a member of Beaver Creek Country Club, Fountainhead Country Club, and

Woodland Garden Club, and also was a volunteer at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts.

Dennis D. “Denny” Barron ’73, of Martinsburg, died August 16, 2019. After receiving his bachelor’s degree in political science from Shepherd, Denny started his career at the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, before moving to the federal government to work for the FBI. He also served as a probation and parole officer and served with the U.S. Marshals Service and Justice Department. Denny also served with distinction on the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Park and Recreation Board for 25 years, the Eastern West Virginia Regional Airport Authority, and numerous other

organizations. He had a passion for the Civil Air Patrol and was a 50-year member, during which he achieved the rank of colonel. He was also a former commander of the Martinsburg Composite Squadron, former commander of the West Virginia Wing, former vice commander of the mid-Atlantic region, and was the director of cadet programs for the West Virginia Wing at his time of death. Denny is survived by his wife, son, foster son, and sister.

John E. McVey ’78, of Martinsburg, died June 2, 2019. He graduated from Massanutten Military Academy in Virginia before continuing his education at Shepherd, where he received his Regents Bachelor of Arts degree in fine arts. John

worked in print journalism with The Journal in Martinsburg, as well as in broadcast journalism. He also worked in the travel industry. John enjoyed writing, as well as outdoor activities in his spare time.

Elizabeth Anne Spaur Stickley ’99, known as Beth or Libby to friends and family, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, died November 9, 2019. Originally from Martinsburg, Elizabeth graduated from Martinsburg High School in 1969, earned a degree in elementary education from Shepherd, and completed her master’s degree in business from Mountain State University. She dedicated her life to the education of children and retired as a teacher for Berkeley County Schools. ■

Rams Across America

Check out the Alumni Office’s social media (@ShepherdAlumni on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) for Rams Across America, featuring alumni living in different regions of the United States.

Alumni Career/Life Video Series

The Shepherd University Alumni Association online career/life video series is a new initiative that showcases Shepherd alumni as they deliver a 45 minute to one hour presentation on topics aimed at assisting students, alumni, and friends in enhancing professional and personal success. These online presentations are free for the Shepherd community to view and are archived for viewers at www.shepherd.edu/suaa/careerlife-video-series and on the SUA A YouTube page. Please email kswayne@shepherd.edu to volunteer.

Roaming Rams Alumni Travel Program

Join us for a group travel-style adventure to Portugal for 10 days, departing June 1, 2021. Double occupancy rate is \$4,149 if booked before December 1. Single occupancy is an additional \$800.

Keep an eye on social media @ShepherdAlumni on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, or visit www.shepherd.edu/suaa/roaming-rams-alumni-travel-program for announcement of dates, more trip information, and updates on travel meeting sessions.

Outstanding Alumni honored

(continued from page 10)

Jim said. “I was a commuter and I didn’t have much of a social life on campus. I had some buddies on campus and I went to some dances. I don’t think I ever attended one single sporting event. It just wasn’t a part of my social life on campus. It was all about work and going to class and trying to get that ‘B’ average, or at least a ‘C’ average, because I was told by Dean Gordon Slonaker ‘if you drop out, I’m sending your name to the draft board.’ He was the chairman of the selective service board in Jefferson County, and he meant it.”

Jim ended up going into the U.S. Army after graduating and credits his degree from Shepherd with opening the door to officer’s candidate school at Fort Benning, Georgia. After serving in Vietnam, Jim spent 30 years as Jefferson County 4-H Extension agent. Peachy is retired from a 42-year career teaching first and second grade and special needs children at various levels.

Since retiring, Peachy and Jim have come full circle by becoming more involved with Shepherd. Peachy is a co-founder of WISH (Women Investing in Shepherd), a women’s giving circle that awards grants to community nonprofits and Shepherd learning projects. She and Jim are both members of the Scarborough Society and the Friends of Popodicon, a group that works to revitalize the historic business residence of President Mary J.C. Hendrix. Jim, who once served as Alumni Association president, helps with veterans’ issues and the Tabler Farm: Shepherd University Agriculture Innovation Center.

“We feel like Shepherd gave us our start,” Peachy said. “It gave us what we needed to get life going by having an education, so we want to do what we can to keep it going and to keep our family involved.” ■ *Cecelia Mason*

2019 Finest Under 40 alumni honored at Homecoming

Recipients of the Finest Under 40 alumni recognition award were honored at a reception and ceremony, along with the 2019 Outstanding Alumni, during Homecoming Week.

Aaron Weikle '02 is the founder of Mountain State Software Solutions (MS3), which is a global IT consulting firm that specializes in engineering future-proof solutions for both commercial and federal customers. MS3 has been recognized by INC Magazine for the third time as one of the fastest growing companies in the U.S., and it is ranked number one for IT system development companies and number one for West Virginia based companies. While at Shepherd, Aaron was a four-year football player and has remained active as a donor and member of the Shepherd University Athletic Club. He supports high school sports by sponsoring a travel softball team in Moorefield as well as groups Family, Careers and Community Leaders of America and West Virginia HOSA.

Todd Cimino-Johnson '05 and '07 M.B.A. is the program coordinator for the business and economics program at Blue Ridge Community and Technical College in Martinsburg. He is also the faculty representative for Blue Ridge CTC to the statewide Advisory Council of Faculty and devotes extra time as the advisor for the Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda, Rotaract, and the Sexuality and Gender Alliance club. He serves as the Read Berkeley chair for the Martinsburg Sunrise Rotary and oversees a program that provides free books to second grade students in need. Todd is on track to finish his

Ph.D. in Community College Leadership from Old Dominion University in mid-2021.

Aaron Combs '06 serves as the assistant director for operations at James Madison University Recreation, where he oversees a 278,000 square foot facility and a student development curriculum for more than 450 student employees. In addition to his role at JMU, he is involved with Campus Recreation's national organization, the National Intramural Recreation Sports Association, and has served on multiple committees. In 2019, Aaron was awarded the Virginia Recreational Sports Association Professional Award of Merit for outstanding contributions within the field of campus recreation, and has previously been selected as co-keynote speaker for the Student Affairs Divisional meeting on "Leadership: Modeling the Way." Outside of JMU, Aaron has formed Combs Consulting, assisting organizations in building stronger communication utilizing DISC: The Model of Human Behavior.

Samantha Brown '10 and '14 M.B.A. currently serves the Jefferson County community as the District 65 Delegate in the West Virginia Legislature. She has worked in marketing/public relations and politics throughout her career. Samantha volunteers for many organizations in the community, including Headcount D.C., Kiwanis International, and Young Democrats of America. She serves as president of the Eastern Panhandle Central Labor Council, is a steering committee member for Our Children Our Future, and is a board member for West Virginia Free and West Virginia Citizen Action Group. Samantha regularly returns to Shepherd to speak to classes.

Maigen Briana Lawson '13 is currently a program analyst with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), working to provide federal assistance to fire departments and firefighters across the country under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. She was previously the Maryland/Delaware State program officer for the Corporation for National and Community Service and is an active member of the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism for both Maryland and Delaware. In addition to being a Shepherd alumna, Maigen is an AmeriCorps State and AmeriCorps VISTA alumna and has served as a member of the Governor's Partnership to End Childhood Hunger in Maryland, the Baltimore City Partnership to End Childhood Hunger, and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Director's Association. While at Shepherd, she was involved in the Multicultural Leadership Team, Relay for Life, and Alternative Spring Break programs.

Nomination information for the 2020 Outstanding Alumnus/Alumna and Finest Under 40 is available at www.shepherd.edu/suaa/alumni-recognition-programs. ■



ABOVE: Alumni honored at 2019 Finest Under 40 are (l. to r.) Aaron Combs '06, Todd Cimino-Johnson '05 and '07 M.B.A., and Aaron Weikle '02. Not pictured are honorees Samantha Brown '10 and '14 M.B.A. and Maigen Briana Lawson '13.



Chip Ransom

Shepherd adds five to Athletic Hall of Fame

The Shepherd University Athletic Hall of Fame inducted five new members at the annual induction banquet on October 18, 2019, in the Storer Ballroom at Shepherd. Football players **Clay Grove '96** and **Kelvin Stevens '98** join **Lynn Hrbek Clark '95** (volleyball), **Danley Shank '07** (men's basketball), and **Mia Zappacosta Byrd '07** (softball) as the 34th class to be inducted. The five inductees bring the total number of inductees in the Shepherd Athletic Hall of Fame to 155.

Additionally, Shepherd athletics program assistant Kathy Fasulo was honored as the 2019 Medallion Award winner. Fasulo has been an invaluable asset to Shepherd athletics, serving as the department assistant since 1991. ■

ABOVE: The 2019 Shepherd Athletic Hall of Fame inductees are (l. to r.) Lynn Hrbek Clark '95, Clay Grove '96, Danley Shank '07, Kelvin Stevens '98, and Mia Zappacosta Byrd '07.

RIGHT: Chauncey Winbush '95 and '00, vice president for athletics, presents the 2019 Medallion Award to Kathy Fasulo.



Chip Ransom

Football goes 10-3 with playoff appearance in first season of PSAC play

The Rams football team recorded a 10-3 overall mark with a 6-1 mark in PSAC East play. Shepherd finished second in the PSAC East and knocked off Indiana (Pennsylvania) in the first round of the NCAA II Playoffs before falling to regional champion Slippery Rock in the second round.

Fourteen Rams were named to the 2019 All-PSAC East Team. Graduate student running back Deontre Glover, Inwood; graduate student offensive lineman Eric Ostrow, Owings Mills, Maryland; senior offensive lineman Keandre Batson, Upper Marlboro, Maryland; senior tight end DJ Cornish, Milford, Delaware; graduate student wide receiver Dylan Brewer, Martinsburg; senior wide receiver Devin Phelps, Baltimore, Maryland; junior linebacker Chrys Lane, Baltimore, Maryland; junior defensive lineman Juwan Addison, Richmond, Virginia; and sophomore defensive back Antonio Fox, Germantown, Maryland, all gained first team honors.

Glover rushed 200 times for 1,359 yards and 19 touchdowns on the season. He added 13 catches for 385 yards and three touchdowns. Glover also had 11 kickoff returns for 354 yards and a score. He ranked third nationally in total points scored (138) and total touchdowns (23) while ranking seventh in scoring (10.6 points). His 19 rushing touchdowns rank him fourth, while his 161.38 all-purpose yards average place him 12th. Glover rushed for 100 yards or more in seven games this season.

Ostrow and Batson keyed an offensive line that helped the Shepherd offense rank first nationally in passing offense (347.0) and tackles-for-loss allowed (3.23). The Rams also ranked third in completion percentage (.703), fifth in first downs offense (324), and sixth in sacks allowed (0.85) and total offense (507.0).

Cornish had 27 receptions for 443 yards and three touchdowns on the season. He gained first team All-Conference honors for the third time in his career.

Brewer had 99 receptions for 1,234 yards and nine touchdowns on the year. He tied a Shepherd single-game mark with 16 receptions against Kutztown early this season. Brewer had 100 receiving yards or more in six games on the season. His 99 receptions tied the single-season mark set by Billy Brown in 2016.

Phelps had 61 receptions for 1,104 yards and a team-best 14 touchdown grabs. Phelps had 100 receiving yards or more in four games this year.

Lane led the Rams in solo tackles (66), assisted tackles (38), and total tackles (104). He recorded 7.0 tackles-for-loss (-22 yards) and 2.0 sacks (-12 yards). He added three pass breakups, an interception, a forced fumble, and a fumble recovery.

Addison recorded 30 tackles with 26 solo stops. He added 12.5 tackles-for-loss (-65 yards) and 7.0 sacks (-48 yards).

Fox had 44 tackles with 31 solo stops. He had a team-best

five interceptions and a fumble recovery

Sophomore quarterback Tyson Bagent, Martinsburg, freshman offensive lineman Joey Fisher, Hagerstown, Maryland, sophomore defensive end David Wilson, Baltimore, Maryland, junior defensive back Ponce Deleon, Greenbelt, Maryland, and sophomore defensive back Donnell Howard, Temple Hills, Maryland, were second team selections.

Bagent completed 343-of-483 passes for 4,349 yards and 36 touchdowns this season. Bagent led NCAA II in passing yards per game (362.4), completions per game (28.58), and ranked second in total offense (365.5). He ranked second in passing yards (4,349) and fourth in completion percentage (.710), and fifth in passing touchdowns (36). Bagent's 4,349 passing yards set a Shepherd single-season mark.

Fisher was an anchor on Shepherd's offensive line in his first season with the Rams.

Wilson had 28 tackles with 17 solo stops. He had added 7.5 tackles-for-loss (-45 yards) and 4.5 sacks (-33 yards). Wilson adds a forced fumble and a fumble recovery.

Deleon had 51 tackles with 38 solo stops. He added 5.5 tackles-for-loss (-12 yards). Deleon had four interceptions, three pass breakups, and a fumble recovery.

Howard had 23 tackles with 16 solo stops. He added three interceptions and a team-best five pass breakups.

■ *Chip Ransom*

Glover, Robinson named to CoSIDA Academic All-America Team

Graduate student running back Deonte Glover, Inwood, and junior defensive lineman Ricky Robinson, Mathias, of the football team have been named to the 2019 CoSIDA Academic All-America Football Team. Glover and Robinson were both first team selections. The team was selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Glover boasts a 3.70 grade point average with a 3.75 GPA in his graduate classes. Glover rushed 200 times for 1,359 yards and 19 touchdowns on the season. He added 13 catches for 385 yards and three touchdowns. Glover also had 11 kickoff returns for 354 yards and a score. He ranks fourth nationally in total points scored (138) and total touchdowns (23), while rank-



Deonte Glover



Ricky Robinson

(continued on page 22)

Sports roundup

Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team recorded a 2-15-1 overall mark with an 0-11-1 record in PSAC play. The Rams recorded wins over Frostburg State (2-0) and Pitt-Johnstown (1-0) and battled to a 2-2 tie against Shippensburg.

Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team posted a 1-15-2 overall record with a 1-14-1 mark in PSAC action. The Rams recorded a 1-0 win over Mansfield and battled to 1-1 ties with Frostburg State and Lock Haven.

Volleyball

The volleyball team posted a 29-7 overall mark with a 14-5 record in conference play. The Rams made their second straight NCAA II regional appearance and knocked off PSAC Tournament Champion East Stroudsburg before falling to eventual regional champion Gannon. The Rams opened the season with a record-setting 18-match winning streak.

Four Rams gained PSAC honors. Senior outside hitter Peyton Lindblad, Spotsylvania, Virginia, garnered first team All-PSAC honors, while senior outside hitter Cambria Hill, Columbia, Maryland, and senior libero Imani Major, Gainesville, Virginia, earned second team honors. Additionally, freshman middle blocker Elyssia Smith, Fredericksburg, Virginia, was selected as PSAC East Freshman of the Year.

Lindblad gained first team All-Conference honors for the second consecutive season. Lindblad led the Rams in kills (479), kills per set (3.52), while ranking second in aces (59) and aces per set (0.43). She added 137 digs, 79 blocks (5 solo), and 10 assists. Lindblad also garnered D2CCA All-Region, CoSIDA Academic All-District, and Atlantic Regional All-Tournament accolades.

Hill recorded 377 kills with a .195 attack percentage. She added 290 digs, 56 blocks (4 solo), 40 aces, and 18 assists. She gained All-Conference honors for the third time in her career.

Major led the Rams with 717 digs and a 5.47 digs per set average. She added 120 assists, 45 aces, and three kills. The two-time PSAC Defensive Athlete of the Week earned All-Conference honors for the second time in her career.

Smith was tabbed Freshman of the Year. She is the first Ram athlete to earn a major award in any sport since Shepherd transitioned to the PSAC in July 2019. Smith ranked fifth in the league in blocks per set (1.07). She led the Rams in solo blocks (26), ranks second in block assists (89) and total blocks (115). The freshman has turned in five or more blocks on 15 occasions this season. Offensively, she has accumulated 160 kills and a hitting percentage of .219.

Smith turned in a season-high 11 kills in a five-set win against West Chester (November 15).

Men's Golf

The men's golf team fired a three-round total of 945 to rank seventh in a nine-team field in the PSAC Championship at the East Course at Hershey Country Club.

There was a three-way playoff for the individual championship between Shepherd senior Owen Elliott, Chris Warner of West Chester, and Shaun Fedor of Indiana (Pennsylvania) as they each carded a 223.

Elliott and Fedor both made par on No. 18 while Warner bogeyed to finish third. Fedor made par on No. 16 to win the individual title (2nd playoff hole) and Elliott bogeyed to finish second.

■ *Chip Ransom*

Four Rams earn Don Hansen All-American accolades

Four members of the football team have been named to the 2019 Don Hansen NCAA Division II All-America Football Team. Senior offensive guard Keandre Batson, Upper Marlboro, Maryland, was a second team selection. Graduate student running back Deonte Glover, Inwood, graduate student wide receiver Dylan Brewer, Martinsburg, and graduate student offensive lineman Eric Ostrow, Owings Mills, Maryland, were honorable mention choices.

Batson keyed an offensive line that helped the Shepherd offense rank first nationally in passing offense (347.0) and tackles-for-loss allowed (3.23). The Rams also ranked third in completion percentage (.703), fifth in first downs offense (324), and sixth in sacks allowed (0.85) and total offense (507.0).

Glover rushed 200 times for 1,359 yards and 19 touchdowns on the season. He added 13 catches for 385 yards and three touchdowns. Glover also had 11 kickoff returns for 354 yards and a score. He ranked third nationally in total points scored (138) and total touchdowns

(continued on next page)



Jack Ransom

Senior offensive guard Keandre Batson (r.)

Cater named to West Virginia Sports Hall of Fame

Former Shepherd head football coach Monte Cater is an inductee into the West Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. Cater will be enshrined at the 74th annual Victory Awards Dinner, which has been postponed until May 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cater retired after the 2017 football season as the Mountain State's all-time winningest college football coach. He led Shepherd University for 31 years (1987-2017) to a 245-93-1

record and 72.4 winning percentage. His Rams teams won a state record 17 conference titles—a record 13 in the West Virginia Conference and four in five years in the Mountain East Conference.

The Hall of Famer guided six unbeaten regular season squads including a 30-0 record in his final three seasons in the MEC. The 2015 team went 13-1 and reached the NCAA Division II national championship game. His efforts resulted in being named winner of the Furfari Award as state all-sports college Coach of the Year by the West Virginia Sports Writers Association.

A year later, the Rams went 13-1 with a Division II semifinal berth. His final team ended 10-1. The 2010 Rams squad also advanced to the national semifinals.

Overall, his Shepherd teams made 13 post-season appearances.

Cater also served as athletic director at Shepherd from 1993-2004 and was involved in the college's transition from the NAIA to NCAA Division II.

Before his tenure at Shepherd, Cater served as football coach at Lakeland College in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, from 1981-1986 with three conference titles. His overall 37-year college coaching record was 275-117-2 for 70.3 winning percentage with 20 conference crowns.

The Shelbyville, Illinois, native graduated from Millikin College in 1971. His first coaching job was as an assistant at Millikin, where the Big Blue posted a 28-8 record.

"This is a great honor," Cater responded when notified.

"I'm humbled to be in such company as the other honorees. It's really special and exciting. I've been fortunate to have a top staff and to share this with them." ■ *Chip Ransom*



Chip Ransom

Monte Cater

Four Rams earn Don Hansen All-American accolades

(continued from previous page)

(23) while ranking seventh in scoring (10.6 points). His 19 rushing touchdowns rank him fourth, while his 161.38 all-purpose yards average place him 12th. Glover rushed for 100 yards or more in seven games this season.

Brewer had 99 receptions for 1,234 yards and nine touchdowns on the year. He tied a Shepherd single-game mark with 16 receptions against Kutztown early this season. Brewer has had 100 receiving yards or more in six games this year. His 99 receptions tied the single-season mark set by Billy Brown in 2016.

Ostrow was a key component in an offensive line that helped Shepherd offense rank nationally in numerous offensive categories.

The Don Hansen team carries out the legacy of longtime small college football advocate Don Hansen, who passed away at age 75 on August 29, 2010. Hansen, from Brookfield, Illinois, started and published Don Hansen's National Weekly Football Gazette for three decades, selecting NCAA Division II All-America teams for the first time in 1988. Don Hansen's Football Gazette began selecting Division II All-Region squads in 2003. ■

CoSIDA Academic All-America Team

(continued from page 20)

ing seventh in scoring (10.6 points). His 19 rushing touchdowns rank him fourth, while his 161.38 all-purpose yards average places him 11th. Glover rushed for 100 yards or more in seven games this season. He is pursuing a master's degree in business administration.

Robinson has a 3.87 grade point average as a business administration major. He was third on the team in total tackles with 48 (26 solos). He added 8.0 tackles-for-loss (-27 yards), two sacks (-12 yards), and a pair of forced fumbles.

Shepherd finished the 2019 season with a 10-3 overall mark with a 6-1 record in PSAC East action. ■



Sam Levitan

ABOVE: Pat Moler Egle '60, student Astrid Cordero Neives, and Jack Egle '61 were among the guests at the donor-scholar reception.

Foundation's biennial donor-scholar reception held in November 2019

Shepherd University President [Mary J.C. Hendrix '74](#) and the Shepherd University Foundation hosted the biennial reception for donors and scholars on November 3, 2019, in the Erma Ora Byrd Hall atrium. Student scholarship and faculty excellence award recipients, their family and friends, prominent faculty and staff members, representatives from university leadership boards, and Shepherd alumni and friends who have established awards were among the 250 guests at the event. Pictured above are [Pat Moler Egle '60](#) (l.) and [Jack Egle '61](#) with Foundation scholar Astrid Cordero Neives, a nursing major from Middletown, Maryland. Astrid is the recipient of the JOHN AND ANNA EGLE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, which was established in memory of Jack's mother and father. ■

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\$10K raised in COVID-19 relief funding

Shepherd has raised \$10,000 in COVID-19 relief funding for students, campus, and surrounding communities.

Fundraising began in March with a joint outreach effort by the President's Office and Campus Health Task Force to fund the production of medical masks and supplies through the Fine Arts, Science, Technology, Engineering, Educational Resource (FASTeNER) lab.

The COVID-19 relief campaign was broadened in April to include gifts through the Shepherd University Foundation to support the Shepherd Student Relief Fund, Last Dollar Fund, and Ram Pantry Fund, all of which provide vital aid to students and employees.

On May 5, Shepherd participated in #GivingTuesdayNow, a global day of giving and unity created as an emergency response to meet the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19. The social media campaign was led by the Shepherd University Foundation.

Foundation announces the funding of 12 new scholarship awards

Privately funded awards created through the Shepherd University Foundation provide vital support for student scholarships, academic programs, and faculty excellence. This year, the Foundation is pleased to announce 12 new awards, all of which will be used to provide scholarships to deserving Shepherd students.

To learn more about these awards and the heartfelt stories behind them, please visit us at <https://shepherduniversityfoundation.org>. To learn more about creating a named fund of your own, please contact Monica Lingenfelter at 304-876-5397 or mlingenf@shepherd.edu.



Cecilia Mason

ABOVE: Dr. Laura Robertson, Brooke Shaffer, Rick Lowman, and Melanie Files '70

Files-Lowman Scholarship

Melanie Files '70 was inspired to establish the FILES-LOWMAN SCHOLARSHIP after attending a master naturalist class with Dr. Laura Robertson, an assistant professor of biology at Shepherd University. A retired 9th grade science teacher, Melanie bonded with Dr. Robertson over a discussion about the growing number of Shepherd students who demonstrate financial need. This led Melanie and her husband, Rick Lowman, to create an annually funded scholarship in support of junior or senior biology majors or minors at Shepherd. The first award of the FILES-LOWMAN SCHOLARSHIP was made for the 2019-2020 academic year to Brooke Shaffer, a senior biology major from Martinsburg.

Paul V. Armstrong and Judy Harris Armstrong Education Scholarship

Paul Armstrong '70 and Judy Harris Armstrong '70 created their named scholarship as a way to give back to Shepherd University, where they met as students. The couple went on to enjoy successful careers in public education for a combined 60-plus years. The PAUL V. ARMSTRONG AND JUDY HARRIS ARMSTRONG EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP is designated in support of West Virginia residents majoring in education, with preference given to graduates of Philip Barbour, Richwood, Williamstown, or Braxton County high schools.



Sam Levitan

ABOVE: Judy Armstrong '70 and Paul Armstrong '70 are pictured with Jade DiNello (c.), the first recipient of the education scholarship established by the couple.

Berkeley-Jefferson Extension Master Gardeners Scholarship

Led by president Rick Lowman, the Berkeley-Jefferson Extension Master Gardeners created this annually funded scholarship in support of students pursuing a certificate or degree in Shepherd's Sustainable Agriculture Program. The program is the result of a collaboration between the environmental studies program and the College of Business that focuses on sustainable agriculture production and agricultural business management.

Roger Hamood Accounting Student Endowment

The ROGER HAMOOD ACCOUNTING STUDENT ENDOWMENT was established by alumni, friends, colleagues, and students of Roger Hamood in recognition of his 41 years of service to Shepherd as instructor, professor, and department chair. Funds from the endowment are designated for the benefit of accounting students and may be used for scholarship awards, part-time student funding, and student travel for school functions.



Cecelia Mason

ABOVE: Roger Hamood, associate professor emeritus of accounting

BELOW: Alfred L. Young Jr. '89



Cecelia Mason

Alfred L. Young, Jr. Scholarship

THE ALFRED L. YOUNG, JR. SCHOLARSHIP was created by alumnus [Al Young '89](#) in support of business students. Al graduated with a degree in hotel and restaurant management and previously helped lead LaSalle Hotel Properties in Washington, D.C. He currently works for Fundrise, a financial technology company that operates an online investment platform. He is a member of the Shepherd University Foundation board of directors.



ABOVE: Avid hikers Austin J. Slater, Jr. '76 and Carmen L. Slater are shown at Ooh Aah Point, Grand Canyon National Park.

Austin J. Slater, Jr. '76 and Carmen L. Slater Scholarship

The AUSTIN J. SLATER, JR. '76 AND CARMEN L. SLATER SCHOLARSHIP is an endowed scholarship established by Shepherd alumnus [Austin Slater '76](#) and his wife, Carmen, in support of students pursuing studies within the College of Business. Before his 2019 retirement, Austin led the Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO), one of the largest electric co-ops in the nation. Austin and Carmen are avid hikers.



Cecelia Mason

ABOVE: Dennis Frye '79 (l.) joins Dr. Jim Broomall in front of the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War on German Street.

Dennis Frye Civil War Semester Scholarship

Through the generosity of alumnus [Dennis E. Frye '79](#), 10 annually funded scholarships will be offered to qualified students who apply from schools across the country to participate in Shepherd's Civil War Semester. In coordination with the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War and Department of History, this semester-long Civil War experience aims to immerse a select group of undergraduate students in collaborative learning, interpretive field experiences, digital humanities projects, public history programs, and a "war and society" approach to military history.



ABOVE: Mary Mauzy '73 and Don Mauzy '73 are shown with daughter Emily Mauzy (c.), who created a scholarship to honor her parents.

Don and Mary Mauzy Scholarship

The DON AND MARY MAUZY SCHOLARSHIP was created by Emily Mauzy as a gift to her parents in recognition of their love and support. **Don '73 and Mary '73 Mauzy** met as students at Shepherd, where Don majored in business. Mary was a home management major. The endowed scholarship is designated in support of accounting majors from West Virginia who exhibit financial need.



ABOVE: Roxanne R. French '94

Roxanne R. French Nursing Scholarship

For alumna **Roxanne French '94**, nursing is a calling. She credits Shepherd for providing her with the foundational skills upon which she has built her 25-year career as a registered nurse, which has included work in long-term care, dialysis, hospital work, and home health. As a result, she has chosen to establish a deferred endowment in her name in support of Shepherd nursing students.

Sue Stewart and Hansel Bailey Appalachian Studies Scholarship

Created by Dr. Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt in memory of her parents, the SUE STEWART AND HANSEL BAILEY APPALACHIAN STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP is an endowed interdisciplinary award in support of Shepherd students pursuing a minor in Appalachian Studies. Shurbutt is an Appalachian scholar and teacher and serves as director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Communities at Shepherd University.



ABOVE: Sue Stewart and Hansel Bailey

RIGHT: Dr. Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt



Visit the Foundation online!

For the many ways to give to Shepherd University and information about membership societies in support of special interests and programs, visit <https://shepherduniversityfoundation.org>. Be sure to check out the Foundation's photo gallery of events while you're there, or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/shepherduniversityfoundation.



Kristin Alexander

ABOVE: Ray and Phyllis Smock

Raymond and Phyllis Smock Legacy Gift

Dr. Ray Smock served as the founding director of the Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education at Shepherd University, with his wife, Phyllis, performing a variety of administrative and volunteer roles for the center during his tenure. Ray retired as director in 2018 but continues to serve on the board of directors of the Congressional Education Foundation, which oversees the work of the Byrd Center, while Phyllis remains active with the Friends of the Byrd Center. Now the couple has made a deferred legacy gift to support the work of the Byrd Center. The gift reflects their mutual desire to help carry on the legacy of Senator Byrd and continue the vital work of educating students and the public about Congress and the U.S. Constitution.

D. Scott Roach and Linda Hottel Roach Athletic Scholarship

Nearly 40 years after graduating from Shepherd, alumni **D. Scott '80 and Linda '81 Hottel Roach** remain active members of the campus community. Scott is a former member



ABOVE: Linda Hottel Roach '81 and D. Scott Roach '80

of the university's Board of Governors, on which he served as vice chair. Scott and Linda are also members of the President's Club and have contributed to Women Investing in Shepherd (WISH), where they are sustaining members. They also enjoy supporting Shepherd athletics and have chosen to establish a deferred endowment in their name to benefit Shepherd student-athletes.

Thinking about making a gift?

We're here to help!

Monica Lingenfelter

*Executive Vice President
Shepherd University Foundation
304-876-5397
mlingenf@shepherd.edu*

Sherri Janelle

*Executive Director of Development
304-876-5043
sjanelle@shepherd.edu*

Stacy McFarland

*Director of Annual Giving
304-876-5526
smcfarla@shepherd.edu*

Andrew Ferguson

*Assistant Athletics Director
304-876-5155
aferguso@shepherd.edu*



Thank you to everyone who made Shepherd's first Day of Giving a success!

Full STEAM Ahead:

Seeding Your Future Initiative merges art with STEM

It began with an idea by women for women. Associate professor of physics Sytil Murphy and former assistant professor of chemistry Jordan Mader, colleagues in the Department of Environmental and Physical Sciences, sought to inspire the next generation of female STEM professionals. Together they created the Seeding Your Future Initiative, which aims to encourage middle school aged girls, grades 5-8, to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

“Seeding Your Future seeks to inspire young women to see STEM as something fun and interesting that they are capable of doing,” said Murphy.

The Seeding Your Future Initiative (SYFI) began in 2015 as a free one-day conference funded by a public outreach grant from the West Virginia Space Consortium. The following year, the program was awarded the inaugural Shepherd University learning project grant from Women Investing in Shepherd (WISH), a women’s giving circle sponsored by the Shepherd University Foundation. The three-year grant totaling \$26,250 allowed Murphy and Mader to expand SYFI to include a series of monthly workshops for high school students in grades 8-12 featuring more in-depth exploration into different areas of STEM.

In 2018, Kay Dartt, manager of Shepherd’s Fine Art, Science, Technology, Engineering, Educational Resource (FAS-TEnER) Lab, joined SYFI as an organizer. Having previously conducted art-infused workshops for the Seeding Your Future conference, Dartt had been approached by Murphy and Mader two years earlier to manage the Seeding Your Future Workshop Series. The collaboration established SYFI as a definitive STEAM-focused program that utilizes outside artists working alongside and with STEM professionals. When Dartt joined the initiative as an official organizer, the number of STEAM-oriented workshops at SYFC jumped from one to four.

“Combining art and STEM helps foster collaboration and creative thinking that the Seeding Your Future Initiative hopes to inspire in young women,” Dartt said. “It’s not just the FAS-TEnER Lab that holds STEAM-specific workshops. Our science faculty include art components within their workshops as well. It’s cross-disciplinary on all sides.”

Murphy agreed, noting that her 2017 Seeding Your Future workshop focused on the science of color through the process of color mixing. “It was definitely art, but from the physics perspective,” she said. Another STEAM-oriented workshop popular among Seeding Your Future participants is Colorful Chemistry, with Dr. Dan DiLella, chair of the Department of Chemistry, which analyzes the colors that result from flame-testing different metals.

The conference attendees participate in three to four hands-on workshops per conference, allowing them to interact with a variety of diverse STEM professionals. Workshops are developed and run by Shepherd faculty on a volunteer basis, but Seeding Your Future organizers encourage alumni and friends in STEM to become involved as well.

“It’s an opportunity for alumni to share how they became interested in their chosen profession and why they selected Shepherd to cultivate that interest,” said Jacquelyn Cole, assistant professor of chemistry. Participants, in turn, would learn firsthand how degrees in the STEM fields may be professionally applied outside of academia.

The Seeding Your Future Conference is also a learning opportunity for Shepherd students, who assist in every aspect of the conference and help ensure the day runs smoothly. They may also serve as workshop leaders: out of the four STEAM-specific workshops in 2019, two were student-led. Student volunteers also transition attendees between workshops and act as counselors to their young charges, talking with them about life at Shepherd and helping them better understand what takes place in the workshops.

“They help us run the entire day,” said Cole.

In 2019, SYFI was unsuccessful in a bid to secure additional grant funding. As a result, the Seeding Your Future Workshop Series is currently on hiatus, with organizers determining how they might continue it using materials and resources they have on hand. They feel confident they would have participants.

“We get a lot of middle school girls who want to do the high school workshop series as well,” said Murphy.

Asked what they would do with unrestricted funding for SYFI, the organizers let their imaginations run wild. There is talk of a one-week day camp, as well as scholarship opportunities for participants of the program who later attend Shepherd. The flagship conference would be able to continue and the workshop series would return, possibly with a mobile com-

ponent in which participating faculty travel to local high schools to conduct assemblies.

“There are students who lack the time or resources to attend the workshop series,” said Dartt. “The benefit of a mobile workshop is that instead of them coming to us, we could go to them.”

The group’s passion and creativity is evident, and with adequate funding it will undoubtedly be full STEAM ahead for Shepherd’s Seeding Your Future Initiative. ■ *Kristin Alexander*



Seeding Your Future is free and open to anyone who identifies as a girl in grades 5-8, or home-school equivalent, and who is interested in learning more about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). If you would like to make a gift of any size to the Seeding Your Future Initiative, the Foundation stands ready to help. Please contact Monica Lingenfelter, executive vice president, at 304-876-5397 or mlingenf@shepherd.edu. If you’re interested in donating your time and talent to the Seeding Your Future Conference or Workshop Series, contact Dr. Sytil Murphy, project co-coordinator, at 304-876-5782 or smurphy@shepherd.edu. To learn more about SYFI, visit seedingyourfuture.weebly.com.



TOP RIGHT: Members of the maroon color group participate in the workshop titled An Ocean of Motion conducted by Devon Umstead during the 2018 Seeding Your Future Conference.

CENTER RIGHT: Two members of the grey color group attend the workshop YouTube Chemistry, taught by Dr. Jacquelyn Cole, associate professor of chemistry, in 2018.

BOTTOM RIGHT: A member of the blue color group attends the Biochemistry Emporium, led by Dr. Robert Warburton, professor of biochemistry and dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.



Former Foundation scholar named Maryland History Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Shepherd alumna **Alexandra Weakland Bartoldson '15** on being named the 2019 Maryland History Teacher of the Year. Alex graduated from Shepherd with a B.A. in secondary education and now teaches social studies at Boonsboro High School.

During her time at Shepherd, Alex played for the women's basketball team, was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, and was a McMurrin Scholar, the highest academic honor granted by Shepherd. She also received numerous Foundation scholarships, including the BURKHART LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP, ELIZABETH R. TABLER SCHOLARSHIP, and CARL K. RAUCH ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FOR EDUCATION.

Since 2004, the History Teacher of the Year Award has highlighted the importance of history education by honoring exceptional American history teachers from elementary through high school. The award honors one K-12 teacher from each state, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense schools, and U.S. territories. ■



Alexandra Weakland Bartoldson '15



Women for Shepherd group hosts wine and chocolate tasting

More than 40 alumnae, community members, faculty, and staff attended the 14th marquee event for Women for Shepherd featuring a wine and chocolate tasting led by siblings Zoe Tsoukatos and Petros Tsoukatos of Zoe's Chocolate, a third-generation artisan chocolate company based in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. The event was sponsored by the Shepherd University Foundation.

Visit <https://shepherduniversityfoundation.org> to learn more about Women for Shepherd and other Foundation-sponsored affinity groups. ■

Shepherd receives \$130K grant for PBM Center of Excellence

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involved with the Foundation for Photobiomodulation Research and is an adjunct research professor at Shepherd. Bowen and Pathoff believe Shepherd is an ideal location to further the study and use of PBM because the facilities and expertise needed are nearby, including the Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center, WVU Hospitals East, and Mountaineer Recovery Center.

"The Foundation for Photobiomodulation Research and its advisors have explored many locations to establish a physical location where industry, academia, clinicians, and governmental agencies can come together to create a sustainable and robust center," Bowen said. "Fortunately, Dr. Hendrix and Dr. Praveen Arany, one of the key basic science and clinical researchers in PBM and an adjunct research professor at Shepherd, share this interest." ■ *Cecelia Mason*



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Through a new partnership with FreeWill, the **Shepherd University Foundation** is pleased to offer alumni and friends free access to an online platform where users may create a will in less than 25 minutes.

Take advantage of this free resource at freewill.com/shepherd and support the people and causes you care about most. Though it's not a requirement, your choice to include a **gift to Shepherd** in your estate plans will have a **lasting impact on the university and its students, programs, and faculty**.

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P.O. Box 5000

Shepherdstown, West Virginia 25443-5000

800-344-5231

304-876-5000

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