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Foundation Hall, Alumni Center to be Dedicated Feb. 27

The Grand opening of the Marshall University Foundation Hall, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center, will take place at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 on the Huntington campus. The public is invited.

The 33,220 square-foot building, located at 519 John Marshall Dr., houses the Erickson Alumni Center on the first floor with development and foundation offices on the second and third floors. A call center and conference center are located on the first floor.

"It's a home away from home for our alumni," said Dr. Ron Area, CEO of the Marshall University Foundation,



Marshall University Foundation Hall, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center, will be dedicated Feb. 27.

Annual Birke Fine Arts Symposium Under Way

"Giving Voice: Social Justice and the Arts," the 2010 Marshall University Birke Fine Arts Symposium, is under way this month and will continue through most of the spring semester on the Huntington campus.

Scheduled events include exhibitions and performances by all three of the departments of Marshall's College of Fine Arts: Art and Design, Music and Theatre, as well as one event sponsored by the Department of English. As both a reflection and critique of societal values, the arts have long been at the forefront of the issues of social justice: fairness, freedom and equality, said Don Van Horn, dean of the College of Fine Arts.

"The Birke Symposium provides the opportunity to bring in performers, speakers, artists, and writers who share, through their own

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Inc., and senior vice president of development. "When they come in they are going to be wowed because of the detail the alumni and development committee had in planning the building."

Neighborgall Construction Co. of Huntington built the \$9 million facility. Sherman-Carter-Barnhart Architects, PSC, of Lexington, Ky., was the architectural firm and the designer was Interspace Limited, LLC. The project is being financed through the Marshall University Bridge Campaign.

"When prospective students come on campus one of the buildings they will visit is the foundation hall," Area said. "They'll know that if they are successful at Marshall University that this will be their future home."

The grand opening will include a dedication ceremony, featuring several speakers, followed by an open house. An invitation-only, private reception for donors is planned for Friday, Feb. 26.

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Anna Banks Named Employee of the Month

Anna Sintsova Banks, IT Associate V, Information Technology, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for December, according to Amber Bentley, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee.

An employee for three years, she was nominated by Dr. Jan Fox,, Senior Vice President for Information Technology/CIO.

In her nomination she wrote: "Anna assists me with many of the university-wide specialty projects She did a lot of the back-end work on the university strategic



Anna Banks (right) receives her Employee of the Month award from President Kopp.

initiatives Web page (www.marshall.edu/president/strategic) and process, major institutional presentations, including the videos used for open house, plus many more projects. She did all of the web design and posting of the www.marshall.edu/emergencyWeb

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Lewis College of Business Hall of Fame Names 2010 Inductees

Four successful business leaders will be honored by Marshall University when they are inducted into the Lewis College of Business Hall of Fame Tuesday, April 20. This year's inductees include Mark Chandler, vice president and chief financial officer of Triana Energy LLC; David Fox, III, vice president of business development of McJunkin Red Man Supply Company; James C. Justice, II, owner of The Greenbrier; and John Leslie, owner of Leslie Equipment Company.

The induction reception and ceremony will take place in the new Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center. The celebration will start with a VIP reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by a general reception at 6:15 p.m. and an awards ceremony at 7 p.m.

The Hall of Fame honors those people in the business community who have an outstanding record of long-standing achievement in their career fields. It is the most distinguished honor granted by the Lewis College of Business (LCOB).

"This year we have some very outstanding inductees into the Lewis College Business Hall of Fame," said Dr. Chong Kim, dean of the College of Business. "Not only will we be recognizing four outstanding business leaders, but this also will be one of the first big events in our new alumni center. It also is a revitalization of the Hall of Fame since we have not had an induction since 2006."

The 2010 inductees are:



Mark A. Chandler

Mark A. Chandler, vice president and chief financial officer of Triana Energy LLC and affiliated companies, graduated magna cum laude from Marshall University in 1981. He began his career in Huntington, rising within the ranks of public accounting to become a partner in the firm Lockhart and Chandler, CPA's. He left public accounting to join Columbia Energy in 1989 and became the Chief Financial Officer of Columbia Natural

Resources in 1996. Chandler later became one of the original partners in Triana Energy, where he served as vice president and CFO from 2001 until the company's sale in 2005. He continued working with that team of entrepreneurs and currently serves as CFO for a number of successful energy related enterprises, including Triana Energy, Highlands Drilling and Appalachian Geophysical Services.



David Fox, III

David Fox, III, vice president of business development with McJunkin Red Man Supply Company, graduated from Marshall University in 1971 with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. His career began in the oil and gas industry in 1972 with Branchland Pipe & Supply, a family owned business started in 1921 by his grandfather, David Fox, Sr. Along with his family, Fox started Appalachian Pipe & Supply in 1984. It merged with the oil and gas division of McJunkin Corporation in 1989 to form the largest oil field supply company in the eastern United States. Fox served as senior vice president and managed overall operations. McJunkin was sold to Goldman Sachs in 2007.



James C. Justice, II

James C. Justice, II, owner of The Greenbrier and The Greenbrier Sporting Club, and James C. Justice Companies, Inc., received his BS and MBA degrees from Marshall University. He served as captain of the Marshall University golf team his last two years. Justice joined the family business in 1976 and as a result of his strong interest in agriculture in 1977 he started Bluestone Farms, which is currently operating as Justice Family

Farms, LLC. Under his direction, Justice Farms grew to be the largest cash grain operation on the east coast. After the death of his father in 1983, Justice became president and CEO of Bluestone Industries, In., and Bluestone Coal Corporation. In 2003, Justice founded the James C. Justice Companies, Inc., to further expand the coal reserve base and acquire additional mining operations.



John Leslie

John Leslie, owner of Leslie Equipment Company, graduated from Marshall University in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in business management. He returned to his hometown of Cowen, W.Va., and bought his uncle's half of Leslie Brothers Equipment Co., a John Deere equipment franchise. Leslie ran the business with his father until 1985, when he purchased his father's half of the company to become the sole owner. Eventually, Leslie

shortened the name to Leslie Equipment Co. and expanded the business in Cowen. Today, Leslie Equipment employs more than 250 people at 10 locations throughout West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky.

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of March 5, 2010. Deadline is Feb. 26. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.

Note of Thanks

As I leave the university after 35+ years, I'd like to thank everyone who was helpful to me over the years professionally by sharing work-related information and personally with the gift of friendship.

A special acknowledgement is extended to John Curry and the library staff members who held a retirement party for me. Your thoughtfulness was appreciated more than the mere words "Thank You" can convey.

Charlene R. Hawkins

Profile: Linda McKee



Linda McKee

She's an ebullient bundle of energy and a proud mountaineer—no, not the blue-and-gold kind—who loves her Appalachian heritage and is fiercely proud of her southern West Virginia roots, which shaped her values as she was growing up on a Summers County farm.

"We're the consummate Appalachian family," says Linda McKee, program assistant to the director of the Teays Valley Regional Center.

"We're proud of our Appalachian heritage. Our farm has been in the

family for eight generations. Life on the farm taught us a good work ethic; it makes you independent. Farm living will do that for you!"

Not surprisingly, her family is very clannish, according to McKee, who is the youngest of six children. Members manage to stay in touch, even though they're scattered all over the country now. "We gather on the farm each Fourth of July for a big family reunion. Our brother now owns the farm, which was originally a tract of land once held by Alfred Beckley for whom the city of Beckley is named."

McKee graduated from Concord College—now Concord University—with a major in political science and a minor in sociology and she's quick to sing the praises of that institution and the doors it opened for her. She is a fervent advocate of internships after being awarded one with the Charleston Urban Renewal Authority during her senior year. She had a unique insider's view of how a major project was developed. "It was during this time that property was being acquired by the city of Charleston to build the Charleston Town Center. I was able to observe at the ground level what went into creating that mall...I would highly recommend that students consider doing an internship during college. They provide valuable experiences along with networking opportunities."

After graduation she worked with the Disaster Relief Program and later with the West Virginia Housing Development Fund and the Charleston Housing Authority. Her work with the DRP brought her in close contact with victims of the damaging flood that devastated many parts of southern West Virginia in 1977. She saw the heartbreaking consequences of the destruction firsthand. "That was an eye-opening experience, working with flood disaster relief. We worked for six months, six to seven days a week to help people who were displaced," she says reflectively.

Later, while employed by the West Virginia Housing Fund, she traveled throughout the state as a liaison between field offices and the Charleston office. With her sunny outlook, she saw the travel not as a chore, but as an opportunity to explore other regions of the state. And she's a proud one-woman cheerleader for West Virginia. "I really enjoyed seeing other areas. It gave me the chance to see what the state has to offer. I'm fiercely loyal to West Virginia. I have invested my life in this state!"

After taking time off to stay home with her daughter, Corrie until she was in high school, McKee returned to work part-time before eventually coming to the Teays Valley Regional Center. She felt at home right from the start. "I've always been directed to employment where I'm working face to face with people. I love helping people so this job is a good fit for me."

And with her warm and welcoming personality, she was a very good fit for the students the center serves.

The center itself is a small office on Teays Valley Road near Hurricane in Putnam County. The staff is

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Anna Banks

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page. She handled most of the detailed work for the Drinko Library and Information Center 10-year Celebration. Her work is impeccable and she is always willing to expand her technical expertise."

Fox notes that Banks has a law degree from Russia and concludes the nomination by noting "...she has worked with me on all the subpoenas for our students from the RIAA. She is always there to assist me or the university in any manner."

Banks was presented with a plaque and a check for \$100 by President Stephen J. Kopp.

Marshall Signs Agreements with Forensic Software Leader

Marshall University's Forensic Science Center, in conjunction with the Department of Integrated Science and Technology, has announced two agreements with a world leader in digital forensic software.

According to the first Memorandum of Understanding, Marshall University will conduct research for AccessData, a pioneer in digital investigations for more than 20 years. The company's software empowers law enforcement, government agencies and corporations to perform computer investigations of any kind.

As a part of the MOU, Marshall students will conduct research on new browsers, instant messenger clients, and other Internet-related applications. The results of this research will be incorporated into AccessData training and training materials that will be delivered to a worldwide audience.

John Sammons, assistant professor in the Department of Integrated Science and Technology, worked to develop the relationship with AccessData. He said because of the agreement, the university will receive credit in AccessData materials and students will gain real-world experience working with the company's Forensic Toolkit®, which is considered to be the industry standard.

"Anyone working in the sector has to gain proficiency working with Forensic Toolkit®," Sammons said. "In most cases employers have to send new staff to be trained on forensic technology. Upon graduation, our students will leave our program proficient in FTK® with the AccessData Certified Examiner® credential.

"Forensic Toolkit is not just a law enforcement technology; it is also the foundation for AccessData's enterprise-class solutions used by corporations and government agencies around the world," Sammons explained. "So, graduates of our program will have an advantage over other job candidates in the law enforcement, corporate and government sectors."

According to the second MOU, AccessData training will be offered at Marshall's state-of-the-art Forensics facility this summer. In July, Marshall will host two AccessData classes for practitioners – Mac Forensics and Applied Decryption.

Sammons said, "Our hope is that Marshall University can and will become a regular training hub for AccessData."

Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. Jose Morillo reviewed the book, *Anatomy of an Instant History of a coup d'etat*, by Javier Cercas, (Barcelona: Mandadori, 2009), which appears in the literary journal *Ojancano*, published by the University of Georgia, Athens, Fall 2009.

Linda McKee

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small as well, consisting only of McKee and Bonnie Prisk, the director. But they do big work and the understanding duo is there to offer help and guidance any way they can. The center's purpose is to deliver college courses to both traditional and non-traditional students as well as qualified high school students. The majority of the classes are in the evening because many of the students are adults who have careers, are working on Board of Regents degrees or are in life transitions. "Many people want to change directions. A lot of our students have family responsibilities so they can't just drop everything and drive distances. And we offer younger students who want to live at home and work in the area part-time the chance to take a core curriculum. With good planning a student can probably get two years of requirements through our center," McKee explains.

Classes are offered in conjunction with Putnam County schools and are held in locations around the county, including Hurricane High School, the Putnam Career and Technical Center, and the YMCA.

As part of her duties McKee coordinates classes for adjunct faculty members, for whom she has high praise. Among the adjuncts there are attorneys, a judge, business leaders, and heads of state agencies who can transfer their vast knowledge and work experiences to the students. "We're small, but we try to keep a high profile in Putnam County. We participate in career days at the high schools. We take every opportunity to let young students know we're here and that they can take advantage of our classes in the future."

In addition, Prisk serves on several boards throughout the county and is active in civic groups. "We're always looking for ways to connect with students and members of the community," McKee says. "Our hallmark is that we offer friendly and enthusiastic service and we are there to help, so there's a good deal of word-of-mouth publicity for our center. Bonnie is extremely understanding and patient with both current and prospective students who come to us. She really connects with them and she makes every effort to keep abreast of curriculum changes that will affect their educational decisions. It is very rewarding for both of us to see students take hold and become successful."

McKee's husband, John, is a long-time employee of West Virginia State University, where he works as a senior accountant in the budget office. Daughter Corrie, also a Concord graduate, works for the University of Kentucky as a staff member with the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship's International Student Ministry. "She teaches English as a second language classes, coordinates educational and recreational trips for international students, and leads 'seeker' Bible studies, in addition to other ministry-related responsibilities. Corrie is very missions-minded and has gone on numerous mission trips. She has a great love for people of all ethnicities," her proud mother says.

The close-knit family enjoys traveling—they're always up for exploring new places and they welcome new experiences. A couple of years ago McKee was delighted at the chance to visit Germany. "We love the outdoors, we love to walk and, most of all, we love our time together as a family. Our whole family is interested in genealogy. We believe it is a way for the younger generation to be connected to their roots. When we have our family reunion in July, we always make it a point to have a family field trip. We may go to a homestead or to a family cemetery and we learn about our ancestors who lived there, how they lived, and how we are connected with them," she says enthusiastically.

"So much of who I am comes from my mother, Lucinda Vest Upton, who is a spunky, almost 89-year-old who still lives on our family farm. She is, and always has been an inspiration and an excellent role model for me."

And a big part of the McKees' lives is their church, Perrow Presbyterian in Cross Lanes, where John has been an elder and Linda teaches a Sunday School class.

With her upbeat attitude and her "can-do" spirit, nothing seems to be beyond her reach. "I love what I do; I love where I am. Life is good and I am very blessed."

Foundation Hall

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Speakers at the grand opening include: Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp; donor Charles Erickson; donor and executive project manager Tim Haymaker; MU Alumni Association President Nancy Campbell; Phyllis Arnold, chair of the MU Foundation board of directors; Student Body President Sean Hornbuckle; and Area.

Foundation, alumni and development personnel moved out of their old offices in Old Main and the former Erickson Alumni Center and into the new building this month.

The conference center on the first floor may be divided into two areas and will have state-of-the-art conferencing technology. The rotunda features display cases for Marshall University memorabilia on the first floor and space for pre-reception activity on the first and second floors.

The alumni lounge, with a pub-like atmosphere, will feature Marshall sports décor. Scheduling for conferences, weddings, reunions, etc., has begun, and naming opportunities within the building area still available.

Certain green strategies and materials were used in construction of the building as Marshall continues its quest to become more environmentally sustainable.

Birke Symposium

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work, common themes," Van Horn said. "The theme for the 2010 Birke Fine Arts Symposium is social justice. What we hope to do through this year's symposium is to expose the university community and the people in our region to how different artists respond to issues of social injustice. By doing that we hope to raise awareness of diversity in our society and, at the same time, create advocacy for those in society whose voices are not heard."

Jaye Ike, special projects coordinator for COFA, emphasized how these events broaden horizons for students. "This year's symposium is a little edgy," she said. "It really pushes the notion that the arts can express, beyond just the spoken word, the injustices in the world. The events are thought-provoking, and that's what we wanted with this symposium."

Featured events include lectures and performances that explore the connection between social justice and the arts in history, exhibits and performances of new works that address contemporary issues, and workshops and service projects that put social justice into action.

In addition, a student committee is managing a university-wide service project to raise funds for Branches, an organization that provides food, shelter, clothing and counseling to victims of domestic violence. The group will host a drive, Baskets for Branches, in March. They will collect laundry baskets filled with essential items for individuals residing at Branches.

The symposium series was created in 1979 by Helen Birke and her daughter Julie through an endowed fund in the Marshall University Foundation Inc. From its earliest beginnings, the Birke Fine Arts Symposium has offered public performances, lectures, exhibitions and conferences for the university and the community it serves.

All events in the symposium are free and open to the public, according to Ike.

For more information, or to arrange to bring a group, persons may contact Ike by phone at 304-696-3296 or by e-mail at jaye.ike@marshall.edu. Further information on these events also is available in the symposium brochure, which may be found online at www.marshall.edu/ucomm/flyers/BirkeSymposium_10.pdf.