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ON THE COVER

Dr. Kevin S. Smith ('86), originally from West Virginia, now practices as an interventional pain and regenerative medicine specialist in California.

THE DAY CINDY CALLED

By Linda Holmes and Sheanna Spe

By Linda Holmes and Sheanna Spence In recognition of her lifetime of commitment and service, a conference room is named in appreciation of Cindy A. Warren.

CALIFORNIA DREAMING

By Katherine Pyles

Production of the product

Read about a former Thundering Herd starter who was the only football player at the time to pursue a medical degree.

BEING A PATIENT MADE ME A BETTER PHYSICIAN

By Katherine Pyles

Medical school alumnic have their own nations or that char

Medical school alumni share their own patient experiences that changed the way they practice medicine.

IN A CLASS OF THEIR OWN

By Katherine Pyles
The Marshall School of Medicine's inaugural class celebrates the 40th anniversary of their graduation in 1981.

BEING FIRST

By Maurice A. Mufson, MD

Dr. Maurice Mufson, inaugural chair of internal medicine, reflects on the journey of that inaugural class in "the early days."

GO BOLDLY

The Class of 2021 is ready to conquer anything they may face during residency. Met with pandemic-sized challenges along the way, the class had a 100% match rate and embarked on residencies in a variety of specialties.

CARRYING ON TRADITION

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine Alumni Association thanks alumni, faculty, staff and friends who generously purchased white coats, medical instruments and sponsorships for the Class of 2024.

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MarshallMD

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Linda S. Holmes

DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Sheanna M. Spence

PUBLISHER

Jack Houvouras

OFFICE MANAGER

Dana Keaton

ART DIRECTOR

Suzanna Stephens

SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Katie Sigler

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Allegheny Health Network, Rick Haye, Allison Lake, Rick Lee, nasa.gov, Cori Nichols, Austin O'Connor, oconnorlibrary.org, Sholten Singer/*The Herald-Dispatch*

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Jenny S. Drastura, Linda S. Holmes, Maurice A. Mufson, MD, Katherine Pyles, Carter Seaton, Sheanna M. Spence

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& SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE DEAN

Joseph W. Werthammer, MD

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Comments or suggestions should be addressed to:

holmes@marshall.edu

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If you have a story idea for the next issue of *MarshallMD*, please email holmes@marshall.edu.







The School of Medicine is on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Follow us to keep up on what's happening!

Foreword

recently had the pleasure of visiting with a number of alumni from our early classes during the School of Medicine's 34th Homecoming where we celebrated a major milestone — the 40th reunion of the Class of 1981, our first class of graduates. They reminisced about the "good old days" of Quonset huts and makeshift classrooms, the close-knit bond they developed with one another and how the small class size gave them the hands-on experiences that other medical students didn't have. Every graduate I spoke with said their training at Marshall allowed them to enter residencies far ahead of their peers. Like many other Marshall University administrators, past and present, I am so thankful the early graduates took a chance on us and created the foundation that has strengthened our school.

The Class of 1981 and every class since has made a concerted effort to leave this school better than they found it. We all know the special familial bond of a medical school class. Family has been the hallmark of the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine since the very beginning.



However, my hope for our more recent graduates is that they remember Marshall for the opportunities it gave them to grow in their field and thrive. My desire is that they continue making their mark on the medical landscape while remembering they are a part of the Marshall family and, as such, their accomplishments become our school's success stories.

In 2022, we usher in a new era at Marshall University. As a university, we welcome Brad D. Smith as our new president. The faculty, staff and students look forward to the opportunities his dynamic leadership style and business background will bring to Marshall and our School of Medicine. Before moving forward, we must thank President Jerome "Jerry" Gilbert for the tremendous growth we've experienced as an institution. Under his helm, we saw the creation of new programs like biomedical engineering and physician assistant, new pathways to professional schools like the MD Early Assurance Program and, perhaps most notably, achievement of status as an R2 research institution.

The upcoming years look bright as we continue to grow as an institution, train the medical workforce of the future and build lasting relationships with those we are lucky enough to call "alumni" and "friends."

Warm regards,

Joseph I. Shapiro, MD Vice President and Dean

Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

66

The Class of 1981 and every class since has made a concerted effort to leave this school better than they found it.

— Joseph I. Shapiro, MD



President's Page

s I stood in front of our newly-minted doctors, families and faculty at this year's graduation and investiture ceremony to acknowledge the many accomplishments of Dr. Charles McKown, who had a hand in my decision to become a radiologist, I was truly in awe of how far our medical school has come.

I couldn't help but think about that moment 23 years ago when I earned the privilege to be called "Dr. Cure." Much of that day is a blur, but I do remember the feelings of joy and elation I sensed in knowing that my medical school experience had reached its conclusion and my goal of becoming a physician had been attained. Being able to share in my classmates' successes as well only added to the excitement of that day. All of our hard work and dedication had paid off, but our journeys were really just beginning.

While each of those journeys have been quite different, those varied life experiences brought us together, taught us something, pushed us to work harder and made us a family.



SOM Alumni Association President Robert J. Cure, MD, presents the Honorary Alumnus Award to Charles H. McKown Jr., MD, at the 2021 graduation and investiture ceremony.

As we approach the end of the School of Medicine's 44th year and celebrate the 40th reunion for the 18 members of our first graduating class, I have to thank those trailblazers who took a chance on a tiny new medical school in Huntington, West Virginia. Their risk was certainly our reward!

The saying that the only thing constant in life is change is so true, and the positive changes we're experiencing at the School of Medicine are inspiring. To be more representative of what our school has become, we, too, are making some changes in this year's magazine, starting with a new title. *MarshallMD* is about highlighting all the wonderful things that make our school and our alumni unique. I encourage you to take an active role in your experience as alumni. Share your story to inspire others, take a trip to Huntington for homecoming, deliver a lecture, support a scholarship and use social media to stay connected with your classmates and our school.

It has been an honor to serve as your School of Medicine Alumni Association president during the past two years. The pandemic has brought a whirlwind of change to our profession, but you have continued to bring the best medical care to your patients day after day. I am beyond thankful for your commitment to the practice of medicine during this incredibly difficult time.

Go Herd!

Robert J. Cure, MD ('98)

President

Joan C Edwards School of Medicine Alumni Association

What's News

BRAD D. SMITH NAMED 38TH PRESIDENT OF MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

Marshall University alumnus Brad D. Smith, Wing 2 Wing Foundation co-founder and former Intuit CEO, has been named the institution's 38th president. He assumed the presidency on Jan. 1, 2022.

The decision to hire Mr. Smith was made by the Marshall University Board of Governors with a unanimous vote at its October 2021 meeting. Mr. Smith succeeds the Jerome A. Gilbert, PhD, who announced in April that he would not seek an extension of his contract.



Brad D. Smith

NEW EARLY ASSURANCE PROGRAMS GIVE UNDERGRADUATE MARSHALL STUDENTS A JUMP ON MEDICAL, PHARMACY OR PHYSICAL THERAPY SCHOOL

Marshall University students committed to a career in one of these health professions. Three new "Early Assurance" programs in medicine (MD), pharmacy (PharmD) and physical therapy (DPT) are now available to Marshall University.

Through these programs, qualified students can receive a guaranteed spot

in a competitive graduate program early in their undergraduate career. The programs also allow students to bypass standardized admissions tests like the MCAT, PCAT and GRE, and provide special mentoring, networking and educational enrichment opportunities.

Students must be enrolled at

Marshall University before applying to an Early Assurance program. In addition, each program has its own eligibility, requirements and process for application, and there are continuing obligations once a student is accepted. The programs are open to both in- and out-of-state students.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE APPROVED FOR NEW FELLOWSHIPS FOR GASTROENTEROLOGY AND NEONATAL-PERINATAL MEDICINE

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) granted initial accreditation to the School of Medicine for two new fellowship programs in gastroenterology and neonatal-perinatal medicine. The gastroenterology fellowship is a three-year program and is approved for up to three new fellows per year. The neonatal-perinatal medicine fellowship is also a three-year program and is approved for one new fellow per year. With approval of the new fellowships, the School of Medicine now offers 10 accredited residency and 14 fellowship programs.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AWARDED PLANNING GRANT FOR NEW RURAL SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The School of Medicine received a \$750,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) to support the planning and development of West Virginia's first rural surgery residency program.

The grant, which will be administered through the Marshall Community
Health Consortium, is one of only nine grants awarded as part of the HRSA Rural
Residency Planning and Development

Program to help address physician workforce shortages in rural communities. This is the first time these funds have been awarded to plan a rural surgery residency program.

The Consortium will partner with Logan Regional Medical Center, which is composed of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, Marshall Health, Cabell Huntington Hospital, Valley Health and Holzer Health Systems, will partner with Logan Regional Medical Center to develop curriculum, recruit faculty and address the clinical and learning environment needs necessary to establish an accredited rural surgery residency program. Paulette Wehner, MD ('89), vice dean of graduate medical education, is principal investigator on the grant. Farzad Amiri, MD, associate professor, will serve as program director, and Jodi Cisco-Goff, MD ('97), assistant professor, will serve as associate program director.

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY, WVU ESTABLISH STATEWIDE INFECTION PREVENTION NETWORK

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources awarded grants to the schools of medicine at both Marshall University and West Virginia University to facilitate the creation of a statewide infection prevention network. Led by infectious disease experts at both institutions, each institution will receive \$500,000 over two years to foster partnerships among academic medical centers and schools of public health to develop regional centers for infection prevention and control consultation and support services. The network will also build expertise in infection prevention and control throughout the state by creating training curriculums for epidemiologists and a variety of health care personnel related to infectious disease and epidemiology.

MARSHALL MEDICAL OUTREACH CELEBRATES 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Marshall Medical Outreach marked 10 years of service to Huntington's homeless community on Saturday, March 27. 2021.



MARSHALL HEALTH RECOGNIZED AS FIRST CENTER FOR COMPREHENSIVE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS CARE IN WEST VIRGINIA

Marshall Health has earned recognition as the state's first Center for Comprehensive Care by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS). To earn the distinction, an organization must demonstrate coordinated, multi-disciplinary care for MS patients.

According to NMSS, Marshall Health's clinicians continually demonstrate a wealth of knowledge, experience and the important attention to detail necessary in treating people living with MS. Under the leadership of Neurology Chair Paul Ferguson, MD ('07), the

Comprehensive MS Clinic housed within Marshall Neurology was founded in 2013. The clinic now serves more than 1,000 patients with this disease. Marshall Health is one of 145 comprehensive care centers designated by the NMSS nationwide.

Retiring Faculty

The School of Medicine recognizes the valuable contributions and dedication of the following faculty members who have retired since July 1, 2020.

Marie C. Veitia, PhD	Professor	10/01/86 - 6/01/21
Bonnie L. Beaver, MD	Professor	03/01/95 – 07/07/21
Richard D. Crespo, PhD	Professor	03/01/94 – 08/28/20
Mary L. Marcuzzi, MD	Assistant Professor	07/18/05 – 02/09/21
Randall W. Peterson, MD	Assistant Professor	09/01/17 – 01/31/21

Research

PRESTIGIOUS NIH FUNDING DRIVES NEW BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

The Research Project Grant, known as the R01, is the original and historically oldest National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant. It is also the most competitive. Two School of Medicine scientists in 2021 were awarded R01 grants for studies related to nicotine addiction and kidney research.

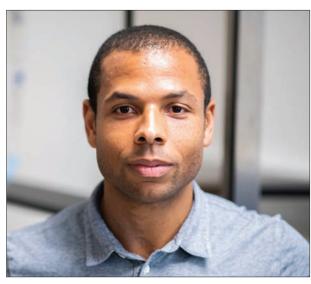
Brandon J. Henderson, PhD, an assistant professor of biomedical sciences, was awarded a \$1.86 million five-year grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to study the neurobiological and neurophysiological changes that occur due to vaping nicotine in flavored products. Dr. Henderson's research team is working to better understand how electronic nicotine delivery systems, or vaping, alter neurobiology to trigger nicotine addiction in adolescents.

Sandrine V. Pierre, PhD, an associate professor of biomedical sciences and interim director of the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research, was awarded a

\$1.36 million, four-year grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases to study the regulatory mechanism of salt handling by the kidney and malfunction of this mechanism that compromises the body's ability to remove salt. The new study will draw upon the renowned expertise of Marshall investigators on the signaling and scaffolding function of

the Na,K-ATPase protein and its impact on cardiovascular function.

"The awarding of two R01 grants this year indicates a critical milestone in research advancements across our institution," said Joseph I. Shapiro, MD, vice presi-



Dr. Brandon J. Henderson

dent and dean of the School of Medicine. "Not only are these accomplished faculty members engaged in meaningful research that impacts individuals across the globe, they are also creating a path forward for junior investigators at Marshall."

IDENTIFYING COVID-19 VARIANTS IN WEST VIRGINIA

On the cutting edge of identifying the Delta variant

Researchers James Denvir, PhD, associate professor of biomedical sciences, and Donald Primerano, PhD, professor and vice chair of biomedical sciences, are part of a team including researchers at West Virginia University and the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources working to identify COVID-19 variants throughout the state. The group is now part of a larger team that received a \$678,030 grant from NIH to further examine SARS-CoV-2 variants in the state.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Since 2001, the West Virginia IDeA
Network of Biomedical Research
Excellence, known as WV-INBRE, has
been fueling innovations in research
at the higher education institutions
across our states. It has brought \$70
million in research dollars to West
Virginia! Gary O. Rankin, PhD, vice
dean for basic sciences, has served as
principal investigator since the project was renamed WV-INBRE in 2004.



RESEARCH THAT IMPACTS OUR NATION'S VETERANS

The School of Medicine's long-standing relationship with the Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center is largely grounded in the research collaborations that have evolved over four decades. Those research efforts continue with new major awards through the VA Merit Review program.

Uma Sundaram, MD, vice dean for research and graduate education at the School of Medicine, first received a VA Merit Award in 2017 for research related to the causes of malnutrition and diarrhea in inflammatory bowel disease. Diarrhea is one of the most common causes of disability of U.S. veterans serving overseas.

Dr. Sundaram successfully renewed his VA Merit Award in 2021. Based on the outstanding score of his renewal application, Dr. Sundaram was also nominated for and received the VA Senior Clinician Scientist Investigator (SCSI) Award. This SCSI Award includes a MERIT award extension for four years, amounting to a total eight-year award. Dr. Sundaram



Dr. Mary-Louise Risher

is one of only 41 researchers across the country to hold SCSI status.

Mary-Louise Risher, PhD, an assistant professor of biomedical sciences, was award a four-year VA Merit Award in 2021 to identity novel non-neuronal mechanisms, specifically astrocytes, that are involved in the dysregulation of neuronal activity that occurs after binge

drinking. Understanding these mechanisms in the context of synaptic dysfunction and the emergence of alcohol use disorder could lead to the development of novel treatments designed to break the cycle of chronic substance abuse and the development of cognitive dysfunction in service members and veterans.

Accolades

2021 FACULTY CHOICE AWARD

This honor is presented to the most outstanding fourth-year medical student as selected by the faculty.

Hannah R. Leport, MD, grew up outside of Point Pleasant, West Virginia, and earned her undergraduate degree from Marshall University in English: Creative Writing. Dr. Leport demonstrated leadership throughout her medical school career as president of the cardiology interest group and treasurer of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine Chapter of the American Medical Association.

She was selected to attend the Reproductive Health Institute in Washington, DC, where she met



Director of Development & Alumni Affairs Linda S. Holmes presents the 2021 Faculty Choice Award to Dr. Leport.

with government leaders on reproductive health. She is the recipient of multiple merit-based scholarships including the Rural Health Scholar, an internship opportunity for fourth-year medical students who plan to pursue a career in family medicine. She is also a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Dr. Leport stayed in Huntington to pursue a family medicine residency at Marshall. After residency, she plans to practice family medicine in a rural community. She is married with two children.

2021 HONORARY ALUMNUS AWARD



Dr. Charles H. McKown Jr.

This special honor is presented annually at the investiture ceremony to an individual who is not a graduate of the School of Medicine but has most exemplified distinguished service to our school and/ or the medical community we serve.

During his nearly 23-year tenure as dean, Marshall University's School of Medicine began to truly thrive and became a robust, growing institu-

tion. The school's health science footprint more than tripled in size under his leadership. Beginning in 1998 and the decade that followed, the School of Medicine saw the completion of five new clinical, educational and research buildings with an investment of more than \$120 million, including the Marshall University Medical Center, Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center, Erma Ora Byrd Clinical Center and Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center. The new facilities helped the school respond to new educational requirements, accommodating increased faculty size and a dedicated clinical skills lab.

These new facilities sparked the development of new specialty service lines in orthopaedic surgery, neuroscience and ophthalmology, as well as new residency and fellowship training programs. Dr. McKown's efforts catalyzed the development of a first-rate clinical and basic science faculty as well as the growth of the school's partner teaching hospitals, Cabell Huntington Hospital, St. Mary's Medical Center and the Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center.

While accomplishing successes in medical education and health care in the Tri-State, Dr. McKown also served as a leader for the community and has been honored with a number of awards, including the Special Community Impact Award from *The Herald-Dispatch* in 2009. He also served on the Greater Huntington Parks and Recreation board for 43 years.

In the midst of this strategic growth, Dr. McKown cultivated donors like Joan C. Edwards whose generosity would make a profound difference in the future of the school. Ultimately, the philanthropic support of the Edwards family would result in the renaming of the medical school to the "Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine" in 2000.

After completing one of the longest medical school deanships on record, Dr. McKown transitioned into a new role at the medical school as the Vice President of Health Sciences Advancement on July 1, 2011, and continues to support the philanthropic efforts of the school's administration.

2021 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

Since graduating from Marshall's School of Medicine in 1990, C. David Adair, MD, went to the University of Florida in

Jacksonville for his OB/GYN residency, followed by a maternal-fetal medicine fellowship at Wake Forest University. He spent the next 20 years in academic medicine at the University of Tennessee, where he served in a variety of leadership roles until he retired as professor emeritus in February 2020.

A lifelong learner and innovator, Dr. Adair continued to pursue other opportunities to advance biotechnologies that improve the practice of medicine. For 20 years, he has been involved in angel and venture investing and serves on the board of half a dozen startups related to medical devices and therapeutics. A health care entrepreneur himself, he worked with the partners of Solas

Dr. David Adair

BioVentures since 2004 and was a founding member of the firm in 2014. Then, in 2019, he graduated magna cum laude with a Master

of Healthcare Administration from UT Chattanooga.

Although he is no longer actively practicing, Dr. Adair is reaching patients throughout the country with his medical devices and therapeutics. He believes physicians can be involved in more than patient care in order to make a difference.

Traditionally, the Distinguished Alumnus Award is presented during the annual Homecoming celebration. Due to COVID-19, in-person Homecoming festivities were cancelled. Therefore, we recognize the achievements of our 2020 Distinguished Alumnus in this edition of MarshallMD.



The Day Cindy Called

In recognition of her lifetime of commitment and service, a conference room is named in appreciation of Cindy A. Warren.

By Linda Holmes and Sheanna Spence

There isn't a more beloved and recognized member of the School of Medicine family than Cindy A. Warren. She has been an integral and predominant member of Marshall University's School of Medicine since 1977. She has devoted her career to creating a personal and seamless admissions process while building lasting relationships with each School of Medicine graduate as they began their medical school journey.

As evidenced by the more than 130 alumni and friends who collectively contributed \$136,426 in her honor, Cindy has made

a profound difference for all School of Medicine graduates who fondly recall "the day Cindy Warren called" and how that moment changed their lives.

For these reasons, the School of Medicine has chosen a naming as the appropriate recognition for her tireless efforts, commitment and service. A conference room on the second floor of the Marshall University Medical Center has been named in her honor. All gifts received from alumni and friends have been earmarked for the Cindy A. Warren Scholarship to support future medical students.

I was working in Florida when I got the call from Cindy. With the same friendly voice I had come to appreciate through my application process, she told me I had been accepted. I was elated and so excited. Of course, the first thing I did was call my mother and father to share the good news.

— Ally Kiekover ('22)



Dr. Ken McNeil, vice president of the Class of 1986, presents Cindy flowers from the School of Medicine.



In recognition of her lifetime commitment and service, the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine proudly names this conference room in appreciation of

Assistant Dean for Admissions & Student Affairs

Since 1977, Cindy has devoted her career to Marshall University's School of Medicine. From crafting an admissions process for the medical school to managing thousands of applicants each year, she has displayed an unparalleled work ethic and dedication to the school, its applicants and future physicians. It has been her passion and mission to nurture each student as they navigate the process of admission to medical school while building lasting relationships through compassion, perspective and kindness. Cindy has made a profound difference for all school of medicine graduates who fondly recall "the day Cindy Warren called" and how that moment changed their lives.

I was weighing my coal truck at the scale house when I was told to call my grandfather. He said, 'Cindy Warren called and said you got into the Marshall School of Medicine.' I rushed home and my grandfather and I headed to Huntington with my deposit in hand. It was the happiest day of my life and it represented more than just me fulfilling a dream of becoming a physician, but to those in rural West Virginia, that they, too, could do it. Cindy was with me from the start to finish of medical school. The best was all my trucking buddies immediately said I had to change my CB handle from Mugsy to Dr. Dave.

— Dr. David Adair ('90)

Success Spotlight

Dr. Doug Given ('83)

A physician and farmer is raising bison in rural West Virginia.

By Carter Seaton

You may not be surprised to learn that a Son of Marshall raises bison, but you might be when you learn he's also an ER doctor. W. Douglas Given, MD, a native of Braxton County, West Virginia, is a fourth-generation farmer as well as a physician.

Mountain State Farm, where he and his family now tend a growing "herd" of bison, has been owned by family members since the 1800s. But it wasn't Dr. Given's original intent to turn to farming.

Following high school, he went to Potomac State College for two years, then transferred to West Virginia University. He was an early draft pick in 1979 for the third class of the nascent Marshall University medical school. At that time, the school was located in the old C&O Hospital on Sixth Avenue. He and his classmate and later medical practice partner, the late Dave Brosius, MD ('83), lived in the brick building next door. Dr. Given recalls the many nights they spent in the anatomy lab until two or three in the morning. "When we finished, we'd go across the street and have a beer at Boney's," he says with a chuckle. "Because the class was so small, everybody knew each other and we tried to help each other. It was so special."

Following his residency at Marshall, he could see that going back to Braxton County wasn't an option, so he joined a family practice program at United Hospital Center in Clarksburg. While there, but still pining for home, he began moonlighting at Braxton Memorial Hospital in 1984. Two years later, he and Dr. Brosius set up their own family medicine practice in Gassaway.

Meanwhile, his father was raising beef

cattle on the old family farm. But, after an accident at age 88 left him unable to work, he moved in with Dr. Given and his family in Gassaway and rented out the farm.

"I was getting depressed because I kept seeing this beautiful farm being run down," Dr. Given recalls. "I started thinking that I needed to do something about it."

So, after 16 years in Gassaway, the Givens moved back to the farm. Knowing how hard the cattle business is, Dr. Given turned to raising bison.

First, however, they had to rebuild much of the farm. At the end of June 2020 they bought their first bison — all bulls — from a breeder in Midnight, Texas. After they did well, they added more. Next came 11 cows, all pregnant, and 18 heifers. Now, a year later, the cows are calving and the herd has grown to 51 head. To hear Dr. Given talk about the bison, it's clear he's fallen in love with them.

"They're big animals and they have a very big personality," he says with a smile.

Some have names, but so far none are called Marco. He's selling them for the meat, however, with his son operating a slaughterhouse on the side. They also pastureraise chickens and pigs.

Although Dr. Given never thought he'd be a farmer, Mountain State Farm is a family-run business. Dr. Given, his wife, Mary, and son Dan — a CPA who graduated from Marshall — do all the work.

Their other two children — both Marshall alumni — have non-farm related professions. Older daughter Mary Beth Whitford is a teacher living in Pennsylvania with her husband, Justin, and their child. Younger daughter Laura, a 2017 graduate from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, practices family medicine in Hamlin, West Virginia.

Because Dr. Given's parents were also educators who sent their son to Marshall and because the university has been so important to the Given family, Doug and Mary recently established a scholarship in memory of his parents — William Henry and Marjorie Given. They also endowed the Given Family Scholarship as part of the "Adopt a Medical Student" scholarship program for the School of Medicine. Their scholarship provides support for a first-year medical student with Braxton County ties. Second preference goes to a student from either Calhoun, Clay, Lewis, Gilmer, Nicholas or Webster counties in West Virginia.

"They say every man is a debtor to his profession and I'm a debtor to Marshall," Dr. Given says. "The med school wanted us to succeed, be good doctors and practice family medicine in rural West Virginia. I'm where I am today because of Marshall and the education I received there."

Carter Seaton, a freelance writer and author living in Huntington, West Virginia, has received the Literary Merit Award from the West Virginia Library Association, the Marshall University College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Alumni Award, the Governor's Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts and the Ella Dickey Literary Award.



California Dreaming

The road that led Dr. Kevin Smith from rural West Virginia to sunny San Diego was paved with perseverance and motivation.

By Katherine Pyles

evin S. Smith, MD ('86), has been setting goals for as long as he can remember. "My older sister was always smarter than I was, and my older brother was always bigger, faster and stronger," said the board-certified anesthesiologist and interventional pain management specialist. "I found at an early age I had to do something to keep up."

Dr. Smith said growing up in Logan, West Virginia, he wanted two things: to play in the NFL and to become a doctor. Both his mother and father had master's degrees, and good grades were expected of him. His father, one of the winningest high school football coaches in the state, kept him involved in football, basketball, track and baseball.

"I stayed busy year-round — but in Logan you have to stay busy, or you'll get into trouble," Dr. Smith laughed. "We were a competitive family. A lot was expected of me."

"They taught me how to stick to a schedule and how to develop skills to meet my goals," he said. "I learned early on about perseverance, motivation and dedication."

His parents emphasized values like discipline and determination.



Kevin Smith, #45, was a three-year starter for Marshall, the only player who was pursuing a medical career at the time.

His senior year of high school, Dr. Smith was offered an academic and athletic scholarship to Carnegie Mellon. He chose to attend Marshall instead.

"For me, it was an easy decision," he explained. "First, my older brother was playing football there, and I always loved playing football with my brother. Second, Marshall gave me the opportunity to pursue my life's goals. I thought, 'I can play football there and have a chance at the NFL, and I can go to medical school there and become a doctor."

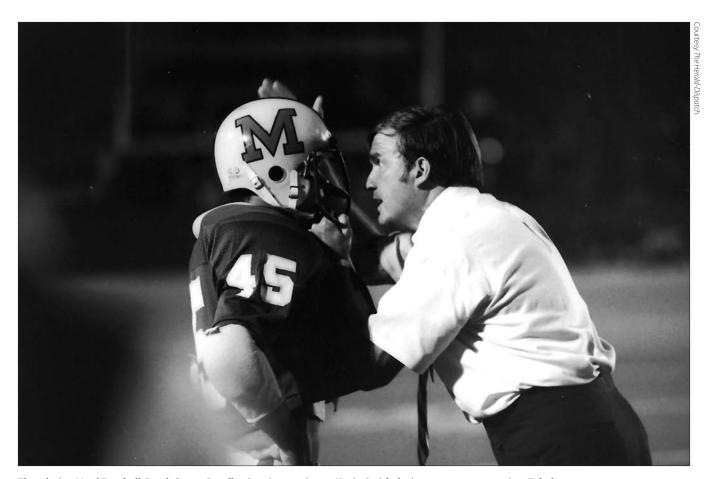
At Marshall he was a three-year starter playing cornerback for the Thundering Herd. He also earned the nickname of "Bop Dude" for the way he hit opposing players.

"I enjoyed hard and physical contact with another player," Dr. Smith said.

"Football was a great outlet for me. I could leave all my frustration and bottled-up energy from my hectic schedule on the field.

As the only player on the team pursuing a medical career, Dr. Smith had to balance the physical demands of college football with the academic demands of a pre-med education. After a Saturday night game, he'd wake up early on Sunday to study





Thundering Herd Football Coach Sonny Randle gives instruction to Kevin Smith during a 1979 game against Toledo.

before catching the bus to Fairfield Stadium to watch film with the rest of the team.

"Every minute of my day was structured," he said. "I'd study in the locker room before practice and on the plane traveling to games. I would wake up at 3 a.m. to study because it would finally be quiet in the athletic dorm, and frequently one of my teammates would be coming in from a night out and bring me coffee. They respected what I was doing. Those guys are still my closest friends today."

His freshman year, he walked around campus requesting meetings with the president of the university, dean of the College of Science and dean and vice dean of the School of Medicine — basically, anyone willing to talk with him.

"I went around and asked, 'What do I need to do to get into medical school?" he recalled. "And they all told me what courses I needed to take and what grades I needed to get. The rest was up to me."

Dr. Smith ended his football career satisfied, but knowing he wasn't going into the NFL. His focus shifted to weighing options for medical school. It was an important decision: if he chose to attend the Marshall University School of Medicine, he'd be the school's first African American graduate.

"My dad sat me down and said, 'If you go to Marshall, it will be

a challenge. The pressure will be on you every day. Everything you do will be noticed," Dr. Smith said. "But I accepted that challenge.

And I'm glad I did — my experience at Marshall led me to where I am today."

While some students struggled adjusting to the increased workload and stress of medical school, Dr. Smith put into practice the skills he honed as a student-athlete.

"The structure and discipline I learned being in pre-med and playing football served me well," he said. "I was just glad to be in an air-conditioned hospital, not out in 105-degree heat with a coach yelling in my face."

Dr. Smith briefly considered a career in orthopaedics before deciding to enter anesthesiology. He completed his anesthesiology residency at the University of Louisville, where he was introduced to interventional pain management. He then decided he wanted to live in San Diego, California, and work at Anesthesia Service Medical Group (ASMG), a prestigious anesthesiology practice that in the early 1990s was the largest single-specialty physician group in the country.

There was one problem: the practice had no openings. But Dr. Smith pursued the job with his usual focus and persistence. When his calls and letters finally resulted in an interview, he was offered a position with the group. He worked with ASMG for several years

I always felt that if there was something I wanted to do, I could do it. My wish is for more young people in southern West Virginia to have that same mindset, to know that they can achieve anything they set out to do.

- Kevin Smith, MD

99

before establishing his own practice, Integrated Pain Specialists of Southern California.

"I came to realize there was a big need for interventional pain management here," he said. "I stopped practicing anesthesiology

and exclusively began practicing interventional pain management."

Recently, Dr. Smith added another area of expertise to his resume: regenerative medicine. He established the Regenerative Medicine and Biologics Institute, offering therapies that regrow and repair damaged and diseased areas of the body. His wife Tammy is the COO of both practices. Needless to say, retirement is nowhere in sight.

"I'm not slowing down; I'm just changing my focus," Dr. Smith said.

focus," Dr. Smith said.

He and Tammy, also a native of Logan, established the Dr. Kevin S. and Mrs. Tammy C. Smith Endowed Scholarship in 2007 at the School of Medicine to help medical students from Logan County defray the costs of medical school. When there's not a qualified recipient from Logan County, the scholarship is awarded to a former athlete from West Virginia.

"I try to help southern West Virginia as much as I can," said Dr. Smith. "Logan needs a lot of things, and there are a lot of people who live there who do without. It's the same situation for a lot of athletes — many of them come from backgrounds that are not privileged."

The scholarship is also a way to give back to the Marshall School of Medicine.

"I owe a lot to that school," he said. "The people there guided me on what I needed to do. They gave me a foundation to build upon."

The Smiths give back to their community in San Diego as

well, supporting the city's children's hospital and other community organizations. Dr. Smith also works as a consultant and educator, traveling coast to coast to educate medical fellows and other professionals about interventional pain management. The Smiths have one daughter, Gabriela, who graduated with an honors degree from Stanford in 2020 and now has her sights set on law school.

Looking toward the future, Dr. Smith said



Kevin and Tammy Smith with their daughter Gabriela enjoy a vacation in Madrid, Spain.

he's seeking ways to further invest in his home state, whether in business or education. He said he hopes to instill in young people the belief he's always had — that anything is possible.

"God gifted me with a brain and manual dexterity; and with medicine, I always felt that if there was something I wanted to do, I could do it," he said. "My wish is for more young people in southern West Virginia to have that same mindset, to know that they can achieve anything they set out to do."

Katherine Pyles is a freelance writer living in Huntington, West Virginia. She is a graduate of Marshall University, where she was a member of the Society of Yeager Scholars.

BEING A PATIENT MADE ME A BETTER PHYSICIAN

Medical school alumni share the patient experiences that changed the way they practice medicine.

By Katherine Pyles

egan E. Docherty, MD ('11), was no stranger to delivering difficult news. For the emergency medicine physician, helping patients and their families navigate complex medical decisions was all in a day's work. She knew the importance of effective physician-patient communication; that was something she learned at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

But there's a difference between knowing something and living it.

In 2016, frequent migraines led to a life-altering cancer diagnosis for the young physician, who had just moved to Asheville, North Carolina, with her husband Forrest S. Harrison, MD ('11), also an emergency medicine physician. In the weeks leading up to an appointment with her primary care physician, Dr. Docherty's symptoms rapidly became worse.

"I remember going into the bathroom one morning and throwing up and telling Forrest, 'I don't think I can wait until the appointment," she recalled. The couple went to the emergency depart-



ment where they both worked, and they learned Dr. Docherty's symptoms were caused by a brain tumor called a glioma.

"I was actually supposed to work later that day," Dr. Docherty said. "It was surreal."

Her treatment plan involved surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. It was successful: the tumor has had no growth since 2016, and aside from surveillance MRIs, her life is back to normal. But the experience has had a lasting impact on her life and career.

"First, I've learned not to hem and haw over giving difficult

news," she said. "The patient is likely already expecting something, and the waiting is very uncomfortable."

She also came to understand that cancers and chronic illnesses are often like a full-time job for patients.

"I've learned to be understanding when patients don't always follow instructions," she said. "They've got a lot going on."

The same goes for their families, said Dr. Harrison.

"When your family member is fighting for their life, all their effort is going toward their treatment," he explained. "They don't



Dr Beth A. Toppins (left) credits her faith, family and School of Medicine faculty and classmates for getting her through a series of surgeries while a Marshall student.

have the bandwidth for insurance policies, disability benefits or the onslaught of bills and paperwork. It's difficult and frustrating — and unfortunately, a misstep can lead to serious debt or even bankruptcy."

Following his wife's experience, Dr. Harrison said he takes additional time with patients and families facing cancer and chronic illnesses. He explains some of the resources available to them, as well as what they might expect from their workplace and insurance company. In addition to potentially helping patients and their families avoid financial hardship, the conversations help them feel less alone.

"When you share terrible information with somebody, a lot of times they feel like they're the only person in the world in that moment," Dr. Harrison said. "Taking extra time with patients and their families reminds them they're not alone."

Put another way, "kindness is medicine," said Beth A. Toppins, MD ('00), an emergency medicine physician and medical director of the Cabell Huntington Hospital Emergency Department. Diagnosed with ulcerative colitis during her undergraduate studies at Marshall University, Dr. Toppins' symptoms grew worse in medical school. Between classes and exams, she visited specialists and underwent medication trials, even requiring admission to the hospital for blood transfusions.

"I only told one of my classmates about my diagnosis, in part due to the embarrassing nature of the symptoms and in part

due to the fear that if others knew, they'd somehow think I couldn't succeed in medical school," she explained.

That all changed when Dr. Toppins' health declined so severely that her medical team determined a total colectomy was needed.

"I was devastated," she said. "I wasn't convinced that surgery was going to remedy my symptoms. But everyone was so wonderful and caring. When the time came to notify the medical school of my upcoming surgeries, they were so supportive of me. They promised to help me in any way they could."

She credits her faith, friends and family for getting her through that difficult period, along with the support she received from the School of Medicine faculty and her classmates, some of whom were on her treatment team.

"It can be unsettling to be that open with your colleagues about what you are experiencing," she said. "But the doctorpatient relationship is such a special,



Dr. Camilo A. Caceres received a life-saving kidney transplant from his brother, Alejandro.

trusting one, even when the patient also happens to be a physician. I had to learn to trust those who had more expertise than I did in many areas."

When she felt depleted, she looked to others for hope.

"I remember feeling so miserable, overwhelmed and even scared that I looked for hope in the faces of others," Dr. Toppins said. "The kindness of my physicians became a medicine in itself. I try to remember that with each patient that I see — they need to see that you care about them before they can truly trust you."

Camilo A. Caceres, MD ('09), said earning patients' trust is particularly important in settings that, while commonplace for physicians, are often highly vulnerable for patients — something he didn't fully realize until he was in one of those settings himself.

Diagnosed with a genetic condition called polycystic kidney disease, Dr. Caceres's kidney function had been low for nearly a decade when it suddenly dropped significantly in 2019. Having walked this road before with his uncle, father and grandfather, he knew that the severity of the disease meant one of two things: dialysis or a transplant.

"Fortunately, my brother volunteered to donate his kidney," said Dr. Caceres, an emergency medicine physician and medical director at West Penn Hospital in Pittsburgh. "That was huge. I was very lucky."

As a physician, Dr. Caceres knew what to expect with the surgery and hospital stay. His brother didn't.

"Going through that experience with him, I saw firsthand how important it is not just to tell patients what's going to happen to them but also to explain why it's happening, without all the long Latin words and abbreviations," he said. "I think all physicians know the importance of communication — but when your family member is on the other side of that, and not receiving the communication they need, it gives you a different perspective."

During the brothers' hospital stay following the transplant, Dr. Caceres required a Foley catheter and his brother required an NG tube — two devices Dr. Caceres was very familiar with as an ER doctor. However, that didn't make them any more comfortable.

"I've ordered plenty of Foley catheters for patients; it's an easy solution to many medical problems. But as a patient, it's not an easy thing at all," he laughed.

Dr. Caceres noted that in uncomfortable situations, the more information you can give, the better.

"What may be a very simple explanation for someone with a medical background can be overwhelming for a patient. Luckily, my brother had our parents, who both have



The lives of Dr. Megan E. Docherty and her husband Dr. Forrest S. Harrison were upended in 2016 when she received a cancer diagnosis.

medical backgrounds, and he had me. I had the support of my partner Krystal, who helped make sure everything went well on my end. Not all patients are that lucky."

Dr. Caceres said that while he's thankful for the lessons he learned during his experience as a patient, enduring a medical crisis or lengthy hospital stay isn't required for physicians to develop effective, empathetic communication skills. Oftentimes, it's as simple as keeping in mind the discomfort and limited medical knowledge of patients and their families.

"It's easy to take for granted how vulnerable of a position our patients are put in — having to place their trust in people they don't know," Dr. Caceres said. "You have to remind yourself, 'This isn't just a part of my job. This is a person I'm taking care of.""

Katherine Pyles is a freelance writer living in Huntington, West Virginia. She is a graduate of Marshall University, where she was a member of the Society of Yeager Scholars.

The Class of 1981 In a Class of Their Own

The 40th anniversary of the medical school's inaugural class marks a milestone and allows former students to reflect on their quality education.

By Katherine Pyles

stablished during the 1970s through the Teague-Cranston Act, which called for the creation of five new medical schools in conjunction with existing VA hospitals, the Marshall University School of Medicine welcomed its first class in 1978. By the time its first 18 graduates walked across the stage in 1981, Marshall's reputation for providing high-quality, community-based medical education was well established.

"I don't think any of us had doubts about whether the school would succeed," said class vice president Brenda C. Smith, MD, a now-retired nephrologist. "The university was established, and all the hoops had been jumped through by the time we enrolled."

The inaugural class was a diverse group. While some members had their sights set on a medical career from a young age, others, like Dr. Smith, came to the School of Medicine from other professions. With an undergraduate degree in mathematics and French, Dr. Smith taught briefly before deciding to enter medicine. Many of her classmates made a similar switch.

"A lot of folks in our class had previous careers," said F. Scott Hunter, MD, who enrolled at the Marshall School of Medicine following military service as a combat corpsman in the U.S. Navy. "Some were teachers; one was a nurse anesthetist; one was working at a desk job. I'd say a very small number came right out of college. We were all extremely grateful just to be there. We all helped each other."

His own pre-med journey was unconventional: Dr. Hunter was a college freshman when the 1970 Marshall plane crash occurred, devastating the university and community. His active military service began the following year. He served one year in Vietnam as a combat medic before coming home to resume his undergraduate studies.

"I came home knowing I was going to try my best to get into medical school, but I had my doubts," he said. "In college I worked as an orderly at the St. Mary's ER, and I got to know a lot of the doctors there. They were all extremely supportive; they gave me books to read and encouraged me to apply to Marshall. They were my moral support, saying, 'Hang in there, it's going to happen.' Many of them became my professors."

That supportive environment continued as the Class of 1981 began their studies.

"It was like you were joining a family," said Emmett F. Branigan, MD, a reproductive endocrinologist. "Everybody was so enthusiastic about making it work."

Dr. Branigan said he remembers essentially "hanging out" with the chairman of the obstetrics and gynecology department, the













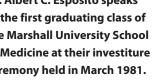


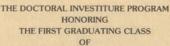






to the first graduating class of the Marshall University School of Medicine at their investiture ceremony held in March 1981.





MARSHALL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE May 8, 1981 **HUNTINGTON CIVIC CENTER**

Presiding

Stephen T. Pyles Class President

Invocation

Richard A. Gilmore, Ph.D.

Introduction of the Class

Robert W. Coon, M.D. Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine

The CHARGE

L. Walter Fix, M.D. President West Virginia State Medical Association

Class History

Brenda C. Smith Class Vice President

Special Acknowledgments

The Retiring Faculty

Presentation of Awards

The Class - The Faculty

Pledge to the Service of Humanity Albert C. Esposito, M.D. and The Graduating Class

Reception -Suite A

Page One

HISTORY THE FIRST GRADUATING CLASS

The history of our class must begin with the history of School. The Marshall University School of Medicine had its official beginning in January 1972 when then Governor Arch A. Moore, Jr., addressing the State Legislature, announced that he was "directing addressing the State Legislature, announced that he was "directing foundation for the establishment of a Medical School at Marshall of Outpersity". However, the dream of a Marshall Medical School was announcement. Our School owes these individuals a debt of gratifude for their work and support. In October 1972 the Veterans was signed into law. This law provided assistance for the institions in conjunction with existing Veterans Administration for up to eight medical schools at State supported Hospitals. Over a year and half later Marshall University was selected as one of those schools.

Marshall University officials started the ball rolling in February.

Marshall University officials started the ball rolling in February Marshall University officials started the ball rolling in February 1973 by appointing an ad hoc committe to study the feasibility of establishing a School of Medicine. In December 1973 Marshall was Administration funding. At about the same time, a Task Force was headed by Dr. Charles P. Comment of Medicine program. late David Charles, MD. In fact, the one-on-one mentorship he received from Dr. Charles paved the way for his and many of his classmates' successful OB/Gyn careers. Nine of the 18 members of the inaugural class chose to enter obstetrics and gynecology, in large part due to Dr. Charles's dedication and charisma.

"Most medical students only get minor exposure to actually doing medicine," said Dr. Branigan. "That wasn't the case for us. I remember scrubbing

in on a heart bypass surgery — what medical student gets to do that? I got to do forceps deliveries with the chairman of the OB department. All that exposure and interaction really set up the rest of my career."

Dr. Branigan said with all the growth the medical school has experienced over the past 40 years, he's happy to see that the handson approach to medical education has remained unchanged.

"I feel a little bit like a proud parent — maybe it's because I'm in the fertility business," he laughed. "I take a lot of pride in Marshall and what it has accomplished."

Among the faculty and staff, there was a genuine desire for the Class of 1981 to be successful, said Patrick C. "Pat" Bonasso, MD, a practicing obstetrician/gynecologist.

"I got the impression from the get-go that Marshall was a dif-



Members of the Class of 1981 celebrating their 25th reunion in 2006. They are pictured with former Marshall University President Robert B. Hayes (third from left) and Dr. Robert W. Coon, former School of Medicine dean (center in green).

ferent type of medical school, with down-to-earth people from top to bottom," he said. "We had one-on-one time with our professors — sometimes even more than that, with two professors helping a single student. The emphasis was on primary care, especially in rural areas; they'd take us around southern West Virginia to show us where primary care physicians were desperately needed. The professors wanted us to succeed; they wanted us to do good things in our careers."

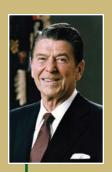
Dr. Bonasso's sense of pride in the Marshall School of Medicine is unique: he was the school's very first graduate.

"I didn't realize it until we were lined up to go across the stage," he laughed. "They lined us up by last name, and there weren't any As in our class."

For some members of the Class of '81, the School of Medicine's growth throughout these 40 years has exceeded all expectations.

"Marshall has certainly surpassed what I expected," said Dr. Smith. "Looking back to the building where we started, and seeing all the excellent labs and new facilities at the medical school today — I just think it's wonderful what has happened these past 40 years."

"We started in an old railroad hospital," said Dr. Bonasso. "Now, the hospitals in Huntington are top-notch. They have all the



A Look Back at 1981

JAN 20 - Ronald Wilson Reagan is inaugurated as the 40th president of the United States. His term of office lasts eight years.

APR 12 - The first reusable spacecraft, Space Shuttle Columbia, is launched on its maiden voyage from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.



JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN



JAN 21 - The first DMC DeLorean, a rear-engine, two-door, two-passenger sports car is produced. Easily recognizable by its side-opening doors, the car never meets with mass success and production ends in late December 1982.

JUN 12 - Raiders of the Lost Ark is released. Directed by Steven Spielberg and starring Harrison Ford, it is the highest-grossing film of the year.



Most medical students only get minor exposure to actually doing medicine. That wasn't the case for us. I remember scrubbing in on a heart bypass surgery — what medical student gets to do that?

— Emmett F. Branigan, MD



specialties and subspecialties and get referrals from all over. The School of Medicine can compete with any school in the region."

Others say the School of Medicine's achievement comes as no surprise: it simply builds on the legacy the school established in its earliest years.

"A lot of people worked very, very hard behind the scenes to get the funding that was needed and hire the faculty that would bring the medical school to where it is today," said Dr. Hunter. "I can't overstate how generous and dedicated the faculty and staff were during our time there. The impact they had is immeasurable."

Other members of the Class of '81 are Dennis M. Burton, MD; the late Harry G. Camper, MD; the late Galen E. Castle, MD; C. Dwight Groves, MD; Leslie N. Heddleston, MD; Sandra J. Joseph, MD; Douglas C. McCorkle, MD; Stephen F. Morris, MD; Stephen T. Pyles, MD; Nina K. Smith, MD; Stephen C. Smith, MD; John F. Toney, MD; Robert E. Turner, MD; and Keith H. Wharton, MD. As the

members of the inaugural class reflect on their experiences, there's a common theme: gratitude.

"In medical school, there was a tremendous amount of material to learn. I kept thinking, 'Why don't they teach us what we need to know?" Dr. Smith said. "A few years later, I realized that since medicine changes so rapidly, they did not know what we would need to know. But they provided us with a solid foundation that we could build on. I have been grateful for that foundation for the past 40 years."

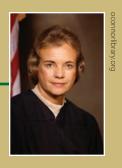
Multiply that some twenty-fold for each class since 2011, and its clear the program has made a remarkable impact on communities far and wide. It's given students a chance they might not otherwise have and has added diversity to the medical profession.

Carter Taylor Seaton is a freelance writer living in Huntington, West Virginia.



SEP 25 - Sandra Day O'Connor is sworn in as the first female U.S. Supreme Court justice. She serves for 24 years, retiring in 2006.

JUL 29 - Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer marry in St. Paul's Cathedral and their wedding is broadcast worldwide.



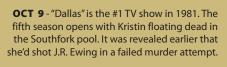
DEC 12 - David Wade is named co-MVP at the Marshall Memorial Invitationals. He is later inducted into the Marshall Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017.



JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DE



AUG 1 - MTV cable network airs for the first time with "Video Killed the Radio Star" by The Buggles. The channel's platform plays music videos 24 hours a day.





Being First In Honor of the Class of 1981 on its 40th Reunion

By Maurice A. Mufson, MD, HonDSc, MACP

The year was 1977 and the team from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)—the certifying organization—had completed another review of all educational elements of Marshall University's new School of Medicine. Their reviews always elicited more than a modicum of tension. Our expectations for approval of the School of Medicine seemed higher than after all their previous visits. The members of the LCME team alerted the administration and faculty members of their plan to report their findings in the fall. No date was specified, but all of us—both students and faculty—who had "hitched our wagon to the School of Medicine's star" hoped that the LCME approved the school and

authorized enrollment of the first class. They did and then-dean Robert Coon, MD, and his staff and faculty boldly celebrated, judiciously.

However, the LCME report arrived too late to enroll the first class in fall 1977. Dean Coon solved this momentary obstacle by arranging for the first class—the Class of 1981—to start the second week of January 1978. They continued their first year through August, so by September 1978, they were on time to begin their second year. The 24 students who comprised the first class were selected before the LCME team issued their approval of the School of Medicine. They waited

for the formal announcement of admission to Marshall's new medical school. The slight delay in the start of their first year mattered not, as it amounted to a miniscule amount of time compared to a lifetime as a physician. Besides, the class was excited to begin their careers as physicians.

The members of the Class of 1981 and all the scientists and physicians who joined the faculty at Marshall were "academic pioneers." Even though the medical school initially obtained several years of funding through the U.S. Veterans Administration (VA), and the State of West Virginia agreed to provide financial support after the VA funding ended, no national or state institution or certifying organization guaranteed success—or could guarantee success—of the Marshall University School of Medicine. The medical students were dependent on the faculty, and faculty were dependent on one other. The faculty members who joined Marshall very early possessed extensive experience on the faculties of established medical schools throughout the country. They viewed appointment to the fledgling school as an opportunity to develop an exciting new fouryear curriculum, mentor a small number of medical students on a

one-to-one basis and for professorial advancement.

As the New Year began, a time for celebrating the Class of 1981, my wife, Deedee, and I invited all the members of the Class of 1981 and all the basic science and clinical faculty members to a party at our home on 12th Avenue just before the start of the first classes. I vividly remember that Saturday night, January 7, 1978. Several chairs who accepted appointment at the School of Medicine in 1975, 1976 or 1977, also attended, including Ruth Harris, MD, chair of pediatrics; George Hill, MD, chair of surgery; Eugene Aserinsky, PhD, chair of physiology; and Fred Lotspeich, PhD, chair of biochemistry. At this time very few faculty members had been recruited by

> chairs of the basic sciences and clinical departments, so that only a few were present. The main floor of our house was packed, but it was a wonderful start to our long-awaited medical school adventure at Marshall.

The Class of 1981 started their initial courses the following week at the newly-built medical school building on the campus of the Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center, several miles west of the city. The chair and at least one or two faculty members in each basic science department devoted most of their time to organizing their courses and presenting

the lectures and laboratories.

It was a trying experience for the medical students—and maybe more so for the faculty—but not without rewards when the class scored well on tests. The second year began very soon after the class completed the first year, a no less a trying experience for all. However, when you are a member of the inaugural class in a new school of medicine, you go all-out. It was the Class of 1981's nature to prove that they could successfully meet the challenge of four years of medical school and be the class responsible for the School of Medicine's formal approval from the LCME.

And so, here we are 40 years after those special members of the Class of 1981 took the first steps for the 2,000 others who have followed and made way for the successful foundation that has made our School of Medicine what it is today.

Dr. Maurice Mufson, professor and chair emeritus, served as inaugural chair of the Department of Medicine at the Marshall School of Medicine from 1976 to 2000. He is also an infectious disease specialist and noted researcher.



Dr. Maurice A. Mufson

Go Boldly

CLASS OF 2021 INVESTITURE

On April 30, 2021, the School of Medicine reimagined the time-honored tradition of graduation and investiture, complete with masking requirements, socially distancing and limited seating, in order to safely celebrate the Class of 2021. Now, this class of 75 new physicians is ready to embrace all that residency has for them.



The Class of 2021



Dr. Nickolas Bacon became the first MD/PhD graduate of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.



Dr. David E. Bartlett accepts his degree from President Jerome A. Gilbert at the 2021 School of Medicine Investiture.

CLASS STATS

- 100% Match Rate
- First MD/PhD graduate in School of Medicine history
- 8 graduates with a 4.0 GPA
- Endowed a \$25,000 class scholarship in 2019

CLASS OF 2021 MATCH DAY



Drs. Meagen Carter, Carly Clark and Hannah Datz celebrate their matches together.



Dr. Ifeoluwatomi Fuwape is all smiles about her pathology match to Duke.



Dr. Nicholas Newell and family celebrate their move to Rancho Mirage, California.

Residency Matches for the Class of 2021

	ARIZONA							
Samuel A. Kaplan	Tucson	Emergency Medicine at University of Arizona						
CALIFORNIA								
Cecilia M. Nease	Oakland	Psychiatry at Kaiser Permanente/East Bay						
Nicholas J.E. Newell	Rancho Mirage	Emergency Medicine at Eisenhower Medical Center						
	FLORIDA							
Kevin A. Clark	Gainesville	Anesthesiology at University of Florida/Shands Hospital						
	KENTUCK	Y						
Carly A. Clark	Lexington	Otolaryngology at University of Kentucky						
Madison M. Griffis	Edgewood	Family Medicine at St. Elizabeth Medical Center						
Katina K. Nicoloudakis	Lexington	Anesthesiology at University of Kentucky Medical Center						
Mohammed I. Ranavaya	II Louisville	General Surgery at University of Louisville						
	LOUISIAN	A						
Sydney Marie Graham	New Orleans	Obstetrics-Gynecology at Ochsner Clinic Foundation						
	MARYLAN	D						
Meagen M. Carter	Bethesda	Obstetrics-Gynecology at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center						
Ryan F. Cooper	Baltimore	Psychiatry at University of Maryland Medical Center/ Sheppard Pratt						
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As with any list of this type, errors or omissions can be made. If that is the case, please accept our apology and report the error to Linda Holmes at 304-691-1711 or holmes@marshall.edu.

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A gift in honor of or in memory of an individual to the School of Medicine is a generous and thoughtful way to recognize a person's life and accomplishments. When you make an honorary or memorial gift to the School of Medicine, the honoree or next of kin is notified of your generosity and thoughtfulness, and the gift is used as you specified. When making a gift, send it with a note specifying the honoree's name and the address of the honoree or next of kin for a memorial gift. Those recognized with honorary or memorial gifts are listed on the next three pages.

Many Thanks

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Of the 1,944 School of Medicine living graduates representing the classes of 1981-2020, there were 313 donors for an overall participation of 16%.

GIVE BACK. GIVE NOW.

Gifts may be made in memory of beloved classmates, faculty, family and friends. Visit jcesom.marshall. edu to learn more.



New Scholarships

2021 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN

Listed in alphabetical order are the new scholarships created to benefit Marshall medical students during the past year. Academic and need-based scholarships ensure that Marshall attracts the most promising students from West Virginia and all corners of the country.

DR. CHERYL L. COOK & KYLE & JO ANN COOK SCHOLARSHIP

Long-time Ashland, Kentucky, pediatrician Cheryl L. Cook, MD ('85), and her parents, Kyle and Jo Ann Cook, have established a new scholarship to assist qualified medical students in relieving some of the financial burden that comes with medical school.



Dr. Cheryl L. Cook ('85) and Jo Ann and Kyle Cook

Cook grew up in Huntington and following medical school, she completed her pediatric residency at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. She returned to the region to practice at Tri-State Pediatrics in Ashland, Kentucky, for 32 years. Kyle and Jo Ann (Halstead) Cook grew up in the Beckley, West Virginia, area. Kyle retired from AT&T as business manager for West Virginia and western Pennsylvania. Jo Ann retired from the Huntington office of former Congressman Nick J. Rahall.

This scholarship is designated for first-year medical students, with first preference given to students from Cabell County; second preference given to students from Raleigh County, West Virginia; and third preference given to students from Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Greenup and Lawrence counties in Kentucky.

GIGANTELLI FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

A newly established scholarship by James W. Gigantelli, MD, and his wife, Lori, reflects their dedication to wellness of both body and mind, as well as values committed to making beneficial choices in diet, exercise and lifestyle.

The Gigantellis relocated to West Virginia in 2019 from Nebraska when Dr. Gigantelli was appointed chair of the department of ophthalmology at the School of Medicine. He is a fellowship-trained, board-certified ophthalmologist specializing in oculofacial plastic surgery and leads a growing scope of ophthalmology services within Marshall Health in both Huntington

and Charleston. Lori is a dietitian, an avid runner, a member of several local running groups and practices yoga.

The Gigantellis established a scholarship through the "Adopt a Medical Student" program, through which a donor "adopts" and supports a



Dr. James W. and Lori A. Gigantelli

student throughout the duration of their four years in medical school. The scholarship is designated for an entering medical student who understands the value of a lifelong commitment to beneficial health choices, including diet, exercise and lifestyle.

DR. MARC HETTLINGER SCHOLARSHIP

A Huntington businessman, who asked to remain anonymous, established a new scholarship in honor of his primary care physician, Marc Hettlinger, MD.

Hettlinger, a native of Cabell County, West Virginia, completed his medical degree at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine in 2009, serving as class president, followed by his internal medicine residency,



Dr. Marc Hettlinger ('09)

also at Marshall. Hettlinger joined the School of Medicine faculty in March 2015.

The scholarship is designated for an entering first-year medical student with first preference given to a graduate of Cabell Midland High School. Second preference is to a resident of Cabell County, West Virginia, and third preference is to a student from one of the metro counties of Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pike and Scioto counties in Ohio or Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Floyd, Greenup, Johnson, Lawrence, Martin and Pike counties in Kentucky.

New Scholarships

DR. SCOTT E. MOORE SCHOLARSHIP

Scott E. Moore, MD ('04), and his wife, Rebecca, have established an endowed scholarship to assist aspiring physicians from the southern coalfields of West Virginia. Moore is a native of Matewan, West Virginia, and a graduate of Matewan High School and Alice Lloyd College in Pippa



Dr. Scott E. ('04) and Rebecca A. Moore

Passes, Kentucky. He completed his residency at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School in Worcester, Massachusetts, and is a diagnostic radiologist in Ashland, Kentucky.

The Dr. Scott E. Moore Scholarship is designated for entering first-year medical students from Mingo County, West Virginia. Second preference will be given to students from the surrounding counties of Lincoln, Logan, McDowell or Wayne.

PHILLIPS FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

For Danny M. Phillips, MD ('87), the journey to medical school started in 1972 with the Marion County Rescue Squad, and was solidified from 1973 to 1976 during his service in the U.S. Army. Now, he and his wife, Sandy, are giving back to with a new endowed scholarship for veterans and first responders.



Dr. Danny M. ('87) and Sandy L. Phillips

After medical school and an emergency medicine residency at Akron General Medical Center in Ohio, Dr. Phillips served as an ER physician and flight surgeon until he and Sandy, a former ICU nurse turned chief financial officer, and another fellow physician started their own urgent care group in the Raleigh-Durham area of North Carolina. The practice, MedAccess Urgent Care, flourished to include four urgent care centers, until they sold the business in 2017.

This scholarship is designated for entering, first-year medical students with first preference is given to students with prior honorable military service or in active reserves; second preference to first responders (firefighters, paramedics or police); and third preference to nurses, especially those with ICU or emergency department experience.

RICHARDSON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Samuel R. ('83) and Mrs. Julie E. Davis have established an endowed scholarship in memory of his mother, Mary Wilson Richardson, and his mother's family.

Following two years in the U.S. Army from 1964 to 1966 and a 10-year career in the aviation industry based in Daytona Beach, Florida, from 1967 to 1977, Dr. Davis completed his undergraduate work at Marshall University.



Dr. Samuel R. ('83) and Julie E. Davis

He graduated from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine in 1983, followed by a radiology residency at Ohio Valley Medical Center in Wheeling, West Virginia. He practiced for more than 32 years at Montgomery General Hospital in Montgomery, West Virginia, before retiring in January 2020.

This scholarship is designated for first-year medical students, with first preference given to students from Pocahontas County, West Virginia, and second preference to students from Bath County, Virginia. Third preference is given to students from the eastern West Virginia counties of Greenbrier, Nicholas, Pendleton, Randolph and Webster.

JOSEPH I. SHAPIRO, MD, SCHOLARSHIP

A physician at the School of Medicine, who prefers to remain anonymous, established an endowed scholarship in honor of Dean Joseph I. Shapiro, MD, in "the spirit of gratitude for his excellent leadership, vision and enduring commitment," said the donor.

Dr. Shapiro, a board-certified nephrologist with more than 30 years of clinical, teaching and research experience, was appointed



Dr. Joseph I. Shapiro

dean of the School of Medicine in 2012. Since that time, he has grown the School of Medicine in every facet of its mission—enhanced medical education and training, improved access to primary and specialty care, and increased research dollars and scholarly activity.

The scholarship is designated for an entering first-year medical students with financial need.

SINGH FAMILY SCHOLARSHIPS

Satbir Singh, MD ('94), and his wife, Shalu K. Singh, MD, established three endowed scholarships for medical students. Each scholarship supports future physicians in a student population important to the Singhs.

Dr. Satbir Singh is a urologist in Wheeling, West Virginia. Dr. Shalu Singh is a neurologist in Steubenville, Ohio, and Weirton, West Virginia. The couple's obvious passion for West Virginia's panhandle is rooted in the



Drs. Satbir ('94) and Shalu K. Singh

communities where they've spent the past 30 years practicing medicine. The Singhs are also passionate about helping underrepresented minorities and women pursue careers in medicine.

Their three scholarship funds support first-year medical students who are from Brooke County, West Virginia, where Satbir grew up, or Jefferson County, Ohio, where Shalu practices; students who are members of racial and ethnic populations underrepresented in medicine; and female students.

DR. JOHN B. WALDEN SCHOLARSHIP

A third-generation family physician from Lincoln
County, West Virginia, John B.
Walden, MD, served the Joan
C. Edwards School of Medicine
and the community for nearly
four decades. His knowledge
of rural medicine and international health extended to the
many medical students and
residents he trained through
the Department of Family and
Community Health over the years.



Dr. John B. Walden

In memory of Dr. Walden, who passed away on Jan. 23, 2020, his children, Ilanna M. Garzon and Eric G. Walden, have established a new scholarship at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine dedicated to supporting West Virginia students. The John B. Walden Memorial Scholarship is designated for first-year medical students, with first preference given to students from Lincoln County and second preference to students from Cabell County, West Virginia.

DR. JOSEPH W. WERTHAMMER SCHOLARSHIP

An endowed scholarship was established by an anonymous physician in honor of his mentor, Joseph W. Werthammer, MD, a longtime neonatologist and physician leader at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. In 1981, Dr. Werthammer and Dr. Gilbert Ratcliff established the NICU at Cabell Huntington Hospital. Dr. Werthammer has served in various leadership



Dr. Joseph W. Werthammer

roles, including chair of pediatrics and chief medical officer. He now serves as professor of pediatrics and senior associate dean of clinical affairs and special advisor to the dean, and continues to care for infants in the NICU at what is now Hoops Family Children's Hospital at Cabell Huntington Hospital.

The scholarship is designated for entering first-year medical students from Boone, Lincoln, Logan, McDowell, Mingo, Wayne or Wyoming counties in West Virginia.

DR. CHARLES L. AND MRS. KATHLEEN H. YARBROUGH SCHOLARSHIP

A new scholarship at the School of Medicine honors long-time Huntington dermatologist and Department of Dermatology chair, Charles L. Yarbrough, MD, and is wife Kathleen. Dr. Yarbrough graduated from the Medical College of Virginia and completed a residency in dermatology at Emory University. In 2014, after more than 40 years in private practice and 37 years as a



Dr. Charles L. and Kathleen H. Yarbrough

volunteer faculty member, Dr. Yarbrough joined the clinical faculty at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine full time to establish a department of dermatology and serve as its inaugural chair.

This scholarship is designated for entering first-year medical students with demonstrated financial need.

Scholarship Recipients

2020-2021 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Thank you to the generous alumni, families, faculty, friends and patients who provided scholarship support to the following Marshall medical students during the 2020-2021 academic year. We honor your dedication to the future of medicine.

JAMES F. & JOAN C. EDWARDS SCHOLARSHIP

Class of 2023 — Garima Agarwal, John Brown, James Curry, Nicholas Dolan, Daniel Haught, Haseeb Jafary, Shelby Naegele, Steven Tun

Class of 2024 — Dontreyl Holsey; Abigail Samson





I am tremendously grateful for all of the opportunities that the School of Medicine has given me. I will always treasure these

opportunities and scholarships.
I hope to show the same kindness and generosity to other medical students in the future.

Amrita Valluri, Class of 2022
 Huntington, West Virginia



JOAN C. EDWARDS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

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Student scholarships mean everything. Medical school is a financial burden for a lot of people and having alumni and others donate money to decrease that burden means everything. The pressure of medical school is hard enough, so having help allows us to focus on the academics.

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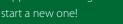
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Carrying on Tradition...



So many of these students entering the first-year class are familiar to me. Sponsoring their white coat and/or instruments is just my way of saying 'Welcome! Job well done!'

Peter Chirico, MD
 Professor & Chair of Radiology
 Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



CLASS OF 2024 WHITE COAT & MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine Alumni Association thanks the 109 School of Medicine alumni, faculty, staff and friends who generously purchased white coats, medical instruments and sponsorships for the Class of 2024. The names of the donors and student recipients are listed on the following pages.

CLASS STATS

- 80 students
- 86% from West Virginia
- 89% were science majors
- 11 legacies
- 2 married couples
- 2 sets of siblings

Our SPECIAL THANKS go to DRS. JOSEPH B. and OMAYMA T. TOUMA and family for generously providing stethoscopes to each student since 2006.



With their white coat ceremony postponed due to COVID-19, students in the Class of 2024 received their medical instruments and other supplies during a drive-thru orientation event.



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Christopher W. Carey, MD Mr. Charles W. & Friends Mr. Norma C. Carroll Philip L. Casingal, MD Peter A. Chirico, MD Jodi M. Cisco-Goff, MD Lauren E. Cline, MD Raymund M. Dala, MD Drs. Forrest S. Harrison & 2011 Argan E. Evans, MD Argan E. Saarmestani, MD Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee Dr. Joshua D. & 2007 Mr. James M. Gillispie Dr. Nancy B. & Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gary, MD Adrian S. Gray, MD David C. Griffin, MD Dr. Deborah H. Argan Robert B. Gray, MD Dr. Jeffry T. Mrs. Mary S. Gee Dr. Raymund M. Dala, MD Dr. Deborah H. Argan Robert B. Gray, MD Dr. David C. Griffin, MD Dr. David M. Mary S. Gee Dr. R. Mark & 1993 M. Madeline Perdoncin Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD Dr. Dashua M. Faw V Wylie M. Faw V
Mr. Charles W. & Friends Mrs. Norma C. Carroll Philip L. Casingal, MD 1992 Shane R. Kagen Peter A. Chirico, MD Faculty Alec D. Konrad Jodi M. Cisco-Goff, MD 1997 Emily L. King Lauren E. Cline, MD 2012 Sydney R. Dangott Robert J. Cure, MD 1998 Zachary B. Mitchell Gerald A. Dague, MD 2000 John C. Goellner Raymund M. Dala, MD 1999 Dontreyl Holsey Krista L. Denning, MD 2004 Jessica D. Wellman Drs. Forrest S. Harrison & 2011 Karagan A. Mulhall Megan E. Docherty Joseph E. Evans, MD 1982 Joshua Wyner Adrian S. Garmestani, MD 2001 Andrew S. Ferguson Amy L. Garmestani, MD 2001 Faith E. Ferguson Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee 1996 Juan Carlos Hernandez-Pelcastre Dr. Joshua D. & 2004 Ishita Sharma Dr. Deborah H. & 1991 Chase F. Gillispie Mr. James M. Gillispie Dr. Nancy B. & 1987 Jared T. Mattingly Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gray, MD 1999 Brett T. Johnson David C. Griffin, MD 1990 Dylan L. Smith Mary Beth Harler, MD 1993 M. Madeline Perdoncin Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD 1998 Joshua M.D. Keefer Dr. R. Mark & 1983 Wylie M. Faw V
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Peter A. Chirico, MD Jodi M. Cisco-Goff, MD Jodi M. Cisco-Goff, MD Lauren E. Cline, MD Lauren E. Cline, MD John C. Goellner Robert J. Cure, MD John C. Goellner Raymund M. Dala, MD John C. Goellner Raymund M. Calliman Robert S. Harrison & John C. Goellner Raymund M. Mulhall Megan E. Docherty Joshua Wyner Adrian S. Garmestani, MD John C. Goellner Raymund M. Mary S. Gee John C. Goellner Raymund M. Mary S. Gee John C. Goellner Raymund M. Mary S. Gee John C. Goellner Raymund M. Sarcian Robert S. Garmestani, MD John C. Goellner Raydund M. Mateline Perdoncin Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD Joshua M.D. Keefer Dr. R. Mark & John David C. Griffin, Faw V
Jodi M. Cisco-Goff, MD Lauren E. Cline, MD Lauren E. Cline, MD Robert J. Cure, MD Gerald A. Dague, MD Raymund M. Dala, MD Drs. Forrest S. Harrison & Megan E. Docherty Joseph E. Evans, MD Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee Dr. Joshua D. & Mrs. Rachael Gibson Rupinder Gill, MD Dr. Nancy B. & Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gray, MD Mary Beth Harler, MD Dr. MD 2012 Sydney R. Dangott Alexachaell Sydney R. Dangott Sydney B. Mitchell Sydney B. Mitchell Sydney B. Maren Sydney
Lauren E. Cline, MD Robert J. Cure, MD Gerald A. Dague, MD Raymund M. Dala, MD Drs. Forrest S. Harrison & 2011 Joshua Wyner Adrian S. Garmestani, MD Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee Dr. Joshua D. & 2004 Dr. Deborah H. & 1991 Dr. Daydor G. Gellispie Dr. Nancy B. & 1987 Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gray, MD Logand A. Dague, MD Logand J. Garmestani Robert B. Gray, MD Dr. Descoration And C. Griffin, MD Dr. Daydor C. Griffin, MD Daydor D. Smith Mary Beth Harler, MD Dr. Daydor M. Faw V Wylie M. Faw V
Robert J. Cure, MD Gerald A. Dague, MD Gerald A. Dague, MD Raymund M. Dala, MD Trista L. Denning, MD Drs. Forrest S. Harrison & 2011 Megan E. Docherty Joseph E. Evans, MD Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee Dr. Joshua D. & 2007 Mrs. Rachael Gibson Rupinder Gill, MD Dr. Deborah H. & 1991 Dr. Nancy B. & 1987 Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gray, MD David C. Griffin, MD D
Raymund M. Dala, MD Raymund M. Dala, MD Drs. Forrest S. Harrison & 2011 Megan E. Docherty Joseph E. Evans, MD Adrian S. Garmestani, MD Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee Dr. Joshua D. & 2007 Mrs. Rachael Gibson Rupinder Gill, MD Dr. Deborah H. & 1991 Dr. Dayan S. M. Gillispie Dr. Nancy B. & 1987 Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gray, MD Mary Beth Harler, MD Dr. Mary S. Gee Dr. Mark & 1993 M. Madeline Perdoncin Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD Douglan D. Supsila M. D. Keefer Dr. R. Mark & 1983 Wylie M. Faw V
Krista L. Denning, MD Drs. Forrest S. Harrison & 2011 Megan E. Docherty Joseph E. Evans, MD Adrian S. Garmestani, MD Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee Dr. Joshua D. & 2007 Mrs. Rachael Gibson Rupinder Gill, MD Dr. Deborah H. & 1991 Dr. Deborah H. & 1991 Dr. Nancy B. & 1987 Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gray, MD Mary Beth Harler, MD Dr. Mary Beth Harler, MD Dr. Rachael Gibson Rupinder Gill, MD Dr. Deborah H. & 1999 David C. Griffin, MD Davi
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Adrian S. Garmestani, MD 2001 Andrew S. Ferguson Amy L. Garmestani, MD 2001 Faith E. Ferguson Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee 1996 Juan Carlos Hernandez-Pelcastre Dr. Joshua D. & 2007 S. Blass Morrone Mrs. Rachael Gibson Rupinder Gill, MD 2004 Ishita Sharma Dr. Deborah H. & 1991 Chase F. Gillispie Mr. James M. Gillispie Dr. Nancy B. & 1987 Jared T. Mattingly Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gray, MD 1999 Brett T. Johnson David C. Griffin, MD 1990 Dylan L. Smith Mary Beth Harler, MD 1993 M. Madeline Perdoncin Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD 1998 Joshua M.D. Keefer Dr. R. Mark & 1983 Wylie M. Faw V
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Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee Dr. Joshua D. & 2007 Mrs. Rachael Gibson Rupinder Gill, MD 2004 Dr. Deborah H. & 1991 Mr. James M. Gillispie Dr. Nancy B. & 1987 Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gray, MD 1999 David C. Griffin, MD 1990 Mary Beth Harler, MD 1993 Dr. R. Mark & 1998 Mr. Mr. P. Modeline Perdoncin Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD 1998 Dr. R. Mark & 1983 Wylie M. Faw V
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Rupinder Gill, MD Dr. Deborah H. & 1991 Chase F. Gillispie Mr. James M. Gillispie Dr. Nancy B. & 1987 Jared T. Mattingly Mr. P. Nolan Graham Robert B. Gray, MD David C. Griffin, MD Mary Beth Harler, MD Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD Dr. R. Mark & 1998 Wylie M. Faw V
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David C. Griffin, MD Mary Beth Harler, MD Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD Dylan L. Smith M. Madeline Perdoncin Joshua M.D. Keefer Dr. R. Mark & 1983 Wylie M. Faw V
Mary Beth Harler, MD 1993 M. Madeline Perdoncin Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD 1998 Joshua M.D. Keefer Dr. R. Mark & 1983 Wylie M. Faw V
Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD 1998 Joshua M.D. Keefer Dr. R. Mark & 1983 Wylie M. Faw V
Dr. R. Mark & 1983 Wylie M. Faw V
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Mrs. Monica J.W. Hatfield
Christopher E. Hayner, MD 1987 Matthew W. Werhoff Jr.
Tracy L. Hendershot, MD 2008 Alex J. Ashley
Christina A. Hensley, MD 2014 Kelsey A. Matusic
Robert A. Hess, MD 1984 Seth R. Bergeron
Jonathan A. Hess, MD 2012 Tristan J. Burgess
Nathan S. Hill, MD 2010 Jeremy T. Eckels
Drema K. Hunt, MD 1992 Kristiana V.
Sklioutouskaya-Lopez

ALUMNI & FRIENDS C	LASS YEAR	SOM STUDENT
Dr. Eric W. & Mrs. Kristin L. Irwin	2002	Landon E. Irwin
Mr. James L. &	Friends	Ella K. Cooper
Mrs. Selena M. Johe		
Joseph L. Joyce, MD	1997	Graham L. Sutherland
Michael E. Kilkenny, MD	1982	Justin C. Merritt
Devin A. King, MD	1999	Benjamin J. Thompson
Joseph M. King, MD	2007	Thomas R. McIntosh
Melissa D. Lester, DO	Faculty	Morgan B. Elmore
Dr. E. Robert & Mrs. Toni Marks	1995	Madeleine S. Marks
David L. Martin Jr., MD	2005	Willie M. Kimler
James C. McCabe, MD	1988	Andrew J. McAward
Aaron M. McGuffin, MD	1999	Abigail Samson
Dr. James M. &	1988	Madison J. Wall
Mrs. Sherri B. Mears		
Drs. Kelly E. & Kristina B. Melvin	2005	Heba Boustany
Dr. Bobby L. &	1997	Caleb A. Clark
Mr. Eric K. Hardin Miller		
Mario R. Morenas, MD	1995	Liam R. Skiffington
Justin M. Nolte, MD	2007	Tyler D. Bayliss
Drs. Michael L. &	1999	Lauren E. Hanna
Nancy B. Norton		
Leslie A. Pack Ranken	2006	L.J.E. Grace Kesler
Pratiksha Patel Vaghela, MD	2010	Lakshmi V. Sundaram
C. Douglas Phillips, MD	1984	Dominic J. Raymond III
Drs. Stephen M. &	1995/1994	John W. Pickstone
Benita Petri Pickstone		
Steven Pribanich III, MD	1991	Levi Nolan
Leela V. Raju, MD	2003	Aishwarya S. Vijay
Jacqueline M. Ray, MD	1995	Shelby B. Wellman
Charlotte A. Rhee, MD	1991	Kassandra A. Flores
Dr. Thomas J. &	1999	Alyssa M. Rittinger
Mrs. Aimee R. Rittinger		,
Dr. John D. & Mrs. Lisa K. Roth	1990	Danielle F. Roth
Dr. Mark F. &	1987	Nicholas Tate
Mrs. Janet L. Sheridan		
Joseph T. Simmons, MD	2020	Dylan D. Jayasuriya
Drs. Alexander H. &	2015	David R. Taylor
Sarah E. W. Slocum		,
Stephen C. Smith, MD	1981	Siva S. Sundaram
Brenda C. Smith, MD	1981	Jentre H. Hyde
Abigail E. Smith, MD	2017	Mariah N. Morris
Kevan V. Stewart, MD	2010	Myshak S. Abdi
Mark A. Studeny, MD	1986	Gavin Hayes
Paula F. Taylor, MD	1996	Kathryn M. E. Taylor
Freddie W. Vaughan II, MD	2014	Thaddeus D. Martin
Alice A. Walz, MD	2011	Zoha Durrani
Drs. Price S. & Erin M. Ward	2012	Karim A. Abdelgaber
Kevin J. Willis, MD	1985	Andrew M. Yanok

Medical Instruments

ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	SOM STUDENT	ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	SOM STUDENT
Gargi Bajpayee, MD Lisa Bajpayee, MD	2012 2012	Jessica G. Tall Hania M. Woomer	Drs. Leon B. & Katrina B. Briggs	1991/1992	Caroline B. Briggs
Jennifer L. Bennett Grube, M	D 1996	Tania T. Nguyen	Lisa G. Burke, MD	1993	Taylor M. Burke
Kathryne J. Blair, MD	2013	Mackenzie J. Bergeron	Mr. Charles W. &	Friends	Austin L. Loop
R. Daniel Bledsoe, MD	2001	Zachary C. Wright	Mrs. Norma C. Carroll		
Darin K. Bowers, MD	1987	Oliver Q. Li	Philip L. Casingal, MD	1992	Shane R. Kagen

Medical Instruments

ALUMNI & FRIENDS C	LASS YEAR	SOM STUDENT	ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	SOM STUDENT
Peter A. Chirico, MD	Faculty	Alec D. Konrad	Drs. L. Lane &	2006/2007	S. Blass Morrone
Lauren E. Cline, MD	2012	Sydney R. Dangott	Janell A. Chandler Mace		
Robert J. Cure, MD	1998	Zachary B. Mitchell	Dr. E. Robert & Mrs. Toni Marks	1995	Madeleine S. Marks
Pamela A. Cyrus, MD	1989	Emily L. King	David L. Martin Jr., MD	2005	Willie M. Kimler
Gerald A. Dague, MD	2000	John C. Goellner	James C. McCabe, MD	1988	Andrew J. McAward
Raymund M. Dala, MD	1999	Dontreyl Holsey	Aaron M. McGuffin, MD	1999	Abigail Samson
Harry H. Dinsmore Jr., MD	1991	Dylan D. Jayasuriya	Dr. James M. &	1988	Madison J. Wall
Drs. Forrest S. Harrison &	2011	Karagan A. Mulhall	Mrs. Sherri B. Mears		
Megan E. Docherty		3	Drs. Kelly E. & Kristina B. Melvir	n 2005	Heba Boustany
Joseph E. Evans, MD	1982	Joshua Wyner	Dr. Bobby L. &	1997	Caleb A. Clark
Adrian S. Garmestani, MD	2001	Andrew S. Ferguson	Mr. Eric K. Hardin Miller		
Amy L. Garmestani, MD	2001	Faith E. Ferguson	Mallory N. Morris, MD	2018	Kelsey A. Matusic
Dr. Jeffry T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee	1996	Juan Carlos	Justin M. Nolte, MD	2007	Tyler D. Bayliss
•		Hernandez-Pelcastre	Drs. Michael L. & Nancy B. Norto	n 1999	Lauren E. Hanna
Dr. Joshua D. &	2007	Shelby B. Wellman	Leslie A. Pack Ranken	2006	L.J.E. Grace Kesler
Mrs. Rachael Gibson		•	Pratiksha Patel Vaghela, MD	2010	Lakshmi V. Sundaram
Rupinder Gill, MD	2004	Ishita Sharma	C. Douglas Phillips, MD	1984	Dominic J. Raymond III
Dr. Deborah H. &	1991	Chase F. Gillispie	Drs. Stephen M. &	1995/1994	John W. Pickstone
Mr. James M. Gillispie			Benita Petri Pickstone		
Dr. Rose A. &	1982	Jared T. Mattingly	Steven Pribanich III, MD	1991	Levi Nolan
Mr. Barry A. Goodwin			Leela V. Raju, MD	2003	Aishwarya S. Vijay
Robert B. Gray, MD	1999	Brett T. Johnson	Charlotte A. Rhee, MD	1991	Kassandra A. Flores
David C. Griffin, MD	1990	Dylan L. Smith	Dr. Thomas J. &	1999	Alyssa M. Rittinger
Mary Beth Harler, MD	1993	M. Madeline Perdoncin	Mrs. Aimee R. Rittinger		
Curtis W. Harrison Jr., MD	1998	Joshua M.D. Keefer	Dr. John D. & Mrs. Lisa K. Roth	1990	Danielle F. Roth
Dr. R. Mark &	1983	Wylie M. Faw V	Richard E. Ryncarz, MD	1995	Liam R. Skiffington
Mrs. Monica J.W. Hatfield			Dr. Mark F. &	1987	Nicholas Tate
Christopher E. Hayner, MD	1987	Matthew W. Werhoff Jr.	Mrs. Janet L. Sheridan		
Tracy L. Hendershot, MD	2008	Alex J. Ashley	Tina M. Sias, MD	1992	Ella K. Cooper
Robert A. Hess, MD	1984	Seth R. Bergeron	Drs. Alexander H. &	2015	David R. Taylor
Jonathan A. Hess, MD	2012	Tristan J. Burgess	Sarah E. W. Slocum		
Nathan S. Hill, MD	2010	Jeremy T. Eckels	Stephen C. Smith, MD	1981	Siva S. Sundaram
Drema K. Hunt, MD	1992	Kristiana V.	Brenda C. Smith, MD	1981	Jentre H. Hyde
		Sklioutouskaya-Lopez	Abigail E. Smith, MD	2017	Mariah N. Morris
Dr. Eric W. & Mrs. Kristin L. Irwin		Landon E. Irwin	Mary E. Smyrnioudis, MD	2009	Lauren B. Clower
Shannon N. James, MD	2013	Jessica D. Wellman	Kevan V. Stewart, MD	2010	Myshak S. Abdi
Joseph L. Joyce, MD	1997	Graham L. Sutherland	Mark A. Studeny, MD	1986	Gavin Hayes
Charles M. Justice, MD	2013	Joel T. Walker	Paula F. Taylor, MD	1996	Kathryn M. E. Taylor
Michael E. Kilkenny, MD	1982	Justin C. Merritt	Freddie W. Vaughan II, MD	2014	Thaddeus D. Martin
Devin A. King, MD	1999	Benjamin J. Thompson	Alice A. Walz, M.D.	2011	Zoha Durrani
Joseph M. King, MD	2007	Thomas R. McIntosh	Drs. Price S. & Erin M. Ward	2012	Karim A. Abdelgaber
Melissa D. Lester, DO	Faculty	Morgan B. Elmore	Kevin J. Willis, MD	1985	Andrew M. Yanok

Sponsors

ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR
Clark D. Adkins, MD	1989	Shayne M. Gue, MD	2015	Julia L. Pasquale, MD	2003
Joseph P. Assaley, MD	1988	Mary Beth Harler, MD	1993	Drs. James R. & Alison S. Patters	on 1998
Lisa Bajpayee, MD	2012	Timothy S. Hart, MD	1993	Danny M. Phillips, MD	1987
Leon B. Briggs, MD	1991	Dr. R. Mark &	1983	Steven Pribanich III, MD	1991
Jay R. Bronder, MD	2015	Mrs. Monica J.W. Hatfield		Charlotte A. Rhee, MD	1991
William R. Brooks Jr., MD	1986	James T. Holbrook, MD	1987	Hobart K. Richey, MD	1983
Peter A. Chirico, MD	Faculty	Susanna A. Kapourales, MD	2011	Geno V. Romano, MD	1985
Cheryl L. Cook, MD	1985	Joan B. Lehmann, MD	1991	Joseph C. Shanklin, MD	1996
Drs. Ronald deAndrade Jr. &	1983/1982	James W. Matthews, MD	1982	Tina M. Sias, MD	1992
Kim M. Jordan		Kenneth F. McNeil, MD	1986	Sandra L. Skar, MD	1997
Harry H. Dinsmore Jr., MD	1991	Lea Ann Moricle, MD	1985	Mary E. Smyrnioudis, MD	2009
W. Douglas Given, MD	1983	Jay T. Naegele, MD	1997	James E. Tomblin II, MD	1986
Christopher S. Goode, MD	2002	Kathleen M. O'Hanlon, MD	1986		

Class Notes

1980s

C. Douglas Phillips, '84, is

the 2021 American Society of Head & Neck Radiology (ASHNR)

Gold



C. Douglas Phillips

Medal Award winner. He is the director of head and neck imagery and professor of radiology at Weill Cornell Medical College and New York-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, where he sees patients, conducts research and teaches residents and fellows.

Lowell C. Shinn, '85, joined the staff of Monongahela Valley Hospital's Charles L. and Rose Sweeney Melenyzer Pavilion and Regional Cancer Center in Monongahela, Pennsylvania. He previously served as director of medical oncology at Schiffler Cancer Center at Wheeling (West Virginia) Hospital. Shinn has also



Lowell C. Shinn

provided oncology and hematology care while employed by oncology practices in Pittsburgh, Monroeville and Washington as well as in North Carolina where he began his career.

Joe P. Assaley, '88, is a full-time Partners Practice Group (PPG) provider at the Women's Health Center, Cleveland Clinic Akron General facility. The center sees OB-GYN and high-risk OB patients. Assaley also provides supervision to the residents.

1990s

Kevin J. Conaway, '91, and his



Cooper Conaway

wife, Cathy, became grandparents to Cooper James Conaway on Feb. 27, 2021. Conaway is a professor in the MUSOM department of OB-GYN.

Gary W. Procop, '92, was

selected as chief executive officer of the American Board of



Pathology Gary Procop

(ABPath) beginning Jan. 1, 2022. In this role, Procop will oversee all aspects of the ABPath's initial and continuing certification programs and guide the organization through its successful ongoing program improvements.

Mary Beth Harler, '93, has been appointed as president of IGM Autoimmunity and Inflammation at IGM Biosciences Inc., a clinical-stage biotechnology company focused on creating and developing engineered IgM antibodies, based in Philadelphia. Formerly she was senior vice president, head of immunology and fibrosis development at Bristol Myers Squibb.

Roy A. Williams, '96, has

joined the cancer treatment team at Geisinger Lewistown Hospital



Roy Williams

Danville, Pennsylvania. Williams

evin W. Yingling, Class of 1985, was named chief executive officer (CEO) for Mountain Health Network, and president of Cabell Huntington Hospital and St. Mary's Medical Center, Aug 9, 2021. He has served as president of both hospital medical staffs, as well as serving on the Cabell Huntington Hospital board of directors and as first chair of the Mountain Health board of directors.

As a member of the medical community for more than 35 years, Yingling has practiced general internal medicine, served as chair of the department of internal medicine and has taught at both the MUSOM and School of Pharmacy.

As holder of a registered pharmacy degree (RPh) from West Virginia University, Yingling was instrumental in establishing the Marshall University School of Pharmacy and serves on the board of managers for Marshall Pharmacy and chair of the Cabel-Huntington Health Department Board of Health.

Yingling and his wife, Mary Alice, have four children and eight grandchildren. 🔘



Kevin W. Yingling, CEO for Mountain Health Network

Class Notes

provides cancer care for adults, offering treatment options including chemotherapy, targeted therapy and immunotherapy, and has a clinical interest in hospice and palliative care.

Charles W. Clements II, '97.



Charles Clements

has served local active duty, reserve and civilian Coast Guard personnel as the primary care physician for their Huntington Safety Unit for more than 17 years. In December 2020, the U.S. Coast Guard presented him with a public service commendation. Clements, a retired lieutenant colonel of the U.S. Army, is a family medicine physician at Marshall Health and a professor in the department of family and community health at the MUSOM.

Bobby L. Miller, '97, was

selected as one of 15 professional members of the Liaison



Bobby Miller Committee

for Medical Education (LCME), the accrediting body for medical schools in the U.S. and Canada, to serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2020. Miller, a practicing neonatologist with Marshall Health, has taken a leading role in the accreditation process at the MUSOM since his appointment as vice dean of medical education in 2013 and has successfully overseen two accreditation site visits at Marshall.

Aaron M. McGuffin, '99,

published a poem, "If Billy Collins were a doctor," in the Spring 2021 edition of *The Pharos*, a publication of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. McGuffin is a pediatrician and medical educator at West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg.

2000s

Zachary H. Hansen, '04, is

medical director of Marshall Health's division of addiction sciences



Zachary Hansen

and an assistant professor with the School of Medicine. He also continues his role as medical director of medication assisted treatment (MAT) at the Provider Response Organization for Addiction Care and Treatment (PROACT).

Erica L.
Smith,
'08, practiced as
a general
OB-GYN
in north-



Erica Smith

ern Utah since graduation and completion of her residency in 2012. In July 2021, she started a maternal fetal medicine fellowship at the University of Florida.

2010s

Sarah K. Flaherty, '10,

is chief of emergency services at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, McKeesport, Pennsylvania.

Andrea M. Lauffer, '10,

assistant professor of medicine and pediatrics at the MUSOM,

was



Andrea Lauffer

named the 2021 Advocate of the Year for the West Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). She helped plan and coordinate the West Virginia AAP virtual child health advocacy conference in March 2021 and serves as chief health officer for Cabell County Schools. Lauffer is also an internal medicine and pediatric hospitalist.

John E. Loudermilk, '10,

has joined a private family practice clinic in Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

David P. Rupp, '10, and Katherine J. Steele, '13.



welcomed Evelyn Olive Rupp

a daughter, Evelyn Olive, on Oct. 20, 2020. They are both physicians at Marshall Family Medicine.

Jennifer L. Gerlach, '11,

and her husband, Jarrett, welcomed their fourth child,

lames



James Daniel Gerlach

Daniel Gerlach, on Dec. 6, 2020. James joins his older siblings Audra, Nora and Jacob.

Beatrice L. Grasu, '11, is an

orthopedic surgeon with The Centers for Advanced Ortho-



Beatrice L. Grasu

paedics — Ortho Maryland, specializing in the treatment of conditions affecting the hand and upper extremities. She and her husband, David Donn, have two children, Liliana and Aiden.

Heidi H. Lewis, '11, and her

husband, Robert Jankowski Jr., welcomed a son, Robert

"RJ"



"RJ" Jankowski

Jankowski III, on Jan. 19, 2021. Lewis is a pediatric radiologist for Florida Radiology in Fort Myers, Florida. She also works for Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

Courtney L. Kiser McLean, '11,



Maisie McLean

and her husband, Scott, welcomed a daughter, Maisie, on July 6, 2021. Maisie joins her older twin siblings, Cora and Desmond. McLean is an assistant professor of pediatrics and a neonatologist at University of Nebraska Medical Center and Children's Hospital & Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska.

Julie A. Wesp, '11, and her



Julie Wesp, Kris Rajanna, and their children, Rocky and Reeve

husband, Kris Rajanna, MD, welcomed a son, Rocky Wilder, on Nov. 22, 2020. Rocky joins his sister, Reeve Mae. Julie and her husband are both general surgeons in Sante Fe, New Mexico.

Betsy A. Dovec, '12, is

national director of the Advent Health Weight Loss and Bariatric



Betsy Dovec

Surgery Institute in Orlando. Her roles are to start a bariatric practice at the "mothership" in Orlando; unify the existing bariatric surgery programs across the country; and start a scalable, virtual, comprehensive medical weight loss program.

Jessica M. Nelson Greco,

'12, is a pediatric urologist at The Ohio State University Nationwide Children's Hospital. She and her husband, Christian Greco, MD, have two daughters, Lily and Rose.

Krish D. Sekar, '12, welcomed



Dev Sisung Sekar

a son, Dev Sisung, on June 23, 2020.

Krista T. Wagoner, '12, and



Krista Wagoner, Nick Stutzman and their son, Everett

her husband, Nick Stutzman, welcomed a son, Everett, in August 2020. Wagoner is an OB-GYN at the Medical University of South Carolina and serves as director of the student OB-GYN clerkship. She is also an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology.

Johnny G. Walker, '12,

practices family medicine at

Access Health in Beckley, West Virginia. In September 2020 he



Johnny Walker

was promoted to associate program director of Access Health Teaching Health Center Family Medicine Residency program, where he is also faculty preceptor.

Chris M. Bates, '13, and his



London Bates

wife, Miranda, welcomed a daughter, London, on June 13, 2021. He is a plastic surgeon with Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery in Florida. They also have a son, Brody.

Matthew Q. Christiansen,

'13, was named to The State Journal's 2021 Generation Next, 40

Under 40.



Matthew Christiansen

The 40 Under 40 recognizes young West Virginians succeeding in business, education, government and various other professions.

Megan T. Bartley Luciano,

'13, is a hospitalist for OB-GYN patients at Winnie Palmer

Hospital for Women and Babies in Orlando. She recently received



Megan Bartley Luciano

the Exemplary Physician
Colleague Award from Allied
Health Executive and Nurse
Executive Council and was
named Health Information
Management Physician of
the Quarter. She is also now
a fellow of the American
College of Obstetricians and
Gynecologists.

Justin M. Pacor, '13.



James Isaiah Pacor with proud dad, Justin Pacor

and wife, Renee, welcomed their first child, James Isaiah, on Sept. 3, 2021. Dr. Pacor is senior resident physician in the department of medicine at Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut. Upon completion of his residency, he will be starting his cardiology fellowship at Brown University, pursuing an interest in preventive cardiology and medical informatics.

Amanda N. Schlak Stark,

'13, after practicing pediatric hospital medicine for five years, elected to change specialties. She matched into

Class Notes

radiation oncology at Virginia Commonwealth University Massey Center in Richmond, Virginia. She and her husband, Michael, reside in Richmond and welcomed their second child this fall.

Josh F. Hendrix, '14,



Collin Arjun Hendrix

and his wife, Sukanya, welcomed Collin Arjun on Sept. 3, 2021. Hendrix is an ophthalmologist with Professional Eye Associates in Dalton, Georgia. The proud grandmother is **Dr. Mitali Baksi, '91**.

Michael P. Leone, '15, and



Luke John Leone

his wife, Kara, welcomed a son, Luke John, on May 17, 2021.

Alex H. Slocum and Sarah E. Slocum, both '15, moved to New Hampshire. Alex joined Atlantic Plastic Surgery Center & Medi-Spa in Portsmouth. Sarah joined Dartmouth Hitchcock's Department of Psychiatry, with her clinical effort at New Hampshire State Hospital.

Meaghan A. Tranovich, '15,



Meaghan Tranovich

joined the Adena Orthopedic and Spine Institute in Chillicothe, Ohio, as an orthopedic surgeon and is fellowship trained in sports medicine.

Matthew W. Boyer, '16,

completed his fellow-ship at NYU Langone Health in June



Matthew Boyer

2021. In July he moved to Philadelphia and started as an addiction psychiatrist at Rogers Behavioral Health. His clinic is working to expand treatment of substance use disorders in the area.

Kyle M. Burner, '16, and his



Logan Azalea Burner

wife, Kaitlyn, welcomed Logan Azalea on Jan. 6, 2021. Logan joins sisters, Rylynn and Elaine.

Mohammad A. Halaibeh,

'16, will be starting an inter-

ventional radiology fellowship at New York University. He and his wife, Amani al-Hazaymeh, have two children, Aboud, 3, and Martoon, 1.

David M. Modlin, '16, is finishing his surgery residency at Eisenhower Army Medical Center in Fort Gordon, Georgia, and will be doing a plastic and reconstructive surgery fellowship at Lahey Clinic in Boston in 2022. Following, he will serve as a military plastic surgeon in the U.S. Army. He and his wife, Shannon, welcomed their first

Justin Chuang, '17, and his

14, 2020.

child, Harrison Edward, on Oct.



Justin Chuang, Nisha Shrespha and son, Aden Michael Chuang

wife, Nisha Shrespha, welcomed a son Aden Michael, on May 17, 2021. Chuang is doing an internal medicine residency at the University of Toledo (Ohio) and plans to apply for a gastroenterology fellowship following his residency.

Carissa M. Elkins, '17, and Mason Tyler, MD, were married on May 22, 2021. She is a family medicine physician at Mary Rutan Hospital, Jackson Center Family Care and Indian Lake Clinics in Bellefontaine, Ohio.



Carissa Elkins and Mason Tyler

Evan J. Madden, '17, and



Josiah and Lilly Madden

his wife, Cecelia, welcomed a son, Josiah James, on Dec. 27, 2020. Josiah joins his sister, Lillian "Lilly" Rae. Madden is a hospitalist at Self Regional Healthcare in Greenwood, South Carolina.

Benjamin A. Perrin, '17,



Dr. Tammy Bannister and Beniamin Perrin

was named the January 2021 Resident of the Month at the MUSOM. He completed a year of obstetrics and gynecology training at Marshall prior to transitioning to family medicine. Having completed his residency in June 2021, Perrin plans to remain in the Huntington area to practice emergency medicine.

Matthew D. Thompson, '17, is an ophthalmologist with



Matthew Thompson

West Virginia Eye Consultants, and is on the staff of Pleasant Valley Hospital, in Point Pleasant, West Virginia.

Michelle M. Worthy, '17, an



Michelle Worthy (right) and Elizabeth Saunders, MD, medicine-pediatrics residency program director

internal medicine-pediatrics resident, was selected as Resident of the Month for April 2021. She joined the MUSOM medicine-pediatrics faculty as an assistant professor.

Joseph AbuRahma, '18, is

completing an anesthesiology residency at the University

of Florida



Joseph AbuRahma

Shands Hospital in Gainesville. In 2022, he will be doing a fellowship in adult cardio anesthesiology, also at the University of Florida. His wife, **Rachael J. Hager, '18**, completed a family medicine residency at Shands Hospital and



CLINICAL CARE Cynthia Z. Pinson Class of 1996



EDUCATION W. Mitchel Shaver Class of 1990



FACULTY IMPACT AWARD
Paulette S. Wehner
Class of 1989

Congratulations to the winners of the 2020 Dean's Awards of Excellence!



EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP
Tammy L. Bannister
Class of 1994



EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE Jennifer L. Gerlach Class of 2011



RURAL PRECEPTOR AWARD Adam M. Franks Class of 1999

is on the faculty at University of Florida. The two were married on Sept. 20, 2021.

Lacey D. Chambers, '18, is a pediatric hospitalist in the newly expanded hospitalist program at Colquitt Regional Medical Center in Moultrie, Georgia.

Luke W. Finley, '18, completed his family medicine residency at Marshall and has joined Family Care in Charleston, West Virginia.

His wife, Sandy, is a nurse practitioner with Marshall Orthopaedics. They reside in Hurricane with their daughter.

Zach D. Hunter, '18, and his wife, Lauren, welcomed a son, Hollis Earl, on July 14, 2021.

Class Notes

Dr. Hunter started a two-year pediatric emergency medicine fellowship in July at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Joseph E. Klaus, '18, is cur-

rently finishing an anesthesiology residency at Johns Hopkins

Hospital,



Joseph Klaus

Baltimore. He will start an obstetric anesthesiology fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital - Harvard Medical School in 2022.

Makenzie E. Hatfield Kresch, '18, and her husband, Steven, welcomed a son, Coleman William, on Sept. 7, 2021. They are also the parents of Marcus and Merrigan.

Brandon S. Merritt, '18,

has joined Valley Health -Hurricane (West Virginia), as a family physician. He is fluent in Spanish and brings his multilingual skills to patients to ensure healthcare needs are met for all members of the community.

M. Ganga Navada, '18, starts

a neurocritical care fellowship at the Medical College

of South



Ganga Navada

Carolina in 2022. She is cur-

Congratulations to our graduates who received promotions or tenure at MUSOM!

Family & Community Health

Tammy L. Bannister, Class of 1994 ■ Professor

James B. Becker, Class of 1993 ■ Professor

David P. Rupp, Class of 2010 ■ Associate Professor

Neurology

Paul Ferguson, Class of 2007 ■ Professor

Obstetrics & Gynecology Amy "Ally" Roy, Class of 2013 ■ Assistant Professor

y" Roy, Class of 2013 ■ Assistant Professo

Pathology

Krista L. Denning, Class of 2004 ■ Professor

Pediatrics

Susan L. Flesher, Class of 2007 ■ Professor Marie D. Frazier, Class of 2001 ■ Professor

Psychiatry

Kelly E. Melvin, Class of 2005 ■ Tenure

rently completing her neurology residency at the Medical University of South Carolina.

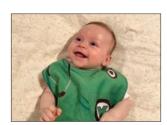
Rachael W. Starcher, '18, is doing a fellowship in pulmonology/critical care at the University of Minnesota.

Alex R. Vance and **Melissa C. Saab, both '18**, were married on Oct. 18, 2020. They



Alex Vance and Melissa Saab

welcomed a daughter, Anagail Ruth, on May 22, 2021. Both finished their family medicine residencies at Christ Hospital



Anagail Ruth Vance

in Cincinnati, Ohio. Vance has joined Christ Hospital and Saab began a geriatric fellowship on Oct. 1.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Jeffrey B. Betts, MD '91

Cincinnati, Ohio Dr. Betts passed away June 21, 2021, at the age of 55. He was valedictorian of his high school and attended the U.S. Air Force Academy before coming to medical school at Marshall. He was a radiologist on staff at Duke Hospital in North Carolina and a pediatric radiologist at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio. He carried the Olympic Torch in 2002 and ran seven national marathons. He loved to travel all over the world and visited 29 countries and all 50 states. He is survived by two daughters and his mother.

Garry W. Burkholder, MD '04

Hurricane, West Virginia
Dr. Burkholder passed away
June 2, 2021, at the age of
53. Before attending medical
school, he served six years in
the U.S. Marine Corps, earning two Bronze Stars during
his combat tours. Following
residency, he worked as a hospitalist at Cabell Huntington
Hospital. He is survived by
his wife, a son and twin
daughters.

Gregory D. Chaney, MD '90

Hurricane, West Virginia
Dr. Chaney passed away
June 24, 2021, at the age
of 56. He owned a private
practice for 25 years. He is
survived by his wife, daughter,
son, stepdaughter and five
grandchildren.

Thomas B. Maloney, MD '84

Fort Mitchell, Kentucky Dr. Maloney passed away July 29, 2021, while fulfilling his longtime dream of swimming across the San Francisco Bay. He was 66. Dr. Maloney completed his pediatric residency at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and joined the pediatrics team at Group Health Associates in the Western Hills neighborhood of Cincinnati in 1989. He loved adventure, happily taking the Anderson Ferry to and from work most days. Each family he care for had his personal cell phone number. Dr. Maloney loved adventure, and some of his happiest times were spent outdoors and on trips with his family, especially trips to Ireland, Alaska and Maine. He is survived by his wife, three children and three grandchildren.

Tracy L. (Gibb) Weimer, MD '00

Morgantown, West Virginia Dr. Weimer passed away July 5, 2021, at the age of 59. Dr. Weimer moved to West Virginia to complete her PhD in Pharmacology. After earning her medical degree from Marshall, she completed her residency in neurology at West Virginia University (WVU). Dr. Weimer was an associate professor at WVU and director of the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit, which has since been named in her memory. Dr. Weimer is survived by her mother, her husband and two sons.

FACULTY

Franklin D. Shuler, MD, PhD, professor and vice chair of research in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, passed away Jan. 5, 2021. He was an educator, researcher and orthopaedic trauma surgeon.

For more than four years, Dr. Shuler fought HLH, a rare autoimmune disease. Dr. Shuler was the first student to graduate from West Virginia University (WVU) with a combined MD/PhD with honors in 1996. He completed his orthopaedic trauma residency at UPMC in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Shuler joined the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine in 2011 to advance the research mission of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, authoring many papers and articles for medical journals. He did that incredibly well, but his impact to the department, the school of medicine, and our community was far greater and more significant. He is survived by his parents and two children. He was 53 years old.

William M. Cocke Jr., MD, retired professor in the Department of Surgery and chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery, passed away Nov. 19, 2021, at the age of 87. Prior to joining the Marshall faculty in 1992, Dr. Cocke developed plastic surgery programs at Vanderbilt University, the University of California-Davis and Texas A&M University. Dr. Cocke remained on the faculty at Marshall until his retirement in 2014. His legacy lives on at Marshall through the William Cocke, MD, Mentorship Award, established in 2015 for the graduating chief resident who exemplifies excellence in leadership in general surgery.

Kenneth E. Guyer, PhD, retired associate professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, passed away Dec. 4, 2021, at the age of 87. He joined the School of Medicine in 1975 as an inaugural member of the faculty and continued teaching medical students for 37 years until his retirement in 2012. His family described him as a "consummate student and teacher" who loved to read and have long discussions. He is survived by his wife Dr. Barbara P. Guyer and two daughters, Greta V. Guyer, MD ('90), and Jennifer Guyer Heiner.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Memorial gifts may be made in memory of beloved classmates, faculty, family and friends. Visit **jcesom.marshall. edu** to learn more.



Homecoming 2021

The School of Medicine welcomed alumni and their families back to Huntington for its 34th annual homecoming celebration Oct. 8-9, 2021.







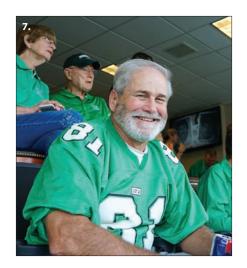






- Four members of the Class of 1986 enjoy reminiscing. From left, Drs. Kevin Smith, Ken McNeil, Mark Studeny and Steve Milhoan.
- 2. Drs. Cindy Pinson and Jack Trainor II represent the Class of 1996.
- 3-5. Medical students and alumni gather to hear lectures from alumni on a variety of relevant topics. Left, Dr. Kevin Smith ('86). Middle, Dr. Shane Wells ('06). Right, Dr. John Toney ('81).
- 6. Drs. Gary Petty ('92), Tom Styer ('82) and Kim Burgess ('92) chat in Admissions.
- 7. Dr. Pat Bonasso ('81) enjoys one of the many Homecoming events of 2021.
- 8. The Class of 1981 celebrates 40 years.
- 9. The Class of 2011 celebrates its 10th reunion with fellow alumni and family.
- Dr. Rob Cure ('98) (left), Dr. Joseph Shapiro (second from right) and Linda Holmes (right) present Dr. Kevin Smith ('86) with the 2021 Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Homecoming 2021 was a milestone occasion, marking the 40th reunion of the school's first graduating class, the Class of 1981.





66

We were the trail blazers and set the path for all those who followed. Physicians were needed in West Virginia, and I never felt there wouldn't be a school of medicine. Now, here we are 40 years later, celebrating the Class of 1981.

> — Patrick C. Bonasso, MD alphabetically the first physician to graduate from MUSOM







Near and Far

No matter where you are, we hope you always consider Marshall University home.



Medical students with Linda Holmes (center) at the 2021 West Virginia State Medical Association Conference held at The Greenbrier.



Classmates Doug Phillips, MD ('84), and Ezra Riber, MD ('84), meet up in New York City.



Family medicine residents hit the rapids for some West Virginia-style team building.



Medical student Caroline Briggs with her parents, Katrina Briggs, MD ('92), and Leon Briggs, MD ('91), and Linda Holmes.



Proud dad Douglas McCorkle, MD ('81), celebrates his 40th reunion the same year as son Colin McCorkle, MD ('01), graduates from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. They shared in the graduation festivities with uncle Greg Bell, MD ('91).



From left: Adam Franks, MD ('99), Tracy Hendershot, MD ('08), Linda Holmes and Marshall Health CEO Beth Hammers cheer on The Herd with new Marshall University President Brad Smith.

22ND ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

Thank you to our generous donors for supporting the Class 2021 Scholarship Fund!

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ADDITIONAL THANKS ■ Honey Baked Ham of Barboursville, Huntington Banks, Sam's Club 8152, Spriggs Distributing Company



Not the best team, but the best dressed — Drs. Nick Chongswatdi ('05), Jeff Harris ('07), Shabbir Matcheswalla ('07) and Andy Gilliland ('07).



Special thanks to our title sponsor OVP and our graduate Dr. Bob Hess, ('84) (third from the right)



Leave your own lasting legacy on the future of medicine

with a planned gift to the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. By considering the School of Medicine in your estate planning like the individuals above and others like them, your generosity will span generations of physicians to come. This means you will help us train the brightest physicians destined to provide the best possible care for patients throughout this century and beyond.

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