One University. A World of Success.
From the President

If the economic turmoil of recent years has taught us anything, it is that to stand out in the job market and gain employment, graduates need a variety of skills and experiences to round out their college degrees. In many ways, Frostburg has always made this possible for our students. Ask alumni from any generation about what it was like to learn here, and they’ll tell you that their professors changed their lives and that the close-knit campus gave them larger-than-life opportunities to do interesting projects and research, which helped them prepare for careers.

Today, we are focusing on new ways to ensure that our graduates are ready for the workforce, including creating new programs to send them around the world, building state-of-the-art facilities where they can learn and making sure students get numerous opportunities to meet our many successful and dedicated alumni who lead interesting and inspiring lives. Our latest issue of Profile, which celebrates how a Frostburg degree leads to professional success, is full of stories showing how our educational experiences are right in line with what today’s students need to do well once they graduate.

As you read about all the great things happening at Frostburg, I invite you to add your story to the mix and think about how you can get involved with what we’re accomplishing every day on behalf of our students. Perhaps you can share your insights with Bobcats by participating in our Dinner With Strangers program (Page 8). Maybe you are ready to support a program or department that made a difference in your education or that of someone you cared about, like one legacy family did (Page 14). And there has never been a better time to come back and visit your alma mater. Our campus is being transformed through much-needed upgrades, and a bright and beautiful new building, our Center for Communications and Information Technology, will open this year. The next issue of Profile will offer a closer look at this remarkable structure.

I thank each and every one of you for the ways you represent Frostburg, through your leadership, involvement and support. Know that your actions and ideas are so important to the ways our students will succeed professionally in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jonathan C. Gibralter, President

ON THE COVER:
Profile polled alumni from various generations and professional fields for their views on the meaning of success. Read what they have to say, starting on page 16.

Remembering Lateef Gazal
I am very sad to inform you that one of our students, Lateef Gazal, a senior majoring in business administration, died as a result of an accidental fire in the early morning of Feb. 14. Lateef was highly regarded by his faculty and is remembered by friends as enthusiastic, energetic and kind. He was already an entrepreneur who had started his own line of clothing.

I have been heartened by the way the campus has rallied to support his family and his three roommates, who lost everything in the fire. Nearly $11,000 has been raised to aid them. On Feb. 20, the campus community gathered in a moving and meaningful memorial service that ended with the candlelight vigil pictured here. And a concerted effort is growing at many levels to educate our students about fire safety.

Lateef’s loss will be felt for a long time, and his memory will be kept alive by those who loved him.

From the President

This past August, Laurie and I welcomed our first grandson and newest Bobcat, Mason.
3 ONE UNIVERSITY. A WORLD OF EXPERIENCES

Frostburg State University unveiled its new marketing campaign last fall. “Ladies and gentlemen, you are our storytellers,” President Gibralter said. “You are creating our story. You make it believable.”

14 “THE BEST GIFT WE’VE EVER GOTTEN”

Michael Harpold ’95, whose family’s Frostburg legacy dates back to Frostburg Normal School No. 2, established the Reverend George M. and Mrs. Phyllis C. Harpold Presidential Merit Scholarship in Biology as a gift to his parents and the Esther May Carter Education Scholarship to honor his great-aunt.

24 SOWING THE SEEDS OF SUSTAINABILITY

Advancing sustainability remains at the forefront of FSU’s institutional goals, and these advances are being achieved through efforts on many fronts. Read about two ongoing projects that in their own ways are creating a healthier environment for the region and sowing the seeds of sustainability for the future.

16 SECRETS OF THEIR SUCCESS

The formula for “what is success” varies from person to person offering the perspective. Frostburg State University has the objective for all of its students to reach success academically, personally and, as they graduate, professionally. According to a new report, Frostburg is having great success with success.

12 FOUNDATION NEWS

• Wynder Legacy
• Allegany Opportunity
• Law Enforcement Legacy
• WFWM Marks 30 Years
• Gift of Art
• President’s Residence

26 NEW FACE OF FOOTBALL

DeLane Fitzgerald has been hired as FSU’s 13th head football coach in the program’s 54-year history. He brings with him from Southern Virginia University a history of building winning programs. “I’ve always thought … that the Frostburg State University football program is a sleeping giant,” he said.

26 CLASSNOTES/MILESTONES

35 IN MEMORIAM

36 THE LAST WORD
Retention Strengthens Enrollment Grows, Gibralter said.
across campus both in the process of recruit-
the increased engagement of faculty and staff
for at least seven years.
several years.
of transfers has grown steadily over the past
higher than the previous year’s class of 819.
traditional-aged students in our state is declin-
standards for students and the population of
FSU’s efforts to raise its profile and to
raise its profile and to
in a conventional way during their first semester, “said Vice Provost John
In recognition of the changing needs of today’s students, FSU has created an option
of courses.
asset to us all. This is a critical time for this University, as we are just
the beginning of the process of Middle States reaccreditation.”
He has been intern provost since the summer, when he began the
work of developing new programs and reviewing current ones. “This appointment provides
the needed momentum to create a sustainable and well-integrated retention, academic advisement and student success model for FSU,” Gibralter said.
Childs, who was previously associate dean of the College of Education, came to FSU
in 2001 after 30 years in public education in Virginia. Childs served an important role in
the development, approval and launching of the Doctor of Education program, as well as
in the preparation of successful national accreditation reports. He also played a key part in
the submission to the state of Maryland’s proposal for a new Education and Health
Sciences building, which has been included in the Governor’s Capital Improvement Plan
for the first time this year.

Dr. William Childs
Childs Named Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. William Childs has been named provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.
“Childs brings to this position years of administrative expertise and has provided valuable and steady leadership amid a period of positive and significant change for Frostburg State University,” President Gibralter said. “He is a strategic thinker who works collaboratively with faculty, deans and department chairs. In a very short time, his administrative style has been incredibly impressive and an asset to us all. This is a critical time for this University, as we are just beginning the process of Middle States reaccreditation.”

Freshmen Can Start College Online Through New Program
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In recognition of the changing needs of today’s students, FSU has created an option for freshmen to complete their first semester online through a new initiative called the Freshmen Choice Program.
“With the Freshmen Choice Program, course materials and activities are published and executed online through the use of FSU’s Blackboard course management system. Once accepted, students enrolling in their first semester can register either for a full-time, 15-credit schedule or a part-time, seven-credit schedule from a select group of courses. "

FSU “Turns Up the Volume” With New Marketing Campaign
President Gibralter’s annual fall convocation marked the unveiling of the University’s new marketing campaign. Featuring a new tagline, “One University. A World of Experiences,” the campaign reflects Frostburg’s growing emphasis on providing students with transformative experiences as part of their educational journey and is designed to better share Frostburg’s story with the larger community.

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FSU’s Thomas Appointed to American Cancer Society Leadership Team

Dr. Rosemary M. Thomas, vice president for University Advancement and executive director of the FSU Foundation, Inc., has been appointed as the South Atlantic Division Liaison for the American Cancer Society’s (ACS) Nationwide Leadership Training Team. National trainers help spread the American Cancer Society’s messages at the national, divisional and regional levels.

“It is a privilege to serve in the liaison position for the South Atlantic Division and to help coordinate trainings for amazing Relay For Life events,” Thomas said. This appointment is the latest way Thomas, who has served on the leadership training team since 2011, has shown her commitment to ACS. Since 2006, Thomas has served as an ACS community ambassador for Region 12, covering Delaware and the Delaware Peninsula. She also has been a part of the leadership council for ACS Tri-County Leadership Team since 2003. She previously served for three years on the ACS South Atlantic Division board of directors. She was a member of the Relay For Life Mid-Atlantic Task Force from 1996 to 2000 and served on Relay committees in Maryland and West Virginia.

“Dr. Thomas has done an outstanding job of supporting the mission of the American Cancer Society to help us finish the fight against cancer. She has been an integral part of many highly successful Relay For Life events. Her leadership, expertise and passion are greatly appreciated by the Society,” said Michelle Mandicott, vice president for Relay For Life. ■

NASP Names FSU a Lead Institution in Civic Engagement

FSU has been selected to participate in a national initiative on civic learning and democratic engagement, one of 73 colleges and universities nationwide designated as a Lead Institution by NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education.

As a participating institution, FSU will continue to encourage students’ civic development through thoughtful community partnerships, engaging leadership opportunities and democratic participation.

“Being recognized as a national leader in this field is a reflection of quality of our current efforts and our ongoing commitment to inspiring students to challenge themselves through leadership and service,” said President Gibralter. ■

The students in the 2013-14 ECHOISTS living-learning-serving community gathered for a picture at the beginning of their year of service.

ECHOISTS Wins Two Awards in a Week at FSU

ECHOISTS, a group of 60 students in FSU’s living-learning-serving community, received two statewide service awards in one week last fall: the Community Partnership Award from Maryland-DC Campus Compact (MD/DC) and a Governor’s Service Award as a Special AmeriCorps Honoree. These awards came as a STAR! in Western Maryland, the AmeriCorps program of which ECHOISTS is a part, marked its 20th year at FSU.

The Community Partnership Award honors one outstanding campus-community partnership that produces measurable improvements in people’s lives while enhancing higher education. It honors a partnership that has successfully demonstrated a commitment between higher education and the community, resulting in a tangible community impact. The winners were honored at the 2013 Presidents’ Institute MD/DC COMPACT (Communities Organizing Networks How to Engage Citizens Through Service) conference.

The Governor’s Service Awards, which reflect the diversity of Maryland and demonstrate its spirit of service, were bestowed at the 2013 Governor’s Service Awards Ceremony.

ECHOISTS – Empowering Communities, Helping Others, Service Through Action, Resources and Sustainability – is comprised primarily of incoming freshman. While completing their freshman year, they are charged with providing 300 hours of direct service throughout Allegany and Garrett counties at service sites such as Road to Succeed, Frostburg Senior Center, Tech Wizards, Salvation Army, Beall Elementary and Kish Center.

Established in 1994, a STAR! started with 20 AmeriCorps service volunteers serving seven community partners in Allegany and Garrett counties. Over 20 years, A STAR! expanded to serve the four westernmost counties in Maryland, providing capacity building, environmental stewardship, academic enrichment, health and wellness as well as volunteer management throughout Western Maryland. Each year the program reaches over 6,500 beneficiaries through more than 64,000 hours of service provided by over 125 AmeriCorps members. ■

FSU Showcased in Annapolis

FSU faculty, staff, students and alumni joined Maryland legislators at a reception on Feb. 26 to showcase the current achievements and the future vision of the University, as well as to celebrate the new marketing campaign, One University. A World of Experiences. Students and alumni pictured above are students Michael Schoelen, Kelly Bean and Cody Brill; Ken Mcumber and Jeremy Mcumber ’00, student Victoria Suess; Gregory Akes ’13; Antonio Hayes ’10; Joe Lambert ’79; student Jasmine Alston; and Joe Comer ’00.

At left, Del. Norman Conway, who represents Worcester and Wicomico counties and chairs the House Appropriations Committee, poses for a picture with President Gibralter.

Messman-Mandicott Named Director of Ort Library

Dr. Lea Messman-Mandicott has been named director of the Lewis J. Ort Library, selected following a national search. A part of the library staff since 1991, she was most recently associate director for library technology.

“Her knowledge of all areas of library services, and her intimate knowledge of the Ort Library in particular, indicate that Frostburg State is well-positioned to meet cutting-edge library services as we continue to transform into a future-focused institution,” said Provost Dr. William Childs.

Before joining Frostburg in 1989, Messman-Mandicott worked in libraries at Cornell University and Clemson University. Her research interests include copyright laws and intellectual property rights, and library services to distance and remote users. Messman-Mandicott succeeds Dr. David Gillespie, who retired after nearly 30 years of service. ■

FSU’s Service to Veterans Noted by U.S. News and World Report and Victory Media

The 2014 edition of the U.S. News & World Report’s Best College for Veterans named FSU to its list recognizing top-ranked schools that participate in federal initiatives helping veterans and active service members apply, pay for and complete their degree. The 234-schools in this list scored well in terms of graduation rate, faculty resources, reputation and other markers of academic quality. To qualify for the new ranking, the schools had to be certified for the GI Bill, participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program and be members of the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges Consortium.

In addition, Victory Media, which serves military personnel transitioning from active duty, has named FSU to its coveted Military Friendly Schools list for the third year in a row. This list honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America’s military service members, veterans and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

“This recognition is further evidence of Frostburg State University’s commitment to ensuring that our veteran and active-duty military students have access to the opportunities that higher education will provide,” said President Gibralter. “They have earned our gratitude.”

In the past year at FSU, the Student Veterans Organization was established, open to all students who had served or were serving in the military; the veteran faculty, staff and FSU alumni; FSU is also developing a comprehensive veterans support initiative that includes scholarships and programming for veterans. ■
Frostburg State University: One University. A World of Experiences.

FSU Board of Regents Honors Lois Bennett

Lois Bennett, administrative assistant II for Programs Advancing Student Success (PASS), Disability Support Services and the Registrar’s Office, has received the 2015 University System of Maryland Board of Regents Staff Award, the highest honor bestowed on USM staff employees. She is being honored for outstanding service to students in an academic or residential environment.

An FSU employee since 1984, Bennett is the administrative assistant for three offices, providing complex technical and secretarial support to six professional administrators and instructors. The intangible tasks she performs, however, make her a star.

“One of Lois’ strongest attributes is her ability to listen, something students seem to recognize instinctively,” said Harriett B. Douglas, the director of the Academic Advising Center and Career Services. Davis, who began her employment at FSU in 1976, was honored in the category of Non-exempt (hourly) employee. She serves as a senior administrative assistant and unofficial office manager in the Admissions Office, where her primary responsibility is to process student applications, approximately 5,500 per year, and the accompanying documents required to review an applicant’s file. She is a dedicated worker and capable multi-tasker whose caring attitude makes a lasting impression on students and their families.

Wiland was recognized under the Non-exempt employee/facilities-maintenance category. Employed at FSU for 19 years as a housekeeper, he has been assigned to various buildings across campus, most recently, the Performing Arts Center, where he also mentors new hires or transfers. He is known for his very high standards of cleanliness and safety. His duties extend to being a “spokesman” for FSU, as he often helps students and parents find their way across campus.

Staff Awards for Excellence are funded by the FSU Foundation’s Annual Fund. “By recognizing these well-respected individuals, we emphasize the value we place on a strong work ethic, intelligence, creativity, motivation and achievement,” said Carolyn Atkins, chair of the selection committee.

Bingman, who received his master’s and doctoral degrees from WVU, taught for more than 38 years at Frostburg State in the Department of Educational Professions. Now faculty emeritus at FSU, he remains active, continuously promoting literacy and exposure to quality literature.

Bingman founded the Children’s Literature Centre to enhance study and dissemination of children’s literature. The Children’s Literature Festival he started has operated for 33 years. The festival is one of the largest on the East Coast and provides librarians, educators, students and other literacy advocates the opportunity to experience firsthand interaction with celebrated authors, illustrators and storytellers. Additionally, he oversees the creation of an exchange program with Mary Immaculate College in Limerick, Ireland.

In January, Bingman and Dr. Barbara O’Rourke, a professor in the Department of Educational Professions, led a study abroad excursion to the West Virginia University College of Education and Human Services in Morgantown, WV, during the 2013 Scholars’ Honors/Hall of Fame Reception in early October. In addition to the Hall of Fame honor, Bingman was chosen as the 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient.

Bingman and O’Rourke will travel again to Limerick in late May as part of CLECS, sponsorship of a children’s literature festival being organized and hosted for the first time by Mary Immaculate.
**Dr. Edward ‘Ned’ G. Boehm ’64**

**Boehm Retires After Record-Breaking Career at Keystone College**

Dr. Edward ‘Ned’ G. Boehm ’64 retired from his position as president of Keystone College at the end of the 2012-2013 school year after 18 years. Boehm, who has the longest presidential tenure in Keystone history, revamped the school, guided it out of economic instability and led the Keystone team in transforming the school from a small junior college to one of the most respected baccalaureate schools in Northeastern Pennsylvania. He is now president emeritus and still serves the school and community, focusing on fundraising.

Prior to Keystone, Boehm also served six years as senior vice president for institutional advancement at the School of Public Health and Health Services and as adjunct professor in the School of Business at The George Washington University. He frequently speaks at national and international conferences and symposia addressing catastrophic events and threats of terrorism.

After FSU, Marghella earned a doctorate in Health Sciences from A.T. Still University and administrative roles at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. Dr. Boehm has been a member of the FSU Foundation Board of Directors since 1994.

**Marghella Named Director of NY Office of Emergency Management**

Dr. Peter D. Marghella ’84 has been named the director of the New York State Office of Emergency Management, part of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. His new role places him at the head of the department responsible for all matters related to preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery for any large-scale emergencies that occur within the state.

Marghella has focused the majority of his career on the areas of medical and public health preparedness and response for large-scale disasters, and he has worked at the state and national levels.

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### Super Quiz

**Unidentified Greg Garcia Pilot Available Online**

FSU alum and TV writer Greg Garcia ’82 is finding success with his new CBS show, The Millers, which has been declared the top-rated sitcom of the new TV season. However, the Kenny Awards-winning creator of My Name Is Earl (CBS), Door and Driver (also developed and filmed a second pilot for the network that was not picked up for the fall schedule).

Super Quiz told the story of a TV comedy fan written by Rupert Grint, best known as Ron in the Harry Potter series, who discovers his calling as a writer after writing his first episode of Super Clyde and watch it released on the CBS website.

### Movie-Making Grads Team Up for Second Feature

There’s no business like show business for two FSU alums who met on stage in the old Comcast Theatre.

JW Myers ’89 and Ty DeMartino ’90 both tried out for the lead in Larry Shue’s The Foreigner back in 1986. Now, the two have partnered up and are producing family-themed feature films through their company, Route 40 Films. Myers directs the scripts that DeMartino writes.

“It’s amazing that we’re friends now because I hated Ty for stealing that lead role from me,” laughed Myers, who spent years as an actor in Hollywood before recently turning to directing.

“He got to terrorize me in that play. I think that’s where our friendship began,” joked DeMartino, a playwright whose works have been produced in New York City and Los Angeles.

In 2011, Myers and DeMartino teamed up with F nylon Films out of Wheeling, W.Va., for a two-picture deal and first produced the critically acclaimed patriotic drama The Pledge (formerly known as Doughboy). In 2013, they released the holiday film A Christmas Tree Miracle.

The story focuses on a self-centered family who is hit by hard times and learns the true meaning of the holiday when they are taken in by an eccentric Christmas tree farmer. The movie had its world premiere in Wheeling in November and played to a sold-out audience at the Frostburg Storybook Holiday before being released on DVD.

Many online distributors such as Amazon.com, Best Buy and Barnes & Noble sold out of the film.

“We were shocked when we heard that retailers couldn’t keep it in stock,” Myers said.

“The movie’s themes of kindness and helping others are really resonating with audiences,” DeMartino added.

The two are working on new projects and exploring the creation of a studio in their hometown of Frostburg, where both reside.

“There’s so much talent here with the resources of Frostburg State University,” Myers said. “It’s an exciting time to be an independent filmmaker.”


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**Unidentified Greg Garcia Pilot Available Online**

FSU alum and TV writer Greg Garcia ’82 is finding success with his new CBS show, The Millers, which has been declared the top-rated sitcom of the new TV season.

However, when Warn came home for a visit in June of 2013, she kept thinking it would be nice to be closer than 3,000 miles from her hometown.

“I just felt this weird pull that there was something I needed to do here,” she said.

In addition to her love for the arts, Warn had always had a desire to run a business (her parents are owners of The Hen House, a local restaurant). She and her dad noticed an old bank was for sale on Frostburg’s Main Street.

“When I walked into that building, I got goose bumps” she said. “I thought, ‘There’s some magic in this.’”

And that was how Warn became the founder of Mountain City Center for the Arts, which opened in September 2013 and offers classes for all ages in ballet, tap, musical theatre, acting, Zumba, yoga and Dance It Out, a workout that combines different types of dance.

The Center, which began with 50 students and has grown significantly in the past months, is a labor of love — and a culmination of talent of several other FSU alumni and instructors in addition to Warn, Mallory Smith ’09; Jessica Seminario ’09; Erin Dettinburn ’08; Jamie McGarey ’06, who directs the University’s dance company; and Melanie Lombardi ’98, FSU-TV’s Cable Channel 3 manager, all teach at the Centre. FSU students have served as interns and instructors, as well. Warn, who also directs photography and talks to local schools about health and wellness, is finding that was not picked up for the fall schedule.

### Movie-Making Grads Team Up for Second Feature

There’s no business like show business for two FSU alums who met on stage in the old Comcast Theatre.

JW Myers ’89 and Ty DeMartino ’90 both tried out for the lead in Larry Shue’s The Foreigner back in 1986. Now, the two have partnered up and are producing family-themed feature films through their company, Route 40 Films. Myers directs the scripts that DeMartino writes.

“It’s amazing that we’re friends now because I hated Ty for stealing that lead role from me,” laughed Myers, who spent years as an actor in Hollywood before recently turning to directing.

“He got to terrorize me in that play. I think that’s where our friendship began,” joked DeMartino, a playwright whose works have been produced in New York City and Los Angeles.

In 2011, Myers and DeMartino teamed up with F nylon Films out of Wheeling, W.Va., for a two-picture deal and first produced the critically acclaimed patriotic drama The Pledge (formerly known as Doughboy). In 2013, they released the holiday film A Christmas Tree Miracle.

The story focuses on a self-centered family who is hit by hard times and learns the true meaning of the holiday when they are taken in by an eccentric Christmas tree farmer. The movie had its world premiere in Wheeling in November and played to a sold-out audience at the Frostburg Storybook Holiday before being released on DVD.

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**Frostburg State University**

*One University. A World of Experiences.*

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*Note: Wayne Kerker ’10 ’11 sent the following letter to Dr. Gauker, which she shared as an example of the kind of impact that the FSU College of Business’ program of Global Experiential Learning can have.*

**Dear Dr. Gauker,**

As an FSU alumnus, I may be somewhat partial to the College of Business, but a study abroad experience like I had this summer in Peru definitely sets Frostburg State apart from other universities. I would have never considered a full semester abroad, but a two-week experience was much more realistic … I can honestly say that every aspect of the trip was a learning experience — a lesson that cannot be repeated in a textbook or a lecture given by the best professor on campus. Hands-on experience like this can only be synthesized at the source. Take, for example, our meeting with the mayor of Cuzco. To be in Peru learning about leadership, and then to be part of a private meeting with the mayor of one of the countries most important cities in the world was a phenomenal opportunity. Our group should be the envy of any leadership class.

Our day of service in a remote Andean village was also an eye-opening experience. Prior to this class, I was not familiar with the concepts of servant leadership. Since then, I have developed a greater appreciation for the virtues of this leadership style. Being- and confidence-building exercises we participated in with the Quechan children is essential to cementing a better relationship between Native Peruvians and outsiders. In turn, this will allow medical humanitarian groups, such as Reach Out And Learn, to come in and be trusted by the community because of positive past experiences. It was an awesome feeling to be part of something so great.

I feel so fortunate to have participated in … this trip to Peru and the 2011 MBA study abroad on China. Both were fascinating and life-changing opportunities for me. Although both trips were to learn about topics in business, I feel that I learned a lot about myself as well. Having seen the world, I have a much greater understanding of global issues — can ‘connect the dots,’ so to speak.

I should also mention the more subtle benefits of learning abroad … like a visit to a McDonald’s in Peru or a Walmart in China. Both were lessons in and of themselves. In order to be successful in a foreign land, these must adapt to the local culture. Understanding how an industry meets a local demand is crucial for a successful global enterprise. I hope that FSU continues to be a leader in global experiential learning. These trips have prepared me to become a better leader — I hope future FSU students will have the same opportunity.

Thanks,

Wayne Kerker
Assistant Controller, CNN Bank, Inc.

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*To learn more, visit www.facebook.com/ FrostburgStateUniversity or contact Dr. Sudhir Singh, professor on campus. Frostburg State University’s Facebook page is available at www.achristmastreemiracle.com. To look around campus, visit www.virtualfrostburg.edu.*

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*Wayne Kerker ’10 ’11, right, poses with fellow Bobcat Gamero, left, after a game with Edinburg High School. Gamero, who is a native of Peru, was a Gift to Machu Picchu.*
Allegany County Opportunity Scholarship Puts Casino Revenues to Important Use

The Allegany County Opportunity Scholarship is a positive step to help accomplish many goals,” said Commissioner William R. Valentine. “This encourages population retention and growth, enhances the quality of the local workforce for current and prospective employers and supports economic development and the associated prosperity it creates.”

FSU, through the FSU Foundation, Inc., will receive 25 percent of the county casino revenues, anticipated to be an estimated $175,000 in the first year, with all funds to be earmarked for scholarships to residents of three years or longer.

“I cannot emphasize enough how forward-thinking and innovative this plan is,” said President Gibalda. “The Allegany County Commissioners deserve the thanks of those many, many Allegany County residents who can now anticipate being able to follow a path of higher education that had previously been out of reach. The possibilities for those students and this county will increase exponentially.”

The first scholarships will be awarded during 2014. Full-time undergraduate and graduate students or those pursuing professional certification with a 3.0 G.P.A. will be eligible.

Police Scholarship Fund Celebrates Legacy and Future of Law Enforcement

Scared, from left, are Commissioner William R. Valentine, President Gibalda and Commissioners Michael W. McKain and Cracole V. Biddle. Standing, from left, are Provost William Childs, FSU Foundation Director of Finance and Administration Alicia White ’84, Vice President of Student and Educational Services Tom Bowling and County Administrator David Eberly ’84/M’01.

By Becca Rampett

Sometimes setting up a scholarship is as simple as looking around and recognizing that the people in your everyday world need your help.

That’s what it was like for Bill Stewart, a retired University Police captain and operations officer, who spent nearly 35 years surrounded by ticket writers, dispatchers and other employees who all happened to be Frostburg students—some of whom went on to work alongside him as FSU police officers once they graduated.

So Stewart decided to establish the University Police Scholarship Fund, which supports FSU students seeking a career in law enforcement either through a major course of study or through employment and extracurricular activities. He asked his fellow law enforcement officers to get involved, and they started making weekly contributions and encouraging others to do the same.

“Police officers have a history of trying to help each other,” he said. “That’s number one in police. Back up your buddy, have your buddy’s back. This is a way of having someone’s back who is potentially going to be your partner—if not yours, then someone else’s.”

Cindy Powers ’88 retired in 2009 after 29 years of service with University Police as an officer and eventually a sergeant. A military veteran, she remembers the first time she was asked to work her way through school, relying on her VA benefits and her part-time jobs to afford an education at Frostburg.

“They hit me in the face with this idea,” she thought. “That’s great. A lot of my family members have gone to Frostburg. It was just a good way to give back and pay forward,” she said.

“…a lot of people could hopefully eventually get the scholarship and then the future of the profession. And there are so many great students at Frostburg. It just feels good personally to do something to ensure their success of their educational endeavors and also future police lives.”

The reasons for people to get involved in helping the University Police Scholarship Fund are endless. Stewart said, “I sincerely hope that people who are working in law enforcement who are alumni, especially the ones who have worked for the University Police department, see the value of the scholarship and she need to give back.”

The local law enforcement community, which often comes to FSU for training and works closely with the University on various initiatives, would also benefit from supporting the fund. Stewart said, as some of FSU’s graduates end up working in the area. “I am an PIO, so people cross jurisdictional lines, and we do support another one’s activities….  I hope that whenever who reads this will say, ‘Hey, hey, hey. We should support this. ’We’ve got a lot of people come through law enforcement as student employees and friends.”

I think this would be a wonderful opportunity for them to recognize where they came from.”

To learn more about the University Police Scholarship Fund and how you can get involved, visit www.frostburg.edu/foundation or call 301-687-4161.

Gidalda calls retired police officers back up your buddy, have your buddy’s back. This is a way of having someone’s back who is potentially going to be your partner—if not yours, then someone else’s.”

“This is a way to personally ensure I’m doing something to help the future of the profession.”

FSO Chief of Police Cynthia Smith

Who’s on the Line?

If you receive a call from Frostburg State University during our annual spring phonathon, we thought you would like to see what’s on the other end of the line. These are our callers at a thank-you dinner last fall. All of our callers are current students who are anxious to make the connection with you, our alumni. So when you see Frostburg State University on your Caller ID, please answer the phone! Know that on the other end of the line is a real FSU student who wants to talk to you.

Frostburg State University: One University. A World of Experiences.
Christmas Gift Reflects Love for Family and Alma Mater

by Becca Ramspott

It was Christmas in 2011, and the Rev. George Harpold and his wife, Phyllis ’60, were staying down at a huge hotson their son, Michael ’95, had just handed them.

“Michael kept telling us, ‘This is the best present I’ve ever bought you,’” George said.

What was inside could hardly be contained by a package, or even their hearts, which were bursting with pride, love and gratitude toward their son when they realized it was a scholarship he had created in their name.

“We both cried,” Phyllis said.

The Reverend George M. and Mrs. Phyllis C. Harpold Presidential Merit Scholarship in Biology supports FSU biology majors who are residents of Allegany or Garrett counties — a reflection of the Harpold family’s history of supporting each other’s dreams to pursue an education and employment in Western Maryland, where their roots run deep.

Michael used the biology degree he earned from FSU to go on to become a chiropractor.

“In the 51 Christmases we’ve been married, that was the best gift we’ve ever gotten.” — Rev. George Harpold

His sister, Lynn ’84, completed a degree in chemistry at Frostburg State College and eventually became a veterinarian. Phyllis graduated with her degree in education from Frostburg State Teachers College.

The legacy stretches back even further to Phyllis’s aunt, Esther Carter ’32, who graduated from Frostburg Normal School and enjoyed an admirable career as a leader in special education. Esther supported her family, including her niece, for many years — taking care of many expenses and even paying Phyllis’ way through college.

“I mean, she paid for my lunch. … She bought my lunch every day. She was our hero,” Phyllis said.

Michael was very close to Esther, who passed away from lung cancer just five days before Christmas in 1980. He has recently established a second scholarship in her honor, the Esther Mae Carter Education Scholarship, which will benefit local education majors.

The Harpolds appreciate the fact that the Harpold scholarship focuses on helping local students with a preference for academic ability and demonstrated financial need, so they can stay close to home and their families and benefit from parental guidance.

The Harpold Scholarship is also strategic in that it supports students in the sciences who may very well remain in Western Maryland and start careers there, George said.

“All in all, it was a Christmas present that will last well beyond that first season, and is one the Harpolds will enjoy for the rest of their lives.

“In the 51 Christmases we’ve been married, that was the best gift we’ve ever gotten.” — George said.

“We have really good kids,” Phyllis laughed. “The Harpolds have a third daughter named Anita.

To learn more about supporting the Reverend George M. and Mrs. Phyllis C. Harpold Presidential Merit Scholarship in Biology supports FSU biology majors who are residents of Allegany or Garrett counties — a reflection of the Harpold family’s history of supporting each other’s dreams to pursue an education and employment in Western Maryland, where their roots run deep.

The Rev. George Harpold and his wife, Phyllis, at right, meet with students and community volunteers at the student and community volunteers for that purpose.

The Federal Communications Commission granted a license to Frostburg State College for a 100-watt, non-commercial, educational FM radio station. WFWM began broadcasting at 91.7 FM in May 1984. From the start, the mission of the station has been to serve as a positive public reflection of the University, to provide experiential learning opportunities for its students and to enhance the quality of life of the local community.

In 1996, WFWM increased its main transmitter’s power to 1300 watts. The boost expanded the station’s listening area and required it to change its frequency to the current 91.9. WFWM became an affiliate member of National Public Radio in 1998. In 2002, WFWM created XFSR, an internet radio station, to provide additional opportunities for FSU students to gain experience in broadcasting.

As WFWM celebrates its 30th anniversary, it will move into brand new state-of-the-art studios when the Center for Communications and Information Technology opens later in 2014. WFWM’s new home will feature five student studios, a recording studio and a live on-air performance stage. The new facility will greatly enhance the radio station’s ability to better serve the University, its students and its listeners through the next 30 years.

Since its start, public support has been crucial for WFWM to continue to grow. In 2013, WFWM held successful on-air fund drives that enabled the station to purchase a new transmitter and satellite dish.

To support WFWM, visit www.frostburg.edu/foundation/ ways-to-give/specifyWFWM or call 301-674-4100.

— Chuck Dicken ’96

WFWM Marks 30 Years on the Air

WFWM 91.9, Frostburg State University’s public radio station, is celebrating 30 years of service to the University and the Western Maryland area in 2014.

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— Chuck Dicken ’96

Artwork Donated From Esteemed Collection Honors Professor

FSU recently got a new infusion of art in the form of a generous gift of 14 works from the Mary and Lucien Rubinstein Collection in honor of the Rubinstein’s friend, Dr. Karen Soderberg-Sarnaker, a professor in the University’s Department of Music and director of vocal and choral activities.

The Rev. George Harpold and his wife, Phyllis, at right, meet with students and community volunteers at the student and community volunteers for that purpose.

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The Director of FSU’s Department of Music wrote a heartfelt note of thanks to Dr. Rubinstein and the Foundation, and the FSU Foundation wrote a letter to Dr. Soderberg-Sarnaker, expressing appreciation for the gift.

“The FSU Foundation is pleased to accept this gift in honor of Dr. Soderberg-Sarnaker,” wrote Wheelock Family Scholarship.

“We are grateful to FSU’s Department of Music for these exquisite works, which will enhance the University’s ability to attract students, faculty and staff,” said FSU President Dr. Mary M. Herman Rubinstein.

The collection includes lithographs, colorful, abstract oil paintings, etchings and other pieces.

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The formula for “what is success” varies from person to person offering the perspective. It could be the result of opportunities, education, experiences, mindsets or just plain luck.

As an institution of higher learning, Frostburg State University has the objective for all of its students to reach success academically, personally and, as they graduate, professionally. According to a new report, Frostburg is having great success with success. The top two positioning statements resulting from a recent market study were “Frostburg equips students with the knowledge, skills, experience and confidence they need to successfully launch their careers and charge boldly into the next phase of their life” and “FSU provides students with an engaging experiential learning program of hands-on, out-of-the-classroom learning opportunities.”

These bold statements that Frostburg is successfully helping graduates find careers after giving them “a world of experience” inspired us to look at our alumni and find out how they define success and what role Frostburg played in helping them achieve it.

**Profile**

Barbara Graves ’66

**The Facts:** Barbara Graves is a retired educator from Prince George’s and Charles counties where she also worked in supervision and curriculum development. Knowing the importance of mentorship, Graves created and led the Charles County Teacher Colleague Program, in which established educators guide and mentor new teachers. Active with Frostburg alumni functions, Graves received the FSU Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award in 2010.

**Profile: How do you define success?**

**GRAVES:** Success is personal. It is not measured by position or reward. It is determined by one’s assessment of his or her personal and professional goals. Success comes when you marry your experience – good and bad – with new opportunities to learn and grow that may force you out of your comfort zone. This new challenge may mean you have to reconsider or revise your goals. One of the questions I ask myself to filter my success is, have I left this project/situation/issue better than I found it?

**Profile: Who or what was a major influence in your success, and why?**

**GRAVES:** College life gave me the academic preparation and several leadership experiences that helped to shape my career. After college, I was fortunate to be mentored by several outstanding professional educators who challenged me to build my capacity as a professional, often moving me outside my comfort zone. As a result, I have enjoyed various experiences and opportunities as an educator and consultant working at the state, national and international levels, as well as in my classroom and school system as a teacher, department chair, supervisor and director. For this reason, I continue to stay involved with FSU as an alum who would like every student to have the meaningful experience campus life has to offer. It can be a springboard to your future success. When I look at my circle of friends, most of them are Frostburg connections, and many have provided ongoing support during my career. One of them is my husband Bill (Graves ’65) – another FSU experience. Or was he an opportunity?

**Profile: If you could go back in time, what advice would you give yourself as a college freshman?**

**GRAVES:** Go for it! Step out of your comfort zone and give that experience a try. Do not limit yourself by what others are doing or saying. Develop your options by firsthand experience. GO FOR IT!

**Profile: What role has Frostburg State played in your success?**

**GRAVES:** Frostburg provided a whole new venue of experience and opportunity. Being involved on campus – in my sorority, class offices, student government and campus activities provided many experiences for me to learn about myself. Additionally, the relationship with a few professors and then Dean of Students Dr. Alice Manicur was a confidence-building experience. For this reason, I continue to stay involved with FSU as an alum who would like every student to have the meaningful experience campus life has to offer. It can be a springboard to your future success. When I look at my circle of friends, most of them are Frostburg connections, and many have provided ongoing support during my career. One of them is my husband Bill (Graves ’65) – another FSU experience. Or was he an opportunity?
THE FACTS: Barbara Kreppel is the retired associate vice president for administrative services at the University of Delaware, where she was responsible for campus facilities and dining and conference services. Previously, she served as director of auxiliary services at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania, where she got her master’s degree in public administration. At Frostburg, she double-majored in French and social science and minored in political science. Currently, she is a realtor and home stager whose company is called BLK Enterprises.

PROFILE: How do you define success?

KREPEL: For me, success is taking satisfaction in doing something well and to the best of my ability wherever the job or challenge. Hopefully, I will be fortunate enough to enjoy what I am doing.

PROFILE: If you could go back in time, what advice would you give yourself as a college freshman?

KREPEL: I wish I had taken more time to spend with friends, to get to know the local area and to take some courses just for fun. With academic and work commitments, my four years at Frostburg were probably the best time to try new things and do what I wanted before taking on the serious aspects of a career.

PROFILE: What role has Frostburg State played in your success?

KREPEL: When I applied for admission, I planned to teach. By the time I arrived on campus … I was less certain of a career path. While living on campus, I was exposed to the role of the resident assistants and found that I was interested in what they did and why. The Housing and Residence Life staff was very encouraging and ultimately I was selected as an office manager and later a resident assistant. The FSU staff’s support and this work experience outside of the classroom led me to seek out positions related to campus life. I was offered positions in student housing administration and later in campus auxiliary services. Living at Frostburg was a great experience for me. It offered me an opportunity to challenge myself academically, to meet lots of different people with many interests, to make my own decisions as an adult and to learn about a new field of interest that would ultimately become my profession.

GETTING TO THE “HEART” OF THE MATTER

Dr. Mark Nelson ’83

THE FACTS: Dr. Mark Nelson is a cardio/thoracic surgeon and director of The Heart Institute of the Western Maryland Health System in Cumberland, Md. A native of the Frostburg area, Nelson is also a noted fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

PROFILE: How do you define success?

NELSON: I would define success as the achievement of carefully planned personal goals.

PROFILE: If you could go back in time, what advice would you give yourself as a college freshman?

NELSON: I would tell myself to try not to stress so much about exams, schoolwork, etc., because the real stress comes later in life. Also, friends come and go, but family provides continuity throughout life.

PROFILE: Who or what was a major influence in your success, and why?

NELSON: My parents provided advice and encouragement throughout the formative years, as did my teachers at Blair High School. … Dr. Paul Hunt (former professor of chemistry at Frostburg State) was a mentor for me in deciding to pursue a career in medicine. Physicians and surgeons at University of Maryland School of Medicine and West Virginia University hospitals helped cultivate my desire for my chosen specialty.

PROFILE: What role has Frostburg State played in your success?

NELSON: Frostburg State has played a huge role in my success. My initial decision to pursue a career in medicine occurred while at Frostburg State. In addition, majoring in chemistry provided a sound basis for the subsequent pursuit of a degree in medicine. In essence, it provided a “launching pad” for further educational endeavors.

“Try not to stress so much about exams, schoolwork, etc., because the real stress comes later in life.”

– Dr. Mark Nelson ’83
Director of The Heart Institute, Western Maryland Health System

TAKING TIME FOR FRIENDS AND FUN

Barbara Kreppel ’75

“My four years at Frostburg were probably the best time to try new things.”

– Barbara Kreppel ’75
Retired Vice President, University of Delaware
BUILDING AND EXERCISING GOOD CHARACTER

Leonard Wright '88

THE FACTS: Leonard Wright works as a senior programmer/analyst with IT Works! in the Washington, D.C., area. At FSU, he was a member of the 1986 and 1987 National Champion Track and Field teams and made All-American six times. In 2013, Wright was inducted into the Bobcat Hall of Fame.

PROFILE: How do you define success?

WRIGHT: Success to me is reaching an achievable and desirable target that requires hard work. A target can be a goal or a milestone to a long-term goal. I’ve found that the more I build and exercise good character, the easier it is to overtake my challenges and reach my targets. I’ve found that being slow to speak, choosing my words carefully, not judging and being humble are pillars to my success.

PROFILE: If you could go back in time, what advice would you give yourself as a college freshman?

WRIGHT: I would tell myself to dwell on the positives in life. Stay positive in your thinking and everything you do. If you find yourself in a negative situation, challenge yourself to find the positives. There is always a positive. This will help train your mind in creative and innovative thinking. This will also keep you moving forward when times are weighing down on you. Don’t let it all dwell on the negative, and don’t allow pride to keep you from asking for help.

PROFILE: What role has Frostburg State played in your success?

WRIGHT: Frostburg State played a significant role in my success by giving me an extraordinary education. I received a marketable degree to use in getting a job in technology within three months of graduating. As a Frostburg athlete, I was able to travel to see different towns, cities and universities, which has given me a better perspective on the history of our beautiful country. I’ve developed a network of professional and personal friends. It was the start I needed to not just get my foot in the door but to develop a long career as a programmer/analyst.

PROFILE: What was a major influence in your success, and why?

WRIGHT: A major influence in my success was building a support team. Having someone to bounce ideas off, someone to discuss my challenges, someone to give me a different perspective on a situation and someone to help me understand the things I don’t understand was imperative to my success. Having other people in your life will help you get past the challenges in life that are difficult to overcome because of your imperfections. Also, other people will help you smile in the ugliest of situations. Smiling and laughter reduce stress and freshen your mind to rethink the problem at hand.

“The more I build and exercise good character, the easier it is to overtake my challenges and reach my targets.”

– Leonard Wright '88
IT Works! Programmer/Analyst, Bobcat Hall of Famer

“Success is setting goals and achieving them ... The most important part for me is ensuring that those goals have a positive and meaningful impact on people around you.”

– Pete Forno '98
Regional Sales Director, Gigamon
NEVER GIVE UP
Jill King ’05

“When you can look around at what you have and be grateful and happy — to me, that’s ultimate success.”

— Jill King ’05
Producer, The Rachael Ray Show

THE FACTS: Jill King moved to New York City after college with dreams of making it in the entertainment industry. A former concert commissioner for the University Programming Council, King was instrumental in bringing a little-known band named Maroon 5 to campus back in 2004. She is currently a producer on the Emmy Award-winning Rachel Ray Show.

PROFILE: How do you define success?
KING: I define success with happiness. When you look around at what you have and be grateful and happy — to me, that’s ultimate success. I have one of my favorite quotes framed in my office. It’s from John Lennon. “When I was 5 years old, my mother always told me that happiness was the key to life.”

PROFILE: If you could go back in time, what advice would you give yourself as a college freshman?
KING: I would tell myself to enjoy the college experience more and not try to rush through it. I was very driven in college and had a radio job that took me away from campus every weekend. It wasn’t until my junior year when I joined UPC that I started having a college experience, and even then, it was like I couldn’t wait to graduate and have a job. Now I miss having my parents put money on my Bobcat card, go to free movie screenings in the Lane Center and late night in the cafeteria.

PROFILE: What role has Frostburg State played in your success?
KING: Frostburg State played a crucial part in my success. I had amazing professors like Dr. (Linda) Pack, Dr. (John) Lombardi and Dr. (Robert) Scott. Dr. (Tyra) Phipps’ Mass Communication 101 class helped me realize that changing my major from elementary education to mass comm was the right thing to do. Dr. Phipps’ passion for her students to get excited about television and entertainment was contagious, and I couldn’t wait to get a job after college. Being a part of UPC was also very rewarding. I loved learning how to put on big concert productions with [my advisor, Gary Van Zanderen]. We did amazing shows together like Maroon 5, Sara Bareilles, The Doozie Brothers and REO Speedwagon. Those nights are some of my most treasured memories from college.

PROFILE: Who or what was a major influence in your success, and why?
KING: Many people in my life have influenced my success. When I worked for HOT 99.5 in Rockville, Md., I had a co-worker who told me, “This industry is hard. You need to think about how many times you can be told no before you move on. And if the answer is I’ll never give up, then this is the right field for you.” I will never forget that and because I never give up. I guess this is the business for me.

My grandfather was another person in my life who made me want to strive for success. He always believed in me and taught me to always think positive. While positive thinking doesn’t always come easy to me at times, I still always remember to look for a silver lining in every situation. I lost my grandfather when I was just 15 years old, but every day in my successes and in my failures, I always stop to think “Would my grandfather be proud of me?”

Hoping to make my grandfather proud has pushed me toward success, and always will.

THE FACTS: Blair Bedford is a production coordinator with Gannett, one of the nation’s largest and most recognizable media and marketing companies with a diverse and recognizable broadcast, digital, mobile and publishing portfolio (including the newspaper USA TODAY). She was previously a music programming coordinator at Viacom for the BET Networks and Centric TV. In her spare time, Bedford is a freelance writer and multi-media journalist for the online publication Madame Noire. She resides in the Washington, D.C., area.

PROFILE: How do you define success?
BEDFORD: To me, great relationships and experience are success. I can impact someone else’s professional and personal life by connecting with him or her and establish a lasting relationship. I feel that I have succeeded. Since graduating, I have met some amazing professionals who have become not only great networks, but friends.

PROFILE: If you could go back in time, what advice would you give yourself as a college freshman?
BEDFORD: One piece of advice I would give myself is that you are allowed to make mistakes and explore other areas of interest. I went into college thinking I knew exactly who I wanted to be in the years to come, and I focused my attention solely on making that a reality without staying. Now as a graduate, that dream has altered so many times in so many ways. I now realize that if I allowed myself to explore every option college had to offer, I would be better prepared for the changes you face as a professional.

I would also advise myself to be fearless. College is full of possibilities and opportunities, and I wish I had been more courageous earlier in my college career to take risks and enjoy them.

PROFILE: Who or what was a major influence in your success, and why?
BEDFORD: The younger generation of my family is a major influence in my journey to success. They motivate me every day to be a better person, personally and professionally. I want to teach them that hard work, confidence and cultivating authentic relationships throughout life are the way to achieve true success.

PROFILE: What role has Frostburg State played in your success?
BEDFORD: My experience at Frostburg State has proven to be a great chapter for me as I continue to cultivate my budding career in media. Frostburg gave me the sense of leadership I was looking for in myself. From working as president of the National Broadcasting Society and copy editor with The Bottom Line, Frostburg State allowed me to become a leader, make mistakes and prove to myself that I was capable of being a leader in life.

PROFILE: If you could go back in time, what advice would you give yourself as a college freshman?
BEDFORD: The young me would tell myself to think “Would my grandfather be proud of me?”

One piece of advice I would give myself is that you are allowed to make mistakes.

— Blair A. Bedford ’11
Production Coordinator, Gannett Media and Marketing
Sowing the Seeds of Sustainability

By Scott McDonough '14

On a cool autumn morning, students from Frostburg State University dropped their papers, pencils and books in exchange for shovels and garden gloves. As part of a Forest Ecology and Conservation Biology class' service learning project, students and community members joined together for a collaborative effort to turn the local area into “Tree City USA,” by planting tree saplings along Frost Avenue in Frostburg.

“After FSU became a ‘Tree Campus USA,’ we’ve been working to make Frostburg ‘Tree City, USA,’” said Dr. Sunshine Brosi, an assistant professor in the FSU Department of Biology and chair of the Campus Tree Advisory committee. “It’s our way of highlighting sustainability in the community as well as on campus.”

FSU has since been named a Tree Campus USA for a second year.

The roots of the project, funded through the Chesapeake Bay Trust, were planted as early as July 1, when an outreach grant was awarded to FSU to promote volunteerism, expand the area’s tree canopy and increase awareness about the environmental benefits of trees to the local urban environment and the larger watershed area.

“We’re really excited to communicate the importance of trees, especially in the urban environment,” said Dr. Laura Smith, an ethnobotany major interning with the City of Cumberland Urban Forestry Program and the author of the grant. “They are often overlooked for the work that they do to improve air and water quality.” To ensure that the message is conveyed by the Frostburg campus and community, 50 trees were planted along Frost Avenue, much to the satisfaction of Smith, who added, “Frost Avenue will be saturated [with trees].”

Volunteer FSU ethnobotany students will monitor the newly planted trees every two to three months. Signs at multiple planting sites will be used as an educational component of the ongoing project to inform the public about the benefits of the newly planted trees in their neighborhood. These signs will also promote the Western Maryland region’s place in the Chesapeake Watershed.

Data will be collected and analyzed by FSU students using i-TREE software, which will highlight the importance of allowing trees to reach mature size. Other opportunities for more in-depth, future study of tree-planting behavior will include community surveys and further observations.

The project will benefit students and the local area, as well as Allegany County and the region as a whole. As students sow the seeds of sustainability at Frostburg, Paula Munson, who has lived on Frost Avenue since 1976 and has seen a number of mature trees removed in recent years for safety reasons, said, “I think it’s wonderful making this street back to being beautiful again. Planting trees gives everybody a sense of ownership. I’d like to see more on every street in Frostburg.”

The success of the project and previous tree plantings in the Frostburg area being FSU closer to its long-term goal of seeing an increased awareness of urban trees’ integral role in protecting and enhancing local ecology. The seedlings and community members planted along Frost Avenue will blossom into fully grown crabapples, eastern redbuds, pin oaks, flowering dogwoods and other trees native to this region. Now, FSU’s distinction of being the only campus in Maryland that has adopted a standard of planting native trees and shrubs will grow along with them.

The tree planting crew paused for a photo. In the front row, from left, are David Pitcher, Erica Randolph, Katherine Pratt, Grant Smith (behind her), Hannah Goodmuth, Brin Miller, Alex Cathcart, Cathy Hughes and Anthony Kirby. In the back row, from left, are Ben Brown, Joseph Lusisias, Jared Williams, Kenneth Jefferson, Mike Hornig, Bryan Whitmore, Ron Yocomes, Devonan Daniels, Michael McCambell and Laura Smith.

From the Ground Up: FSU, Community Plant the Future of Frostburg as Tree City, USA

by By Scott McDonough ’14

A project growing on a barren, strip-mined mountaintop a few miles from campus is not only incubating plants like native trees and tomatoes, but it may soon be nurturing small businesses and a healthier environment for the Western Maryland region.

FSU, in partnership with the Western Maryland Resource Conservation and Development Council, has launched the Frostburg Grows: Grow It Local Greenhouse Project, an innovative program that is converting a reclaimed strip mine and parking lot to serve multiple purposes.

Operated completely off the grid, this complex is teaching local growers to make better use of their land to increase the availability of local food, cultivating native tree seedlings for stream buffers and other restoration projects, and providing a living classroom for FSU students. It’s just the beginning of its possibilities.

The location features two high-tunnel greenhouses producing abundant yields of foods such as tomatoes, peppers and raspberries by solar cells. Old highway signs that were donated by the Maryland State Highway Administration have been recycled into planters and water storage tanks.

“One of our main goals is to provide locally grown plants to the community,” said project coordinator Cozy Armstrong. Teams of volunteers collect seeds, such as access from white and red oaks, hickory and oaks and nuts from black walnut trees, which are then planted and cultivated in the shade house. Special care is taken to make sure the seedlings are adapted to the local climate. Hundreds of seedlings were cultivated in the first year, a number expected to triple in the second year.

Locally, there’s an interest in native plants as well as healthy, available food, and I think we’re going to see more of that in the future,” Armstrong said. “Right now in the works, we are raising seedlings to eventually plant in stream bank restoration projects, reforestation efforts and on strip-minted areas that really need it – sooner than later.”

Increasing the availability of local food began as a secondary goal, but the success and.

Hundreds of native tree seedlings were cultivated in the first year, ready to be used in stream restoration and mine reclamation projects.

“Food production wasn’t one of our main focuses to start, but it became practical for us to consider because of our overall mission regarding sustainability and our many partnerships,” Armstrong said. “One of the things we wanted to do was implement cost-effective and innovative ways to grow produce. We want to be able to teach others in the community … how to grow healthy food. We began growing tomatoes vertically, nearly one plant per square foot, to maximize fruit production in a given space, as well as revenue potential.”

For growers trying to maximize their land’s output, the techniques being tested at Frostburg Grows can mean a secure future income.

“These have the capacity to generate anywhere from $5,000 to $20,000 a year per high tunnel if you grow high-value crops like tomatoes, raspberries and greens,” said Dr. Dan Fiscus, FSU’s sustainability liaison and instructor in biology and sustainability courses. “Do the math, and figure that one person could potentially operate four of these single-handedly. You could get a really good annual income, a very lucrative job, a good-paying job for this region.”

“Maybe you want to go into the business of, say, growing lavender, which at this point in time is a very hot item in agriculture,” said Dr. Joseph Hoffman, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. “You could work with us, plant seeds and develop your protocol for growing your plants … We’ll measure the product it develops and give you as an agricultural entrepreneur a chance to test your ideas.”

For information about Frostburg Grows, contact Armstrong or Fiscus at 301-687-3136, or visit www.frostburg.edu/aces/frostburg-grows or search for Frostburg Grows on Facebook.

Unique Frostburg Grows Project Nurturing More Than Just Plants

by Liz Douglas Medcalf

A project growing on a barren, strip-mined mountaintop a few miles from campus is not only incubating plants like native trees and tomatoes, but it may soon be nurturing small businesses and a healthier environment for the Western Maryland region.

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Rogish Retires After Six Years as Head Coach

FSU head football coach Tom Rogish 'M 81 announced his retirement at the end of his sixth season of guiding the program.

I want to thank the University’s administration, faculty and staff members and the entire campus community at Frostburg State University for all of its help and support throughout my six years,” said Rogish. “I also want to thank my current and former players and the members of my coaching staff for their hard work and dedication to the Bobcat football program. The entire athletic department has been very supportive of the program, and I have really enjoyed my time as the head football coach.”

Under Rogish’s direction, FSU totaled 46 all-conference selections and nearly 70 academic all-conference honorees honors between the Atlantic Central Football Conference (ACFC) and Empire 8 Conference. He led the Bobcats to three-straight third-place finishes in the NFC from 2008-10. In its first year in the Empire 8 in 2011, FSU finished fifth and produced some of the best offensive numbers in the league.

Rogish caps a career that spanned 35 seasons as a college coach. After starting his career at Juniata College in 1977, he has served on the coaching staffs of seven college programs. He spent two years as an offensive coordinator at NAIA-affiliated Bethel University (Tenn.), two years on the football staff at the University of Tennessee Martin and coached at James Madison University in 2002.

His collegiate career started at Pommac State College of West Virginia University from 1995-96. As a sophomore, he was named team captain and was a Louie Award and Student-Athlete Award winner. As James Madison, he helped lead JMU to an 8-4 record in 1999 with a spot in the NCAA Playoffs and a share of the Atlantic 10 Championship. He was twice selected to the Academic All-American 10 team.

Rogish received his bachelor’s degree in kinesiology from James Madison in 1999. In 2012, he earned his master’s degree in education from Bethel University.

Two Inducted Into Frederick County Soccer Hall of Fame

Roy Sigler ’62 and John Horine ‘59, both Frostburg Hall of Famers, joined another hall last year when they were inducted into the Frederick County Md., Soccer Hall of Fame.

Sigler began a soccer program in Middleburg that ran from 1962 to 1967; his program is regarded as the launching pad for youth soccer in Frederick County, with seven original players going on to play NCAA Division I soccer. He spent 12 years as a college coach, eight of those years as head coach at Boston University.

In his Frostburg athletic career, Sigler was known for his assists in soccer, had a four-year reach play record of 37-2-7 in golf, was undefeated in the mile event in track for three years and was a captain of the 2010 squad that led to four consecutive NCAA tournament trips.

Horine coached high school soccer for six years in Frederick County. His teams won two county championships. In 1983, he started the first girl’s high school soccer team in the county, and Middletown went 40-8-1 in his four years as coach.

Horine scored 19 goals in his career, led his team in scoring three seasons and set an all-time Frostburg single-game record, scoring four goals in one game. He was first-team All-South three times and named an alternate to the U.S. team in the 1959 Pan American Games. He also ran track for two years and played basketball and golf for one year. He earned four letters.

BOBCATS FIND SUCCESS BY GUIDING OTHERS TO VICTORY

Meade High Names Gym Floor After Retired Coach Butch Young

After 26 years of coaching basketball at Meade High School in Anne Arundel County, Md., and 10 years into retirement, Frostburg alum Ronald “Butch” Young ’61 had his name placed on the gym floor where he guided countless young athletes to victory.

During his overall 36-year tenure in the county, he had a record of 567-321. His tenure with the Meade Mustangs included 16 winning seasons, eight county titles, five region titles and four times as state semi-finalists. He retired in 2005.

“I have the highest regard for Butch,” John Brady, Annapolis High School’s boys’ basketball coach, said the Annapolis Capital. “He was the first coach at Meade and put them on the map. He established the tradition over there. He is one guy that I have a great deal of respect for, and this honor is well-deserved.”

In bold brown lettering, “BUTCH YOUNG FLOOR” will now be seen by students, players and audience members for decades to come, assuring that the coach does in the school’s athletic history.

“I really had some good kids here, and I really love the game,” Young told the Capital. “I enjoyed coaching all of those years. I never thought of being a legend or an elite coach. I did my job, that’s all I could do.”

Jamie Thomas’11

Former Bobcat standout Jamie Thomas’11 has been named the new head coach of volleyball at LaGrange College in Georgia. Thomas played four years for Frostburg as the starting right side hitter and helped lead FSU for four consecutive NCAA tournament trips.

She was the captain of the 2010 squad that advanced to the NCAA Division III Sweet 16, finished the season 34-4 and won the Capital Athletic Conference championship. Thomas graduated with the FSU record for assists in a single match and ranked second in career assists with 3,277 and 1,524 digs. She was named second team All-Capital Athletic Conference honors during her senior season.

The exercise and sport science major served as a strength and conditioning coach at Frostburg, training FSU sports teams, as well as personal clients.

Hunt-Shepard Head Coach of Castleton Women’s Softball

Annette Hunt-Shedrick M’94 has been named the head coach of the softball program at Castleton University. She is the eighth head coach of the college’s softball program.

Prior to Castleton, Hunt-Shedrick was the head coach at Ohio Northern University, where she guided the team to three Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) championships and one OAC regional title. She was named OAC Coach of the Year twice and Regional Coach of the Year in 2009. She has also served as an assistant coach at Western State College in Kansas and most recently as assistant softball coach and director of the Wilderness Adventures program at Houghton College in New York.

Hunt-Shedrick earned her Master of Science degree in Recreation and Parks Management from FSU.

Lance Thompson ’99

Lance Thompson ’99 has been named the first head coach of volleyball at Allegheny College of Pennsylvania. He serves a dual role as head coach of both men’s and the women’s teams.

Thompson, a former health and physical education (kinesiology) major who also lettered in track and field, has been named the head coach of the softball program at Castleton University, with seven original players going on to play NCAA Division I soccer. He spent 12 years as a college coach, eight of those years as head coach at Boston University.

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Skye Pinney

Football Teammates Back Together

Three Bobcat gridiron alumni returned to Baltimore recently and decided to show they Frostburg Pride. They left as football All-Americans: 2003, Philip Wagner ’01, Philip Wooden ’02, Brock Stum ’01/M’04, Richard Morrow ’01, Philip Swann ’01/M’04, Brendan Reams ’01 and Jeff South ’03.

Bobcat Athletic Director Greg Ludzaman presents a dedication award to former Bobcat Coach Butch Young ’61 in December.

Thomas to Lead LaGrange Volleyball

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**Men's Cross Country**

**Highlight:** Pat Moore gained All-CAC honors for the second straight year.

**Recap:** Frostburg posted a four-top-10 finishes out of seven meets, including an eighth-place showing at the CAC Championships. The Bobcats capped their season with a fourth-place at the NCAA Midwest Regional and posted a season-best fourth place at St. Vincent College Invitational. Senior Moore grabbed All-CAC Team honors after finishing 10th at the league championships.

**Next Season:** The future looks bright, as the team loses just one senior (Moore) and could return 13 runners from this past fall.

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**Women's Cross Country**

**Highlight:** FSU captured eighth-place at the CAC Championships.

**Recap:** The Bobcats captured four top-10 finishes on the season, including an eighth-place showing at the CAC Championships. Freshman Casey Columbus was the squad's top finisher, taking 31st place in 24:24:20. She also led FSU at the NCAA Midwest Regional, crossing the line in 2:18.00.

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**Men's Soccer**

**Record:** 13-7 Overall, 6-4 CAC

**Highlight:** Bobcats advanced to CAC Tournament semifinals for the third straight season.

**Recap:** Frostburg posted 13 wins, captured the CAC Tournament championship trophy for the second consecutive season and ranked a spot in both the CAC and ECAC Tournaments for the third straight year. The senior duo of Chris Jonas and Pablo Torres garnered All-CAC First Team, NCAA All-South Atlantic Region and ECAC South All-Star honors.

**Next Season:** The Bobcats return three of their top four scorers, including starting goalkeeper in 2014.

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**Women's Soccer**

**Record:** 13-7 Overall, 4-4 CAC

**Highlight:** Bobcats advanced to CAC Tournament semifinals for the third straight season.

**Recap:** Frostburg posted six wins, captured the CAC Tournament championship trophy for the second consecutive season and ranked a spot in both the CAC and ECAC Tournaments for the third straight year. The senior duo of Chris Jonas and Pablo Torres garnered All-CAC First Team, NCAA All-South Atlantic Region and ECAC South All-Star honors.

**Next Season:** FSU will have to replace 13 returners and its top four scorers as it heads into the 2014 season.

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**Football**

**Highlight:** Senior Adria Graham and junior Stephanie Fazenbaker repeat as Capital One Academic All-Americans.

**Recap:** Frostburg posted a second-season win over Case Western (36-35) for the second straight season, finished second in the Empire 8 rushing offense (139.6 ypg) and placed four players on the All-Empire 8 teams. Senior Danas Arrington was named to the All-Empire 8 First Team for the third straight year, while junior Rowan Pookett and sophomores Roland Kamara and Marcus Moody were named to the second team.

**Next Season:** Frostburg could return as many as 20 starters on both offense and defense, including all-nine-year starters.

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**Men's Basketball**

**Record:** 3-21 Overall, 0-15 CAC

**Highlight:** Xavier James Peters averaged nearly 17 points per game.

**Recap:** Frostburg State finished with three wins, including two in the league play in 2013-14. The Bobcats two league wins came against York (Pa.), which included a last-second-three-pointer to down the Spartans 77-74 at Bobcat Arena on Feb. 19. Peters, a junior, led FSU in scoring (16.7 points per game) and three-pointers made (53), while junior Gabe Kamara finished second in scoring (13.0 points per game) and led the team with 184 rebounds.

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**Volleyball**

**Record:** 27-2 Overall, 3-5 CAC

**Highlight:** FSU advanced to the CAC Tournament.

**Recap:** Frostburg finished with seven wins, including three in the CAC, and advanced to the league tournament for the fourth straight season. The Bobcats posted back-to-back CAC wins in mid-October over Penn State Hamberg (3-1) and Wesley (3-2) and capped the regular season with a 3-0 shutout of Wesley.

**Next Season:** Despite graduating three seniors, Frostburg will return some key talent across the squad, including this year’s leaders in kills and assists.

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**Post-Season Awards**

**Athletic Conference Fall 2013 President’s List**

Six players were named to the Empire 8 Athletics Conference Fall 2013 President’s List for their academic success in the classroom.

The six selections, two sophomores and four freshmen, are led by tight end Josh Booth (sophomore) and defensive back Joe Conrad (freshman). The duo led the group with perfect 4.0 GPAs during the fall semester and both received academic excellence in the administration. Frostburg kicker Isaac Robinson posted a 3.769 GPA and is majoring in engineering. Running out the top two are sophomores kicker Jonathan Shepard and sophomores John Fouch, who captured a 3.783 GPA.

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**Men’s Swimming**

**Record:** 7-2 Overall, 3-5 CAC

**Highlight:** FSU posted seven wins.

**Recap:** Frostburg State finished the season with seven overall wins, including four in January. The Bobcats capped the season with six top places at the CAC Championships as another school record was established.

The 200yard medley relay team of jason Karim, Darius Arrington, Jaryn Franklin and Meredith Johnson, along with sophomore Matt Quintanilla, named fourth place in the CAC Championships by 1:55.16 and set the school record for the second-straight year. Dreibelts led the Bobcats women’s team with 13 individual wins on the year.

**Women’s Basketball**

**Record:** 7-2 Overall, 0-1 CAC

**Highlight:** FSU finished second in CAC in scoring.

**Recap:** The Frostburg State women’s basketball team won five of its final nine games to finish the 2013-14 campaign with eight wins, the most in four seasons. Senior Hummel led the Bobcats and finished second in the CAC at 16.5 points per game. She capped her career with 1,210 points, good for 11th all-time in school history. Junior Raye James was second on the team and 10th in the CAC in scoring at 14.4 points per game, while junior Simone Watson was third at 13.3 points per game. As a team, FSU finished fifth in the CAC at 68.8 points per game and third with 42.5 rebounds per contest.

**Next Season:** James and Watson return as seniors to power the Bobcats.

**Mobile**

The Bobcats return four of their top five scorers, including starting quarterback and the Bobcats top seven tacklers.

Pablo Torres

**Elaina Hummel** finished second in the CAC in scoring and is the 11th highest all-time scorer in FSU history.
the Bobcat Hall of Fame inducted its latest class, from left, Leonard Wright ’88, Steve Perrythe ’84, Donny Woodard ’94, Susan Mahoney Kenbar ’87 and Kimberly Faust Fritz ’03.

Members of the championship 1973 Lacrosse team and Pre-title IX female athletes were honored at Homecoming. From left are Dr. Linda Farver ’70, Joan Arnold ’72, Ann Ludwig ’75, Jim and Nancy Crawford, Pam Hadly Henry-Sievert ’75, Janice McNeil Lippincott ’75 and Coach Shoshan Keyte.

The football game began with ceremony honoring Members of the Military, part of the Capt. James A. Graham Memorial Project in honor of the 1963 graduate and Medal of Col. Donald J. White, USAF ’75, President Gibralter, Karen Chaffee ’76, Graham’s granddaughter Savannah Graham and son Col. John C. Graham ’85.

Dr. Fred Surgent, standing, greets Susan Eisen and baseball Head coach Guy Robertson.

The Alumni Association partnered with the State Employees Credit Union (SecU) to host the first annual FSU Finale celebration. SecU representatives Penny Najjar, left, and Debbie Cianciaruso joined alumni for the night of music, dancing, food and games.

Andy Branigan ’08, a director on the Alumni Association Board, and his band Driven to Clarity entertain alumni at the Frostburg Finale.

Alex Mutschler ’14, Nick Mills ’14, Michele Midgett Mutschler ’98 and Mark Mutschler enjoy the Frostburg Finale.

Homecoming Queen Candace Thomas ’14 and King Andy Krehbiel ’14.

... and a good time was had by all!
1975
Retired Air Force Col. Donnie White has been selected as a member of the Royal Aeronautical Society, London.

Barbara Wilkinson was named the new government relations officer for Anne Arundel County.

1983
Rose Kennedy Fagler has been selected as a member of the Royal Aeronautical Society, London.

1986
William Griggs was hired as a business development officer for BB&T Retirement and Institutional Services.

1988
Dr. Stacey Pancake Boggs M’95 was named dean and professor at Allegany College of Maryland. In 2013, she is an associate professor of biological sciences.

1991
Katy Barger was named senior consultant, disability and life, for Supervalu Partners, a Pittsburgh-based benefits consulting firm.

1993
The Rev. Glen Butterworth was ordained a priest. He is assigned to St. Joseph Parish in Seattle.

2004
Dr. Daniel Fetter M’06/M’08 graduated from West Virginia University with a doctorate in higher education administration.

2007
Janelle Coffman was elected president of the Community College of Baltimore County’s Alumni Association.

2008
Gary Bets was named senior consultant, disability and life, for Supervalu Partners, a Pittsburgh-based benefits consulting firm.

2010
Katy Barger represented Rocky Gap State Park at the 2013 Maryland State Fair.

2011
Wendy Moyer Tarr was appointed supervisor of Institutional Services. He holds FINRA Series 7, 56 and 63 licenses.

2012
Tara Fazenbaker M’01 was appointed as Drug and Alcohol Services director at Frostburg State University.

2013
Leann Behrend Mongelluzzo was named senior consultant, disability and life, for Supervalu Partners, a Pittsburgh-based benefits consulting firm.

2014
Dr. Brian Plistnik was appointed to the position of visiting professor of instruction at Potomac State College.

2015
Leann Behrend Mongelluzzo was named senior consultant, disability and life, for Supervalu Partners, a Pittsburgh-based benefits consulting firm.

2016
Jason Jones was taking a position in the summer of 2013 as an international/operational law attorney at the Navy’s International and Operational Law Division at the Pentagon. The position provides legal advice, including international agreements, air and space law, law of the sea and other international law issues affecting the U.S. Navy and Department of Defense interests.

2017
Cindy Tom “Jason” Jones will be taking a position in the summer of 2013 as an international/operational law attorney at the Navy’s International and Operational Law Division at the Pentagon. The position provides legal advice, including international agreements, air and space law, law of the sea and other international law issues affecting the U.S. Navy and Department of Defense interests.

2018
The Rev. Dr. Debra Young Powell-Maxwell earned her doctorate in Ministry degree in May 2013.

2019
The Calcasieu Parish Chancellor’s Office has been named the Capital Athletic Conference 2019-20 Men’s Tennis Student Athlete of the Year.

2020
The Rev. Dr. Debra Young Powell-Maxwell earned her doctorate in Ministry degree in May 2013.

2021
Lisa Rocks M’98 was appointed assistant professor and practicum coordinator in the Physician Assistant Program at Frostburg State University.

2022
Dr. R. Lee Viar, IV, M’01 participated in the 2012 Class of the Management Development Program in Higher Education at Harvard University, earning a post-doctoral certificate. He is intentions program chair in the College of Business Management at California Technical University and president of ANTSHE, a nonprofit that helps nontraditional students.

2023
Gary Bets was named senior consultant, disability and life, for Supervalu Partners, a Pittsburgh-based benefits consulting firm.

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY: ONE UNIVERSITY. A WORLD OF EXPERIENCES.
**Frostburg State University: One University. A World of Experiences.**

**MILESTONES**

**Marriages**

2001 Stephen Cohen married Christina Dubickis on May 30, 2013, in Elliott City, Md. The couple resides in Frederick, Md.

2002 Tye Miller married Emily Kenez on June 25, 2013. Tye is employed by the Allegany County Board of Education as a teacher. The couple resides in Cumberland, Md.


2008 Cora Langan married Phillip Carter on June 30, 2012. Cora is employed with the Allegany County Board of Education. The couple resides in Frostburg, Md. The couple resides in Frederick, Md.


2008 Jennifer Elizabeth Miller married Nicholas Sekiel on Sept. 22, 2012. Jennifer is employed as a financial analyst at Wells Fargo in Frederick, Md. Nicholas is employed as a first grade teacher at Calais Grove Elementary School in Gambrills, Md. The couple resides in Frederick.


**Births**

2000 Courtney Kissell announces the birth of her daughter, Madeline Marie, on July 25, 2013.

2000 Stephanie Carney married Matthew Jones on Nov. 11, 2012. Stephanie is employed by the Maryland Parole Commission as an institutional parole associate.

2001 Melissa Hoover Persak announces the birth of her daughter. Emily Amanda, on Sept. 22, 2013. She joins her older sister, Maddie June.

2001 Sandy Youngblood announced the birth of his daughter, Madeline Marie, on July 25, 2013.

2001 Sandra Youngblood is employed as a financial analyst at Wells Fargo in Frederick, Md. The couple resides in Millington, Md.

2001 Rebekah Litz married Ben Rishell on Sept. 14, 2013. She joined her older sister, Melissa Hoover Persak, and announces the birth of her daughter, Emery Amanda, on July 14, 2013.


2008 Jennifer Elizabeth Miller married Nicholas Sekiel on Sept. 22, 2012. Jennifer is employed as a financial analyst at Wells Fargo in Frederick, Md. Nicholas is employed as a first grade teacher at Calais Grove Elementary School in Gambrills, Md. The couple resides in Frederick.


**Surprise SAE Pilgrimage**

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DREAM ACHIEVED

Every Frostburg diploma represents a journey and a destination. Some journeys are just longer and the route to the destination more complex. Such is the case of John Keating ‘13, who, at the age of 70, reached his destination — and his lifelong goal — of a bachelor’s degree. His achievement and the response from his classmates at commencement created a moment to be cherished by all.

As names were being called, the audience slowly took notice of the grandfatherly graduate, white hair peeking from beneath his mortar board, wearing a royal blue academic stole denoting military service. The applause slowly built as he approached President Gibralter for his scroll and handshake. It grew into thunder, punctuated by whistles and cheers, as the entire assembly became aware of the special moment they were witnessing. By the time the new graduate had stopped to pose for his photo, the crowd was on its feet. The standing ovation continued as he made his way around the edges of the arena to return to his seat.

Keating’s journey to that diploma is a testament to perseverance. It began with his first college classes in 1966, early in his service in the U.S. Air Force. Over the course of that 20-year career, he and his family were restationed 14 times, but he continued to pick up courses wherever he could. Following his military retirement and busy with a career in the computer industry as a senior systems engineer, he put his dream of a degree on hold, but he ensured that both of his sons would earn theirs.

When he finally retired, he and his wife, Mary, decided to live in Frostburg, a beautiful place that’s “kind of got everything,” where Keating had spent many a summer with his extended family. And with a University right in town, he figured it was time to join his sons as college graduates.

“You could say it was on my bucket list.” He collected his years of credits and took the classes necessary to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Liberal Studies with a focus on computer science and business, areas of interest for which his career left him well-prepared.

What he was completely unprepared for, on the other hand, was the reception — and attention — his simple act of crossing the stage to pick up his diploma would generate.

“I was amazed. Shocked. Astounded. It was an honor I didn’t expect.”

There is a story behind every journey to a Frostburg degree. Thank you, Graduate John Keating, for reminding us of how special that journey can be — and for proving that dreams do come true.

John Keating receives his diploma from Dr. Gibralter during December’s Commencement ceremony.
“Big Man on Campus” Leaves Big Impact

From all accounts, DR. ROBERT “JOE” SHOCKLEY ’42 was a big man on campus. Flipping through the yearbooks of that era, one can sense his presence in the photos — a young man with a big smile, ready to change the world. When Joe passed away on Jan. 13, 2014, at age 92, he left the world in a better place. In his career as an educator and later assistant superintendent for Prince George’s County Schools, Joe touched many lives.

He and his first wife, Thelma ’45 (affectionately known as “Tommy”), knew the importance of giving back to their alma mater and created a scholarship to help FSU students in the performing arts. Their children have renamed it the Dr. Robert Joseph and Thelma M. Shockley Endowed Scholarship to honor both of their parents.

After Tommy’s death, Joe and his second wife, Patria, continued to support the Shockley legacy and often returned to campus for Golden Anniversary celebrations and friendly visits. Former FSU President Dr. Catherine Gira established a friendship with Joe — one that would last until his death. “Joe was wise beyond measure,” recalls Gira. “In recent years, Joe and I corresponded via email almost daily. ... I miss those emails. I miss those smiles, that soft voice, the twinkle in those eyes. And I shall ever be grateful that this remarkable alumnus of Frostburg State became a close and cherished friend for well over 20 years.”

For more information on creating your own legacy at FSU, contact:
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LIVE FOR OTHERS. LIVE THROUGH OTHERS. CREATE A LEGACY.