



# COMMUNITY AND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 1 ■ 2012

## Brianna George, MHS 2009 Scholarship Recipient Scholar, Athlete, Future Nurse, Happy Bay Area Resident

Brianna was an outstanding student athlete at MHS. She was valedictorian with a 4.00 GPA and received numerous athletic awards. Just a few of her awards were 1st Team All-league in basketball, and 1st Team All-league and Honorable Mention All-state in softball.

Brianna continued her exceptional performance as a student athlete for the next two years at Southwestern Oregon Community College (SOCC) where she also competed in basketball and softball. Brianna earned her associates degree in pre-nursing studies in two years and achieved a 4.00 GPA and was admitted to the SOCC Nursing program. She is now in the final year of nursing school.

At SOCC, Brianna earned 2nd Team All-conference award in basketball and 1st Team All-conference in softball. Brianna was named SOCC's Female Athlete of the Year. SOCC competes in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAAC), a group of 35 community colleges in Oregon and Washington. Brianna was named to the NWAAC all-academic sports team in both sports. Her athletic career at SOCC

concluded with her being awarded the prestigious Art Fiero Award in 2011 which is awarded to the top male and female scholar athlete from throughout the 35 community colleges.

Brianna's accomplishments in high school were noticed by the MHS Scholarship Committee. She was awarded the Cameron Clay Memorial, the Albert Pranatis Memorial, and the Coos Bay School Administrator Association scholarships. Brianna says that the scholarships enabled her to complete her associate's degree without placing a financial burden on her parents and without borrowing money. Brianna's father is employed in the transportation industry and her mother is a stay-at-home mom. Helping Brianna with



**Brianna George  
2009 MHS Graduate**

school expenses would have had a significant financial impact on her family.

What lies in the future for Brianna? She says she was attracted to nursing because of her positive experiences with the emergency room at Bay Area Hospital. Brianna thinks that she would like to be an emergency room nurse but is open to being a nurse in other areas of medicine. She also plans to earn a bachelor's degree in nursing once

she is employed as a registered nurse.

Brianna proudly states that she is a small town girl. When she completes nursing training she plans to live and work in Coos County, hopefully at Bay Area Hospital. Brianna wants to remain close to her family and her future husband's family. She enjoys outdoor activities including hunting, fishing, and four-wheeling. Brianna also would like to be a volunteer coach at either the high school or college level, giving back to the activities and schools that have meant so much to her.

Brianna hopes to live in the country. She grew up in the vicinity of the old Coos River School and fondly remembers being able to play with neighboring children at will, being called home by a bell that her mother would ring from half a mile away.

Someone who has accomplished as much as Brianna, certainly has ample choices about where she lives and works. When asked why she doesn't want to move away and see new places and meet new people, Brianna states that athletics has allowed her to travel and meet many people. After these experiences, Brianna has concluded that there is no better place for her than here. ❖



**Geoff Franklin  
2008 MHS Graduate**

## Update on 2008 MHS V/T Scholarship Recipient Geoff Franklin

"Thank you to the Marshfield Scholarship Committee. I was able to utilize the scholarship money I received to pursue my passion in the welding and metal fabrication industry. With your help I completed an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Welding Technology through the University of Montana's - College of Technology. Since graduation I have had the opportunity to travel the country working at numerous power plants, oil refineries, and high tech computer chip facilities. I completed a Boilermakers apprenticeship and am now currently working at Intel in Hillsboro, Oregon."

*--Geoff Franklin*



## The Marshfield Times Earns National Recognition



**Catherine Hampton**  
Advisor  
*The Marshfield Times*

Some time ago we featured Marshfield High School's journalism program in this newsletter and its advisor, 1991 Marshfield graduate Catherine Hampton. We wanted to update our readers (and okay, brag just a little) about the latest accolades this outstanding student newspaper has earned. Last April *The Marshfield Times* and its staff won the Best in Show award at the National Scholastic Press Association's National High School Journalism Convention. Over the past five years at the convention, *The Marshfield Times* has consistently placed among the top

student newspapers nationally, before finally earning the top spot this year.

When we contacted Ms. Hampton to talk to her about winning the Best in Show award, she told us, "Since that award, we recently received more good news during the first week of school. While the Best of Show award at last spring's national convention was outstanding, these awards are even more significant.

"First, *The Marshfield Times* was named an All-American newspaper by the National Scholastic Press Association following an in-depth critique of six issues of the paper, with comments including, '...a model for how high school newspapers should approach coverage and content.' Secondly, the students learned that *The Marshfield Times* has been named a finalist for the second year in a row for the Pacemaker award. This is the highest honor a high school publication can receive in the nation.

"How do I feel about this? It is an honor each time the paper is recognized for the outstanding work the students produce. They have consistently shown...they create a well-written, relevant and visually dynamic paper. Those aspects keep getting their work noticed by people all over the country."

Catherine and her staff face the same challenge confronting most metropolitan newspapers—raising enough money to be able to print their paper. This year they estimate they will need about \$5000 to cover their printing costs. Newspaper staff members sell advertising and subscriptions and also must do a variety of fundraisers.

We are pleased and proud that *The Marshfield Times* has earned such consistent national recognition. We congratulate the editorial staff and the paper's advisor Catherine Hampton for a job extremely well done! ❖

## "DO YOUR GIVIN' WHILE YOU'RE LIVIN'"

One of the most impressive—and most significant—things about Marshfield is the substantial level of "giving back" from our alumni and friends. Although most former Pirates and their families are far from wealthy, many of them consistently give what they can to help support the Marshfield High School Scholarship Program. However, some of the most significant scholarship endowments are not set up through a donation of cash, but through a well-thought out estate plan.

A gift to MHS Scholarship program through your **WILL OR LIVING TRUST** is a powerful way to honor a family, organization, mentor, or loved one, while making a lasting impact in the life of an MHS graduate. It may also provide a reduction in your taxable estate. You can arrange a gift of a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or even part or the entire residue of your estate.

Naming the MHS Scholarship program as the beneficiary of all or a portion of your **RETIREMENT, ANNUITY OR INSURANCE PLAN** is a simple and smart way to help MHS graduates. It may also benefit your heirs through avoidance of substantial income and estate taxes.

**Charitable Gift Annuities - Charitable Remainder Trusts - Remainder Interest in Residence or Second Home - Transfer on Death Accounts** These lifetime arrangements allow you to support MHS Scholarship program and either have income for your life or the use of your property during your lifetime. In addition to helping MHS graduates, these arrangements may provide you substantial income and estate tax benefits.

Gifts of **APPRECIATED SECURITIES OR REAL ESTATE** often allow a donor to make a substantial contribution while receiving valuable income tax advantages. Generally, a donor may deduct the fair market value of the gift up to 30% of his or her adjusted gross income with a five-year carryover for any excess. More importantly, the capital gain from the donated asset passes tax free to the MHS Scholarship Program.

**OTHER OUTRIGHT GIFTS**, like Stock in privately held companies, limited partnerships, company stock options (not employee stock options), personal property, and other unique resources may be excellent assets to contribute.

*These options may offer valuable income tax advantages. For legal advice, please consult an attorney or a planned giving professional. For further information go the Oregon Community Foundation website; [www.oregoncf.org](http://www.oregoncf.org). People living on the south coast can contact David Westcott at 541.431.7099 or [dwestcott@oregoncf.org](mailto:dwestcott@oregoncf.org)*

### MHS Scholarship Committee Members

Jennifer Bunnell MHS '85  
Chuck Carlbom MHS '52  
Les Engle MHS '62  
Jay Farr MHS '69  
Gary Gehlert MHS '60  
Jennifer Groth  
Kirk Johansen MHS '67  
Amy Day Larson MHS '87  
Lou Leberti MHS '65  
Robert Mahaffy MHS '65  
Candace McGowne MHS '91  
Caddy McKeown MHS '70  
Don Messerle MHS '56  
Kara Moore MHS '97  
Greg Mulkey  
Arnie Roblan  
Anna Schep MHS '69  
Cap Sharples  
David Smith MHS '56  
Gina Sutherland  
John Sweet  
John Whitty MHS '50

### Newsletter Staff

Les Engle, '62, *Chair*  
Kate Sharples, *Contributor*  
Cap Sharples, *Contributor*  
Gina Sutherland, *Contributor*



## D I S T I N G U I S H E D   A L U M N I

# Stephen Dow Beckham – MHS Class of 1959



**Stephen Dow Beckham  
Member of the MHS  
Class of 1959**



**Dr. Beckham more recently  
as a Lewis & Clark College  
History Professor**

Periodically in this newsletter we highlight graduates of Marshfield High School who have distinguished themselves in some way—either professionally, through some noteworthy accomplishment or by leading an exceptionally interesting life. Dr. Stephen Dow Beckham, Marshfield High School Class of 1959, earns a place in this column on all three counts.

Dr. Beckham comes from a family with strong ties to Marshfield High School. Professor Beckham's mother, Anna Adamson Beckham, graduated from Marshfield in 1934 and was the editor of the *Mahiscan*, the same assignment Stephen held in 1959. His brother, David Blake Beckham, an attorney, graduated in 1961. His late brother, Mark Ernest Beckham\*, an engineer, graduated in 1972 and his father, Dow Beckham, was a longtime school board member of District 9.

Stephen Dow Beckham is a highly respected American historian known especially for his work on Native Americans, the Pacific Northwest, and the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Beckham earned a B.A. at the University of Oregon in 1964, and an M. A. (1966) and a Ph.D. (1969) from the University of California at Los Angeles. Beckham began his college teaching

career at Long Beach State University in 1968, then taught at Linfield College from 1969 to 1977 and, finally, taught at Lewis and Clark College from 1977 until his retirement in 2011.

Beckham taught courses and wrote extensively on Native Americans and the American West. He was named "Oregon Professor of the Year" and is also the recipient of the Asher Distinguished teaching Award from the American Historical Association. His most recent book, *Oregon Indians: Voices from Two Centuries* (2006) has attracted strong critical acclaim.

As to what lies ahead in retirement, Dr. Beckham said, "I'm shifting gears. My wife and I have five grandchildren under the age of 6 with another arriving shortly. They all live nearby are keeping us very busy." We wish Marshfield alum Stephen Dow Beckham the greatest happiness in retirement after his long and extremely distinguished career.

\*The Beckham family established the Beckham endowed scholarship in Mark's memory and every year a \$500 Beckham scholarship is awarded to a graduating Marshfield senior. ❖

### **2012 Awards By the Numbers**

- 117** Total scholarships awarded
- 77** Total recipients
- 75** Total endowed scholarships awarded
- 42** Total pass-through scholarships awarded
- 19** Multi-Year Scholarship recipients
- \$206,356** Total of local scholarships awarded

*Dear MHS Scholarship Committee,*

*I feel very thankful for this scholarship. College for me was always a dream. But now it is becoming a reality. I will be here at SWOCC for my first year, and then I will be transferring to OSU for their pharmacy program. This scholarship money will be used to pay for my books this year, which is a HUGE expense! Once again, I want to tell you how grateful I am. My mom is a single parent, so we don't have much money saved up for college. For the most part, I will be footing the bill myself, so every dollar helps. Thank you so, so...much. — K. O.*



MHS ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Pete and Marcella Susick



The Pete Susick Memorial Scholarship was established after his death in 2007 and scholarships have been awarded since 2008. After the death of his wife Marcella in 2011, it became the PETE AND MARCELLA SUSICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP.

Marcella Nelson met Marion George "Pete" Susick while they attended North Bend High School. From that meeting until Pete's death in 2007, through more than 65 years of marriage, Marcella was Pete's most devoted supporter. She cheered for Pete and his many football teams at Marshfield High School. She worked in retail for years, but her number one role was stay-at-home mom. Marcella was a source of strength for others as well. She embodied the principle that the more one gives away, the more one has to give.

Marcella and Pete were wed Dec. 29, 1941, and she moved with him to Quantico, Va., as Pete entered officer

candidate school in preparation for service in the South Pacific. After the war, Pete started what would be a 35-year career as a teacher and coach at Marshfield High School.

As a football player, Pete Susick was a standout three-sport star at North Bend High School and lettered three years in football at the University of Washington, where he led the Huskies in scoring in 1943. He was drafted by Green Bay. However, he is best known for his long coaching career at Marshfield. He led the Pirate football team to two state titles and a co-championship in the three-year span from 1954 to 1956 and also had two state runners-up and eight other playoff teams in his career, which spanned 1946 to 1979. He finished with an overall record of 235-69-18 and the school's football stadium now bears his name. He was named Hayward Champion of Champions in 1955, recognized by the Oregon Sportswriters and Broad-

casters in 1956, named coach of the year by the Oregon Journal in 1968 and named football coach of the year by the 8th District in the United States in 1979. He received the Bill Hayward Banquet Merit Award the year he retired and was inducted into the Oregon State Hall of Fame in 1994. He was the winningest high school football coach in Oregon history. Pete was inducted into North Bend's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000 and was one of the first people inducted into Marshfield's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003

The Susick family name is deeply rooted into the history of Marshfield and North Bend and is associated with the legacy of success that is a part of Marshfield High School. It is a name that brings honor to our community. We are very proud to annually award the Pete and Marcella Susick Memorial Scholarship as a part of the MHS Community and Memorial Scholarship Program. ❖

Recently Endowed (\$12,500 Min.)

- Class of 1962 Fred Girt Memorial
- John Brands Memorial Mike Helfrich Memorial

Established but not yet Endowed

- Bruce & Thelma Hoffine Memorial
- MHS Class of 1956 Aaron Roblan Memorial
- MHS Class of 1965 Coos Bay Lion's Club
- MHS Class of 1968 Donaldson Family
- MHS Class of 1969 Hazel Southam Memorial
- MHS Class of 1970

Dear MHS Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for this scholarship. I am honored to have been chosen for this award. I am attending Oregon Institute of Technology and am majoring in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. This scholarship is a major relief from the financial burden that I face and I appreciate it very much. I will be using the money for housing and books. I will be the first person in my family to attend a four-year college. Thank you for helping to keep my financial burden to a minimum. — K. D.



## MHS Endowed Scholarships

5 T's Scholarship  
 Bay Area Sportsman's Assoc.  
 Mark Beckham Memorial  
 John & Dottie Bergen Memorial  
 John Brands Memorial  
 Del Brunell Memorial  
 John Burles Memorial  
 Cameron Clay House  
 Cameron Clay Memorial  
 Lew Davies Memorial  
 Ray Davis Memorial  
 Fitzwalter Family  
 Jason Forrester Memorial  
 Isabell Galloway Memorial  
 The Gehlert Family  
 Fred Girt Memorial  
 Chet Haliski Memorial  
 Dick Hanen Golf  
 Mike Helfrich Memorial  
 Joycolynn & Walter Joslin Trust  
 Bette Knox-Hanen Nursing  
 Eleanor & Harold Knutson Memorial  
 Warren & Adaline Kolen Memorial  
 Dee Littrell-Lawrence Dance/Theater Arts  
 Maxine & Lyle McGuire Memorial  
 Marshfield Pirate Shop  
 MHS Class of 1954  
 MHS Class of 1962  
 William McLean Memorial  
 Messerle Family  
 Stan and Rose Olberg Memorial  
 Robert Perrin  
 Albert Powers Family  
 Albert L. Pranatis Memorial  
 Steve Prefontaine Memorial  
 Dorothy Irene Probst Memorial  
 Guy Shellenbarger Memorial  
 Jennielind Smith Memorial  
 Stan Solomon Memorial  
 Paul Starkey Memorial  
 Pete & Marcella Susick Memorial  
 Jeff Tofflemire Memorial  
 Buck & Ruby Williams Memorial

## Endowed Voc/Tech Scholarships

Carlbon Family  
 Coos Bay Lions Club  
 Dashney Family  
 Fromm Family  
 Homebuilders Association  
 Johansen Family  
 John and Ginger Niemeyer  
 Michael L. Keiser  
 Chick & Spud Kysar  
 North Bend Medical Group  
 Page Family  
 James Rippey  
 Sause Bros.  
 Dean & Dixie Sheldon  
 F. Willis Smith  
 Stamper Family

# Students Drowning In A Tsunami of DEBT



The costs of attending college continue to rise. The "less expensive" alternatives have become more expensive than many students can afford, even with federal assistance. For example, at Southwestern Oregon Community College the estimated annual cost of attendance (COA) for a student living at home is \$11,285. If the student lives on campus in a double room the cost is \$15,186. At a public 4-year college, the University of Oregon for example, the estimated annual COA for a student living on campus in a double room is about \$23,000. Many private 4-year colleges have annual COAs of over \$50,000 per year.

## IS COLLEGE STILL AFFORDABLE?

This is a lot of money, even for students who have significant financial resources. For a student whose family lives at the poverty level, these are almost overwhelming numbers. Students with great economic need have access to the Pell Grant, however, that grant is only worth a maximum of \$5550 per school year and many needy students receive less. The most in federal loans a first year student can borrow is \$5500. The Pell Grant and Federal loans just barely cover the expenses at a community college. At a 4-year college, economically disadvantaged students often resort to private loans which have less favorable repayment terms than federal loans. The other alternative is to not attend school for a while and work to save money to help pay for college. Not attending school for a period of time has its disadvantages however, since the longer students take to complete their degree, the less likely they are to graduate.

## HOW MUCH DEBT DO GRADUATES HAVE?

Two-thirds of college seniors graduating with a bachelor's degree in 2010 graduated with debt. Of those, the average debt was \$25,250. Repaying that debt over the usual 10 year period, at the Federal Student Loan rate of 6.8% will require a payment of \$287/month. A debt of \$40,000 results in a monthly payment of \$460/month and a debt of \$60,000 requires \$690/month. Students who have taken on higher levels of debt often have taken out private loans in addition to their federal loans so their monthly payments will be even higher. Many private loans have higher interest rates.

While federal loans allow students to have extended payment plans that reduce monthly payments when their income is low, it is clear that even these reduced monthly payments can hinder graduates from participating in the economy by making it impossible to buy a home, car or other big ticket items for many years.

## ARE TRADE SCHOOLS CHEAPER?

Student loans are also a significant burden for students attending trade schools. A one year program of training as an automotive technician can cost \$20,000 or more. The Pell Grant and Federal loans only cover about half of the cost.

## HOW CAN SCHOLARSHIPS HELP?

Scholarships can mitigate some of the negative effects of debt in a number of ways. First, it can help students believe that they can afford to obtain a post high school education. Scholarships help students reduce the time it takes to earn their degree which increases the odds of them completing their education. Scholarships also help reduce students' debt loads so they can become more fully participating members in America's economy which benefits everyone. Finally, scholarships can be a morale booster, letting the student know that someone believes in them which can be the tipping point in encouraging a student to obtain an education. ❖



*Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate!*

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