



COMMUNITY AND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

www.marshfieldalumni.org

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1 ■ 2017

Marshfield Distinguished Alumnus Mareyna Karlin – “Shooting for the Stars”

“Ad astra per aspera” is a fitting Latin motto for Mareyna Karlin, a 2013 Marshfield graduate. “To the stars through hardships” is the path that Mareyna is on after her internship at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and graduation from the University of Idaho (UI) earlier this year.

As a high school senior Mareyna received the Uno and Vera Richter Memorial Scholarship worth \$15,000 per year over four years. When asked how her scholarship from Marshfield helped her in college, she said: “I am so thankful to have had my undergraduate education funded, as it opened so many opportunities I wouldn’t have had otherwise. I will forever be grateful to the Coos Bay Scholarship Committee for supporting my goals.”

Mareyna was a member of the MHS Track Team as a pole vaulter, finishing fifth in State in 2010 and second in state in 2013. She also pole vaulted for two years on Idaho’s Division I Varsity Women’s Track Team. During the winter of Mareyna’s sophomore year in college she underwent a massive open heart surgery. After the operation, she completed the outdoor track season



Mareyna Karlin, MHS Class of 2013

while still managing to keep up with her coursework. But, after suffering nine attacks of pericarditis, she decided to focus on her health and school work, and resigned from the team. Through all her medical travail, Mareyna continued to attend classes and graduated from UI in four years.

Mareyna earned her bachelor’s degree in veterinary science. She was part of the Idaho Space Grant Consortium, and is currently finishing her work on a NASA funded engineering project titled TATERTOTS (Training in Advanced Technology to Optimize Teamwork in Space). Her team is researching atmo-

spheric microbiological sampling and the use of advanced technology to promote future Mars colonization and the search for life in extraterrestrial environments.

While interning at NASA Ames Research Center this summer, Mareyna worked on an engineering/science project that developed a cell culture system to be launched to the International Space Station later this year. In addition, she had the opportunity to work on the engineering side of the project, inspecting the flight hardware for potential issues. She said that working at NASA is an incredible experience as “the people at NASA are so humble and excited to share their love and passion for science with the younger generation. They have made me excited for the future scientific advancements we can make if we continue to work together and focus on the positive impacts we can make on this planet and others.”

Mareyna’s future plans include attending graduate school to study computational biology and bioinformatics. She hopes eventually to work for NASA to continue studying how microgravity affects mammalian cells.

Donor Spotlight: Albert L. Pranatis

One of the largest donations to the Marshfield Scholarship Fund was made by a man who had lived in the Coos Bay area for only about 20 years. His name was Albert L. Pranatis, and he lived in a humble home near the Coos River school.

Albert was born in Duquesne, Pennsylvania, on February 3, 1921. At that time Duquesne was a steel-mill town with a population of about 12,000 people. Albert attended school in Duquesne, and graduated from Duquesne High School in about 1939-40. He served in the military service

in World War II, attended Duquesne University, and became a metallurgical engineer.

Albert worked for various business entities, and some of the time for the U.S. Government. He retired in about 1986 and moved to the Coos Bay area. He had a good investment adviser and had enough money to do almost anything he wanted, but he did not travel much and tended to stay near home. He was a shy man who never married, and drove an older Volvo for most of his time in the Bay area.

Albert was befriended by some of

the neighbor children. They were kind enough to him that, as they got ready to go into college, Albert provided them with scholarships out of his own resources. When he decided to create a trust as part of his estate plan, he gave most of his wealth to scholarship programs at his alma mater, Duquesne High School, and to the Scholarship fund at Marshfield High School, each receiving an equal amount.

Albert died the day before his 86th birthday (February 2, 2007). His trust was administered by his niece, and when

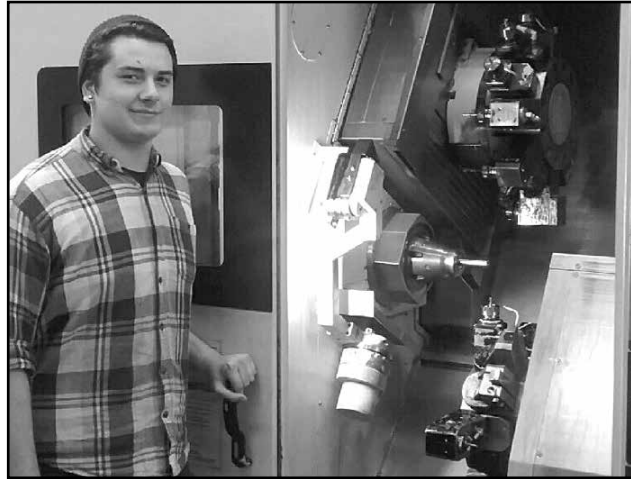
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Vocational Technical Scholarship Winner Tyler Vassar – Machinist

Tyler arrived at MHS not very interested in traditional high school academics. Fortunately, MHS had a quality manufacturing program available taught by Tom Hull that captured his attention. Tyler enrolled in Tom's shop class which sparked his interest into becoming a machinist. Tyler maintained that interest throughout high school. Tom recommended Bates College, in Tacoma, Washington, to Tyler. Tyler wanted to learn Computerized Numerical Control (CNC) skills and Bates offered a reputable program. Tyler applied to Bates and was accepted.

Tyler knew he wanted to attend Bates but money was a serious problem since his family didn't have a lot of money. He applied for an MHS vocational/technical (voc/tech) scholarship. During the required interview, Tyler clearly articulated his goals and knowledge of his future



Tyler Vassar, MHS Graduate

field. Tom also provided a glowing recommendation. The interviewers were impressed and awarded him the following scholarships: Knife River, Pirate Shop, Sunset Chevy, and Jim Rippey. The scholarships totaled \$4750.

Tyler states that attending Bates to learn CNC machining changed his life for the better. He says that he doesn't know how he could have attended Bates without the voc/tech scholarships from MHS or that he might not have attended college at all. Tyler thinks that without the scholarship money, if he had attended Bates, he would have had to work at a second job while attending school. (Tyler worked on weekends at Aero Precision at an entry level job). Working

such hours would have taken away from the quality of his education and would likely have resulted in him being less employable.

Tyler's work ethic and drive to learn allowed him obtain and maintain an entry level weekend job at Aero Precision, a firearms manufacturer, while he was in school and become a shift lead. These personal characteristics in addition to his Bates' education enabled Tyler to begin full

time work as a highly skilled employee immediately upon graduation rather than just continuing in an entry level job.

Tyler loves his job. His primary duties involve the programming and set up of 5 axis mills and 9 axis lathes. His pay is in line with his ability. Tyler earns \$23/hour with a full benefit package that includes health insurance and retirement. He also regularly works 10-15 hours of overtime each week.

Tyler emphasizes how thankful he is to the voc/tech scholarship donors and the committee who made it possible for him to take maximum advantage of the educational opportunities at Bates College.

MHS Scholarship Committee Members

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... Albert L. Pranatis

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the distributions were made, each of Duquesne's and Marshfield's scholarship programs received about \$555,000. The money was given to a foundation for investment, with the Duquesne funds going to the Pittsburgh Foundation, and Marshfield's share going to the Oregon Community Foundation.

Each of the foundations invests the money and makes annual allocations from the fund for scholarship purposes. Albert's trust allowed the members of the Marshfield scholarship fund committee to decide how to allocate the annual income from its share, and the funds were divided among some four-

year scholarships and some one-year scholarships.

A few months after Albert's death, Duquesne High School closed. Times had been tough in the City of Duquesne, and its population had declined to about 5,500 people. The Duquesne scholarship money had been given to the Pittsburgh Foundation, and they decided to award their scholarships to students who had grown up in Duquesne, even though the students now went to other nearby schools.

Over the years since his death, many students have benefited from Albert's generosity. He would be glad to know that his intent to help local students get a college education is being carried out just as he wished.



Scholarship Recipient Spotlight

Emily (Nauman) Parkhurst – Caring for Coos Bay Kids

Emily (Nauman) Parkhurst is a 2009 Marshfield graduate and the new school nurse at Millicoma Intermediate School and Blossom Gulch Elementary. It is great to have Emily back in Coos Bay sharing her professional skills with the students of Coos Bay schools.

As a Marshfield senior Emily received a \$1,000 Merit Scholarship and a \$500 Oregon School Employees Association scholarship. After high school, Emily attended Western Oregon University for four years, working toward a nursing degree. During her senior year at WOU Emily was accepted into the nursing program at George Fox University, a two and a half year commitment. After receiving her nursing degree, Emily took a job working with the Yamhill County Health Department.

Emily experienced some significant changes in her personal life during the six years of her educational training. She married long-time friend and fellow Marshfield graduate Dustin Parkhurst, also a student at Western Oregon in the criminal justice program. Emily and Dustin are now the parents of a two year-old girl and a 4-month old baby boy. With the addition of children and



Emily (Nauman) Parkhurst
MHS Class of 2009

with strong family ties to the south coast, Emily and Dustin decided to return home.

Dustin soon found a job in Coos Bay and Emily was offered a job in the Day Surgery at North Bend Medical Center a few months later. Although Emily liked her Day Surgery job, she knew she ultimately wanted to find a job in community health nursing. When the position of school nurse opened up at Coos Bay Schools, Emily jumped at it and she began her new job in August.

As a school nurse Emily oversees

the health of 1,100 students. She spends two days a week at Millicoma and two days at Blossom Gulch. Emily cares for students who become ill at school, teaches students about good health practices, checks and dispenses student medications and trains staff to deal with student medical conditions. Emily also maintains electronic student health records for all her students. Finally, as a school nurse, Emily is part of a social services safety net, helping needy students with hygiene supplies or a pair of new shoes when she can.

Because Emily's education was so extended and so expensive, she took out loans to cover costs not met by scholarships and her earnings from part time jobs. The cost of books alone, she said, was \$300 to \$500 each term. Emily accrued student debts totaling more than \$45,000.

Emily said that the scholarships she received from Marshfield and from both colleges were a huge help to her in paying for her six years of college. With assistance from financial aid she was able to earn a degree in a field that pays well and allows her to have a rewarding career in the community she loves.

College Costs and How Students Pay Them 2017

The cost of a college education can be daunting. According to the Sallie Mae study, *2017 How America Pays for College*, the average amount students spent to attend college during the 2016-17 school year was \$23,757. This is an average so there is a large range of actual costs among students. Cost of attendance can vary from \$12,000 per year for a community college student living at home, to over \$60,000 per year for a student attending a private college and living on campus.

Students and their families work hard to make college affordable. The Sallie Mae report states that 98% take actions such as reducing personal spending, working longer hours, and/or living at home or taking in a roommate(s). Students actively seek sources of financial aid. 86% of students complete the

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which can make students eligible for the federal Pell Grant and is

***Scholarships and grants
comprise just over one third of typical
students' budgets for college.***

required for many scholarship applications. Students work to help pay for college. 76% of students work with 55% working year-round.

A 2015 Georgetown University study reported that 40% of students aged 16-29 work 30 hours/week or more. This is a disturbing finding because there is ample research demonstrating that working more than 20 hours/week interferes with obtaining a college education. Working more than 20 hours/week often results in

longer degree completion times and/or decreased academic performance which can increase the likelihood of students not completing their degrees.

Scholarships are increasingly important in helping students pay for college. In the 2016-17 school year, 49% of students received scholarships. 71% of students rely on scholarships and/or grants (such as the Pell Grant). Scholarships and grants comprise just over one third of typical students' budgets for college.

Scholarships help students complete a college education. Students who attend college can limit their accumulated debt and earn their degree more quickly with the help of scholarships. Scholarships help students participate fully in the economy as soon as possible which benefits us all.



Thank You Notes 2017

When I was younger I never had dreams or goals of success. But as time went by and I met my foster parents, I finally realized who I wanted to be. I wanted to be successful and make the people in my life proud. With this award I will do exactly that. It is an amazing feeling being awarded a scholarship when the person who gave it to you doesn't even know you. With this award I will be able to pursue my dreams of being a sonographer and graduating from OIT. Thank you so much! — KJ

I was thrilled to learn of my selection for this honor and I am deeply appreciative of your help. I plan to major in social work. The financial assistance you provided will be a great help to me in paying educational expenses. Thank you for your generosity and help. I promise you I will work very hard. — CP

Thank you for awarding me with the F. Willis Smith Memorial Scholarship. I will be attending SWOCC and will be pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education. After graduating in two years, I will be seeking a job as a preschool teacher. Without this scholarship I would be unable to afford to go to college. Thank you for giving me the chance to go to college and achieve my dreams. — JF

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to further my education! It means a great deal to me! — BE

Your Gift Is Meaningful – Large or Small Endowment Totals Top The \$4 Million Mark!

We are pleased to report that the total of all MHS Scholarship endowments, as of October 1, 2017, is over \$4 million. This includes larger endowments that have been set up as a part of an estate plan and also endowments that are a work-in-progress, and have not yet reached the required minimum of \$12,500. It also includes donations in the MHS General Endowment that have not been designated to a named fund.

We have heard from some donors who feel that with the cost of higher education constantly rising, "How much difference can a small scholarship make, in the overall cost of college these days?" To those who might be thinking the same thing, we suggest that receiving a scholarship might have more than an economic effect on the one receiving the award. In 1996, we received a thank you letter from a young lady who had received an MHS Merit \$100 Scholarship (\$196 in today's money) six years earlier, in 1990. We believe that this letter demonstrates the value of receiving a scholarship, beyond the monetary value.

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in appreciation of a \$100 scholarship I received my senior year of high school, 1990. I wanted to thank the private donor personally. This scholarship encouraged me to continue my education, where as I may not have otherwise. I will graduate June 15, 1996, with a Bachelor's of Science in Social Sciences with a History minor.

I am happy to inform you that, while a less than mediocre student at times in high school, I have maintained honor roll status for 10 consecutive terms. Thank you for believing in me. My husband and I both appreciate it greatly!

Today, the smallest scholarship award typically made is \$500, and the average for the 60 plus recipients is close to \$3200.

HOW YOU HELP THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

While most of the donations to our endowments are not large cash donations, many of the funds we have received are the result of a well-planned estate. Examples

include:

- Will or Living Trust
- Retirement, Annuity, or Insurance Plan
- Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Trusts, Remainder Interest in Residence or Second Home, Transfer on Death Accounts

These arrangements allow for income or the use of your property during your lifetime, while supporting the MHS Scholarship Program as the ultimate beneficiary and providing tax benefits to your estate.

These options may offer valuable income tax advantages. For legal advice, please consult an attorney or planned giving professional such as the Oregon Community Foundation. Their website is www.oregoncf.org, or you can contact the OCF representative at 541-431-7099.

MHS Alumni Make A Big Difference

MHS alumni contributions to the MHS Scholarship program are beginning to amass some impressive numbers! By class, here are some totals that are beginning to add up!

| <u>Grad Class</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1954 | \$13,370 * |
| 1956 | \$14,400 * |
| 1962 | \$32,464 * |
| 1964 | \$1,933 |
| 1965 | \$1,150 |
| 1966 | \$25,300 * |
| 1968 | \$1400 |
| 1969 | \$1775 |
| 1970 | \$500 |
| TOTAL | \$92,332 |

* *Endowed scholarship (\$12,500 minimum)*

See the entire list of endowed scholarships at our website: marshfieldalumni.org



Staff Spotlight: Bryan Looney

Coos Bay Police Department's School Resource Officer

We caught up with School Resource Police Officer Bryan Looney early one Friday morning recently, after his morning patrol of the Marshfield campus. He was kind enough to sit down with us to talk about his role as a School Resource Officer.

Bryan is a Marshfield alum, graduating as a member of the class of 2007. He attended Southwestern Oregon Community College until 2009, taking courses toward a physics and engineering bachelor's degree. Bryan's direction changed, however, when he decided to pursue a career in law enforcement. He completed a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with a specialization in homeland security at Waldorf College.

Bryan's dad is a captain with the Coos County Sheriff's office and Bryan says that, having grown up around law enforcement, he was drawn to this career because of its potential to make a positive impact on a community and its residents. Also, he told us, he knew that a desk job was not what he wanted. Instead, he wanted to interact with people and be on hand to help resolve problems when they cropped up. Bryan



Bryan Looney, MHS Class of 2007

was hired by the Coos Bay Police Department in 2010.

When we asked Bryan what a School Resource Officer does, he laughingly replied, "A lot." He went on to explain that he is responsible for investigating any crime that occurs on a Coos Bay school campus. His mission is also to increase student safety by serving as a deterrent to crime by being present

and to decrease police response time should an incident occur. He said that he wants to develop good relationships with students to give them a positive view of police and so that students realize that police officers are real people. Bryan works with a canine partner, Katie, a 3 year-old springer spaniel drug detection dog.

Although Bryan has been a School Resource Officer for only a short time, he says that he has already has a sense of being part of a good school district headed in the right direction. He told us that students and staff seem happy, positive and excited about what they are doing. When we asked Bryan what his goals were for his work in the schools, he said that he hoped to take advantage of opportunities to cultivate more student leadership.

We're glad to have Marshfield graduate Officer Bryan Looney back on campus in his new role and we wish him the very best as he begins his work with Coos Bay school students and staff. Officer Looney is another example of the truth of the motto, "Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate."

Thank You Notes 2017

I am honored to be one of the recipients of the Albert Pranatis Memorial Scholarship. Thanks to your generous support I am able to pursue my lifelong dream of becoming a veterinarian.

Without committees such as yours ambitious students would be unable to receive the education to pursue their dreams. Thank you for the vote of confidence and the scholarship. — DM

This scholarship has helped me reduce the amount of loans I've taken and will

especially help this year with SOU's 9% tuition increase. I will be graduating this coming spring from my five year program that I finished in four! I am especially thankful for the financial help I have received from MHS. It truly has been a blessing. — NT

Thank you for this scholarship because all I have been able to think about is how I will be able to pay for my future education. After working for the past two years, I have only been able to save \$1400. With this scholarship, a large part of my worry has been lifted and I feel a little easier about moving on from

high school. Thank you so much for helping me in pursuing my future! — RJ

Thank you so much for investing in me. I will be attending Oregon Institute of Technology studying medical imaging. Thank you again. I wouldn't be able to do it without this scholarship! — RB

I thank you. With how much my education is going to cost, it is very helpful to have a chunk taken out. I plan to spend the money on books and a laptop for my first year at OSU. I really appreciate you for helping me get started on my path to success. — ST

Marshfield Community and Memorial Scholarship Fund Website

The website serves as a resource for Marshfield High School seniors to access over \$230,000 in scholarships and lists over 60 different scholarships and their criteria. The website also provides information on how to contribute to the Marshfield Community and Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The website also has links to current and past Scholarship Fund newsletters which feature scholarship recipients, donors and members of the Marshfield staff. Additional web page tabs include Marshfield's Hall of Fame Inductees, Distinguished Alumni, class reunion information and information about Heritage Hall.



Visit our website at: www.marshfieldalumni.org



Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate!

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