

Spring 2007

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Ex Libris

Newsletter of the West Virginia University Libraries

Spring 2007

www.libraries.wvu.edu

Knotts Memorabilia Finds Home at WVU

The *Reluctant Astronaut* has touched down in the West Virginia University Libraries.

The West Virginia and Regional History Collection recently received some unique memorabilia from a famous alumnus – the late actor and Morgantown native Don Knotts. The WVRHC is now home to movie and television scripts, awards, an original poem, and the manuscript and cassette recordings from the actor's autobiography.

"Don Knotts was one of the University's most illustrious graduates and one of the state's most prominent native sons," said John Cuthbert, WVRHC Curator. "We are very thankful to receive these items, and we hope it is the beginning of many future installments of Don Knotts memorabilia."

Knotts began talking to representatives from the West Virginia University Libraries in late 2005 and donated a group of his personal scripts to the Libraries in January 2006, just one month before he passed away.

In late February of this year, his widow, Francey Yarborough-Knotts, contacted the Libraries about donating more memorabilia.

"As I've been looking through many of his items, I wanted them to be in a safe place where they would be appreciated," Yarborough-Knotts said. "I remembered how happy Don was to be donating these items to WVU and how connected he was to Morgantown, and I wanted to follow his lead by sending other special items to the school."

Best known for his portrayal of Barney Fife on the 1960s television sitcom *The Andy Griffith Show*, Knotts was born and raised in Morgantown and graduated from Morgantown High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in communication studies from WVU in 1948. At the time, there was no College of Creative Arts or WVU theater degree, so students majored in other disciplines while acting in school productions.

"West Virginia University was a large presence in Don's life from the time he was born," Yarborough-Knotts said. "He always knew he would be a student there."

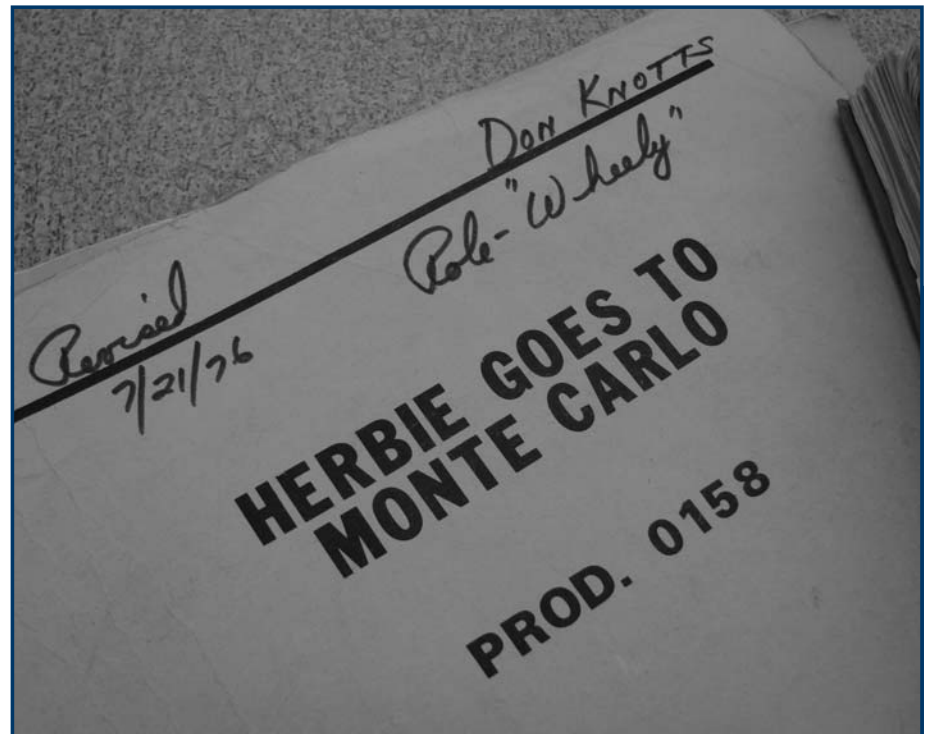
She said Knotts enjoyed sharing stories about spending time on campus while growing up in Morgantown.

One of his favorite stories involved sneaking into Mountaineer football games with friends. One particular Saturday, Knotts got caught and was carried out of the old Stadium. He found another way back in and was again caught and tossed out of the game. The process continued multiple times and attracted the attention of spectators.

"The whole crowd got caught into it. They were cheering and laughing. It was a big scene," Yarborough-Knotts said. "Don got a thrill out of that. He talked about that a lot."

Knotts was a born entertainer with an active imagination. As a kid, he would make up a variety of games for his neighborhood pals. Sometimes they would use a tin can someone found and play kick-the-can. Other times the fun was fueled only by imagination.

"One time, he was by himself and pretended he was playing a football game, even though he didn't have a football," Yarborough-Knotts said. "He got so carried away that when he stopped, he noticed a couple of people had stopped and were staring at him oddly."



Scripts from some of Don Knotts' best movies are now part of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection.

The strange looks were fine by Knotts. He loved making people laugh, whether intentionally or not, and he sought out every attempt to play a prank or tell a joke.

Knotts took advantage of a Mountaineer tradition requiring freshmen to yell "Beat the hell out of Pitt" when an upperclassman would flash a thumbs-up gesture. While still a senior at Morgantown High School, he often got a kick out of seeking out beanie-wearing

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Students Make New Health Sciences Library Home

Grey Bozic has discovered the perfect place to study. When the time comes to crack open his books, the nursing student heads to a comfortable chair in a quiet, well-lit corner of the new Health Sciences Library and Learning Center.

"It's refreshing to walk through the doors," Bozic said. "The new library has a soothing environment that I think facilitates my ability to learn."

The Health Sciences Library and Learning Center, built at the main entrance to the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center, began welcoming students at the start of the spring semester. The state-of-the-art facility boasts a 27,000-square-foot library, two new computer-based learning classrooms, three new lecture halls, and a renovated auditorium.

Occupational therapy student Alexis Lilly appreciates the facelift.

Settling into a comfortable lounge chair with her laptop to search through the Libraries' digital resources, she too has found the perfect place to study. When she wants a refreshing break from her work, all she has to do is look up from the computer screen.

The glass wall stretching along the library's front floods the library with natural light and offers a panoramic view of the mountains to the west of Morgantown with the Coliseum standing in the foreground.

Behind her are the library entrance and a large atrium containing the landmark pylons that have welcomed visitors to the HSC since 1963. Rather than moving the monolithic marble structures, architects chose to wrap the new construction around the pylons.

"The new library is so much more open. They made it a lot more attractive," Lilly said. "You want to come

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The new Health Sciences Library offers plenty of comfortable spots for students to settle in and focus on their studies. Alexis Lilly, an occupational therapy student, uses the Library and Learning Center's wireless Internet connection to do research.

Ex Libris

Wise Library Named Literary Landmark

A national library organization has designated the Charles C. Wise, Jr. Library as a Literary Landmark.

Friends of Libraries U.S.A. added the Wise Library to its Literary Landmark Registry because of the library's connection to Dr. Louise McNeill Pease, Poet Laureate of West Virginia from 1977 to 1993. The presentation came during the West Virginia Library Association's Annual Conference held last fall in Huntington.

"People everywhere delight in the beautiful writings of Louise McNeill Pease. I applaud the West Virginia University Libraries for their commitment to preserving a piece of our nation's rich literary history," said Sally Reed, Executive Director of Friends of Libraries U.S.A.

Wise Library joins about 100 institutions, buildings, and communities from across the nation on the Literary Landmark Registry. It is the first academic library in West Virginia to receive the distinction.

"It's an honor for the Wise Library to be designated as a Literary Landmark because of its connection to Louise McNeill Pease," Provost Gerald E. Lang said. "I'm proud that Dr. Pease once served on the WVU faculty and that I took part in her induction into the Academy of Distinguished Alumni."

Pease's writings and papers are housed in the West Virginia and Regional History Collection, which is located in the Wise Library. They were donated to WVU by her son, Douglas Pease, of Connecticut.

Pease, who typically wrote under her maiden name, remains beloved for her depiction of West Virginia during a simpler time. Her works include *Gauley Mountain*, *Elderberry Flood*, *Milkweed Ladies*, and *Paradox Hill*, which won the West Virginia Library Association Annual Book Award. Pease also earned the

prestigious Bread Loaf Publication Award for *Time is Our House*.

Her works appeared in periodicals from *Harpers* and *Atlantic Monthly* to *Good Housekeeping* and *Saturday Review*.

Pease was a product of the rural Mountain State that she lovingly described in her poetry and prose. In 1930, the 19-year-old Pocahontas County native began teaching in one-room schools. She went on to teach English at WVU from 1948 to 1953 and then to earn a Ph.D. in history from WVU in 1959.

The University recognized her life and accomplishments by inducting her into the Academy of Distinguished Alumni in February 1989 and by awarding her an Honorary Doctorate in the Humanities in May 1989.

Pease was a prolific poet whose works were published from 1931 to 1994.

In 1985, she was named West Virginian of the Year. In 1977, Governor John D. Rockefeller appointed Pease Poet Laureate, a post that she held until her death in 1993. The State of West Virginia has named only six individuals as Poet Laureate.

"Louise McNeill Pease's poetry is meaningful to so many West Virginians. We are honored to receive the Literary Landmark designation and to share her literary heritage," Libraries Dean Frances O'Brien said.

O'Brien worked with Penny Pugh, Head of Reference for the Downtown Campus Library, and Harold Forbes, Curator of Rare Books, to compile information from the West Virginia and Regional History Collection about Pease and her works for the designation application process.

"The WVU Libraries preserve the documentation of West Virginia history and culture, and we promote its



Martha Yancey, Head of Circulation at the Evansdale Library and WVA President; Frances O'Brien, Dean of the WVU Libraries; Penny Pugh, Head of Reference for the Downtown Campus Library; and Harold M. Forbes, Curator of Rare Books, display a plaque that designates the Charles C. Wise, Jr. Library as a Literary Landmark. The plaque was presented during the West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference.

use," O'Brien said. "Our collections contain books, manuscripts, music, and photographs that are important for students and scholars. We are proud to make Louise McNeill Pease's poetry available as a glimpse into the life and lore of our state."

Asimov Collection Attracts New Donors

The size of an already out-of-this-world collection in the WVU Libraries' Rare Books Room has rocketed to another level. An avid book collector has donated nearly 200 books to the Libraries' Isaac Asimov Collection and more are on the way.

Carlos Patterson, a resident of Sacramento, Calif., chose to donate his collection to WVU after learning about the Asimov Collection through an Internet search. He said WVU stood out among other institutions because of its digital exhibit honoring the collection of one of the 20th century's most prolific authors.

"I wanted to donate the books to someone who would be interested in them," Patterson said. "I saw your Web site, and I decided to pursue giving the books to WVU." The WVU Libraries will receive Patterson's collection in two parts. The first, which has already

arrived, contains nearly 200 books and two games. The remainder will follow later.

Asimov, a prolific writer of both science and science fiction, is probably best known for his short story *I, Robot* and his trilogy *Foundation*. WVU's Asimov Collection began in 2002 when alumnus Larry Shaver donated his Asimov collection containing more than 600 books, games, audio recordings, videos, and wall charts to the WVU Libraries.

Since then, several other collectors have donated rare books and portions of their collections to the WVU Libraries. However, Patterson's gift comes in second only to Shaver's original contribution.

"Mr. Patterson's donation makes our collection of rare Asimov books more complete. It also adds a lot more titles to our circulating collections," said Harold M. Forbes, Rare Books Room Curator.

Many of the books are first editions or scarce printings that will go to the Rare Books Room. For the rest of the books, when titles duplicate existing holdings, the newer edition will take a place on the shelf in the Robinson Room along with the literature collection.

The plans please Patterson, who was able to make the cross-country trip to view the collection. He combined the stop with a visit with his son, an Air Force Academy graduate stationed in Fairborn, Ohio.

"I was impressed, and I'm happy to see a collection where not only the whole collection is being maintained, but it's being made available to the public," Patterson said. "I like that people have the opportunity not just to study the rare books but also have an opportunity to read a book."

To view the digital Asimov Exhibit, go to <http://www.libraries.wvu.edu/exhibits/asimov/>.

Libraries Add Self-Checkout Units

Trips to the library may now be a little quicker for some students. New self-checkout stations at the Downtown Campus and Evansdale libraries allow users to avoid long lines when checking out materials.

This new option, 3M's SelfCheck, is similar to using a self-checkout at the grocery store. Simply touch the screen and animated instructions guide you through the process.

"It's very convenient. You can just walk up and you're done," said Harry Burger, a wildlife and fisheries resources senior.

Jessica Lewis, a psychology senior, especially likes the independence the system offers.

"I just like to do things on my own," Lewis said. "It's great if you're in a hurry."

Upon touching the screen, the user is prompted to swipe his WVU ID card and to pass the selected book's barcode under the scanner's red beam. A clicking noise means the process is complete.

The user can either check out another book or end

the transaction. When finished, the station prints a date-due receipt. Retrieving and keeping the receipt is important because a due date will not be stamped inside the book. Burger actually prefers the receipt because he can post it in his room as a reminder for when the book is due.



Jessica Lewis, a psychology senior, scans a book she is borrowing at Evansdale Library's new self-checkout station.

The self-checkout stations, which debuted in fall 2006, have slowly been gaining users as word of the service spreads. Mary Strife, Evansdale Library Director and circulation policy committee chair, expects to see more students use the machines as finals week draws closer and students' schedules become more hectic.

"It's a nice alternative for those days when the lines are two or three people deep and you just need to check out a book. This is a fast way to get it done and go," Strife said.

West Virginia University Libraries Visiting Committee

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Vaughn L. Kiger, Morgantown
Hubert E. Martin, Morgantown
Brooks F. McCabe Jr., Charleston
R. Samuel Oliver Jr., Charleston
John E. Stealey III, Shepherdstown – Chairman
Richard R. Strother, Washington, D.C.



Wilkinson Named Library Instruction Director

Carroll Wetzel Wilkinson has been appointed Director of Instruction and Information Literacy for the WVU Libraries.

In the post, Wilkinson, the former Head of Access Services for the Downtown Campus Library, will oversee courses being taught by the Libraries and develop curriculum for future classes. She also hopes to work with interested faculty to integrate the intellectual principles of information literacy into their teaching.

"Carroll brings a strong interest in teaching and information literacy to this program," WVU Libraries Dean Frances O'Brien said. "She also has a track record of collaborative efforts that bring different people together. She will be able to lead us in providing library instruction to WVU students in meaningful new ways."

O'Brien praised the existing library instruction program but pointed to national studies showing that students are relying less on traditional guides to information like reference books and library catalogs.

"Students still need to learn how to find what they want, but we are going to have to change how we present those lessons," O'Brien said.

Currently, librarians teach three classes: Introduction to Library Research; Film and Media

Literacy; and Gender and the Research Process, a course which Wilkinson developed and teaches.

Teaching a class on information literacy gave Wilkinson insight into students' previous experience with research. She watched students begin the semester unaware of the depth of resources available to them on campus and through the invisible Web and then suddenly have their eyes opened to the wealth of research possibilities.

"That understanding lays the foundation for qualitative and quantitative research methods later. It gives students experience with discovery, with empowerment," Wilkinson said. "They are able to do research their own way on a subject they're interested in."

Improving research habits meshes with WVU's 2010 Strategic Plan to enhance students' learning experience.

Stepping up to the challenge, Wilkinson expects to spend the next few months working with other librarians, faculty, and students to determine what courses should compose the Libraries' line up and designing the curriculum.

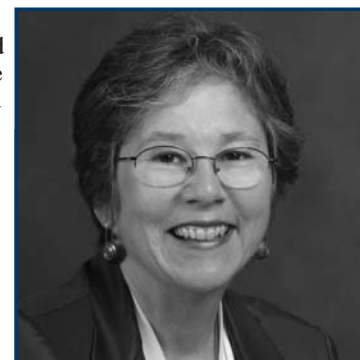
"I think there is wonderful potential here," Wilkinson said. "We just need some clear, focused, system-wide goals and good hard work together to

achieve them."

Wilkinson received her bachelor's in music from Wells College and her M.L.S. from Rutgers University and completed additional graduate study at the University of Illinois and WVU. She came to WVU in 1979 to serve as a reference librarian and Appalachian bibliographer.

Among other publications, she is the author of *Stronger Students, Better Research*. It's available at: <http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/womensstudies/fc/wilkinson.htm>

Along with directing Access Services for the Downtown Campus Library, she was also in charge of the Libraries' book depository. Wilkinson will remain the Women's Studies bibliographer.



Carroll Wilkinson

Schein Named Associate Curator of West Virginia Collection



Anna Schein

The West Virginia and Regional History

Collection has welcomed a 33-year veteran of the WVU Libraries as an associate curator.

In her new post, Schein is in charge of the Printed Ephemera Collection (PEC),

which is estimated to contain more than 100,000 items, from pamphlets, brochures, and isolated periodicals to news clippings, event programs, advertisements, menus, and more.

"The Libraries have a wealth of special collections, archives, and manuscripts that require professional attention before students and faculty can access them. Anna's expertise in technical services will be a valuable resource for the West Virginia and Regional History Collection as it strives to increase access to its rich and extensive holdings," said Frances O'Brien, Dean of the WVU Libraries.

Schein has already hit the ground running to begin an extensive overhaul of the PEC, which is popular among historians and others researching the Mountain State.

"Books and journals have their value, but sometimes these pamphlet-type materials give the most in-depth, scholarly treatment of the history of a particular point of interest in West Virginia," Schein said. "It's a real treasure trove of resources that has been hidden because these items are not in our Mountainlynx catalog."

Currently, to find an item in the PEC, one must search through an outdated paper catalog. The last new entry to the catalog was more than a decade ago.

Schein's goal is to create an electronic finding aid for the WVRHC web site to guide users. Most items will have a unique listing in this new database.

Schein will also select about 600 of the most valuable pieces to be scanned and digitized to be viewed online. Along with increasing access to this group of historic materials, digitization also preserves the originals. Often, a 100-year-old pamphlet housed in the WVRHC is the only surviving copy.

One especially interesting booklet is titled *Regulations for the Government of West Virginia Agricultural College* and dates back to the first year of the institution which was to become WVU.

Skimming through the pages, readers are taken back to a time when a more stringent mode of conduct controlled society. According to this document, frequenting taverns or places of "mere idle amusement," smoking on campus, and gambling would result in punishment. However, tuition was only \$8 a term and there was no summer school.

"I'm excited to have this opportunity to contribute to making our rare and valuable West Virginia resources available to scholarly and research communities worldwide through the Internet," Schein said.

Prior to her appointment as associate curator in the WVRHC, Schein served as Head of the Libraries' Periodicals Department for more than two decades. She came to WVU in 1974 as a Cataloging Librarian in the Cataloging Department.

Schein received her bachelor's in library science from WVU in 1971, her master's of library information science from the University of Kentucky in 1974, and a second master's in Foreign Languages from WVU in 1994.

Her scholarly publications include *White Pine Spirit of Peace: the WVU Peace Tree*, edited by Anna Schein (2005), and *Treaty of Canandaigua 1794: 200 Years of Treaty Relations between the Iroquois Confederacy and the United States*, edited by G. Peter Jemison and Anna M. Schein (2000).

National Association Recognizes Arnold

The Medical Library Association has named Susan Arnold, Interim Director of the Health Science Library, to its prestigious Academy of Health Information Professionals.

The honor recognizes medical librarians based on their involvement in the field and professional organizations and their efforts in continuing education.

"It's a sense of accomplishment," Arnold said. "I think it lends a sense of credibility to my work as a medical librarian."

AHIP has three levels of membership: member, senior member, and distinguished member. The organization welcomed Arnold at the senior level. To be eligible for membership to AHIP, one must have first clocked five or more years as a medical librarian. A points system then grades prospective members based on criteria such as serving in a professional organization, presenting non-work-related lectures, publishing articles, and pursuing continuing education opportunities.

Among her achievements considered, Arnold has been active in the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association since 2001, serving a term as

secretary for the organization. She has also published book reviews, presented poster sessions at conferences, and set continuing education as a priority.

Along with focusing on the library field, Arnold, a registered dietitian before joining the WVU Libraries faculty, maintains her RD status through continuing education in that field. As an RD, she is required to obtain 75 hours of continuing education every 5 years.

"Lifelong learning is important because things change so much, both in the field of medicine and with technology and electronic resources. There are always new databases and new tools to help you find and organize information," Arnold said. "With the electronic world expanding as much as it is, I believe in taking advantage of opportunities to keep updated."

WVU Libraries Dean Frances O'Brien called the honor well-deserved.

"We know that Susan has made outstanding contributions to the WVU Libraries. Her leadership in the Health Sciences Library, her dedication to improving services to library users, and her collaborative work with other campus units have all advanced the goals of the libraries," O'Brien said. "It is nice to see Susan receive wider recognition for her

achievements."

Arnold received her bachelor's of science in Dietetics from West Virginia Wesleyan College, master's of science in Human Nutrition & Foods from Virginia Tech, and master's of Library & Information Science from the University of South Carolina.

She came to the WVU Hospitals in 1988 as a clinical nutrition manager and dietetic internship director. In 2001, she joined the staff of the WVU Libraries as an information services librarian at the Health Sciences Library. Three years later, she was named interim director of the Health Sciences Library.

Arnold joins two other WVU faculty already installed in AHIP: Jean Seibert, a distinguished member; and Virginia Bender, a senior member.



Susan Arnold



Traveling Medical Exhibit Inspires Students

Learni Hancock has a unique team of role models to guide her in her career path. The McDowell County native and West Virginia University graduate student draws inspiration from a former U.S. surgeon general, a rural Mississippi doctor, and WVU's first female medical student.

Hancock met these pioneers through the *Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians* exhibit on display at the WVU Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center during the fall semester. The exhibit and a series of related programs introduced her and other visitors to women, from the mid-1800s to today, who faced daunting barriers to practice medicine and made great advancements in their field.

"It's important to have something visual so that students, prospective students, and parents can see," Hancock said. "A lot of times you hear about what women are doing, but until you actually see how far women have come and what roles they have played in medicine, a lot of it goes unnoticed."

Multiple success stories unfolded across the large graphic panels of the *Changing the Face of Medicine* exhibit. A montage of photographs and brief biographies told of women who made advancements in the medical field, such as Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman to receive an M.D. degree from an American medical school; Dr. Mary Walker, the first woman awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for her work as a surgeon during the Civil War; and Dr. Antonio Novello, the nation's first Hispanic surgeon general.

Created by the National Library of Medicine at the National Institute of Health and the American Library Association, the traveling display is currently on a five-year, 60-stop tour of the nation.

Over the past year, Carroll Wilkinson, Director of Library Instruction and Information Literacy, worked with a committee comprised of herself, Health Sciences Library Interim Director Susan Arnold, and leaders from the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center and the WVU Center for Women's Studies to create a series of lectures and events to correlate with the main exhibit.

Programming launched in October 2006 with a keynote address delivered by Novello.

"I thought it was wonderful," said Dr. Ann Chester, assistant vice president for social justice at the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center and a member of the exhibit steering committee. "I thought it was a really visual way to bring the history of the changing face of medicine to light."

The stories inspired Hancock, who received her bachelor's degree in Biology from WVU in 2003 and will graduate in May with a master's degree in Public Health and certification in Healthcare Administration. She will leave Morgantown with aspirations of making her own contributions to her community.

Hancock would like to follow in the footsteps of Dr. Katina Poe, a rural Mississippi physician who delivered a lecture in conjunction with the exhibit. Her visit was the eighth Women's Studies Residency in Honor of Judith Gold Stitzel.

In 2005, Poe was named Country Doctor of the Year for her commitment to her hometown of

Kilmichael, Miss. Poe returned to replace the town's only doctor, who was retiring. Poe opened a clinic there and sees more than 250 patients every week. Her responsibilities also include serving as the medical director for the local nursing home and overseeing residents of the community's home for mentally challenged youth.



Exhibit Curator Manon Parry of the National Library of Medicine leads the audience through the traveling display.

That dedication to her roots inspires Hancock, who believes that rural communities are often left behind. New doctors face quite a dilemma upon graduating from medical school. Because their medical training opens the doors to a world of opportunities, settling in a small Appalachian town is not as glamorous as joining a practice in an urban setting.

"For her to grow up there and then to go back to such a rural community, I think that was just awesome," Hancock said.

On top of that, Hancock noted, Poe has overcome the challenges of being a female in a male-dominated field and being a minority.

"Dr. Poe's doing a great job facing that adversity," Hancock said. "Just to see her do it let's me know that I can do it, too."

Other students shared that sentiment.

Dr. Barbara Howe, a historian and director of WVU's Center for Women's Studies, heard a string of positive reviews about the exhibit and speakers, but she was struck most by a conversation with a medical student and an occupational therapy student who were both enthused by Poe's story.

"They came up to me after Katrina Poe's lecture and said: 'She's who I want to be,'" Howe said. "If you can have one student who finds her role model, that to me is success."

The buzz also spread statewide. A teleconference involving WVU Health Sciences and Technology Academy (HSTA) participants was beamed out to 20 sites throughout West Virginia and viewed by almost 400 high school students. Poe led the panel discussion with a team of current WVU students who benefit from

the HSTA program. HSTA is a community-based program designed to encourage minority and under-represented high school students to pursue careers in health care.

The chief goal of the session was to acquaint high school students with people who share their backgrounds and have achieved their academic and career goals.

"It showed them it can be done," Chester said. "Each one of them got up and said: 'I am like you. You can do it.'"

The message found receptive ears. Chester received a flood of positive comments about the teleconference.

"The doctors and other people speaking said some things that inspired me and helped me think about what I want to do," a student responded on an event evaluation form.

Another remarked: "I've known for a while that I've wanted to be a doctor, but this just encouraged me even more."

These students could also turn to the past for encouragement. As part of the *Changing the Face of Medicine* program, Howe delivered a lecture on two medical pioneers in West Virginia: Drs. Eliza Hughes and Harriet Jones.

Hughes was the first woman in what is now West Virginia to get a medical degree. Hughes practiced medicine in Wheeling after graduating from the Penn Medical University of Philadelphia in 1860.

In 1886, Jones, a Terra Alta native, became the first female to be licensed as a physician in West Virginia. She established a practice in Wheeling, served as assistant superintendent of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane, which was renamed Weston State Hospital, and eventually opened a women's hospital in Wheeling. Jones was also active in many women's rights organizations and served in the West Virginia House of Delegates.

Other Mountain State trailblazers included Drs. Susan Dew Hoff and Pheobia G. Moore.

In 1889, Hoff became the first woman in West Virginia to be licensed as a doctor by examination. Rather than attending medical school, Hoff studied alongside her physician father and on her own.

In 1898, Moore made her mark as the first woman to study medicine at West Virginia University. After completing her medical degree at the Bennett Medical College in Chicago, she went on to serve the residents of Mannington and the surrounding region for nearly five decades.

"I personally feel that anytime you can tell West Virginians about any of their history, it's important, especially when you have people who are nationally famous or their history has been ignored," Howe said.

Learning those stories from the past emboldens Hancock and fills her with a sense of pride. She said hearing about someone else's success through adversity makes her own dreams seem possible.

"Anytime someone accomplishes something great in West Virginia, it puts us on the map for one and at the same time it lets us know that you don't have to come from one of the bigger states or a bigger city to be a leader," Hancock said.

WVU Plays Role in Marshall Movie

West Virginia University played a role in helping Marshall University rebuild its football program after a plane crash took the lives of 75 football players, coaches, and community members in 1970. WVU again played a role in the retelling of the saga in the 2006 movie *We Are Marshall*.

Charged with the task of training a team composed mostly of new players, MU coaches Jack Lengyel and Red Dawson turned to then WVU Football Coach Bobby Bowden for guidance.

The pair made a trip to Morgantown to learn the veer offense from Bowden. Lengyel and Dawson sat in an office at the old Mountaineer Stadium and watched black and white game films to study the plays.

As the encounter replays in the film, audiences view a clip of actual game footage of the Mountaineers. The footage was provided by the WVU Libraries, which have

archived more than 400 game films from about 1940-1970.

To secure a few minutes of vintage Mountaineer action, film producers worked with John Cuthbert, Curator of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection; Randy Jenkins, Library Media Supervisor; and Shea Browning, Assistant General Council for WVU. Rodney Adlington and Cheryl Clark, both from the Library Systems Department, performed the technical work.

Cuthbert worked directly with Lengyel to find a portion of film showing the veer offense, while Browning and others read over a three-page section of script to make sure WVU is depicted accurately. That part of the script earned the University's approval.

"WVU looks good in the movie. Basically, it shows us as the big guys helping out the little guys," Browning said.

Bill Bissett, Director of Public Relations for Marshall University, saw the movie multiple times and expected WVU fans to be touched by the camaraderie the sequence creates.

"The coaches and players of WVU helped Marshall in its darkest hour in rebuilding this football program," Bissett said. "It definitely portrays Bobby Bowden and West Virginia University in an excellent light."

Overall, Bissett believes the movie has a unifying theme that everyone in the Mountain State can appreciate.

"In this film, you really see West Virginians helping West Virginians," Bissett said.

We Are Marshall is the second major motion picture that the WVU Libraries have contributed to in about a three-year span. *Spider-Man 2* contained a reproduction of the Robert Lepper mural covering the front wall of White Hall's auditorium.



Knotts Memorabilia at WVU *continued from page 1...*



A manuscript and audio cassette tapes provide an intimate look into Don Knotts' life.

freshmen and making them shout that famous cheer.

However, not all of his jokes were winners. Some seemed to come straight from the Barney Fife playbook, such as the time he was walking to class at WVU and asked the man fixing the Woodburn Hall clock if he had the time.

"Even though it was just a silly joke, it cracked him up," Yarborough-Knotts said.

Knotts developed his sense of humor by watching movies with friends and listening to radio shows with his mother. With help from his brothers, he would then put it all into practice at the dinner table.

They would spend their meals telling jokes and funny stories and laughing. Their goal was to make their mother laugh so much that she would have tears streaming down her face.

"That's all they had. That was really his refuge – humor and laughter," Yarborough-Knotts said. "All he did throughout his life is to want to laugh."

Knotts refined his skills during his four years at WVU. Yarborough-Knotts said Knotts spoke highly of a drama professor who taught him a no-nonsense approach to acting and encouraged him to never lose sight of the fact that he was above all an entertainer. Knotts was proud that his only training in his field came while a student at WVU.

"He felt that West Virginia was where he had learned to act and perform. By the time he left Morgantown, he felt he was ready for anything," Yarborough-Knotts said.

He obviously was right. He parlayed his talents and experiences at WVU into a stellar career that spanned more than five decades and greatly impacted television and movies. A comic genius, he created and played several hilarious characters, many of whom remain a part of today's popular culture.

The world may never have met actor Jim Carrey if not for *The Ghost and Mr. Chicken*. Carrey had told Knotts that he learned much about their craft by watching his classic movie and television shows.

Another admirer was comedian Jerry Seinfeld. Although Seinfeld and Knotts never had the opportunity to meet, Jason Alexander, a Seinfeld co-star, told Knotts stories about Seinfeld regularly doing Barney Fife impersonations on the set of their television show.

Yarborough-Knotts recalls Alexander telling Knotts: "Jerry's going to be so jealous that I met you."

The WVU Libraries want future generations to be able to meet Morgantown's favorite son. It is the goal of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection to help preserve Knotts' colorful memories of his hometown and alma mater.

Yarborough-Knotts gave the Collection two gems associated with Knotts' autobiography, *Barney Fife and Other Characters I Have Known*: the original typed manuscript with hand-written notes from Knotts in the margins and more than a dozen standard audio cassette recordings by Knotts.

"The tapes are fascinating because they tell Don's story in his own words and voice – especially his recollections about life growing up in Morgantown," Cuthbert said.

The recordings will be copied onto quarter-inch tape and digitized for preservation purposes, Cuthbert added.

The Collection is also now home to awards Knotts received over the years, including a 1994 plaque from former Monongalia County Sheriff Joseph C. Bartolo. The plaque reads, "Don Knotts Has Been Appointed Honorary Deputy Sheriff of Monongalia County."

A framed certificate marks another prestigious title.

Former Gov. John D. Rockefeller presented Knotts with the top honor of "Distinguished West Virginian" in 1982.

In addition, the Collection received an unpublished, autobiographical poem written by Knotts, titled *The Man*, as well as two television scripts, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, which was part of the Hallmark Hall of Fame Masterpiece Theatre, and *The Don Knotts Nice, Clean, Decent, Wholesome Hour*, a TV special from 1970.

The Man Who Came to Dinner had a special place in Knotts' heart because he also did a performance of the play at the University.

The scripts that Knotts personally sent to the WVU Libraries were ones he used during the filming of movies with Universal Studios and Walt Disney Productions. The scripts, which have his signature and hand-written notes on them, include: *The Reluctant Astronaut* (1966), *The Love God* (1968), *The Shakiest Gun in the West* (1967), *How to Frame a Figg* (1970), and *Herbie Goes to Monte Carlo* (1976).

"Many people and organizations approached Don about donating his scripts and other items. It was always something he considered, but when WVU asked him if he would be willing to donate his scripts, he didn't hesitate to send his best ones," Yarborough-Knotts said.

The WVU Libraries are developing plans to exhibit the Don Knotts memorabilia in the near future, said Dean of Libraries Frances O'Brien.

"We look forward to sharing these Don Knotts memories with the WVU and Morgantown communities as well as the world," O'Brien said.

The memorabilia will be preserved so that writers and researchers can go directly to the source of original information.

"You can bet there will be plenty of writing about Don Knotts in the future," Cuthbert said. "If a person were planning to write something serious about Don Knotts, that person would be remiss not to listen to the audio cassettes and look at the materials we have in the West Virginia and Regional History Collection."

Students Make New Library Home *continued from page 1...*

here to study and to hang out and get work done."

Lauren Graham, a nursing student, was happy to say good-bye to long, dreary study sessions in the old library where windows were few.

"The windows are nice because you don't feel like you're stuck inside. It's not too bad anymore," Graham said.

Graham and fellow nursing student Rachel Fidazzo are now regular users of the library. Both used the old library and quickly became frustrated by the shortage of space and computers.

In contrast, computers and quiet study space abound in the new library. There are 55 carrels with computers and another 50 computers are available in the two computer-based learning classrooms.

Also, a wireless Internet connection allows students to be mobile while doing online research. One can spread out books and papers on a table in the library, recharge with a mocha from the coffee shop in the atrium, find a secluded spot in the stacks to focus on his or her research, or meet with others in a group study room.

"It's so much better. It's a great place to study," Fidazzo said.

For many students at the Health Sciences Center,

the new library also means more convenience and more time to focus on class assignments rather than traveling to another campus to use the library.

"I used to study downtown. But, now, it's nice that I can be here where my classes are," said Madeline Lawther, an occupational therapy student.

Lawther isn't alone. The library's gate count has risen to just over 15,000 for February, a 33 percent increase from the previous year.

The jump in usage, though, comes as no surprise to Health Sciences Library Interim Director Susan Arnold. She knew a student demand existed and is pleased the University responded with a great facility.

"It's very gratifying to see people using the Library and Learning Center," Arnold said. "We're thrilled to be in the new space."



The landmark Pylons serve as a centerpiece for the new Health Sciences Library and Learning Center.



Wise Library History Available as eBook on WVU Libraries Web Site

Readers who want to peruse the newly published history of the WVU Libraries can now flip through the pages online. The WVU Libraries' Web Team has created an eBook version of *The Charles C. Wise Library: A Retrospective* by WVU Law student Luke Boso. The digital book is available through Mountainlynx or at www.libraries.wvu.edu/history/wise.pdf.

The book, published in 2006, presents the fascinating story of a "tremendous setting for learning" and contains beautiful photographs documenting the Library's growth from 1931 to 2006. The author, a Morgantown native, earned a degree in English at WVU.

In this reverent tribute, Boso compiles information from 53 sources, ranging from the *Daily Athenaeum* articles published in 1930 to interviews in 2004 with librarians and Provost Gerald Lang after the latest renovation was completed. The book features interesting facts, such as the cost of the historic library buildings and their capacities. For example, the original library in Stewart Hall cost \$116,000 and was built to house 20,000 volumes and 150 readers.

The Wise Library, originally costing \$450,000, was rededicated in October 2003 after the extensive renovation project.

Renovations included restoration of 1930's wood furniture but with a twist – data ports enabling students to connect to the Internet are hidden in the tops of antique wooden reading tables in the Milano and Robinson Reading Rooms.

In the digital format, the 32-page book is easy to click through using Adobe Acrobat Reader and has beautiful black and white and color photos on 8" x 8" pages.

In Memoriam

Linda L. Wright, a dedicated WVU Libraries employee since 1998, passed away on October 4, 2006.

Martha Yancey, Head of Circulation at Evansdale Library, said Wright displayed a strong work ethic and was always the first person to volunteer when a need arose.

Wright was known for being a skilled quilter, who made quilts for family and friends as well as for many good causes. In 2005, she donated to the West Virginia Library Association a quilt bearing a detailed map of West Virginia.

Wright is survived by her husband of 26 years, Kenneth N. Wright, and her son, Kenneth N. Wright II.

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