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# Marshall Minute

February 2018

Come to the next  
**MBRA Community Meeting**

Since our February meeting falls so close to Valentine's Day, our theme is:

**LOVE MARSHALL!**

7:30 pm on Tuesday  
February 13, 2017

Join us for great speakers, refreshments, door prizes, & southern hospitality and see if YOU win a door prize!

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

Held at the  
Marshall Community Center  
4133 Rectortown Road  
Marshall, VA

**Our featured speakers:**

**Roger Beavers**

will be speaking to us about  
**The Fauquier Livestock Exchange**

**Kevin DeMoss**

will be speaking to us about  
**Quality First Tax Service**  
and recent changes in the tax laws

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Editor: Mary Wilkerson  
Copyright February 2018

*Teen Dance this Saturday!*

From 7 to 9:30 pm  
Saturday, February 10th  
**Free at the Marshall Community Center**

**All teens are welcome!**  
This is the first Teen Dance offered at the Community Center  
Live DJ will provide the music!  
Free Refreshments!

**Sweetheart Swing on Valentine's Day!**

Wednesday, Feb. 14th at 7 pm  
at the Marshall Community Center  
4133 Rectortown Road  
Marshall, Virginia  
(540) 422-8580

The Silver Tones will be playing romantic big band classics with special guest Gene Bates!  
Make a free dedication to your sweetheart of any song on the playlist.  
**Valentine's desserts included in the low admission of \$10 per person!**

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Have questions or suggestions for speakers?  
Contact Mary Wilkerson, MBRA President  
(540) 364-3400  
mbraeditor@gmail.com

**Attention Marshall Businesses & Professionals**  
*Exciting things are happening in 2018!*

The MBRA will be launching a networking group very soon to provide more ways that you can connect with local businesses!

Get your name on our priority list for contact and you'll be among the first to know!

Call Mary Wilkerson, MBRA President  
(540) 364-3400 or email :  
mbraeditor@gmail.com

**MBRA January 9th Community Meeting Notes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:36pm by **President Mary Wilkerson**. She announced our speakers of the evening and introduced Mary Leigh McDaniel.

**Marshall District Supervisor Mary Leigh McDaniel** gave an update. She announced that the pedestrian signs for Main Street, which had been in process for a while, are now in place. Also, the groundbreaking ceremony for the Orlean Fire Department has taken place and went well. The Fire Department should be completed by late summer or early fall.

Additionally, the Hume cell phone tower, which was originally approved in 2015, has had many changes over the years. This past September the provider was fired and a new provider has since been hired. Fingers are crossed for getting the tower up soon.

Budget: This is the first year of the two-year budget, plus the assessment increased. The increase was based on new expenses to cover for the next two years. She explained that some people's rates went up more than others but there is nothing the Board of Supervisors can do about it; they try to be fair to everyone. BOS public hearing meetings will be in February and March, and she encourages everyone to attend.

MBRA January Meeting Notes, continued:

Main Street Project: Mary Leigh said they are working with VDOT to get undergrounding of the powerlines on Main Street in Marshall. Her best guess is that we will not be in construction until 2019. She will be building a coalition for communication for businesses affected by it, but she said she needs our help by way of feedback. She said they are considering maybe setting up a low-cost marketing effort for the businesses impacted by this project. To answer an audience member's question, Mary Leigh explained that the taxes to pay for it kick in when construction starts. Funding includes a \$600,000 payment and \$600,000 from the County. The additional amount is added to tax payments until the \$600,000 is paid off. The rest of the project's funding comes from federal funding and grants from VDOT. This is a \$5 million project.

Our first speaker of the evening was **Kevin Greeley of OSSI and Greeley Custom Gunsmithing**. OSSI is an IT company Kevin founded in 1992 in Florida. He started consulting for a couple of construction companies, then moved to real estate, and then to medical companies. Medical and legal fields became his primary markets. In 2000, Kevin moved his business to Virginia from Florida, and officially started the first day of 2002. There was a major reshuffling in IT at that time. The next boom was the 2008 real estate market. He said that since that time the economy has been stagnant up until last year, and it is going to be a great next several years if this continues.

IT has changed since the '90s. Kevin said that people used to be scared of computer technology, but now the population is more aware of and savvy with IT. OSSI specializes in business and does not do residential. They work with communication lines, workstation servers, vendor communication, and moving storage to the cloud. He said they work with small- to medium-range businesses, and with any type of business. As for the do's and don'ts of the work, he said that you need to know when to part ways with a client, and that he does not recommend having a home business; it is important to be able to separate yourself from your work. The #1 Don't: Don't work from home.

Kevin also has **Greeley Custom Gunsmithing**. He has been a gunsmith for 30 years, having apprenticed for 20 years. His dad was an Olympic shooter and shot for the army. Kevin does custom work, rather than break/fix. He can make a gun, rifle, or pistol from scratch. The typical price range is \$1,500 to \$5,000. For more information, visit: [www.ossi-it.com](http://www.ossi-it.com) and [www.GreeleyCustom.com](http://www.GreeleyCustom.com).

Our final speakers of the night were **Chris and Debbie Cloud of the Global Family Alliance Foundation**. They have been living in different cultures the past several years and have always been involved in local community. They recently came back and have talked with neighbors, sheriffs, principals, teachers, and shrinks. The opioid problem is on the rise, which is fueling the problem of human trafficking, which is also on the rise and will be a worse problem than the opioid crisis by 2020. Chris and Debbie have been involved in community meetings and have been looking at what can be done about this. Early intervention and prevention is best. Opioids and trafficking are leading to domestic abuse. At that point, intervention is usually adversarial if the government is intervening and hauling someone off.

At least one child in every elementary school has been identified as trafficked in nearby counties. It stops at Gainesville, but Sheriff Mosier said that they are teaching kids here to watch out for signs of trafficking. This issue has changed because of social media; the problem is now in our homes. Chris and Debbie explained that the current system is really good with a baseball bat, but that is not a great answer. The government cannot do anything but put people in court and lock them up.

An early intervention avenue is an alternative anonymous support group, which is like a 12-step group. It is to help find a way to detach from the violence, empower themselves, and build their lives up. Because of trafficking, people are trauma-aware. The wonderful thing is that Marshall is a really strong community; people care about businesses and families. Chris and Debbie's goal through Global Family Alliance is to have strong families in strong communities that are able to work together; to empower and work together as a community.

GFA hopes to create 12-step meetings to help before a domestic situation escalates to the point that police get involved, but the individuals will still have an advocate. GFA has applied to be a 501(c)3 organization to petition for donations, and would also like to support the after-school program that will be

coming here to the Community Center. The first thing they want to do is the mural. Chris had the idea that more can be done with the Hagerstown Block building than simply to paint it. Marshall is very strong in three things: 1) Heritage, 2) Patriotism, and 3) Agriculture. They want to incorporate those aspects in the mural.

They contacted the owner and he was very enthusiastic about the mural. He said it definitely needs to feature something that is Marshall.

The muralist is Sam Welty, a Virginian from the Newport News area. He has done work for the military and the pony express. The draft mural background right now is generic and they want to make it far more like Marshall - integrate more Virginia landscape and agriculture.

The building is on private property and they hope to raise private funds. The County has said that the mural would be fine and there simply could not be large advertising on it for businesses. Maintenance in perpetuity for the mural is part of GFA's ongoing funding of the project. It will take only two to three weeks to paint the mural.

Concerns: the building is accessible to vandals at some places, but Chris explained that the preparation process the building undergoes for the mural is crucial to help against vandalism. They have gotten quotes from Sam already: the lowest estimate is \$12,000, and the highest is \$16,000 in total to paint the mural. They hope to find donations for paint, insurance, a cherry picker, and room and board for Sam. The picture right now is just generic; they hope to make it a community project, more of Marshall. It can utilize artistic rendering to include businesses.

Chris feels that to not do something because it might get vandalized would be very sad. For the businesses who support the project, they would like to do something to honor them, such as having plaques. For more info, visit the Marshall Heritage Mural Project Facebook page.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

*~Minutes by Mary-Elizabeth Wilkerson, MBRA Secretary*

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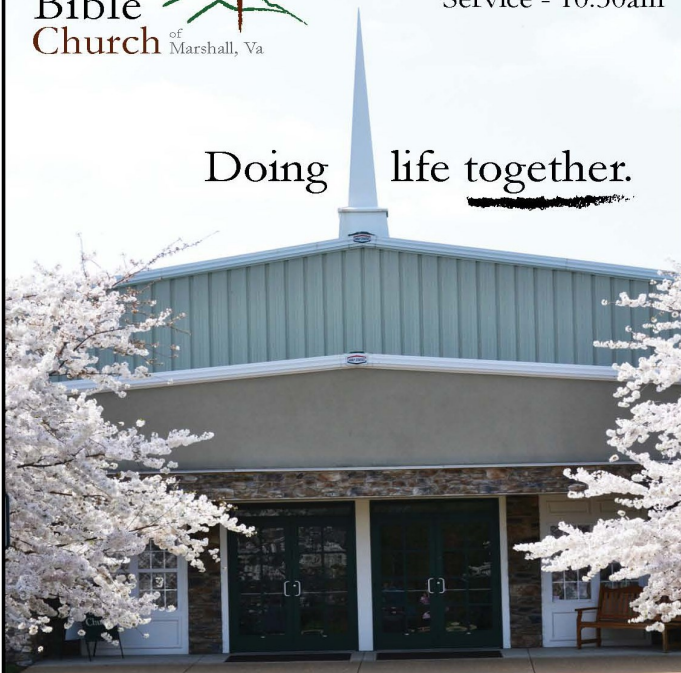
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