

Mountain messenger

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The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley - Lewisburg, West Virginia

Town Clock fundraising nears completion in Alderson

By Sarah Richardson

Downtown Alderson will be gaining a new fixture this year, if everything goes as smoothly as it has throughout the first stages of the project. A new town clock is slated to be installed where C.D. Hanger's Jewelry Store once stood as a way to pay homage to the clock that used to be affixed to the building.

The store was situated right on the Greenbrier River bank, just to the left of the Memorial Pedestrian Bridge, and burned down years ago. Fortunately, the clock was saved as the Hanger family had moved it into storage just two weeks prior to the fire.

See "Alderson Clock" — Page 5



The C.D. Hanger Jewelry Store clock is pictured here before the fire, with the old clock prominently displayed on the front of the building.



This digital rendering shows where the new clock will stand on the former foundation of the C.D. Hanger Jewelry Store in Alderson.



DARE to Cruz Car Show returns for 2021

By Sarah Richardson

The DARE to Cruz Car Show is returning to Lewisburg this year for its 14th run, but in a slightly new location. Jim's Drive-In will host the event this year, with a road closure planned for Route 60 stretching from Maple Street to McElhenny Road. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 11, with the free show running from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There is an entry fee of \$10 per vehicle, and the first 100 entries will receive a free DARE to Cruz T-shirt. Each vehicle will be entered for a door prize giveaway, and the raffle will begin around 1:30 p.m.

Every year this event brings folks to Lewisburg for a thrilling stroll down memory lane, taking in the polished antiques, shiny classics, unique muscle cars and trucks, slick street rides, chrome-covered motorcycles, and foreign cars of all kinds lined up like Christmas morning.

See "DARE to Cruz" — Page 2

Nature's Way

By Karen Cohen on page 4



Ronceverte woman wins \$1M through vaccination Sweepstakes



Wanda Coleman (right) stands with Governor Jim Justice (center), First Lady Cathy Justice, and Babydog as she receives her \$1M check.

A retired healthcare worker's life was changed forever this week when she received a surprise visit from Gov. Jim Justice.

Wanda Coleman of Ronceverte joined dozens of her former coworkers at the West Virginia School of Osteo-

pathic Medicine (WVSOM) in Lewisburg for what they believed to be a ceremony to honor a recently-retired staff member on Wednesday, July 28.

After the program began, Gov. Justice surprised the

See "New Millionaire" — Page 5

TOOT vendor applications now available

The 37th annual Taste of Our Towns (TOOT) festival takes place Saturday, Oct. 9, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thousands of residents and visitors from across the region gather on the streets of historic downtown Lewisburg to sample delicious food from local restaurants, civic clubs, and nonprofit organizations.

TOOT is not only Carnegie Hall's largest annual fundraiser, but also a profit-sharing opportunity for vendors. "We hope that other nonprofits will reap the benefits of this mutual fundraiser and join us in this year's festivities," states Development Director Molly Arbogast. "TOOT is a great opportunity to showcase regional organizations, church and school groups, and businesses," she adds.

To participate, a \$50 booth reservation fee (\$25 for nonprofits) is required to reserve booth space. This fee helps cover the costs of marketing and operating the event. It also ensures that prime booth locations will be filled the day of the event in accordance with the map that is distributed. The goal of TOOT is to raise funds to allow Carnegie Hall to continue to provide arts and education programming to the people of the Greenbrier Valley.

Food vendors should be prepared to serve bite-size foods to some of the 7,000 visitors to TOOT. Vendors are expected to abide by all regulations as set forth by the Greenbrier County Health Department.

See "TOOT Vendors" — Page 2

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TOOT Vendor: Jeff's Bread





Thanks for making us your local listening choice!



Greenbrier Valley's Talk and News Headquarters



Today's HOT Country!



Your Classic Hits Station



Today's Rock

Park workday upcoming: It is everyone's park!

The Alderson Municipal Park Commission has scheduled a workday at the Municipal Park at the top of Monroe Street in Alderson for Saturday, Aug. 7. It will begin at 8 a.m. in the park, just look for the gathering group. Please bring gloves, rakes, nippers, and any other implement or protective gear that might be needed. Grant money has been received for additional park equipment and space needs to be readied.

Whether you have a child in a sports program, use the park frequently, or just visit occasionally, it still belongs to everyone in the Alderson area and your help will be appreciated.

Park Commission President Laurie Bennett said, "We hope you and your family can join us."



Entrance to the Alderson Memorial Park

TOOT Vendors

Continued from Front Page

A Food Vendor Application, TOOT Rules and Information, Greenbrier County Department of Health Requirements with a link to their website, and Application for A Permit To Operate A Temporary Food Establishment are located at www.carnegiehallwv.org/taste-of-our-towns.

To register please visit www.carnegiehallwv.org/taste-of-our-towns and complete the online Food Vendor Application form and submit it by Friday, Sept. 10. Booth location preferences are fulfilled on a first come, first served basis. Carnegie Hall reserves the right to decline an application or to require alternate food selections.

Carnegie Hall and the community look forward to having a safe and successful Taste of Our Towns. Call Molly Arbogast at 304-645-7917 or email development@carnegiehallwv.org with questions.

PICK OF THE LITTER

HUNTER

Hunter is a six-year-old male Cur mix and weighs 67 pounds. Volunteers say he is a very sweet boy.



BLUE

Blue is a two-year-old male Plott mix and weighs 50 pounds.



These and other animals are available at the Greenbrier Humane Society, located at 151 Holiday Lane off of Rt. 60 West in Lewisburg. They are closed Sunday and Monday, and are open from 11 a.m. through 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Their cat adoption fee is \$65 and covers spay/neuter surgery, first kitty vaccinations, rabies vaccine, de-worming, toe nail trim and flea treatment.

Their dog adoption fee is \$85 and covers spay/neuter surgery, first dog vaccinations, rabies vaccine, de-worming, toe nail trim, flea bath and flea treatment.

They also offer donation-based spay/neuter vouchers, and clinics are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. They use a lot of vets in the area but the clinics fill up fast! Fill out an application to help prevent animal overpopulation! Call 304-645-4775 for more information.

DON'T SHOP • ADOPT!



Report: More solar homes would benefit rural economies

By Nadia Ramlagan for WVNS

A report outlines how federal efforts to bring solar energy to one in four American households could bring clean energy to communities of all colors, incomes and backgrounds.

Supporters of the 30 Million Solar Homes Initiative said boosting participation in the Rural Energy Savings Program and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program could help more residents, farmers, and small businesses finance solar panels.

Robert Fernatt, advisor to Solar United Neighbors and president of the West Virginia Electric Auto Association, said more West Virginians are seeing the benefits of clean energy.

"National-security advocates, faith-based groups, people that are interested in personal energy independence, disaster preparedness," Fernatt outlined. "We like to say that solar has a large tent: it attracts a lot of different people for different reasons that we can all get behind."

More than 300 energy equity, climate, business, environmental, faith, and public health organizations have signed a letter calling on Congress to enact the policy recommendations outlined in the report.

Katie Kienbaum, senior researcher for the Energy Democracy Initiative at the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, said communities have much to gain from reducing use of fossil fuels.

"In the form of savings on your electric bills, or maybe a new job or career opportunity," Kienbaum explained. "In certain communities with peaker power plants, maybe those can be retired, when more of our energy is coming locally from our rooftops and from our own communities."

Fernatt added he installed solar four years ago, and saw a dramatic dip in monthly energy costs.

"My energy bill is \$5 a month, every month, so it certainly reduces my energy cost," Fernatt emphasized.

If the 30 Million Solar Homes package is implemented as a whole, the federal government would invest a total of \$137 billion over the next five years to help install local rooftop and community solar systems across the country, according to the authors of the report.

Morrissey Mobile Office hours announced

Attorney General Patrick Morrissey announced a representative from his office will meet with central and southeastern West Virginia residents in August to discuss consumer-related issues and answer any potential questions.

"These public events are a great way for consumers to talk one-on-one with our consumer representatives," Attorney General Morrissey said. "Residents can easily get questions answered, learn what is going on in their area and how to keep personal information safe and secure."

Justin Arvon, a consumer outreach and compliance specialist with the office, and other staff will host the events as scheduled below:

- Aug. 12: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building
- Aug. 13: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building
- Aug. 14: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building
- Aug. 15: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building
- Aug. 16: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building
- Aug. 17: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - The Chocolate Moose, 1818 Harper Road, Beckley
- Aug. 17: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building
- Aug. 18: Noon to 1 p.m. - Kirk's Restaurant, 130 Hinton Bypass, Hinton
- Aug. 18: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building
- Aug. 19: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building
- Aug. 20: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building
- Aug. 21: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. - State Fair, WV Building

For information on additional requirements specific to any location, attendees are encouraged to contact Justin Arvon at 304-590-6462.

Warner outlines WV's election integrity success at County Clerks Conference

Working hand-in-hand with the county clerks, state election officials achieved remarkable results to increase the uniformity of election integrity processes in West Virginia. Consequently, West Virginia ranked as a top-ten state for bipartisan election confidence in 2020 as reported by MIT.

Secretary Warner highlighted these successes and discussed plans and preparations for the 2022 election cycle in West Virginia with each of the 55 County Clerks on July 26 at the County Clerks' Elections Training Conference at the Bridgeport Conference Center.

Strengthening election integrity began by working closely with county clerks to ensure a systematic and uniform approach to cleaning up the state's list of registered voters. Warner and the county clerks were surprised to learn that the outcome of the process would identify more than 25% of the statewide list had outdated voter data. Thanks to the clerks, that old data no longer bloats the voter file.

"When 25% of your voter registration consists of inaccurate or ineligible data, the voter turnout is artificially low and not representative of West Virginia's active voting population," Warner said. "This appearance leads to apathy and concern over election integrity."

As of July 1, 2021, Warner announced that a total of over 364,000 outdated, duplicate, deceased and convicted felon voter files were removed from the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS). To Warner, each of these voter files with outdated data presented an opportunity for voter fraud, irregularities and decreased confidence in our elections.

From 2000 to 2018, only two West Virginia counties posted a voter turnout of 70% or more. In 2020, ten counties achieved 70% or better turnout, and Warner hopes that number be even higher in future WV general elections.

"These files were for names of people who were no longer alive, had moved, were duplicates, or had lost their right to vote while serving a sentence after a felony conviction," Warner said. "These files did not depict an accurate reflection of actual eligible voters, and we are very proud to now have the cleanest and most accurate voter files in the history of West Virginia."

"The implementation of voter ID at the time of voting makes for a strong election integrity foundation that instills confidence in voters," Warner noted. "Voter ID and transparent post-election audits held prior to certification of election results continue to increase the trust in West Virginia's elections."

This year's conference was held at the Bridgeport Conference Center.

DARE to Cruz

Continued from Front Page

This event is sponsored by the Lewisburg Police Department, as the annual DARE to Cruz show was initiated by former Lewisburg Police Chief Tim Stover, an avid car guy. All proceeds benefit the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program taught at Lewisburg Elementary School for all fifth grade students

Participating vehicles may enter from either side of Route 60 at McElhenny Road or Maple Street. The Jim's Drive-In parking lot will be filled with entries first, followed by Route 60 in front of Jim's, then the Lewisburg Elementary School parking lot. One lane of the roadway will be kept free for participants to come and go as they wish.

Spectators may park at the Greenbrier County Public Library, or at the rear entrance to Lewisburg Elementary School off of McElhenny Road.

Jim's Drive-In will be offering a full menu and will also be serving breakfast items during the morning.

For more information, please contact Lt. J.D. Hughes with the Lewisburg Police Department at 304-645-1626.

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Briefly

American Heritage Music Hall, Inc.

Located at 496 Island Park, Ronceverte. Open to the public, all welcome, handicap accessible. Listeners and tourists welcome. Admission \$7 Tuesday nights, \$10 Saturday - Audience provides food. Doors open at 7 p.m. Jam & Dance every Tuesday 7 to 10 p.m. There will be no Saturday dance Aug. 15 due to the Fair. Saturday dance Aug. 28 will feature the School House Band 7 to 10:30 p.m. For more information call the Music Hall at 304-645-4667; Bill Evans at 304-392-6079; Grace Poe at 304-992-5852. The Music Hall is available for weddings and parties.

Bloodmobile to visit White Sulphur

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church Monday, Aug. 2, from noon to 6 p.m., hosted by the Greenbrier Valley Council 8689 Knights of Columbus. The Church is located on US 60 West of downtown White Sulphur Springs, across from The Greenbrier Hotel Clinic. Reservations are not required for this visit.

Republican Club to meet

Greenbrier County Republican Club will conduct its monthly meeting Thursday, Aug. 5, at the Greenbrier County Courthouse beginning at 6:30 p.m. Special guest is Delegate Caleb Hanna of Nicholas County who will discuss his bill on transgender male participation in female sports and the recent court decision forbidding its implementation. Delegate Todd Longanacre of Greenbrier County, a co-sponsor, will be present. Delegate Barry Bruce of Greenbrier County, who voted for the bill, will also attend this meeting. Arrangements for the Republican booth at the State Fair will be finalized. A report on the Great American Comeback Parade and Picnic will be presented.

Car Show to support Adopt A Cop

Greenbrier County Adopt A Cop and Shade Tree Car Club will host a Car Show Fundraiser Saturday, Aug. 7 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ronceverte Island Park. It is FREE to the public and a \$15 registration fee for all cars, trucks, and motorcycles. There will be a dunking booth, food vendor, T-shirts, and much more. Please come out and support our local law enforcement officers. For more information, be sure to follow our Facebook Page at Greenbrier County Adopt A Cop.

Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Shawn M. Davis, Rupert, fleeing from officer, NCP, fine \$100
Jonathan Tyler Brooks, Rupert, no seatbelt, fine \$25
Berry Rowe, Hershaw, driving too fast for road conditions, fine \$5
Dylan Christopher Gunter, Ronceverte, speeding, NCP, fine \$5
Gary Grant Clendenin, Jr., White Sulphur Springs, reckless driving, NCP, fine \$100
Pamela Wigglesworth, Alderson, speeding, NCP, fine \$22
Pamela Wigglesworth, Alderson, expired registration, NCP, fine \$20
Samatha Leian Grimmatt, Frankford, beer sales under, GP, fine \$25
Zachary C. Hamrick, White Sulphur Springs, speeding, GP, fine \$10
Rebecca K. Loudermilk, Quinwood, sale, give, furnish alcohol to a minor, fine \$25
Jason Bucklee Brock, Hillsboro, speeding, GP, fine \$8
Justin Grey Morgan, Ronceverte, possession of controlled substance, NCP, jail 90 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation
Justin Grey Morgan, Ronceverte, driving while license suspended or revoked, NCP, fine \$100
Connie Jean Adwell, Ronceverte, fraudulent schemes, NCP, jail 10 days - suspended and placed on 9 months unsupervised probation
Brittany Renee Adams, Rainelle, embezzlement, GP, jail 30 days - suspended and placed on 6 months unsupervised probation

Gbr. Co. Farmland Protection Board

meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at 804 Industrial Drive, Suite 5, in Maxwelton. The public is invited to attend. Call 304-520-3221 for more information.

Rainelle Town Council

meetings are held every second and fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Rainelle City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Greenbrier County Commission

will meet in a special meeting Monday, Aug. 2, at 11 a.m. in Room 132. On the agenda:

- To consider for adoption a Supplemental Resolution relating to the proposed issuance by the Greenbrier County Building Commission of its Lease Revenue Bonds, Series 2021 A (Courthouse Improvements) (the "Series 2021 A Bonds"), in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$15,000,000, including the approval of the final forms, terms and provisions of the Bond Indenture and Security Agreement, the Lease Agreement, the Assignment of Leases, the Credit Line Deed

FAQs about annual WV Sales Tax Holiday

By Sarah Richardson

Gov. Jim Justice has announced that West Virginians in need of materials for the upcoming school year will be able to save money this weekend during the state's back-to-school Sales Tax Holiday.

During the holiday, certain back-to-school items are exempt from sales tax, such as clothing, school supplies, school instructional materials, laptops and tablets, and sports equipment.

The Sales Tax Holiday will begin at midnight on Friday, July 30, and will continue through Monday, Aug. 2, at 11:59 p.m.

The average customer will save at least 6% on every qualified purchase and up to 7% if they purchase the item in a municipality that has imposed a local sales tax.

During the Sales Tax Holiday, qualifying items can be purchased tax-free online or by telephone, mail, custom order, or any other means (including in-store purchases) when either:

- The item is both delivered to, and paid for by, the customer during the exemption period; or
- The customer orders and pays for the item, and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period ends.

This is West Virginia's first back-to-school Sales Tax Holiday since 2004.

When is the Sales Tax Holiday?

The West Virginia State Sales Tax Holiday will begin this year at 12 midnight on Friday, July 30, and will end at 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 2.

The West Virginia State Sales Tax Holiday begins each year on the Friday before the first Sunday in August and ends the following Monday.

What items qualify for the sales tax holiday?

During the holiday, the following items are exempt from Sales and Use tax:

- Certain clothing with a purchase price of \$125 or less
- Certain school supplies with a purchase price of \$50 or less
- Certain school instruction material with a purchase price of \$20 or less
- Certain laptop and tablet computers with a purchase price of \$500 or less; and
- Certain sports equipment with a purchase price of \$150 or less.

Items purchased for use in a trade or business are not exempt under the sales tax holiday.

Can multiple qualifying items be purchased in a single tax-exempt transaction?

There is no limit on the amount of the total purchase. The qualification is determined by each individual item.

What item of clothing qualify?

"Clothing" includes, but is not limited to, shirts; blouses; sweaters; pants; shorts; skirts; dresses; uniforms (athletic and nonathletic); shoes and shoe laces; insoles for shoes; sneakers; sandals; boots; overshoes; slippers; steel-toed shoes; underwear; socks and stockings; hosiery; pantyhose; footlets; coats and jackets; rainwear; gloves and mittens for general use; hats and caps; ear muffs; belts and suspenders; neckties; scarves; aprons (household and shop); lab coats; athletic supporters; bathing suits and caps; beach capes and coats; costumes; baby receiving blankets; diapers, children and adult, including

See "FAQ State Tax Holiday" ___ Page 4

Public Meetings

of Trust, Fixture Filing and Security Agreement with respect to the Greenbrier County courthouse property, and the Bond Purchase Agreement, all relating to the Series 2021 A Bonds and to authorize leasing the Greenbrier County courthouse property from the Greenbrier County Building Commission.

- To consider and act upon any measures related to the foregoing.

Greenbrier Co. Building Commission

will hold a special meeting Monday, Aug. 2, at 11:30 a.m. at the County Commission Meeting Chambers, in the Greenbrier County Courthouse, 912 Court Street North, Lewisburg. On the agenda:

- Old Business
 - Approval of Minutes of prior Building Commission meeting
- New Business
 - Elect officers of Greenbrier Co. Building Commission
 - To consider adoption of a Supplemental Resolution of the Greenbrier County Building Commission relating to the proposed issuance of its Lease Revenue Bonds, Series 2021 A (Courthouse Improvements) (the "Series 2021 A Bonds"), in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$15,000,000, including the approval of the final forms, terms and provisions of the Bond Indenture and Security Agreement, the Lease Agreement, the Assignment of Leases, the Credit Line Deed of Trust, Fixture Filing and Security Agreement with respect to the Greenbrier County courthouse property, and the Bond Purchase Agreement, all relating to the Series 2021 A Bonds.
 - To consider and act upon any measures related to the foregoing.

County Board of Zoning Appeals

will meet Tuesday, Aug. 3, at 7 p.m. in the Main floor Courtroom. On the agenda:

- Old Business
 - Appeal by Alex Hanna for a Special Exception from the Greenbrier County Zoning Ordinance. The appellant requests permission for an agritourism business at 382 James Stuart Road, Lewisburg. (Property owned by Gary Cochran Sr.) ORIGINAL HEARING HELD ON JULY 6, 2021
- New Business
 - Action on Minutes from July 6, 2021 regular meeting
 - Election of officers for the 2021/2022 fiscal year
 - Discuss possible special meeting to accommodate after Planning letter being sent to an upcoming event.

Lewisburg Planning Commission

will meet Thursday, Aug. 5, at 4:30 p.m. at 942 Washington Street, West. Also available via teleconference. For information on how to participate on ZOOM, contact Marsha Cunningham at 304-645-2080 by 4 p.m. Aug. 5. On the agenda:

- Approval of Minutes - July 1, 2021
- Comments for the Public
- Review and discussion - draft of sign regulations
- Discussion of Scenic Overlay
- Discussion of wireless telecommunication facilities
- Discussion of Permissible Use Table and Map
- Discussion of Air B&B regulations
- Schedule LUSD Clinic date
- Comments from Planning Commission members
- Comments from Zoning Officer

The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission Meeting will be held Thursday, Sept. 2, at 7 p.m. with a deadline of Friday, Aug. 13.

Renick Town Council

will meet Monday, Aug. 12, at 7 p.m. at Renick Town Hall. Agenda Items Include:

- Community comments
- Approval of Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Committee Reports
- Other Business

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Delta variant found in Greenbrier County

Gov. Jim Justice and members of the West Virginia COVID-19 pandemic response leadership team held another news briefing this week to update the public on the State's latest pandemic response efforts.

During the briefing, Gov. Justice reported that the total number of active COVID-19 cases in West Virginia has now reached 1,656; nearly double the number of active cases seen throughout the state less than three weeks ago.

"That is significantly up," Gov. Justice said. "It's not good."

"We're back above 100 people that are hospitalized and we have 47 people in our ICUs," Gov. Justice continued. "We have no Red counties, but we have one Orange county, seven Gold counties, and 12 Yellow counties."

"It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure this out," Gov. Justice added. "People are wondering about the Delta variant; if it's going to come here and if things are going to get worse. Just look at the map. It tells us everything. We need to keep our guard up."

Gov. Justice went on to report that there are now 43 confirmed cases of the COVID-19 Delta variant in West Virginia, up from 35 such cases as of his previous briefing on Thursday last week.

The 43 Delta variant cases have been identified in 19 West Virginia counties: Berkeley, Braxton, Gilmer, Greenbrier, Hampshire, Harrison, Jefferson, Kanawha, Marion, McDowell, Mineral, Monongalia, Morgan,

Raleigh, Summers, Upshur, Webster, Wetzel, and Wyoming counties.

"We are very much hoping that people do choose vaccination," Dr. Marsh continued. "It's important."

West Virginia Joint Interagency Task Force Director Jim Hoyer also made remarks Tuesday, noting that the vast majority of critical illness and death in West Virginia COVID-19 patients is being seen among the unvaccinated or partially-vaccinated.

"If we just look at the month of June, 91% of the people in West Virginia who are hospitalized have not had their full vaccination or had no vaccination at all, while 88% of the deaths in West Virginia are among people who have not been vaccinated," Hoyer said.

"Only 29% of West Virginia children age 12-17 are fully vaccinated," Hoyer continued. "For age 18-29, it's only 36%, and it's not much better for West Virginians age 30-39 and 40-49." During his remarks, State Coronavirus Czar Dr. Clay Marsh noted that 88,000 new cases of COVID-19 were reported across the United States yesterday alone.

"During the month of July, the number of new cases has quadrupled in the United States," Dr. Marsh said. "We know that the Delta variant, in the United States, is responsible for the overwhelming number of new cases."

"Our young people are still lagging behind," Gov. Justice said. "You absolutely need to get your vaccine."

See "Delta Variant" ___ Page 5

OPINION

Nature's Way

By Karen Cohen

Master Gardener/Photojournalist/Artist

Toads

Toads! Are you delighted to find them in your garden, as I am, or repelled? Granted, one popping his bugged-out eyeballs over the surface of the ground may startle me at first. But then as the whole bump-filled back emerges, I can declare calmly, "Oh, a toad," and I leave it alone.

Prehistoric in appearance these dry skin amphibians can be judged as "creepy." OK, they are not even remotely cute, but they have a tremendous role to play in your garden. Toads are nature's natural, living pesticides. In simple terms, they live by eating bugs, the same bugs who may be munching on your plant leaves. Like bats who are also deemed as scary and ugly but who patrol the night skies for mosquitoes, toads are beneficial to plant growers. So, leave them alone!

In olden days, toads were the symbol of change and were viewed as renewal and cleansing of the soul. In Feng Shui, an ancient Chinese practice for creating balance in your home, toads represent fortune and fertility. In your backyard, resident toads mean you have NOT doused your garden with poisonous chemicals.

Toads shoot out a quick and long tongue to catch their prey and gulp-gone! They can also omit a poisonous substance called bufotoxin used to poison their predators (small animals). Contrary to old wives' tales, toads will not cause warts if you touch them but may cause an allergic skin irritation. When you pick one up, it may release this toxin as a glob on your hand. So did you hear me state, Leave them alone!

Before insecticides, many of which contain DEET, were introduced to the general population, frogs and toads were the gardeners' best friends for insect control. A short time after these pesticides were applied generously to lawns, highways, and riversides, the population of frogs and toads declined noticeably. Be certain that when you destroy insects around your home and yard, you are also reducing the food source for 90% of nesting



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birds and are actually adding poison to their meals. The bugs die and hence, birds suffer, too.

Will you help these creatures as they help you? I won't go as far as kissing a toad, but I have stepped over one big ole bumpy one who sits on my porch every night to catch the bugs. Did I say, leave them alone?

Commentary

Capito highlights impact of New River Gorge redesignation during state visits

U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) made two stops in southern West Virginia recently, highlighting the positive economic impacts of the newly redesignated New River Gorge National Park and Preserve.

First, Senator Capito spoke at a ceremony at the Sandstone Visitors Center where she helped unveil National Park and Preserve signs that will be erected along interstates and highways throughout the area. She joined Governor Jim Justice, Congresswoman Carol Miller, and other local leaders for the event. Additionally, TIME Magazine included the New River Gorge National Park as one of the "World's Greatest Places" of 2021.

"The New River Gorge is truly one of West Virginia's crown jewels, and will draw individuals from around the world to see all that our state has to offer," Senator Capito said. "Today's event helps marks the culmination of years of hard work toward this goal that has been a major priority for me. This would not be possible without the dedicated support of local leaders here that have diligently seen this redesignation effort through, and it was a pleasure to be here to celebrate this important milestone."

Following this event, Senator Capito met with Hinton Mayor Jack Scott and other local leaders to discuss potential recreation plans to capitalize on the increased tourism and economic growth that has resulted from the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve's redesignation. The park has seen a 39% increase in tourism compared to last year, while June marked the best tourism month for the state overall.

"I'm so optimistic about the future benefits the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve will bring to Hinton and the surrounding region," Senator Capito said. "It was beneficial to meet with Mayor Scott today to discuss ways we can all collaborate to maximize the tourism and economic impact in the area. This means more businesses opening, jobs being created, and people coming to our state, and I'm excited for their future plans!"

Commentary

Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt encourages citizens to support local farmers during Farmers' Market Week

West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt released the following statement leading up National Farmers' Market Week, Aug. 1-7:

"Local farmers' markets and the producers who support them are vital to our state's economy, as well as food security. When we saw bottle necks in the national food system, it was West Virginia farmers who stepped up to feed our citizens. The pandemic proved how important local agriculture is to our communities, so this week get out and support those markets and their farmers."

During Commissioner Leonhardt's administration, the WVDA has worked with the Legislature to reduce

burdens and barriers on farmers' markets. Since the WVDA, took over the full regulation of markets, the number of markets has increased by 50 percent. According to the WVDA, there are 155 markets registered in West Virginia.

"As we continue to find ways to get the government out of the way of our farmers, we need to heighten the awareness for local food. No amount of reduction in regulations will help if we cannot increase consumer demand. That is what National Farmers' Market week is all about, supporting the local farmer."

The first National Farmers' Market week was estab-

lished in 1999 by the United States Department of Agriculture. The week is a celebration of the hard work and dedication of the local farmers and agriculture businesses in making the Farmers' Markets an integral part of the communities in which they are located.

For a list of West Virginia farmers' markets, view here: <https://agriculture.wv.gov/farmers-market-search/>.

e-mail letters to the editor and news stories to news@mountainmessenger.com

Deadline for Letters to the Editor is noon Wednesday

Continued from Page 3

FAQ Sales Tax Holiday

disposable diapers; rubber pants; garters and garter belts; girdles; formal wear; and wedding apparel.

What is not included in the definition of clothing?

While clothing is eligible for the holiday, the following items are not eligible for the holiday and are subject to tax during the holiday period:

- Items purchased for use in a trade or business.
- Clothing accessories or equipment. Clothing accessories or equipment include briefcases; cosmetics; hair notions, including, but not limited to, barrettes, hair bows, and hair nets; handbags; handkerchiefs; jewelry; sunglasses (non-prescription); umbrellas; wallets; watches; and wigs and hair pieces.
- Protective equipment. Protective equipment includes breathing masks; clean room apparel and equipment; ear and hearing protectors; face shields; hard hats; helmets; paint or dust respirators; protective gloves; safety glasses and goggles; safety belts; tool belts; and welder's gloves and masks.
- Sewing equipment and supplies including, but not limited to, knitting needles, patterns, pins, scissors, sewing machines, sewing needles, tape measures, and thimbles; and sewing materials that become part of "clothing" including, but not limited to, buttons, fabric, lace, thread, yarn, and zippers.
- Sports or recreational equipment. Sport or recreational equipment includes ballet and tap shoes; cleated or spiked athletic shoes; gloves, including, but not limited to, baseball, bowling, boxing, hockey, and golf; goggles; hand and elbow guards; life preservers and vests; mouth guards; roller and ice skates; shin guards; shoulder pads; ski boots; waders; and wetsuits and fins.
- Belt buckles sold separately.
- Costume masks sold separately.
- Patches and emblems sold separately.

Does the \$125 exemption apply to the first \$125 of an item of clothing?

No. The exemption applies to items selling for \$125 or less. If an item of clothing sells for more than \$125, tax is due on the entire selling price.

Can a retailer split items that are normally sold together for the item to fall below the threshold?

No. For example, the retailer may not sell a pair of \$150 shoes as two individual \$75 items for the purchase to qualify for the exemption.

What types of items qualify as school supplies?

School supplies include only the following items: binders; book bags; calculators; cellophane tape; blackboard chalk; compasses; composition books; crayons; erasers; folders (expandable, pocket, plastic, and manila); glue, paste, and paste sticks; highlighters; index cards; index card boxes; legal pads; lunch boxes; markers; notebooks;

paper; loose leaf ruled notebook paper, copy paper, graph paper, tracing paper, manila paper, colored paper, poster board, and construction paper; pencil boxes and other school supply boxes; pencil sharpeners; pencils; pens; protractors; rulers; scissors; and writing tablets.

Items not included in this list are taxable.

"School supplies" does not include any item purchased for use in a trade or business.

What types of items qualify as school instructional material?

School instructional material includes only the following items: reference books, reference maps and globes, textbooks, and workbooks.

Items not included in this list are taxable. "School instructional material" does not include any material purchased for use in a trade or business.

Will items purchased for my business be eligible for the tax exemption during the sales tax holiday?

No. The exemption does not apply to items used in a trade or business. If a consumer purchases an item that is to be used in a trade or business and the retailer does not collect sales tax, the consumer is obligated to report the purchase and pay consumer's use tax on the item. The consumer may report and pay the tax on the regularly filed return, or if the consumer does not have a use tax account, may report, and pay the tax on his or her personal income tax return.

What about buy one, get one free or for a reduced price?

The total price of items advertised as "buy one, get one free" or "buy one for a reduced price" cannot be averaged to qualify both items for the exemption. For example: a retailer advertises pants as "buy one, get one free." The first pair of pants is priced at \$150; the second pair of pants is free. Tax is due on \$150. The store cannot sell each pair at \$75 in order for the items to qualify for the exemption. However, the retailer may advertise and sell the items for 50 percent off, selling each pair of \$150 pants for \$75, making each pair eligible for the exemption.

The exemption depends on the actual price paid for each item. For example: A retailer advertises shoes as "buy one pair at the regular price, get a second pair for half price." The first pair of shoes is sold for \$140; the second pair is sold for \$70 (half price). Tax is due on the \$140 shoes, but not on the \$70 shoes. The store cannot sell each pair of shoes for \$105 in order for the items to qualify for the exemption. However, a retailer may advertise each pair for 25 percent off, thereby selling each pair of \$140 shoes for \$105, making each pair eligible for the exemption.

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Dear Recycle Lady,



New Millionaire

cont. from page 1



When taking metal, aluminum cans, batteries, large items, etc. to the Recycling Center, follow the Aluminum Can sign on the side of the building. Press the large button on the left-hand side of the doorway, as shown by Harry Hudnall, to ring for assistance. Harry has been a faithful employee at the Recycling Center for over 20 years.

Dear Recycle Lady,

While cleaning out my garage I found several chains of various lengths. Can these chains be recycled? Also, I found several partial boxes of unused nails. Can they be recycled?

Cleaner-Upper

Dear Cleaner-Upper

If the chains are metal, and not plastic, they can be recycled with metal. The nails would be too small for the Recycling Center to recycle, but the Habitat for Humanity ReStore takes them, as well as other construction items, but not shingles. If you have tools that you no longer need, ReStore accepts those, also. All sales benefit Habitat for Humanity. It's a win-win - a cleaner garage that helps Habitat for Humanity "help families build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter." The ReStore is located on North Jefferson Street in Lewisburg, across the road from Greenbrier Ford.

Dear Recycle Lady,

I received a lovely plant as a gift that had what appears to be an aluminum foil wrap on the pot. It crumples like aluminum and a magnet does not stick to it. Can this wrap be recycled?

Loves Potted Plants

Dear Loves Potted Plants,

If the wrap on your plant crumples like aluminum, it can be recycled with alumi-

num foil. Be sure it is clean and dry before placing it in the recycling bin.

Dear Recycle Lady,

Please encourage your readers to save recyclables until they have a fair number of items to take to the Recycling Center. They are not helping the environment if gasoline is used in excess by visiting the bins often with only small amounts of recyclables.

Environmentalist

Dear Environmentalist,

You are absolutely correct. Recycling is a balancing act between what to use and what to save. If several trips can be combined into one, less gas is used, thus less carbon emissions go into the air. Better yet, form a neighborhood collection where drivers switch off taking everyone's recyclables in one trip.

Congratulations, Recyclers! Collectively, you recycled 635 tons of various recyclables at the Recycling Center during the first half of 2021! That's 200 tons more than this time last year.

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.

crowd by making an appearance and providing remarks spotlighting the importance of getting vaccinated against COVID-19.

But, as Coleman walked back to her seat, Gov. Justice asked her to turn around for one more surprise. At that moment, First Lady Cathy Justice and Babydog walked into the room carrying a check for \$1 million.

That's when the Governor revealed that Coleman was the lucky West Virginian whose name had been drawn as the latest million-dollar prize winner of the "Do it for Babydog: Save a life, Change your life" Vaccination Sweepstakes.

The million-dollar giveaway was just one of 50 "Do it for Babydog" Vaccination Sweepstakes prizes announced by

Gov. Justice that day.

Earlier in the day, Gov. Justice also surprised a surgical team member at CAMC Memorial Hospital in Charleston and surprised a man from the community of Hacker Valley in Webster County, presenting each of them with a brand-new custom-outfitted truck.

In addition to the cash and truck giveaways, 47 more West Virginians were announced as Week 6 "Do it for Babydog" winners for prizes including two full four-year scholarships to any public institution in the state, five lifetime hunting licenses, five lifetime fishing licenses, five custom hunting rifles, five custom hunting shotguns, and 25 weekend getaways to West Virginia State Parks.

Alderson Clock

cont. from page 1

"Around two years ago an old National Geographic picture of the jewelry store was going around online, and it really created a sense of nostalgia for a lot of Alderson residents," said Stacy Eskins, Main Street Alderson volunteer and an Alderson resident herself. "I got to thinking and it seemed that a new town clock was really something Alderson could get behind."

Eskins took the initiative to approach the town and get the gears turning on the project, quickly gaining the blessing of local officials and organizations. Together with the help of Alderson Main Street members, including President Judy Lohmeyer and Treasurer Margaret Hambrick, as well as Alderson Mayor Travis Copenhaver, the clock project is now officially moving forward.

"We have been fundraising for the last two months, and out of our \$15,000 goal we have already raised \$13,856.84," said Eskins. "That \$15,000 will cover the building of the clock, concrete and electrical work, and hopefully some landscaping around it. We have been in communication with the clock company and the ball has already been put in motion."

She said that as of this week, they hope to start the concrete work within 60 or so days, and be installing the clock within

90. The clock will stand at 10 feet, 10 inches tall with a LED backlight, roman numerals, and a 24" diameter face. It will read "Est. 1777 - Town of Alderson."

"I'm proud to just be involved with this," she said, "Everyone wants to see their hometown improve. The community has really rallied together for this project. I'm astounded and thankful."

With donations coming in from Aldersonians near and far, she explained that that people living as far away as New York and California have reached out with well wishes and donations for the clock.

Eskins hopes the clock will be not only a beautiful addition to the town, but also an anchor to the community and a central hub and meeting point.

If you wish to donate to the project, checks can be made out to Alderson Main Street and mailed to P.O. Box 117, Alderson, WV 24910. Please write "Town Clock" in the memo. You can also make donations on Facebook to the Alderson Town Clock Project Fundraiser page.

Alderson Main Street is a US 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that continues revitalization efforts and economic development of Alderson, a small rural community.

Delta Variant

cont. from page 3

Hoyer added, "I know most people are familiar with me from my over 40 years of military service, particularly the last 15 working in leadership roles with the National Guard responding to state emergencies. I think I'm someone that West Virginians trust. I'm trying to reinforce to all of you, if you are still hesitant, reach out to a medical professional and understand the value and the importance of the vaccine. Please quit following the misinformation that's out there, particularly across the Internet and on social media sites. Talk to someone who is a medical professional, consider getting your children vaccinated, and consider getting vaccinated yourself."

Dr. Marsh pointed out that, with case numbers climbing once again, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is once again considering measures to mitigate the spread as much as possible.

"The CDC is now reconsidering recommending masking for people - even if they are fully vaccinated - in certain parts of the country; particularly parts with really high amounts of virus," Dr. Marsh said. "There's also a really critical look

that's being done now at the amount of antibodies that are present at about six months or so after the initial vaccination and the determination whether it might be wise to consider another vaccination or an augmented next vaccine that will have more activity against variants like the Delta variant."

Gov. Justice went on to say that, while he is not currently considering reinstating any face covering requirements at this time, he will continue to listen to the advice of the state's leading medical experts as the situation continues to evolve.

"I do not think that we're on the threshold of moving in that direction today, but we've all got to be smart enough to be open-minded and know that, as we continue to watch and listen to the experts, we have to always remain open-minded as to what to do," Gov. Justice said. "I hope and pray that we do not slip back into the situation where we have to revisit things like masks or whatever it may be. We've been through enough."

"But we can avoid every bit of that if you'll just step up," Gov. Justice added. "We've got to get people vaccinated."

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OBITUARIES

Carl Denver Loudermilk



Crawley-Carl Denver "Denny" Loudermilk, 64, passed away Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at his home in Crawley.

Born Nov. 4, 1956, in Greenbrier County, he was the son of the late Carl Jackson Loudermilk and the late Elaine Elizabeth Wiseman Loudermilk.

Carl was a retired crane operator and welder with the West Virginia Dept. of Highways with 32 years of service.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Carla Whitt; a son, Denver Loudermilk; and a brother, Jerry Combs.

Denny is survived by his wife, Jacqueline Gale Elmore Loudermilk; daughter, Sarah Elizabeth Loudermilk of Crawley; two sons, Thurman Loudermilk of Crawley and Travis Wright (Ashley) of Fort Spring; four sisters, Darlene Piercy of North Carolina, Ann Loudermilk of Indiana, Alice "Pete" Sears (William) of Indiana, and Barbara Clower (Steve) of Crawley; brother, David Loudermilk of Crawley; and five grandchildren.

Funeral service was held on Sunday, July 25, at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg, where Pastor Joey Morgan officiated. Burial followed in Wallace Memorial Cemetery, Crawley, WV.

The family received friends prior to the service on Sunday.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

John David Morgan



Caldwell-John David Morgan, 88, passed away Sunday, July 25, 2021, at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center.

Born Oct. 22, 1932, in Ronceverte, he was the son of the late Matthew Elbert and Eliza Via Morgan.

John was a US Army Korean War Veteran. He was a member of Zions Light Baptist Church. John was an excellent carpenter and homebuilder. He loved to golf in his spare time and wood crafting. He was self-taught and proficient in playing guitar, mandolin, and harmonica.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded

in death by brothers and sisters, Clemie Morgan (Wanda), Mildred Shepard (Ira), Eunice Weikle, Faith Boone, Emory Morgan (Louise), Jerry Morgan (Glendora), Ocie Reed (Rodney), Beulah Porterfield (Bernard), Lundy "Buddy" Morgan (Carrie) and Steve Morgan; and brother-in-law, Kenneth Dodd.

Survivors include his loving wife of 62 years, Charlotte Dodd Morgan; brothers-in-law, Bob Weikle and Donald Boone both of Ronceverte, John "Sonny" Dodd (Janice) of Lewisburg, and Roy Dodd (Shelby) of Caldwell; sisters-in-law, Genevieve Dodd, Georgene Deitz (Bobby) all of Lewisburg, and Charlotte Dodd of Caldwell; and several nieces, and nephews.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m., Friday, July 30, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel, 252 Montvue Drive, Lewisburg, with Pastor Gary Baker officiating. Burial will follow in the Adwell Cemetery, Ronceverte.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the service on Friday at the funeral home.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net.

Mary Frances Zink



Apr. 19, 1940-July 22, 2021

Ronceverte-Mary Frances Zink of Ronceverte passed away peacefully with loved ones at her side on Thursday, July 22, 2021.

She was the daughter of the late William Sanford Spencer and Eula Boggs Spencer Tribett.

She was the sister of William "Gene" Boggs and wife Donna, the late Marie Baker and her late husband Vernon, Helen and her late husband Bill Brown, Joyce and her late husband Cecil Callison, and Florence and her late husband Tony Sellards. She had many nieces, nephews, and dear friends, too numerous to mention.

Frances was mother, grandmother and great-grandmother to the following: Natalie and Jay Morgan and family - Co-

rey and Ashley Morgan, daughters Brynlee, Lynk-an, son Krew; Kelli Morgan and Brian Sledd; Ruta and Al Lierman and family - Trevor and Brooke Weikle, daughter Ella; Taylor and Taylor Carter, daughters Reagan, Lakyn; Tanner Weikle, son Blake, daughter Tinley / Melissa Bostic, daughter Nevaeh King; Al's sons AJ, Steven Lierman; Clifton McClintic and family / Anita Solis - sons Casey, Isaac; Kevin and Marwa McClintic and family - sons Bransen, Adam, Rayan, daughters Safa, Sofia.

Frances was a talented crafter whose creative needlecrafts delighted her friends, family and countless others who saw them. She was socially active, greatly enjoyed dancing and did so as often as possible. She had a keen talent for observation and was an active member of the neighborhood watch. Grandma was often the life of the party and had a heart of gold; she would not take "no" for an answer. We often joked that she was our live entertainment, she was sweet and sassy, and always put together.

In honor of her wishes, a private service is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 1.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net. Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Warren Douglas Sampson



Ronceverte-Warren Douglas "Doug" Sampson, 63, passed away Thursday, July 22, 2021, at his home.

Doug was born Sept. 6, 1957, in Panama City, Florida, to the late Warren David Sampson and Shelby Jean Turner Tomlinson. Warren served in the U.S. Air Force and worked as an equipment operator in the construction business.

Survivors include his companion of 18 years, Nellie Brown King; one step-daughter and two step-sons all of Alabama; sisters, Cynthia Evans and husband Chris, and Cathy Pitsenbarger and husband

Lee both of Ronceverte; brothers, David Vance Sampson and wife Kathy, and Stephen "Pick" Sampson and wife Tip both of Lewisburg; stepfather, John Tomlinson; Doug's furry companion, Stormy; as well as several nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were held on Monday, July 26, at the Sampson Family Cemetery at Moncove Lake in Monroe County, where Pastor Roger McDaniel officiated.

Visitation was Sunday evening, July 25 at the Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Ronceverte, WV.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Ova A. Coffman



Lewisburg-Ova A. Coffman, 94, passed away Sunday, July 25, 2021, at Stonerise - Lewisburg, formerly The Brier.

Born Mar. 21, 1927, in Lewisburg, she was the daughter of the late Floyd Clark Coffman, Sr. and Margaret Gray Piercy Coffman.

Ova was a lifelong member of Lewisburg United Methodist Church. She was a member of the Iris Association and took many Iris trips. Ova helped in the rabbit barn at the State Fair of WV for over 25 years.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Margaret Lee Stone; a brother, Floyd Clark Coffman, Jr.; brother-in-law, Maynard B. Hayes and niece Teresa Anderson.

Survivors include sisters, Laura Davis of Hagerstown, MD and Georgia Hayes of Lewisburg; nieces and nephews, A.J. Stone, Jr. (Nancy), Linda Carol Bianco (Jerry), Mr. and Mrs. Harlis Davis, Jr., Alda Gray Gross (Steve), Maynard Lee Hayes, David Coffman and Kristie Coffman; and several other great-nieces, and nephews.

Funeral service was held on Thursday, July 29, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel, Lewisburg, where

Pastor Ron Miller and Pastor Tiler Bland officiated.

Visitation was Wednesday evening, July 28, at the funeral home.

The family would like to thank Stonerise - Lewisburg, Dr. Connie Anderson, nurses, aides, and staff for the wonderful care she received.

In lieu of flowers, donations should be made to Stonerise - Lewisburg, 979 Rocky Hill Road, Ronceverte, WV 24970 or to Lewisburg United Methodist Church, 1133 E. Washington Street, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net

Charles Lee Smith

Steger, IL-Charles Lee Smith, 82, passed away peacefully at his home on Sunday, July 25, 2021.

He was born on Dec. 15, 1938, in Alderson, a son of the late Leslie E. Smith and Ruby E. (Grimmett) Smith.

After graduating from Alderson High School, Charles went on to proudly serve his county in the United States Army. He was employed at The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, where he served as a lineman with 44 years of service. He will be remembered for his love of gardening, old radio programs, his knowledge of history, and enjoying his retirement, but most of all, the love for his neighbors, friends, and spending time with family.

In addition to his parents, Charles was preceded in death by his brothers, James Smith and Aaron Smith; and his brother-in-law, James Pritchard.

He is survived by his son, Scott Chuck Smith and wife Mechele of Crete, Illinois; his grandchildren, Alexander Smith and Nikolai Smith, both of Crete, IL; his brother, John Smith, of Peterstown, WV; his sister, Mary Pritchard, of Elizabeth City, NC; and his sister-in-law, Emma Smith, of Pacific, MO; as well as several loving

nieces and nephews.

Graveside services and burial will be held Tuesday, Aug. 3, at 2 p.m. at the Alderson Cemetery, with the Pastor Derek Hall officiating. Full military honors will be accorded by the U.S Army Reserve Camp Dawson. Family and friends will serve as pallbearers.

Online condolences and memories may be shared with the Smith family at www.lobbanfh.com

Margery Joan Holliday

Lewisburg-Margery Joan Holliday, 92, passed away Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center.

Born May 9, 1929, in Salisbury, England, she was the last surviving child of Fredrick J. and Sarah Jane Foyle Elsworth.

Margery was a member of Wild Meadow Baptist Church, and was retired from Kroger after 43 years of service.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, William R. Holliday; daughter, Dorothy May Holliday; and five sisters and three brothers.

She is survived by three grandchildren, Gary E. Morgan and wife Debbie, Russell R. Morgan and Julie R. Burns; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Monday, July 26, at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg, where Pastor Lowell O'Dell and Pastor Roger McDaniel officiated. Burial followed in Wallace Memorial Cemetery, Crawley, WV.

The family received friends Sunday evening, July 25, at the funeral home.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

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- Grassroots Church • Greenbrier Bowling & Rec. Center • Greenbrier Recycling Center
- Greenbrier Valley Brewing Company • Greenbrier Chevrolet Buick
- Greenbrier Chiropractic Center-Dr. Timothy Pence • Greenbrier Medical Arts Pharmacy
- Greenbrier Valley Medical Center • Greenbrier Valley Theatre
- Greenbrier Valley Veterinary Hospital • The Heart Center-Thomas W. vonDohlen, M.D. Knight Henderson-American National Insurance
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James "Richie" Holliday II, CFSFP
Owner/Licensee In Charge

Progressive CEOs July meeting

Andi Hoover, West Virginian Extension Agent, was in charge of the program when the Progressive CEOs met at the extension office for their July meeting. She demonstrated her instant cooker by cooking a creamy basil chicken and tortellini dish. She showed all the steps and by the time it was done we were all eager to taste it. Needless to say, it was delicious.

President Patty Gray presided over the business meeting. She gave the Health Motivator report which was on iron. She reported it is found in red meats, poultry, seafood, beans, nuts and leafy vegetables. Eating iron rich foods help prevent anemia.

Our program in September is on Heritage foods. We are asked to bring Heritage food recipes next month and Patty will compile them in a booklet.

Kitty Loudermilk read the poem that is entering in the poetry contest.

Lynn Humphreys sent the traveling basket and Patty Gray took it and will bring it back next month.

Colleen Walton reminded everyone to come prepared next month to report how many volunteer hours they have.



During the meeting County Extension Agent Andi Hoover demonstrated cooking in her instant pot

The County CEOs Picnic is July 20 at Hollowell Park in Lewisburg at 10:30 a.m. It will be a box lunch catered by Fruits of Labor.

Our meeting next month will be with Faye Honaker and it is reorga-

nization.

Those in attendance were Patty Gray, Faye Honaker, Jean Foley, Kitty Loudermilk, Barbara Shiley, Colleen Walton, and Mary Liz Richmond.

United in Faith Worldwide to be held online

Jehovah's Witnesses hold global virtual event in 240 lands, 500+ languages

Breaking a century-old tradition, the largest convention organization in the world has moved its annual in-person event to a virtual format for the second time in as many years, canceling nearly 6,000 conventions in 240 lands.

For decades, the city of Charleston has welcomed attendees of Jehovah's Witnesses' regional conventions. In recent years, summers regularly featured visitors from West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky streaming into the downtown area for the special annual event held at the Charleston Coliseum & Convention Center. The more than 4,200 attendees actively supported local businesses during their stay.

"The city has accepted us really well. Staff at the arena are outstanding to work with. Hotel staff and personnel have been accommodating. We have a good relationship with them," stated Mark Fisher, convention committee coordinator. In 2020, the pandemic unexpectedly interrupted that tradition moving the international religious organization to cancel in-person conventions throughout the world and launch a glob-

al virtual event. This was a first for Jehovah's Witnesses, who have held public conventions in stadiums, arenas, convention centers, and theaters around the world since 1897.

"Powerful by Faith!" is the theme of the 2021 global event, which will be delivered in more than 500 languages to households throughout the globe over six weekends during July and August 2021, uniting some 15-20 million people in 240 countries. Since the convention is typically held from Friday through Sunday, the program will be available in six installments corresponding to morning and afternoon sessions.

"Friday" morning's session will be available for streaming or download beginning June 28, 2021. Todd and Velma Perry of St. Albans, WV, have enjoyed attending every regional convention held in Charleston since 1984, yet they are still eagerly anticipating the upcoming virtual program. Velma Perry related, "I'm excited for it. It's going to be very faith-strengthening. The Bible drama is always a highlight for me."

They value how the virtual format helps to keep themselves and others safe. Todd Perry remarked, "A lot of things are opening up, concerts and fairs, but I appreciate how our organization looks out for life. We value life so much

that we don't even want to take a chance of putting someone in harm's way." The Perry couple are impressed by the unifying effect of the convention being streamed worldwide.

Velma Perry commented, "It's pretty amazing that all over the world, we can talk to our friends in any other country, and they're going to be watching the convention at the exact same time." Fisher highlighted another way that the virtual format promotes unity, "There were some who were unable to make it to the conventions because of illness or older age. Also, older ones down on the arena floor (in the infirm seating section) can now watch the convention at home and not have to worry about certain challenges." About 500 ground-level seats were usually reserved for elderly and infirm attendees at past conventions.

Velma Perry's father deals with health limitations. She shared, "In 2019, he missed a day of the program and was so upset because he has never missed a day of a convention before." Last year, he was able to attend all of the program sessions remotely at home. "It's definitely better for him," she added. The planning and translation of a program of this magnitude takes months of effort. With the uncertainty of whether it would be safe to bring

thousands of people together in cities around the world, the organization opted for a virtual platform for the second consecutive year. However, the move has not curbed the enthusiasm for the annual event. Congregations around the world are inviting the public to join them in this historic occasion.

"Faith has helped our global brotherhood to continue to thrive even during a pandemic," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses. "Our faith will continue to unite us in worship - even virtually - as millions gather in private homes around the world to enjoy a powerful and inspiring spiritual program."

All are invited to attend the event by going to www.jw.org on the web or JW Broadcasting on the free JW Library app available for iOS or Android, or on streaming platforms like ROKU TV, Apple TV, and others. The program is free and accessible to all. The schedule for download and global streaming is listed below. For more information, please contact Jehovah's Witnesses United States at 718-560-5600 or pid@jw.org.

Church Bulletin

First Baptist Church of Trout

The annual homecoming is scheduled at First Baptist Church of Trout for Sunday, Aug. 1. Bring a covered dish and join in the fellowship. Service starts at 11 a.m. There will be special music. Pastor Roger Williams welcomes everyone to attend.

Free Spaghetti Dinner offered

The Compassionate Ministries outreach of Greenbrier Valley Church of the Nazarene, Fairlea, is offering a free spaghetti dinner to the community Sunday, Aug. 1, from 5 to 7 p.m., or while supplies last, at the church fellowship hall. The church is located at 167 Dawkins Drive, just off Davis Stuart Road, approximately one-half mile south of Greenbrier Valley Medical Center. Rev. Terry Simpkins is the pastor.

Annual Ketron Church and Community Homecoming 1902-2011

The annual Ketron Church Homecoming is resuming this year! Please join us Sunday, Aug. 1 at 11 a.m. to celebrate the legacy of the Ketron Church, worship, and reunite with old friends. Masks will be available. The speaker this year will be Mayford Witt of Charleston. Following the worship service we will gather at the Frank Whanger Picnic Shelter for a Carry-in lunch and a brief business meeting. Everyone is invited to attend. Paper products and utensils will be provided. Please notify Karen West of any persons you would like added to the memorial list. Because the Homecoming was cancelled last year, very few donations were received. Your donations for the upkeep of the church located on Rockland Road, Ronceverte, and the cemetery are more important now than ever before. If you have loved ones buried in the Ketron cemetery and cannot attend, please consider mailing a generous donation to Ketron Church in care of the Ketron Treasurer, Karen West, P.O. Box 251, Ronceverte, WV 24970.

Reunions

Hoover

The 55th annual Hoover Family Reunion will be held Saturday, July 31, at the Greenbrier State Forest in the cabin area. Family and Friends are invited to gather at noon. Bring your favorite side dish and dessert (chicken and drinks will be provided). Bring your lawn chair and join us for fun, food, and fellowship with the Hoover family, descendants of Emmons Bright Hoover and Rachel Susan Daugherty.

Hodges / O'Brien

The descendants of James H. Hodges and Jeremiah O'Brien have scheduled a reunion for Sunday, Aug. 22, at Ronceverte Island Park, Picnic Shelter #1. We will gather at noon with dinner set for 1 p.m. Bring pictures, family tree information, past reunion information, and other memorabilia to share. Also bring addresses for family members that have moved of who you want to add to our mailing list. The descendants are dying and we, the reunion committee, need you and your families to continue the rich tradition. Please bring anyone and come enjoy the fine food and good fellowship. Come and catch up on the family news and reminisce about the good old days/times. Please share this announcement with family members and relatives who may not be on our current mailing list. If your address has changed, we need your new address for our mailing list. Please call Nancy Hodges at 304-647-3451 for changes in your address. Hope to see you there! Our rain location is First Church of God of Ronceverte Fellowship Hall, Ronceverte and North Avenue, Ronceverte, WV.

Williamsburg CEOs learn about WV covered bridges

The first question people typically ask is, "Why are covered bridges covered?" A popular belief is that cows and other livestock were scared by the sight of rushing water below, which made them hesitant to cross the bridge. Covered bridges were also often referred to as "kissing bridges." - Quoted from the lesson.

You want to know why? Then you need to get the lesson West Virginia Covered Bridges created by WVU Extension staff by contacting your local WVU County Extension Office.

Barbara Deeds, club member, presented the program at the July 13 meeting held at the Williamsburg Historical Foundation Museum. Those participating included Lo-

retta Shirley, Laura Rose, Blanche Knically, Cassandra Perkins, Laura Ann Tiller, and Burl and Patty Post.

Club members keep track monthly of number of books read (for the Purposeful Reading Committee), Health Motivator Hours, and Volunteer Hours. Club was brought up to date on community events and county CEOs events coming up this summer.

The next club meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 10, at noon at the Williamsburg Museum. Although the club will be discussing reorganization for the upcoming year, anyone is still welcome to come and learn about just what the Community Educational Outreach Service (CEOS) is about.

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Balance July 1, 2020		\$ 14,982.62
Revenues: Interest		56.05
Expenditures:		
WV Daily News - publishing	-60.37	
2019-2020 annual report		
Mountain Messenger - publishing	-27.51	-87.88
2019-2020 annual report		
Balance June 30, 2021		\$ 14,950.79
	Gayle E. Mason	Chairman



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5	6	9	3	2	8	7	1	4
1	4	2	6	7	5	3	9	8
9	5	8	7	3	1	4	2	6
7	2	3	4	8	6	9	5	1
6	1	4	9	5	2	8	3	7
3	9	6	5	4	7	1	8	2
2	7	1	8	6	3	5	4	9
4	8	5	2	1	9	6	7	3

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Askew 2. Morose;

3. Tuber; 4. Alarm

Today's Word

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Overdose prevention and creation of a recovery community, priorities for NRCTC

New River Community and Technical College (NRCTC) President Dr. Bonny Copenhaver and Dean of Student Affairs Peter Hoeman met with licensed psychologist Susie Mullens with the West Virginia Collegiate Recovery Network for training in June. New River CTC is working

with the Alliance for Economic Development of Southern West Virginia to build collegiate recovery communities on the college's four campuses. Working with the Alliance, the college plans to offer peer support services and Recovery Ally Training starting this fall. "It's crucial for us to reduce

the stigma surrounding recovery and to increase outreach and offer support for our students," Copenhaver explained. "We want our students to know that we're glad that they're here, and we're here to help them."

The recent training focused on overdose prevention, reducing the

stigma of addiction and administration of three versions of Naloxone, a lifesaving medication that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. The training will also be offered to staff and faculty.

"We very much appreciate Dr. Copenhaver's interest in recovery and support for our program and

we are looking forward to growing recovery support with New River," said Mullens.

For information about programs at New River CTC, visit www.newriver.edu, email admissions@newriver.edu or call 866-349-3739.

Mickaela Reed graduates from Berea College

Mickaela Reed of Ronceverte received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Berea College conferred on June 10, 2021.

Berea College, the first interracial and coeducational college in the South, focuses on learning, labor and service. The College only admits academically promising students with limited financial resources—primarily from Kentucky and Appalachia—but welcomes students from 41 states and 76 countries. Every Berea student receives a Tuition Promise Scholarship, which means no Berea student pays for tuition. Berea is one of nine federally recognized Work Colleges, so students work 10 hours or more weekly to earn money for books, housing and meals. The College's motto, "God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth," speaks to its inclusive Christian character.

Alderson Community Market offers free school supplies

Free school supplies for students in elementary, middle, and high school will be available at the Alderson Community Market on Tuesday, Aug. 3, sponsored by Read-A-Loud West Virginia and Elizabeth Spangler. The market is open 3 to 6 p.m. every Tuesday through October, in the parking lot of the Alderson Visitor Center. However, the free school supplies will only be distributed Aug. 3.

Every Tuesday children are invited to Carrot Club at the Alderson

Community Market where they can try a bite of a fresh fruit or vegetable, enjoy a fun physical activity, and earn four Carrot Club Dollars (\$4) to spend at the market for local vegetables or fruit. Carrot Club is made possible through a grant from the Greenbrier County Health Alliance.

All of summer's bounty is coming to the market - tomatoes, berries, onions, salad greens, cabbage, cucumbers, potatoes, summer squash

and so much more. Shoppers are often surprised their local produce will stay fresh in the refrigerator much longer than supermarket produce. Alderson Community Market is well known for home-made bakery products from Kountry Krust Bakery, an Amish enterprise in Monroe County, and Fruits of Labor, a culinary training center in Rainelle. Soon, Fruits of Labor will open a café and bakery in the Alderson Visitor Center.



NEWS@MOUNTAINMESSENGER.COM

Samuel Womack receives degree from Washington and Lee University

Samuel Womack of Union received a Bachelor of Arts degree, magna cum laude from Washington and Lee University on May 27.

Commencement ceremonies for 444 Washington and Lee seniors were held on the university's Wilson Field - a first for the university - to accommodate pandemic-related

distancing and gathering size guidelines.

Womack majored in Geology and Theater.

Washington and Lee University, the nation's ninth oldest institution of higher education, is among the nation's premier liberal arts colleges and universities. Washington and Lee University provides a liberal arts

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STEPPIN' OUT

Sixth annual tribute to Bricktop to be held in Alderson August 8

Imagine a warm summer night sitting on the Alderson Memorial Bridge in the middle of the Greenbrier River listening to smooth jazz. Alderson Main Street, with support from the Greenbrier County Commission Arts and Recreation Fund, will hold its annual "Tribute to Bricktop" on Alderson Memorial Bridge on Sunday, Aug. 8 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Free to the public, this tribute is in memory of jazz singer and entertainer Ada Beatrice Queen Victoria Louise Virginia Smith born in Alderson in 1894. Although she moved to Chicago with her mother when she was still small, she always claimed Alderson and West Virginia as home. Her career reached its peak in Paris where she owned a popular nightclub and taught the Prince of Wales to dance the "Charleston."

Returning to present the music of Bricktop's time is the Robinson, Hoffman, Penn, and Sellards jazz group. Writer/Artist/Vocalist Susanna Robinson has been a fixture and creative force in the Lewisburg area for more than 25 years. She was a founding member of long-lived jazz combo Ghost Town Swing, well-known statewide and beyond for their sultry interpretations of jazz standards and has often been featured as guest vocalist for the Manhattan Jazz Quartet. Robinson has also appeared with Ancestor Radio and Sam and Janet Evening, as well as the eclectic Squawkin' Henry, and the inventive and decidedly original



William Penn, piano and vocals; Susanna Robinson, vocalist; Bill Hoffman, guitarist; and John Sellards, bassist in concert in the "Tribute to Bricktop" in 2018.

vocal group, Blue House.

She still returns to her jazz roots by belting it out with her own jazz group, Robinson, Hoffman, Penn, and Sellards, formerly known as the Robinson-Kenga Trio. She has often been an official judge for a myriad of state-wide vocal competitions and has appeared occasionally on public radio and local music radio shows including Music from the Mountains and Mountain Stage.

Joining her at the 6th annual Tribute to Bricktop will be guitarist extraordinaire Bill Hoffman, who hails from Roanoke, VA. Hoffman is known for his flawlessly smooth style, and his sweet renditions of jazz standards. He is an exceptional musician with an amazing technical knowledge of jazz. Hoffman currently plays with several groups including Roanoke's big band, The Old Timers.

William Penn, piano and vocals, is a longtime presence in the music scene of Roanoke, VA. Teaming up with Hoffman, they play together regularly in the Roanoke area. His presence is a great addition to the group.

Rounding out the group is upright bassist and master of several other instruments, John Sellards, formerly of Boston, and who has returned to his roots in Beckley. Sellards is not only a superb musician, but a brilliant music historian as well. In demand as both a live player and session musician, he has been welcomed back to the Mountain State with open arms and looks forward to being part of this evening.

No concessions will be available, but you are welcome to bring your own non-alcoholic drink. Bring a chair and settle in for a wonderful evening.

Carnegie Hall reopens galleries for First Fridays After 5

Carnegie Hall's August/September Exhibits open Friday, Aug. 6. There will be a reception for three of the shows at 5 p.m. in conjunction with Lewisburg's First Fridays After 5. Carnegie Hall features four galleries, which display the works of regional artists for two-month shows. This month's exhibits feature works by Margy Green, Deborah Diane Lester, Suzanne Wiseman, and the Fiber Arts Network.

"The Apple and the Tree" Exhibit by Deborah Diane Lester from Shady Springs, WV is featured in the Old Stone Room Gallery. A Fine Artist since 1983, Lester is self-taught, but has taken workshops with Seay Earhart, Frankie Wheeler, Pat Lusk, Fred Graff, Joe Miller, and Alvaro Castagnet. She is the past president of Beckley Art Center and West Virginia Watercolor Society, and a juried member of Tamarack since 1996.

The Lobby Gallery features art by Suzanne Wiseman, an artist and illustrator from Beckley, WV. She designs character sketches and paints them with watercolors. Her inspiration comes from faces from the past, present, and her imagination. This is her first solo exhibit.

The Museum Gallery will hold an art exhibit for the first time since the relocation of the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame and features Greenbrier County native Margy Green. Green creates scenes from worlds or realms inspired by her dreams, from her love and appreciation of nature, as nuanced by her myriad life experiences. While most works are acrylic on canvas, other areas of expertise and execution include pencil, charcoal, and oil pastel drawings, as well as watercolors, gouache, and oils. She strives to create a visual reference for the miracles of our physical world in a way that evokes a feeling of wonder and respect for the planet, and for the universe that manifests our very existence.

During time spent living on the west coast in Long Beach and later, San Francisco, many local, cultural and international influences affected her life, hence her artwork, such as experimental and performance art, yoga and meditative practices.

Margy's work has been exhibited in Southern California galleries, and is in many private collections and business. On a constant path to learn and grow creatively, she does commissioned work including custom paintings, illustrations, landscapes, portraits, property portraits, murals on canvas, and logs.

The Board Room Gallery exhibit features the Fiber Arts Network (FAN) Exhibit. FAN is a group of fiber artists who meets monthly during the school year in the Carnegie Hall Weaving Studio. The exhibit features work from several FAN artists including: Leah Haymaker (knitting) from Clifton Forge, VA; Leslie Skeat (weaving) from Athens, WV; Marie Murtaugh (weaving) from Lewisburg; Amy Bush (weaving and crocheting) from Mount Nebo; and Chris Asmann (weaving, knitting, and bobbin lace) from Fort Spring.

Carnegie Hall August/September exhibits are on display Aug. 6 through Sept. 24. The exhibits are free and open to the public Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information, please visit carnegiehallwv.org, call 304-645-7917, or stop by the Hall at 611 Church Street, Lewisburg.

Programs in the Carnegie Hall 2018 season are presented with financial assistance through a grant from the WV Department of Arts, Culture and History and the National Endowment for the Arts, with approval from the WV Commission on the Arts.

GHS to host Free Family Day August 7



Last year's Free Family Day was a hit, and fun for the whole family.

Annual Free Family Day is a day for the Greenbrier Historical Society to give back to the community and its children. From 12 noon to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 7, visit the lawn of the North House Museum and Archive for educational crafts, historic demonstrations, snacks, lawn games, and more! All attendees will be entered to win a free Escape Room experience from the Greenbrier Historical Society.

Free Family Day is an extension

of the North House Museum and will feature activities that are linked to our current thematic exhibits. Try your hand at early tavern culture with card games, stenciling, or quill and ink writing, learn how to spin and weave on take-home spinning and weaving kits, and practice the Native American crafts of rope making and chair caning. There will be a free pop-up farmer's market from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Spend some tokens at the pop-

up farmer's market so your family can have a fresh and local dinner. The pop-up farmer's market is sponsored by the Courthouse Farmer's Market and the WVU Extension Office.

All activities and crafts are free and are fun for the whole family.

Following CDC guidelines, the Greenbrier Historical Society requests that non-vaccinated attendees wear a mask and maintain social distancing during Free Family Day.



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August First Friday fast approaching

Celebrate First Fridays After Five in downtown Lewisburg on Friday, Aug. 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. Complimentary tastings, live music, giveaways, festive beverages, and special offers are all free to the public throughout downtown. Everyone is welcome!

Enjoy live Appalachian Soul and Blues live music in the **City Green Space** by local favorite Black King Coal from 5 to 8 p.m.!

Welcome the newest business to downtown Lewisburg: **Sheena Pendley Photography Studio**. Stop by at the Studio on Court street for an Open House for a print sale, giveaways, snacks, and more! (846 South Court Street, 304-646-9452)

Cooper Gallery will be featuring West Virginia modern artist George Snyder's new work for the month of August. Come meet George on First Friday. Refreshments served. His colorful happy sculptures and paintings bring smiles. Please join them for an interesting evening. (1067 Washington Street East, 304-661-1752)

Hill & Holler will have Dave Buhrman and Susan Sanders on the outdoor stage from 7 to 9 p.m. (970 North Jefferson Street, 304-647-4429)

Edith's store will be sampling out their new to the store Talenti gelato. Talenti gelato is a delicious type of gelato made from scratch with quality ingredients from around the world and uses an old-world process that involves slow cooking their ingredients and making gelato in smaller batches than most other ice creams in the US. Edith's will also offer buy one get one free pint for the whole month of August. It's their way of saying a sweet goodbye to Summer. (1035 Washington Street East, 304-645-7998)

Wolf Creek's first 10 customers during First Friday hours who spend \$50 or more will receive a "happy bag" with bandeau Headband. Wolf Creek will also be doing a raffle drawing for a pair of Edgy Petal Earrings. Customers will be entered to win with each purchase. (967 Washington Street West, 304-645-5270)

Bella will celebrate summer with bubbly & popcorn! On the tasting table will be tasty bubbles and locally grown popcorn, plus a few surprises from the cheese case, too. (1017 Washington Street East, 304-520-4921, @bellagourmetwv for details)

Author Brenda Barnes Clark will be signing copies of her new book *The Runaways* at **The New Chapter**. The Runaways is about an 11-year-old girl from West Virginia who develops a special bond with a horse. (922 Washington Street West, 681-318-3501)

On First Friday **Little Black Box Bra Boutique** is offering professional bra

fittings and 20% off select bras. (818 South Jefferson Street, 304-645-6646)

The Washington Street Pub will feature the Smooth Ambler Old Fashioned! (1030 Washington Street East, 304-645-7386)

The **Greenbrier Valley Visitors Center** welcomes all to stop in for an evening of unique art and an eclectic mix of music. August's "Art in the Valley" series features award-winning West Virginia photographer Deb Sorensen with her show "Focusing on West Virginia and Beyond." Come in to meet Deb and chat with her about her exhibit of scenic photographs. In the Art Alcove, Nan Morgan will display a collection of viewing stones. Nan will also be on hand to talk about her exhibit titled "Sticks and Stones" which includes several pieces that hint at imaginary hidden creatures. Enjoy an entire evening of musical entertainment with G.R.O.U.P. (Greenbrier River Optimistic Ukulele Players) strumming from 5 to 6 p.m., followed by The Rust Brothers (George, Bob and Jim) from 6 to 6:45 p.m. Local harpist Leah Trent will close out the evening with a performance from 7 to 8 p.m. (905 Washington Street West, 304-645-1000)

Spend \$25 at **Harmony Ridge** and receive a free gift! And enjoy the ever-popular wine and bubbly First Friday special at \$4 a glass. (886 Washington Street West, 304-645-4333)

Performing at **The Asylum**: Victor Della Torre or Vic D.T. as he is also known, is a drummer singer of four decades. Able to play any genre of music, he mixes his Roland electronic drums to blend with tracks sans drums and vocals and plays and sings in an effortless and very entertaining way. Young and old, classic rockers to country fans, all get a taste of what they like to hear. (399 Randolph Street East, 681-318-3515)

Aggie's and Vest will be serving refreshments and celebrating the notion that summer does not end until late September. (979 Washington Street West, 645-4063)

Stop by the **North House Museum** to enjoy live folk music by Rural Felicity and refreshments in The Star Tavern Room. All exhibits and displays will be open for casual viewing. (814 Washington Street West, 304-645-3398)

Pop-in to **Patina** to enjoy live Celtic music by Patrick O'Flaherty and complimentary beverages and Girl Scout cookies. (1046 Washington Street East, 304-520-4960)

First Fridays is sponsored by City National Bank and the Shops and Restaurants of Downtown Lewisburg. For more information go to visitlew-isburgwv.com or to Facebook or call 304-645-4333.

Carnegie Hall's Ivy Terrace Concert Series continues with Deni Bonet

New York City-based pop/rock singer/songwriter and classically trained violinist Deni Bonet will take the terrace for Carnegie Hall's upcoming Ivy Terrace Concert on Thursday, Aug. 5, at 7 p.m.

The concert will take place outside on Carnegie Hall's Ivy Terrace as attendees watch from the expansive lawn in front of New River Community and Technical College. Concert-goers are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket and pack a picnic to enjoy live music. All Ivy Terrace concerts are free, open to the public, and alcohol free.

Deni Bonet is a pop/rock singer/songwriter and classically trained violinist who has recorded and performed with R.E.M., Sarah McLachlan, Cyndi Lauper, Scissor Sisters, and Warren Zevon among many others.

She was an original member of the cast of the nationally syndicated NPR radio show "Mountain Stage," singing and performing in her own right and accompanying guests on the show.

Deni left the show to pursue a solo career, with a mission to prove that there is more to the violin than concertos and hoedowns. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, the



Deni Bonet

United Nations, Lilith Fair and the White House for President Obama, the First Lady and Vice-President Biden.

Deni Bonet has become an in-demand act, headlining various festivals, performing arts centers, clubs, colleges and international venues. Her music has been featured on HBO, NBC, American Airlines, several film and modern dance projects, and has been described by the Wall Street Journal as like "Sheryl Crow meets the B-52's."

The remaining Ivy Terrace schedule is Andrew Adkins (singer/song-

writer) on Aug. 12, Steel Pterodactyl (original eclectic/dance) on Aug. 26, Seldom Free (original groove/rock) on Sept. 9, and Jack Grace Band (original alt-country) on Sept. 23. The final outdoor concert will be Oct. 7 - artist to be announced.

So mark your calendars and get excited about this summer in Lewisburg. The 2021 Carnegie Hall Ivy Terrace Concert Series is a "must do" for visitors and locals alike and is sponsored by City National Bank. For more information, please visit www.carnegiehallwv.org or call 304-645-7917.

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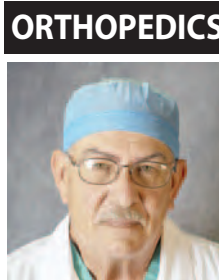


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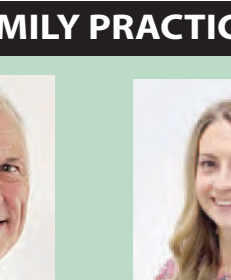
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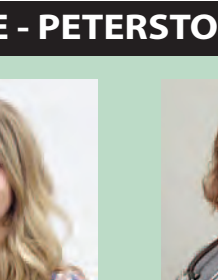
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