

Chocolate Festival, Literary Festival return in 2022

By Sarah Richardson

After a hiatus due to COVID-19 restrictions, both the Lewisburg Chocolate Festival and the Lewisburg Literary Festival are returning in 2022. The Chocolate Festival is set for Saturday, Apr. 9, and the Literary Festival will run Aug. 5 and 6.

"It's really exciting to see our festivals and fairs happening again. We're ready to welcome people at the Greenbrier Valley Visitors Center. It's been a long two years. I think people are ready to get out and enjoy these events with their friends and family. We've all missed

the Lewisburg Chocolate Festival and I know for me the first tasting will be extra sweet," said Valerie Pritt with the Greenbrier County Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

As next month swiftly approaches, it's not too soon to secure your tickets to Lewisburg's premier chocolate event. Simply visit www.lewisburgchocolatefestival. com/tickets to make sure you can sample all the sweet treats downtown. Tickets usually sell out quickly! In 2018 over 36,500 tasting tickets were sold.

The annual Chocolate Festival is a benefit event for the United Way of Greenbrier Valley.

Chocolate Festival ticket information:

Tasting tickets are \$1 each, sold in packets of five for \$5. Each ticket gets you one chocolate-theme tasting (bite-sized treat). Please note that all 2020 ticket holders must reply to erica@unitedwaygbv.org by Sunday, Mar. 13 to redeem their 2020 tickets (no exceptions). All ticket sales and Will Call will be located in the lobby of City National Bank in downtown Lewisburg (809 Jefferson Street South, Lewisburg) on Apr. 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Tickets are not sent through email or the post). No refunds or cancellations for any reason.

> See "Chocolate Festival" Page 2

WVSOM and partners launch program to reduce rural health disparities in Greenbrier County

Thanks to a partnership between the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine's (WVSOM) Center for Rural and Community Health (CRCH), Mountain Transit Authority (MTA) and the Greenbrier County Health Department, Greenbrier County residents now can receive free transportation to medical appointments and be more easily tested for COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

Through a \$495,000 Rural Health Disparities grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources' Bureau for Public Health, the partnering organizations will provide services aimed at reducing disparities in health care access that result in higher rates of COVID-19 among rural populations.

The grant allows the partners to provide non-emergency medical transportation for county residents, operate a mobile testing unit and digitize health department patient records. The services are available now and will continue through Apr. 15, 2023.

WVSOM's CRCH drives engagement in rural health by building infrastructure that empowers communities to improve their health and well-being through evidence-based education, research and outreach. Barbara Holt, CRCH executive director, said she is grateful that the grant allows the center to partner with other area organizations to reach these goals.



"We're excited for the opportunities the grant will bring. Greenbrier County residents will have access to free transportation to any non-emergency medical appointment. See "WVSOM" ____ Page _



Matt Martin, Mountain Transit Authority (MTA) mobility officer (left); Barbara Holt, executive director of WVSOM's Center for Rural and Community Health (CRCH); Tim Thomas, MTA general manager; Kelly Lonergan, CRCH health disparities grant project coordinator; Nikki Dolan, Greenbrier County Health Department director of nursing/administrator; and Wes Hylton, Greenbrier County Emergency Ambulance Service administrator.

Board of Education honors West Point

By Karen Cohen on page 4

Nature's Way



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The West Virginia Young Writers Competition winners were honored at this month's BOE meeting: Front Row: Grade 3-4 category winner Kennedy Carter of Lewisburg Elementary School (left), Kindergarten winner Lincoln Keaton of Lewisburg Elementary School, and Grade 1-2 category winner Sawyer Blankenship of Crichton Elementary School; Back Row, Grade 9-10 category winner Peyton Barker of Greenbrier East High School (left) and Grade 5-6 category winner Ellie Burns of White Sulphur Springs Elementary School

Greenbrier County Airport Authority to add more bathrooms, gift shop

By Adam Pack

During their regular meeting on Wednesday, Mar. 2, the Greenbrier County Airport Authority met to discuss adding more bathrooms and a gift shop, and securing bids for temporary modifications of the passenger holding area.

Airport Manager Brian Belcher explained that a motion for temporary modifications would allow his office to secure bids and contracts for the erecting of "passenger holding areas which remain within the original footprint of the airport." The motion would allow for more swift action by the airport to prepare for large groups planning to come into the area as well as relieving the chronic overcrowding problem. "As of

now we can only hold 60-some people in there, so if there are even 50 people it's almost impossible for them to spread out, and that's a COVID concern as well," Belcher explained.

Further on, Belcher explained another motion modification to passenger holding which would add another set of bathrooms in the airport. "As of now, there's just the one set of bathrooms and everyone, men, women and children are all having to use them. Everyone that wants to use them usually has to stand in a line, so we definitely want to fix that."

The Authority also motioned to approve the purchase of new radios for the grounds crew. The current radio setup

See "Airport Update" _____ Page 2

appointee, local student awardees **By** Adam Pack

The Greenbrier County Board of Education met Tuesday, Mar. 8, to celebrate area students for their achievements in academics, writing, and music at both the county and the state level, and to honor a student who has been appointed to West Point. Sergeant Major Long announced the appointment of Tristan Deeds to West Point. Deeds' parents were in attendance, as both Long and the Board spoke glowingly of Tristan's commitment to the community and his country.

At the County Spelling Bee first place was awarded to Ean Hudnall of Eastern Greenbrier Middle School, and second place went to Merlin Durham of Crichton El-

ementary. Both boys will now go on to represent Greenbrier County at the State Spelling Bee.

Next up were the winners of the WV Young Writers Competition, which was awarded for one student per grade. Five students were honored from kindergarten all the way up to tenth grade. In order of grade, they are Lincoln Keaton, Sawyer Blankenship, Kennedy See "BOE Honors" _Page 2

Shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade returns

The Shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade on the east coast is back after a hiatus last year, and it's shorter than ever! The parade will be taking a new route for 2022, this time it will start at Amy's Cakes and Cones and end at Hill and Holler. The parade will kickoff at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Mar. 17. Patrick O'Flaherty will be leading the parade, as is tradition, and Ted Gosnell will be the Grand Marshal.

Amy's will be offering special milkshakes for the holiday, and Hill and Holler will have some special menu items along with Guinness and Irish whiskey.

O'Flaherty will be performing traditional Irish music at Hill and Holler from 3 to 9 p.m., with a brief reprieve to lead the parade.



In years past, the Shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade has gone down Washington Street and ended at the Irish Pub, but this year it will start at Amy's Cakes and Cones in Montwell Commons and end at Hill and Holler.

Airport Update

Continued from Front Page

is aging and in need of repair, and crew members are having difficulty hearing each other as well keeping radios in working order. The bid for a new fleet of radio, charging bays, and two years of maintenance came out to \$16,523.

Also, the AWOS System, which used to communicate weather information to pilots, needed urgent repairs recently. Those repairs were made on an emergency basis as they cost over the \$5,000 limit which the airport manager is allowed to expend on maintenance and repair. The expenditure needed the retrospective approval of the authority, which the authority granted.

Lastly, the authority discussed the opening of a Ground Stop Gift Shop in the airport. Ground Stop Gifts would be the first gift shop at LWB. The Authority moved to approve the lease agreement with Ground Stop unanimously, with Greg Furlong saying that, "Most all airports have such amenities, and this serves a need that's currently not served."

City Council approves funding for Ronceverte Island Park Comprehensive Plan

The Ronceverte City Council met Mar. 7 and discussed an upcoming comprehensive plan to revitalize the Ronceverte Island Park. As part of the meeting, Mayor Deena Pack led the Ronceverte City Council to discuss the benefits of bringing a new look to the park.

"Funding the comprehensive plan for the Island Park will help the City to determine the best way to move forward with improvements and/or expansion of the Park," says Mayor Pack. "There are so many opportunities to make the Park better for our citizens, and we want to be sure we are making decisions that will best serve the community in the long term."

The plan comes from long-time Ronceverte resident Dan Withrow. The Ronceverte Island Park has been an invaluable resource for the larger community including Lewisburg and White Sulphur Springs. The positioning of the park by the river makes it one of the most accessible and wonderful parts of Ronceverte and giving the park a new look will only add to the enjoyment of Greenbrier County residents who visit.

There is no set timeline yet for when the park's comprehensive plan will happen. The comprehensive plan will add to the overall work happening on the Ronceverte Island Park, which includes a splash pad and a dog park. It is clear that the park is gearing up to be a destination for people all over the Greenbrier Valley area.

The Pat and Cliff Baker Scholarship continues to support the community

After being married for ten years and with two young children at home, Pat and Cliff Baker arrived in Lewisburg in 1978, enriching the Greenbrier Valley with their professional skills and their community involvement. Cliff was employed as a Software Engineer by Bendix, which eventually evolved into ABB. As a librarian Pat was enlisted to establish and co-manage the all volunteer library at Lewisburg Elementary School. Cliff found his true calling as he served as the Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 70 for over 35 years.



Pat and Cliff Baker

During Cliff's tenure at the helm of Troop 70, a number of Assistant Scoutmasters joined him in the troop's leadership. Pat remained a committed helper for all those years in addition to being a Girl Scout leader for six years. Her organizational abilities became evident as she shuffled and expedited the completion of forms for Scout Camp and numerous trips, served as the unofficial chair of the social committee for the troop, provided support for the many fundraising activities, and ran numerous errands - some planned in advance and the occasional spur of the moment delivery of forgotten items.

Pat has also been very active in the community. Beyond co-establishing the library at Lewisburg Elementary, Pat worked at the Open Book, was involved in the creation and implementation of TOOT, and has united with Cliff in their very active support of Carnegie Hall and GVT. She has served on the Greenbrier County Library Board and the Lewisburg Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals.

During Cliff's tenure as Scoutmaster, Troop 70 made See "Baker Scholarship" Page

Greenbrier County Commission moves broadband expansion forward

By Adam Pack

The Greenbrier County Commission met for its regular meeting on Tuesday, Mar. 8, at the courthouse.

Representatives of Thompson and Litton were present to discuss the ongoing process of bringing high-speed internet to Greenbrier County, especially in the west end and the Quinwood area.

After approving Greenbrier County's entrance into West Virginia's "Gigaready" program, the commission selected Gigabeam Inc. as the service provider for the project at their last meeting. Since then, the county met with Thompson and Litton to contract them as legal representation for the project. Representatives of Thompson and Litton discussed the initiative, and the commission voted unanimously to sign a retainer and memorandum of understanding.

In other business, the commission heard from Sheriff Bruce Sloan as he asked for approval to move forward with the hiring of a new Sheriff's deputy. Sheriff Sloan reported that the Greenbrier County Sheriff's Department was in the process of interviewing Herman Rodriguez, who is already a certified police officer. He will have to complete "prorated police procedures for our particular police service and practices," according to Sloan. The commission approved the hire.

The Greenbrier County Commission will meet again on Mar. 22, and the public is encouraged to attend. Anyone wishing to speak during the meeting must sign in prior to the start of the meeting.

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Chocolate Festival

Continued from Front Page

BOE Honors

Later in the year is the Lewisburg Literary Festival, a vibrant two-day event featuring visiting authors, outdoor art, musical entertainment, and more. While the festival itself isn't until Aug. 5 and 6, the committee is presenting An Evening with David Sedaris on Wednesday, Apr. 6, at 7:30 p.m. at Carnegie Hall. Limited tickets are available.

David Sedaris is the bestselling author of the books Calypso, Theft By Finding, Let's Explore Diabetes with Owls, Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk, When You Are Engulfed in Flames, Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim, Me Talk Pretty One Day, Holidays on Ice, Naked, and Barrel Fever. He is a regular contributor to The New Yorker and BBC Radio 4.

Visit www.carnegiehallwv.org to purchase tickets, and www.lewisburgliteraryfestival.com/home for more information.

Carter, Ellie Burns, and Peyton Barker.

The Board also recognized ten students in relation to skill and excellence in music. Those students selected for All-State Choir include Kayli Depriest, Kaliyah Newsome, Jameson Vance, Heather Jones, and Lily Dense. Students selected for All-State Band include Ceili Allder (French Horn), Cedric Allder (Euphonium), and Lawson Hamilton (Trumpet). Two students were selected to be a part of the All-State Orchestra, Clara Long and Maggie Armostrong. Four students were also selected to perform State Honors See "BOE Honors" _Page 3



And of course, the ever-popular Taste of Our Towns (TOOT) event is planned to wrap up the festival season on Saturday, Oct. 8. Tokens for the event may be purchased in person at the Carnegie Hall Box Office on Church Street or the Greenbrier Valley Visitors Center on Washington Street beginning September 2022. Tokens will also be on sale the day of the event beginning at 10:30 a.m. Visit www.carnegiehallwv. org/taste-of-our-towns for more information.

PICK OF THE LITTER

HOPE Hope is an 8+ year old female mix breed and weighs 50 pounds.



MADDIE Maddie is a four-year-old female domestic shorthair.

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

mation.



County Spelling Bee winner Ean Hudnall (left) of Eastern Greenbrier Middle School and second place honoree Merlin Durham (right) of Crichton Elementary were honored at the Board of Education meeting



If you have recently moved to this area, please contact us for a free welcome visit. We would be glad to share gifts and information about the area, provided free by local businesses and professional services.

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> Heather Blake, Owner 304-646-2624 Alice Hollingsworth 304-645-3788 greenbriergreeters@gmail.com

Briefly

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner set for March 12

will benefit the Williamsburg Food Pantry and will be held Tuesday, Mar. 12, from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Williamsburg Community Center. The menu includes corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, rolls or cornpone, a variety of desserts, and drinks. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 6 years of age. Event is sponsored by the Williamsburg Food Pantry. Directions: Exit 161 from I-64, North Route 12, east Route 60, first road to left (Sinking Creek Road), continue on two lane about nine miles Community Building on left. Call 304-392-5537 with questions.

Free Covid-19 Clinic

on March 12 in White Sulphur

The PAAC Covid-19 Surge Testing team will host a free Covid-19 vaccine, booster, and testing clinic on Saturday, Mar. 12, in White Sulphur Springs. The clinic will take place at New Vision Baptist Church located at 268 Church Street. All testing and vaccinations will be conducted on a first come first served basis from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Williamsburg Community Shooting Match

Our next match will be Saturday, Mar. 19, at the Williamsburg Community Center. Match starts at 7 p.m. but food concession will open at 6 p.m. The match will be eight rounds, 12-gauge guns only. Full choke, .660 inch minimum. Screw in chokes must be from a recognized supplier (patented) and extend no more than 3 inches beyond original barrel. Barrel length 34" maximum. First seven rounds are \$2 per shot, eighth round 50/50 is \$5 per shot. Shooters must compete in the first seven rounds in order to compete in the eighth round. 50/50 splatter match is \$1 per chance between rounds. Cash prizes will be awarded. You do not need to be a shooter to win! Come early! Come hungry! Delicious hot food and refreshments will be available starting at 6 p.m. Families welcome - you don't have to shoot to come get a meal. The match will be held at the Community Building on Sinking Creek Road next door to the fire department. Proceeds will benefit Williamsburg Community service projects. For more information and directions visit www.williamsburgwv.com

4-H Soup Luncheon upcoming

Come share with the Williamsburg Flying Falcons 4-H a variety of homemade soups including chili, chicken noodle, vegetable, broccoli cheese and many more, as well as a peanut butter or grilled cheese sandwich, and choose from a variety of homemade desserts and a drink on Sunday, Mar. 22. Dine in or take out options available. The lunch will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Williamsburg Community Building. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. The proceeds will help send club members on their annual club trip and camp. Call 304-645-6867 with questions.

Democratic Women's Club

will meet Mar. 22 at 5:30 p.m. at Fellowship Hall of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg. Heather Hill, candidate for House of Delegates, District 47 will be the guest speaker. Plan to come out and learn more about our candidates.

American Heritage Music Hall, Inc.

located at 496 Island Park, Ronceverte, is 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. Dance on Mar. 26 will feature the Midland Trail Band, 7 to 10:30. The Music Hall is available for weddings and parties. For more information call the Music Hall at 304-645-4667; Bill Evans at 304-392-6079; Grace Poe at 304-992-5852.

– Public Meetings -

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.

Historic Landmarks Commission

will meet Monday, Mar. 14, at 5 p.m. in the Paul R. Cooley Council Chambers, 942 Washington Street, Lewisburg. Also available via teleconference. For more information on how to participate on Zoom, please contact Lewisburg City Hall at 304-645-2080, no later than Mar. 14 by 3 p.m.

On the agenda:

- Approval of Minutes Feb. 14, 2022
- Comments from the public
- Steve Stone, 1722 Washington Street East replace 14 windows with Pena Reserve Traditional windows, white in color.
- Elsworth Buck, 122 Greenbrier Avenue remove roof covering, install Owens Corning Duration, Onyx Black, and repoint the mortar joints on the chimney with matching mortar.
- Paul and Libby Tomar, 1505 Washington Street rebuild the addition to the back of the house that was demolished.
- Emil Stalis, 331 Lafayette Street remove and replace side exterior patio roof and enclose sunroom, replace existing roof and coverings, replace aluminum gutters and downspout, replace siding on front dormer and remove rear wall and three windows replace with patio doors, and replace basement window.
- Comments from the Commissioners
- Comments from the Zoning Officer

The next scheduled meeting for the Lewisburg Historic Landmarks Commission will be on Monday Apr. 11, at 5 p.m., with a deadline of Friday, Mar. 25.

Lewisburg City Council

will meet Tuesday, Mar. 15, at 7 p.m. On the agenda:

- Visitors' reports (5-min. limit per subject not on agenda)
- Communications from the Mayor Police Dept. promotion of Lieutenant Jonathan Hughes to Deputy Chief
- Approval of Minutes regular session, Feb. 15, 2022
- Ordinances
- Ordinance 300, Codified Ordinances Update, 2nd reading & public hearing
- Ordinance 301, Home Rule amendment for municipal sales & use tax, 1st reading
- Ordinance 302, Authorization of Public Works Building, 1st reading
- Resolutions
- Resolution 490, Feamster Street sidewalk grant Resolution 491, Reimbursement resolution for Public Works Building
- Communication from City Manager Hill
- Steptoe & Johnson bond counsel for water bond
- Sidewalk Project US 219 North Phase II pay application
- Sidewalk Project US 219 North Phase III pay application

New bus route in **Meadow River Valley**

The Mountain Transit Authority, serving Fayette, Greenbrier, Nicholas, Pocahontas, and Webster counties with public bus transportation, has announced a new Monday route in the Meadow River Valley. Starting Mar. 14, they will make stops in Rainelle, Charmco, Rupert, Crawley and Sam Black Church with service to the Lewisburg Wal-Mart. All transportation services must be pre-scheduled. Call 304-872-5872 to schedule a transport.

- Clifton Presbyterian Church, City of Lewisburg (Maxwelton) water tower
- Gbr. Historical Society assumption of lease for Courtney St. Building
- Communications from City Council Members
- Communications from Boards and Commissions
- Communications from the Police Department
- Communications from the Fire Department:
- Communications from Council Committees
- Public Works Department report from Director Legg

Renick Town Council

will meet Monday, Mar. 21, at 7 p.m. at Renick Town Hall. Agenda items include:

- · Community comments
- · Approval of Minutes
- Financial reports
- Committee reports
- Old and new business
- Mowing/snow removal contract
- Budget
- Other business

For the Record

Deeds

Anthony S. Ormandy and Julia L. Ormandy to Tami Keaveny, Lot No. 82, Drewry Meadow Addition, White Sulphur Springs Municipality

Laurie S. Yates to Danny E. Webb, 4.10 Acres, Meadow Bluff District

Anna Mae McIntire and David Leroy McIntire to Appalachia Service Project, Inc., Lot No. 10, Section 12, Meadow Bluff District

Benjamin Longanacre and Sarah Longanacre to Thomas E. Clay and Tamara L. Wagner, 85 Acres, Irish Corner District

Greenbrier County

Magistrate Court Convictions

Layton Chance Boone, Lewisburg, speeding, NCP, fine \$20

Joshua D. ODell, Lewisburg, possession of a controlled substance, GP, fine \$100

John S. Long, II, Union, defective equipment, NCP, fine \$10

Gregory S. Hovey, Crawley, reckless driving, NCP, fine \$100, jail 10 days - suspended and place on 12 months unsupervised probation

Jarrett R. McHale, Lewisburg, reckless driving, GP, fine \$25

Alexis R. Sloan, Leslie, speeding, GP, fine \$18

Suits

In Re: The Marriage of: Dustin Loyd Vance and Brittany Nicole Vance

- In Re: The Marriage of: Timothy Whitlock and Melina Whitlock
- In Re: The Marriage of: Rebecca Lynn Lilly and Gregory Allen Lilly



Arts and Recreation applications available from County Commission

Applications will be available starting Mar. 1, for the Greenbrier Arts & Recreation Allocations. Applications may be picked up at the Greenbrier County Courthouse, downloaded at www.greenbriercounty.net or by calling the Greenbrier County Commission Office at 304-647-6689. Use of Arts & Recreation Funds must be in compliance with WV State Code 7-18-14. Funds may not be used for salaries/wages. Only public nonprofit organizations may apply. The applications are due back at closing (4 p.m.) on Wednesday, Apr. 27.

Good News MRV set for March 24

Building on the success of Meadow River Valley Association's (MRVA) Good News Meadow River Valley last fall, we are hosting a second virtual gathering on Thursday, Mar. 24, at 6:30 p.m. There are a wealth of successes, recognitions and achievements within the Meadow River Valley, and we want to hear about yours. Did you win a scholarship, or were you accepted to college? Did you hire a new staff member? Are you expanding your business? Maybe your walking group met its six-month milestone. During Good News Meadow River Valley, you have two minutes via Zoom to share your news and celebrate with others. There were 16 good news updates last fall - help us round up to an even 20! To share your good news, email Dara Vance at dara@meadowrivervalley.org. The deadline is Mar. 20, but slots fill up quickly, so don't wait!

Local Veterans Ready to Help

If you or someone you know have loved ones serving on active duty and are concerned for their well being or that of their families, particularly those stationed overseas, please feel free to reach out to American Legion Post 100 in Union. We can assist with transportation from international airports for returning family members, lending household items, help with paperwork, or simply an empathetic ear from someone who has "been there, done that." Contact Scott Womack at womackse@gmail.com, Facebook Messenger, or cell phone 304-992-4405 or Harry Moloney at saddleback2@earthlink.net, cell phone 304-646-2102.

Crimebox Local man arrested after chase on I-64

In the early morning hours of Tuesday, Feb. 22, Cpl. M.T. Doss of the Greenbrier County Sheriff's Department was dispatched in response to an assault complaint.

The victim claimed that he had been assaulted by two men while visiting the home of a female on Vago Road. While he was there, the two men approached his vehicle and attempted to open the rear driver's side door. The victim said that when he tried to drive away the woman removed his keys from the ignition.

The victim alleges that the woman then exited the vehicle and allowed Paul Edward Simms to get in. Simms then "put a handgun to [the victim's] head and stated that he was going to kill him," according to the criminal report.

The victim claims he was then able to remove Simms from the vehicle before driving away. Simms then followed him down 219 and onto I-64 Simms in a silver Toyota Four-Runner.

The extent of the victim's injuries, according to the criminal complaint, were "multiple gashes in the head" and "the breaking of the victim's front teeth out."

Simms was apprehended and transported to Southern Regional Jail, and now faces four separate charges; conspiracy, use or presentation of a firearm during commission of a felony, malicious or unlawful assault, and assault during the commission of a felony. If convicted, Sims could face up to 26 years of incarceration.

BOE Honors

Continued from Page 2

Recitals; Lawson Hamilton was invited to play solos on both piano and trumpet, and the GEHS Brass Quartet, composed of Hamilton, Ceili Allder, Cedric Allder, and Noah McCutcheon, was invited to perform as well. Eastern Greenbrier Middle School's Harrison Leatherman, 7th grade, was also invited to perform a piano solo.

On fiscal matters, CSBO David McClure requested the Board approve the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023 Proposed Levy Rates, and Director of Operations George Brooks requested that the bid for a total roof replacement at Western Greenbrier Middle School be awarded to Five Star Commercial Roofing Inc. in the amount of \$460,390. Both requests were passed unanimously.

The Greenbrier County Board of Education will meet again for a regular board meeting on Apr. 12 at 6 p.m. in the Kyle & Ann Fort Arts & Sciences Center at NRCTC.



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The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley

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Phone	(304) 647-5724
Fax	(304) 647-5767
Mail	P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901
Address	122 N. Court Street, Lewisburg
Web page	mountainmessenger.com
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OPINION

Nature's Way By Karen Cohen Master Gardener/Photojournalist/Artist

A True Love of Mine

Last week I sang, I mean spoke, about parsley, sage, and rosemary. This week I will finish up with thyme. You know that song by Simon and Garfunkel!

Like the three aforementioned herbs, thyme is a quick and easy herb to add to almost any dish for flavor enhancement. We love it cooked with roasted chicken, baked eggplant, fish on the grill, slow cooked stews; use either fresh or dried.

Not considered a perennial, you can keep it alive in the cold winter months by covering it with a fabric blanket or a bucket turned upside down on top of it. It hugs the ground so it is easy to cover up. Ours comes back year after year.

Thyme has many varieties to grow: creeping thyme is commonly used as a ground cover; it sprouts tiny flowers every year. Keep picking it to crumple up and add to your cooked foods. Lemon thyme is superb with fish dishes; sprigs of thyme can be laid directly on top of the fish and baked or grilled to impart a lemony flavor and aroma. Orangelo is one that we haven't tried yet but as the name implies, it has orange notes.

Thyme has tons of vitamin C, potassium too, and is said to help with blood clotting. But no need to overdo it by eating bunches; just a few sprigs give plenty of flavor and mineral benefits. A mellow tea can be made as a sleep aid.

Thyme can be started from seed or cuttings. I find the cutting method the easiest way to take an existing thyme plant and reproduce it. Cut off six sprigs about 6 inches long, remove the bottom leaves and just plop in a glass of water. Set it somewhere where you can view its progress daily. Within a few weeks roots will form from the plant nodes and will dangle in the water. Sunlight is not required until the plant shows roots. When the temps outside reach 70 degrees or so, plant these cuttings into soil. Dig a shallow hole with a spoon or trowel and spread out the roots a bit when you settle it into the ground. Cover lightly with soil (not clay soil), and keep it watered enough to be moist, not wet and not too dry. This method works best if you cut dark green, older branches rather than new green shoots. They tend to rot in the water.

An alternative method is to take cuttings, remove the bottom leaves and push directly into your soil. Growth will be slow and the chances of rooting are hit and miss but with some luck they may grow new plants in about two months if watered regularly.

Growing from seeds is a slow process because germination may take up to 3 weeks. I suggest you purchase

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VEST VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION MEMBER 1	Intain Messenger is a weekly publication. s postage paid at Lewisburg, West Virginia. The known office of publication is Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 USPS 031784 TMASTER: Send address changes to THE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 Mountain Messenger
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a heated mat for keeping seeds and sprouts warm. Find these mats in a garden supply shop; they are safe and really do speed up the process of germination. I start all my seeds indoors on these electric mats.

You will find that the bees love the tiny purple and white flowers that are sprinkled all over the thyme plant as it continues to slowly spread out in your herb garden. It will not take over and you can cut it back once before it flowers during the summer and the renewed growth will be stronger for winter temperatures.

Now I have two questions for you: where is Scarborough Fair and are you going there?

(Nature's Way articles are excerpts from the gardening journals of Karen Cohen. Please send your tips and comments to natureswaykaren@gmail.com)

Commentary Click It or Ticket: Buckling up saves lives

Spring will soon be here and when temperatures go up, more drivers are on the roads. The West Virginia Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) is reminding all drivers of the importance of seat belt use. The GHSP is coordinating a statewide Click It or Ticket high-visibility enforcement mobilization that runs from Mar. 4-20, 2022.

West Virginia law enforcement officers will be out in



Your Community... Your Family Vour Interes

The Back Pew By Stephen Baldwin



The end is near! This 2022 legislative concludes at midnight on March 13. Here's the latest on several major bills.

FILM TAX CREDIT. HB2096 reinstates the film tax credit in WV. I proudly co-sponsored this bill in the Senate and voted yes. This will put us on par with states like Georgia who attract movies, documentaries, and TV shows for filming. Because we've lacked the tax credit in the past, the "We Are Marshall" movie was largely filmed in Georgia and a documentary on the Hatfields & McCoys was filmed overseas. We also have the wonderful TV show "Barnwood Builders" filmed right here. They are wonderful ambassadors for our entire state and deserve our support to continue shooting here. The film industry provides good jobs to keep our kids in state. This is a huge win!

DHHR REORGANIZATION. HB4020 splits the Department of Health and Human Resources into two agencies. The idea is that the department has grown too large to effectively be managed on its own. The data and my personal experience back up that idea. This one agency accounts for \$7 billion of spending each year and is the largest government agency in the state by far. With more children in the state's care, more foster children, more abuse & neglect cases, higher overdose rates, let alone a public health pandemic... the system is overwhelmed. So I do support major reorganization. However, I am unsure if I will support the particular bill before us now as it keeps one secretary in place and appoints two new deputy secretaries who report to the governor. It should either split or stay together under new leadership; rearranging the chairs on the deck of a sinking ship isn't good enough.

FOSTER CARE BILL. HB4344 is called the "foster care" bill, though it actually is about all sorts of child wellbeing issues. It is the most important bill before us this year. Provisions include pay raises for Adult and Child Protective Services workers, a website to provide public data about the foster care system, reforms of the MDT process which exists to help kids in the system, reforms to the child abuse hotline (related to the incident involving the five children who died in Greenbrier County last year), and protections for the foster care ombudsman who acts as a watchdog over DHHR within the system. The bill passed the House 99-1 but stalled in the Senate. After intense behind the scenes efforts, I am hopeful it will pass committee tomorrow and be up for a final vote Saturday. Several attempts have been made by the majority to strip key provisions, and I am working to reinstate them. Stay tuned.

INSULIN CAP. HB4252 caps the price of insulin at \$35/month. It also caps the price of certain equipment such as test strips and pumps. With a high rate of diabetes across the state and costs soaring, this will immediately put money back in the hands of citizens. The bill stalled in Senate Finance this week, but we were able to work out the issues behind the scenes and get it passed through committee on Wednesday. I anticipate it passing the Senate on Saturday.

STATE PARKS. HB4408 takes the prize for causing the biggest stir this session. An initial version of the bill stoked fears of state park privatizations, fears I shared.

full force, ticketing seat belt violators who are caught traveling without a correctly buckled seat belt or transporting unrestrained children. This statewide seat belt campaign is aimed at enforcing seat belt use to help keep all vehicle occupants safe and is running in preparation of the national Click It or Ticket high-visibility enforcement mobilization in May, prior to the beginning of a summer travel season that is expected to be busier than recent years.

"We want every person in a vehicle - whether it's the driver, a passenger, or a child in a car seat - to be correctly restrained, every trip, every time," said Governor Jim Justice.

In 2020, 47 percent of all passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in West Virginia were unrestrained. To help save lives, we need to step up seat belt enforcement, day and night.

People who live in rural areas might believe that their crash exposure is lower, but in 2020, 64 percent of total vehicle fatalities in West Virginia occurred in rural locations, compared to 36 percent in urban locations.

"Our seat belt usage rate went down in 2021. Roadway fatalities went up last year. We are going in the wrong direction and need to correct course so that no one else dies on West Virginia roads," said Bob Tipton, GHSP Director.

"We have about 12 percent of West Virginia drivers and passengers who still aren't buckling their seat belts. We are working to change that. Our long-term goal is to have 100% of drivers in West Virginia correctly buckling their seat belts every time they travel in a vehicle. This change starts with statewide enforcement periods like this one," Tipton continued.

Wearing your seat belt is not just a good idea; it is required by law. Day and night, front seat and back, every trip, every time: Click It or Ticket. Don't just buckle up to avoid a ticket. The values of our families' and friends' lives in West Virginia are priceless - and much higher in value than the money violators pay if ticketed. If you are caught driving while unbuckled and you get a ticket, look at it as your wakeup call. A ticket is less expensive than paying with your life or the lives of your family and friends.

"Click It or Ticket isn't about citations; it's about saving lives. Buckle up for yourself, your family, and your friends," concluded Tipton.

For more information about the West Virginia Governor's Highway Safety Program, visit www.dmv.wv.gov/ ghsp or call 304-926-2509. Your Family ... Your Interest ... Your Home ... Your World ... It's All a Part of Your Local Newspaper

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Commentary

Suddenlink and importance of customer service

By Charlotte Lane

WV Public Service Commission Chair

When you sign up and pay for a service, such as a company promising cable television service, you expect the television to work when you turn it on. Unfortunately, for many who subscribe to Suddenlink for cable television and other services, that has not been the case for far too long. The Public Service Commission has received thousands of complaints from Suddenlink customers over the past few years. The complaints have covered all areas, from interruptions in service to billing problems. To make matters worse, customers calling to complain have had terrible experiences and very little success in getting their problems resolved.

Commission staff tried to intervene on behalf of cus-

However, during the process the bill was heavily amended to protect the beauty, affordability, and integrity of our state parks. The effect of the bill will be to allow private companies to provide new recreational opportunities in our state parks that fit with the park's intent. For example, Watoga is known for its dark, quiet atmosphere, and nothing will threaten that. But if a company wanted to build a new water feature at Hawk's Nest, it would be considered. Pipestem has already done some of this by adding a splash pad and lake inflatables using a private vendor for all park visitors.

WV BUILD ACT. HB4502 is a governor's bill that seeks to incentivize new home building. We are experiencing a housing shortage right now across the state. This bill would provide contractors tax incentives by waiving several taxes relating to home builds including the sales tax on all materials. I'll share details once the bill is final.

That's the view from the back pew, where it is my privilege to serve you.

(Senator Stephen Baldwin is the Minority Leader and a local pastor. Reach him at 304-357-7959 or stephen. baldwin@wvsenate.gov. Follow him on Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, or Instagram @BaldwinForWV)

tomers over and over. The response from Suddenlink was always less than satisfactory. That's why the Public Service Commission recently took the extraordinary measure of fining Suddenlink \$2.2 million and demanding 16 very specific corrective actions. The \$2.2 million penalty fine will not be sent to the Commission or to any other government agency bank account. The Public Service Commission has ordered Suddenlink to refund that money directly back to its existing customers who have been forced to endure years of bad customer service.

The Commission has also put Suddenlink on notice that these penalties can continue to accrue until the Commission determines that the company is finally providing the safe, adequate and reliable service customers are paying for.

Consumers deserve to get the services they request and pay for. When the service breaks down, customers deserve to be able to report the problem and have the service fixed.

If you are a West Virginia customer of one of the businesses we regulate, know that the Public Service Commission will do everything in our power to make sure you get the service you are paying for and deserve. You have my word on it.

OBITUARIES

Memorial for Mrs. Edith Seams

A memorial Service to celebrate the life of Mrs. Edith Seams will be held at Rhema Christian Center, 3584 Davis Stuart Road, Lewisburg, Saturday, Mar. 26, at 1 p.m. Masks are required.

Charlotte Ann Cooper

Craigsville-Charlotte Ann Cooper, 74, passed away Tuesday, Mar. 8, 2022, at Peyton Hospice House in Lewisburg.

Born July 30, 1947, in Webster County, WV, she is a daughter of the late Claude F. and Hester H. Brooks Sullivan.

She was a retired legal secretary and was a member of St. Lukes United Methodist Church in Craigsville.

She is survived by her husband of 41 years, Donald N. Cooper; daughter, Erin Cooper; sisters, Karen Sullivan, Erma Sullivan Ryan, Sherry Sullivan Chapman and Kathern Sullivan Singleton; brothers, Ronald Sullivan and Michael Sullivan; a special nephew, Todd Sullivan; special niece, Kris Fleming; and special friends, Brad Mullins and Trini Clendenin.

As per Charlotte's wishes, she will be cremated and no services will be held.

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

Please send online condolences by visiting www. WallaceandWallaceFH. com

Brittney Nicole Tyler



survivors include her children, Brinon Emitt Storm Tyler and Krisslyn Raine Tyler; maternal grandparents, Victoria Reed (Dave) and paternal grandparents, Linda Tyler, Don Tyler (Mary); brothers, Kyle Logan Williams and Jordan Ray Blankenship; and sister, Shyla Nicole Blankenship.

Visitation was Tuesday evening, Mar. 8, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel, Lewisburg.

A Celebration of Life followed where Pastor Stewart Farley officiated. Online guestbook may be signed at www.morganfh.net

Erma Bell Burns Simmons



Lewisburg-Erma Bell Burns Simmons, 80, passed away Tuesday, Mar. 8, 2022, at her home. Born Sept. 3, 1941, in Fort Spring, she was the daughter of the late Ray Edgar and Margaret Lula Roach Burns.

Mrs. Simmons worked as a CNA and was a homemaker.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, George Simmons on Feb. 18, 2022; brother, Sidney Burns; and infant sister, Helen Ann Burns.

Survivors include her children, Ray Simmons (Annette) of Frankford, Paul Simmons, and Margaret Ann Carver (Mark) all of Lewisburg; sister, Phyllis Burns of Lewisburg; grandchildren, Lakene Bostic, Cameron Simmons (Lindsey), Dustin Simmons, Madeline Carver, Mason Carver, Damion Simmons and Noel Ryder; great-grandson, Jordan Simmons; sisters-in-law, Mary Ann Burns of Mt. Hope, Martha Colleran of Michigan and Nora Lee Finney of Virginia; and several nieces and nephews. Graveside service will be at 2 p.m., Monday, Mar. 14, at the Mt. Vernon Cemetery, Fort Spring, with Pastor Vince Deeds officiating. There will be

no visitation.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Peyton Hospice House, 1265 Maplewood Avenue, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

Online guestbook may be signed at www.morganfh.net

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Laura Beth Nester



In loving memory of Laura Beth Nester. She lived her life full of love for Jesus, her family and others. Laura was the definition of selfless, beautiful, smart, strong and stubborn. Her smile and personality brightened every room she was in. The light she left in this world will not dim any time soon.

Laura was born Sept. 18, 1981, in Ronceverte and was the daughter of James and Bessie Wykle Workman of Lewisburg.

Laura was able to find the love of her life (Josh) in God's perfect timing. She was extremely proud of her three children, Abby, Jase and Lydia. She was also survived by her sister, Jessica Ray and her husband Jerry.

She had a passion for teaching others and while in the classroom Laura put her all into each student. She will be remembered by teachers and students alike for her love of Dr. Seuss. Her favorite moments were dressing up like book characters to help teach kids how to read and have fun while learning. Laura always enjoyed a challenge and was continuously investing in her education. She holds a Masters in Teaching and a Masters in Business degree. Her favorite part of each week was spending time worshiping Jesus with her church family and being in multiple small groups at Bethesda Church. She made a great impact on everyone she met. She will be greatly missed by her family, friends, students,

co-workers and everyone who knew her.

A celebration service for the Life Well Lived for Laura will be held on Friday Mar. 11, at 7 p.m. at the Bethesda Church in White Sulphur Springs with Pastor Chad Dingess officiating.

The family will receive their family and friends from 5 until 7 p.m. on Friday Mar. 11, at the Bethesda Church.

"Sometimes you never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory."

—Dr. Seuss.

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

Please send online condolences by visiting www. WallaceandWallaceFH. com

Patricia Ann Sampson



Lewisburg-Patricia Ann "Patty" Sampson, 83, passed away Thursday, Mar. 3, 2022, at The Brian Center, Low Moor, VA.

Born Oct. 23, 1938, on Muddy Creek Mountain, she was the daughter of the late Robert Tilden and Jane Hildegard Gray Falls.

Patty was a homemaker and a member of the Janes Chapel UMC.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Delbert Wiley Sampson and a brother, Jack Falls.

Survivors include son, Terry Sampson (Yvette) of Punta Gorda, FL; daughter, Robin Sampson Perrine (Gerald) of Frankford; brother, Bobby Falls of Fairlea; and sister, Gloria Jean Hamrick (Donald) of Punta Gorda, FL; and grandchildren, Zachary Perrine (Kenley) and Seth Perrine.

Robin Perrine, 3815 Williamsburg Road, Frankford, WV 24938.

Online guestbook may be signed at www.morganfh.net

Oather Raymond Spade



Asbury-Oather Raymond Spade, 80, passed away Sunday, Mar. 6, 2022, at Beckley ARH Hospital.

Born Jan. 25, 1942, in Clintonville, he was the son of the late William and Edith Spade.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by all his siblings.

Survivors include his loving companion of 22 years, Betty Suttle; and several nieces and nephews.

Graveside service will be on Friday, Mar. 11, at 3:30 p.m. with Jeff Boothe officiating.

Online guestbook may be signed at www.morganfh.net

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Wanda Mae Ervin



Renick-Wanda Mae Ervin, 88, passed away Sunday, Mar. 6, 2022, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

Born Apr. 19, 1933, in Renick, she was the daughter of the late Lillie Mae Owens. burg, Valerie Legg (Tony) of Lewisburg, and Patricia Ervin of Renick. Known as "Granny" to many she is also survived by 13 grandchildren, 21 greatgrandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, Mar. 12, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Jimmy Groves officiating. Entombment will follow in the Rosewood Cemetery Mausoleum.

Visitation will be 6 to 8 p.m., Friday, Mar. 11, at the funeral home.

Online guestbook may be signed at www.morganfh.net

Jordan Ray White



Fairlea-Jordan Ray White, 87, lost his battle with COVID-19 Saturday, Mar. 5, 2022.

He was born Aug. 11, 1935.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Roy White and Annie Blake White; four brothers, Roy White, Jr., Eugene White, Ralph White, and Leon White; and a sister, Jerlean Johnson.

He is survived by brother, Edsel White (wife Fay); sisters, Janet Cochran (husband Ralph) and Nan Squibb; longtime friend, Gail Mauzy; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Ray retired from Bethlehem Steel in 1992 after 35 years and moved back to West Virginia. He was an avid sports fan, with his favorite teams being the Ravens and Orioles. Ray had a huge heart and would help anybody. He will be greatly missed.

Funeral service will be at 12 noon, Friday, Mar. 11, at the Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, with Pastor Marshall Cochran officiating. Burial will follow in the Rosewood Cemetery, Lewisburg.



Alderson-Brittney Nicole Tyler, 29, passed away Monday, Feb. 28, 2022, at Raleigh General Hospital.

Born Aug. 3, 1992, in Tiffin, OH, she was the daughter of Ricky Blankenship, Terry Blankenship and John Tyler.

Including her parents,

Visitation was held Wednesday evening, Mar. 9, at the Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg.

Funeral was held on Thursday, Mar. 10, at the Janes Chapel UMC, Muddy Creek Mountain where Pastor Emory Hanna officiated.

Burial followed in the Falls Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations of sympathy be made to the Falls Cemetery, c/o

Wanda was retired from Appalachian Electronics and was a member of the Band of Hope Baptist Church.

In addition to her mother, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Wilford Arlin Owens and Delbert Owens and a sister, Mildred Smith.

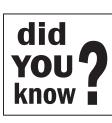
Survivors include two sons, Joe Ervin, and Julius Ervin (Carla) all of Renick; daughters, Wanda Jean Hanna (Emory) of Renick, Sharon Ervin of Mt. Solon, VA, Debbie Beard (Carl) of LewisVisitation will be one hour prior to the service, Friday at the funeral home.

Pallbearers will be Ronnie and Donnie White, Terry and Timmy White, Jack Sizemore, and Ben Dixon.

Online guestbook may be signed at www.morganfh.net

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ministry groups to comfort neigh-

bors and family through phone calls,

disadvantage, we've made into an

advantage," Joseph Fuoco said.

"The fact that we can work right

from home is a great advantage.

I'm happy with it." By sharing the

Bible's hope remotely, the fewer

than 3.000 Jehovah's Witnesses in

Alaska can rapidly preach across

the 586,000 square miles of their

a day than we did in a month," said

Marlene Sadowski of Ketchikan.

The official website of Jehovah's

Witnesses, translated into more

than 1,000 languages, has also lev-

eraged the organization's outreach.

After starting a free self-paced Bible

course on jw.org in December 2019,

Lisa Owen requested a free, inter-

active Bible study over Zoom. She

was one of nearly 20,000 baptized

as one of Jehovah's Witnesses last

year in the United States in private

settings, including backyard swim-

to learn, somewhere to land, and to start living the way God wants

me to. It taught me so much," said

To start an online Bible study

course, receive a visit or attend a

virtual meeting locally, visit jw.org.

Owen of Moriarty, New Mexico.

"JW.ORG gave me somewhere

ming pools, tubs and even rivers.

"We're talking to more people in

sparsely populated state.

"What could have been quite a

letters, texts and email.

Jehovah's Witnesses reach WV residents with a modified ministry

Nycia Lewis would rarely go more than a few days without knocking on a door or visiting a Bible student as part of her volunteer ministry. That abruptly changed in the spring of 2020 when Jehovah's Witnesses suspended their in-person public ministry, meetings and large conventions. Two years later, the Lewisburg resident is busier than ever.

"When the pandemic hit, I realized that people could use as much comfort as possible, so I adjusted my schedule to spend up to seven days a week in my ministry," said Lewis, who now shares her message of comfort by telephone, text message and letter.

"The response has been overwhelmingly positive! Many view my phone calls as a 'boost' for their day, and they feel refreshed," she observed. With this historic change, the number of Jehovah's Witnesses grew 3% in the United States in 2021 alone, matching the most significant increase for the organization over the past decade and the second-largest percentage increase since 1990.

"Staying active in our ministry while remaining safe has had a powerful preserving effect on our congregants and communities," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses. "The wise decision not to prematurely resume in-person activities has united us and protected lives while comforting many people in great need. The results speak for themselves."

For congregants like Nycia Lewis, the virtual pivot has allowed her to participate in her volunteer ministry from home using her electronic devices. Her tools have changed, but her message is the same. She regularly shares scriptures with dozens of community members and conducts free Bible courses via telephone and Zoom with up to eight people a month.

Last year, the international organization reported all-time peaks in the number of people participating in their volunteer preaching work, increased attendance in Zoom meetings and more than 171,000 new believers baptized. In the past two years, more than 400,000 have been baptized worldwide. Some whose ministry or attendance at religious services had slowed because of age and poor health said they feel reenergized with the convenience of virtual meetings and a home-based ministry.

Like many octogenarians, Sarah Fuoco, 88, deals with memory loss and diminished energy. Yet she and her 81-year-old husband, Joseph, have been given the nickname "the dynamic duo." The Fuocos use Zoom to worship twice a week with their Hollis, New Hampshire, congregation and regularly join online

= ALook Back



Richlands Ruritans learn self-protection from County Sheriff

The speaker at the Feb. 9 meeting of the Richland Ruritans was Greenbrier County Sheriff Bruce Sloan. Sheriff Sloan and his subordinate Lieutenant Bart Baker gave an overview of the state laws regarding self-protection. They explained the law for resisting a home intruder and what actions you are allowed to take in a public situation. Using scenarios of various situations, the two officers described how best to protect yourself within the bounds of the law. The discussion was followed by a lively question and answer session.

Sheriff Sloan and Lieutenant Baker also explained the duties of the Sheriff's Department and its manning levels in the county.

Brent Thompson will speak at the April meeting on the election process.

The Richlands Ruritans club meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month for a dinner meeting at the Calvary Methodist Church on Midland Trail East in Richlands. The Ruritan Civic organization is a national network of clubs working together for a stronger America. The Ruritans' focus is to support community services in small towns and rural communities across America. The Ruritans were founded in 1928 in Holland, VA, and celebrated their 93rd year last May. The Richlands Ruritans Club provides scholarships to local college students and 4-H campers and maintains Tuckwiller Park.

Guidelines for collecting ramps in Monongahela **National Forest**

Digging and eating ramps in the spring is a traditional activity throughout Appalachia and especially in the gateway communities of Monongahela National Forest. While collecting ramps for personal use is permitted on the Forest within established limits, commercial harvesting of ramps in the Forest, including re-selling ramps collected for personal use, is not permitted.

Personal use is defined as two gallons per person in possession at any one time, about the amount that fits in a typical plastic grocery bag. This equals about 180 whole plants, including roots and leaves. Individuals may not collect ramps on behalf of someone else.

We encourage people who collect ramps in the national forest to follow these guidelines to ensure abundant ramps in the future:

· Collect ramps only in patches with more than 100 plants.

• If you find a patch that has already been harvested, move on to another area.

• When collecting ramps from a large clump, take only one-fifth of the plants. Leaving behind most of the plants will allow them to mature and go to seed, and the patch will recover faster.

 If digging bulbs, use a soil fork or a small hand trowel and a knife, rather than a large shovel. Shov-

els disturb the root system of neighboring ramps and other plants much more than these smaller tools. To dig

ramps, loosen the soil with the soil fork or hand trowel

and use the knife to cut the ramp roots beneath the bulb.

leaves. This will reduce the likelihood of invasive spe-

cies taking root.

ramps-2/

SAFETY FIRST

WOUND CARE

• After you dig a ramp, cover the bare soil with

By following these guidelines for harvesting ramps,

we can ensure that our children and grandchildren will

be able to enjoy ramps for generations to come. Learn

how to grow ramps on your property here: https://www.

srs.fs.usda.gov/compass/2017/04/12/grow-your-own-

Foot

appointment required. Additional fees may apply.



Courtesy of the West Virginia University Regional History Center.

By William "Skip" Deegans

Shown in this circa 1904 photo is Hinton's C&O Railroad Baseball Team. In the early 1900s, baseball was a popular pastime in southern West Virginia. In addition to the railroad, many coal mining companies sponsored teams. The Hinton team played other railroad teams in Clifton Forge, Staunton, and Harrisonburg. They also played Alderson's Camp Greenbrier team. It is likely the players were sons of the first wave of coal miners and railroaders who came to New River in the late 1800s. Some of those first miners came from Europe and the

British Isles. The two Turner men in the photograph were probably sons of the Turner families that immigrated from Scotland and went to Sewell, a New River mining town. There were enough boys in the families to form their own baseball team called the "Turner Nine."

Southern West Virginia players were good enough to be scouted by the major league teams. In 1906, Hinton's John "Jack" Warhop (shown in the photo) signed with the Freeport Pretzels, a Wisconsin minor league team, and pitched its first no hitter. Eventually, he landed on the New York Highlanders (later

named the Yankees). In 1915, a pitch in Boston's Fenway Park from Warhop to Babe Ruth of the Red Sox yielded Ruth's first home run. Despite that pitch, the Highlanders won the game.

The players in the photograph beginning in the back, from left to right, are: Ervin Maxwell, Joe McCarthy, John Warhop, Oscar Whitlock, Will Turner, Bob Turner, Arthur Sydney, Elvin Wise, Harry Starbuck, George Secrest, and John Hobbs.

Sources: Hinton Daily News, Hinton Independent-Herald.



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School

Allder receives Governor's Arts Award

On Tuesday, Mar. 1, the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) and the West Virginia Commission on the Arts sponsored the Governor's Arts Awards at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex in Charleston. During the awards ceremony, 11 Governor's Arts Awards and 10 Legislative Leadership Awards in the Arts were presented. Jim Allder was named to be the Individual winner in the Arts in Education award category. The Arts in Education Award recognizes individual or group efforts to strengthen arts education in public schools.

The 6 p.m. program included performances by Barbara Nissman on piano; The Mountain Stage Band; Delegate Caleb Hanna; Cathey Sawyer; the Cabell Midland Jazz Knights, directed by Tim James; and Key to Adam, with Adam Moyer and Kiara Williams. Matt Thomas, West Virginia artist, was commissioned by the WVDACH to make the awards, blending the timeless grain of wood with the permanence of hand-forged steel.

The Governor's Arts Awards are presented biennially to celebrate the state's creative spirit and the amazing talents of the people and groups that produce art. They also recognize those whose willingness to support arts organizations and artists help to ensure the arts maintain an important place in our communities and schools. Through the restructuring of the Department of Arts, Culture and History in 2018, Governor Jim Justice, along with the WVDACH, continue to show their commitment to promoting and strengthening the arts in the Mountain State despite state budget cuts and the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Justice has been a dedicated advocate for the arts, especially arts in education. He believes a focus on arts in schools builds a strong foundation for excelling in other areas, which is one of the main reasons he chose an educator to receive this year's lifetime achievement award.

Sign language class planned at NRCTC

New River Community and Technical College is offering a six-week basic sign language class on Thursday evenings from 6 to 7:30 p.m. starting Mar. 31. The class will be offered online through Zoom video conferencing.

Students in the class will learn sign language vocabulary, phrases and sentences, including grammatical features, and students will have interactive practice during the class. Students will also learn about Deaf Culture and history.

Tuition is \$100 for the six-week class, and registration is required

Baker Scholarship

by Mar. 22. Participants will be emailed the Zoom link and log-in information after registering for the class.

Visit www.newriver.edu/community for information on upcoming classes or register for the course or contact Gloria Kincaid (304-793-6101, gkincaid@newriver.edu).

New River CTC's Workforce Education Division provides community education classes and employable educational opportunities including noncredit courses, workforce development programs and customized training.

The Governor's Arts Awards include Artist of the Year and Arts Organization of the Year Award, which recognizes an individual artist and an organization who has impacted the exposure to the arts in West Virginia through his or her work; Susan S. Landis Distinguished Service Award to the Arts, which recognizes individuals and organizations of exceptional talent and creativity that have fostered growth and influenced trends and aesthetic practices on a state and national level; Folk Arts Award, which recognizes individuals and organizations that have demonstrated exceptional leadership or skill in the field of folk and traditional arts within West Virginia; Resiliency in the Arts Award, which recognizes a West Virginia individual or organization that demonstrated creative solutions and leadership in the wake of COVID-19 restrictions; and the Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement, presented by Governor Justice, which recognizes an individual or organization for a lifetime of significant commitment to the arts through personal talent and skills, lifelong arts educational leadership, and support of arts development in West Virginia..

The Legislative Leadership in the Arts Awards include Arts in Education Awards, Community Arts Awards, Cultural Facilities Awards, Folk Arts and Lifetime Achievement, which are presented to those members of the Legislature who have made significant contributions in the arts.

A panel of members from the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and staff of the Department of Arts, Culture and History selected winners who were nominated based on the magnitude of their contributions and achievements, the range of individuals or groups served, the length of time and intensity of their dedication to the arts and their level of excellence.

cont. from Page 2

five treks to Philmont (the Scout ranch at Cimarron, New Mexico) and numerous international trips, giving hundreds of boys the opportunity to visit Iceland, England, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, and Japan. The very active outdoor program featured numerous backpacking trips on the Appalachian Trail, the mountains of New York and New England, weekends in the Cranberry Back Country, rappelling, skiing, and caving trips, and an annual canoe trip on the Greenbrier River. Perhaps as many as a thousand boys benefitted from Cliff's leadership, and over 75 young men earned the rank of Eagle.

In addition to Scouts, Cliff has been instrumental in the creation of Montwell Park and serves as the President of the Board. He is a charter member of the West Virginia Woodturners Association, and has restored the 1956 VW Beetle in which he and Pat courted. Cliff and Pat are the parents of Andy and Kathy and the proud grandparents of Mikaela.

of Troop 70, a group of friends and colleagues in Scouting was formed to celebrate the Bakers' gift of over 35 years of leadership in scouting. It was the hope of the committee to host a community dinner, offering former scouts of Troop 70, parents, and friends the opportunity to express appreciation for the Bakers many contributions to the community. Due to CO-VID, the committee has twice canceled this event. While it is the sincere hope of all that we will soon be able to gather and celebrate the Bakers, it is time to move to the next step in honoring the Bakers. Recognizing the Bakers' commitment to the youth of the Greenbrier Valley, a scholarship has been established through the Greenbrier Valley Community Foundation to be presented annually to a young person who exemplifies the Bakers'

We realize it's sometimes difficult for people to have someone available to take them to and from an appointment, and we hope this will help alleviate scheduling and transportation challenges," Holt said. "Additionally, the mobile testing unit will allow medical personnel to make home visits to remote areas. While positive COVID-19 cases in the county are trending downward, it's still important to be vaccinated if you have not had an opportunity to do so, or to test if you are sick."

continued from Page 1

MTA is a public transportation service that operates in Fayette, Greenbrier, Nicholas, Pocahontas, and Webster counties in West Virginia. Through the program, WV-SOM will schedule no-cost trips to appointments for Greenbrier County residents using MTA vehicles and staff.

Greenbrier County residents who need transportation to an appointment may call 304-793-6588 and speak with a WVSOM employee or leave a message with their name, phone number and appointment date and time. A WVSOM employee will return the call to obtain further details and determine a pickup time and location.MTA asks that those using the service call at least one week in advance of the appointment date.

To receive transportation, a resident must be at least 18 or must be accompanied by a legal guardian. Accommodations will be made for individuals with special needs such as a wheelchair-friendly vehicle.

Tim Thomas, MTA general manager, said the organization is pleased to participate in the program.

"One of the most important things public transit can bring to a community is to make it healthier," Thomas said. "Mountain Transit Authority already serves areas like Lewisburg and White Sulphur Springs, but with this program we'll also be helping to meet the needs of people in western Greenbrier County. We're excited to have the opportunity to improve the quality of life in those areas."

The grant also provides funds for Greenbrier County Health Department to operate a vehicle to be used as a mobile testing unit for individuals who are non-ambulatory, as well as to purchase supplies to test for COVID-19and eventually for the flu and other infectious diseases. Greenbrier County Emergency Ambulance Service (GCEAS) will work under the direction of the health department to fulfill this portion of the grant.

Wes Hylton, administrator for GCEAS, said non-ambulatory individuals who would like to request the mobile testing unit may call 304-645-2252. An emergency medical technician or paramedic will come to the caller's residence to perform a rapid COVID-19 test and record the patient's blood pressure, temperature and blood oxygen level.

"We're going to try to provide COVID-19 test results on site, and we expect it will take about 17 minutes to obtain the results," Hylton said. "But if we have, say, five calls and five visits to make, we might need to let the tests run from one call while we move on to the next, and in those cases we can provide the results by text, email or phone."

Holt said the expanded testing provided by the mobile unit will improve the accuracy of the COVID-19 statistics reported by Greenbrier County.

"By reaching members of the public who can't get to the health department, you not only increase the chance of getting people tested, you also increase our knowledge of what the county does or doesn't have as far as CO-VID-19," Holt said.

Additionally, the grant allows the health department to purchase laptop computers and employ staff to digitize patient records from the department's clinic, starting with patients who are most vulnerable to COVID-19 due to underlying health issues.

Upon the retirement of Cliff as the Scoutmaster

commitment to community service in pursuit of higher education.

Contributions to the Baker Scholarship Fund may be made by checks to Greenbrier Valley Community Foundation, P.O. Box 1682, Lewisburg, WV 24901, or visiting the Foundation website, www.gvfoundation.org. Please mark all contributions for the Baker Scholarship Fund.

Nikki Dolan, RN, director of nursing/administrator for the health department, said she expects the partnerships with WVSOM and GCEAS to play a vital role in improving the health of Greenbrier County residents.

"We've had the capacity for electronic health records, we just haven't had the staff to scan our records," Dolan said. "We're excited to work with WVSOM through the Rural Health Disparities grant to make this happen. Electronic health records are the standard of care in today's medical world, and they provide a safe way to track important data such as labs, vital signs and medical history. They will also provide quality assurance and quality improvement to ensure we provide the best care to our patients and identify areas of needed improvement."

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Contact Georgette Morton 304.647.6422 gmorton@osteo.wvsom.edu Registration deadline is March 8.



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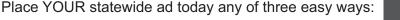
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State Senate Finance Committee introduces amendments to Parks and Trails bill

By Adam Pack

House Bill 4408, a bill to allow the Director of the Department of Natural Resources to enter into contracts with private entities for the construction of amenities and facilities on DNR and State Parks properties, caused quite a buzz two weeks ago as it worked its way through the House of Delegates. Now sitting in the Senate Finance Committee since Mar. 1 after having passed the House, the bill seems to have been amended by that committee to address some of the concerns surrounding it when it was debated in the House.

Notable changes include the reduction of the maximum term of the contract from 50 years to 40. Opponents of the bill in the House were concerned at the amount of time that park property would effectively be in private hands, while many in support of the bill said that this was a necessary amount of time in order for investors to see a return.

A significant change has also been made as to the oversight of the new contracts which the DNR Director may enter. Previously, the director had to submit the contract for approval only to a joint meeting of the Joint Committee on Government and Finance. In the new language of the bill, any contract must be approved by the Directors of the Departments of Commerce, Tourism, and Economic Development, while the Joint Committee shall only be notified.

Two portions were added to provide further oversight of government officials as well as add specificity to the nature of construction on park property. Language was added which would prevent the approval of any contracts to any entities or companies in which the aforementioned directors were substantial parts of. In response to previously voiced fears by the opposition, the final line of the bill stipulates that, "Any facilities constructed under the authority granted under this section must be in accordance with the purpose, powers, and duties ... of Parks and Recreation."

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Dear Recycle Lady,

Dear Recycle Lady, Why are the plastic tags and ties on bread different colors?

Just Curious **Dear Just Curious**,

According to Tasting Tables, the plastic tags and ties on bread tell you the day of the week the bread was baked on. Blue tags and ties indicate the bread was baked on Monday, green tags for Tuesday, red tags for Thursday, white tags for Friday, and yellow tags for Saturday. Bread is not baked on Wednesdays and Sundays in order to give bread bakers two days off a week. Some bread companies don't use colored tags but put a date on a tag instead. This date indicates the sell by date, not the baked date. While these bread tags and ties, which are not recyclable, were designed to help store personnel with restocking, they can be helpful to buyers as well. Here's a helpful hint for remembering which color represents which day - the colors are in alphabetical order!

Dear Recycle Lady, What is the difference between compost and mulch?

To Compost or To Mulch Dear To Compost or To Mulch,

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PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION Secure Store - 135 Maple Carriage Drive, Lewisburg, WV 24901, has a possessory lien on all of the goods stored in units 289, 322, and 327. The auction will end on 03/17/2022 at 12 noon. All these items of personal property are being auctioned online through lockerfox.com. These auctions will run until March 17, 2022. Pictures of the units can be inspected online. Cash payments only. For more details visit www.lockerfox.com/ storage-auctions/us/

Compost and mulch are often used interchangeably, as if they were two different words for the same thing. However, there is a difference between compost and mulch. While compost can be used as mulch and mulch can have the some of the same effect as compost on your soil, they are not the same. Composting is the nature's way of recycling organic materials into a natural fertilizer that, when mixed into the soil, adds nutrients and enriches the soil. Mulch is generally put on top of the soil to limit weed growth and to help soil retain moisture. For more information on 20 things you can put in your backyard compost pile, see https:// www.installitdirect.com/ learn/what-can-i-compost-in-my-backyard/. For more information on mulch, see https://www. homequestionsanswered. com/what-is-mulch.htm. Dear Recycle Lady,

The WV Legislature is

considering a bill on ad-

vanced recycling. What is

Need More Information

Dear Need More In-

Advanced recycling is

the process of creating or

manufacturing new plas-

advanced recycling?

formation,



tics or chemicals out of recycled plastics. House Bill 4084 was passed by the House and sent to the Energy and Manufacturing Committee. This bill would clarify that the state does not consider advanced recycling to be part of solid waste management or disposal. Hopefully, it will foster interest in the state as a manufacturing site.

Dear Readers,

Need a reason not to accept plastic utensils with takeout orders? Here's a good one. Laid end-toend, the number of disposable plastic utensils used in the U.S. every year (36 billion) would wrap around the globe 139 times. A great reason to carry a reusable utensil set with you for eating takeout food when away from home!

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.

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DISTRICT BLUE SULPHUR MAP NOMP PARCEL 0113 00000000

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Application deadline is March 31, 2022. Applications may be downloaded from wvpress.org

For information or to have the applications mailed, contact Executive Director Don Smith at donsmith@wvpress.org, at 304-342-1011 or write to: WV Press Association Foundation, 3422 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston, WV, 25302.

Newspapers with a candidate for an internship or interested in having an intern should contact Don Smith.

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr. Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

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(2020-S-00000075 - Greenbrier County - WVTI LLC) To: DREAMA M TROUT, DREAMA M TROUT C/O ANTHONY TROUT, HOUSTON TROUT, HOUSTON TROUT C/O ANTHONY TROUT, JAMES F HARRIS TRUSTEE, DAN O'CALLAGHAN TRUSTEE, CHERRY RIVER NATIONAL BANK, OCCUPANT, IRS, ATTN: TECHNICAL SERVICES ADVISORY GROUP MAANGER, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT MEADOW BLUFF MAP 32A PARCEL 0018 0000

You will take notice that WVTI LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000075, CONS LTS 56 & 55 OR .68 AC MARFRANCE (TROUT) CONS, located in MEADOW BLUFF, which was returned delinquent in the name of TROUT DREAMA M (SURV), and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Greenbrier County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 18th day of November, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022, will be as follows: Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, 324.95

to March 31, 2022. Amount of subsequent years' taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with \$ 213.44 interest to March 31, 2022. Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served 1,214.72 and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021, following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022. Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale 388.17 \$ to March 31, 2022 Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check \$ 2.141.28 must be made payable to the The Honorable Bruce Sloan, Sheriff and Treasurer of Greenbrier County.

Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check 35.00 must be made payable to the The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.

You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

Return this letter and both certified funds to the

WV State Auditor's Office.

County Collections Division

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2

www.mountainmessenger.com

Appalachian Heritage Class Series to feature leather working

The Classes & Workshops Appalachian Heritage Series is designed to introduce new students to old traditions by experiencing a hands-on opportunity to learn about Appalachian arts and crafts. Students learn to keep Appalachian roots alive by learning through the arts with Carnegie Hall. The spring semester offers several opportunities to learn how to work with leathercrafter Luke Davis.

Davis teaches an Introduction to Leather Craft this Saturday, Mar. 12, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students learn the basics of leather working as they design, shape, and decorate their choice of three items: hair cuff with natural twig pin mystery bracelet, French wired earrings, or keychain. Students are encouraged to customize every project to fit their style. No

prior experience necessary for this creative and functional class and all materials provided. Registration is \$65 (\$55 for members) and automatic \$25 scholarships are available for students over 50 years old. Students must be 14 years old and class size is limited.

On Saturday, Apr. 2, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Davis shows students how to Make a Leather Belt. Students learn the basics of leather working or expand on their technique by stamping or embossing their design into a beautiful hand cut leather belt. Students choose a buckle and rivet style. This project makes an amaz-



Leather belt

ing gift or functional addition to any wardrobe. No prior experience necessary. All materials provided. Registration is \$65 (\$55 for members) and automatic \$25 scholarships are available for students over 50 years old. Students must be 14 years old and class size is limited.

Davis' final workshop is Create a Leather Box on Saturday, Apr. 23, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. In this class, participants will learn to cut, stamp, punch and sew leather to create a lidded keepsake box. Students choose from three different shapes and customize the design to create a gorgeous one of a kind leather box. This project makes an amazing gift or special conversation piece. No experience necessary, all materials provided. Registration is \$75 (\$65 for members) and automatic \$25 scholarships are available for students over 50 years old. Students must be 14 years old and class size is limited.

Luke Davis lives in Clintonville. He has decades of experience; having worked with leather since the early 1970s.

For a complete list of classes and workshops and to enroll visit carnegiehallwv.org/classes-andworkshops or pick up a Classes & Workshops brochure at 611 Church Street, Lewisburg.



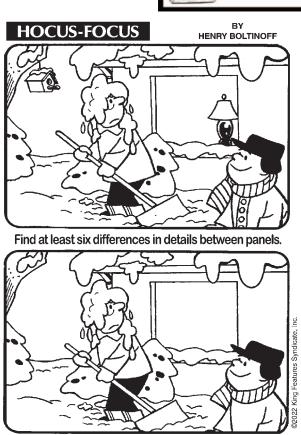
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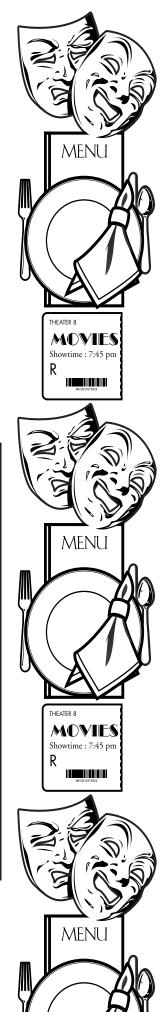


Over 40 editors, reporters & writers

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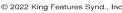
by Linda Thistle

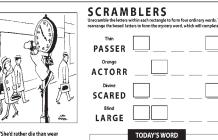
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ���

Moderate A Challenging HOO BOY!







Thanks for making us your local listening choice!



Greenbrier Valley's Talk and News Headquarters



and Today's Country



Steppin' Out

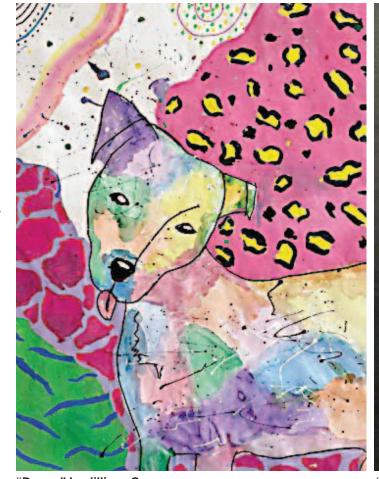
Creative Youth Art Exhibit winners announced

Carnegie Hall's 28th Annual Creative Youth Art Exhibit awards ceremony took place on Mar. 3 as friends and family filled the Hamilton Auditorium to celebrate the accomplishments of Greenbrier Valley's young artists. A reception with light refreshments provided by The Greenbrier followed the ceremony.

Creative Youth is a juried art show each spring that features the talent and imagination of Greenbrier County students in grade 4-12. Children from public, private, and home schools submit their work for this juried art exhibit.

This year's participating schools and teachers: Alderson Elementary - Beth Massie; Crichton Elementary - David Poticher: Eastern Greenbrier Middle - Rachelle Henderson and Mary Stankunas; Frankford Elementary - Stephanie Holley; Greenbrier Academy for Girls - Anne Hunter; Greenbrier East High - Mark Cline and Stephanie Tilley; Greenbrier West High - Marla Bell; Lewisburg Elementary - Jody Wilber; Rainelle Elementary - David Poticher; Ronceverte Elementary - Jett Davis; Rupert Elementary - Lynn Davis; Smoot Elementary - Lynn Davis; Western Greenbrier Middle - Emily Sullivan; and White Sulphur Springs Elementary - Stephanie Holley.

During the awards ceremony, Carnegie Hall's Artistic Director Allan Sizemore, President/ CEO Cathy Rennard. Education Director Harmony Flora. Board of Director's Chair Liz Wickline, Greenbrier County



"Doggo" by Jilliyen Queen

Board of Education Grants and Partnerships & Communications Coordinator Christy Clemons-Rodgers, Volunteer and past Board of Director's Chair Elizabeth Spangler, and Education Assistant Marguerite Kemp-Sherman announced the winners of the various art categories and divisions. Local artists Molly Messimer, Barbara Walker, and Jorn Mork served as judges.

The Best in Show Award went to Jilliyen Queen, a Western Greenbrier Middle School 7thgrader, with her mixed media "Doggo." The Carnegie Hall's Choice Award was given to Rupert Elementary 5th grader Ava Angle for her mixed-media "Reverse Selfie."

The Elementary School Division (Grade 4-5) ribbon winners: Drawing - Corbin Wingrove (winner), Maddie Gray (runner up), Rylan Boothe (third place), and Braylee Hartley (honorable mention); Mixed Media - Ava Angle (winner), Lucas Herndon (runner up), Tiana Daniels (third place), Sal Marks (honorable mention); Painting - Sophia Vestal (winner), Nathan Rhodes (runner up), and Audri Nobel (third place). Printmak-

"Reverse Selfie" by Ava Angle

ing - Layla Williams (winner), Madalynn Adkins (runner up), and Ellie Boettner (third place).

The Middle School Division (Grade 6-8) ribbon winners: Drawing - Gavin Eads (winner), Roslyn Dewitt (runner up), and Kennedy Steward (third place); Mixed Media - Jilliyen Queen (winner), Melody Thornton (runner up), and Arwyn Waid (third place). Painting - Jeb Brown (winner), Gracie Campbell (runner up), and Gracie Campbell (third place). Photography - Carson Banton (winner), and Olivia Gioia (runner up).

The High School Division

(Grade 9-12) ribbon winners: Drawing - Ryley Cales (winner), Josilyn Stalka (runner up), and Tula Leonard (third place); Mixed Media - Olivia Kehoe (winner), Raven Dove (runner up), and Tessa Barnette (third place); Painting - Bridget Wolf (winner), Alexis Maiello (runner up), and Loreli Eagle (third place); Printmaking - Linsey Boone (winner), and Chloe Heck (runner up).

For more information call Carnegie Hall Box Office at 304-645-7917, visit www.carnegiehallwv.org, or stop by at 611 Church Street, Lewisburg.

Country Blue to perform at White Sulphur Springs Library

When Lewisburg residents Mel Waggy Join us for songs like "Cheating Heat," and George Piasecki get together they play traditional country music with a twist of the blues. They have been performing as Country Blue for six years in various venues including the Fresh Water Folk Festival, Tamarack, and the Greenbrier Visitors Center. They will be singing and playing their unique music at the White Sulphur Springs library on Thursday, Mar. 10, beginning at 6 p.m.

Dolly Parton's "Jolene," and Don Gibson's "Oh Lonesome Me." Plus they have some original Americana music to wow you, too. So come to the library for a musical treat. Light refreshments will follow the concert.

Please call 304-536-1171 if you have any questions. The library is located at 344 Main Street West in White Sulphur Springs.





Community partners help our organization offer welcoming environments for survivors through our Adopt-A-Room initiative. Our Anne Blair House Emergency Shelter has been serving survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and elder abuse for more than 40 years. You can help adults and children escaping abuse have what they need by adopting a room at the shelter.

When you sign up to adopt-a-room, you are helping to decorate it with rugs, curtains, lamps, bedding items such as pillows, sheets, blankets, shower items such as towels, toiletries, and all other consumable essentials that shelter residents need during their healing stay.

Through our adopt-a-room initiative, community members and organizations get to choose a theme of their interest and begin creating an relaxing and serene environment for each person within our shelter.

For more information or to confirm your adopt-a-room commitment, please contact Kylie Puglin, Director of Shelter Services at 304-645-6334.

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