



American Pickers Head To WV

Your Trash May Be Their Treasure!



Pictured here are American Pickers Frank Fritz and Mike Wolfe, who love nothing more than picking through someone's hoarded trash in search of 'treasures' they can rescue.

By LEIGH C. MERRIFIELD

News & Journal Editor

The News & Journal was contacted by Maggie Kissinger, Associate Producer of the 'American Pickers' series that airs on The History Channel and asked to help notify the public that the "pickers" will be returning to the Mountain State to hopefully film some episodes for their show in April.

If you're not familiar with the "pickers" – Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz – they travel the back roads all over the U.S. in search of antiques and old relics that they can rescue, recycle, and resell. They are constantly looking for sizeable, unique collections and love learning the stories behind them. During their travels

they meet all kinds of people with remarkable and exceptional items that may be simply taking up space in garages, attics and barns!

These skilled 'pickers' say they love buying what they call 'rusty gold'!

"What many people see as junk, we see as dollar signs. We explore people's homes, sheds, outbuildings, etc. and find all kinds of treasures – each pick with a history all its own," they commented. "And the people we meet? Well, they're a breed all their own. Then we make a living telling the history of America, one piece at a time."

They call upon hoarders, amateur as well as serious collectors, and people who have inherited overwhelming collections

of items that they don't know what to do with.

The two have different tastes. While Wolfe has a particular interest in antique motorcycles and old bicycles, Fritz, on the other hand, is fond of antique toys, oil cans and peanut-related items. Some things they sell, and others they keep for their personal collections.

They look for different, unusual and unique items as well – things they have never seen before that have an interesting story, and they are always excited to find sizeable collections. They only pick private collections, meaning that they don't look around in stores, malls, flea markets, museum, auctions, businesses or anything that is open to the public for browsing.

Wolfe's business, Antique Archaeology, is their home base in Le Claire, Iowa, and they have also set up a second location in Nashville, Tennessee to decrease the distance required to haul their 'picks' found in the southern states.

The show's Associate Producer Maggie Kissinger said they are now in the process of looking for leads

throughout the state of West Virginia, specifically interesting characters with interesting items and lots of them!

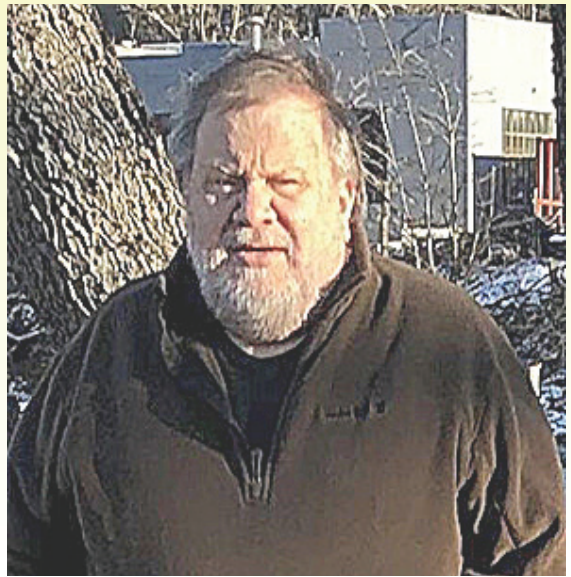
"We understand with the spread of COVID-19 that we are all facing very uncertain times and everything changes daily. We take this pandemic very seriously," she added, "and we will be adjusting our schedule accordingly for the safety of those who appear on our show as well as our crew. We won't 'pick' unless everyone is safe, so if our production dates can't be kept because of COVID, nobody's time will be wasted as we will reschedule to a date when conditions will allow safe filming."

The pickers have a presence on Facebook at GOTAPICK, or anyone who is interested can reach out to them at 1-855-OLD-RUST (653-7878) or send your name, phone number, location and description of your items with photos via email to AmericanPickers@cinetflix.com.

Remember that what you may be regarding as a conglomeration of stored 'trash' may be like opening a treasure chest for the American Pickers!

A Champion Of The West Fork River

The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal has named John Ciesla as February's Citizen of the Month, a program sponsored by Dorsey Funeral Home in Shinnston – locally owned and operated.



JOHN CIESLA

By DIANA BEDELL

News & Journal Staff Writer

John Ciesla's name is synonymous with the Guardians of the West Fork River in north central West Virginia. Guardians of the West Fork River board member Michael Murphy agrees, saying "John knows all the ins and outs with government regulations and he's really good with technology. He investigates every angle of a project."

A Harrison County native, Ciesla has been a member and president of the Guardians of the West Fork River for the past five years. He says he retired in 2016 and would drive by Elk Creek every day and see signs along his drive stating "Elk Creek is Alive". At that time, he said Elk Creek was orange in color, had no aquatic life and stunk.

Ciesla attended a Guardians meeting to see how the group worked and hoped to get some insight to start a group to work on Elk Creek. He was looking for ideas as to sampling, adding docks and general cleanup.

"I got involved with the Guardians and there was no need to start a new watershed group so we joined forces," he stated.

A short time later, the president of the

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Local Area Gets A Taste Of Bitter Weather That Has Plagued Nearly All Of The U.S.



Public Works crews in Shinnston were out with plows and cinders early last Thursday morning to address snow removal as more snow was predicted for later that evening and again on Friday.

By LEIGH C. MERRIFIELD

News & Journal Editor

Recently COVID and politics have both had to share the limelight in news coverage with concerns about the weather! With the exception of receiving a white Christmas, our area has remained pretty fortunate ... until last week when snow, sleet, ice, dipping temperatures and some power outages finally got some attention locally!

Weather forecasters say that "nearly the

entire United States is enduring one of its busiest winter weather patterns in decades" with an arctic air mass draped across much of the country. The National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center reported snow and ice blanketing the nation from coast to coast with 40 of our 50 states being placed on alerts for snow, ice and bitter cold.

West Virginians have become accustomed to dealing with treacherous winter weather from

time to time. However, some states are unfamiliar with driving in such conditions and even their road crews are without adequate equipment to handle it.

The weight of ice on trees and power lines left more than 700,000 people in eight states without power last week. Kentucky, North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia were four of those eight states. Television clips of MAJOR vehicle pileups along highways in some states were astounding ... leaving

many residents of the Mountain State thankful to live in our "home among the hills"!

Shinnston City Manager Chad Edwards was consulted regarding the attention paid to slippery roads here in the immediate area. While residents of some areas in North Central West Virginia complained of road crews not being very attentive, Edwards was pleased that he has heard nothing but positive remarks about the job done by Shinnston's Public Works Department.

"I had a meeting with them just recently and passed on to them the compliments that have been shared with me about their diligence in taking care of the snow and ice management in our community," he stated. "They are out early, attacking the roads in advance, before it becomes a major problem. Our crews work on rotating shifts so they can cover

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Public Service



Building Amazing Cities

By JIM HUNT

author, speaker, consultant

There was a story out of Texas last week about a local Mayor who got fed up with his citizens' calls during the unexpected snowstorm and made a Facebook post deriding his constituents. He railed against his citizens and said that the local government had no responsibility for taking care of them during the weather crisis. Naturally, this brought about a flurry of criticism and he decided to resign. He issued a statement after he submitted his letter of resignation and refused to apologize or retract his post. The story has gained international attention and this Mayor might well be one of the most hated public servants in the world. Fortunately, this type of callous behavior is the rare exception rather than the rule.

Over my long career in local government, I have seen countless times where local officials have gone over and above in helping their citizens. While there is no rule book to cover these types of events, most local officials believe that when their citizens are in need, they need to be with them and helping when they can. Whether it be a flood or tornado or hurricane, you can see local

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Food For Thought

By Leigh Currey Merrifield
Editor

'Invisible' Giving

As if the pandemic hasn't clipped our wings enough, recently the cold, icy weather warnings managed to add to keeping us 'sheltered' inside ... and frustrated! I, like many others, chose a little window when I noticed that the roads seemed to be non-threatening to visit the grocery store and stock up "just in case" and to pay a couple of bills in advance, also, "just in case".

Thank goodness, working from home keeps me rather busy, but one recent weekend I was at odds as to what to do with myself. Many have that feeling ... like the walls are closing in on you. Fortunately, between my mother and I, we keep a stockpile of books on hand from our local library to entertain us because television has managed to lose our interest! The news is either argumentative or depressing. And to be honest, there just isn't much on television that grabs my interest any more. While a couple of the cooking features might offer some good trial recipes, the hosts/hostesses like to shout a little too much for my taste so I tune them out too! And most of the Hallmark movies I've seen two or three times now and could almost recite the actors' lines by heart! So turning to a good book has been a welcomed entertainment option.

In one particular book I devoured recently, there was a secondary character named Billy who captured my interest. The owner of a small town burger joint, he acquired the reputation of being a 'grouch', just like the Sesame Street character who resided in a trash can and was a full-time grumbler! So was Billy – always

shooting off a smart-mouthed comment even to his customers. But they were accustomed to it and just accepted it as a part of his personality. What they didn't know was that he had a gentle, loving heart; he just preferred that no one knew that side of him.

For example, the longtime widower had no children of his own, but he enjoyed playing Santa every year during the holidays to bring joy to children. He also 'silently' delivered entire holiday meals to people who were sick or out of work or suffering from the loss of a loved one. Throughout the year, he purchased new toys and stashed them in a storage unit; then on Christmas Eve, these toys anonymously turned up on the front porches of families in need. He also gave his time each month to visit nursing homes and senior centers to play his accordion and bring smiles to elderly faces. All of this with no thanks needed. Sometimes you have to look further than someone's outward appearance and even their grouchy demeanor to discover what kindness is hidden beneath the surface.

This character sparked me to do some further online research about many philanthropic 'pillars', and I was amazed that so many of them insisted on absolute strict privacy as far as their giving was concerned. Their good deeds were not revealed until they had passed on and then sometimes a former friend would write a book about their extremely generous gifting. They simply gave because they could afford to do so and sought NO glory or recognition for it. They preferred to remain nameless and a mystery.

I read of one gentleman who did VERY well for himself and became a multi-billionaire. He gave away BILLIONS of dollars to worthwhile charitable causes, and saved just enough that he and his wife could live out their old age comfortably.

Some of these Mr. X's gave to support veteran programs; some set up scholarships to aid in financing the education of students who would otherwise not have been able to afford higher learning. Some gave to cancer patient support or charities that served abused children, and the list went on and on. They preferred that any publicity be given to those who were carrying out the work, not to themselves for furnishing the funding for these projects. While they had worked hard and earned in many cases billions of dollars, beneath their surface, they were quite modest human beings who wanted to help others without EVER blowing their own horns. I read of one person who expressly insisted on anonymity, BUT when someone leaked who it was, the continued funding was withdrawn!

Yes, there are some who may enjoy having something named after them and like the publicity. But there are also MANY who truly treasure giving namelessly. What a shame that there aren't more who enjoy most what they give and not what they get. Just some 'food for thought'

This week's dessert: "At the end, it's not about what you have or even what you've accomplished. It's about who you've lifted up, who you've made better. It's about what you've given back." ~ Denzel Washington

This Week In West Virginia History

The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Feb. 25, 1903: An armed posse ambushed striking miners in their homes in the village of Stanaford near Beckley. Six miners were killed; Federal Judge B. F. Keller exonerated the posse.

Feb. 25, 1911: Newspaperman Jim Comstock was born in Richwood. In 1957, he founded the West Virginia Hillbilly, a weekly newspaper that circulated both inside and outside the state.

Feb. 26, 1869: The legislature approved a bill moving the state capital to Charleston.

Feb. 26, 1972: One of the country's worst

mining-related disasters occurred on this date on Buffalo Creek in Logan County. A coal waste dam collapsed, sending 132 million gallons of water, coal refuse and silt into the valley. In the end, 125 people, including entire families, were killed, and 1,000 people were injured.

Feb. 27, 1867: Marshall College was established as a normal school for the training of teachers. The first term began June 15, 1868, with 25 students enrolled in three departments.

Feb. 27, 1871: Summers County was established from segments of Fayette, Greenbrier, Mercer, and Monroe counties. The county was named after George W. Summers, one of West Virginia's founders.

Feb. 27, 1871: The

West Virginia Legislature approved an act incorporating the city of Huntington.

Feb. 28, 1831: Fayette County was formed by the General Assembly of Virginia from parts of Kanawha, Nicholas, Greenbrier, and Logan counties. The county was named for the Marquis de Lafayette, the French military officer who served under George Washington during the Revolutionary War.

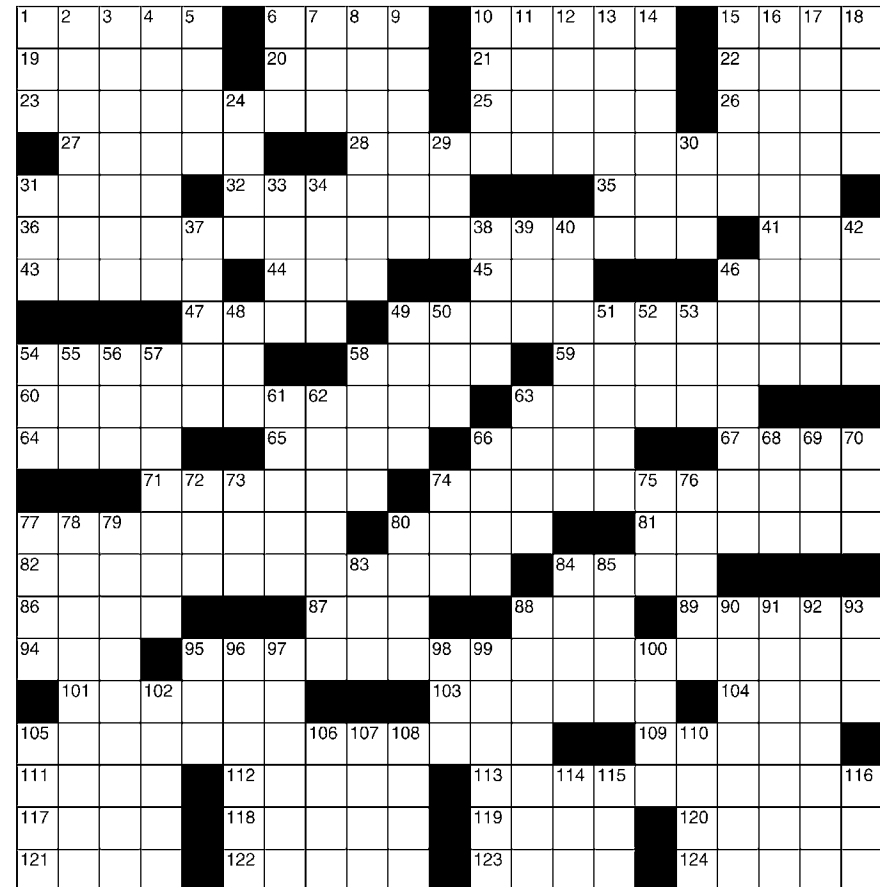
Feb. 28, 1858: McDowell County, the southernmost county in West Virginia, was created from part of Tazewell County, Virginia. The new county was named after James McDowell, a governor of Virginia.

Feb. 28, 1875: Musician Edwin "Edden" Hammons was born in Pocahontas County. A

Super Crossword

SUMMONING JEKYLL AND SEUSS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Stallion, e.g.
 - 6 Saudi, e.g. gently
 - 15 Livens (up)
 - 19 Optic layers
 - 20 Female adult
 - 21 Accustom
 - 22 Roman 951
 - 23 Sweet capsicum variety
 - 25 Bacon piece
 - 26 Give kudos
 - 27 Queen, in Spanish
 - 28 Mickey & Sylvia hit of 1957
 - 31 Don —
 - 32 Suddenly become alert
 - 35 Tetley pouch
 - 36 Extremely scarce
 - 41 President pro —
 - 43 Brainy bunch
 - 44 Bit of Vail gear
 - 45 The "sum" of "Cogito, ergo sum"
 - 46 Bona —
 - 47 Christmas poem opener
 - 49 Sinister powers
 - 54 Wooded with tunes
 - 58 Comic blows
 - 59 Fragrant
 - 60 Best Actress nominee for "Breaking the Waves"
 - 63 Turn aside
 - 64 Category
 - 65 Hit, as a gnat
 - 66 Place
 - 67 Lure for fish
 - 71 Deodorant target
 - 74 Song from "Oklahoma!"
 - 77 How fast a plane is flying
 - 80 Govt. agent
 - 81 Comic Gilda
 - 82 Deep pessimism
 - 84 Installed, as brick
 - 86 Actor Ladd
 - 87 Soft throw
 - 88 Chum
 - 89 Lhasa — (small dogs)
 - 94 Visibly angry
 - 95 Highly venomous cephalopod
 - 101 Filled the fuel tank, with "up"
 - 103 User of four-letter words
 - 104 "— Smile Be Your Umbrella"
 - 105 "Guys and Dolls" guy
 - 109 Rockers
 - 111 Fitzgerald of jazz
 - 112 Cliffside nest
 - 113 What you do when you look at the ends of nine long answers in this puzzle
 - 117 Regal Norse name
 - 118 Adorn fussily
 - 119 Morales in movies
 - 120 Haggard of country
 - 121 Where AT&T is "T"
 - 122 Squiggly letters
 - 123 Breeding 1-Across
 - 124 Carne — (Baja dish)
 - 7 Drake's music
 - 8 University in Nassau County
 - 9 Mechanical way to learn
 - 10 Prudent
 - 11 Part of ABM
 - 12 Animal coats
 - 13 French for "sad"
 - 14 Days of the week, e.g.
 - 15 Campus workstation locale
 - 16 Tending to radiate something
 - 17 Provided juice for?
 - 18 Pro or con
 - 21 Give relief to
 - 29 Composer Carl Maria — Weber
 - 30 Cheer shout
 - 31 Printer clog
 - 33 Org. in "The Martian"
 - 34 With 53-Down, requests
 - 37 Broken-down
 - 38 Knights, e.g.
 - 39 Tic-toe link
 - 40 Retired professors
 - 42 Defrost
 - 46 Was achy or regretful
 - 48 "Holy cow!"
 - 49 Hoof or paw
 - 50 Totally dominate
 - 51 Good craps roll
 - 52 Keats work
 - 53 See 34-Down
 - 54 Place
 - 55 Novelist Tan
 - 56 Small bite
 - 57 Comedic actor Jackie
 - 58 H.S. junior's exam
 - 61 It has flutery leaves
 - 62 Twirl, as one's thumbs
 - 63 Naturalist Fossey
 - 66 Con game
 - 68 "Anthem" writer Rand
 - 69 Suffix with hero
 - 70 The Raptors, on NBA schedules
 - 72 Engine stat
 - 73 "— culpa"
 - 74 "I think," in texts
 - 75 Half of hexa-
 - 76 Anwar of Egypt
 - 77 Culture base
 - 78 In a criminal way
 - 79 Book full of street maps
 - 80 Desert in Mongolia
 - 83 Palme —
 - 84 Sonny boys
 - 85 Balm plant
 - 88 Most cheeky
 - 90 Maintains order over
 - 91 Prisms' color bands
 - 92 Was a better peddler than
 - 93 Org. issuing nine-digit IDs
 - 95 Youth org. with troops
 - 96 Delaware Valley tribe
 - 97 Cows' milk deliverers
 - 98 Pvt.'s superior
 - 99 False appearances
 - 100 Street — (urban acceptance)
 - 102 Cut off stubble
 - 105 An inert gas
 - 106 Certain dwarf planet
 - 107 Clock info
 - 108 Gym litter's units
 - 110 Tomato variety
 - 114 Water, in Nantes
 - 115 Give relief to
 - 116 Irish actor Stephen



Find the Super Crossword Answers on Page 8!



"A Newspaper The Whole Family Can Read"

Shinnston Harrison County

The News & Journal

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Michael Showell
Publisher

Leigh Merrifield
Editor

Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

Debra Smith
Advertising

Sandy McIntyre
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WORK TOGETHER!

the school was a teacher preparatory institution. No. 3 Mine in Fayette County, killing 114 men.

March 1, 1898: Homer Adams Holt was born in Lewisburg. He became West Virginia's 20th governor.

March 2, 1840: The Virginia General Assembly granted a charter for Bethany College. From the beginning, it has been a four-year, baccalaureate-degree college, the oldest such institution in West Virginia.

March 2, 1896: Clair Bee was born in Pennsboro. Bee was a successful, innovative college basketball coach and widely published author of both technical basketball books and young adult fiction centered on sports.

March 2, 1915: A blast swept through Layland

March 2, 1927: The West Virginia capitol building known as the "pasteboard capitol" was destroyed by fire. This wood-frame building in downtown Charleston had been built in just 42 days after the previous capitol building (the Victorian capitol) burned in 1921.

March 2, 1961: Governor Wally Barron signed legislation that granted Marshall College university status.

March 3, 1843: Barbour County was created from parts of Lewis, Harrison, and Randolph counties and named for the distinguished Virginia jurist Philip Pendleton Barbour.

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N&J Briefs

FROM AROUND HARRISON COUNTY

"Briefs" is a calendar of events listing provided free of charge to churches and non-profit organizations. Items will be published one time only and will be listed in the order in which they occur. Please submit your 'briefs' two weeks prior to the event (if possible) by 4 PM on Friday. Fax your information to 304-592-0603 or send via e-mail to newsandjournal@yahoo.com.

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

Bridgeport library is still closed to the public, however pick up is available. Readers can access the library's catalog by reserving books on their website at www.youseemore.com/bridgeport and may pick up books on the following days and times: M-W-F 12:00pm-7:30pm and Tues. & Thurs. 12:00pm-4:30pm. until further notice. Personnel will be available to answer questions, and the library's digital resources will continue to be available. • Contact Amy at the library at 304-842-8248 for information.

LOWE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Lowe Public Library has resumed its regular hours to the general public: Monday 11:30 am – 7:00 pm and Tuesday- Friday 11:30 am – 6 pm, CLOSED on Saturdays. Curbside service will still be available to those who request it by calling 304-592-1700. The library is disinfected routinely throughout the day (also, immediately after children visit).

COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC FOR VETERANS

The Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center in Clarksburg will be offering a walk-in COVID-19 vaccine clinic on Saturday, February 27, 2021 from 8:00am to 1:00pm to all Veterans who are 65 years old and older. They are asked to present their VA card and are encouraged to wear a short-sleeved shirt. NO APPOINTMENT IS NECESSARY. If you are not currently enrolled as a VA patient, please visit www.clarksburg.va.gov/patients or contact Enrollment at 304-623-3461, Ext. 3332 or 3590.

EASTER BAKE SALE

Saint Ann's Catholic Church in Shinnston will be having an Easter Bake Sale. Pre-orders must be placed by March 15. Curb side pickup on March 26 & 27 from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM at St. Ann's Catholic Church, 610 Pike St. Shinnston. Items for sale -Easter bread \$7/medium & \$10/large; Chocolate covered Easter eggs - \$6 each: peanut butter, coconut, almond covered in milk or white chocolate; Variety of homemade cookie trays - \$15 or \$20 platters, (by the dozen for \$7.00); galette, Italian wedding cookies or chocolate covered peanut butter balls. Call 304-592-2243, 304-476-6473, 304-592-0665, 304-841-1487, or 304-203-8905.

SHINNSTON SPRING SOCCER SIGN-UPS

The Shinnston Soccer League is now registering for their spring season.

Age groups Under-6, Under-8 \$65 (born 2017,2016,2015, 2014,2013) Age groups Under-10, Under-12 \$75 (born 2012,2011,2010,2009) Age group Under-14 (born 2008,2007) \$120. Contact Registrar Wendy Spurling for more information at 412-719-9305 (cell phone) or email shinnstonsoccer@gmail.com.

FREE CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

Jones Run Independent Church has a free clothing giveaway every 2nd Saturday of the month from 9:00am to noon. We are located at 3981 Jones Run Road. We have a lot of nice clothing for everyone and some household items. Open to everyone and no limitations on what you may take. Questions call 304-783-4868

MONONGALIA COUNTY BEEKEEPERS MEETING

The Monongalia County Beekeepers have a meeting at Mylan Park in the new Monongalia County Extension Service and 4-H Center on the first Tuesday of every month; however, meetings have been cancelled until further notice due to COVID-19. Please contact Debbie Martin for more information at 304-367-9488 or debbiez7@yahoo.com We look forward to helping you start your beekeeping journey and will help you every step of the way!

HOPE, INC. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUP

Hope, Inc., a task force - support group on growing free from domestic violence, will meet on Thursdays at noon at Koupal Towers, 916 West Pike Street in Clarksburg. For more information, call 304-624-9835 or email asniderhope@yahoo.com.

KIDDING AROUND YOGA

Kidding Around Yoga is being held every Thursday at 6p.m. at the Progressive Women's Association/Uptown Event Center, 305 Washington Ave., Clarksburg. These yoga classes are free. So, bring your kids ages 2 to 12 to Kidding Around Yoga every Thursday. For more information, please call 304-624-6881. Certified instructor Erica Perry.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

A Christ-centered 12-step program for any hurt, habit or hang-up meets every Friday at 6:00 p.m. at Horizons Church in Lost Creek with COVID capacity. Offers childcare (birth to 4 yrs.) and The Landing for older teens. For more information, call 304-745-5090.

Tax Filing Tips From WV Attorney General Morrisey

West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey reminded consumers last Thursday to be cautious and to protect personal information when preparing and filing their taxes for the April 15 deadline, particularly since some tax preparers offer remote assistance due to COVID-19.

Those who choose a remote or virtual option must ensure they deal with a legitimate tax preparation service. They also must ensure the preparer uses a secure portal to receive the taxpayer's sensitive information, including Social Security numbers, finances, birthdays, addresses and other items a scam artist could use to his or her advantage.

"It's incredibly important for consumers to be mindful of how

they handle sensitive, personally identifiable information and who handles it on their behalf," Attorney General Morrisey said. "That means making sure that you work with the right person or business. Research their reputation, qualifications and be on guard for any phony or dishonest preparer who would jeopardize your personal information."

Consumers should ask for the Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) and check the U.S. Internal Revenue Service list found at <https://irs.treasury.gov/rpo/rpo.jsf>.

Legitimate tax preparers will ask for records and receipts. Additionally, they will never ask a client to sign a blank tax return. If they suggest as much, it should raise an

immediate red flag.

Consumers should also ensure their tax preparer signs and includes his or her IRS Preparer Tax Identification Number. Federal law requires paid tax preparers to take both steps.

Other tips to consider if hiring a tax preparer are:

- Research tax preparers online and/or seek a friend's recommendation.
- Make sure the tax preparer offers e-file. Anyone who prepares and files more than 10 returns for clients generally must do so electronically.
- Make sure the tax preparer will be available after filing the return should any questions arise about the filed tax return.
- Use a secure Internet connection. Never file a return via

publicly available Wi-Fi.

• File early. This can greatly reduce the risk of fraud since IRS records will show a filed return in the consumer's name, thus giving thieves less time to file a false return.

Taxpayers who file through traditional mail should use caution and consider taking the mail to a local post office, as tax identity thieves have been known to steal tax documents from mailboxes.

Consumers who believe they may be the victim of tax-related identity theft should contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office at 1-800-368-8808, the Eastern Panhandle Consumer Protection Office in Martinsburg at 304-267-0239 or visit the office online at www.wvago.gov.

"Taste Of Bitter Weather"

cont. from p. 1

as much as possible. One group may begin at midnight and work until 4 a.m., and then another shift takes over in the morning and this continues throughout the serious part of a weather complication so they can stay ahead of it."

Edwards said the City has six Public Works employees, including Supervisor Perry DelRio. He added that the City also has a good supply of cinders and remains prepared in the event that this polar vortex continues for a while.

"Our crews take care of the in-town roads

and neighborhoods ... and even worked to do just that on Christmas Eve. They also work on the state roads if they're bad and the DOH hasn't tackled them yet. It is certainly worth noting that making roads passable in inclement weather is not their only responsibility; they also handle meter reading, water leaks, sewer line replacements and road repairs. There are times, depending on the circumstances, when they are tackling more than one problem at a time too. This department is more

valuable to our community than words can convey," Edwards continued.

Shinnston and other cities in the immediate area have been fortunate through the recent winter months to have not been deluged with feet of snow thus far. However, they have been prepared with plenty of cinders on hand and plows waiting in readiness to be proactive so that those who HAVE to be out in hazardous weather have fewer concerns about driving safely.

Edwards concluded, "I have to agree with

other warnings that have been issued when snow, sleet and ice cause such weather havoc, and that is, if you must travel out when road conditions are questionable, drive slowly, increase distancing from any vehicle in front of you, allow extra time, or JUST STAY AT HOME unless it's absolutely necessary! Any time there is a weather advisory issued, stock up on food and water in advance, make sure you have needed medications and extra batteries on hand. It is always better to be prepared."

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- Osteoarthritis
- Sacroiliitis (inflammation of the sacroiliac joint(s))
- Spinal Stenosis

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The Progressive Women's Association Continues To Help Community During The Pandemic



GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen

As the month of February slips away the Coronavirus pandemic continues. Although it is reported to be getting better, there is still a lot of sickness and death. It seems that we are fortunate here in our area to be able to get the vaccine and hopefully, it will conquer this monster soon.

The pandemic has affected most families, mostly, financially and next to actually getting the virus, the financial effect is very hard on families. Although we have received stimulus checks, this cannot compensate for the loss of wages.

The Progressive Women's Association of Harrison County has listed on its mission statement to help those in need in our community. The PWA has maintained a food pantry at its location at 305 Washington Avenue for many years and the association has had fundraisers to support the food pantry. Now that the demand has doubled and due to the fact that we cannot have fundraisers, we are at the mercy of the community to support the pantry. Most of our local supermarkets donate food and we are able to get food from the Mountaineer Food Bank once a month. Volunteers, along with our director, Elinda Carson and our maintenance man, Dave Greynolds, are able to pass out food on Thursday and Friday of each week. We suggest you call early in the week and an appointment will be made for you to pick up your order. Many local

clubs and church groups donate food to help keep the inventory stocked.

The Young PWA maintains a food closet on the front porch of the building with food in it for homeless individuals. It is also recommended that anyone wanting to donate toward this project to drop off their donations by placing them in the closet; it is always open.

Last year, we identified another project and opened a pet pantry to supply food for individuals with pets. We work with local pet stores who donate pet food and supplies to us weekly. Betty Waddy picks these supplies up each week.

We encourage individuals and local civic groups and churches to donate either food or money to the PWA to ensure that those in need will be able to be served by the pantry. For more information about donating or to be a recipient of a food order, call 304-624-6881.

The PWA members are planning an Easter Bake Sale the week before Easter. Place your order for Easter bread by calling the PWA. Once again this year, we were able to get Fiesta bowls donated and they will be sold with Easter goodies. There is a limited number so be sure to place your order early.

The PWA is staging a membership drive and encourages members to pay their dues and opens their doors to anyone interested in joining the group. Dues are \$25.00 a year and can be mailed to 305 Washington Ave., Clarksburg; our goal is to receive 25 members by May 1.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all my Irish friends, especially Pat Kelley.

Stay warm, stay healthy and until next week, "Now You Have Heard It Through the Grapevine."

"Public Service"

cont. from p. 1

Mayors and City Councilmembers on the scene and pitching in wherever necessary. Often, it is only to offer a shoulder to cry on or a hug, but it is important. Citizens need to know that their elected representatives understand what they are going through and are willing to lend a hand.

A good friend of mine, Audwin Samuel, is a Councilmember in Beaumont, Texas and has been an example of leadership and compassion during times of trouble. Beaumont has been the target of some of the largest hurricanes and other weather catastrophes. Audwin took to the streets during one flooding event and used his cellphone to broadcast on Facebook Live information to his citizens. He spent hours talking with first responders and shelter workers to get firsthand information on getting food and water or a safe place to stay. One thing that Councilmember Samuel was very careful about was to not overstep his authority and possibly relay incorrect information.

My good friend, Mayor Steve Williams of Huntington, West Virginia, is another example of a public servant who understands the power of a kind word or a listening ear in times of trouble. Steve has seen his share of tragedies during his long tenure as Mayor, City Councilor and City Manager. He was on the scene during one of the largest opioid overdoses in the country, when dozens of his citizens overdosed over the course of one evening. His leadership in bringing together the church leaders and other concerned citizens for community prayer services was instrumental in addressing the problem of opioid abuse in his city. Steve is one of the most effective spokesmen for his city and his calm demeanor provides a sense of leadership during crisis conditions.

While it is often a delicate balance between helping and getting in the way, most competent public servants know how to be helpful without distracting from the rescue effort. I remember being at the scene of the 1985 flood in Clarksburg shortly after I was elected to City Council. I felt it was important to be there but was unsure how to best help in the situation. I finally saw a group of people carrying furniture out of the basement of a house and I pitched in and started carrying boxes up to dry ground. After we finished with one house, I just kept moving down the street, helping where I could. While some might question how much it helped, I still remember the looks on those homeowners' faces.

That Mayor in Texas should probably rethink his definition of public service and find some other way to spend his time. Public service is not a part time job and when your citizens are suffering, you have a duty to "be on the job!"

The Weather Forecasters FINALLY Got It Right!



Pine Bluff News

By Pat Matheny

The only excitement that went on this week happened Monday afternoon when a couple of fire trucks with lights flashing and sirens blasting passed through PB on the way to a house fire that was right past Peora going towards Wyatt (Frank Lucas's old house on the bank). The area fire departments were well represented by Bridgeport, Lumberport, Monongah, Shinnston, Spelter and Worthington.

The temperatures in the area for the last month have been hovering around 32°...a few degrees warmer during the day and a few degrees colder at night. When we get any precipitation, it's between snow or sleet. I've noticed the weather forecasters have gone the way of the Main Stream Media... everything is a crisis and exaggerated as much as possible. If we actually received the amount of snow that has been projected for our area in the last month, there would be over 5' of snow on the ground. I wonder if they ever heard of the fable, "The Boy Who Cried Wolf".

Thursday morning, I had an appointment with the rheumatologist at the VA Hospital for 10 am, but I had to be there at 8:30 am for lab work. Would you believe when I arose that morning, for the FIRST time this winter, the weather people actually got it right and we received the predicted 4" of overnight snow and it was still coming down. After debating with 'me, myself and I' for

about 15 minutes, 'myself' won out and I decided to go for it. I got ready and 15 minutes before leaving I hit the remote starter on the Explorer to let it warm up. Because the Explorer sits in the garage on the farthest side from the house, I can't tell when it starts.

By the time I walked from the back door to the breezeway, I realized the snow was deeper than I thought. I also watched a truck go up the road and he was making his own tracks. So, the debate between 'me, myself, and 'I' broke out again, but this time, armed with better info, 'I' won out and I decided not to go for it.

However, while standing on the breezeway, I couldn't hear the Explorer running. On further investigation, I discovered the damn battery in it was dead! When I had to replace the 6-year-old battery in the Ranger 3 months ago, I was wondering how long the Explorer battery would last because it was 6 years old too. Well, I found out. I put the battery on charge, slammed the garage door shut and came back into the house. I called the VA and they set me up with another appointment for next Thursday.

Thanks to Jimmy Martin again for clearing the snow off my driveway.

On a sad note, a pillar of Shinnston and my very good friend, Carl (Junior) Nuzum, passed away Monday. I wrote about him in last week's column. A list of his extraordinary volunteer services to the community are in the obituary section. I'm going to miss traveling through town and looking for Junior driving around in his blue Dodge pickup... RIP Sir.

Until next time, have a great week and remember our Veterans.

Ace

Glenville State College Celebrates 149 Years



Members of the Glenville State College Acrobatics and Tumbling team with a generous donation to their organization as part of the Day of Giving that took place on Friday, February 19.

Glenville State College (GSC) edged another year closer to its sesquicentennial celebration on Friday, February 19, 2021 as the institution celebrated

In February 1872, the passage of West Virginia Senate Bill 52 allowed for a branch of the state normal school to be established at Glenville.

The Glenville Branch of the West Virginia State Normal School was originally founded in order to serve the educational needs of West Virginia citizens

by preparing teachers to serve in classrooms across the state.

Throughout the years, Glenville State has expanded its mission and now prepares students for careers in teaching, business, land resources, criminal justice, music and art, science and mathematics, the social sciences, and more.

A loyal base of alumni spanning the state, nation, and globe proudly call themselves Pioneers.

"We are ecstatic to be celebrating 149 years of Glenville State College," said President Dr. Mark Manchin. "This institution means so much, not only to me, but to its student

Continued on Page 10

WEST VIRGINIA Press Call for nominations
ASSOCIATION • SERVICES • FOUNDATION

The West Virginia Press Association is now accepting nominations for the **WVPA's Hall of Fame, Class of 2021**

The written nomination must include a brief biographical sketch.

Nomination details at wvpress.org
Submit nominations by March 1, 2021
Email to **Don Smith, donsmith@wvpress.org**
or by mail to **WV Press Association**
3422 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston, WV 25302

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One Of Shinnston's Italian Immigrant Families ... The Caputo Family



By **MAXINE WESER**
Museum Board
Member

Domenico Caputo was born in the village of Caccuri, Italy on December 14, 1881. His parents were Rocco

Caputo and Orsolo Lucente. Domenico first left Naples, Italy on the ship Roma and arrived at New York's Ellis Island July 4, 1907. His destination was Fairmont, West

Virginia. Italy had come under one flag in 1900 under King Victor Emmanuel III, but there was still violence, poverty and strife. Italy also experienced two major earthquakes and a

tsunami in the first two decades of the 1900's. Mount Vesuvius, near Naples, erupted in 1906, leaving thirty-two thousand people homeless.

American jobs looked very attractive to immigrants. They were anxious to come to a country where they could earn a living and support their families. The completion of the railroad in northern West Virginia led to the opening of many mines and there were not enough local men to work in them. Fairmont Coal Company sold out to the Consolidation Coal company in 1902

and Consol began to actively recruit miners from other countries.

The completion of the railroad led to the rapid development of mines all along the Monongahela River. This included the West Fork of the Monongahela River. The rail line was completed to Shinnston in 1890, and soon the mining communities of Solon, Ehlen, Viropa, Gypsy, Enterprise and Riverdale were established.

Did Domenico work in the coal mines in Italy? I do not know, but when he first came to Fairmont in 1907, he

was listed as a laborer. What coal mine did he work in? The Monongahela mine disaster occurred on December 6, 1907 soon after his arrival. Domenico had a piece of slate in his right cheek when he signed up for the draft for World War I. Did he cut his trip short and return to Italy and learn the cobbler craft? It is not known how long he was here on his first trip over as an alien.

Domenico arrived in America the second time on October 1, 1912 aboard the steamship Duca di Genova. He was married to Maria **Continued on Page 10**

Ten House Reports January Responses

By **LEIGH C. MERRIFIELD**
News & Journal Editor

Because most small communities don't have the resources for a paid fire department, this leaves committed volunteers to do the job ... if a community is that fortunate. In Shinnston's case, a dedicated volunteer department has been in place since 1930!

In most communities in the United States, it is the local fire department that is the first to respond to emergencies, whether they are small, day-to-day types OR large disasters.

Sadly, many people believe that the firefighters' only job responsibility is to extinguish fires. But the reality is that most of them provide a wide

variety of emergency services that include not only fire suppression, but emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, special rescue situations and emergency management. They also get involved in fire prevention activities.

The Shinnston Volunteer Fire Department, in an effort to keep the public informed about what they do, will be offering

a monthly report on the Community Development feature page henceforth about the calls for service they have responded to during the month.

At the end of 2020, SVFD reports having responded to 810 alarms throughout that calendar year. Chief Dylan Oliveto says that in January of 2021, the department responded to 55 calls for service. **Continued on Page 10**

SPD Submits January Activities

Shinnston Police Chief Jon Harbert shares his monthly report of the Department's detailed activity during the month of January, 2021.

CITATIONS:

Hazardous	10
Non-Hazardous	5
Accident	0
Warning	36
Parking	0

ARRESTS:

Felony	0
Misdemeanor	6
Shoplifting	0
DUI	0
Domestic	5

REPORTS:

SPD 101	27
Accident	2
Juvenile Petition	0

OTHER:

Alarm Response	11
Premise Exams	762
Investigations	75
K-9 Deployments	19
Calls for Service	165

Total Calls for Service numbered 1,123.

Cycling Community Growing In Shinnston



Cycling is growing in popularity and offers all aspects of health and fitness for family members of all ages. If you have an interest in this sport, you can find anything you need at Pike Street Bikes – including custom-built frames!

By **ANTHONY TATE**
Community Dev.
Coordinator

The cycling community in Shinnston has grown expeditiously in recent years. This growth can be solely

attributed to Pike Street Bikes and its owner Jason Martin.

Martin, a lifelong Shinnston resident, turned his passion into a business when he decided to open Pike

Street Bikes almost ten years ago. He says it was the lack of bike shops like his in the area that prompted him to open his own shop. Now it is the only one for many miles, and is a one-stop-shop for the sale and repair of anything bike related. They also manufacture hand-built bike frames, an incredibly unique service.

"The next closest shop around that actually builds frames is in Philadelphia," Martin said. "There is no one doing that kind of work around here any more. We offer hand-built frames that are made just for you."

Continued on Page 10

Let A Good Book Warm You During Chilly Winter Weather

By **DEBORAH STARKEY**
Lowe Public Library
Director

Kristin Hannah, author of "The Nightingale" and "The Great Alone", has a new book titled "The Four Winds". Set against the backdrop of the Great Depression, it is another

epic novel of love, terrorism and hope.

Texas ... 1934 ... farmers are fighting to keep their land and livelihood as the crops are failing ... water is drying up ... and dust threatens to bury them all. The Dust Bowl era has arrived with a vengeance.

Elsa Martinelli,



like so many of her neighbors, must make the choice to fight for the land she loves or go west to California. The American dream

waits for all who have the courage to make the agonizing decision to leave. Elsa's courage and sacrifice will define her

Continued on Page 10

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WVU Womens Basketball Team Is Taking Care Of Business!



The Bottom Line By Bill Nestor Sports Editor

Mountaineer Head Coach Mike Carey has had his team focused throughout this season. After suffering a pair of conference losses in December to Baylor and Oklahoma State, WVU reeled off 11 consecutive wins. During that period, the Mountaineers climbed the conference ladder while garnering national attention in the process. Oklahoma would come to Morgantown and break the winning streak but even that setback couldn't derail the popularity and respect that has grown for this squad.

A few days after the loss to the Sooners, Carey's Crew was ranked No.14 in the first Top 16 Reveal by the NCAA. Currently, the Mountaineers would be the fourth seed in Region 2. There will be one more reveal scheduled for the 1st of March before the Selection Show which

is set for March 15th. WVU is ranked at No. 24 in the Coaches Poll and is one of two Big 12 teams currently ranked - the other is Baylor at No.7. The Bears are a couple games ahead of the Mountaineers in the conference standings.

The revenge game between these two powers was scheduled for this past week in Waco but was postponed due to the winter storm that devastated Texas. The makeup will be pivotal for a push for the regular season title. Carey and his team have one real test remaining on the schedule before finishing up with Kansas and Kansas State. The Jayhawks are currently 3-9 while the Wildcats are winless in conference play. Baylor has it tougher close to the campaign as No.3 in the Big 12, Oklahoma, comes to Waco on February 24th and a road trip on March 1st to conference No. 5 Texas awaits.

Also, this past week, Carey was recognized for his efforts this season when he was named to the Werner Ladder Naismith Women's Coach of the Year Late-Season Watch List. He is one of 15 top coaches named to the list and a late season push could bring the justly deserved hardware to the 20 year captain of this Mountaineer ship.

It's finally here! After nearly a year, winter sports in the State of West Virginia were allowed to resume. This past week, winter sports on both the high school and middle school levels were allowed to start practice. Winter sports contests, including girls basketball can start on March 3rd for both high school and middle school while high school and middle school boys basketball can start their regular season on March 5th.

After a full week of competition, the first day of spring sports practice on the high school level gets underway on March 15th.

The State Cheer

Classic is scheduled for that Saturday (March 20th) in Charleston. Middle school spring sports practice kicks off on March 22nd.

The coronavirus numbers continue to improve and with strong vaccination efforts ongoing, the future of sports in the Mountain State looks promising. It has been a long trying time for area players and coaches. Sure, there will be noticeable changes to the sports scene and the most noticeable will be in the stands. As of now, only family members will be allowed to attend games. There looks to be other avenues for fans to be able to capture events via the internet. If so, fans can cheer on their respective teams from a distance. The main takeaway is that our youth will have the opportunity to compete, which is all that they have ever wanted. They deserve to have their moment in the sun and I'm excited for them that it has finally arrived.

That will do it for now. Until next week...take care and God Bless!

WVU Football Schedule Announced!

By Bill Nestor Sports Editor

The West Virginia University football schedule was announced last week and Mountaineer fans can start to make plans for what is sure to be an interesting season.

The 'Eers open up on the road against border rival Maryland. The Terps play host on September 4th. A week later, Long Island University invades Morgantown for the home opener. The Sharks shouldn't pose a problem but they do possess a really cool nickname.

In a move to beef up the schedule, Virginia Tech was brought back into the fold from the glory days for a week three matchup.

Big 12 play opens up with a fourth consecutive game in as many weeks with a trip to Norman to face the Sooners.

The first Saturday in October brings Texas Tech to Milan Puskar Stadium. The following Saturday, WVU travels to Baylor. A well-deserved week off ensues before a second consecutive trip to the Lone Star state for a date with TCU. The Mountaineers conclude October play when they host Iowa State.

A second straight home tilt rings in November as Oklahoma State come to "Touchdown City". The 13th of November, the Mounties take Manhattan (Kansas) to tackle Kansas State. It's the only road lock-up of the month.

The 20th of November brings an epic clash as Texas rides into town. This could be a huge matchup if the season goes as planned. Finally, WVU goes to Lawrence to close out the regular season with the Jayhawks.

It lines up on paper as a promising campaign for Mountaineer Nation!

Now Is The Time To Apply For That Summer Job



From The World Of Parks & Recreation

By Doug Comer

It never fails. I get a phone call in the middle of June from a parent saying that their kid needs a job for the summer. And I hear the same speech how they love to be around kids and are very dependable. Are these traits perfect for a job at Parks and Recreation? Well, it is definitely a start.

In previous years, we publish information and send it to schools that we will begin the hiring process. It seems that procrastination can be found in many as the office collects most of the applications within hours of the deadline date. I get it and I do it myself, but in most cases, this is the first job that many of these kids will get and that first impression definitely goes a long way as Director Mike Book explains.

"We appreciate all applications we receive from people wanting to work in one of our programs, but those that show the initiative to contact the office or download the application and have it in our hands early is not only appreciative, but it shows what type of character the person possesses."

Already, we have seen a small supply of applications from both current and new applicants and that is great. We would like to have all staff in play before the end of April. This allows two things for both the department and the applicant. First, you will know well in advance if you will be working for parks or finding work elsewhere and second, the hiring process needed for Commission approval can be done in a timely fashion.

With the training process still in mid-June, the payroll training will take a little more time than in the past as Book tells.

"With the new electronic Paycom payroll system in play, it will take extra training to get the kids used to the program. In the past, we used paper time sheets that were signed by both the staff and the supervisor. The process as far as approving time sheets will be the same, but now it is done through the computer. There is an app on the phone where staff can clock in and out and there is no longer the paper trail and having to collect over 80 time sheets every couple weeks."

The program, which is pretty much self-taught for most, can cause some issues and time theft could happen on occasion. People clocking in too early or late and not working the hours of their schedule would be one way of committing it. However, the supervisors are going to have a watchful eye on the program.

"In the beginning, kids will have their schedule for the entire time and will simply clock in to start their shift and out once it has ended. There will be a blueprint of the schedule for all kids on one paper and that will be used to cross reference what hours were submitted. We have had this in the past with paper time cards and we were able to monitor it then," said Book.

For over 40 years, parks programs hire staff to run a program at a certain location and there

Continued on page 10

Pet Adventurers Unite: Top Social Media Groups For People & Pets-Week One



West Virginia has plenty of hiking trails that you and your favorite canine can enjoy together.

Love taking epic adventures with your pet? Have you been searching for ideas, tips, and like-minded adventurers on your favorite social media platforms? You've probably come across a

few by now; however, not all social media groups are created equal. We went searching for the most helpful, popular, and fun online pet adventure groups, and we've dug up some real gems! During next

several weeks, we will be sharing some ideas of where to seek some helpful tips.

Week one: Hiking With Your Dog

Want to start hiking with your dog? You're probably wondering: Where are the best trails for novice pups? Which trails allow off-leash hiking? What are the most important things to know about hiking with your dog? The helpful peeps at Hiking With Dogs can answer these questions, and start you and your pooch out on the path to pet-friendly hiking adventures. Group members come together to share

stories, best practices, favorite dog-friendly hiking destinations, encouragement, recommended pet hiking gear, and lots of cute doggie adventure pics!

The six best places to hike in West Virginia with your pooch are as follows:

Ski Whitegrass in Davis-

Long Point in New River Gorge with nearly 40 miles of groomed cross-country ski trails, Whitegrass in Davis is one of the best winter sports destinations in West Virginia. And, the private park allows

Continued on page 9

Two New Hatfield-McCoy Trails In WV To Open March 1

Beginning March 1, 2021, the Hatfield-McCoy Trail System will welcome riders to its newest attractions - the Cabwaylingo and Ivy Branch Trail Systems.

The Cabwaylingo Trail is the first in Hatfield-McCoy Trail System to be located within a state forest. Created as an initiative of the West Virginia Legislature,

the new trail represents a unique partnership between West Virginia's State Parks and the Hatfield-McCoy Trails.

Cabwaylingo State Forest sits on nearly 8,300 acres of land in southern West Virginia. Its colorful name was chosen as a combination of the four closest West Virginia counties surrounding the forest - Cabell, Wayne,

Lincoln, and Mingo.

ATV, UTV, 4x4 and dirt bike riders will find 100 miles of new trails to explore, plenty of parking for trucks and trailers and trailhead facilities with trail permits and Hatfield-McCoy Trails merchandise for sale.

Off the trails, lodging in the park's fourteen newly renovated cabins is available mid-April

through late October.

And two, multi-site campgrounds also await riders. Outside the park, Rustic Ravines ATV Resort offers novel lodging in "Yurts" and conventional cabins, weekend entertainment and a high-altitude zip line that whisks visitors across a scenic valley.

The newly reopened

Continued on page 10

West Virginia Ties For The Top Best State In Which To Retire

It's the dream of many to spend their golden years relaxing near an ocean or enjoying warm weather, but the top states for retirees — Iowa and West Virginia, according to a new study — are far from either coast and outside the sunbelt.

"While climate was one of the factors we looked at, from day to day, there is a lot more to a safe and

happy retirement than whether or not it's warm outside," said Richard Barrington, senior financial analyst for MoneyRates and the study's author.

Barrington stressed that there's more for retirees than Florida and Arizona — often considered traditional retiree destinations — and that general impressions don't tell the entire story.

"It pays to look at the data [because] you might overlook some good possibilities," he said. "You might miss some of the potential drawbacks."

MoneyRates evaluated the country's best states for retirees for the 10th year in a row, using 10 data sets across four major categories: economic factors (cost of living, property taxes, and

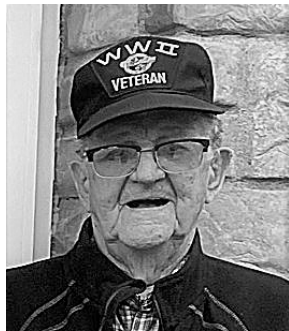
unemployment), crime and safety (violent and property crime rates), lifestyle factors (older population and average temperatures), and health care conditions (nursing facility capability, life expectancy, and health care costs).

There are trade-offs for every location, and Barrington said selecting a retirement

Continued on page 8

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**CARL NUZUM, JR.**

Carl Nuzum, Jr. 95, of Shinnston went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, February 15, 2021 at United Hospital Center.

He was born on October 29, 1925 to the late Carl L. and Chloe Irene Nuzum.

Junior is survived by his sons, Roger Nuzum and his wife Kandi of Fairmont; Randal Nuzum and his wife Kim of Shinnston; Kevin Nuzum and his wife Bethany of Shinnston; Kent Nuzum and his wife Natalie of Alpharetta, GA; grandchildren, Kimberly Hutson and her husband Rusty of Birmingham, AL; Amber Miller and her husband Travis of Lost Creek; Ryan Nuzum and his wife Mandy of Fairmont; Kaitlin Osbourn and her husband Wes of Charlotte, NC; Cameron Nuzum and fiancé Hannah Larry of Shinnston; Krislin Nuzum of Phoenix, AZ; Grant Nuzum of Shinnston; Addison Nuzum of Alpharetta, GA; Lauren Nuzum of Alpharetta, GA; Ella Nuzum of Alpharetta, GA; Jake Nuzum of Alpharetta, GA; and 10 great-grandchildren, Hannah Hutson; Conner Hutson; Parker Hutson; Tanner Hutson, all of Birmingham, AL; Lainey Nuzum; Rhett Nuzum; Beau Nuzum; and Brock Nuzum, all of Fairmont, Carson Osbourn of Charlotte, NC, Dawson Miller of Lost Creek, along with several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Junior was preceded in death by his loving wife, Velma June Nuzum; twins, Jennifer and Jeffery Nuzum; brothers, Jack Lee and Earnest Dale Nuzum; sisters, Dorothy "Dotty" Sharp; Virginia (Rusty) Stalnaker and Betty Talerico.

Junior was a graduate of Mannington High School. He then served in the US Navy as a 2nd Class Petty Officer Radio Man and was a WWII veteran. Junior started Nuzum Trucking Company in 1948 and the family owned and operated business is still serving Shinnston and the surrounding area.

Mr. Nuzum loved his community and volunteered in many ways throughout his lifetime. He was a member and past master of St. John's Lodge #24 AF and AM and also a Shriner. He was a member of the Shinnston American Legion Post 31. Junior was active in the Shinnston Kiwanis Club and served as an advisor /chaperone to the Lincoln High School Key Club. Junior was the founder of

Spartan Athletics - the first booster organization for Shinnston High School Athletics and he organized the first Pop Warner football team for the Shinnston area. He was a member of the Shinnston Area Development Association and served on the Shinnston City Council. Junior organized a fundraising committee to purchase a new fire engine for the Shinnston Fire Department.

"Jr" was an avid fan of the WVU football and basketball teams. He was a season ticket holder since 1963 and was a member of the Mountaineer Athletic Club. Junior also was a faithful fan of Lincoln High School athletics and served as volunteer driver for the track and cross-country teams for many years.

Carl "Junior" Nuzum joined the First Baptist Church of Shinnston in 1957 and was an active, faithful member for 64 years. He was member of the board of trustees for over 50 years and served numerous terms as chairman and was named an Honorary Lifetime trustee. Junior sang in the church choir, served as a Sunday morning greeter, and was a volunteer driver for the Meals on Wheels program.

Junior Nuzum loved God, his church, his country, his community and his family. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

A private funeral service was held in the sanctuary at the First Baptist Church on Friday, February 19, 2021 with Pastor Kevin G. Nuzum officiating. The service was also streamed live on the First Baptist Church Facebook page.

Interment followed at Shinnston Memorial Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be sent to the Lord's Pantry at PO Box 64, Shinnston, WV 26431.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at www.harmerfuneralhome.com

GENE RAY WINNINGS

Gene Ray Winnings, 76, of Worthington, passed away at 7:44am, Saturday, February 13, 2021 at his residence. He was born in Clarksburg, April 4, 1944. On July 20, 1983, he married Donna Pearl Kendall Winnings who survives.

Also surviving are three children, Rachel Riley, Michael Kendall, Melody Winnings; his grandchildren, Jabin Riley, Avery Riley, Daniel Winnings; several other grandchildren, several

brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, and his sister-in-law, Paulette Winnings.

Gene was preceded in death by a brother, Jim Winnings.

Gene was a former appliance repair technician for Thompson's in Worthington. He enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Cremation services were provided and no public services will be held. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com.

MARY MARIE SCALES GUMP

Mary Marie Scales Gump, 95, of Shinnston passed away at Crestview Manor, Jane Lew, WV, on February 13, 2021. She was born on November 30, 1925 to the late Sam Scales and Rose Minard Scales.

She is survived by her daughter, Debra Marie Gump of Shinnston WV; grandsons, Nathaniel M. Rose of Shinnston, Justin E. Rose and his wife Stephanie of Wilmington, NC; great-granddaughter, Mackenzie Erin Rose; sisters, Lucy Harbert and Katie Romeo both of Ravenswood, WV, along with several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Mary was preceded in death by her husband Arnie E. Gump; son, Gary Lynn Gump; granddaughter, Erin Saza Rose; great-grandson, Blake Edward Rose; sisters, Betty Lopez, Rose Rotunda, Sara Campbell and Flora Scales.

Mary worked at Sears Department Store for many years and was a member of St. Ann's Catholic church, The American Legion Post 31 Auxiliary, Senior Citizens and Nutrition Center of Shinnston. She enjoyed quilting, crafting, baking and collecting antiques.

A funeral service was held on February 19, 2021 at Harmer Funeral Home with Father Chris Turner officiating. Interment was at the Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at www.harmerfuneralhome.com

ROBERTA SUE GANOE AYERS

Roberta Sue (Ganoë) Ayers, 61 of Haywood,

Albert "Pap" Bailey, who together were raising her grandson, Branson.

She was born on February 25, 1959 in Clarksburg, WV to the late Wilco E. Ganoë and the late Nida Del (Baker) Ganoë.

Roberta, known to everyone as "Bertie" or "Bert", was a 1977 graduate of Lumberport High School. She was also a graduate of the Clarksburg Beauty Academy.

She went to work at Connie's Cottage in Haywood, WV. After Connie's passing, she opened up her own beauty shop, Roberta's Hair Salon. Her customers were very dear friends and she thought the world of them.

Roberta loved her family and she assumed the role as the Matriarch of her family. She kept everyone together and her door was always open. All the holidays, phone calls, stopping by for a cup of coffee, sitting on the porch, she always made you feel welcome. She enjoyed sewing, crocheting, cooking and baking.

Roberta is survived by her children; Sam Ganoë and his children, Dominick, Isabella, Lillyana and his companion Tanya and her daughter Izabella of Barrickville, WV; Johnna Markley and her son Branson of Haywood, WV; siblings, Denise (Danny) Bennett, Belinda (Suzie) Sappington, Donald (Maria) Ganoë, Tammie (Danny) Heflin and Pauline (Binky) Collins. She was also survived by very special nieces and nephews; Daniel "Tink" (Carla) Bennett, Amber Ganoë, Matthew Ganoë, Ty (Ali) Collins, Barry Baker, Dennis Baker and Bobby Baker; brother-in-law, Robert Ayers; her special partner

over 25 years, and also coached Bridgeport Girls Softball for 10 years.

Funeral services will be held at Amos Carvelli Funeral Home on February 12, 2021 with Reverend David Hulme officiating. Interment was in the Floral Hills Memorial Gardens.

LINDA MARIE DEMARK

Linda Marie DeMark, 79 of Nutter Fort, passed away on February 11, 2021 at United Hospital Center, Bridgeport. Linda was born on April 26, 1941, in Morgantown, WV, a daughter of the late Ray Hardin and Cecil Virginia Merriner Fowler.

Linda is preceded in death by her husband, Sandy "Bud" DeMark Jr., on April 24, 2020 and whom she married on October 14, 1960.

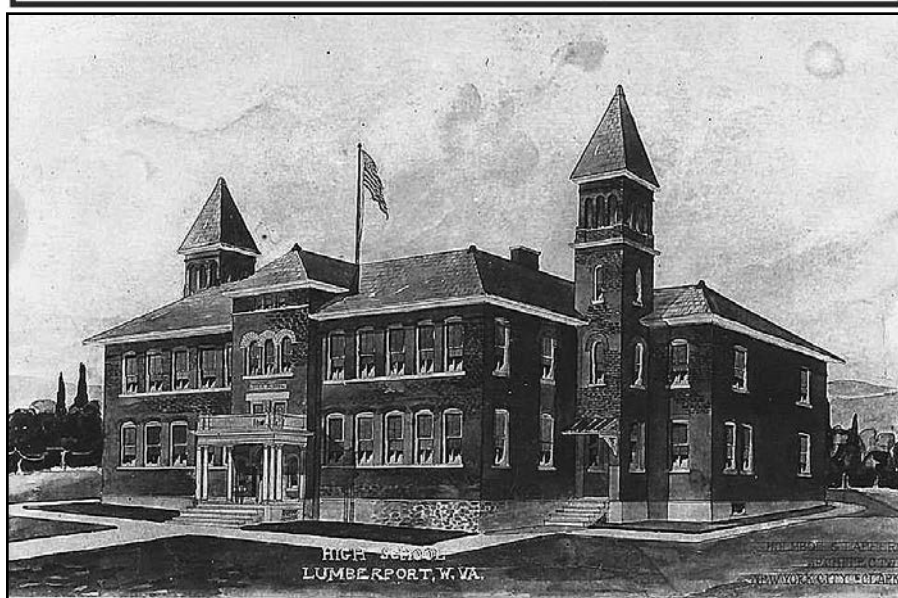
Linda is survived by her daughter, Sandra DeMark of Stonewood; two sons, Joe DeMark of Nutter Fort and Greg DeMark of Stonewood; two grandchildren, Jessica Hall of Oklahoma and Michelle Williams of Stonewood; great-granddaughter, Alexandria Hall of Oklahoma; one sister, Sally Hardman, Nutter Fort, Larry Fowler, Jacksonville, NC, Terry Fowler and Monique, Fayetteville, NC; as well as several nieces and nephews.

Linda worked for twenty plus years at Thorofare Grocery and Nutter Fort Foodland. The family requests memorial donations be made in her honor to the Nutter Fort Fire Department, 1415 Buckhannon Pike, Clarksburg, WV 26301.

A private graveside service will be held at Floral Hills Memorial Gardens. Online condolences can be made at www.davisfuneralhomewv.com.

Out Of The Past

Memorable Photographs from around Harrison County.



The old high school building at Lumberport. Burned down in 1924 and replaced 1928. Photo courtesy of Bobby Bice.

WV passed away on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at United Hospital Center.

She was born on February 25, 1959 in Clarksburg, WV to the late Wilco E. Ganoë and the late Nida Del (Baker) Ganoë.

Roberta, known to everyone as "Bertie" or "Bert", was a 1977 graduate of Lumberport High School. She was also a graduate of the Clarksburg Beauty Academy.

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WANTED: DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MEDIA AT WVU

The Division of Student Life at West Virginia University is seeking applications for a Director of Student Media. This position reports to the executive director of Student Enrichment and is responsible for the management, budgeting, staffing and successful operation of the Daily Athenaeum, U92 The Moose and Prospect and Price Creative.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree in Journalism and/or Communications or related field, or equivalent combination of education and related experience. A minimum of six (6) years of experience involving: Print or broadcast journalism Design and development of a communications plan Budgeting and supervising a staff Experience working in the higher education setting preferred Editing, budgeting, excellent interpersonal and social skills Ability to perform assessments to determine program effectiveness Experience leading a news organization through change, creating innovative and experimental coverage.

REQUIREMENTS

- Valid driver's license Resume Letter of Interest

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WVU is proud to be an Equal Opportunity employer and is the recipient of an NSF ADVANCE award for gender equity. WVU values diversity among its faculty, staff, and students, and invites applications from all qualified applicants regardless of race, ethnicity, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, nationality, genetics, disability, or Veteran status.

ANSWERS

Crossword puzzle grid with answers filled in. Words include: HORSE, UVEAS, BELLPEPPER, REINA, JUAN, ASRA, MENS, SANGTO, EMILY, TYPE, ARMPIT, AIRSPEED, GLOOM, ALAN, RED, GASSE, NATHAN, ELLA, OLAV, NYSE, ARAB, LADY, LOVE, SNAPTO, REASHENSTEETH, SKI, IAM, TWAS, POWS, WAF, TS, PEP, S, INURE, CMLI, STRIP, LAUD, VEI, S, TRANGE, TEABAG, TEM, FIDE, FO, FEVIL, REDOLENT, DIVERT, BAIT, SA, YNO, RADER, LID, S, S, PAL, APSOS, BLUERINGED, OCTOPUS, CURSER, LETA, COIT, ERICS, SEE, ADOCTOR, SA, I, MERLE, STUD, ASADA



“WV Ties For Best State In Which To Retire” cont. from p.6

destination ultimately comes down to personal priorities, concerns, and circumstances.

Tied for number one, Iowa and West Virginia might not come to the top of mind for retirement havens, but both score exceptionally high in a variety of cost-related factors — an appealing trait for financially-conscious retirees.

Iowa offers retirees a strong economy — boasting the third-lowest unemployment rate in the country — which may appeal to seniors looking for part-time work after

they’ve retired from their primary career. The Hawkeye State also has an extensive nursing care facility network with large capacities to support the state’s older population.

West Virginia leads in affordability with its overall cost of living

— 9.1% below the national average — and the third-lowest healthcare costs in the country. Residents in the Mountain State also have the benefit of the fifth-lowest average property tax burden in the country.

The top ten best states

to retire in are:

- 1. (tie) Iowa and West Virginia 2. (tie) Arkansas and Mississippi 3. (tie) Florida and Kentucky 4. Connecticut 5. Missouri 6. (tie) Alabama and Rhode Island

LEGAL NOTICES

(2019-S-00000009 - Harrison County - JACQUELINE CLOSSON)

To: RICKEY A. MYERS C/O DONNA MYERS ETAL *21, RICKEY A. MYERS, ESTATE OF RICKEY A. MYERS, DONNA MYERS, DONNIE MYERS, JR., DAVID MYERS, RONNIE MYERS, ROBERT TUCKER, TIM MYERS, TIM MYERS, DEVINA DURNERY, REBECCA RILEY, ERIC PAUL HENSIL, ADMINISTRATOR OF RICK MYERS ESTATE, CITY OF CLARKSBURG OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, CITY OF CLARKSBURG COLLECTION DEPARTMENT, ARROW FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC ASIGNEE OF FIRST NORTH AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK PAUL ATKINS, ARROW FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC, CT CORPORATION SYSTEM, COMMERCIAL CREDIT CORP., CITIFINANCIAL, INC., CITIFINANCIAL SERVICES INC., CITIFINANCIAL INC., CITIFINANCIAL SERVICES INC, CT CORPORATION SYSTEM, AMERICAN GENERAL FINANCE, INC. A CORP., ONE MAIN FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC, ARROW FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC, ARROW FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC ATTN: LEGAL DEPT., ONE MAIN FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC, AMERICAN GENERAL FINANCE INC, ONE MAIN FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC, AMERICAN GENERAL FINANCE, INC., 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 an interest in the subject property.

You will take notice that JACQUELINE CLOSSON, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2019-S-00000009, 1 LOT 17 A W PRITCHARD UPLAND GROVE (1421 N 18T ST), located in COAL CLARKSBURG CORP, which was returned delinquent in the name of MYERS RICKY A, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Harrison County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 7th day of November, 2019, 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, 2021, 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, 2021, will be as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description of tax/fee and Amount. Includes: Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2021. (\$ 517.42); Amount of subsequent year's taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2021. (\$ 393.80); Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2020, following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021. (\$ 840.84); Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021. (\$ 1,598.00); Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Robert Matheny, Sheriff and Treasurer of Harrison County. (\$ 3,350.06); Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor. (\$ 35.00)

You may redeem any time before March 31, 2021, by paying the above total less any unearned interest. Return this letter and both certified funds to the WV State Auditor's Office, County Collection Division 1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2

“Citizen Of The Month” cont. from p. 1

Guardians resigned and Ceisla took over the reins. Originally formed in 1997, the Guardians of the West Fork River’s goal was to Maintain the ecological integrity of the river through sampling. Ciesla noted that there was a lot of acid mine drainage at the time.

Work was done by others that improved the water quality of Elk Creek and ultimately impacted the West Fork River. Ciesla commented, “The water empties into the West Fork River below the Clarksburg Water Board intake, but we all live downstream as they say.”

Although technically retired, Ciesla says he spends 30-40 hours a week doing work for the Guardians; they do not have a paid staff. “I expected to do volunteer work when I retired and now, I’m working to clean up the West Fork,” he stated.

He had worked with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) throughout his career and now works with the DEP regarding remediation work on projects and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for fish and wildlife issues.

The West Fork River contains 74 water miles running from Stonewall Jackson Dam to Fairmont where the West Fork meets the Tygart River. One of the Guardians’ most successful projects has been the West Fork River water trail.

“The foray into water recreation brings people of all ages out,” remarked Ciesla. “Try This WV, for example, is a family-oriented network and is aimed at health, exercise and getting people on the water, and this includes Float the Fork,” he said.

H noted that while not held in 2020 due to the pandemic, the Guardians are hopeful that this highly successful activity will return for 2021.

“It may not be on June 5, which is National Trails Day, but we’re hoping to hold it later in the summer,” he said.

Sally Egan, secretary of the Guardians of the West Fork River board of directors, added, “John devotes a lot of time and effort to his work with the Guardians. He stepped up to the plate and gets the job done ... and posts a lot on social media that keeps the Guardians’ work in the forefront.”

As a watershed group, the Guardians do a lot of projects and get both state and federal funding. Although much work has been done, Ciesla said the West Fork is still classified as ‘impaired’ because not enough iron can be removed from the river.

He also noted that the group hopes to have some baffles added and increased wetlands along the river and are planning to widen ponds, adding, “we’re consulting with an expert to see what can be done to improve the water quality.”

The Guardians applied for a water trail designation for the West Fork River in 2015 and this was granted by the WV Department of Transportation in 2016. The group can also apply for federal funding for this project. They have worked with the DNR in developing access to family-friendly areas along the river such as near Good Hope and West Milford.

“I’ve met with officials from the town of Shinnston in the past and would like to have a site access near the bridge there. An area with a

pavilion and picnic tables could benefit both water enthusiasts and bikers on the Rail Trail,” Ciela added.

Guardians board member Al Cox said, “John makes it happen and dives deeply into every project. He makes our job as board members easy. I respect his leadership,” Cox said. “He’s well informed, well read and a go getter.”

Some of the goals Ciesla has set for the Guardians for 2021 include planning to redesign Site 7 on Lamberts Run, apply and complete funding for Site 2 on Lamberts Run, assess the health of the West Fork through surveying and sampling, participate in a program to introduce more people to the paddling sports which is being facilitated by Try This WV, and working with the WV DNR to develop boat access sites along the West Fork Water Trail.

Ciesla spearheads the group’s efforts during cleanups and will work with other groups for a major tire cleanup near Jackson’s Mill and also plans to participate in the Make It Shine program in April, saying cleanup is a major part of their work.

Ciesla described the fishability on the West Fork River as ‘good’ and it has really come along since the removal of the dams. It is no wonder that Ciesla can be found fishing in his free time but as he noted, he does not get to fish as much as he would like!

He encourages anyone who is interested in gaining additional information on the Guardians of the West Fork River to contact the group through social media platforms or email guardians.westfork@gmail.com.

Do you want government taking more control?



Elected officials are looking to make big changes

The West Virginia Legislature is considering taking Harrison County legal ads and public notices out of The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal and onto a state government-controlled website in Charleston.

- Delinquent tax lists Government budgets Property sales Government financial statements Election ballots Zoning changes and other public notices Voting changes Tax increases Project bids Family court

Contact your legislator today and tell them you want your legal ads and public notices in The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal:

- Patrick Martin (304) 357-7845 patrick.martin@wvsenate.gov Mike Romano (304) 357-7904 mike.romano@wvsenate.gov Danny Hamrick (304) 340-3141 danny.hamrick@wvhouse.gov Laura Kimble (304) 340-3102 laura.kimble@wvhouse.gov Ben Queen (304) 340-3171 ben.queen@wvhouse.gov Clay Riley (304) 340-3144 clay.riley@wvhouse.gov

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Good Health Guide

Let's Learn ... What is Hygge?

Words of Wellness

By Jill Fratto

Life and Health Coach

jillfratto@gmail.com

www.mindbodysuccessacademy.com

Twitter: @JillFrattoCoach



As I type the title of this article, I don't know myself what Hygge is. I asked my husband for inspiration for my article this month, to ensure variety in my discussion. I got what I asked for. So I will learn along with you and we will explore this concept together.

First of all, it isn't pronounced the way it looks. It is pronounced "who ga" It is a Danish word that has become quite popular in the US over the past few years. According to one of the videos I watched, last year, it was shortlisted as the Oxford Dictionary

word of the year. So what is it then? And why is it gaining so much hype? I can tell you it is fitting for the 20 degree weather we are having. Hygge is the art of being consciously cozy. It may also be described as the art of creating a cozy atmosphere, according to Meik Wiking, Author of The Little Book of Hygge.

Hygge can be characterized as a lifestyle or a philosophy. It centers around finding happiness through

everyday moments and even indulgences. Think drinking hot chocolate in front of a cozy fire, cuddling up with a good book in your favorite blanket, or even eating that piece of cake and just truly enjoying it rather than counting the calories. But, let's take it a level deeper.

Hygge's true intention is to help you slow down and appreciate, so that life doesn't pass you by. It is about moments of groundedness, when

you truly listen to others and see with your heart. I think being in a small town and even a small state, we may get to experience this more than others. Because everything and everyone is connected in some way, we feel more of each other's pain as well as celebrate each other's victories.

I think we can all learn from Hygge as we are still in the slower phase of life as we emerge from this Pandemic. Rather than feeling

disappointed in the weather or cooped up in our houses, perhaps we can enjoy one more cup of tea or linger longer with our families after dinner. Slowing down can be intentional versus feeling like a barrier. I hope you enjoyed learning about Hygge as much as I did. I plan on exploring it more as I cozy up in my pajamas and my phone buzzes a warning of yet another winter storm.

Stay warm and healthy!

WVU Medicine United Hospital Center Updates Patient, Visitor Guidelines



As the number of COVID-19 cases has fallen in many North Central West Virginia counties, WVU Medicine United Hospital Center (UHC) finds it necessary to increase the daily visitation hours from 7 am to 7 pm, beginning

Monday, February 22. We appreciate your continued cooperation and patience during this time.

General guidelines for visitation continue to include, but are not limited to the following: All visitors above the age of two must wear a

mask at all times, and will be screened upon entering the facility. Please continue to maintain a distance of 6 feet apart and use hand sanitizer before entering.

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all times, and will be screened upon entering the facility. Please continue to maintain a distance of 6 feet apart and use hand sanitizer before entering.

- All visitors must be at least 16 years of age.
- All visitors

must be screened; if screening is positive, visitation is not permitted.

- Visitation is not permitted for COVID-19-positive patients and COVID-19 persons under investigation (PUIs) (there are some exceptions for pediatric patients).

- All visitors will receive and must wear a visitor badge.

- Approved visitors for inpatient locations will be confirmed at a site-specific Welcome Desk.

- Visitors are to stay in the room at all times and not travel to common areas.

UHC is encouraging all adult patients to attend their clinic appointments alone. In an effort to minimize the number of people entering its hospitals

and clinics, WVU Medicine is requesting that, when possible, family members and friends stay at home or wait in their vehicles in the clinic parking lot during adult patient appointments. Patients are asked not to arrive to their appointment more than 15 minutes early.

Visitation of adult patients admitted to our hospitals is limited to one approved adult visitor at designated times; visitors are not allowed to exit building and return in same day. Two visitors are permitted for pediatric patients.

Exceptions to visitation will be made based on patient condition and on a case-by-case basis by the department leader and/or house supervisor



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Dr. H.M. "Hank" Murray III
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As we progress towards flu season, it is important to realize the need for vaccination-especially to the vulnerable age groups. This includes any child 6 months and older as well as the elderly over 65 and anyone who is immunocompromised. Some simple tips to help prevent the spread of the influenza virus beyond vaccinating include covering your cough or sneeze appropriately and proper hand washing. In addition, if you feel ill, you should stay home and avoid contact with other individuals to prevent the spread of infection. If you have not received your influenza vaccine for this flu season, please contact MVA in Shinnston today so you can get immunized.

Krista Flesher, FNP-BC



1 Columbia Road • Shinnston, WV 26431 • 304.592.1040

"Pet Adventurers Unite" Cont. from p. 6

dogs on some of their trails! After a long day of skiing, when Sparky is exhausted, make sure to check out their amazing organic cafe.

Cranberry Glades Wilderness-The New River Gorge's most famous hike, Endless Wall, has gotten pretty popular since being voted the best National Park trail by USA Today, and sometimes the weekend crowds may be a bit much for dogs. Consider the equally awesome views of Long Point, on the other side of the gorge. An easy 2-3 mile trail will take you to an overlook

between the New River and Wolf Creek, with excellent views of the gorge and the massive arch bridge.

If Spot is people-friendly, consider stopping by the outdoor dining at Mackie's Biergarten (just across from the New River Gorge visitors center) afterward. It's also easy to find pet-friendly cabins in the area!

Gauley River-At most summer river levels, the Gauley River's "Perfect Wave" is an excellent beginner spot to try stand-up paddleboard (SUP) surfing. And your dog will love it, too, with plenty of

pools to jump in and flat, sunny rocks to lounge on after he's worn himself out.

Dolly Sods North-At around 12 miles, this is a longer hike, so make sure that Bingo (and you) are in shape and have a lot of energy. Still, if you are up for the beautiful Dolly Sods North loop, you and Rex will be rewarded with wide open meadows for romping around in, and some of the nicest high mountain views in the East.

The Greenbrier River-It's not all about hiking with some dogs. If Pooch loves water and is able to

relax a bit, consider taking him on a river trip. They even make lifejackets for dogs, believe it or not! The Greenbrier has more than 100 miles of flatwater and easy splashy rapids up to Class II through beautiful forests, perfect for putting a dog in that canoe or inflatable kayak.

Cranberry Glades Wilderness-The Cranberry Wilderness is one of the largest roadless areas east of the Mississippi, with open fields, beautiful rivers and thick forests. One of the more accessible trails of the area is an old railroad grade that follows the

splashy, stately Williams River for a dozen miles, through thick stands of trees and ferns. There are plenty of spots for Fido to jump in and cool off in the

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“Cycling Community” cont. from p. 5

Along with his bike shop, which has already brought in customers from all over the country, Martin has managed to bring cyclists from far and wide to the City of Shinnston to ride along the hand-built trails he has developed. He says

West Virginia’s rough and gravelly terrains make the trails some of the most challenging and physically demanding on the entire East Coast. Martin has also organized gravel races on the trails which he says will continue to bring more

people to Shinnston.

Martin says that owning a business in Shinnston has given him an awesome and rewarding feeling.

“I’m absolutely proud to own a shop here in Shinnston,” he added. “I’m born and raised here

and I want to see good things happen. I think it’s awesome to see such a cool and unique sport finally making its way to Shinnston.”

Martin has also purchased more property here in the community and eventually pans to move the bike shop to that larger area. Upon moving to the new location – still in the downtown’s main thoroughfare – he plans to open a one-of-a-kind coffee shop that he says is in high demand from

his customers.

“We get people who come into the shop from all over and they’re always asking where is the nearest cool place to get a bite to eat, the nearest microbrewery, or a spot for a good cup of coffee. Right now we don’t have many places like that in Shinnston,” Martin said.

One thing Martin hopes to eventually see is more locals taking an interest in the sport of cycling.

Pike Street Bikes, located at 215 Pike Street, is a truly unique local business and the services they provide cannot be found anywhere else for miles. They are open Mon-Wed and Fridays from noon until 6 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; closed on Sundays. Their inventory is in high demand and constantly changing. Be sure to stop in at Pike Street Bikes and immerse yourself in the sport of cycling!

“Parks & Rec” cont. from p.6

are a few out there that could probably draw their pension these days. The faces change every season, but the memories of all appear to tell a consistent story.

One former summer staff employee told me that this was some of their best years. To work for Mr. Book was an enjoyable experience and to this day they would tell him that in passing. With all the different park sites and all those summers, you can imagine the number of kids who can say that their first job was working for Parks and Recreation. They

are your bank managers, pharmaceutical sales reps, health inspectors, teachers, engineers and many more. And, many have added a letter of recommendation from Book as an additive to their resume for their career jobs. He cares about all his employees and their show of respect, even if it is from 40 years ago.

The parks job is not only a first job for many of you, but it can be a life-changer for those who really embrace it. You are responsible for a group of kids that looks up to you as the role model that they

do not have at home and the time you spend with them does make a lasting impression in their lives.

I normally end the interviews telling the applicants how many of the parks kids who are adults now come to Book and thank him for running a wonderful program and that their kids are enrolled in the program now.

We look for those who want to make a difference in a child’s life, so, think about that when you apply. Please contact the office for an application or have one emailed to you.

“January Responses” cont. from p. 5

The breakdown of those calls included:

- 36 Medical Emergencies
- 2 Service Calls (for trees down, lines down, flooding, etc.)
- 2 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 9 Structure Fires
- 1 Brush Fire
- 5 Automatic Fire Alarms

A family can never quite fully understand the value of having a trained Volunteer Fire Department in their midst until the need for service is their own! When the opportunity presents itself, be sure to express your gratitude for the time, skills, and service of these local dedicated volunteers!

“The Caputo Family” cont. from p. 5

Teresa Abruzzino and they had three children, namely: Rocco born in 1902, Francesca Orsola born in 1908, and Francesco Francis born in 1910. The wife and family stayed in Italy and arrived here in 1914. What courage it must have taken for Domenico to get on a steamship and travel on the Atlantic Ocean for over two weeks to America. The cost of a steerage (3rd class) ticket in the early 1900’s was \$30 to travel 4,200 nautical miles from Naples, Italy to New York. Imagine the strength of Maria (Abruzzino) Caputo to make that voyage here later with three children aged 11, 6 and 3.

By 1920 the family was living in Shinnston, West Virginia and Domenico was a cobbler with his shop located on Pike Street-near Main. The family lived above the shop. By that time, another child had been born. His name was Patsy, born in 1915. The family was still at that location in 1930, but by 1940 they resided at 73 Maloy Court in Shinnston.

The description of Domenico Caputo for the World War I draft registration was tall, stout, black hair, dark black eyes. By the draft in World War II, his description was 5’7” tall and weighing 175 pounds.

Three of their children graduated from Clay District High School. Orsola graduated in 1928. She went on to college for two years and became a second and third grade teacher at Wyatt Grade School. She never married. Rocco followed his father as a cobbler/

shoemaker/shoe repairer and was in business for himself in Charleston, WV. Frank graduated in 1929. He lettered in football and basketball and was active in the Shakespeare Club while there. He completed two years of college and was a Staff Sergeant in the Army Reserve from 1942-1945. He became a salesman for a beverage company in Charleston, WV. He married Beatrice Lane Gibbons of Mannington, WV. The youngest of the Caputo children, Patsy, graduated in 1933. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II from 1942-1946. After he returned from the Army, he had a quonset hut across from Shinnston High School for a couple of years that featured fast food.

Shinnston became home to many of the Italian immigrants. They brought with them their culture which focused on arts, music, family, and hard work. Their celebrations centered around food which included wine, cheese, and pasta. They taught other cultures how to make flavorful foods. Their patriotism was well-known.

Shinnston Italian families had several sons who served this country in World War II as the Caputo sons did. The Book, Tate, Belcastro and Romeo families were blue star families because they had several sons who served in war. To my knowledge, their sons lived to return home and serve our community in businesses, politics, and social organizations.

“A Good Book” cont. from p. 5

generation.

I read this 400-page book in two days—it is one you’ll hate to finish!

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY - March 2, 2021 - is a day to celebrate one of our favorite activities - reading. The day was established by the NEA in 1998 to help get kids excited about reading.

The day occurs each year on the birthday of children’s book author

Dr. Seuss, so it’s a perfect day to don a Seuss hat and read one of his famous tales, like One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish. We plan to read his books and celebrate the joy of reading on March 2nd! Join us on Facebook. Who knows, he might just pop in to visit!

BEST SELLERS available for check-out at this time include: “The Four Winds” by Kristin Hannah; “The Vanishing

Half” by Brit Bennett; “Where The Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens; “A Time For Mercy” by John Grisham; and “The Return” by Nicholas Sparks.

NEW LARGE PRINT selections now available include: “In The Lion’s Den” by Barbara Taylor Bradford; “Miss Janie’s Girls” by Carolyn Brown; “Hold on Tight” by S. Gray; “Head Over Heels” by H. Orenstain; “Cobble Hill” by C. Von Ziegesar; “Cross Her Heart” by Melinda Leigh; “Texas Proud” by Diana Palmer; “Hometown Hero” by Liza Kendall; “Lizzie’s Heart” by S. Simpson; “Morning Star” by C. Hubbard; “Family for Beginners” by Sarah Morgan; “Lock and a Horse” by Max Brand; “To Avenge a Ranger” by J. Griffin; “A Thousand Texas Longhorns” by J. Boggs; and “Devil’s Due” by James Clay.

While COVID is still keeping us from doing some of the things we might like to do ... and the weather is cold and snowy, turn to reading a good book to pass the time. Step out of your own world and into the world of your favorite author’s characters. Stop in and let us help you with your selection – OR – if you feel uncomfortable entering our library due to the pandemic situation, call us at 304-592-1700; you can remain in your warm car and we’ll gladly deliver checkouts to you curbside.

“Hatfield & McCoy’s”

cont. from p.6

Ivy Branch Trail System - located just 20-minutes from West Virginia’s capital city of Charleston - offers real adventure for riders of full-sized, off-road vehicles like Jeeps and land cruisers along with ATVs, UTVs and dirt bikes.

The Little Coal River can be seen at several points along the 50 plus mile Ivy Branch Trail and a new Hatfield-McCoy boat launch for canoes and kayaks is accessible from the trail and County Road 14/1 off of Route 3 West.

There’s plenty of parking at the trailhead

and permits and merchandise are available. And coming soon - 6 new cabins available for rental. Other accommodations include the Ivy Branch Resort, Pappy’s Cabin and Mountain Mama’s Lodging - just off the trails. Nearby, the town of Madison welcomes visitors and offers a glimpse of its historic past at its fascinating Coal Heritage Museum.



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A discount of 2 ½ % will be allowed on all second half payments received or postmarked by Monday, March 1, 2021. Tax reminder notices will not be mailed this is your only notice. Please call our office for the amount due at 304-624-8685. To expedite the collection of taxes, please bring or mail your tax statements with your payment. All 2020 taxes will be delinquent and subject to publication if not paid by April 30, 2021. Thank you.

ROBERT G. MATHENY
SHERIFF & TREASURER
HARRISON COUNTY

“GSC Celebrates 149 Years” cont. from p. 4

body, faculty and staff, alumni, and the surrounding Gilmer County community. Today we look back and remember our storied past while also imagining an even brighter future with the renewed optimism that milestones like this bring to mind.”

In recognition of the 2021 anniversary, the West Virginia Senate adopted a resolution on Friday that recognized Glenville State College’s 149th year. Senators David Stover (R-9th District), Patricia Rucker (R-16th District), and Mike Romano (D-12th District) all took the opportunity to speak in support of the resolution and of Glenville State College. Stover is a 1977 Glenville State graduate.

Coinciding with GSC’s Founders Day, the Glenville State College Advancement Office also organized its annual Day of Giving. The event allows for celebration and fundraising for a variety of projects that support student scholarships, academic departments, athletic programs, and more. The fundraising goal was \$149,000 in recognition of 149 years.

Faculty, staff, and students also enjoyed cupcakes and a display of historic documents and photos from the GSC Archives as part of the day’s celebration.

The history exhibit, in part, included an excerpt from an 1873 correspondence to the Weston Democrat.

The writer said, “No place on earth

could have been found more suitable for the establishment of the State Normal School than Glenville. The place is retired, healthy, and possesses every qualification requisite for a place of study and thought. The inhabitants are civil, moral, refined, religious, and generous to a fault. The landscape around Glenville beggars description: the beautiful verdant hills, with ragged rocks jutting out in some places as though it was the hand-work of some skillful artist, the innumerable birds various plumage warbling forth their many songs; gurgling brooks, whose ever flowing streams are babbling over the varieties of rock which form their beds; the roar of the mighty waters of the Little Kanawha River as it tumbles over the massive dam which obstructs its passage; together with the sweet music which is discoursed by the Glenville Band on a bright, moonlight night...”

With only slight updates, what was written those many years ago could be written again in 2021. Glenville State College has never wavered from its mission to serve the people of central West Virginia. The Lighthouse on the Hill remains a beacon for those seeking to continue their education, to better themselves and their families, and to contribute to the greater good.

For more information about Glenville State College, contact the College’s Office of Admissions at admissions@glenville.edu or call (800) 924-2010.