

Home Style Eagerly Awaits Move To New Location ... IN SHINNSTON!

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

When word first began to circulate that Home Style was moving, many people were more than a little disappointed, not favoring the loss of one of Shinnston’s most popular retail businesses. Owner Amanda Sayers is setting the record straight ... yes, Home Style will be moving in the near future, but the move will not be a distant one. The new location will only take customers down a couple of blocks and across Pike Street to the former bakery location known as The Sweet Spot.

about the move although it is turning out to involve more than she had first anticipated. “The original plan was to completely renovate the new site, but after closer inspection, a lot of cracks were found in the block walls and when ceilings were torn out and wiring was exposed, it was determined to be unsafe,” Sayers stated. “So plans changed to a teardown and total rebuild.” The property was purchased by Randal and Kim Nuzum, and with Mr. Nuzum’s experience, he began to see how many flaws were covered up as the interior was more closely examined. “That building was originally a gas station

back in the 1950’s and later two block extensions were added which enlarged it quite a bit. But as we were able to tear things out, there were just too many things to fix, and bringing a building with that much age up to code would likely have been more costly than starting over so that is what we decided to do,” Nuzum said. “It will be more energy efficient and there will be no worries about further problems in the future.” Nuzum Enterprises is handling the demolition and will be doing the construction as well, with framing assistance from the Cook Bros. Sayers added that although this change in plans will push her

move-in date forward to ‘hopefully’ September, it will be worth the wait. “I may not have a lot more room, but it will be a better layout and will all be connected. I will continue to do the urban pop-up markets, but it will all be under one roof then. And one of the biggest draws for this change in location will be more convenient parking along the building’s frontage. It will be much safer for customers getting in and out of their vehicles without the concern of closely passing traffic,” she continued. Home Style’s merchandise will remain largely the same without straying from the current style. **Continued on Page 3**



Most of the equipment has been removed from the interior of the former bakery on Pike Street, and as is visible here, you will continue to see more and more of the building’s façade being demolished. Upon completion, Home Style’s new site promises to give the local business community a fabulous facelift!

Lord’s Pantry Grateful For Two Generous Corporate Donations Recently Received



Volunteers at The Lord’s Pantry have become experts at organization, something that makes their distribution days run like a well-oiled machine!

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

Statistics show that for the past year, thousands and thousands of people in the U.S. are facing hunger and needing to visit food pantries. For

many of them, it may be for the first time. According to ‘Feeding America’, in the early days of the COVID crisis, four in ten people were first-time food bank visitors seeking help. This was due to **Continued on Page 9**

UHC Once Again Named To Fortune/IBM Watson Health™ 100 Top Hospitals List



United Hospital Center (UHC) has been named to the Fortune/IBM Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals list in the teaching hospital category. This is the **third time that UHC** has been recognized with this honor as one of the top performing teaching hospitals in the United States. It is also the second consecutive year that UHC has been named a 100 Top Hospital. The annual list was published by Fortune. IBM Watson Health® has identified the top hospitals from a rigorous evaluation of 2,675 short-term, acute care, non-federal

hospitals in the United States. The annual list recognizes excellence in clinical outcomes, operational efficiency, patient experience, and financial health. IBM Watson Health established the list to help identify best practices that may help other healthcare organizations achieve consistent, balanced, and sustainable high performance. This year’s ranking of top hospitals also introduces a measure of hospitals’ contributions to community health with a focus on equity developed by a team of experts at the Johns Hopkins Center for

Health Equity and the Bloomberg American Health Initiative at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. For the ranking, hospitals were surveyed across three components: 1) assessing hospital contributions to community health as a provider of critical services for community health and preventive care; 2) identifying ways that hospitals contribute to community health as a community partner teaming up with local organizations to implement critical programs; and 3) focusing on ways that hospitals promote community health through their practices as anchor institutions supporting local economic and social progress. Hospitals received credit for

meeting a certain number of best practice standards in each component as part of the survey scoring and the new measure led to a change in ranking for more than one-third of the 100 hospitals. “The nation’s 100 Top Hospitals are proving that a continuous focus on quality to achieve top performance benchmarks can improve outcomes and reduce costs, and more importantly, saves lives and healthcare dollars,” said Dr. Mark Povroznik, vice president of Quality at UHC. “UHC’s patient-centered focus is at the heart of everything we do; coupled with the hard work and tireless dedication of our physicians, nurses, and staff. It is why patients travel several hours **Continued on Page 3**

Police Reform



Building Amazing Cities
By JIM HUNT
author, speaker, consultant

I doubt few people would argue that policing has not been on the forefront in the news and that incidents like the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis have fueled increased debate on what the future of policing will look like in America. As someone who has worked on the policy side of the policing issue for much of my life, I believe we are seeing the results of many years of societal change without substantial change in how we do policing. We have also seen an explosion in technology, with police body cameras becoming more prevalent and cell phones in the hands of citizens ready to record even the most minor incident involving the police. What this means is that without a new look at policing, we are doomed to repeating mistakes of the past.

One of the key differences in policing over the past thirty-five years has been the increased duties placed on the back of our local police officers. When large mental institutions were closed across the country many years ago, local police officers were faced with an increasing homeless population, with little to no resources to deal with the issue. **Continued on Page 4**

Do You Have A Missing Economic Impact Payment?

You Need To File A 2020 Tax Return

According to Kimberly Stephens, Public Affairs Specialist for the Social Security Administration, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued the third round of Economic Impact Payments (EIPs) in April. Most Social Security beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients should have received their EIPs by now. If a person is missing their first or second EIP, they need to file a 2020 tax return with the IRS and claim the 2020 Recovery Rebate Credit (RRC) as soon as possible. Anyone who did not receive his or her EIP, or the full amount of

their EIP, should please read this carefully. To get any missing first or second EIPs, file a 2020 tax return with the IRS and claim the 2020 RRC immediately. People should file the 2020 tax return even if they have no income to report for 2020. When the tax return is processed, the IRS will pay the RRC as a tax refund. The IRS will send any additional EIP amount owed in 2021 separately. If you have already filed your 2020 tax return, you do not need

to do anything else. The IRS, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and the Bureau of the Fiscal Service disbursed nearly two million payments in the seventh batch of Economic Impact Payments from the American Rescue Plan. This brings the total disbursed so far to approximately 163 million payments, with a total value of approximately \$384 billion, since these payments began rolling out to Americans in

batches as announced on March 12th. The seventh batch of payments began processing on Friday, April 23rd, with an official payment date of April 28th, with some people receiving direct payments in their accounts earlier as provisional or pending deposits. More than 1.2 million payments, with a value of over \$3 billion, went to eligible individuals for whom the IRS previously did not have information to issue an **Continued on Page 3**



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Food For Thought

By Leigh Currey Merrifield

Editor

In Need Of Pleasant Dreams?

If you're having trouble sleeping, rest assured that you're not the only one! I have heard the same complaint from so many folks in conversation, and in fact, I can join in with the same grumble! So I've taken it upon myself to do some research, and apparently, we are not in the minority. From what I've read, about 62% of adult Americans are struggling with falling asleep at night. For some, it takes them up to an hour, and for others, they may fight all night long to get some shut-eye!

One of the top reasons is anxiety about the future (due to COVID), money woes, and rehashing all the things we didn't get done that needed to be done. Obviously, worry and sleep don't make good bed partners! We can't fight with the pillow all night long, so we need to start a practice of kicking all of our burdens out of bed when our head hits the pillow. Make a real effort to end every day with a positive thought and remember that no matter how hard things were today, tomorrow is a fresh opportunity to make it better ... but we're less likely to do that without proper rest.

Have you ever watched a child sleep? Of course, they are younger and have fewer concerns in their lives, and maybe that's why they seem to sleep so peacefully. Every time my granddaughter spends the night, she always wants to sleep with Nana. I never turn her down because we have nice talks at bedtime and she's still a cuddler. But when she kisses me good-night and says "I love you, Nana", it's LIGHTS OUT for her! I'm

always amazed at how quickly she succumbs to dreamland! I wish I could do that! But then, I also read that it is not uncommon for people over 60 to not have that ability.

Experts agree that most adults need an average of about 7 to 9 hours of sleep each night for optimal health AND to keep a more positive outlook. Not sleeping enough makes our brains more negative whether we realize it or not. In order to keep a level of happiness in our lives, being well-rested is an enormous help! AND, another finding suggested that it's not just the amount of sleep we get, but the timing of that sleep that is so very important. Humans, they say, are built for nighttime sleeping, so if you've gone without proper rest and crave a nap, be sure to nap early and not close to bedtime.

I thought it was interesting to note that there was a close association between people who kept a positive life outlook and the increased quality of their sleep. Happy people still have stressors in their lives just like everyone else, but they have established sleep habits that help them get a better quality of sleep no matter what else is happening in their lives.

Here are some things you want to avoid to help yield a more restful night's sleep:

Don't go to bed hungry, but don't eat right before you retire for the night. Have a small snack a couple of hours before bedtime so that your body has time to start the digestion process.

Avoid caffeine in the evenings; it can have a stimulating effect for 4-6 hours!

Light and noise can also affect your sleep, so you might try blackout curtains or wearing an eye mask to curb the light; wear earplugs or try using a white noise machine that offers soothing sounds.

DO NOT watch the clock; if you're having trouble falling asleep, watching the clock will only annoy you even more.

Avoid working prior to bedtime and put away the techy gadgets as well.

While reading can often be a relaxing distraction, be wary of reading a book that's too stimulating!

Getting some exercise in the fresh air is a good way to help wear yourself out, but be sure to get that exercise long before bedtime.

Yes, there are some sleeping disorders that might be the root of your problem (such as insomnia, sleep apnea, or restless leg syndrome), but if it is just a matter of shutting down your mind, take some "ME TIME" and try to focus on some deep breathing exercises, meditation, or prayer. Treat yourself to a warm, relaxing bath or even try turning your bedroom into a more sleep-inducing environment. And when your to-do list haunts you, remind yourself that there is always tomorrow ... and realize that there will ALWAYS be more to do! Think of sleep as an investment in the energy you need to be more effective tomorrow. Just some 'food for thought'

This week's dessert: "End the day with gratitude. There is someone, somewhere who has less than you and far more worries." ~ Zig Ziglar

REPEATED NOTES

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Synagogue leader

6 Mojave plant

11 Pinnacle

15 Czech-German river

19 — Island (former immigration gateway)

20 Carpentry rod

21 With 71-Across, act all-powerful

22 Usual thing

23 Many supermarket entrances

25 Glass sheet

26 Large mop

27 Ruhr article

28 With gusto

29 Chilean money

30 Kagan on the high bench

31 Big hit

32 Collect deserved benefits

34 Crime boss

37 Roll out, as a flag

40 Flood zone protections

41 Long strip of high-end shops along a road

44 — fi

46 Water swirl

47 Pottery base

48 Satire device

49 "Beetle" of comics

52 Jewel box contents

53 1986-2001 space station

54 Swell out

55 Lock horns

60 Mauna — Observatory

61 Uncles, e.g.

62 "Charlie's Angels" co-star

65 Notwithstanding

67 Jungle jaunts

68 More cruel

69 Many a metal alloy, chemically

71 See 21-Across

72 Turin-to-Milan dir.

73 Tendency

74 Like ruled

75 Part of ABA

76 24/7 care ctrs.

77 "Goodness!"

79 Singer Cole

81 Meat cut

83 Magnetism

87 Ireland's — Lingus

88 Bright blue gem

90 Book before Jeremiah

92 Semi engine

94 — beat (falter slightly)

95 What you can hear from an audible clock

98 Garbage

101 Put in a tomb

102 Torchiere, e.g.

103 Ineffective

105 Block of history

108 Fashion's von Fürstenberg

109 Cakewalk

110 Yoga pose with hands and feet on the floor

112 Artful dodge

113 Son of Adam and Eve

114 Fuse

115 "— Meenie" (2010 hit song)

116 Floored it

117 Nothing but

118 Swamp critter

119 Repeated musical sequence in this puzzle

DOWN

1 Funny Foxx

2 First-aid plant

3 Make fuzzy

4 Spill-catching neckwear

5 Like Iran's religion

6 — Ababa, Ethiopia

7 A genial mood

8 Missing GI

9 Really

10 Overhead trains

11 Magnetism

12 Purse part

13 Estate house

14 Face part

15 Place in bondage

16 Devalued

17 Not generic

18 Emissary's residence

24 Mendes of "Hitch"

29 For every

30 She-sheep

31 Doesn't go

32 Feel regret about

33 Novelist Wiesel

34 Truck and SUV maker

35 Common painting medium

36 Suitable to be bartered

38 Diarist Anaïs

39 Aviate

42 Restricts

43 Journalist Burnett

44 Audible exhalations

45 Musical symbol

49 Donkey

50 Writer Locke

51 Swerved

54 Interweave

56 Big TV brand

57 Bigharted

58 Knives, e.g.

59 To be, in Arles

60 Make it

61 Little buddy

62 Animal life

63 Succeeding

64 Ethically indifferent

66 Ruhr article

67 More artful

70 Antique, quaintly

71 Lassess

75 Made an intrinsic part of

76 "Popeye" cartoonist Segar

78 Violinist Hilary

79 Step in ballet

80 Oafish type

82 Actress Vardalos

83 People showing sympathy

84 Exhausting

85 Milk sugar

86 Analogized

88 Actor Bruce

89 Electric current units

91 Be televised

92 Chin feature

93 Bratty tot

96 Small world?

97 Less feral

99 Oar wielder

100 "This — surprise!"

103 Actress Chaplin of "Game of Thrones"

104 Tease

105 Saucy Aussie "Dame"

106 Stir up, as waters

107 "The African Queen" scriptwriter

109 He-sheep

110 Used a shovel

111 Yr. ender

Find the Super Crossword Answers on Page 8!

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Shinnston Harrison County

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Preserve Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance

Dear Editor: Congress is contemplating its next move on health care. As part of the American Rescue Plan Act, billions of dollars in subsidies are on their way to those who purchase individual coverage through the exchanges. Many lawmakers now want to turn to legislation that would create a public health insurance option. Most Americans get coverage for themselves and their families through their jobs. They like it. Under a public option, they could eventually lose it. One analysis of a

public option plan introduced in the House in 2019 found that it would have caused nearly one in four workers to lose employer-sponsored health coverage by 2023. By 2032, it would have deprived one in three of job-based coverage.

A public option would siphon people away from employer-sponsored insurance because it could provide coverage more cheaply than private insurers. Unlike private plans that must negotiate payment rates with healthcare providers, a public plan would have the power to dictate

the prices it would pay doctors and hospitals.

That's exactly what our nation's existing public health plans, Medicare and Medicaid, do. Total enrollment in the two programs approaches 140 million people. That means they insure more than two in five Americans.

With that kind of clout, Medicare and Medicaid significantly underpay providers. The two programs pay hospitals just 87 cents and 89 cents, respectively, for every dollar in cost they incur caring for the programs' beneficiaries. Those underpayments totaled

nearly \$76 billion in 2019.

Providers compensate by charging private insurers more. A study from the RAND Corporation found private health plans pay hospitals 247 percent of what Medicare would pay for the same service, on average.

Adding a low-paying public option to the mix would force providers to shift yet more of their costs onto private plans. Private insurers couldn't simply absorb those additional costs. Their margins are already thin. The cost of care eats up 80 percent to 90 percent of every premium

dollar. Higher costs for private insurers would mean higher premiums and deductibles for employers and patients.

Some employers would respond by dropping coverage and directing their employees to the public option. Privately insured individuals would do the same. And the cycle would repeat, until the public option had pushed private health plans out of the market. So adding a public option is not, as its proponents assert, a way to expand consumer choice or inject new competition into the health insurance market. Instead, it would reduce

consumers' choices and destroy the insurance market.

Employer-sponsored insurance has been at the heart of the U.S. healthcare system for decades. And it's popular. Seven in 10 people with job-based coverage give their plan a grade of "A" or "B," according to the Kaiser Family Foundation.

Congress should listen to these folks -- and not take any action that would harm our system of employer-sponsored health plans.

Sincerely,
Janet Trautwein,
CEO
National Association of Health Underwriters

Farm Bureau Scholarship Applications Now Available

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.

The Harrison County Farm Bureau would like to announce a \$1,000 scholarship is now available for Harrison county residents. High

Shoppers will still find vintage furniture, what is trending in the home décor market, curtains, rugs, greenery, lanterns, candles, etc. Sayers says she also plans to add some locally sourced merchandise at the new location.

"I also hope to bring the return of our furniture and painting classes, and we'll have a dedicated area for that," she said. "I'll have the same employees and shoppers will receive the same helpful, friendly customer service. I think the best way to describe this move would be to say we will offer the 'best of the old with the best of the new'.

And, yes, Home Style will still carry their paint line, which has been a BIG boost to the business. Amanda noted that from the beginning

to seek care at our facility. We are truly honored to be West Virginia's only 100 Top Hospital, again."

This recognition demonstrates UHC's ongoing commitment to prioritize patient-centered care. According to IBM Watson Health, as compared to similar hospitals, the hospitals included on the Fortune/IBM Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals list had better results on key clinical and operational performance indicators. These include survival rates,

school seniors and full-time college students enrolled in accredited agricultural fields of study whose family are members of the

of May until the end of 2021, the calendar for on-site cabinet and furniture painting is fully booked with some already waiting for a slot in 2022!

“Beverly Bell heads up this division for us and is doing a wonderful job at it. People are thrilled to have this ‘makeover’ performed right in their homes, and they have discovered that kitchen cabinetry, for example, can be redone for an entirely new look at a fraction of the cost of replacing it,” Amanda explained.

Anxious to get the ball rolling, Amanda began working with a merchandising team on new marketing designs for the new store, and brand new signage with a new logo was ordered and delivered prior to learning that the new store location was in such disrepair. The wheels are in

patient complications, healthcare associated infections, 30-day mortality and 30-day hospital-wide readmission rates, length of stay, throughput in emergency departments, inpatient expenses, profitability and ratings from patients.

“We are proud of all of the hospitals, health systems and their dedicated clinicians and staff included among the Fortune/IBM Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals,” said Irene Dankwa-Mullan, MD, MPH, Chief Health Equity

Harrison County Farm
Bureau are eligible
for this scholarship.
Applications are
available from any
Harrison County Farm

motion, and there will be plenty of excitement as time progresses. Home Style will likely be hosting some sales in the coming months aimed at getting rid of some older merchandise that they won't have to move. They may also have to close for a week or two to pack up and arrange things in the new location. She also hinted that there will be an extra special project that will be revealed when they have their grand re-opening celebration ... but you'll have to wait and see what that is. At the moment, it's top secret!

Amanda concluded, “I have been so blessed – first of all to have had the opportunity to buy this business, to have such wonderful employees to work with, and then to have the most amazing people come into my

Officer and Deputy Chief Health officer at IBM Watson Health. “From small community hospitals to major teaching hospitals, organizations on this list demonstrate a relentless commitment to high value, patient-centered care and innovation. They also recognize the importance of contributing to the health of their communities and we applaud them for their programs that help provide equitable quality care and address health disparities.”

Bureau Board Member
or by contacting
Stephanie Reel at 304-
622-0606.

The application deadline is July 1, 2021.

cont. from page 1

life and the very best contractors giving me advice! I feel so fortunate, and I truly believe that this will be good for our local business community. I appreciate all the effort that is being made to make this a successful venture for Home Style. There are a lot of young families living here and mine is one of them. I want to take advantage of every opportunity to make Shinnston a better place to live with the hope that my children will choose to stay here to live and raise their own families here!"

Keep watching as progress on Home Style's new location unfolds. As the store continues to fill the need for trending home décor, perhaps it will also set the trend for more businesses to make Shinnston their home!

cont. from p. 1

“UHC’s focus on quality makes a significant difference in the lives of our patients. It is an honor to be ranked nationally for the second consecutive year as a 100 Top Hospital,” said Mike Tillman, CEO at UHC. “We are committed to providing care that rivals what is available nationally through reducing mortality, lowering readmissions, and improving safety; all while dedicated to delivering better outcomes and patient satisfaction at a lower cost.”

cont. from p. 1

To see the payment status of these payments, individuals can visit [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov) and check the [Get My Payment](#) tool. Additional information on the Economic Impact Payments is available on [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

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DF-CD-NP-0222

Mother’s Day Was Especially Meaningful To Me This Year

GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen



It will not be long until a lot of local cities will be having their municipal elections to select candidates who will lead their towns. The Young Progressive Women’s Association will join with the Progressive Women’s Association in sponsoring a Meet and Greet for the candidates for the Clarksburg City Council and the Clarksburg Water Board. The event will be held on Saturday, June 22 at 9:00 AM in the parking area of the Uptown Event Center on Washington Ave. In the event of inclement weather, it will be moved inside. The program will be presented by Director Betty Felts and the members of the YWPA. PWA member Angelica Scott will serve as the MC; coffee and doughnuts will be available and the event is open to the public. President Rosalyn Queen encourages all Clarksburg residents to make plans to attend. It is an event that will enlighten the candidates, as well as the voters. It will also showcase the interests of our youth. For more information call 304-624-6881.

I hope you all had the opportunity to observe Mother’s Day with those you love. My Mother’s Day was especially meaningful to me this year with so much to be thankful for considering the current happenings. Just to see the four happy faces of my children is a gift worth a million

dollars. Remember to make every day Mother’s Day while you still have the opportunity to be with that special mother. One day you will wake up and she will not be here to celebrate with you.

This week caught me going out to eat with many of my friends. I celebrated my cousin Ruby Oldaker’s birthday at the Parkette. My childhood friend Becky Sprout and I had a two-hour lunch at Oliverio’s catching up. And we still cannot understand why we look so much younger than our classmates ... our favorite joke.

I also enjoyed lunch with Laura Goff Davis, which gave me the opportunity to catch up on Jack Anderson. My son, Mike, treated me to dinner at the Caboose and I topped off the week with breakfast at Panera’s with my Godchild, Cheryl. We settled all the world’s problems and ended up laughing about the good old times. Now, before you ask, I have given up on Keto, and yes, the pounds are creeping back on, but then my excuse is, what else does an eighty-one-year-old woman have to do.

I am having an ongoing battle with my squirrel; he wants to eat my lettuce, so, I went to Lowe’s and got screening to keep him out and I hope it works. Remember to support the local high schools when purchasing plants. Dan and Cathy Fisher got my tub of plants there.

You know how I am going to celebrate W. V. Day ... by throwing away all my masks. You know, I thought it was bothersome to wear those turbans on my head when my hair was gone, but in my opinion, the masks are worse.

Get ready for summer - stay healthy and happy. Until next week, “Now You Have Heard It Through the Grapevine.”

Happy Belated Mother’s Day!

Pine Bluff News

By Pat Matheny



Don’t forget about the Pine Bluff Treasured Memories Club’s pizza sale. They are taking orders until May 16th and the pizzas can be ‘curbside’ picked up Friday and Saturday, May 21st and 22nd. The baked or unbaked pizzas are priced at 1 for \$7 or 2 for \$12. Notice, they are now offering the pizzas already baked. I still haven’t found out what 3 or more would cost. Phone 681-443-1122 to place your order.

Last Sunday was a ‘North Central WV Chamber of Commerce’ kind of day ... 80° and sunny with a slight breeze. Since rain was in the forecast, I, along with about everyone else in the community, started mowing our yards. I broke out the new mower and easily took care of mowing my area of PB. I’m starting to get the hang of the zero-turn mower and I really like the maneuverability (Would you believe I wrote the word correctly on the first shot).

While mowing, I ran into neighbor Kevin on his zero-turn mower at the end of the driveway. We both shut down and then discussed the country and the world’s situations in general for 45 minutes; it’s a sad situation and a long subject. When I finished up mowing, I drove the mower up to Brother John’s so he could check it out. We sat out on his porch and shot the breeze for a couple of hours. I enjoy spending time with my brother.

I’ve mentioned this before, John and I have never had a cross word between us. However, our late middle brother Jack was a different ball game while we were growing up. John was the oldest

and it would take both of us to whip Jack. More than once, I’ve seen Mom out in the yard beating John and Jack with a broom trying to stop them from fighting. One time she was whacking them with a leaf rake. I can assure you that our Dad was nowhere in Pine Bluff when these little spats would happen. Our dear sweet Mom would always cover for us. But, we three have always been as thick as thieves after we grew up.

After taking the mower home, I loaded up two gas cans and drove over town and filled them up. Afterwards, I stopped at T&L Hot Dog for a cheeseburger and fries. Toni took good care of me.

Tuesday, I got a haircut at the Worthington Barber shop. Janet and Frank came back from wintering in Florida last month. Janet did a fine job as usual. Last week, Frank went to John’s house and cut his hair...they are nice people. After getting my haircut, I drove up to Price Cutters in town to pick up a few things. It was nice talking with Robert Creamer of Lumberport.

Wednesday, Santana spent the whole afternoon visiting. It was great getting caught up on her and Andrew’s latest happenings. She really enjoys working at the Audubon Animal Clinic and Andrew is playing fireman for the Clarksburg Fire Department.

As usual, I’m a week behind because for some reason I never look ahead for upcoming holidays or events, plus, the column is sent four days in advance before it hits the streets. So, I want to say a belated Happy Mother’s Day to all that fall into this category. But, according to WOKE (“woke” is the term used to explain an awakening to issues of race, gender, and sexual injustice), it’s Happy Parent’s Day or is it Happy Female Parent’s Day...?? That’s our government at work.

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

Ace

Philippi Main Street’s Art Stroll Committee Searching For Artists



This year’s annual event will be Friday, October 1 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm throughout downtown business and organization sites

Philippi Main Street’s downtown Philippi.

Art Stroll Committee has begun planning for this year’s annual Art Stroll in downtown Philippi, the annual celebration of the arts in Philippi. This year the stroll will be Friday, October 1 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm in business locations throughout

Stemple at 304-457-3700, Ext. 226 or via email at hotpepperbabe@hotmail.com. Downtown businesses and organizations with Main Street sites are also asked to notify Main Street of their interest in hosting artists.

In the midst of celebrating all artists and their varied works, the Art Stroll frequently also has a special feature. This year that special feature will be the paintings of Wilma Spurgeon, a stroll exhibitor since the beginning of the Art Stroll in 2011. Spurgeon was a local painter who enjoyed sharing her many works of art with the public until her death in 2020. Her works will be hosted by her daughter Karen Spurgeon Mercer and

displayed in her usual Art Stroll location, the Taj Moe Hall. One of Spurgeon’s paintings is shown above.

The Art Stroll has been drawing hundreds of people to downtown Philippi for this much anticipated event over the past 10 years. After having to cancel the event last year, the planning committee is happy to reestablish this once-a-year event and anticipates hosting even more than the usual number of strollers who have always enjoyed strolling from one location to another to revel in the talent of local and regional artists.

For more information about the October 1 Art Stroll, contact Stemple at the aforementioned phone number or email address.

“Police Reform”

cont. from p. 1

In addition to the numbers of individuals, the complex nature of their mental illnesses created challenges to local police officers who had scant training to deal with these issues. The drug crisis also increased the number of calls for local departments and required more knowledge and training than many cities were prepared to offer. The transient nature of the drug trade also meant that small, rural police departments would often find themselves face to face with big-time drug dealers looking to make inroads in smaller cities.

A severe shortage of young people wanting to go into police work has also added to the challenges. This was caused by opportunities in other employment sectors and the relative low pay in the law enforcement field. The declining levels of physical fitness among young people also affected the number of candidates wanting to become law enforcement officers. Often, there would be a class of over twenty prospects that would shrink to less than six due to the inability to pass the physical testing. Even if you would identify a qualified candidate, many would not make it through the police academy. In West Virginia, the WV State Police ran the Police Academy, and it was a grueling, fifteen weeks of discipline, classwork and physical workouts. It was also a large investment on the part of the city, and if a candidate did not complete the training, the city would have to repeat the process all over again.

With all of the increased duties, training has become a full-time job with hundreds of hours spent learning about changes in the law, conflict resolution, reporting, and dozens of other topics. Police officers also have to spend a large amount of time on weapon’s qualification and how to use technology such as Tasers. Much of this training is required and consumes increasing amounts of time that would otherwise be spent on the street. This causes a problem in smaller police departments, as budgets have not grown to support this training and the public is demanding more and more service.

The answer to policing changes in the future is going to come at an increased cost to the taxpayers. Future police officers will be required to undergo increased scrutiny to ensure that racial bias and other issues are not affecting their workplace actions. Higher pay and increased requirements are going to be necessary to attract the type of diverse individuals needed for policing an increasingly diverse population. More mental health professionals will be needed to reduce the need for police to handle these mental health emergencies.

This is a complex issue to solve but our future depends on it. There are many levels of government working on solutions and it will take everyone working together to return policing to the “protect and serve” model that has served it so well throughout the years.

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HCSCC SPOTLIGHT

Featuring news from the Harrison County Senior Citizen Center



HCSCC Purchase Of High-Lift Jack Will Be Asset To Expansion Of Food Program



Pictured here following the recent delivery of the Yale Stacker electric pallet jack, several members of the HCSCC Board gathered to look it over. Shown l-rt are Clarksburg Mayor Ryan Kennedy, an HCSCC Board member; Barb Oldaker, Senior Nutrition Mission Coordinator; Joseph Caruso, HCSCC CFO; and William O’Field, HCSCC Board Secretary.

By LEIGH C. MERRIFIELD
News & Journal Editor

Several years ago, the Harrison County Senior Citizens Center, Inc. initiated its Senior Nutrition Mission

Program. Realizing that many people - seniors in particular who are often on a limited income – struggle with food insecurities, they had a desire to make it easier for them. They began to assemble monthly food

boxes with food donated by the Mountaineer Food Bank. Seniors can either pick up the boxes or if they are without transportation, volunteers will deliver to them.

As time has passed, and certainly senior needs have increased during the months of the pandemic, this program has expanded. A few times a week, Center volunteers pick up food from local retailers as well. It is sorted and, on a rotating basis, distributed to high-rise occupants and other neighborhoods in the local area – or – residents can come and pick up what they need. The Senior Center is additionally keeping shelf staple boxes and

emergency food boxes ready for use when the need arises.

According to HCSCC Director Beth Fitzgerald, “We currently have about four or five food programs going on ... and now we are adding a pantry! Some of our generous donors allow us to use these funds for buying food products to keep on hand, and many times we are given preferred pricing which is a great asset. There are also the Governor’s Food Boxes that help seniors and make it easy for them to supplement

food when in need ... and with this program, if grandparents have others (children/grandchildren) living in their household, they are entitled to receive more boxes. So we’re very proud of the way these programs have grown and are able to help those in our county.”

During the pandemic, the Senior Center has also had masks and hand sanitizers donated as well and they share those items with those who need them.

The Senior Center’s garage has literally become a storage space

for food and extra items. One difficulty exists, though. Many times food is delivered on pallets and are quite heavy for volunteers to move about and unload for shelf storage or placement in boxes.

Fitzgerald said Barb Oldaker, who is responsible for these food programs at the Center, requested that the Senior Center Board consider purchasing a high-lift that would make the work easier, especially since many of the program volunteers are not

Continued on Page 8

HCSCC Board Reports Actions At April Meeting

The HCSCC Board of Directors held a Zoom meeting on Thursday, April 22, 2021 with the following actions taken:

HCSCC Board adopted the recommendation of

the Ad Hoc Election Committee to conduct an election of officers at the June 2021 annual meeting.

HCSCC Board approved to locate/assist with purchase of

electric high-lift pallet jack for Senior Nutrition Mission Program.

The next meeting of the HCSCC Board will be held via Zoom on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 1 p.m.

Frequently Asked Question: when Will Senior Center Re-Open To The Public?

Many seniors have called the Senior Center asking when it will be permitted to reopen. Recently, WV Governor Jim Justice indicated that he would consider reopening senior centers when the vaccination rate of seniors reaches 85%. Since senior citizens are a high-risk group, his first concern is ensuring that it is safe for them to congregate and participate in activities at the centers. He feels the risk will be

better managed when 85% of them have been vaccinated.

In the meantime, seniors who are in need of transportation to get a vaccine shot may call the Harrison County Senior Center’s Transportation Department at 304-623-6795 to schedule transportation. If assistance is needed in locating a vaccination site, please contact the Center and someone will be happy to assist.

The Harrison County Senior Citizens’ Center building along with its satellites currently remain closed to the public by Governor’s Order 39-20. When permission is granted to reopen, information will be posted in printed and online media.

Transportation, Food Box Programs, and In-Home Services continue to be provided through the Senior Center during the pandemic.



The Ceramics Room has a new sign created by Ceramics Instructor Loretta Snider and her daughter. Returning to the socialization and enjoyment of working on ceramics projects are among the reasons Seniors are anxious to return to the Center!

Free COVID Testing Still Offered At Senior Center

The Harrison County Senior Citizens Center, Inc. continues to offer free (drive-in) COVID-19 testing for all ages in the HCSCC parking lot at 500 W. Main Street in

Clarksburg on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. No appointment is required. Individuals who want to be tested should pull into one of the three spaces in the Center’s

parking lot that have been set aside specifically for testing and follow the instructions posted there. For more information, call the Senior Center at 304-623-6795.

HCSC Book Club News

The next HCSC Book Club Meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. for book discussion about a selection

of ‘reader’s choice’ books.

All are welcome to join or attend via Zoom and inform members about a selection

that has had special meaning to you!

For more information about the Book Club or the virtual meeting, call 304-623-6795.

Senior Center Featured Speaker At Bridgeport Lions Club Meeting



As HCSCC Marketing Chair, Bill O’Field and Center Director Beth Fitzgerald presented an overview of the Senior Center services and programs during the pandemic. O’Field expanded on the role of the Board and Fitzgerald provided statistics on the services provided by the Center. Members expressed surprise at the broad expanse of services provided to Senior Center members.

HCSCC In Need Of In-Home Caregivers

The Harrison County Senior Citizens Center, Inc. is looking for in-home caregivers to assist Harrison County seniors to remain in their homes with light assistance.

Caregivers assist with personal care, light housekeeping, meal preparation, grocery/errand shopping, and laundry. Caregivers do not provide medical care. Caregivers must have

reliable transportation to and from client visits. Training will be provided.

Call the Harrison County Senior Center for more information at 304-623-6795.

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Email: director@harrisoncountyseniorcenter.org

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RCB's Season Comes To An End!



The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

The Robert C. Byrd boys' basketball season has come to an abrupt ending. The Flying Eagles went into last week's state tournament as the top seed in Class AAA. They were also Harrison County's lone hope as they were the only representative for all boys and girls teams from the county to make it to the state capitol. They became the first top seed to suffer a loss in the opening game, falling to Hampshire 53-47 last Wednesday.

Robert C. Byrd spent the entire campaign in the No.1 spot in Class AAA all season long. Their lone loss was to Class AAAA Morgantown in a game where everything went wrong in the final period (which is eerily similar to the state tourney loss). After the loss to the Mohigans, Veteran Head Coach

Bill Bennett and his team reeled off nine straight wins. The Flying Eagles didn't just win, they dominated winning all but one of those lock-ups by double digits. They outscored their opponents by an average of just shy of 30 points per game. Defensively, they held six of those teams to 43 points or less. The trademark man-to-man pressure that has been Coach Bennett's calling card for all of his nearly 20-year career was at the center of this edition's success.

Against the Trojans, Robert C. Byrd found themselves trailing 15-13 at the end of the opening period. Behind after the opening quarter, let alone losing any eight-minute segment, was a rare occurrence. The deficit inspired the Flying Eagles, as

they utilized one of their patented runs to begin the second stanza, garnering a six-point lead midway through the canto. They maintained a lead until the last minute prior to halftime when Hampshire went on a run of their own to knot the score at halftime.

The third quarter belonged to Robert C. Byrd as they held the Trojans to single digits (seven in total) to hold a four-point advantage going into the last frame. The fourth period, reminiscent to the Morgantown tilt, provided a five-minute scoring drought that gave Hampshire a seven-point lead with three minutes remaining. The Flying Eagles made a late push but could not get closer than three points.

Bryson Lucas led Robert C. Byrd with 25 points, eight rebounds, and a pair of blocked shots. Jeremiah King recorded a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds. Gavin Kennedy chipped in scoring six points, and dishing

out a game high four assists. The Flying Eagles ended the year with a 15-2 record.

The hardest opponent this squad faced all season was injury. Kennedy, point guard Tommy Hawkins, and King all battled through issues that hindered their ability to perform. No one in the program would even consider mentioning all that this team had to overcome. However, I feel it is worth noting and fans have to wonder what would have happened if this talented group was at full strength. None the less, this team accomplished so much in what was far from a normal season. Just overcoming the restrictions brought on by COVID-19 was an accomplishment, and their play on the hardwood was impressive to say the least. Congratulations to Coach Bennett, his staff, and team for a season to remember.

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



It's that time once again to acknowledge the efforts of Harrison County's student athletes. Each week a panel will take a look at the information collected to make the best choices possible. They will review the performances of the athletes from the six schools (Bridgeport, Liberty, Lincoln, Notre Dame, Robert C. Byrd, and South Harrison) in our county.

The Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week Award is an avenue that is used to promote the youth of our county, while bringing attention to their athletic accomplishments.

This past week's winners are Lincoln's Alexis Williams and Robert C. Byrd's Bryson Lucas.

Cougar softball player, Alexis Williams led her team to wins over Grafton, East Fairmont, and Philip Barbour respectively. In those victories, Williams was 5 of 9 from the plate with a pair of home runs and a double. She also drove in seven runs while scoring six runs as well.

Flying Eagle basketball standout, Bryson Lucas led his squad in a loss to Hampshire in the opening round of the Boys State Basketball Tournament. Lucas scored 25 points, hauled down eight rebounds, and blocked a pair of shots in the affair. Lucas also eclipsed the 1,000-point mark in the lock-up.

Congratulations to Lincoln's Alexis Williams and Robert C. Byrd's Bryson Lucas for being named the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week!

Plans To Open Playground Program In Mid-June



From The World Of Parks & Recreation

By Doug Comer

Harrison County Parks and Recreation did one thing last year that has not been done in decades – not have a summer parks program. Hundreds of children throughout Harrison County, as well as their families, relied on the program as it provides a safe, recreational atmosphere and provided food in a county that teeters around the 90th percentile in free and reduced lunch. It is a program that has proven to help kids over the years and in 2020, the ball was dropped.

Not because of not wanting to have one, but due to the Covid pandemic that crippled the country. In our state alone, thousands of people were exposed and a small percentage of that number passed away as well. It was a tough year and a tough call to close up shop during the busiest of months for the Parks Department. Director Mike Book probably took it the hardest as he was in his rookie season with parks when the program was just starting.

“We tried to look at every option last year and it just could not give us any bright spots,” said Book. “I have been a part of the program dating back to my college years and it is a wonderful program giving kids a safe place to play under supervision as well as offering a meal program to ensure no one goes hungry during the summer school break. We just want some form of normalcy for the kids during the summer and getting something that is familiar like our summer program is a good start.”

For those unfamiliar with the program, we provide a free program located at several sites surrounding the county. Areas include the Recreation Complex, Nutter Fort Elementary, North View Park, Compton Park in Bridgeport, West Milford Elementary and Ferguson Park in Shinnston. Kids will participate in organized activities involving recreation, arts and crafts and other programs to keep the kids active during the six-week period. Also, the kids will be provided two meals during the day.

“Even today, people greet me on the street and thank our program for the fond memories back then when they were kids. And it is fun to see that the parents who were parks kids now send their kids and even grandkids to the program. For most, the summer vacation is not a trip to the beach or out of state, but it is here at their local park. It is our job to ensure that they have the best summer that we can provide,” said Book.

While the program plans for a mid-June kickoff, there are still some pandemic issues lurking and some parameters when it comes to this year. While the Governor has lifted a lot of the restrictions, there are still the issues with the masks, social distancing and the plan of action in case of an exposure. Book feels confident that our staff will be trained in case of any situation.

“We want to make sure that the parks are safe when it comes to Covid-19 and possible exposures. During our training sessions before the start, we will

Continued on page 9

State Fair Of West Virginia Giant Spring Flea Market This Weekend

The State Fair of West Virginia's Giant Spring Flea Market is set to return May 15 and 16, to the State Fairgrounds in Lewisburg. Hours of operation are Saturday, May 15, from 8 AM – 6 PM and Sunday, May 16, from 9 AM – 3 PM.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this spring's event will include outdoor vendors

only, no indoor vendors will be permitted. Interested vendors may visit www.statefairfwv.com, or call 304-645-1090 to register.

All vendors must be pre-registered, no applications will be accepted the day of.

Masks must be worn inside any structures and we ask that social distancing be maintained.

“We are very excited to get back to business,” State Fair CEO Kelly Collins stated. “This spring's event may look a little different, but it's a step in the right direction as we explore our new normal.”

The WV Lottery's Building will be open from 11 AM – 5 PM on Saturday, May 15 and from 11 AM – 3

PM on Sunday, May 16. Only a limited number of patrons will be allowed in the building and face masks must be worn at all times inside.

View Online: <http://readme.readmedia.com/State-Fair-of-West-Virginias-Giant-Spring-Flea-Market-to-Return/17756165>

GNCC Racing Partners With Summit Bechtel Reserve & WV Division Of Natural Resources For Adventure Festival



West Virginia Governor, Jim Justice pictured alongside GNCC Racing's Scott Harwell, Johnny Gallagher, Thad Duvall, Layne Michael, Luke Nesler and Tim Cotter. Photo: Derek Garcia

The Grand National Cross Country (GNCC) Series presented by Specialized, an AMA National Championship, is excited to partner with Summit Bechtel Reserve (The Summit) and The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) to launch *Adventure On! Freedom Festival* at round 10, the Mountaineer on September 10 – 12, 2021.

This event will take place on the 20th anniversary of September 11 and will continue to serve as GNCC's Salute to First Responders. On Saturday, September 11, The Summit will host a free concert for first responders, active and

retired military, and law enforcement officers. After the concert, The Summit will “Let Freedom Ring” with a fireworks display as a tribute to those who have sacrificed so much over the last 20 years.

On Wednesday, May 7, the Governor of West Virginia, Jim Justice, alongside GNCC's Tim Cotter, DNR's Stephen McDaniel and The Summit's Bill Garrett discussed the upcoming event in a press conference. Joining them were GNCC racers Layne Michael, Thad Duvall and Johnny Gallagher

“What a fantastic opportunity it is to showcase the elite

GNCC athletes on one of the world's greatest outdoor adventure venues in Summit Bechtel Reserve,” said Tim Cotter, GNCC Event Director. “This event in partnership with The Summit and the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is a perfect fit for GNCC racers and families.”

This event will look to host up to 50,000 people over the entire weekend, kicking off The Summit's *Adventure On!* series, which will look to host a sports and music festivals in the upcoming years. “The Summit is proud to continue to play a major role in bringing leadership training,

adventure, family-centric entertainment, tourism and economic development to Fayette County and Southern West Virginia.” says the Summit's Chief Development Officer, Bill Garrett, himself a West Virginia Native.

This event will also feature The West Virginia Division of Natural Resource's Hunting and Fishing Days, the state's largest hunting and fishing show, boasting hundreds of hunting and fishing vendors. The event continues to provide family-friendly activities such as the outdoor youth challenge, hunter's education and safe boating.

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VIRGINIA LUCILLE DELIMPO

Virginia Lucille (Paolucci) Delimpo, 80, of Shinnston, formerly of Fairmont, passed away peacefully and went home to be with her Lord and Savior on May 2, 2021. She was born on May 3, 1940, in Fairmont, WV to the late Constanzo (Paul) and Margaret (Gallucci) Paolucci.

She married Nicola “Nicko” Delimpo on August 17, 1973 and devoted her love to him for 46 years until his death in 2019. In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her sisters; Elizabeth Minico and Julie Ann Paolucci. Brother-in-law; Carl Minico, Sister-in-law; Tina Paolucci and nephew; Carl “Dino” Minico.

This “Golden Girl” was a cherished mother and grandmother. She was survived by her daughters, Toni Delimpo of Fairmont and Pam (Jeremiah) Gaston of Shinnston; Four grandchildren, Desiree Lee and companion Bill Webb of Callahan, FL, Alecia Lee and her companion Naquan Warren of Fairmont, Xavier Gaston and Spencer Gaston, both of Shinnston; As well as three great grandchildren, Asa Webb and Sydney Webb both of Callahan, FL and Nassir Warren of Fairmont; Two sisters, Emma (Dan) Malcomb and Mary Raschella along with one brother, Nick Paolucci; among many loved nieces and nephews.

Virginia was blessed as a wife, mother and grandmother. She was also a very hard worker at whatever position she held. She worked many places and was loved by all. She started working as a waitress at the Bus Terminal in Fairmont, went on to work at the Box Factory in Fairmont, Mannington Drapery, Westinghouse and Phillip’s Lighting. She untimely retired with over 20 years of experience with Fairmont Federal Credit Union.

She loved reading the bible, spending time with her family, enjoyed cooking, word searches, gardening, playing cards and had a huge love for popsicles. She was a

long-time member of Trinity Assembly of God in Fairmont, until she resided with her daughter and son-in-law in Shinnston. She then was welcomed with loving arms to the First Baptist Church of Shinnston.

Her life was a living example of Ephesians 6:11-18. She was known as a prayer warrior and wore the full armor of God!

Funeral Services were held on Friday, May 7, 2021 at Ross Funeral Home with Pastor Kevin Nuzum from the First Baptist Church in Shinnston. Interment followed at Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Leukemia Research Foundation 191 Waukegan Road North Field, IL 60093

Condolences may be sent to www.rossfh.com.

JONATHAN COREY HALL

Jonathan Corey Hall, 28, of Rivesville, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at his home. He was born April 12, 1993 in Fairmont.

He is survived by his mother, Carol Jean Martin Hall and her fiancé, Larney Moore II of Rivesville; his father, Kevin Lee Hall of Clarksburg; his sisters, Tonya Martin and her fiancé, Daniel Stevens of Fairmont, Jennifer Heflin and her husband C.J. of Shinnston; brother, Justin Hall and his fiancé, Katie Bennett of Lumberport; sister, Kelsea Hall and her fiancé Thomas Roach of Clarksburg; and his brother, Austin Hall of Clarksburg; his grandmothers, Geneva Hall of Haywood, Wanda Carpenter of Fairmont, and Rosalind Cutlip of Fairmont; his nieces and nephews, Jackson Ridenour, Cole, Cade and Jailee Heflin, Olivia Brinlee and Jayleb Hall, Aniyah and Zayleigh Roach, and Isabella Hall; several aunts, uncles, and cousins; and his best friends, Cinnamon and Gizzy, his beloved dogs.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Doris Jean and Thomas Martin; his grandfather, William Lee Hall; his aunt, Sharon Martin; his uncle, Roger Martin; and his cousin, Joseph Marion Butler, Jr.

Jonathan was an avid WVU and Patriots fan. He loved football and basketball as well as WWE wrestling and playing his Xbox. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing. His idol was his uncle, Jeff Martin, who throughout his life was

his friend and guiding light.

Jonathan attended Clean and Sober online and attended Narcotic Anonymous in an effort to better his life with support and to support others.

A funeral service was held at the Perine Funeral Home on Tuesday, May 11th with Pastor Paul Mitchell officiating. Interment followed at the Shinnston Memorial Cemetery. Online condolences and memories can be shared with the family at www.perinefunerals.com

Memorial contributions may be made toward funeral expenses.

JOSEPH ZANE SMITH

Joseph “Joey” Zane Smith, 20, of Clarksburg, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, May 3, 2021 at J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital with family by his side after discovering a rare illness. Joey was born October 3, 2000 in Parkersburg, son of Douglas Raymond Smith Jr and fiancé Brittany, Salem and Amber Rachelle Richards Seltsmann and husband Matt, Masontown, WV.

Joey had worked at McDonalds in Clarksburg. He was a very talented Artist, enjoyed gaming, computers, and creating his own music for the world.

In addition to his parents, Joey is survived by his half-brother, Kaleb Smith, Blacksburg, VA; stepbrothers, Aden and Riley; paternal grandparents, Douglas R Smith Sr and Shirley Mae Purvis Smith, Harrisville; maternal grandparents, Lonnie Ray and Betty A. Richards, Harrisville; Deborah Reaser Graham, Goose Creek; several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Joey is preceded in death by his step-grandfather, Robert Graham Jr.; and his step-uncle, Allen Kilgore.

Joey was able to give life to others by being an organ donor with Core, a gift that will help so many. Davis Funeral Home and Onsite Crematory is handling the cremation and honored to serve the Smith family.

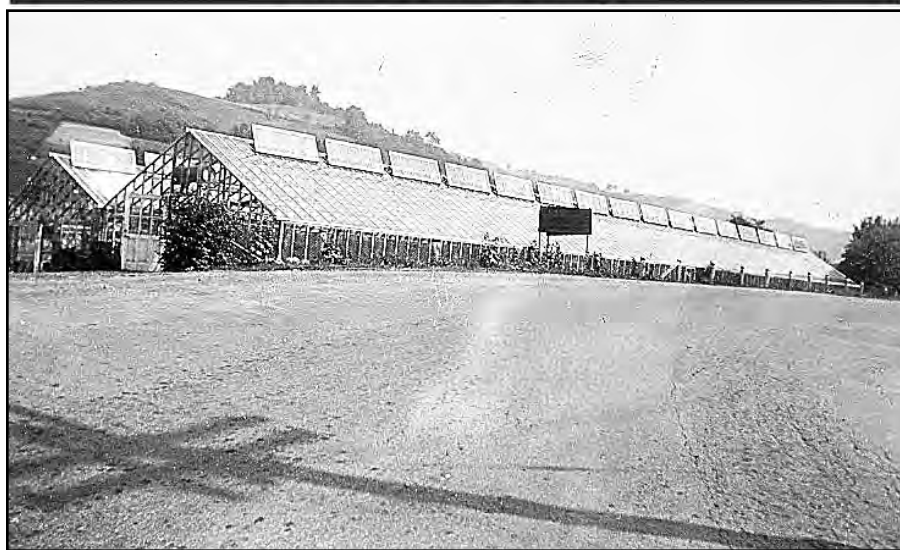
Memorial donations can be made to his Care Fund on his memorial page. Online condolences can be made on Davisfuneralhomewv.com.

CHRISTOPHER ALLEN

Christopher “Micah” Allen, 34, of Lost Creek, passed away on Monday, May 3, 2021.

Out Of The Past

Memorable Photographs from around Harrison County.



Established as a business in 1925, Bice’s Greenhouse in Enterprise is now in its 96th year of operation. Photo courtesy of Bobby Bice.

He was born October 10, 1986 at United Hospital Center in Clarksburg, the son of James Michael “Mike” and Kelly Joann Shelton-Blevins Allen of Lost Creek.

Micah attended Elkins High School in Elkins, WV. He worked construction and was a talented carpenter. Micah was a true animal lover. He was an avid skateboarder and loved the skateboarding culture. Micah was excellent with computers and technology. He would try to keep up with the latest developments and trends in the industry. He also enjoyed diving, acrobatics and loved having fun with family and friends.

In addition to his parents, Micah is survived by his siblings, Miranda Allen, Jacksonville, FL, Taj Allen, Gainesville, FL, Sarah Bennett and Eric, Good Hope, Josiah Allen, Lost Creek, and Abigail Powell and Jerry, Jane Lew; seven nieces and nephews, Jonas, Veritas, Julian, Jean, Owen, Oliver, Leland; his four-legged Golden Doodle companion, Henry; as well as several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Micah was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, James E Allen and wife Margaret Basford Allen; paternal grandmother, Loretta Johnston Allen; maternal grandfather, Jerry Shelton; maternal grandmother, Lois “Virginia” King Reynolds and husbands, John Blevins and Charles “Chuck” Reynolds.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home with Reverend August “Augie” Jordan officiating.

Memorial donations can be made to his care fund on his memorial page. Online condolences can be made at

www.DavisFuneralHomeWV.com.

KIRSTEN LEIGH RILEY

Kirsten Leigh (Elby) Riley, 57, of Clarksburg, passed away on Thursday, May 6, 2021 at United Hospital Center surrounded by her loving family. Kirsten was born January 6, 1964, in Waynesburg, PA, daughter of the late Leonard and Twila Wilson Elby.

Kirsten graduated from Connellsville High School, Class of 1982. She liked to go to flea markets, enjoyed singing and watching Supernatural and Mystery shows. She was working as a Caregiver at Mother Goose Land.

Kirsten is survived by her son Hunter Patrick Thomas Riley, Clarksburg; one daughter, Judy Riley Hudkins and Brandon, Clarksburg; two sisters, Marcy Ozowski and Michael, Connellsville, PA and Shannon Rau and Jim, Glenshaw, PA; niece, Sophia; nephew, Jason; several nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to extend their sincere thanks to the staff of United Hospital Center, especially the nurses of ICU, WVU Hospice, and Dr.s Doumit, Ahmad, Muthukrishnan for their kindness and care of our beloved mother and sister.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Inurnment will be at Green Ridge Cemetery in Connellsville, PA. Donations can be made to her Care Fund on her memorial page.

HELEN I. HOLTZ

Helen I. (Shaffer) Holtz, 89, of Reynoldsville, went Home to be with her Lord on Monday morning, May 3, 2021, at the home of her daughter and under the care of her family. She was born in Clarksburg on August 19, 1931, a

daughter of the late Haymond Hayward and Bonnie Bell (Langford) Shaffer.

On December 18, 1947, she married Reverend William R. Holtz, who preceded her in death on December, 21, 2012. They were married for 65 years.

She is survived by her daughter, Donna Owrey and her husband Roger of Sardis; and her son, James R. Holtz and his wife Carmella, Enid, OK; five grandchildren, Kristi Moore and her husband Gary, Rusty Holtz, Brandon Holtz, Nicole Smith, and Adam Walls; eight great-grandchildren, including Brock Moore and Kaleb Moore; and a son-in-law Sherman Lewis.

She was also preceded in death by a son, William Kevin Holtz; a daughter, Kim Lewis; a brother, James Lee Shaffer and a daughter-in-law, Francine Holtz.

As a minister’s wife she was very involved and enjoyed being with her husband Bill in fulfilling their church work. Helen was a homemaker who took care of her family, loved children and babysat for years. She had attended the Full Gospel Chapel.

A funeral service was held on May 7, 2021 at Burnside Funeral Home with Pastor Robert Marino presiding, Interment followed at WV National Cemetery in Pruntytown.

CHARLES E. FINDLEY

Charles E. Findley, 84, of Meadland Community, Bridgeport, departed this life on Tuesday afternoon, May 4, 2021, to go to his Heavenly Home that God has prepared for him following an extended illness. He was born April 14, 1937, a son of the late Frank E. and Ernestine (Goff) Findley. He is survived by his

Continued on Page 9

Manchin Named Most Bipartisan Senator For Third Year In A Row

U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) has released the following statement on CQ Roll Call’s bipartisan Congressional rankings. For the third year in a row, Senator Manchin has been ranked the most bipartisan Member of the Senate. In 2020, he crossed the aisle to vote with Republicans on nearly 40% of all votes taken. CQ Roll Call is the only ranking of bipartisanship based on actual votes taken by Members of Congress.

“I have always prided myself on my efforts to reach across the aisle to work with my colleagues and do what is best for West Virginia and our nation. I am proud this ranking from CQ Roll Call reflects those efforts. Last year, I led tough bipartisan negotiations that ultimately delivered desperately needed COVID relief for hardworking Americans. During my first Congress as the lead Democrat on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, we were able to pass the bipartisan *Energy Innovation Act of 2020* and the bipartisan *Great American Outdoors Act* proving that bipartisanship can still be effective when you’re willing to put in the work. I truly believe that to be bipartisan, you must approach all legislation and all votes

with an open mind, understanding that neither party has all the answers. Unfortunately, each Congress we see less bipartisanship and more gridlock leaving Congress unable to meet the needs of the American people. It is not too late to correct this for the American people and I urge my colleagues – both Democrat and Republican – to genuinely give bipartisanship a chance for the sake of the democracy we all cherish.”

The report found that Congress, unsurprisingly, approached record levels of partisanship in 2020. In the Senate, the parties opposed each other on 188 of 292 roll calls, or 64.4 percent of the time. That’s up from last year’s 54 percent. The average Senate Republican voted with their party 97.5% of the time while the average Senate Democrat voted with their party 93% of the time.

of the time. This is what makes Senator Manchin unique. In the House of Representatives, the two parties aligned against each other on 176 of 252 roll call votes, or 69.8 percent of the time — up 1.8 percentage points from 2019. The average House Democrat voted with their party 97.5% of the time while the average House Republican voted with their party 95% of the time.

“Purchase of High-Lift Jack” cont. from p.5

young and there was concern that they might be hurt doing all this lifting and rearranging. Fortunately, the Board understood the need and approved of looking for some sort of helpful equipment.

Word spread of their need and the Jefferds Corporation, located on Water Street in Stonewood, came to the rescue! Fitzgerald stated that when they found out it would be used to move boxes of donated pantry products to feed seniors through the Center’s Senior Nutrition Mission Program, they made a very generous offer to sell the Center a refurbished piece of equipment.

The Jefferds Corporation handles both new and used equipment such as electric forklifts, pallet handlers, rough terrain forklifts, dock equipment, etc. They had a high-lift electric pallet jack that had minimal use and offered it with a sizeable discount to HCSCC.

Fitzgerald added, “It is called a Yale Stacker, and has a 125” reach, an on-board charger and will run 32 hours on a charge. They made sure it was in good working order and even installed new batteries in it prior to delivering it to us. We

can’t begin to express our appreciation for their kindness. Since it is a high lift, it can raise up and get pallets directly off the delivery trucks and will be such a benefit in assisting our volunteers in moving our donated products around in the garage, which we are currently in the process of rearranging to accommodate the needs of our Nutrition Mission Program.”

The Senior Center is also pleased to have received donated shelving from the Clarksburg Baptist Church since they have discontinued their food pantry program. This, too, will be helpful as the HCSCC food pantry program continues to expand its service to seniors.

Fitzgerald concluded, “Although we have managed to handle this in the past, these recent additions will be such a great benefit to us. We are genuinely dedicated to our local seniors, and the pandemic has made carrying out our mission a little more difficult, but thanks to both the pallet jack and the donated shelving, our tasks of meeting some of the needs of seniors will be much less challenging. We are truly so unbelievably grateful!”

BE ACTIVE!

Answers

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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

■ Property sales

■ Election ballots

■ Voting changes

■ Tax increases

■ Project bids

■ Family court

■ Government budgets

■ Government financial statements

■ Zoning changes and other public notices

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

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Mike Romano

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Danny Hamrick

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danny.hamrick@wvhouse.gov

Laura Kimble

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laura.kimble@wvhouse.gov

Ben Queen

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ben.queen@wvhouse.gov

Clay Riley

(304) 340-3144

clay.riley@wvhouse.gov

KEEP YOUR LEGAL ADS IN HARRISON COUNTY

“Lord’s Pantry” cont. from p. 1



Ordering, purchasing, pickup, unloading, storing, and bagging of food items is a huge and time-consuming task when volunteers are meeting the needs of so many people.

forced layoffs, hours being cut, and, in some cases, business closures. It was a woeful realization for many people with stable incomes that for the first time in their lives, they couldn’t afford food for their families, which left 55% more people turning to food banks and local pantries for support. Although these food banks stepped up to the challenge, it HAS BEEN a challenge! During the pandemic, food pantries that rely on the generous time given by volunteers also felt the drop in volunteer hours as many of their dedicated volunteers are older folks who are in the higher-risk category and were safer staying at home. Meeting the needs of

more people has meant having a great supply of food ... AND ... fewer volunteers to get the job done! Such has been the case at The Lord’s Pantry in Shinnston. Sandra Haggerty, Director of The Lord’s Pantry in Shinnston, stated, “I think we were the only food pantry in Harrison County that has remained open throughout the pandemic, and because of that, we had more than just our regular local people coming in for assistance. And we are among those pantries with older volunteers, so what it boiled down to was having less help and trying to meet more needs. While it was rather tough, we made it work and served all those who needed help.”

Anyone who feeds a family fully understands that the cost of food can put a budget to the test. Mrs. Haggerty admitted that no matter how careful they are with finances, there is NEVER a time when The Lord’s Pantry doesn’t need and appreciate funding – and particularly so during the pandemic when more people sought them for help. Adela Cortez, who along with Marsha Duckworth, handles The Lord’s Pantry’s finances, said, “It truly is amazing the way we continue to be blessed. Just recently, we received two very generous donations for which we are beyond grateful. These two donations from area businesses totaled over

\$10,000!” Thanks to Antero, The Lord’s Pantry in Shinnston has a credit through the Mountaineer Food Bank of \$3,225.81. Their program was called FY21 Food Support and is specific to food purchased through the Mountaineer Food Bank, shared maintenance costs and transportation costs. Headquartered in Fairmont, WV, MVB Bank and the bank’s subsidiaries, the MVB Community Development Corporation, MVB Technology, Chartwell Compliance, and Paladin Fraud, provide financial services to individuals and corporate clients in the Mid-Atlantic Region and beyond. They are committed to the mission of transforming low-

income communities, creating economic opportunities for low-income persons and financing qualified businesses through the provision of capital investment and lending in a manner that provides a vital impact to the lives of individuals and their communities. They, too, sent a check to The Lord’s Pantry in the amount of \$7,601.50 to be used as needed for food assistance for low-income families. “Corporations like these – and even individuals – who contribute to food pantries understand that the people we serve don’t choose to be in this situation. We continue to be very humbled by the support we receive.

Getting this kind of backing enables us to supplement the families in our area who need food assistance,” Cortez added. Both Haggerty and Cortez praised the dedication and goodness of the people who volunteer at The Lord’s Pantry. Haggerty commented, “I’ve been the Director at The Lord’s Pantry for a number of years and throughout that time, I have been blessed to come to know these volunteers and to appreciate their commitment. They deserve to be called ‘heroes’ and are worthy of even more appreciation than they can ever be shown. We couldn’t begin to do what we do without them!” Cortez added by citing an example. “During the pandemic, we closed during only two of our service days and that was due to inclement weather. Our volunteers are such wonderful individuals that they suggested being open on a Saturday after that forced closure because they knew our clients were likely in dire need of our assistance. They always put others first and their devoted service to people in our area can’t be understated,” she concluded. Nearly all of the donations given to The Lord’s Pantry go toward the purchase of food items. However, when someone makes a non-specific donation, it allows them to buy other items that families need as well – shampoo, toilet paper, laundry detergent, etc. Donations of any kind are always welcomed and will be received with gratitude.

FSU Providing ACT Testing Opportunities To Students

Fairmont State University has coordinated with the Higher Education Policy Commission to administer ACT testing to high school students to support the state-sponsored efforts to increase applications for the Promise Scholarship. High school seniors qualifying for the Promise Scholarship are permitted to take one free exam to determine scholarship eligibility. Earlier this spring, West Virginia Governor Jim Justice announced he has allocated \$341,000 in Federal CARES Act funding to provide free ACT testing opportunities to high school seniors applying for the Promise Scholarship. These funds have been dedicated as a result of national testing date cancellations across the country in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fairmont State will continue to

provide Promise Scholarship ACT testing opportunities to high school students throughout the summer on the following dates: Saturday, May 15 Saturday, June 19 Saturday, July 24 Saturday, August 14 For more information about the WV Promise Scholarship ACT program or to register for testing, visit <https://www.wvhepc.edu/act-on-campus-exams/>. In addition to offering ACT testing to determine Promise

Scholarship eligibility, Fairmont State offers incoming and current students fee-based ACT testing for admission purposes and to provide opportunities to secure funding through institutional and foundation scholarships. Fee-based, ACT testing opportunities will be available to students throughout the summer on the following dates: Saturday, June 5 Saturday, June 19 Saturday, July 3 Saturday, July 24 Students may

register to take the ACT, administered by Fairmont State University for admission purposes at www.fairmontstate.edu/AdmissionACT. For more information, contact admissions@fairmontstate.edu or 304-367-4010. “We take great pride in providing a quality, affordable education, to all who seek one,” said Mirta M. Martin, Fairmont State University President. “Our affordability is often made possible through scholarship funding. Because we recognize that

standardized testing is a critical component of scholarship awards, we are thrilled to provide convenient testing opportunities to students to take a little pressure off of the test-taking process, ease financial burdens, and allow students to focus on their studies.” All ACT tests administered by Fairmont State are safe, socially distanced and given at the Charles Pointe location in Bridgeport. Students are required to provide photo identification and wear a mask at all times during testing.

“Obituaries” cont. from p. 7

loving wife, Martha Jane (Tyo) Findley, whom he married on November 12, 1989. Also surviving are one son, Mark Findley and his wife Vickie; and a daughter Judi Lambert and her husband Ronnie, all of Meadland Community; a step-daughter, Gwen Murray of Bridgeport; a sister-in-law, Connie Findley of Bridgeport; and a

brother-in-law, Johnny Keener of Meadland Community. Charlie was surrounded by an abundance of love by his 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Frank Findley; two sisters, Belle Keener and Martha Jane Smith; and a grandson,

Samuel Murray. Charles was a graduate of Grafton High School. He spent his career working for and retiring from CNG with 37 years of service where he made life-long friends. He attended Simpson Creek Baptist Church until his illness and then enjoyed the live stream service when it became available. Farming was a way

of life for Charles ever since the age of 11, and that became a true passion for him. Even through his illness he loved life and will forever be missed by his family. A funeral service was held at Burnside Funeral Home on May 7, 2021 with Dr. C. Michael Hopkins presiding. Interment followed in Harmony Grove Cemetery.

discuss all possibilities of exposure and how to prevent and handle. The safety protocol is to wear masks and practice social distancing during the times the program is open. And if those standards were to change we would adapt in accordance to the CDC recommendations.” If parents are interested

“Parks & Rec”

cont. from p6

in having their kids participate in the program, please feel free to contact the office for more information. Also, we are still taking applications for summer parks staff, so, if you know of anyone who would have an interest in the program, have them contact us for employment opportunities.

Lincoln High’s April Students Of The Month



LEAH HERNDON

Lincoln High School has announced that it’s April Students of the Month are Leah Herndon and Payton Hawkins.

Leah Christine Herndon is the daughter of Tina Leonard and Chris Herndon.

Leah has, impressively, maintained an A average all throughout her years of schooling, and has always been on the honor roll. She has received Top Scholar in Geometry and Civics, and was inducted into

the National Honor Society her junior year. Leah also earned membership into the National Technical Honor Society.

Leah participated in Cross Country for two years. She is also very active within groups and organizations in school. In addition to the honor societies, she is a member of DECA where she holds the offices of President of Chapter, Director of Communications, and Director of Membership Activities. She is also a

member of FBLA and 4H.

Leah has plans to attend West Virginia University in the fall to major in Accounting and Chinese.

Payton Dean Hawkins is the son of Rob and Holly Hawkins of Shinnston, and the grandson of Jim and Candy Fiorito, Mary Hawkins, and the late Richard Hawkins.

Throughout his four years at Lincoln, Payton has earned a spot on the honor roll due to his exceptional grades. He



PAYTON HAWKINS

is in the top 25 of his class, and has qualified as a PROMISE scholar. Payton was inducted into the National Honor Society his junior year, has taken many college-level classes throughout high school, and is a four-time Top Scholar. Also noteworthy, is the fact that Payton serves as the President of his senior class this year.

Payton also excels athletically, and has been quite an asset for many teams at Lincoln. A four-year member of the boys’ basketball

team, Payton has earned All-County and Big 10 awards, as well as served as Captain for two years. Also, a four-year member of the football team, Payton made his mark on that sport, as well. He earned Big 10, All-County, and All-State awards, and was chosen as WV Metro News Scholar Athlete of the Week. He is currently in his fourth year of baseball where he and his team are paving the way for a very successful season. Payton has been a

member of the Student Council, Drug Free Club, and the Key Club, where he serves as President. He has spent countless hours volunteering in his community. Some of these include: Angel Luv, Feed-a-Family, Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, and WVU Hospitals.

Payton will attend Alderson Broaddus University this fall where he will continue his football career and obtain a degree in Exercise Science.

Barbour County Historical Museum Is Now Open For Visitors



After being closed for an entire year, the Barbour County Historical Museum is open once again.

After waiting an entire year to visit the Barbour County Historical Museum to see artifacts of the Civil War, to marvel at the phone switchboard of the Myers family, Philippi’s medical legacy, to be amazed by the now-famous Philippi mummies, and to enjoy walking through history of the area, visitors will now be greeted with a “Welcome back!” which began May 7.

According to lead volunteer Ed Larry, the Museum will greet visitors from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm on Fridays and Saturdays and from 1:00 - 5:00 pm Sundays throughout the summer and fall months. Following safety guidelines, visitor capacity in the Museum will be limited to six people at one time. Everyone in the

Museum, including children, must wear a mask covering the nose and mouth. Because the Museum is staffed by volunteers, Larry recommends anyone traveling a distance for a visit message the Museum from its Facebook page or email the Museum at info@barbourcountyhistoricalmuseum.org to ensure the Museum will be open on the desired day.

Larry also is asking anyone in the community who wants to serve as a greeter and guide at the Museum for the 2021 season to contact him at 304-457-3773 or frank.larry45@gmail.com. The Museum depends upon volunteers to keep the doors open for visitors.

The final announcement from the Museum is that

the Museum and Philippi Main Street will be partnering in sponsoring a Lurch Festival on a blocked-off Museum Street on Saturday, August 7 to introduce the community to the life-size statue of the TV character Lurch as performed by former Philippi resident Ted Cassidy. The day will include food vendors, music, and an official unveiling of the statue by Morgantown’s Bixby Studios’ artists Chad Sine and Adrian Larry. Sine and Larry are co-owners of Bixby Studios which was commissioned by Main Street to fabricate the statue for Philippi which will be housed in the Museum. The Museum encourages all to “Save the Date” and enjoy the festivities on Saturday, August 7.

Beginning at \$1.25 subject to all reservations and exceptions ease- auto

Stay informed
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