



‘Miracle’ Transpires For Fairmont State Aviation Center Of Excellence



DAVID McROBIE

Fairmont State’s program including Aviation Center of Excellence is the first and only (CFR) part 141 established collegiate pilot training program in West Virginia, a designation enabling the program to offer students Federal Aviation Administration approved and structured training, syllabi, training aids and facilities, allowing for a reduction in required training hours.

The Aviation Center of Excellence is led by Joel Kirk, Director and Chief Pilot, who was presented the opportunity to expand Fairmont State’s Aviation program through the launch of the U.S. Air Force Junior Reserve Officer’s Training Corps Flight Academy, comprised of incoming high school juniors from across the nation. The Summer Flight Academy is an elite program including 25 universities throughout the country partnering with the U.S. Air Force to conduct flight training for JROTC cadets, with the ultimate goal of expediting pilot candidates into fleet aircraft by exposing them to flight training while they simultaneously complete undergraduate degree requirements. For Fairmont State, however, a key component was missing to secure a partnership with the U.S. Air Force - an aircraft. The Fairmont State Aviation Center of Excellence’s fleet consisted of five operating airplanes at the time of application, and a sixth aircraft would be necessary to complete the required flight training for cadets within the allotted timeframe. Each cadet must

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An Unsung Hero Of The United Way Of Harrison & Doddridge Counties

The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal has named Cathie Folmsbee-Jackson as May’s Citizen of the Month, a program sponsored by Dorsey Funeral Home in Shinnston, locally owned & operated.



Cathie Folmsbee-Jackson

By DIANA BEDELL
News & Journal Staff Writer

If you have questions regarding United Way programming and changes the United Way of Harrison County (and now, Doddridge County) has seen in the past 18 years, Cathie Folmsbee-Jackson is definitely your go-to person. Jackson has served as the administrative assistant to two past directors, as well as the current executive director Brad Riffe and was elevated to the organization’s finance director in November 2020.

As a single mother with four children, Jackson worked in Consumer Credit at Criss Cross before becoming as an administrative assistant to Marie Battles at Criss Cross from 1991-2003. She followed Battles to United Way in 2003. After obtaining her GED, Jackson received her associate degree in accounting at Salem Teikyo and later a degree in business administration/computer tech accounting from the WV Business

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Volunteers Sought For Downtown Storefront Window Cleaning

Make A Difference; Help Make Your Community ‘SHINE’!



By LEIGH C. MERRIFIELD

News & Journal Editor

The City of Shinnston is once again rallying for the support of volunteers. Next Saturday, June 5th, from 9 a.m. until noon, interested volunteers will have an opportunity to “make a difference” in their community. The project to be undertaken will be washing storefront windows in the downtown area.

Jon Olson, the VISTA volunteer who is working as a volunteer coordinator with the City, says it is part of his responsibility to try to help expand the capacity to make change in this community during his stay here. He also reports that this idea was sprung from results of the earlier community survey that local residents responded to. One of the requests was to address the need for cleaning storefront windows along Pike Street.

“Trying to create a better culture for volunteerism in Shinnston is something I am heavily involved in,” Jon stated. “A

group of us from the City met some time ago and went over the community survey suggestions, and we felt that this was a rather simple thing to do that would only involve a few hours of volunteers’ time while also serving a practical need and could deliver a much better presentation of the community. We’re hoping many volunteers will engage in this activity.”

Most people have often heard that ‘first impressions’ are important, and the appearance of clean windows in the downtown area would enhance the curb appeal of local businesses and perhaps create a more inviting environment for customers – not to mention the fact that business owners will likely appreciate it!

Traffic studies have been done in Shinnston in the past, revealing a PHENOMENAL amount of daily traffic. As most homeowners know, at this time of year, a blowing rain and pollen particles in the air can certainly cause

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Season Opener At Shinnston Pool Is Set For Sat., May 29th



By LEIGH C. MERRIFIELD
News & Journal Editor

Ferguson Memorial Park originally opened its BRAND NEW pool in 2002, and some of the original equipment still exists! Couple that with the fact that the pool remained closed last year due to pandemic restrictions ... SO, it left quite a bit of work to be done to prepare for this year’s opening.

Anthony Tate, Shinnston’s Economic Development Coordinator, can confirm just how much preparation time has been spent there.

“We’ve really been busy, replacing all the outside lighting with LED lights, replacing the roof on the concession stand along with new lights under it,

draining and touching up the paint on the pool, painting dressing rooms, purchasing new cash registers, weeding out pool chairs that either needed repairs or were beyond repair, getting some new equipment for lifeguards and the pool manager, and hiring and training our staff. That’s a pretty long list; however, we are pretty well wrapping things up now,” Tate said.

He noted that a burst pipe in the supply area last year shorted out a computer and that, too, needed to be addressed. “So we now have a new control system as well, which monitors the

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Knee Rehab



Building Amazing Cities

By JIM HUNT
author, speaker, consultant

One of the most important parts of many surgical procedures is doing the physical rehabilitation following the surgery. I have come to appreciate the skill of these talented professionals as I recover from my second knee replacement surgery. I went into surgery at the end of April and began the rehabilitation process shortly after returning home from the hospital. Both of my knee replacements were done by Dr. Waxman and he did a masterful job of getting rid of all the arthritic damage and replacing it with a metal and plastic replacement. The surgical incision was about eight inches long and he used a combination of surgical glue and Steri-strips to leave me with a barely noticeable scar. The pain after the surgery was manageable but it did make for difficult sleeping and moving around.

I opted for home therapy and they visited me on the day after I returned from the hospital. I did the same thing with my first knee replacement and it is a very convenient way to do the therapy. A nurse visited once a week and the physical therapist visited three times a week. The main purpose for

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HANGING FRUIT

Food For Thought

By Leigh Currey Merrifield
Editor

Customer Service – Part II

If you read last week's 'Food for Thought', I can tell you that I agree with NBC's take on customer service; it is lacking now, thanks in part to the pandemic and not being able to shop in person. Perhaps I'm telling my age because many younger people LOVE it. They think it's convenient and quicker to just click on what you want, fill in the blanks, and it will arrive at your door – or perhaps you even have them package it and whisk it off to the recipient if it's a gift. No searching for a parking place, no fighting crowds, no waiting in line, no worries about going out in the cold, wind, snow, rain or extreme heat. I'll admit, that may have some advantages, BUT I still prefer the in-person experience, seeing first hand how something is made, trying it on for proper fit, and seeing the product's true colors.

COVID brought 'impersonal' to the top of our vocabulary list, didn't it? Going to the hospital left concerned family members waiting outside worrying in their cars; if you lost a loved one, visitations and funeral services were not well attended, adding to the sorrow felt by family members. Visiting your bank in person has required an appointment; otherwise, go through the drive through where your business is whisked through a carrier tube and often sent back with hardly a word spoken. Even grocery shopping was affected; place your order online and stop and pick it up. I wonder how many times what you wanted was out of stock, so do they replace those items with something similar or just mark it off your list, and you realize when you get home that some of your needed ingredients are missing! Many companies really plead with customers to handle their business online, and if you do so, you pray that your account numbers aren't jeopardized in any way. Another example is if you need to call your doctor or pharmacy, how many times does a PERSON answer the phone or do you listen to the menu and press 1, 2, 3, and so on and leave a message. No one TALKS to you personally, and you hope the message is retrieved and taken care of. You may

have even resorted to a remote telephone appointment with your doctor! EVERYTHING became remote during the pandemic! It's no one in particular's fault; the pandemic just changed things ... and not necessarily for the good!

Allow me to share my 'personal' experience, which took over a month to resolve! I read that when people feel they've been cooped up too long, it might be a good time to busy yourself with a change of scenery. I decided to try that ... my bedroom needed a makeover after 20 years ... and I wanted it to be more 'restful'. I searched online for two months looking for the right choice and finally narrowed my choice down to something I 'thought' I would love even though I couldn't touch it or see the colors in person. I reached out to the company's 'chat box' to 'chat' with a representative, asking if they could give me a clear description of the colors. The rep said mostly taupe and gray. I asked, "Why, then, is the color labeled 'blue' if it is predominantly taupe and gray?" I never got an answer, so I trusted that when it arrived, if I didn't like it, I'd send it back.

ARRIVAL is a key word here. According to the tracking information, the bedding ensemble was shipped from Tennessee two days after I ordered it; three weeks later, it still hadn't arrived! I contacted UPS (online of course) and the whole process was difficult; my issue had to be explained in ONE SENTENCE! Forget that! I tried to contact the company I ordered from and got a woman in India, who advised me to use my tracking number. I'd been doing that for the past THREE weeks! Heck, I could have walked to Tennessee and back in three weeks' time! Since I couldn't speak to a person, I filled out not one, but two online requests for support. Neither were ever answered!

One day I saw a UPS truck in my neighborhood, got in my car and followed it until it stopped to make a delivery elsewhere. I asked the driver if there was a local UPS number I could call to SPEAK TO A LIVE PERSON about my missing package. He gave me a number and I spoke to a person, who told me to

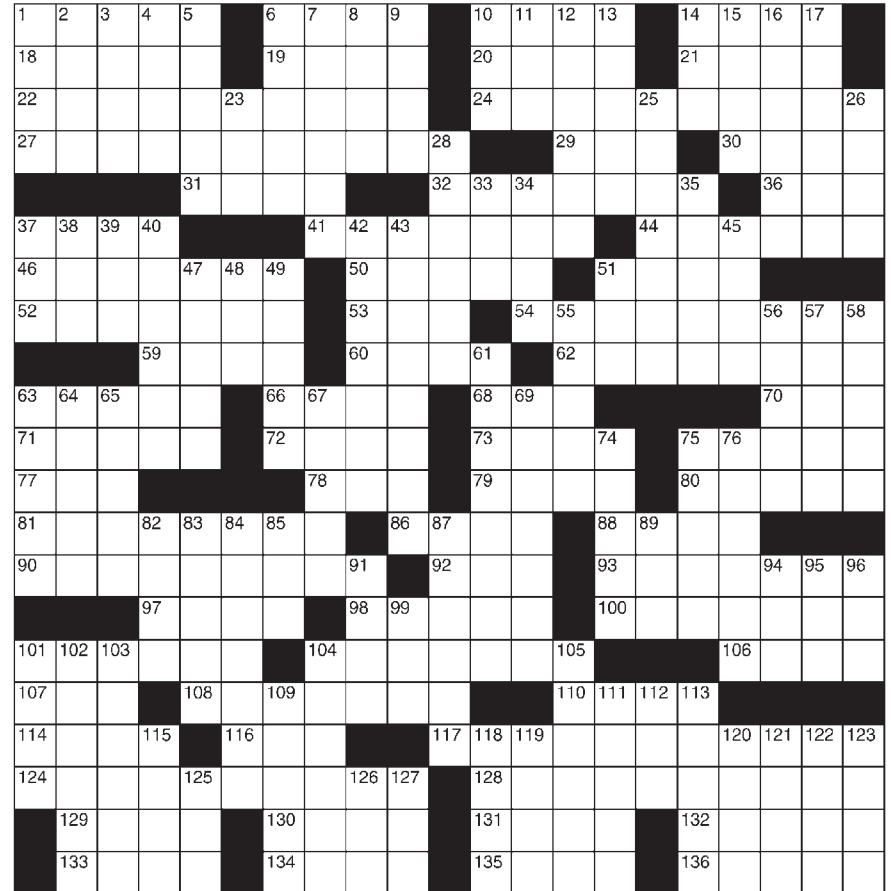
contact the company I purchased from and they would need to fill out a form to have it traced. Since I had NO luck reaching the company in ANY of my attempts, I decided to think outside the box. I googled the location of the nearest store, which was in PA, called and spoke with a nice lady who was a "chat" agent and she promised to get me some support. Five minutes later, a gentleman in Florida called (I almost didn't answer the phone because it was an 800 number!) who said my package was likely lost in transit and, recognizing my frustration, he ordered a replacement as we spoke. GOD BLESS HIM – it took less than 10 minutes!

It arrived on my doorstep three days later. My mother sat and literally prayed that I would like it because she was afraid I would explode if the colors weren't just right. Luckily, her prayers were answered; I loved it! HOWEVER, these businesses need to realize that those of us who are FORCED to shop online need a pleasant experience and a follow-up when there is an issue. Will I ever order from this company again due to the lack of concern on their part? VERY doubtful! The customer service was non-existent and that is an oh-so valuable priority whether you shop online or in person.

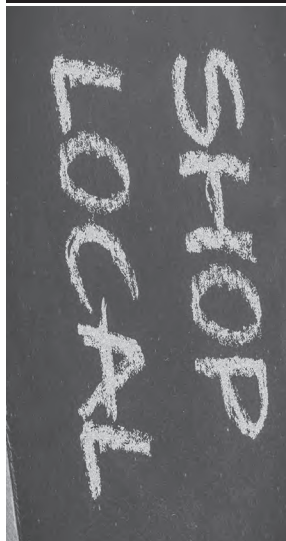
This week's dessert: "There is only one boss – the satisfied customer. And he or she can fire everybody in the company from the chairman on down, simply by spending his money elsewhere." ~ Sam Walton

Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Muscat dweller
 - 6 Imitate Daffy Duck
 - 10 Chest muscles, informally
 - 14 Coalition
 - 18 Billiards shot
 - 19 Not duped by
 - 20 Folk legend
 - 21 Not-yet-final software
 - 22 Involving three parties
 - 24 One of the Clue suspects
 - 27 1971 Stanley Kubrick film
 - 29 "Shop — you drop!"
 - 30 Sully
 - 31 Middling
 - 32 Old Italian painter
 - 36 Singer Rawls
 - 37 Honcho
 - 41 Gruesome
 - 44 Louvre, e.g.
 - 46 False names
 - 50 Explorer — de León
 - 51 Shakers or Quakers
 - 52 Most malicious
 - 53 Tiny fraction of a joule
 - 54 Heroine in Nintendo's Mario games
 - 59 State boldly
 - 60 Lisa of pop
 - 62 More than friendly
 - 63 Rock
 - 66 Dictator Idi
 - 68 Have control over
 - 70 Hawaii's Mauna —
 - 71 Lindsay of "Mean Girls"
 - 72 Come to
 - 73 New York City is said to be one
 - 75 "Beetle Bailey," e.g.
 - 77 Stuck — rut
 - 78 Attain
 - 79 "Quit it!"
 - 80 Home pest
 - 81 Mexican folk musician
 - 86 WWII-era British gun
 - 88 Collins of rock and pop
 - 90 Fluorescent green
 - 92 Period
 - 93 Slaved away
 - 97 Some Korean cars
 - 98 The Antilles, e.g.
 - 100 Tangle up
 - 101 Some shiny plastics
 - 104 Private college in the Bay State
 - 106 Chew like a rodent
 - 107 Ending for acetyl
 - 108 Legendary hero of Athens
 - 110 Regatta gear
 - 114 "In case it's true ..."
 - 116 Hotel phone abbr.
 - 117 It may follow "Use by" on a label
 - 124 Of no value
 - 128 Irvine locale
 - 129 Swamp grass
 - 130 Prefix with present
 - 131 Contends
 - 132 Singer Bonnie
 - 133 Concocted
 - 134 "Auld — Syne"
 - 135 Apropos of
 - 136 Lauder of perfume
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Nona- minus one
 - 2 Painter Chagall
 - 3 Edible pomegranate part
 - 4 Court plea, in brief
 - 5 Desks top since 1998
 - 6 Bygone theater chain
 - 7 Like some hotel dining
 - 8 Antares, e.g.
 - 9 Tyler's successor
 - 10 Infant food
 - 11 Transgress
 - 12 Attire
 - 13 Capital of Bulgaria
 - 14 Small pellets of shot
 - 15 Not including
 - 16 Peter of "Masada"
 - 17 Len of stage and screen
 - 23 Ref's ring decision
 - 25 Krypton, e.g.
 - 26 See
 - 24-Across
 - 28 See
 - 27-Across
 - 33 "Speechless" ailer
 - 34 Set up, for short
 - 35 Actress Susan
 - 37 Scoot's cap
 - 38 Bullring shout
 - 39 Zadora of "Hairspray"
 - 40 See
 - 37-Across
 - 42 Resembling a gorilla
 - 43 Crowns for nobles
 - 45 Spring (from)
 - 47 Fourth prime
 - 48 Suffix of languages
 - 49 Sipping aid
 - 51 Transgress
 - 55 Fab Four drummer
 - 56 Actress Hayek
 - 57 Impassive
 - 58 See
 - 54-Across
 - 61 "Against the Wind" singer
 - 63 Gunky stuff
 - 64 Pitch-related
 - 65 United Airlines hub
 - 67 Houdini's skill
 - 69 Looker-on
 - 74 See
 - 73-Across
 - 75 Tots' beds
 - 76 Dark Chinese tea
 - 82 Gunky
 - 83 Slanted
 - 84 Uninvited partygoer
 - 85 That fellow's
 - 87 "Thy Neighbor's Wife" author
 - Gay
 - 89 Solo of "Solo"
 - 91 See
 - 90-Across
 - 94 Flew on foot
 - 95 Period
 - 96 Glistening grass stuff
 - 99 Mu — chicken
 - 101 Blood carrier
 - 102 Give knowledge
 - 103 Lipton rival
 - 104 Respiratory woe
 - 105 One slaving away
 - 109 Laud
 - 111 Spring (from)
 - 112 U.K. mil. branch
 - 113 Grocery, e.g.
 - 115 Due, as money
 - 118 96, in old Rome
 - 119 Ache
 - 120 Nest eggs for srs.
 - 121 Doing the job
 - 122 Evening, in adpeak
 - 123 See
 - 117-Across
 - 125 Praiseful poem
 - 126 "Raggedy" plaything
 - 127 See
 - 124-Across



Find the Super Crossword Answers on Page 8!



"A Newspaper The Whole Family Can Read"

Shinnston Harrison County

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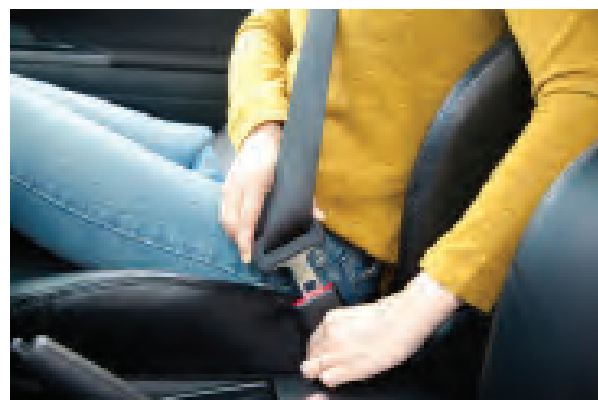
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Make 'Buckling Up' A Part Of Your Travel Plans This Summer

'Click It or Ticket' Being Observed Again In 2021



By LEIGH C. MERRIFIELD
News & Journal Editor

It may be hard to believe, but the campaign to push for mandatory seat belt use began way back in the 1960's. It is now 2021, and nearly every state in the U.S. has made wearing a seat belt a law ... and yet only 50% of motor vehicle occupants

buckle up! Some of the resistance to wearing a seat belt is rather lame. Here are a few common excuses: "I'm a good driver; I don't drive fast." ... Regardless of how proficient your driving skills may be, what about the other drivers on the road? "I rarely drive far from home." ... According to one study, an estimated 52%

of vehicular accidents occur within five miles of home, and 77% occur within 15 miles or less, so that's not a good excuse. "It wrinkles my clothes." ... So people worry more about wrinkled apparel than perhaps suffering a spinal injury or worse? Today, motor vehicles are equipped with more safety features than ever — tire pressure monitoring systems, back-up cameras, lane departure prevention systems, and the list continues; however, none of these modern innovations are as critical to passenger safety as a seat belt. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), seat

belts reduce one's risk of suffering injuries or death by about 50% when used properly, and according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), seat belts save more than 15,000 lives every year in the U.S. If your safety and the safety of those traveling with you is not a good enough reason to buckle up, remember that wearing a seat belt is required by law, and if you've neglected to buckle up, you could face some costly fines. The Public Service Commission of West Virginia has joined forces with the Governor's Highway

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N&J Briefs

“Fairmont State Aviation Center” cont. from p. 1

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).

WEST VIRGINIA HERITAGE CLASSES/ EVENTS

The following classes/events will be taking place at West Virginia Heritage Crafts at the Historic Quiet Dell School: **Basket Making Class** - May 27, 9:30 AM-3:30 PM, \$52.00 - call Martha 304-483-0858 Limit 5; **Book and Craft Supply Sale** – May 1 through May 31, cookbooks, fiction, childrens books, & crafts (priced to sell) plus an assortment of craft supplies. Call 304-622-3304 for additional information.

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.

individually complete 40 hours of flight during the seven-week course, and the University was unable to accommodate the demand with its flight school at its current capacity.

“When this Junior ROTC program opportunity started becoming an option, we knew we wanted to get involved, but we just didn’t have the number of airframes to take it on,” said Kirk. “In this business though, we always have to lean forward.”

Earlier this spring, Kirk and Fairmont State President Mirta M. Martin took a leap of faith and committed Fairmont State University to the program with only five airplanes, and outlined four courses of action to obtain the sixth aircraft.

“The first was to purchase another airplane, with a price tag ranging anywhere from \$300,000 - \$400,000,” Kirk explained. “The second option was to lease an airplane, requiring a \$40,000 commitment from the University and dramatically increasing the costs submitted to the Air Force for the program. The third option was to upgrade a non-flying sixth airplane that belongs to the University, with an estimated cost of \$60,000 in repairs to restore. The fourth and most unlikely option was that a miracle would occur and someone would donate an airplane.”

As Kirk worked with

administration to weigh the pros and cons of each scenario, he thought back to conversations two years prior with Fairmont native Dave McRobie, a circumstance he would later describe as “miraculous fate”.

“I met Mr. McRobie when he stopped by the ACE on a random visit seeking help with a piece of equipment for his plane,” Kirk said.

Kirk and McRobie bonded over their passion for flying and prior military service, and by the end of the meeting, McRobie mentioned in passing the University could use his aircraft “anytime” if the need ever occurred.

“Of course, putting an aircraft into a university training program is not as easy as it may have been in years past, but the gesture was certainly kind,” Kirk said. “As a follow up a month or so later, I attempted to call Mr. McRobie to see how he was doing and found the number I had been given was incorrect, so contact seemed to be lost.”

A week after the paperwork was signed committing to the Air Force, by chance, Kirk asked a maintenance technician operating out of the Fairmont Airport if he knew of or had contact with McRobie. Coincidentally, the technician had recently completed maintenance on McRobie’s aircraft and had contact information for McRobie’s daughter.

“I asked my mechanic if he could reach out to

Mr. McRobie’s daughter to see if her father was interested in leasing his plane, and we scheduled a meeting to explore our options,” Kirk noted.

Kirk met with McRobie and his daughter in hopes of leasing the airplane, but instead learned McRobie wished to gift the Fairmont State Aviation program his aircraft. The exchange was made under one condition; the plane would spend the entirety of its life teaching young people to fly.

“It appeared the most unlikely ‘miracle option’ might in fact occur,” said Kirk. “Mr. McRobie outlined the criteria, and simply requested that his plane spend the rest of its operating life training students to fly. That was his passion – teaching young adults to fly, and I assured him that’s exactly what his airplane will do. There’s no better place for it than right here in his hometown.”

The University recognized McRobie at a press conference

where the aircraft was dedicated in honor of McRobie’s generous gift last Friday at the Fairmont State Aviation Hangar in Bridgeport.

“David McRobie represents the best of what our Falcon Family spirit is all about,” said Mirta M. Martin, Fairmont State University President. “He has a huge heart and a generous spirit that is focused on our students. David’s gift will truly help Falcons soar for years to come.”

McRobie enlisted in the United States Air Force in April 1955, where he would actively serve until 1976 upon retiring as a Senior Master Sergeant. While stationed at the Grissom Air Force Base in Indiana, McRobie earned his private pilot’s license. McRobie later became instrument rated and was an active private pilot for 46 years. McRobie currently serves as a member of the Civil Air Patrol.

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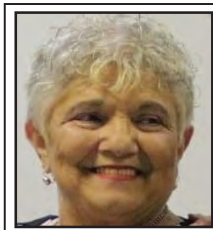
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Hilton Garden Inn Is The Newest Beneficiary Of The PWA Food Pantry



GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen

This past week, The Progressive Women's Association received a donation to add to their list of beneficiaries of The Food Pantry that the group operates daily from their location at the Uptown Event Center. Lisa Sutton, Director of Sales and Marketing of Hilton Garden Inn, delivered a wagon filled with food to be distributed to those in need through the PWA Food Pantry. Sutton advised the group that the food had been collected from the employees at the Inn. The food is collected weekly and distributed to food pantries on a weekly basis. The PWA will be a recipient on a monthly basis.

Queen, President of the PWA, thanked and welcomed the newest group to the pantry assistance. The pantry supplies food to hundreds of individuals on a monthly basis. It has remained open during the pandemic, meeting the needs of many residents. The generosity of many businesses and individuals has allowed the PWA to keep the pantry open and assisting those in need. For more information or to make a donation, call 304-624-6881.

This past week, the PWA held its regular monthly meeting for members and guests. It was announced that plans for the 100th anniversary would be moving forward with a tentative date of September 17, 2021. Details will be released as they are finalized. Due to a grant that the PWA has received, the kitchen area is being remodeled and being designed to be used by commercial businesses for their operations. Any business interested in utilizing the kitchen should contact the PWA. Plans for the Meet & Greet Clarksburg City Council Candidates event, sponsored by the YWPA and the PWA, were finalized. All candidates have replied and it is

anticipated a large crowd will be present. The Water Board candidates have also been invited to participate. Betty Felts, Director of the YWPA, is overseeing the arrangements; an outdoor event is being planned. Due to a medical emergency of President Queen, the meeting was presided over by Vice President, Betty Waddy.

I have to report that this past week I had emergency surgery at Ruby Hospital. I had a detached retina and it needed to be taken care of immediately. I started losing sight in my left eye early on Thursday and by four o'clock it was completely gone. I went to see my local doctor and he immediately sent me to Ruby where two specialists were waiting for me at the door. I was in surgery at six o'clock and left the hospital about ten thirty. I have a nice black eye but not much vision. I have been told that it will take about ten days. Well, here is one for the books - this scared me a little more than the cancer diagnoses. But I think all will be well and this old girl will be back at it, seeing everything. A big thank you to Dr. Faris and my daughter Leslie who got me to Ruby in less than two hours and the wonderful staff in the optometry department and the operating and recovery room staff. Marty stayed all night with me and Mike got me back to the hospital on Friday. I have a few days before going back, but a lot of drops to put in the eye here at home. Like they say, "Getting old is not for sissies."

I think that the 80-degree temperatures are a sure sign that summer is here. The squirrels and I are having a bout; I'm trying to keep them out of my garden barrel and flowers. I have a great collection of birds and squirrels to watch, but they just do not mix with my garden. However, I still enjoy watching them.

Congratulations to all the graduates and I wish them good luck in the future.

Now, the good news ... summer is on its way; we all want and need to stay healthy and happy. "Until Next Week, Now You Have Heard It Through the Grapevine."

Memorial Day - A Day To Honor The Sacrifices Of Our Military Men & Women



Pine Bluff News

By Pat Matheny

I want to give a special shout out to all the volunteers for adding plaques and doing general clean up of the Clay District Veterans Memorial in town. It's definitely an asset to the community.

Last Saturday morning, Kim left and drove back to Fredericksburg, Va. I had to chuckle when she was packing her car. She came out of the bedroom with two medium size pieces of luggage, plus, she had seventeen hangers with clothes... for a five day visit...? She packs just like her Mom used to do. Whenever she leaves, she always stops at Price Cutters in town and picks up Oliverio's and Demus' hot peppers and pizza shells because they are not available in their area. She also has to pick up a dozen of WV hot dogs for Butch.

Sunday, I visited with John. Then, I drove over to the T&L restaurant in town and picked up cheeseburgers and dropped one off to him.

Monday, I had a procedure done at the United Hospital Center. Lee took me because I needed to have a driver. We were there from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm; it was a long day. A young lady had to insert an IV (something that I always look forward to) and it took her three tries before being successful. After she taped it in place, I asked her, "Did that feel as good to you as it did to me?" The poor thing didn't know what to say.

Guess where I was Tuesday morning, bright and

early? I had more appointments at the VA hospital dealing with vascular things. After my tests, I had a consultation with Vascular Surgeon Dr. Sonny Tucker. We went over the current tests and then I had him check the findings and diagnoses from the other tests that I've been through in the last year between the VA and UHC. He explains things to me in simpler terms. When I first met him several years ago at the hospital, for some reason we made a great connection. I've written about him before in the column. He also reads it when the N&J is delivered to the facility. Sadly, I learned he is leaving the hospital at the end of June and returning to the Dallas, TX area. He wrote down his personal cell phone number and said to call him anytime...he's a good man.

Weather-wise, it was a great week in West "By God" Virginia with temps in the high 80's with low humidity. Wednesday, I started filling the fountain barrel to get it up and running, but it isn't going very well. Because the barrel had dried out, the wood slats looked like a picket fence. It makes it tough to fill up when the water runs out faster than I can put it in. In two days' time, I ran water in it for a total of 16 hours and it will now almost fill to the top. Also, Postal has been filling their above ground swimming pool for the past two days. So, the two of us should have the Bingamon PSD water tank on Peora Hill drained by the weekend.

I hope everyone remembers why we have Memorial Day. It is a day to honor the men and women who have sacrificed their lives for this country.

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

Ace

"Buckling Up" cont. from p. 2

Safety Program, the NHTSA, and other law enforcement agencies in the 'Click It or Ticket' blitz that runs from May 14th through the Memorial Day weekend. So it is important right now - and EVERY day - to click it and avoid a ticket!

While other agencies concentrate their efforts on the general driving public, the PSC's Enforcement Officers deliver the seat belt safety message to drivers of commercial motor vehicles. And according to PSC Chairman Charlotte

Lane, "Our officers work every day to improve safety on West Virginia's roadways, and this campaign gives us the opportunity to remind the travelling public that seat belts save lives," she stated. "Our officers take a no-excuse approach to seat belt law enforcement and write citations day and night."

The National Highway Safety Administration's data shows that in 2019, 9,466 unbuckled vehicle passengers were killed in crashes in the United States. That same year,

73 West Virginians lost their lives because they did not buckle their seat belts! Don't be another statistic!!!!

Even though the 'Click It or Ticket' blitz was not held in 2020 due to the pandemic, PSC officers recorded 299 seat belt violations while inspecting commercial motor vehicles. This year, with more people being vaccinated, restrictions being lifted, and the school year about to end, families are anxious to put travel into their plans ... and it will begin soon.

AAA Travel expects a significant rebound in the number of Americans planning to take to the roadways this Memorial Day holiday weekend. More than 37 million people are expected to travel 50 miles or more from home for a vacation. As summer approaches and the weather becomes dependably warmer, those numbers will likely increase, so if travel is in your summer plans and you are traveling the roadways and not the airways, protect yourself and buckle up!

"Knee Rehab"

cont. from p. 1

the therapy is to gain movement and flexibility and to return to normal activities as soon as possible. The exercises are difficult at first, but each day brings some improvement, and you soon forget the pain and discomfort from the early days of treatment. It seems that much of the pain is the result of the healing of the tissue from the trauma of the surgery. While the physical therapy sessions only last about half an hour, it tires you out for the rest of the day.

The physical therapy process is as much mental, as it is physical. The therapist spends a lot of time managing expectations and explaining what is happening in your body during the healing process. I have to admit that I had some difficult days dealing with the mental adjustment to being in a "healing" mode. It is frustrating being confined to the house and hobbling around the house using a walker. My therapist has been great at helping me assess my progress and be able to look forward to a more mobile future. My biggest complaint has been the interruption to my sleep pattern. I have always been a good sleeper but getting comfortable in bed is difficult and most nights, I am only getting a few hours sleep. I realize that this is temporary, and I look forward to getting my eight hours again.

One sobering thing about doing the physical therapy is talking to the therapist about their work. My therapist described helping stroke victims and people recovering from amputations and the long process of recovery from these types of conditions. I soon realized that I was so fortunate to be able to be up and moving around in just a few weeks. I mentioned to my therapist how rewarding it must be to see someone in such bad condition make a recovery through thousands of small steps over months and sometimes years.

After four weeks of physical therapy, I am able to walk without a walker or cane and can go up and down steps with little trouble. The bend in my knee is just about where they want it to be and much of the pain has gone. I will probably do some out-patient physical therapy to get stronger, but I am appreciative of the home health care that I have received during this time. We live in a time of Amazing medical advancements and I marvel at how I can stand on these "new" knees, made of metal and plastic. I'm looking forward to getting on the road again and possibly sitting on an airplane without the intense pain of my old, arthritic knees!

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A Developing Community

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enjoying a solid present,
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Summer 2021 Is Looking Better!

Volunteers From Jewel City Church Help Beautify Ferguson Park



By **CHAD EDWARDS**
Shinnston City Manager

With Covid numbers declining and vaccinations increasing, it is time to bring on the Summer of 2021. And I have some exciting

things to announce for the City of Shinnston this summer.

First, the swimming pool will open on May 29th with very few restrictions. If you have not already seen some of the improvements we have made, you are in for a pleasant surprise. I

want to give a big, BIG thank you to Jewel City Church and all of their volunteers who helped us get things running and ready at the Park. Their volunteer service was exceptional in helping us prepare for the park and pool opening, and we hope

it will receive abundant use this summer!

Second, planning for the new Community Garden has begun. It will be located beside Brennan Auto (formerly Pizza Express). We have received topsoil to nourish the ground for

Continued on Page 10



By **DEBORAH STARKEY**
Lowe Library Director

You may be asking why summer reading is so important to children. Summer reading programs are designed

to encourage children to keep reading during summer vacation. Preventing the "summer slide" continues to be the main objective during the school break. The public library, in some instances, is the

only community space available for families with children where they can access free educational and cultural activities and programs. A few of the benefits of enrolling your child in our summer program

include: Children are motivated to read. Children develop positive attitudes about reading, books and the library. Children maintain

Continued on Page 10

Garden Club Votes To Support LHS Honor Society Beautification Project

The Shinnston Garden Club met May 6th at the Sunset-Ellis Restaurant for a luncheon meeting. Wanda Ashcraft led devotions which pertained to both Earth

Day and Mother's Day. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The National Honor Society from Lincoln High School came to

present a beautification project to plant rhododendron and azalea plants along a handicap ramp at the school. Members of the National Honor Society

would do the work; the Honor Society provided pictures of the project site and a breakdown of the cost. Wanda Ashcraft moved

Continued on Page 9

Woman's Club Recently Celebrated Its Annual Presidents' Dinner

The local Woman's Club held its annual President's Dinner on Monday evening, May 17th at 6 PM in the Clubhouse. Carrie Mancino, 2nd Vice President, decorated the tables in cloths of pastel hues, featuring lanterns

encircled with various flowers.

Members brought several delicious dishes of food to share. Past President Kathleen Panek coordinated dinner preparation.

Past President and current 1st Vice-

President Deborah Starkey presided. She offered a sincere welcome to all and gave a blessing, after which, the meal was enjoyed. Wanda F. Ashcraft, Past President and current Secretary, lead the Pledge to the Flag

and gave devotions, using themes honoring Mother's Day and Memorial Day and finished with a prayer. Guest speakers were Chad M. Edwards, Shinnston City Manager and Anthony

Continued on Page 8

Visit The Bice-Ferguson Museum; Memberships Are Available

By **DEBRA HERNDON**
Museum Director

It's not too late to enter for a random drawing for a prize of \$100 sponsored by the Bice-Ferguson Memorial Museum. There are 5 items displayed in the window of the Museum. Simply identify the items, attach your name and phone number and get your entry to the Museum by May 30th. Entries can be e-mailed to shinnstonmuseum@yahoo.com.

The Museum is now open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm. Several books are available for sale including **Shinnston Tornado** by John L. Finlayson at \$70; **Daughter of the Elm** (book or audio) by Granville Davisson

Hall at \$35; **Shinnston High School Looking Back....Class of 1946**

by James M. Currey at \$35; and **Coach Jack Moore** by C.R. Thomas at \$25. There is also a recipe book available with dishes submitted

by Shinnston residents. Its cost is \$10.

The Bice-Ferguson Memorial Museum was made possible through the generosity of H. Donald and Lota (Ferguson) Bice. The building was originally

the site of the First National Bank of Shinnston and was built very early in the 20th century. Donald and Lota Bice bought the building in 2004 and paid for its extensive

Continued on Page 10

SPD Submits Report Of April Activities

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

Citations	65
Warnings	103
Arrests	26

Reports	34
Alarm Responses	16
Premise Exams	634
Investigations	45
K-9 Deployments	27
Calls for Service	157
Total Calls for Service numbered	1,111.

The sun was shining one day earlier in May when 30 volunteers from Jewel City Church showed up to make Ferguson Park "shine" prior to it being used this summer. Teams of all ages worked diligently at MANY different tasks - from staining the Performance Center to painting pavilions, to mulching playground areas ... and yes, even younger volunteers weeded the brick pathway in front of the poolhouse! Their efforts were a magnificent example of community support and were invaluable in getting Ferguson Memorial Park in tip top shape for the summer season!

SVFD Reports Its April Response Log

Shinnston Volunteer Fire Department Chief Dylan Oliveto reports that April was a busy month for its volunteers, with a repeat of the same call numbers as March. SVFD responded to 84 calls during the month of April, which included:

- 48 Medical Emergencies
- 12 Calls for fire alarm activation
- 8 Service calls (trees down / lines down, flooding, etc.). One was a successful animal rescue.
- 2 Motor Vehicle accidents, one of which resulted in patient transport by HealthNet.

4 Brush fires, one being a large multi-agency response in the Big Indian area.

- 7 Structure Fires
- 3 Unknown or other type fires.

Ten House volunteers perform with pride and are dedicated to serving the residents of Shinnston and those within their service area. Their objective is to preserve life and property and promote public safety in a professional manner. SVFD's monthly call log is offered to keep the public informed of their monthly activities.

The End Of A Season & An Era!

The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor



Robert C. Byrd's outstanding season. The 5'11 junior garnered his fair share of support in the Evans Award race and earned first team all-state honors as well. Robert C. Byrd's Gavin Kennedy and Lincoln's Zack Snyder were also recognized on the Class AAA level. Kennedy garnered a spot on the second team while Snyder was awarded honorable mention. Kennedy has been an explosive scorer during his time in the Flying Eagle program. Snyder is a do-it-all type of player that led the Cougars throughout his career at the Shinnston based school.

In Class AA, South Harrison was represented by Corey Boulden. Boulden, a sophomore, led the Hawks to an impressive 2021 campaign.

Bridgeport's Jack Bifano was a second team selection in Class AAAA. Bifano, a 6'5 senior shook off early

season injury to wrap up his career in an Indian jersey on a high note.

On the girls side, Bridgeport's Gabby Reep made the top team in Class AAAA. Reep accomplished the feat as a sophomore and has two years left in Indian territory. Paige Humble closed out a stellar career at Bridgeport this season. Humble was an Honorable Mention selection.

In Class AAA, Robert C. Byrd's Victoria Sturm registered an impressive senior campaign. In her first year in a Flying Eagle uniform, Sturm captained the second team.

Lincoln's Hannah Ferris and Liberty's Emma Elliot both were recognized for their efforts in 2021. Ferris, a 5'10 senior, provided leadership to the Cougars in her last year in the program. Elliot paced the short-handed Mountaineers (only 10 players on the roster) as a freshman.

In Class AA, South Harrison's Reagan Rudder turned heads. Rudder, just a sophomore, played

inspired basketball for the Hawks.

The end of an era in Robert C. Byrd basketball history occurred recently when long time Head Coach Bill Bennett announced his retirement. Bennett spent 33 years on the sidelines and success followed everywhere that he coached. Bennett has spent the last 19 seasons in Flying Eagle territory where he amassed a 322-128 mark. During that impressive run, I was fortunate to interview the legendary coach over 400 times. He was always gracious with his time and it was the conversations after those interviews that I will miss the most. It was during that time that I learned the most about Coach Bennett...a devout Christian that is a leader of young men that cared more about others than he did himself. Congratulations on a fantastic career Coach! 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 Hannah Ferris and Jeremiah Carpenter.

Cougar softball player, Hannah Ferris helped her team to a four-win week. Ferris picked up six hits and batted just under .500 in those outings. Ferris had a home run and a triple, along with nine runs batted in while scoring eight runs.

Cougar baseball player, Jeremiah Carpenter helped his team to a four-win week. Carpenter was impressive at the plate and on the mound as well. Carpenter collected six hits, including a home run, six runs batted in and three runs scored. Carpenter picked up a win on the bump over Notre Dame. He fanned nine Fighting Irish batters en route to the victory.

Congratulations to Lincoln's Hannah Ferris and Jeremiah Carpenter for being named the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week!

Gnome Is Where The Heart Is



From The World Of Parks & Recreation

By Doug Comer

With Memorial Day Weekend coming up, the staff at Harrison County Parks and Recreation has been working to improve the parks owned by the County Commission. This past week, we completed the dugouts for the middle field at Summit Park and plans for backstops at the Wallace ball field is right around the corner. Through the help of the County Maintenance Department, we should have all park's improvements completed before Labor Day.

One project that the staff completed this week was our Gnome Village which can be found on the furthest section of the trail before the graveyard. The area, known as "Gnomewood" will share familiarities with Hollywood, California. Director Mike Book fell in love with the idea from the initial pitch.

"We have the lay of the land on that part of the trail that resembles the hills of Hollywood. So, why not build gnome homes to replicate. From the Hollywood sign to a Gnome Manor to pay homage to DC character Batman, the kids are just going to fall in love with this part of the trail. We worked hard all winter and spring and now the pieces are starting to fall into place," said Book.

Flemington Elementary was the first to take part in the trail with the new additions and the third and fourth grade students not only learned about the different types of trees and foliage but took part in an animal scavenger hunt, the Legends Loop and finally, the Gnome Village and land of Fairies. The kids' reactions were as expected, nothing but thrilled. During the build, even our staff (who are mostly young college kids) thought that completion was great. It was a great team building challenge and the results were fantastic as Book boasts.

"We really did fall in love with the idea of this addition and the kids worked really hard on preparing the area, building the pieces and finally, getting everything on the trail to tell the story as people pass through. In the Gnomewood area, you have the rural gnomes, the suburb gnomes and then those city slicker gnomes. This is one of the best projects that we have completed and it was great seeing the Flemington kids act so amazed as we hoped."

For those who have not been on the trail, you must go to the second pavilion by the Gaga court and head into the woods. Please look for the scavenger animals that are hidden in places that may take a little bit of time to find. From deer to skunks, there are about 15 animals that can be found on the trail. And along the way, you might want to stop at some of the information posts telling you about the types of trees and their purpose like toothpaste and making root beer. Book loves all parts of the trail, but his fondness with the Legends Loop is a leader to him.

"Legends Loop tells the tails of four occurrences

Continued on page 10

A Full Day Of Excitement Awaits At Pipestem Adventure Zone This Summer



packed full of fun and adventures awaits thrill-seekers at the Pipestem Adventure Zone.

The Grand Opening of this one-of-a-kind adventure park was held on May 26 and adventure enthusiasts were able to indulge their desire to enjoy varied adventures including skeet shooting, laser tag, remote controlled cars on race tracks, 3D archery, axe throwing, drone flying, miniature golf, disc golf, and

electric motor assisted bikes.

West Virginia is known as a premier destination for family adventures such as kayaking, ziplining, and white water rafting. With the opening of the Pipestem Adventure Zone, the area will add another layer of adventure entertainment. Located in Pipestem State Park near Princeton, WV, the Adventure Zone provides numerous

challenging sports activities that are rarely found all in one place.

The Adventure Zone is designed to accommodate visitors of any skill level who would like a 1.5-hour sports experience or multiple sports adventures in the same day. Just park your car and choose to pay a la carte for activities (ranging from \$6 to \$40) or buy a 1-day pass (\$84) to participate

Continued on page 10

Huggins May Be Next Chairman Of NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee



With his vast experience and knowledge of the game, Huggins is an outstanding choice and will be a fantastic Chairman!

According to multiple reports, West Virginia Head Coach Bob Huggins will be named the Chairman of the NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee for the 2021-2022 season.

Mitch Barnhart, Director of Athletics at Kentucky, and the Chairman of the Men's Basketball

Rules Committee, is completing a five-year term that began in the fall of 2016.

Huggins has been very outspoken about rules and the changes that he would like to see happen in college basketball, and he will now have the power to make real change happen.

Continued on page 10

Whitewater Rafting In West Virginia This Memorial Day



Make up for missed milestones as River Expeditions kicks off the unofficial beginning of summer with some whitewater rafting.

River Expeditions offers a number of whitewater rafting trips and vacations, suitable for various ages and abilities, within America's newest National Park: New

River Gorge National Park & Preserve and the Gauley River National Recreation Area.

This Memorial Day, Monday, May 31 River Expeditions is offering a Memorial Day Madness Package...Buy 1-Get 1 for a Single Day Trip. Listed below are a few trips you may consider:

- **Family Class Trips (min. age 6)** are a playful introduction to whitewater rafting. They are great for families with young [children](#) or

older adults who want a low-impact adventure. These trips feature easy-to-moderate rapids, tranquil pools, and amazing scenery. Single and two-person duckies (inflatable kayaks) are also available for added fun.

- **Adventure Class Trips (min. age 12)** are more challenging than Family Class Trips. These trips are characterized by alternating pools and drops that create big,

Continued on page 10

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BETTY JEAN MILLS YOH0



Betty Jean Mills Yoho, 90, of Lumberport passed away on Monday, May 17, 2021 at her home with her daughter by her side. She was born July 13, 1930 in Paden City a daughter of the late William and Pearl Jones Mills.

On January 8, 2011, Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Joshua E. "Bud" Yoho, whom she married on November 27, 1947.

She is survived by her loving daughter with whom she made her home, Sandy Yoho May Hardman and her husband, Norman of Lumberport; her sister-in-law, Nettie Mills of Ohio; as well as several nieces and nephews. Sandy would like to thank Betty's devoted caregivers, Janie Hardesty and Patty Sampson for their special care.

In addition to her husband and parents, Betty was preceded in death by her grandson, Toby May and her six brothers and one sister.

Betty graduated from Magnolia High School in New Martinsville.

A memorial service was held on May 25, 2021 at Perine Funeral Home with Pastor Chad Hutson officiating. Interment followed at the Lumberport Lions Club Cemetery. In keeping with her wishes, her remains were interred along with those of her loving husband, Bud. Online condolences and memories can be shared with the family at www.perinefunerals.com

Memorial contributions may be made to Amedisys Hospice Care at 67 Casino Dr. Anmoore, WV 26323

CLYDE FRANKLIN ZICKEFOOSE

Clyde Franklin Zickefoose, age 79, died in his home in Cleveland, Ohio on February 20, 2021 after a short illness, unrelated to COVID. He was born in Alton, WV in Upshur County the youngest of five children of the late Hartzel and Velma Nee Bosley of Alton.

He is survived by his wife Beverly (Suvegest) Zickefoose of Cleveland, Ohio and his only child, Carson Zickefoose and Carson's mother, Sharon Zickefoose Brisbin, both of Fairmont, WV. His stepson, Jim Tsakalos and children of Cleveland, Ohio also survive. Of his

two brothers and sisters, his older sister Betty June Richards of Tacoma, Washington is deceased. Surviving are nieces, nephews, and cousins of Carson - Rhonda, Andrew, Scott and Sharon Richards of Tacoma, Washington.

Surviving are sister Jewel and her husband Frank Christopher of Sidney, Ohio and their daughter Sherry and husband Doug Watson of Sidney, Ohio. Their son, Craig Christopher of Kent, Ohio is deceased. His older brother James Zickefoose and wife Betty Gayle (Newcomb) survive and reside in Cleveland, Ohio where their daughters Kim Zickefoose and husband Kurt Gretsby and Pam Zickefoose also reside. Brother Buddy Ray Zickefoose and wife Jean (Strader) survive and live in Buckhannon, WV where their daughter Tammy Jo (Zickefoose) Frederick and Terry Lynn (Zickefoose) Warner reside.

A four-year veteran of the United States Army, he served most of his military time in Germany.

A private memorial service and interment will be held in May at Indian Camp Cemetery in Upshur County where his other family members are buried. Indian Camp near Alton, WV first was settled by Indians as early as 1772 and is the home of Indian Camp Rock and the perfectly restored Indian Camp Normal School. Clyde's mother Velma (Bosley) Zickefoose was a direct descendant of the Bosleys who first settled at Indian Camp.

ROBIN RIBERA

Robin Ribera, age 57, passed away peacefully on Friday, May 14, 2021, at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. She was born February 21, 1964, to her father, the late Richard Robey, and mother, Shirley McCullough.

She was a wonderful mother to her three daughters, Jessi Cagle, Stephanie Ribera and Andi Ribera. Robin lived her life as a free spirit and prided herself in being a mother to anyone in need. She touched many lives through her beautiful soul and friendly nature.

In addition to her children and mother, she is survived by her brother Darrick McCullough, and her sister Denei Ash.

She is preceded in death by her father, Richard, and her brother, Steve Robey. She is at peace.

Family and friends and others whose lives Robin touched attended a memorial gathering at the Perine Funeral Home on

Saturday, May 22, 2021. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com.

DONALD L. "DOC" GANOE

Donald L. "Doc" Ganoe, 63, of Gregory's Run, passed away at 10:04am, Saturday, May 15, 2021 at the Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. He was born in Clarksburg, January 21, 1958, a son of the late Wilco E. and Nida Del Baker Ganoe. He is survived by his wife Maria E. Napoletano Ganoe, whom he married June 11, 1983.

Also surviving are two children, Amber Ganoe, of Shinnston and Matthew Ganoe, of Morgantown; his siblings Denise Bennett and her husband Danny, Belinda "Suzy" Sappington, Tammie Heflin and her husband Danny, Pauline "Binky" Collins; his brother-in-law, Albert Bailey; his nephews and nieces Daniel "Tink" Bennett and his wife Carla, Ty Collins and his wife Ali, Barry, Dennis, and Bobby Baker, Sam Ganoe and his companion Tanya, Johnna Markley, great nieces and nephews, Dominick, Isabella, and Lillyana, and a special little buddy that was his great nephew, Branson.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Kathy Baker and Roberta Sue "Bertie" Ayers.

Doc was a very hard worker who was employed with the Harrison Power Station for 43 years. He was dedicated to the UWUA Local 304 where he served as the first Secretary Treasurer and long-time trustee. He was a 1976 graduate of Lumberport High School. Doc loved to ride his motorcycle and was very dedicated to "Bikers for a Cure". He enjoyed hunting, fishing and watching the Mountaineers. Doc loved his family and will be terribly missed.

A funeral service was held on Friday, May 21, 2021 at the Perine Funeral Home with Pastor Tim Sandy officiating. Cremation followed the services.

Memorial donations may be made to Biker's For a Cure, 296 Prosperity Drive, Bridgeport, WV 26330. Condolences may be made to the family at www.perinefunerals.com.

MARTHA JEAN WATSON

Martha Jean Watson, 68, of Columbus, OH passed away on Monday, May 17, 2021 at Mount Carmel East Hospital in Columbus, OH. She was born February 27, 1953 in Clarksburg, WV the

daughter of the late John Paul Welch Sr and Mary Evaline Crayton Welch.

Martha worked as the Food Service Supervisor at Sodexo at Ohio Dominican University. She enjoyed traveling, playing bingo, puzzle books, jigsaw puzzles and working. She loved her cat statues and spending time with her family and friends.

Martha is survived by five children, Bobby Watson, Shinnston, Christina Paugh and Gary, Stonewood, Cathy Ewers and David Smith, Shinnston, Cynthia Watson and Scott Athey, Stonewood, Pamela Howe and Robert, Lumberport; ten grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, companion of thirty-five years, Thomas Hackney, Columbus, OH; siblings, Jeff Welch, Clarksburg, Carl Welch, Clarksburg, Sherry Reed, West Milford, Carol Owens, Shinnston, Mary Everett, Charleston and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Martha was preceded in death by her siblings, Betty Tate, Michael Welch, Debbie Doughty, James "Jimmy" Welch, Paul Welch, Bud Welch, Charles Welch, Eugene Welch, Dorothy McFee, Donald Welch and David Welch.

A Funeral Service was held on May 21, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home. Interment followed at Greenlawn Memorial Cemetery. Online condolences may be sent to DavisFuneralHomeWV.com.

Memorial donations can be made to her care fund on her memorial page. Davis Funeral Home is honored to assist the Watson family.

BOBBY R. WILSON

Bobby R. Wilson, 71, of Bridgeport, passed away Monday evening, May 17, 2021, at his residence with his family by his side. He was born in Clarksburg, WV on September 19, 1949, a son of the late Howard "Smokey" and Edna L. Jones Wilson. He is survived by his devoted wife, Susan Mae Shaffer Wilson, whom he married July 28, 1973.

Bobby is also survived by his daughter, Jill Suzanne Davis and her fiancé Jason Friend and his son, Bobby Ray Wilson, Jr. and his wife Tiffany (Chiado), all of Bridgeport; his brother, Larry A "Buzzy" Wilson and his wife Laura of Lost Creek; his sisters, Glenda G. Wilson of Clarksburg and Sandra L. Stire and her husband Kester "Butch" Stire of Worthington; seven grandchildren, Haley D. Wilson, Austin P. Davis, Tyler S. Wilson, Kendall P. Friend, Kaden P. Friend, Calab Friend

Out Of The Past
Memorable Photographs from around Harrison County.



An Educator for over 50 years, Theda Hurst (Lyon) Tichenor (1939-2014), Shinnston High School Class of 1957. Photo courtesy of Bobby Bice.

and Logan Friend; his nephew Chad Wilson and his wife Amy; and great-nephews Duncan and Connor Wilson.

Bobby graduated in 1968 from Victory High School. He worked at Ingersoll Rand until it's closing and retired from Consolidated Coca-Cola with over 30 years of service.

Bobby enjoyed being outdoors and any activities associated with that, including hunting. He loved trucks, riding four-wheelers, attending and watching NASCAR and WVU sports with his family. He enjoyed the Nature and History Channels. He cherished being surrounded by his grandchildren in all their activities.

Bobby believed his greatest achievement in life was accepting his Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord, in 1976 and became a member of Arlington Baptist Church (later Abundant Life Church) serving as an elder under Pastor Richard Wilson and later Pastor Robert Wilson. In most recent years, Bobby was faithful and very active at Forward Church in Stealey under Pastor Mark Greaver. His fervent prayer for everyone is to accept Jesus as their personal Savior.

He was an extremely loving and supportive son, husband, father, grandfather, and brother.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, May 21, 2021, at Burnside Funeral Home with Pastor Mark Greaver presiding. Entombment followed at Floral Hill Memorial Gardens.

JO ANN MCCALLA WEISENBERGER

Jo Ann McCalla

85, of Clarksburg passed away on Wednesday, May 19, 2021. She was born in Columbus, OH on July 10, 1935, a daughter of the late Robert S. and Mamie Irene Hood McCalla.

She was married to James Lee Weisenberger on May 22, 1954, who preceded her in death on September 28, 2013.

Surviving are two children, James Weisenberger and his wife Jemi of Clarksburg, and Julie Weisenberger of Clarksburg; three grandchildren, James Joseph Weisenberger, Jason David Weisenberger and his wife Kelli, and Jonathan Lee Weisenberger, all of Clarksburg; five great grandchildren, Tiara, Payton, Baylee, Lillie and Jayden Weisenberger; one sister, Bobbie McCalla of Florida; one brother-in-law, Larry Weisenberger of Florida; her sister-in-law and best friend, Jo Yeager and her husband Jim of Oregon; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Mrs. Weisenberger was a graduate of South High School in Columbus, OH, was a medical insurance biller with St. Anthony's Hospital Clinic in St. Petersburg, FL, and was a former member of the Bradenton United Church of Christ in Florida. She enjoyed crafting and loved flowers. Jo Ann was a dedicated wife, mother and grandmother who loved her family.

In keeping with her wishes, Mrs. Weisenberger will be cremated.

Expressions of sympathy may be extended to the family at www.amoscarvelli.com.

"Garden Club Votes To Support Project" cont. from p. 5

and Paula Harrison seconded that the Garden Club finance the entire cost of the project of \$400 and the motion passed

unanimously. Honor Society members present were Emily Akers, Abbie Ash, Dale Ables and Louis Rodina as well as

Sponsor Connie Payton. President Dorothy Rota opened the rest of the meeting and welcomed those

present. Secretary Letha Stutler read the minutes from the last meeting. Those ill and in need of prayer were remembered.

Kathleen Panek gave a report on the progress of the community garden. Present, but not previously mentioned,

were: Beth Linn, Margie Jackson, Debra Herndon, Joyce Miker, Juanita Pumphrey, Pam Pumphrey and guest Diana Snyder.

"Woman's Club Celebrated Presidents' Dinner" cont. from p.5

Tate, Shinnston Economic Development Coordinator. Tate, a recent WVU graduate, is the son of Mike and Gina Tate and grandson of John and Marie Marchio. Tate noted with appreciation the work

done by approximately 30 volunteers from Jewel City Church at the Ferguson Park and pool. It was noted that Jewel City not only performed wonderful work at the park, but also had provided all the labor to

upgrade the Clubhouse. Many thanks from a grateful community. Tate reported that a "first" - the Lincoln High School Prom is to be held at the park performance center. Tate listed other activities coming up

through the summer. Mr. Edwards gave a lengthy review of Council decisions and day to day activities. Edwards has truly made Shinnston his home and belongs to several organizations including Rebekah Lodge #47, Shinnston Garden Club and Shinnston Woman's Club. Mr. Edwards is not just a cardholder, but attends and participates. Mrs. Starkey gave a

report on the successful rummage sale. Ashcraft gave a special thank-you to Debra Herndon, Deborah Starkey and Kathleen Panek for the amount of time and labor they had put into the sale. The Club will participate in the City-Wide Yard Sale in August.

Lucille B. Anderson, who had been unable to attend for some time. The next meeting will be held September 20, 2021. Anyone wishing to join can contact President Debra Herndon at 304-677-6650. Those attending not previously mentioned were Viviane Spagnuolo, Jean W. Currey, Donna Mick and guest Susan Verona.

"Citizen of the Month" cont. from p.1

College. Battles noted, "Cathie is a tremendous asset to the United Way's operation. Her superlative organizational skills, attention to detail and ability to manage multiple tasks has helped to keep the United Way on strong footing through change and Covid challenges."

Grandfamilies is one of the newer programs and is in its third year. This is a program for grandparents who are raising their grandchildren," she stated.

"Our leadership and residential donors knew the need going into this past campaign and they were there for us," Jackson said. "No amount is ever too small of a contribution. It's important to keep a positive outlook even when the campaign is behind."

Jackson is a self-learner which has been exhibited many times over. According to an ardent United Way supporter and former board member Steve Maxwell, "Cathie is the 'unsung hero' of United Way's effort to deliver professional community support. Her financial management skills keep the organization's accounting process running smoothly."

She explained that the program has a support group for grandparents and informs them of programs and other things available to them, which can include the YMCA afterschool program and day care and guardianship information. Jackson learned a lot of this information on her own, as she herself is raising her two grandsons who are in 4th and 6th grade.

Jackson stated, "Our board is very involved this year and they have taken a hard look at the endowment fund. There is a lot of young blood on the board and new ideas have come with that insight."

Maxwell added, "United Way is made up of a large number of volunteers with busy schedules and Cathie's positive touch and ability to juggle meeting schedules, appointments and contacts is essential to the effectiveness of the organization."

Other programs which have been added include Emerging Leaders which has donated backpacks to area schools and blankets and pillows to the CASA agency; Women United that has honed in on various projects, and Covid Relief which has made donations to area food drive and to area food pantries.

Brad Riffie, who took over the reins as executive director of the United Way of Harrison and Doddridge Counties in the last year, said, "Cathie's dedication to her professional service to her community is outstanding. Her knowledge and expertise have strengthened our organization for over 15 years and I am honored to have her support as a colleague and friend," said Riffie.

When asked about changes she has seen in the organization in recent years, Jackson noted that United Way has branched out more. "We are about more than raising funds and being agency specific," she said. "United Way helps to pay for the counselors in the Healthy Grandfamilies program." She explained this is a much needed program and the need is great at the present time. "The

2021 also saw United Way's second telethon. "This year's telethon was a combination leadership reception and fundraiser on March 17 at the Robinson Grand," said Jackson. "This was a great event especially in light of our inability to fundraise inside of companies this past year. It caused everyone to think outside of the box more but we have very giving people in this community and can count on many of the same people year after year."

Jackson has no immediate plans of retiring. "I enjoy helping people and being with people I enjoy, and I have learned a lot from so many people."

When she is not being a guiding force behind United Way, Jackson is very busy with yardwork, doing home repairs, and keeping up with two active grandsons who run the gamut from playing basketball to being outside in the woods.

LEGAL NOTICES

(Court No. 178404 Levi S. Elm) To: CITY OF CLARKSBURG, ESTATE OF MICHAEL JOSEPH SHAHAN, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, executors, trustees, other parties having an undivided interest in the subject property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property. You will take notice that Levi S. Elm, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certificate No. 178404, located in CLARK CLARKSBURG CO. District, 1 LOT 149 S H.L. CO, which was returned delinquent or surrendered in the name of SHAHAN MICHAEL JOSEPH, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and surrendered lands of Harrison County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on 03/22/2021, Levi S. Elm requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 07/13/2021, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 07/13/2021 will be as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description of payment and Amount. Includes: Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest to 07/13/2021 (\$ 4998.46); Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 07/13/2021 (\$ 0.00); Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the deed to be recorded and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 07/13/2021 (\$ 962.95); Additional Statutory Fees with interest to 07/13/2021 (\$ 0.00); Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashless check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to The Honorable Robert Matheny, Sheriff and of Harrison County (\$ 5,961.39).

You may redeem any time before 07/13/2021 by paying the above total less any amount interest. Given under my hand 5/18/2021. G. Russell Sullivan Jr., Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Surrendered Lands of Harrison County, State of West Virginia. Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collection Division, 1901 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114, Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Questions please call 1-800-338-6588.

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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 Greenbrier County legal ads and public notices out of the Mountain Messenger and onto a state government-controlled website in Charleston. Contact your legislator today and tell them you want your legal ads and public notices in the Mountain Messenger. Stephen Baldwin, Jack Woodrum, Barry Bruce, Todd Longanacre.

Good Health Guide

What Is 'Drishti' & How To Find It



Words of Wellness
By **Jill Fratto**
Life and Health Coach
jillfratto@gmail.com
www.mindbodysuccessacademy.com
Twitter: @JillFrattoCoach

If you know me, you know yoga and meditation keep me as sane as I am going to be. I am someone who admittedly can get too many balls circling in the air and start to lose focus and feel overwhelmed. In yoga, you learn to

choose a drishti, or focal point, and use that to center yourself and find balance. A drishti is something you set your gaze on so that your body will have an easier time finding steadiness. This can help us in a world where we are

all trying to tame the tightrope while balancing multiple containers.

First, there are too many stimuli in our lives. Even as I type this, I am receiving texts and emails, listening to my son ask me if I am almost done writing this, and planning my workday tomorrow. This isn't even a high amount of stimuli compared to some of you who have more balls in the air than me. Given


all the daily stimuli, expectations, stress, and emotions, how COULD it be easy to focus? We have scattered ourselves in 100 directions and we still expect ourselves to be on top of our game at every moment.

Second, many people do a lot of things that they don't enjoy or aren't aligned with their true dreams and talents. I am convinced that when you align your actions and intentions with who

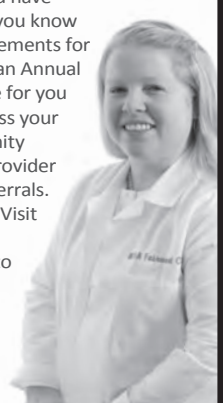
you truly want to be as a person, finding our drishti comes naturally. We all feel like there just isn't enough time, but the fact is, we just don't make time for the things that make our souls sing. If you ever get a chance to do something you really love, you probably notice you don't have any trouble focusing on it.

So what is the answer? Take time to think about what your life can cut out of your life.

What are you spending time on that you don't enjoy and isn't 100% necessary? Second, make the intention to spend more time doing things that you truly enjoy and that make you who you are as a unique, amazing individual. Maybe even try a little yoga (SaraBethYoga has great free videos on YouTube). I promise you will have an easier time focusing and you will enjoy life a little more.



Are you 65 years of age or older? Do you have Medicare insurance benefits? If so, did you know that Medicare has specific yearly requirements for its members? One such requirement is an Annual Wellness Visit. This visit serves as a time for you and your primary care provider to discuss your non-medical concerns, such as community assistance programs, and allows your provider the chance to help with appropriate referrals. If you have not had an Annual Wellness Visit in the last 12 months, then contact our MVA Health Center in Shinnston today to see if you qualify and to schedule an appointment.



Krista Flesher, FNP-BC

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Lincoln High School Announces May Students Of The Month



CLINT PARKER

Lincoln High School has announced that the May Students of the Month are Dana Westfall and Clinton Parker.

Dana Alan Westfall is the son of Tina and Terry Hazelton.

Dana earned membership into the National Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society. He

is also a member of the Lincoln High School Marching Band. Dana has been the recipient of many Top Scholar awards, and is certified in the Microsoft Office areas of Word, PowerPoint, Access, Outlook, Excel, and has the WV Welcome Training Certification and the Governors Workforce Certification



DANA WESTFALL

Athletically, Dana has been quite an asset to two teams – Cross Country and Track and Field.

In his spare time, Dana enjoys running and riding bikes, as well as working on vehicles.

Dana has enlisted with the National Guard, and has plans to attend Pierpont for Aviation Maintenance,

as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management through Fairmont State.

Stephen Clinton Parker is the son of Steve Parker of Salem and Crystal Parker of Shinnston. He is the grandson of Larry and LuAnn Parker, Bob Thomas, and the late Judy Thomas.

Throughout his four years at Lincoln High

School, Clint has earned a spot on the honor roll due to his exceptional grades. He is in the top 25 of his class and is a four-time Top Scholar. Clint was inducted into the National Honor Society his junior year, and was inducted into the National Society of High School Scholars his sophomore year.

Clint has been the manager for the girls' basketball team for four years. He has also been a four-year member of the marching and concert bands at Lincoln.

Clint has been a member of the Key Club and the Christian Club, where he is the leader of the prayer meetings. He has spent numerous hours volunteering in his community. Some of these include: volunteering in the concession stand at the football field, collecting supplies

for the WVU NICU, Trunk-or-Treat, Out of the Darkness Morgantown Walk for Suicide Prevention, and Vacation Bible School. Clint is a four-year member of the Shinnston Community Band.

Clint is a member of Boothsville Baptist Church, where he has served as usher, greeter, choir member, and member of the Christian Education Committee. He is also a member of the Boothsville Baptist Youth Ministries (BYM). He has been a lay speaker at Boothsville Baptist Church and Mount Harmony Community Church.

Clint plans to attend Fairmont State University this fall to obtain a degree in Biology. He would like to be a microbiologist. After obtaining his degree in Biology, Clint will also obtain a degree in ministry with plans to become a pastor.

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“White Water Rafting In WV This Memorial Day ” cont. from p. 6

rollercoaster-type waves and rapids. Adventure Class Trips are suitable for beginners and experienced rafters alike.

• **World Class Trips (min. age 16)** are the

most technical and difficult whitewater runs offered. Because of the steep drops, wild water and rapids that rate up to Class V+, World Class Trips are recommended for advanced paddlers

with previous Adventure Class rafting experience. **RAFT UPGRADES** River Expeditions offers raft upgrades for those that want a more riveting ride. Smaller rafts provide

higher performance and increased maneuverability. Experienced paddlers (that are also over the age of 18, in excellent health and calmly respond to adverse

conditions) can choose smaller raft options — Wildside or Extreme Wildside— for a new perspective and extra adrenaline rush.

Sometimes, families or smaller groups like to choose a smaller raft in order to have a closer, more personal experience without the added thrill. When upgrading to a small raft, simply share your preference and they will be happy to

accommodate.

Listed are just a few of the rafting trips being offered by River Expeditions:

Lower New River Gorge
Upper New River Canyon
Upper Gauley River
Lower Gauley River
Summer Gauley River
Dueling Rivers
Riverside Overnight Trips
Multi-Day Rafting Trips

“Huggins May Be Next Chairman” cont. from p.6

The NCAA is a membership-driven association and is governed by more than 150 committees with almost 1,500 committee members from

NCAA institutions and conferences. Association-wide committees are comprised of individuals from all three divisions and consider issues that

affect the NCAA across all divisions. In addition, each division has a committee structure in place that addresses issues from a divisional perspective. The general duties

of the rules committee are to stay in touch with rule issues during the season and to compare ideas and gauge opinions on potential rules changes with colleagues.

“Summer 2021” cont. from p. 5

future planting. If you would like to explore ways of how you might get involved, please contact the city office. The garden will be in great need of volunteers.

Lastly, we have several events planned this summer. Wind

Down Wednesdays will be the first Wednesday of every month. The next one will be held on June 2nd. We will also be bringing back the ‘Art Walk’ in the downtown area as part of a ‘Juneteenth/ West Virginia Day’

celebration that will be held on June 19th and 20th. In addition, the folks who brought you the Murder Mystery Dinner entertainment will be returning to the Ferguson Park Amphitheater for ‘Shakespeare in the Park’ on July 8th and

9th.

AND, strike up the band! The Shinnston Community Band will be delivering its concert on July 1st at Ferguson Memorial Park and the evening WILL include fireworks!

There will be more to come so stay tuned!

“Summer Reading” cont. from p. 5

their reading skills during summer vacation.

Children have access to experiences that further their sense of discovery.

Lowe Public Library will follow the state themed program “Tails and Tales. The program will run from June 16th to July 16th. Children can be registered by visiting the library, calling us at 304-592-1700, or via our Facebook page. Please register your child by June 6th. The library

will be presenting many outdoor and virtual programs. A schedule of events will be announced soon.

For those readers who enjoy our Hungry Caterpillar Book & Recipe Club, we will meet on June 15th at 2 p.m. We will be discussing “The Great Alone” by Kristin Hannah. Call the library to request your copy. And bring a recipe for a chance to win a prize.

Best-sellers available at this time

include: “Sooley” by John Grisham; “Finding Ashley” by Danielle Steel; “A Gambling Man” by David Baldacci; “The Four Winds” by Kristin Hannah; “A Distant Shore” by Karen Kingsbury; and “The Vanishing Half” by Brit Bennett. Other new books that have arrived recently include: “Basil’s War” by Stephen Hunter; “The Final Twist” by Jeffery Deaver; “Find You First” by Linwood Barclay; and “21st

Birthday” by James Patterson.

The library takes every precaution for your safety. Face masks and social distancing are required and sanitizing books, computers and common touch areas after use are a top priority. However, if you aren’t comfortable coming in the library, please call; we will bring your books to the curb. There are also E-books available online for your convenience. Please let us know how we can help keep you reading.

“Volunteers Sought For Cleaning” cont. from p. 1

a dirty coating on your windows. For local businesses, add to that a steady stream of heavy traffic and exhaust along Pike Street, and windows will cloud with a most unwelcomed film!

Home stagers will tell you that when someone looks at your home and their attention is drawn to dirty windows, they expect to see the same inside the home! The same is true for businesses; dirty storefront windows are unappealing and may reflect a negative impression to potential

customers about what is inside!

This three hours of teamwork is an opportunity to make the community “shine”! Olson noted that it will most likely be very appreciated by business owners and an opportunity for them as well to perhaps reward volunteers with a coupon for their volunteer efforts if they so choose.

“Our Community Development Director Anthony Tate and I will be reaching out to the business owners in advance to make sure they would like to be

on our window cleaning list, and I can’t imagine them turning us down as most business people have enough to do. This will be a free service to them,” Olson continued, adding that even though it is unoccupied, they also hope to clean the windows of the former Murphy Building as well since it is right in the center of town and very visible. “Our intention is that those who visit here will get the feeling that this is a community that cares about its appearance.”

Volunteers will gather at the greenspace on

June 5th at 9 a.m. and will likely be divided into teams that will work both sides of Pike Street. Window exteriors only will be cleaned; all cleaning materials will be furnished; and lunch will be provided for volunteers.

Olson concluded, “Anyone who has any questions may reach out to us by calling 304-592-2161. We strongly encourage volunteers to participate in this three-hour investment of time that will lend something of value to the perception of our community.”

“Bice-Ferguson Museum” cont. from p.5

remodeling. When the Bices both passed away in 2006, they left bequests, not only for the upkeep of the museum, but also to several civic organizations in town. The Museum holds Donald Bice’s extensive collection of telephones and several vignettes of furniture that belonged to Lota Bice’s parents and grandparents. The Museum has grown

with hundreds of artifacts donated by local citizens.

The new membership year begins July 1. Individual memberships are \$15, Family memberships are \$30, and lifetime memberships are \$500. Inquiries can be addressed to Director Debra Herndon at 304-677-6650 or shinnstonmuseum@yahoo.com.

“Parks & Rec” cont. from p. 6

that happened in West Virginia. There is a story about the Flatwoods Monster, which was a UFO crash in Braxton County. Also, there is the Grafton Monster from the mid-60’s as well as the Snarling Yow or Phantom Dog from the Civil War era and finally the Mothman. There are

info plates located on all of the benches with the creatures fastened to them. And I would be hard pressed not to mention the sightings of Big Foot, who has had over 50 glimpses throughout the state. The whole property is great, and will be an enjoyment for all ages to visit.”

“Season Opener At Pool” cont. from p. 1

chemicals and chlorine that are fed into the pool on a daily basis. This is an important thing to have, so that was another addition to our to-do list,” he continued.

With work nearly completed, a good staff on board, and volunteer cleanup projects that really put some shining touches on the park as a whole, the City is anxious to once again open the gates!

Tate said that the guidelines for pool

openings that appeared on the state’s website were outdated, so there was some concern. But a call to the governor’s office brought him up to date.

“I was relieved to hear that we shouldn’t have to worry about limited occupancy this year. Visitors to our pool will still have to wear masks into June, though, and we will continue to request people to social distance somewhat, but otherwise we will be pretty much

restriction free. And we have NO chlorine shortage so we’re ready to get things moving,” he added.

A notice was recently posted on Facebook that pool pass purchases for the Shinnston Pool are now available. Those interested must visit the City Office Building to fill out a membership agreement and pay for their passes to receive a card to present upon entering the pool. Family passes are \$120 for the

first two family members and an additional \$10 for each additional family member. Passes for children ages 3-11 are \$90; adult passes are \$95, with seniors passes (age 55 and over) being \$90. Passes will not be issued until passes are paid in full. The City also reserves the right to terminate a membership without refund if breaking pool rules becomes a problem.

Tate says they will be ready to open on May

29th and the pool will be operational every day through the summer season from noon until 5:30 p.m. Lifeguards will remain until 6 p.m. each day for cleaning purposes prior to the day’s closure.

The only exception to this will be from July 15-18 when swim team meet championships will be hosted at the Shinnston Pool and therefore closed for public swimming on those days.

“We will continue to take extra precautions

throughout the season to keep everything sanitary; cleanliness will remain a top priority because even though more people are being vaccinated, we want to do all we can to ensure everyone’s safety,” Tate concluded. “Our pool has always received a lot of traffic during the summer and we are anxious to reopen this year and provide lots of summer enjoyment for those who visit Ferguson Memorial Park.”