



Unsolicited advice is usually annoying, but I’m going to offer some anyway.

This legislative session, be annoying.

(Auto-correct thinks I mean to write: “This legislative session is annoying.” That will probably also be true, but I said what I said.)

As I’m writing this, the West Virginia legislative session is scheduled to start Wednesday, ending on March 12. It’s always a whirlwind, as thousands of bills are introduced and hundreds are passed in just sixty days. This year, Senate President Craig Blair has already indicated lawmakers plan to move swiftly, and Saturday night, Governor Jim Justice called a last-minute special session for Monday, apparently to pass bills that couldn’t wait for two days.

Maybe if lawmakers checked their emails more often, I could feel comfortable recommending that method of reaching them as sufficient, but I’ve heard too many of them say they don’t read them to recommend that in good conscience. And maybe if West Virginia newsrooms weren’t constantly shrinking, and

West Virginia officials routinely responded to questions from reporters, I’d feel comfortable saying do your best to keep up on the news and you should have a good overview of what you need to know.

And if your local lawmakers do answer emails, regularly host town halls and respond to phone calls from constituents, maybe this doesn’t apply to you. And I know some lawmakers who seem to have their hearts in the right place.

If not, like I said, I believe the current state of West Virginia politics means if you care about what your leaders are doing, you’re going to have to be a little annoying.

People may not realize this stuff who aren’t journalists, but absolutely no one will stop you if you see your local lawmaker at the grocery store and decide to ask them a question they wouldn’t answer when a reporter asked.

You’re allowed to repeatedly call your lawmaker until they acknowledge your concerns. If they still ignore you, you’re allowed to show up at their offices.

Continued on page 6

This week in West Virginia history

e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia is a project of the West Virginia Humanities Council. For more information contact the West Virginia Humanities Council, 1310 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25301; (304) 346-8500; or visit *e-WV* at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Jan. 14, 1842: Marion County was established and named after Revolutionary War hero Francis Marion. Middletown was chosen as the county seat, but the name was changed to Fairmont the following year.

Jan. 16, 1869: Ephraim Franklin Morgan was born in Marion County. Morgan, a Republican, was governor during the tumultuous West Virginia Mine Wars.

Jan. 19, 1820, Fairmont was established by the Virginia legislature on the farm of Boaz Fleming. The original name of Middletown was changed to Fairmont in 1843.

Jan. 19, 1844: The Virginia General Assembly established Taylor County from parts of Barbour, Harrison, and Marion counties. The county was named in honor of U.S. Sen. John Taylor, a soldier-statesman from Caroline County, Virginia.

In addition, the following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history:

Jan. 13, 1905: Joseph H. Diss Debar died in Philadelphia. A supporter

of the movement to create West Virginia, Diss Debar was commissioned in 1863 to design the Great Seal of West Virginia.

Jan. 14, 1873: The first session of the Glenville Branch of the State Normal School began in the old Gilmer County courthouse. In 1943, the legislature changed the name to Glenville State College.

Jan. 15, 1799: Monroe County was established. It was named for James Monroe, the newly inaugurated governor of Virginia and later president of the United States.

Jan. 15, 1836: Braxton County was created from Kanawha, Lewis, and Nicholas counties. It is named for Carter Braxton, a Virginia statesman and a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Jan. 15, 1848: Hancock County was established and named for statesman John Hancock.

Jan. 15, 1864: Frances Benjamin Johnston was born in Grafton. Johnston gained national renown as the first female press photographer, and enjoyed a long and remarkable career as one of the nation’s leading documentary, portrait, and artistic photographers.

Jan. 16, 1790: Henry Ruffner was born in Luray, Virginia. In 1819, he organized two Presbyterian congregations in the Kanawha Valley. He is best known for his controversial 1847 anti-slavery treatise, *Address*

- ACROSS
- 1 Cries noisily
- 5 Stuff in steel
- 9 Horse cousin
- 12 Often-smoked food
- 15 U.K. neighbor
- 18 “As above,” in citations
- 19 Extremely deep sleep
- 20 Pavarotti of opera
- 22 U.S. neighbor
- 23 Make every effort to be obliging
- 26 Vivacity
- 27 Mosaic work
- 28 — -TURN (road sign)
- 29 — Mason (asset management firm)
- 30 BLT offerer
- 31 To any extent
- 32 Revolution of Triton with respect to Neptune
- 36 Author Anais
- 37 Twosome
- 39 Not tidy
- 40 Two-pip card
- 41 Pressing it moves a cursor to the previous character
- 46 Shorelines
- 47 Off the shore
- 48 Justice Sotomayor
- 49 Program using “.doc” files, for short
- 52 Mu — pork
- 54 Horace Greeley’s advice for American expansion
- 60 Huge aid
- 64 In base eight
- 65 She’s a star aria singer
- 66 Palme — (Cannes film award)
- 67 Bus driver’s order
- 73 Ship like Capt. Nemo’s
- 74 To — (exactly)
- 76 Marisa with an Oscar
- 77 Cadences
- 79 Irritate
- 85 Suffix with hell
- 86 More pasty
- 87 Horse opera
- 89 Arthur of tennis
- 93 Singers Idol and Ocean
- 96 Sticker message on a rented VCR tape
- 99 At full speed, old-style
- 100 A deadly sin
- 103 “Patience — virtue”
- 104 Pro vote
- 105 Do a 180, say
- 110 Rapper with the album “Press Play”
- 112 Old Italian stage actress Eleonora
- 113 1953 Leslie Caron film
- 114 “— always say ...”
- 115 Jeopardy
- 116 “— my fault”
- 117 Parent’s mind game with a child (or what you have to use to solve this puzzle?)
- 122 Even score
- 123 Guys rowing
- 124 Smartphone downloads
- 125 Suffix with well
- 126 States, informally
- 127 Singular of “Mmes.”
- 128 Beltway VIP
- 129 Watery castle protector
- 130 Once, in olden days

- DOWN
- 1 Bro’s kin
- 2 Strange things
- 3 Former Fed head Ben
- 4 Little
- 5 “Ugh”-worthy
- 6 Bird of myth
- 7 Muscat resident
- 8 Honcho
- 9 Lager cousin
- 10 Nissan Rogue, e.g.
- 11 Bawls out
- 12 Irritable from being ravenous, slangily
- 13 Lay — (really fail)
- 14 Wild crowd
- 15 Stimulus
- 16 Vote in for a another term
- 17 Lapses
- 21 Notions
- 24 Ralph — Emerson
- 25 1921 Karel Capek play
- 30 Feared a lot
- 31 Author Seton
- 32 Bull in a ring
- 33 Cockney’s residence
- 34 Often-smoked food
- 35 Stenches
- 38 Address
- 42 Do laundry
- 43 Jillian of TV
- 44 Spanish aunt
- 45 Relatives, informally
- 46 Light bed
- 49 Mixed breed
- 50 Zest or Ivory
- 51 “Ben-Hur” director William
- 53 The woman
- 55 “Understood”
- 56 S.Sgt., e.g.
- 57 Yearn (for)
- 58 Female cell
- 59 Talks idly
- 60 Yrly. gift-giving time
- 61 Greek “I”
- 62 Heightened
- 63 — dish (bio lab item)
- 68 T. — Price
- 69 The “E” of EMT: Abbr.
- 70 Snide snicker
- 71 Sixths doubled
- 72 Method: Abbr.
- 75 “Liberté, —, fraternité” (France’s motto)
- 78 Bangkok citizen
- 80 “Bye Bye Bye” band
- 81 Exclamations of surprise
- 82 “Sk8er —” (2002 hit)
- 83 Assembly lin labor org.
- 84 Tpk., e.g.
- 88 Actor Idle
- 90 Parachute user
- 91 Unmindful
- 92 Online bidding site
- 93 Roving robbers
- 94 “Gotta go”
- 95 — faire
- 96 ’50s prez
- 97 Not pos.
- 98 “Raider” Ralph
- 100 Previous convictions
- 101 Little brooks
- 102 Tough-to-translate phrases
- 106 Composer Edward
- 107 Opposite of 104-Across
- 108 Tea-growing Indian state
- 109 River giant, for short
- 111 Dunne of film
- 115 Covert “Hey!”
- 117 — Kippur War
- 118 Half of a bray
- 119 Wolf Blitzer’s channel
- 120 Clean air gp.
- 121 Q-U linkup

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Find the Super Crossword Answers on Page 8!

to the People of West Virginia.

Jan. 16, 1850: Lawman Dan Cunningham was born in Jackson County. His remarkable career involved him in the Hatfield-McCoy Feud, the West Virginia Mine Wars, and the destruction of moonshine stills.

Jan. 17, 1918: The War Department hired a New York engineering firm to build the DuPont munitions plant in Nitro. Within 11 months, the powder plant and a complete town with houses, a civic center and a hospital were completed.

Jan. 17, 1956: Musician Blind Alfred Reed died. He was a street singer and fiddler from Pipestem, Summers County.

Jan. 18, 1842: Wayne County was established from part of Cabell County. It was named for General “Mad Anthony”

Wayne, a Revolutionary War hero who later defeated Ohio Native American tribes at the 1794 Battle of Fallen Timbers.

Jan. 19, 1818: The Virginia General Assembly established Preston County from part of Monongalia County. The new county was named for James Patton Preston, then governor of Virginia.

Jan. 19, 1848: Wirt County was created by the General Assembly of Virginia from portions of Wood and Jackson counties. It was named for William Wirt, Virginia statesman and a presidential candidate in 1832.

Jan. 19, 1894: Railroad worker John Hardy was hanged for killing a man in a drunken gambling dispute. The episode inspired the widely popular ballad “John Hardy.”

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Shinnston Harrison County

The News & Journal

USPS 494-420

Michael Showell
Publisher

Erin Beck
Editor

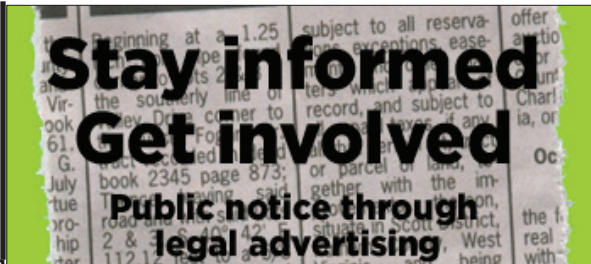
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N&J Briefs

FROM AROUND HARRISON COUNTY

This calendar of events listing is provided free of charge to churches and nonprofit organizations. Please submit your listing two weeks prior to the event (if possible) by 4 p.m. on Friday. Send via email to newsandjournal@yahoo.com.

Bridgeport Public Library

Bridgeport Public Library at 1200 Johnson Ave. is open to the public. Also, 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 p.m.-8 p.m and Tuesday & Thursday 12 p.m.-5 p.m. 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.

Book Sale

Bridgeport library will also hold a daily book sale from Jan. 3-Jan. 31, Monday-Friday from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Buy one bag of books and /or music CDs for \$3; get a bag of books and/or music CDs free. No limit on the number you may buy and get free. Single items are \$.25 each, DVDs are \$.50 each. For additional information call 304-842-8428.

Lowe Public Library

The Lowe Public Library has resumed its regular hours to the general public: Monday 11:30 am – 7 p.m. and Tuesday- Friday 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m, 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).


Shinnston Senior Citizens


Shinnston Senior Citizens meets every Friday, weather permitting, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the American Legion.

Celebrate Recovery

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

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“fire department”

cont. from page 1

of: “adequacy of equipment, sufficient staffing, evaluation of training, existence of automatic aid, and geographic distribution of fire companies,” she said.

“PPC grades the community on its ability to respond to and suppress individual structure fires and assigns an advisory number from 1 to 10,” Krueger wrote. “Class 1 generally represents exemplary fire protection and Class 10 indicates that the community’s fire suppression program does not meet our minimum criteria.”

Oliveto said the rating could improve local insurance rates, although Krueger noted that insurers are still in charge of establishing their own pricing.

“Since ISO is an insurance advisory organization providing insurers with a variety of underwriting and rating services, we are not in a position to comment on how a classification change will affect local property insurance premiums,” she said.

“However, in general terms, for insurers using the ISO PPC information, an improved protection class can lead to lower premiums – all other factors remaining equal,” she added.

Krueger said ISO recommends that individual property owners consult with their insurance agent or representative if they’re interested in whether the rating will change pricing.

Of 39,200 communities evaluated as of Dec. 29, 3,663 had achieved a Class 3 rank, she said. Just 2,200 communities had received higher – Class 1 or 2 – ratings. ISO requests updated information from communities to adjust their ratings at least every 24 months.

Oliveto said the score is evidence the fire department is better prepared to respond to calls. In preparation for the inspection, the department consistently makes sure the trucks, breathing apparatuses, and other gear are in good working condition, he said. Fire hydrants were flushed and tested yearly as well. Accurate record keeping is also a must for a good rating.

“This is a very proud moment for us,” Oliveto said. “We are fortunate to have such a great group of volunteers.”

The fire department also recently received a perfect score on their inspection by the State Fire Marshal’s Office, according to Oliveto.

He said they are always looking for new members. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, he said to come by the department, where they can answer any questions.

Erin Beck contributed reporting.

“home-movie”

cont. from p. 1

but it was often dark, and my dad had a habit of recording our pets, so the assortment of dogs, cats and rabbits took up much of the recordings.

There were also a lot of recordings of political events, and it was interesting to see how much had changed through the years. Mr. Louie Ellis was a fixture in local politics and he and his wife Nancy would attend many events and record hours of video. It is amazing to see how much people change over thirty years and how much you forget about events in the past. I watched one video of the swearing-in of Harrison County Circuit Judge John Lewis Marks. As officials from throughout the county filed into the courtroom, Louie Ellis would ask them their name and why they were attending. It was interesting to see people, like former Clarksburg Mayor Mums Olean and former Harrison County Sheriff Joe Trupo, who have since passed away, talking into the camera and giving their insight on the ceremony.

There were also recordings by Mr. Ellis of the dedication of Robert C. Byrd High School. Seeing Senator Byrd give one of his hour-long stemwinders was a great memory and one that I witnessed on numerous occasions. It also brought a tear to my eye to see my late friend, Mayor Jack Gorby of Nutter Fort. Jack served as co-chairman with me for the bond committee that passed one of the few school bonds in Harrison County in recent history. Jack was quite a character and gave me a lifetime of stories to tell about being a small-town mayor and police judge.

I put a pretty big dent in the dozens of boxes of memories, and I will probably get rid of more as the years go along. I’m planning on converting a lot of the videotapes into a digital format so that others can enjoy some of these memories in years to come. It will be a big task but one that allows me to see a lot of old friends and colleagues who are no longer with us. I’d like to upload some of the videos to YouTube, so that everyone can enjoy a little of the history of our county and some of the people who played a role in building this Amazing place that we love.

“police wreck”

cont. from p. 1

Hetherington pursued, Harbert said.

Last week, State Police Corporal M.A. Bailey said following a short investigation, he determined Hetherington attempted to pass in a no-passing zone while another vehicle was attempting to make a left turn onto Meadowbrook from Rt. 19. The officer did turn on his siren and flashing lights.

“The cause of the wreck was the officer went left to center, and he t-boned a vehicle as it was making a turn,” Bailey said.

“You can pass in a no-passing, but you have to use due care. If you get in a wreck, then everything — the liability falls back on you.”

In a previous interview, Shinnston Police Chief Jon Harbert answered questions about the reason for the pursuit but referred questions about the crash to State Police. He also previously said neither party was seriously injured.

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Pandemic restrictions

GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen



National news has put emphasis on the effect that the pandemic is having on the children attending school. When I think about it, I am sure that not attending school in the classroom does have a negative effect on the children. It certainly takes someone smarter than me to assess just what effect it does have on the kids. I am so concerned because I truly feel that this problem has become politicized, and I truly wonder if a satisfactory solution can be had. We need a solution that will satisfy the teachers and the

parents and yet will be the best for the students, while keeping in mind the health issue for everyone. I truly hope that we can solve this problem soon. As I write about this it makes me think about the senior citizens who have been confined to their homes during this epidemic. Being a social person, it has been very hard for me to confine myself to my home. I know that this is the right thing to do to keep safe. I do believe in being vaccinated and observing the restrictions put upon us,

but I also know that this can also have a negative effect on senior citizens. First of all, we have to take in consideration our age and the restrictions we have to observe because of it and then we add the restrictions because of COVID-19, and it makes life a little sticky for us. I do not enjoy being closed in the house for days at a time. I miss going to lunch and dinner with my friends. Now having said that I can really be assured of what our children are experiencing. But I guess I should say that this is really a life and death situation. I know that many of you as I have lost a few of our friends and family, so the only thing we can do is follow the restrictions placed upon us and pray that this will soon be over.

For us seniors, enjoy some good television, read a few good books, catch up with your friends by phone and get outside by yourself and enjoy a little exercise. Stay away from the snacks as the pounds will add on quickly. Keep fruits and vegetables on hand to snack on. Remember that these cold winter months are a good time to enjoy a nice dish of minestra. If you put some of that Swiss chard in the freezer, now is the time to get it out. It is also a good time to make minestrone or chicken wedding soup. Keep on hand some fresh Italian bread and eat with a nice salad. Keep safe, stay healthy and until next week “Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine.”

Poll workers needed

Harrison County will be held at the needs poll workers County Parks & for the Special Recreation Center Levy Election on located at 43 Saturday, January Recreation Drive 22, according to in Clarksburg a news release. (Rt. 19 South). If Volunteers must interested, please attend official call 304-624-training to be 8614 for more eligible. Trainings information.

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Never forgotten

Pine Bluff News



Through last week and New Year's weekend, I spent most of the time watching football and basketball games. Most of the teams I rooted for won, for whatever that's worth. It's a shame all the networks don't broadcast marching bands performing at halftime in college football games anymore. The bands add to the ambience of college football. Instead, they have a sports announcer with two ex-jocks in a studio with telestrators telling you what you just saw in the first half. Also, the same ratio of announcers who are calling the game act like everyone they are broadcasting to has never seen a football game before. We're not imbeciles. Plus, they are constantly talking. I think their contracts stipulate no more than two seconds of dead airtime while

broadcasting. Just my observations. I did watch the ball drop but didn't get overly excited. I welcomed the new year in with a Coke and a Hostess chocolate cupcake. Sunday, I was in dire need of a break from all the games, so in the afternoon I met Sister-in-law Bernadine at the Cracker Barrel in Fairmont for dinner. Their pepper shakers are still lacking. Tuesday, I stopped at the Price Cutters in town and then ate at Denny's on Bridgeport Hill. The food was alright, but I couldn't get anything out of the salt shaker. I guess I'm going to start carrying my throw-away shakers into restaurants again. Also, a couple of weeks ago, my old friend Larry Fortney of Maryland sent me a two chambered plastic container (about the size of a match box)

to carry condiments in. That's pretty cool. Larry and his brothers Roger and Fred were raised in Peora. Roger and I hung out together back in our youth. We used to stage out of Rosie's "Dew Drop Inn." Their cousins Don and Jim Forney were raised in Wyatt and they were some characters also. Their fathers Ira and Carl were brothers, and both worked at Williams Mine with my Dad. Matter of fact, they were all still working at the mines when I started employment there in '72. For years, Don worked for the Bank of Shinnston (Now, WesBanco). He always looked out for the people on Bingamon Creek and the folks here really appreciated that. Don would always come to every event involving food at the community building and the people would crowd around him. Here's a little story: Back in '91, my father-in-law Junior Godfrey died and a few days later Don came to my mother-in-law's house to have her sign some

papers. She was in such bad shape from cancer that she couldn't write her name. Don sat on the edge of her bed and said, "Mrs. Godfrey, you just make an X and I'll take care of it." The family has never forgotten his kindness and compassion at such a time. My mother-in-law died a few days later. Susie's parents died one week apart. Sadly, in the last month, Pine Bluff has lost two 'favorite daughters.' On Dec. 13, my sister-in-law Patty (Workman) Matheny passed away at the Stonerise Healthcare Nursing Center in Bridgeport. Brother John passed away back on June 19. Neighbor Martha (Luke) Martin passed away on Dec. 15 at Mon General in Morgantown. My heart goes out to my nephews Jimmy, Bobby, and Brent and to Postal, Julia, and my little buddy Colton. The community is still in mourning. Until next time, have a great week and remember our Veterans. Ace

Alzheimer's support group meets monthly

The Alzheimer's Support Group meets at Harrison County Senior Citizens Center. on the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. in the HCSCC board room. Retired social worker, Judy Labdik, facilitates the group for the Alzheimer's Association. For more information, please call 304-623-6795.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group



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HCSCC SPOTLIGHT

Featuring news from the Harrison County Senior Citizen Center

Senior center donates
to reading programs

Harrison County Senior Citizens Center Book Club met at the FOP Restaurant on Dec. 15, 2021, for open read book discussions, lunch, and a check presentation to Patrons of the Park to purchase books for Harrison County Parks and Recreation reading programs. Pictured, from left to right: Donna Stuart, Parks and Recreation enrichment coordinator and Mike Book, Parks and Recreation director, receive the check from Bill O'Field, book club facilitator and senior center board president.

HCSCC Book Club holds fundraisers throughout the year and uses the proceeds for various community projects. HCSCC book club members have read books online and in person for HCP&R reading programs. Courtesy photo.

Member wins raffle basket



On Dec. 20, 2021, Member Sue Marks won the Walk to End Alzheimer's December 2021 raffle basket worth over \$130. In addition to two restaurant gift cards, the basket contained over 15 donated Italian-heritage themed items. HCSCC Walk team proceeds from the basket raffle were \$500. Raffles for 2022 team proceeds are currently in the planning stages. Courtesy photo.

Notice: Harrison County Senior Citizens Center will be closed on Jan. 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Board meeting
scheduled for January

The Senior Center Board of Directors did not meet in December 2021. The next hybrid in-person/Zoom meeting will be held on Jan. 27 at 9:30 a.m. in the senior center board room.

Board members:
President, Bill O'Field; Secretary, Ryan Kennedy; Treasurer, Donna Stuart; Donald Burton; Janet Dotson; Franklin Hairston; Sharon Hamilton; Will Hyman; Harley Jeffries; Sandra Mossor; Bill Phillips; Susan Thomas; and Betty Waddy.

Board election
scheduled for May

The next regularly scheduled election for the board of directors will be held in May 2022. Senior Center members, including satellite members, who are in good standing and have been a member for at least one year, may run for office. Candidates must complete the following:

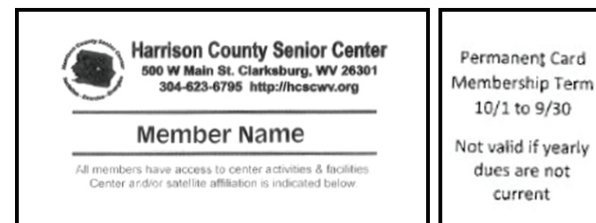
Complete candidate information page and required statement (150 words maximum) or why they desire to be a board member and

what they believe they will contribute to the board.

Meet with the director to have picture taken for election flyers/poster of board candidates by deadline.

Submit candidate packet to director's office by 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of March (March 17).

If you have any questions, or want to request a candidate packet, please contact the director at 304-623-6795.

New membership
cards available

A sample of the front and back of the new cards is shown.

Harrison County Senior Citizens Center Membership cards have been available since Oct. 1, 2021. The new cards are permanent membership cards. Members with a satellite affiliation, please contact your satellite president to obtain your card. Members without a satellite affiliation, please contact the center to **request printing of your card** and advise us when you will come to the center to pay your \$10 dues and pick up your card. Dues will be collected yearly to maintain a valid card. Members uses the bar code on the back of the card to scan in at the center's front desk and sign in for activities and meals. This contact free check-in is helping keep our members safe during the pandemic.

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Impressive basketball wins to start the new year



The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor

Sports Editor

Several girls’ basketball teams garnered key wins to start the calendar year. As we approach the midway point, teams are looking for momentum and wins coming out of the holidays. This past week Lincoln, Bridgeport, Robert C. Byrd, and South Harrison all picked up victories.

The Cougars earned their third win of the season with a 45-38 triumph over Elkins. It’s not how you start; it’s how you finish that matters the most in the game of basketball. Lincoln scored 19 points in the first three quarters of play and found themselves tied with the Tigers heading into the final period. A 26-point outburst was the separator that gave veteran mentor Rob Hawkins the win in Shinnston. Ashlyn Riley recorded a double-double (13

points and 10 rebounds) to pace the Cougars. Megan Tucker and Peyton Riley also made hefty contributions for Lincoln. Tucker scored 12 points and pulled down seven caroms while Riley chipped in with nine points and six boards. Hawkins and company have a busy three days hosting Philip Barbour tonight (Jan. 13), travelling to Weir tomorrow, and staying on the road Saturday locking up with Ripley.

The Indians garnered a win over crosstown rival, Liberty. The tribe shook off a slow start to the season (1-5 heading into the tilt with the Mountaineers) and collected the early season signature win, 54-44. Bridgepoint’s Gabby Reep scored an impressive 33 points to go with six steals to lead the charge. Allison Bender netted 14 points and snared five

rebounds for the tribe.

Hailey Haines led Liberty. Haines, last week’s Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal’s Athlete of the Week, collected a double-double. Haines scored 12 points and collected 11 rebounds. Riley Pearlman netted 15 points on the night.

The Indians start a three-game road trip this evening going to North Marion. The Mountaineers are back in action on Jan. 17 when they head to Notre Dame.

The Flying Eagles edged East Fairmont 58-57 in a game of top 10 teams in Class AAA. Robert C. Byrd went into the matchup #9 and one spot behind the Bees. Avery Childers hit for 11 first-quarter points en route to a game-high 28 to help the Flying Eagles to the road win. Childers also hauled down a game-best 12 rebounds. Carleigh Curutz provided 10 points and four caroms in the affair. Robert C. Byrd heads to Elkins this evening, then has a break before hitting the hardwood,

hosting North Marion on the 18th.

The Hawks collected their fifth victory of the season with a 46-32 drubbing of Clay County. South Harrison clamped down defensively holding Clay to single digits in all four periods. Reagan Rutter and Hope Woods paced the Hawks. Rutter led all scorers with 16 while Woods chipped in with 13. The Hawks hit the road tonight travelling to Roan County.

West Virginia’s record improved with a 71-68 come-from-behind win over Kansas State. Legendary head coach Bob Huggins provided words of encouragement at the halftime break which helped erase a 13-point deficit. It was the first win of the New Year for the Mountaineers. A trio of players, Sean McNeil (26 points), Taz Sherman (14 points), and Kedrian Johnson (11 points) propelled WVU to their first Big 12 victory.

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

“opinion”

cont. from p. 2

After all, as a voter, you are the boss and you pay them for their work (\$20,000, plus a per diem pay of \$131 each day of session).

The West Virginia Legislature website is not the most user-friendly for people who want to keep up on what lawmakers do every day, but I’ll try to offer some help:

First go to www.wvlegislature.gov. Then click on House or Senate, then Committees. Search through what each legislative committee has on their next agenda. (The process is not user-friendly, because they change these agendas frequently.) You can listen to those meetings by going to wvlegislature.gov and clicking on Streaming Video and Audio in the lower left-hand corner.

Those who want to keep up can also follow reporters they read and respect on Twitter for live updates from the Legislature.

I think sometimes people hear “politics” and think about the hot-button issues like immigration taking up airspace in national media. I think even West Virginia politicians seem to think sometimes their job is to watch those stories, tick themselves off and convince themselves that there ought to be a law about it.

We forget that West Virginia politicians are supposed to be working on problems specific to West Virginians.

You also can and should be telling your representatives about problems in the state that they need to be thinking about and how to fix them.

We all know what our problems are: population

loss, poverty, poor health, the foster care crisis, the overdose crisis. If they try to talk to you about critical race theory, you can change the subject and ask them about the mental health crisis instead.

You can read about what other states are doing and come to them with ideas. You can call them out when they make promises they don’t keep. When they say a proposed bill or solution will work, you can ask them how they know that. If they deflect, you can ask them again.

When they tell you there is no money for rural healthcare or child protective services workers or rural water service, you can ask them why there is enough money to give multiple tax breaks yearly to big business and industry.

Before I started paying attention to the state Legislature for work, like many people, I got swept up by the drama of presidential races and Congressional coverage in national media. Through covering local and state government, I’ve learned regular citizens can make a much bigger difference when they take an interest in smaller lawmaking bodies.

Yes, you can call, email and write letters to members of Congress. You can sometimes meet with their representatives.

But Senator Joe Manchin got about 290,000 votes in his last election. In 2020, Harrison County Delegate Ben Queen led the slate with 16,245 votes, according to WBOY.

I won’t pretend to understand the rationale behind every policy decision a lawmaker makes. But I can tell you

that if a lawmaker looks at each constituent call or email as a potential vote for or against them, it makes a bigger difference if you make up 1/16,000 of their votes than if you make up 1/290,000 of their potential votes.

I won’t pretend I haven’t watched lawmakers make lots of decisions that don’t seem to be based on feedback from West Virginians.

I don’t think average West Virginians were begging for charter schools, which mostly locate in more populated areas. And oftentimes, they put forth boilerplate legislation they received from national advocacy groups working to pass bills in every state.

However, I’ve also seen those bills evolve once West Virginia lawmakers got their hands on them. And I’ve also seen lawmakers appear to listen to public opinion.

West Virginia took longer than any other state to implement its medical marijuana program, according to the Washington Post, following passage of a law making way for the program in 2017. The first dispensary opened two months ago.

But West Virginia lawmakers likely wouldn’t have passed that law in the first place without the onslaught of annoying calls, emails and in-person requests they received from constituents.

Speaking of drug-related legislation, in addition to telling lawmakers about what they should be working on, you can also tell them about ideas you don’t like.

Substance use is common in Harrison County and elsewhere.

So, for example, you could also tell your lawmakers that instead of voting for harsher penalties, we could be focused on addiction treatment, prevention and stigma reduction.

Here’s contact information for Harrison County representatives (The phone numbers are those they’ve provided legislative staff).

Delegate Danny Hamrick:
danny.hamrick@wvhouse.gov
Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3141
District Phone: (304) 250-9848


Delegate Ben Queen:
ben.queen@wvhouse.gov
Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3171
District Phone: (304) 709-2013

Delegate Laura Kimball:
laura.kimble@wvhouse.gov
Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3102
Delegate Clay Riley:
clay.riley@wvhouse.gov
Capitol Phone: (304) 340-3144
District Phone: (304) 844-5679

Senator Patrick Martin:
patrick.martin@wvsenate.gov
Capitol Phone: (304) 357-7845

Senator Mike Romano:
mike.romano@wvsenate.gov
Capitol Phone: (304) 357-7904
District Phone: (304) 624-1100

Harrison County EMS



Athletes of the Week

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 Athlete of the Week award is an avenue to promote the youth of our county, while bringing attention to their athletic accomplishments.

Last week’s winners of the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal Athletes of the Week award are Bridgeport’s Gabby Reep and South Harrison’s Austin Peck.

Indian basketball player Gabby Reep led her team to a big win over Liberty this past Tuesday. Reep outscored the Mountaineers by herself in the second half of the season. Reep scored a game-high 33 points and collected six steals in the victory.

Hawk hoopster Austin Peck helped his squad stay unbeaten with a win over Frankfort this past Saturday. Peck hit for 19 points including a game-high five three-pointers in the victory over the Falcons. Peck also dished out four assists and grabbed four rebounds to push South Harrison’s record to 6-0.

Congratulations to Gabby Reep and Austin Peck for being named the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal Athletes of the Week.

Shinnston Little League registration begins

By Erin Beck
Editor

Children ages 4-16 may now sign up for Shinnston Little League. The league is also seeking volunteer coaches, assistants and umpires.

According to Shinnston Little League President Derek McIntyre, the league will follow the same format as prior years. Teams will not only play Shinnston teams in each age division, but also teams from Bridgeport, Clarksburg and Fairmont, and possibly some from Taylor County.

“It takes the whole community to make our league successful, and remember, in the end, it is all for the kids,” McIntyre said.

All divisions are made as equal as possible, based on skill and roster.

“The best thing about Little League baseball, it builds teamwork,” McIntyre said. “It gives the kids an opportunity to stay active, make new friends, and have fun!”

Age divisions include:
Tee Ball (Ages 4,5,6)
Minor C-Ball (Ages 6,7,8) - Machine Pitch
Minor Player Pitch (Ages 8,9,10)
Major Division (Ages 10,11,12)
Intermediate Division (Ages 11,12,13)
Junior / Senior Divisions (Ages 13, 14, 15, 16)

McIntyre said participating in Little League can be rewarding at any age. “A lifetime of memories are made each year at our little park in Shinnston. When a kid makes their first play in the field, or gets that first successful hit, it’s the best feeling in the world!” he said.

Online signups are available now at <http://shinnstonlittleleague.com> and will be open through the next weekend in February. In-person signups will be available later this month and into February, with specific dates for locations to be determined. More information will be announced online and through the league’s Facebook page, Shinnston Little League.

The cost is \$70 per child; family discounts are offered for in-person registrations, according to the website.



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**Hubert Harold
“Brother” Harrison**



Hubert Harold Harrison, Jr., 79, of Shinnston passed away Saturday December 25, 2021 at United Hospital Center. He was born November 15, 1942 at the family home on Saltwell, a son of the late Hubert Harold Harrison and Minnie Alice Smith Harrison.

Many knew him by his nickname “Brother”. He loved to fish. When he was younger, he fished, hunted and trapped. Hubert was an active member of the NRA. He loved his many hunting dogs over the years. He attended Covenant Church in Fairmont. As a machinist and welder, Hubert spent most of his working life at Quality Hydraulics, C o m m e r c i a l Hydraulics, Sun Hydraulics, as well as Baker Mine Service until health issues forced his retirement.

Hubert is survived by his children: D o n n a (J i m m y) Chandler of Fairmont; Jamie(Lisa)Harrison of Idamay; Julie(Scott) Oldaker of Shinnston; Hilary (Jeff) Wiseman of Indiana; Michael (Angela) Harrison of Shinnston; and Sarah Silski of Netherlands; Marc (Kristi)Elliott of Clarksburg; and Sierra (Nick) Moreno of Fairmont. His grandchildren: Crystal (Alex) Harclerode; Jeffrey Nixon; Myla Milano; Daniel Harrison; Kelly Nicholson; Richard Willis; Craig (Jessica) Willis; Carrissa Wiseman; Timothy (Sabrina) Wiseman; Mallory (Trevor) Torgenson; Chaela Harrison; Zachariah Harrison; Stephanie Minor; and Kaitlyn, Brandon ,Emma, and Gracie Elliott; his great-grandchildren: Urijah and Sawyer Sabala; Cryus Willis; Rowan Wiseman; and Braxton Torgenson; along with step-great-grandchildren. As well as his siblings: JoAnn Harley; Sara (Clarence) Watkins; Betty Hustead; George (Debbie)Harrison; and several nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

In addition to his parents, Hubert was also preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Rachel Marie Goff Harrison, and his brother Austin Harrison.

A graveside funeral

service was held at 2:00pm, Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at Shinnston Memorial Cemetery. A memorial dinner with family and friends at Rushing Wind Biker Church in Spelter immediately followed the graveside service. Online memories and condolences can be shared at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Harrison family.

Robert Lee Swiger



Robert Lee “Bob” Swiger, 75, of Lumberport, passed away on Monday, December 27, 2021 at his residence. He was born in Wallace, March 5, 1946, a son of the late Rev. Stanley E. and Esther Mae (Hayhurst) Swiger.

Surviving are his wife, Charleen June (Sutton) Swiger, whom he married, June 20, 1970; They have two daughters, Bobette Dawn Saucer of Clarksburg, and Amy Jo Swiger of Shinnston. Also surviving are three grandchildren: John Thomas “J.T.” Saucer, Jr. and his wife Katie Lee (Lehosit) Saucer, Morgantown, Leah Dawn Skinner of Kincheloe, and Ava Marie Skinner of Shinnston. He has one surviving brother, Billy Lynn Swiger, and his wife Vickie Jean Swiger, Oakdale; and a close friend Randy Swiger and family of Lumberport. And several nieces and nephews.

Bob was preceded in death by two brothers, Stanley E. Swiger, Jr. (in infancy) and Darrell Eugene Swiger.

Bob was a veteran, having served with the United States Army during the Vietnam era. He was retired with 29 years of service from the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center where he worked in dietetic services. Over the years, Bob ran his own photography business, where he specialized in ball team and wedding photography. He had previously been employed by Osbourne Machine Company in Glen Elk and Transue and Williams Steel and Forging in Alliance, Ohio. Bob was a traveling photographer for David’s Studio where he took baby photos. Bob was a Mason since 1976. He was a current proud

active member of St. John’s Lodge #24 A.F. & A.M. where he was a 32nd Scottish Rite degree Mason and served as Tiler for over 20 years. He had the honor of visiting over 120 masonic lodges throughout West Virginia. He was a member of the Lumberport Baptist Church and frequently attended Reynoldsville Baptist church. Bob’s favorite pastime was meeting with his buddies for his morning coffee at McDonalds in Shinnston, gathering with his lodge brothers, and spending time with his family.

The family received friends at the Perine Funeral Home, where funeral service was held with Pastors Tim Sandy and Keith Swiger. Interment will be in the WV National Cemetery in Pruntytown, where military and masonic graveside rites will be accorded. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Swiger family.

Connie Dian Saville



Connie Dian Saville, 68, of Hepzibah, passed away at 11:10 am, Friday, December 31, 2021 at the United Hospital Center in Bridgeport. She was born in Flemington, September 11, 1953, the daughter of the late Edith Lipscomb Moats.

On June 28, 1976, she married Steven Allen Saville who preceded her in death on June 26, 2017. Surviving are one son, Steven Matthew Saville and his companion Ashley Seamone, Hepzibah; two grandchildren, Isaac Matthew Saville and Harley McKenzie Saville; two sisters, Evelyn Kelly, Linda Swiger and one brother, Freddie Lipscomb.

Dian was a homemaker. She enjoyed working in her flower garden and taking care of her grandchildren. She loved animals, especially horses and cats.

The family received friends at the Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St., Shinnston, from 11 am until the funeral service at 1 pm, Tuesday, January 4. Cremation followed the service. Condolences may

Out Of The Past

Memorable Photographs from around Harrison County.



The old Salvation Army Band bus in Clarksburg. Photo submitted by Bobby Bice.

be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Saville family.

Bridget McCarroll (McArthur) Ice

Bridget McCarroll (McArthur) Ice, 74, of



Shinnston, WV passed away on Friday, December 31, 2021 at United Hospital Center. She was born June 17, 1947 in Greenock, Scotland, the daughter of the late William McArthur and Isabella (McCarroll) McArthur.

Bridget enjoyed

family time and to crochet, knit, and read. She had been a seamstress for Clarksburg Casket Company.

Bridget is survived by one daughter, Pamela V. Ice of Enterprise, four sons; Stephen A. Ice and wife Rebecca of Lumberport, Daniel G. Ice of Philippi, Brian D. Ice and wife Kimberly of Buckhannon, and William A. Ice and wife Laura of Danville, VA, ten grandchildren; Jessica Moore and husband Andrew, Justin Ice and wife Ashely, Andrew Wilson, Nathaniel Nicholson, Donovan Ice, Brian Ice, Haley Ice, Kiera Ice and Presley Ice, seven great grandchildren; David L. Gregory, Emory Nicholson, Aaliyah Nicholson, Kinsley Nicholson, Rownan Moore,

Emmett Moore and Kenzie Ice; a special nephew, William McArthur and wife Fiona, one brother, Samuel McArthur and wife Kathleen of Greenock, Scotland, as well as many others. In addition to her parents, Bridget was preceded in death by two brothers, William McArthur and Daniel McArthur and one grandson, David L. Wilson.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Father Chris Turner as Celebrant on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 11:00 am at St. Ann Catholic Church, 610 Pike St., Shinnston, WV. Interment followed at Enterprise IOOF Cemetery.

Dorsey Funeral Home is honored to be handling the arrangements for the Ice family.

Candidate filings begin

*Submitted by
Kathleen Panek,
City Clerk*

June 7, 2022 is set as Election Day for the Ward Council Members in the City of Shinnston.

PLEASE NOTE: There has been a change in ward boundaries.

WARD 1 – East Shinnston is now the north side of Clement Street to City Limits.

WARD 2 – Downtown is now the south side of Clement Street to Shinn Run.

WARD 3 – Pleasant Hill is south of Shinn Run to City Limits.

WARD 4 – West Side of West Fork River in Shinnston City Limits.

The following are the candidate eligibility requirement. The

candidate must be a resident of the ward. intention to establish residence by Election

Unless a charter states otherwise, municipal candidates must be a minimum of 18 years of age, be a resident of the municipality and not be under conviction of a felony or have any other disqualification. The eligibility requirements are generally applied as of the day of the election. For example, a person who is 17 years old at the time of filing, but who will be 18 by the date of the general election, may be a candidate for office. Regarding residency, a candidate is usually required to state his or her residence address under oath on the candidate’s certificate of announcement. Consequently, the

residence by Election Day might not be sufficient for a non-resident to be placed on the ballot because there is no certainty that person will become an actual resident. Accordingly, candidate eligibility could be challenged and criminal penalties could be imposed if the candidate falsified the certificate of announcement (W. Va. Code § 3-5-7). Packets to file for the June 7, 2022 Municipal Election may be obtained at City Hall at 40 Main Street, Shinnston from Jan. 10 thru Jan. 28, 2022 and returned to City Hall with a \$10 filing fee in person or by mail and must be postmarked by midnight Jan. 20, 2022.

WWW.SHINNSTONNEWS.COM

Lincoln High School names November students of the month



Skylee Danielle McCarthy. Courtesy photo.

Submitted by Holly Hawkins, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

Skylee Danielle McCarthy is the daughter of Sarah Lucas and the granddaughter of Oma and Chuck Lucas. Skylee has, impressively, maintained a 4.0 grade point average all throughout her years

of schooling, and is in the top 25% of her class. She has received Top Scholar in various classes every year and was inducted into the National Honor Society her junior year. Skylee participated in track her freshman year where she lettered and qualified for states. She is also very active within groups and organizations in school. In addition to

the honor society, she is a member of the Drug Free Club, Key Club, and Spanish Club. She is also very active within Centerbranch Church. Skylee has plans to attend West Virginia University in the fall to pursue a degree in dental hygiene. Franko Kovar is the son of Frank Kovar of Shinnston and



Franko Kovar. Courtesy photo.

Rachelle Sammon of Enterprise. He is the grandson of Frank and Kelley Kovar of Shinnston as well as Michael and Elizabeth Livingston of Enterprise. He has maintained perfect honor roll and a 4.0 GPA or higher throughout his high school career—all while taking honors, AP, and dual credit courses to aid in his future college

endeavors. Franko is a member of the track team along with a variety of extracurricular activities at Lincoln. He is historian of the GSA club and a member of the Key Club, DECA/FBLA, and National Honor Society. Outside of academics, Franko enjoys reading, playing piano and guitar, spending time

with his friends and family, and (most notably) art. He has earned multiple awards through the Youth Art program and has designed many shirts and other works in and outside of Lincoln. As of now, his major remains undecided, but he plans to attend West Virginia University next fall with an interest in the medical field.

DOT: Corbin Branch Road to close for three months

The West Virginia Division of Highways, in a news release, advises motorists of corrections to the closure of Corbin Branch Road/ County Route 73/6 at mile post 1.11 from Jan. 10 through March 31, weekdays from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The road will be closed for slide correction. No vehicles will be permitted through the jobsite. Alternate Routes: CR 6, Middleville Road, and CR 1/6, Smith Road; both are Taylor County routes.

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N	I	N		D	U	O				M	E	S	S	Y		D	E	U	C	E		
Y	E	K	W	O	R	R	A	T	F	E	L					C	O	A	S	T	S	
A	S	E	A		S	O	N	I	A			M	S	W	O	R	D					
			S	H	U			N	A	M		G	N	U	O	Y	T	S	E	W	O	G
B	I	G	H	E	L	P				O	C	T	A	L			D	I	V	A		
D	O	R		R	A	E	R	E	H	T	O	T	P	E	T	S		S	U	B		
A	T	E	E			T	O	M	E	I					R	H	Y	T	H	M	S	
Y	A	W	G	N	O	R	W	E	H	T	B	U	R			I	S	H				
			A	S	H	I	E	R			O	A	T	E	R		A	S	H	E		
B	I	L	L	Y	S					D	N	I	W	E	R	D	N	I	K	E	B	
A	M	A	I	N		P	R	I	D	E					I	S	A		Y	E	A	
N	O	I	T	C	E	R	I	D	E	G	N	A	H	C		D	I	D	D	Y		
D	U	S	E		L	I	L	I			A	S	I		P	E	R	I	L			
I	T	S		Y	G	O	L	O	H	C	Y	S	P	E	S	R	E	V	E	R		
T	I	E		O	A	R	S	M	E	N		A	P	P	S		N	E	S	S		
S	E	Z		M	R	S		S	E	N		M	O	A	T		E	R	S	T		