



Harrison cheer teams are in it to win it

Lincoln, Bridgeport among high-achieving teams

By Mary Heinrich
Staff Writer

Harrison County cheerleaders perform to an impressively high level of expectation and this year, teams in Harrison County have proven that they are most definitely in this for the win.

Cheerleading is the only school sport whose season lasts the entire school year. The young ladies and gentlemen who participate in this athletic endeavor are expected to know the basics of every sport for which they cheer. They maintain school traditions while coming

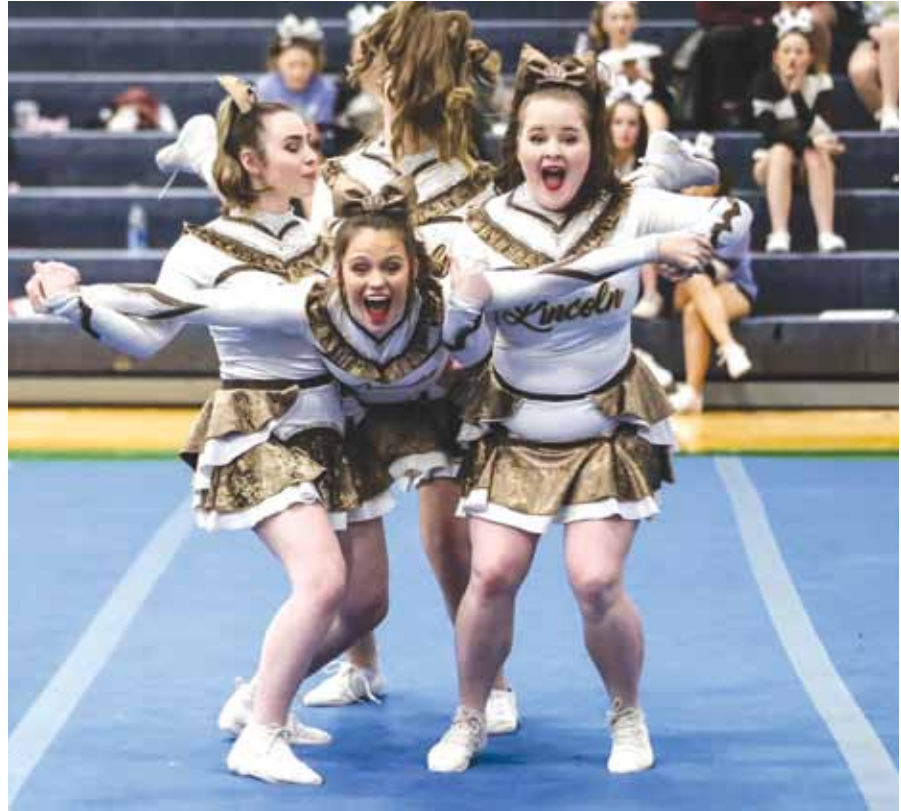
up with new ways to excite the crowd at every game.

As a matter of fact, the job for these athletes is four-fold. According to the National Federation of State High School Associations, the role of the cheer team is to be crowd leaders, spirit raisers, athletes, and entertainers. They are expected to be at every game to pump up the crowd, to decorate hallways, plan and execute pep rallies, set a good example of school pride, and to maintain model behavior, including an exemplary GPA.

It is also the responsibility of these dedicated young people to maintain a practice and exercise schedule which enables them to be in top physical condition. Their job is to be capable of jumps, flips, and stunts that, honestly, make us all hold our breath. They also must maintain full energy from the beginning of the game through the end—no time out, no halftime.

It is also required that cheerleaders be entertainers. The most readily noticeable part of the cheerleader's responsibility is the

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Lincoln High School cheerleaders Emalee Brown, Paige McGee, Sierra Moore, and Bailee Drago perform a stunt at a cheer competition. Courtesy photo.

“A magic combination:” Harrison students perform poetry Bridgeport student wins, Lincoln student reaches semifinals

By Erin Beck
Editor

CHARLESTON—A Harrison County student, Morgan Sprouse of Bridgeport High School, won the statewide Poetry Out Loud competition in Charleston on Saturday.

The county was well-represented at the annual competition. Wesley Benson, a senior at Lincoln High School, made it to the semifinals on Friday, when students from more than 40 schools competed for a spot in the final ten.

Morgan Sprouse, a junior at Bridgeport High School, and Ashton Nardella, a senior at Notre Dame High School, made it from the semifinals to the finals on Saturday.

Poetry Out Loud is a national contest in which high school students memorize and recite poetry for an audience. The competition begins in schools, with the winners at each school advancing to the statewide competition. The winners from each state and territory then compete at the National Finals.

The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Poetry Foundation sponsor the event annually in West Virginia.

Each student memorized

recited three poems. Sprouse selected “Mansplaining” by Jennifer Militello, “Ways of Talking” by Ha Jin, and “A Psalm of Life” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

She also participated last year, but it was virtual. She had stood in front of a sheet her mom had taped over a window for a recording.

“I recited them for a camera which is nothing compared to doing it in front of an audience,” she said. “It makes me nervous, but once I get out there, it’s much better to have audience reaction.”

She enjoyed poetry before learning about the competition.

“I liked to read it,” she said. “And I have a couple of poetry Instagrams that I frequent, quite often.”

But now she has a new source of poetry material- the Poetry Out Loud website, she said.

Her mother, Jennifer Kniceley Sprouse, agreed this year was different. She said she could “feel the emotion in the room.”

“Our students from Harrison County were amazing,” she said. “All three of them and it was just – it’s a blessing to be here.”

Her husband, Bart Sprouse, doubted he could have memorized so many lines.

“The dedication is



Morgan Sprouse is the state champion of Poetry Out Loud. Photo by Stephen Brightwell.

what stuck out to me,” he said.


Morgan said her mom encouraged her to recite “A Psalm of Life.” Her grandfather, William G. Kniceley, enjoyed Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

She was hesitant when she saw the length of the nine-stanza poem, but she was glad she chose it.

“One of my favorite lines is ‘Life is real! Life is earnest! And the grave is not its goal,’” Morgan said. “So that kind of sums up what the rest of the poem is saying, just keep going and do your best. And that is all you can do, and enjoy things.”

Jared St. Martin Brown, who teaches English and Theater at Bridgeport High School, said he didn’t have to help Morgan

much, as she is very



Building Amazing Cities

By **JIM HUNT**
author, speaker, consultant

Invasion of Ukraine feels personal

Being the grandson of immigrants from Slovakia, I have always had an interest in that area of the world. I would hear stories about the struggles of my great grandparents and how it seemed to them that war was never far from their doorstep. They lived in small villages in the hills of Slovakia and made a living off the land. World War I and World War II were fought and later, the Cold War put them under the control of the Soviet Union. When my grandfather left Slovakia, he headed to England and worked in the shipyards until he heard about this place called America. He saved enough for a ticket on a ship and bid his family goodbye, for what might have been the last time. After stops in Pennsylvania, he made his way to West Virginia and went to work in the Tin Plate factory in Summit Park. He was a Roman Catholic, and this became his ‘family’, in his newfound land. Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church was one of many ethnic churches in the Clarksburg area, and Andy Husovsky met Magdalene Karkoska and started a family

in the Montpelier neighborhood in Clarksburg. My grandfather was an avid reader and he picked up the language quickly and worked hard to find his place in the new land. My grandmother, Maggie, worked as a domestic for several families in Clarksburg and still spoke Slovak, most of the time. She attended daily mass and I would see her walking back from church as I was on my way to school. My mother would get letters from the relatives in Slovakia, and she would often read them to us and tell us how lucky we were to be living in the United States. This led to a life-long interest in Eastern Europe, and I was fortunate to be able to travel to this area as a young college student. I attended a Soviet-American Friendship Conference in Minsk, Belarus in 1972 and met young people from throughout the Soviet Union, including Ukraine. I was so impressed with the history and tradition of the many occupied countries and wondered if it was ever possible that these countries would be free and

self-motivated. “Morgan has a real talent for being able to convey the emotion in a piece, whether that’s in theater or in poetry,” he said. “She can really show that through facial expressions, through body language. And I think when you put that on stage with poetry, I think it’s a magic combination.”

Nardella, who said he’s “particular” with his poetry, enjoyed the exposure to different forms at the event.

“It was a lot of fun,” he said. “Got to meet some cool people, did well overall. I only wish I could’ve gone a lil’ further.”

He’d been preparing since summer, “and it paid off,” he said.

“And I’ll always remember how amazing it felt to place,” he said.

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Pam Tillis to perform at Robinson Grand

Pam Tillis will perform as part of an acoustic trio at the historic Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center in Clarksburg, according to a news release.

“An Evening with Pam Tillis” is scheduled for Sunday, April 24, 2022, at 4 p.m.

A three-time CMA award winner, including the prestigious 1994’s Female Vocalist of the Year Award, Tillis has been nominated multiple times for Grammy’s Best Female Country Vocal Performance: in 1993 for “Maybe It

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Pam Tillis, who has had 30 singles charting on the U.S. Billboard charts and sold more than 7 million copies of her studio albums, will perform in Clarksburg on April 24, promoters said in a news release. Courtesy photo.



Each week copies of the News & Journal are distributed in each hospital to patients compliments of these community-minded sponsors listed.



OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

PSC: Suddenlink customers deserve better



By Charlotte Lane
WV Public Service
Commission Chair

When you sign up and pay for a service, such as a company promising cable television service, you expect the television to work when you turn it on. Unfortunately, for many who subscribe to Suddenlink for cable television and other

services, that has not been the case for far too long. The Public Service Commission has received thousands of complaints from Suddenlink customers over the past few years. The complaints have covered all areas, from interruptions in service to billing problems. To make matters worse, customers calling to complain have had terrible experiences and very little success in getting their problems resolved. Commission staff tried to intervene on

Continued on page 14

This week in West Virginia history

The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history.

March 17, 1891: West Virginia State University was founded as the West Virginia Colored Institute by the West Virginia Legislature. It was one of 17 black land-grant colleges established under the Second Morrill Act of 1890.

March 17, 1912: Athlete Joe Stydahar was born in Pennsylvania. A star in football and basketball at WVU, he was the first-round selection of the Chicago Bears in the first pro draft of college players in 1936.

March 18, 1820: William Stevenson was born in Warren, Pennsylvania, but he later moved to Wood County in western Virginia. In 1868, he was elected the third governor of West Virginia.

March 18, 1922: Athlete Frank "Gunner" Gatski was born in Farmington. Gatski played 11 years for the Browns (1946-56) and one for Detroit (1957). He played in 10 championship games, eight on the winning side.

March 19, 1925: Basketball teams from 11 of West Virginia's 24 African American high schools took the court at West Virginia State College (now University) in Institute for the first West Virginia Athletic Union (WVAU) state basketball tournament. Lincoln High School of Wheeling defeated Kimball, 25-24, in the final game to win the championship.

March 19, 1992: Four miners were killed at the Blacksville No. 1 Mine in Monongalia County while the mine was being sealed. Drainage pipes were being welded together, and a spark fell into the shaft, igniting methane gas.

March 20, 1849: Businessman James Kay was born in Scotland. He constructed the coke ovens at Hawks Nest, installed a cable car to carry coal across the New River, and installed a tramway to move miners and coal up and down the gorge face at Kaymoor.

March 20, 1897: Musician Frank Hutchison was born in Raleigh County. With a slide guitar sound akin to the bottleneck style, he helped to instill a blues strain in modern country music and was influential among coalfield musicians.

March 21, 2018: Sculptor Frank Gaylord died. Born 1925 in Clarksburg, his best-known work is "The Column," a platoon of 19 larger-than-life, stainless steel soldiers comprising the central element of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington.

March 22, 1922: Physician Mildred Mitchell-Bateman was born in Georgia. She became the first black woman in West Virginia to hold a high-level state administrative position when, in 1962, Governor William Wallace Barron appointed her as the director of the Department of Mental Health.

March 23, 2003: Private Jessica Lynch of Palestine, Wirt County, was serving as a supply clerk with the Army's 507th Maintenance Company when she was captured by Iraqi forces after her group was ambushed.

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.

Super Crossword

HER LEADING FATHER

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Passengers	1 "The Famous Teddy Z" actor Alex
7 It's used for simmering	2 Old Apple instant-messaging app
14 Good for farming	3 Reduce in intensity
20 Texas wildcat	4 Pipe bends
21 Huffington of HuffPost	5 Civil rights figure Parks
22 Hooded snakes	6 Leaves in, to an editor
23 Noted WikiLeaks whistleblower [#42]	7 On the (fleeing)
25 Potato, yam and rutabaga	8 "... boy — girl?"
26 Impressionist painter Mary	9 Claret, e.g.
27 Toaster waffle brand	10 Plane houser
28 Ancestry	11 Mystery
29 Not needing an Rx	12 Lrk
30 Unkempt sort	13 Dog's jingler
33 Swimmer who won six Olympic gold medals [#39]	14 Role-playing
35 It has triceps	15 Boxers' units
38 Radical type	16 Nuns' place
40 Work units	17 Period of rest
41 Author of the Edgar-winning novel "New Orleans Mourning" [#37]	18 Jumbo-sized
45 "TRL Top 10" channel	19 Ruhr city
46 Wig makeup	24 Fla.'s ocean
50 Not similar	28 Future flies
51 2014 Olympics host city	31 Yes, to Pierre
54 Pooh and Roo's creator	32 Deli classics, for short
57 Erudite class called "The Queen of Technicolor" [#40]	34 Critters' doc
59 Actress called "The Y" of YSL	36 Irks
61 The "Y" of UFO pilots, presumably	37 Israel's Golda
62 YFO pilots, presumably	39 — McAn (shoe brand)
64 Surveyor's map	41 7, monthwise
65 Caught in a lasso	42 Part of UCLA: Abbr.
66 Whom each of this puzzle's featured women have as a namesake	43 Reggae grew from it
70 Like hot stuff	44 Taxi ticker
74 State of mind	45 Saharan illusion
75 Always, to Keats	46 Longtime Ritz rival
76 Dismounted	47 "How sad!"
80 "Sabrina the Teenage Witch" actress [#35]	48 As to
83 Black or red candy	49 Enjoy a book (longtime skating show)
86 Grow to accept	53 Netflix alternative
87 High-stick billiards shot	55 Crooner Murray
89 Make sizzling sounds	56 Heathland
90 Stag, e.g.	58 "You know who I am"
91 Nondairy milk source	60 Merman of old musicals
93 2006 U.S. figure skating champion [#44]	63 Full of tumult
95 — Pet (1980s fad)	66 Fedora fabric
97 Petrol unit	67 Still having a shot to win
99 Astros, on sports tickers	68 Qatar's capital
100 She played Dharma on "Dharma & Greg" [#43]	69 Van Devere of "The Changeling"
105 Deep drink	70 Hoodwink
108 Have life	71 "There, I did it!"
111 How Earth rotates	72 Said aloud
112 Born under — sign	73 Bound along
114 Nondairy milk source	76 — -Detoo ("Star Wars" droid)
117 Person "from around here"	77 Neighbor of a Pole
118 "The Last O.G." actress [#45]	78 Frozen drink brand
121 Close to a dozen	79 Beach bird
122 Many an allergy sufferer	81 In a prying way
123 Make happy	82 Admin. aide
124 Tension	84 W-2 pro
125 Runtly ones	85 "Yeow!"
126 Michael who once headed Disney	88 Hearing pair
	92 Clumsy ox
	94 Suture
	95 Baby whales
	96 Mount St. —
	97 Add-on cost for a science course
	98 Shortly, informally
	100 Fonda and Austen
	101 Really praise
	102 Gunpowder component
	103 Dewy-eyed
	104 The Pine Tree State
	106 "— bin ein Berliner"
	107 Totally lose it
	109 Charlotte — (rich dessert)
	110 Anesthetic of old
	113 Flabbergast
	115 451, to Nero
	116 Keats poems
	118 Dosage amt.
	119 By birth
	120 100 in a cen.

Find the Super Crossword Answers on Page 8!



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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. Send via email to newsandjournal@yahoo.com.

American Legion

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31 monthly meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 17 at Post 31, Shinnston.

Little Lambs Closet

Heritage Christian School will hold its spring children's consignment sale in the gymnasium at the school this weekend.

Friday: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Children, infants, maternity clothing available.

225 Newton Avenue.

<http://hcsww.org/Little-Lambs-Closet>

Bridgeport Public Library

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

Lowe Public Library

The Lowe Public Library hours are Monday 11:30 am - 7 p.m. and Tuesday- Friday 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m., closed on Saturdays. Curbside service is 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. There is no meeting when schools are closed.

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.

Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Mission

408 Morgantown Ave, Fairmont
Rev. Sasha Nedich (724) 966-7428
www.holytrinityserborthwv.org
Liturgy Schedule for March:
Saturday, March 26 at 10 a.m.
Please check to make sure of no cancellations
724-966-7428

"Harrison student perform poetry" cont. from page 1



Wesley Benson, a senior at Lincoln High School, made it to the semifinals in Poetry Out Loud in Charleston on Friday. Photo by Stephen Brightwell.

Ben Long, a former Notre Dame student and the 2021 state champion, gave remarks and performed. Long was one of nine students to advance through regional competitions and compete for the title of national champion.

West Virginia's Poet Laureate Marc Harshman also spoke and performed. He was heartened to see many contestants and their families stick around Saturday despite the snow and not making it to the finals.

"Poetry Out Loud is such a gift to the state of West Virginia, unlike almost anything else I can think of," he said, in an interview. "It promotes literature and learning. The students get excited about poetry. They learn or else relearn that poetry is not something to be afraid of but reflects everything about our lives as human beings. It nurtures the soul, if you will. There's music in poetry. There's humor. There's seriousness. There's comedy. There's tragedy." Harshman said the kids had immersed themselves in poems

"that countless poets from Shakespeare's age to our own have sweat blood over to get just the right words, to say just the right thing about the state of their souls," then reflect that emotion and experience for the audience.

The Poetry Out Loud competition, he said, is one thing that West Virginia gets right.

The 2022 Poetry Out Loud National Finals will take place virtually. All 55 state and jurisdictional finalists will participate in the national semifinals, which will stream May 1, with the top nine students advancing to the national finals, which will stream on June 5. Both the semifinals and finals will be streamed at arts.gov.

A total of \$50,000 in awards and school/organizational stipends will be given at the Poetry Out Loud National Finals, including a \$20,000 award for the National Champion, \$10,000 for 2nd place, \$5,000 for 3rd place, and \$1,000 for 4th-9th places. The representing schools/organizations of each

A Psalm of Life

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

What The Heart Of The Young Man Said To The Psalmist.

Tell me not, in mournful numbers,
Life is but an empty dream!
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;
But to act, that each to-morrow
Find us farther than to-day.

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave.

In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife!

Trust no Future, howe'er pleasant!
Let the dead Past bury its dead!
Act,— act in the living Present!
Heart within, and God o'erhead!

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time;

Footprints, that perhaps another,
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.

of the top nine finalists will receive \$500 for the poetry materials. One purchase of poetry runner-up in each state will receive \$100; their school/organization will receive \$200 for the purchase of poetry materials.

Each winner at the state level will receive \$200. The state winner's school/organization will receive \$500 for the purchase of poetry materials.

"invasion of Ukraine" cont. from page 1

independent in my lifetime.

When my children and grandchildren would be able to freely travel to these beautiful countries and learn of their history. After my initial trip in 1972, I had returned several times to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. I went to the 1980 Olympics in Moscow for the last time. The Baltic States of Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia had declared their independence and it was followed by Belarus and Ukraine. Eight of the remaining nine republics soon followed, and it appeared the Cold War was over. I was elated and dreamed of a time

Soviet Union is such a distressing tragedy and one that I feel personally, knowing several young people in Ukraine who have been working for a peace for many years. The cities are being decimated and it breaks my heart to see the lines of families standing in the train stations with their belongings in one or two grocery bags. While the standard of living in much of Eastern Europe lags behind much of the west, they have made tremendous gains, only to see it snuffed out by the actions of a deranged dictator. Sadly, all of the surrounding countries are feeling the effects of this invasion and it appears to be only the beginning of a new Cold War or even worse. I would encourage my readers to spend some time educating themselves on the countries that make up this region and the people who have suffered throughout their history, fighting for freedom. I stand with Ukraine.

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STAY FOCUSED
on Your Goals

Maybe March isn't so scary after all

GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen



“Beware the Ides of March!” For oh so many years I have heard this phrase, but I never quite knew what I was to be afraid of, or if there was something lurking in the dark that was just waiting to grab me. So, I decided that this was the year that I was going to do a little research and settle this matter.

Here is what I found. Every month has an Ides as it is the 15th day of the month. But many years ago, a soothsayer predicted a happening on the 15th of March, and lo and behold there was a happening a month later on the 15th of

March. The happening was the assassination of Julius Caesar. There are many references to this event especially in Shakespeare's writings. Now we can discard the fear of the Ides of March because history records only this one event and there are not enough happenings to regard this as a scary day.

There are many days in March that can lighten our spirits such as St Patrick's Day. I truly like decorating with green and I love using the four-leaf clover. The clover reminds me of my mother. She was a genius at finding

four-leaf clovers in our lawn. I would look and look, never finding one and mom would glance down and there would be one just waiting to be plucked. We always pressed them, and I have one that is many years old.

Next, we have the celebration of setting our clocks forward one hour. This is surely a sign that spring is on its way.

For all of us basketball fans, we get to enjoy March Madness with all the tournaments being played. March is a great welcome into spring. This is what I love about the four seasons, just when we have had enough snow, in comes the daffodils and tulips.

Cancer struck our family and, this time, it won. This past week our sister-in-law, Kay Burnett passed.

Kay was a teacher at Bridgeport Elementary for many years. She leaves a daughter, Lindsay and Donovan and three grandchildren, Piper, Beckett and Archer. What a gallant fight she put up. I am such a supporter of cancer testing. One test may save our lives. Rest in peace Kay.

Once again, I want to remind you to place your order for Easter Bread by calling the PWA at 304-624-6881. The fresh bread will be ready the week before Easter. The PWA will also be selling chocolate peanut butter eggs.

With all the sadness in the world, a good Lenten sacrifice would be daily prayers for world peace.

Stay safe, stay healthy and until next week “Now You Have Heard It Through the Grapevine.”

Energy bills, raises, among 293 bills this session

Submitted by Ann Ali, House of Delegates spokeswoman

CHARLESTON — The West Virginia House of Delegates adjourned Saturday, March 12 at midnight having completed 293 bills, including a budget bill.

Senate Bill 250, the budget bill, was a compromise among the Senate, House and the Executive branch. The measure passed the full House after a two-hour debate during which House Speaker Roger Hanshaw, R-Clay, spoke in support of the bill for both fiscal and policy reasons.

“It's the primary Constitutional obligation we have as members of this body; it's the way we set the priorities of the state in so many ways,” Hanshaw said from the floor. “In fact, I've heard a number of our colleagues before describe this budget, not just this budget but our budget, as a moral document — as a representation of where the state of West Virginia goes with respect to our shared priorities and our shared collectives.”

House Finance Committee Chairman Eric Householder, R-Berkeley, explained the compromise budget surplus totals \$1 billion, and a General Revenue fund with 44% designated for public education and includes another pay raise for teachers; 26% dedicated to social services including a pay raise for Child Protective Services workers; and 10% allocated for higher education. The Legislature allocated dollars to “Save the Music,” Healthy

Grandfamilies, public broadcasting and future income tax relief also was planned, along with a return of the film investment tax credit after much study and improvement.

House Bill 4008 also completed the legislative process and will allow the state Higher Education Policy Commission to work with the state Community and Technical College System to create a performance-based funding model. The model was led by the higher education institutions themselves, after two years of collaborative work, and the bill unanimously passed the full House.

The 60-day regular legislative session began with an extraordinary session to help secure the largest investment in the state's history. The specific intent of the package of bills addressed during the special session helped clinch the announced \$2.7 billion Nucor investment in Mason County and the Northern Panhandle. The project is expected to bring about 1,000 construction jobs and 800 full-time jobs with benefits.

After more than a decade of efforts to make the state's current Department of Health and Human Resources more manageable, effective and efficient, House Bill 4020 marks a new era in West Virginia's public health by approaching those goals through a newly created Department of Health and Department of Human Resources, each with its own cabinet secretary. The stand-alone Department of Health

will include the bureaus of Public Health, Health Facilities, Inspector General, the Office of Health Facility Licensure and Certification as well as the state Health Care Authority; the separate Department of Human Resources will include the bureaus of Social Services, Medical Services, Child Support Enforcement, Family Assistance and Behavioral Health, which includes the state Office of Drug Control Policy as well as the Office of Maternal Child and Family Health. Two secretaries of the new agencies will be in office by January 2023, if the bill becomes law. Efforts also were made this session to provide more flexibility to the DHHR cabinet secretary to allocate CPS workers to best fit the dire needs the state has experienced.

Bills that continue to make advances in broadband connectivity and competition completed the legislative process, as well as bills that look to pave the way for the state to capitalize on new economic investments, such as House Bill 4098, which makes it clear in state code that geothermal energy may be developed in West Virginia; House Bill 4003, which would establish a clear legal right of title to the chemical compounds, elements and substances derived from the treatment of acid mine drainage, setting definitive roles in the cleanup and extraction of rare earth elements from those coal waste piles; and House Bill 4002 which creates the certified sites and development readiness

program, to help secure the state's position among site selection consultants to help land the next big economic engine.

The House completed legislative action Jan. 31 on Senate Bill 4. The bill repeals a 26-year ban the Legislature had enacted on construction of new nuclear power facilities and allows for the possibility of nuclear energy production rounding out West Virginia's power portfolio and indicating to the global economy that the state is successfully transitioning its economy.

After the House of Delegates completed the work of the legislative session and adjourned, members remained in the chamber to hear farewell speeches from members who will not be running again. The busy calendar kept members from observing the long-standing tradition usually reserved for the final night of the legislative session, but Delegates heard from:

Brent Boggs, D-Braxton
John Doyle, D-Jefferson
Dave Pethtel, D-Wetzel
John Kelly, R-Wood
Barbara Fleischauer, D-Monongalia
Tony Paynter, R-Wyoming
John Mandt, R-Cabell
Joe Jeffries, R-Putnam
Zach Maynard, R-Lincoln
Terri Sypolt, R-Preston
Kayla Kessinger, R-Fayette
Ben Queen, R-Harrison
Jason Barrett, R-Berkeley
House Counsel Dan Greear

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

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LEARN ABOUT THE FIVE FOOD GROUPS



with **OLIVIA KINKADE**



We are embarking upon a food group journey in recognition of National Nutrition Awareness Month! Join us to discover interesting details on the five main food groups: fruits, vegetables, grains, protein foods, and dairy.



THE FRUIT FOOD GROUP

What foods are in the fruit group?

The fruit food group comprises all the foods we know as fruits – apples, oranges, bananas, etc. – as well as 100% fruit juice. These fruits appear in many forms: fresh, frozen, canned, or dried/hydrated, and can be enjoyed in numerous ways: whole, cut into pieces, pureed, or cooked. While 100% fruit juice counts as part of the fruit food group, at least half of the recommended amount of fruit in your daily diet should come from whole fruit rather than the juice itself.

Why should I eat fruit?

Including fruit in your diet provides your body with various health benefits, such as a reduced risk of some chronic diseases. Eating fruit provides your body with nutrients vital for health and maintenance.

(continued) Discover the nutritional benefits of fruit:

- Fruits have no cholesterol. They are low in fat, sodium, and calories.
- Fruits fill your body with essential nutrients, like potassium, dietary fiber, vitamin C, and folate. Including more fruit in your diet will increase your intake of these nutrients.
- Potassium-rich diets may help to maintain healthy blood pressure. Which fruits are beneficial sources of potassium? Try bananas, prunes, prune juice, dried peaches, apricots, cantaloupe, honeydew melon, orange juice, jackfruit, guava, and kiwi.
- Interested in reducing blood cholesterol levels and lowering your risk of heart disease? Dietary fiber from fruits, as part of an overall healthy diet, can help! In addition, fiber helps with bowel function. To consume fiber via fruit, try whole or cut-up fruits. Fruit juices contain little to no fiber.
- Vitamin C to the rescue! How does vitamin C benefit your body? It helps grow and repair body tissues, helps heal cuts and wounds, keeps teeth and gums healthy, and helps the body absorb iron more quickly.

How much fruit is needed daily, and what counts as 1 cup of fruit?

Our bodies are all unique. The serving of fruit you should include in your diet varies based on your age, sex, height, weight, and level of physical activity. Breastfeeding and pregnant women also have different nutritional fruit intake needs. In general, 1 cup of fruit or 100% fruit juice or ½ cup of dried fruit can be considered 1 cup from the fruit food group.



THE VEGETABLE FOOD GROUP

What foods are in the vegetable group?

The vegetable food group comprises all vegetables, such as broccoli, carrots, and squash, and 100% vegetable juice. Vegetables are served and enjoyed in many forms. The next time you prepare vegetables for a meal or snack, discover the array of ways in which they are available: raw or cooked; fresh, frozen, canned, or dried/dehydrated; whole, cut-up, or mashed.

Vegetables are divided into five subgroups based on their nutrient value: dark green; red and orange; beans, peas, and lentils; starchy; and other vegetables.

Why should I eat vegetables?

Including vegetables in your meals and snacks provides your body with critical nutrients and health benefits essential for maintaining overall health. Individuals who regularly eat vegetables and fruits as part of an overall healthy diet are likely to have a reduced risk of some chronic diseases.

(continued) How many vegetables are needed, and what counts as a cup of vegetables?

Our bodies are all unique. The serving of vegetables you should include in your diet varies based on your age, sex, height, weight, and level of physical activity. Breastfeeding and pregnant women also have different vegetable intake needs. In general, 1 cup of raw or cooked vegetables or vegetable juice or 2 cups of raw leafy salad greens can be considered 1 cup from the vegetable food group.

View details about the three remaining food groups at UHHouseCall.com

Discover the nutritional benefits of vegetables:

- Most natural vegetables are low in fat and calories.
- Vegetables offer the body potassium, dietary fiber, folate, vitamin A, and vitamin C.
- Diets rich in potassium benefit the body by helping to maintain healthy blood pressure. Which vegetables provide this nutrient? Try sweet potatoes, white potatoes, white beans, tomato products (paste, sauce, and juice), beet greens, soybeans, lima beans, spinach, lentils, kidney beans, acorn squash, kohlrabi, and yucca to add more potassium into your meal plan.
- Vegetables provide dietary fiber, which, as part of an overall healthy diet, helps reduce blood cholesterol levels and may lower the risk of heart disease.
- Vitamin A, found in certain vegetables, helps keep eyes and skin healthy and helps to protect against infections.
- Vitamin C, found in certain vegetables, helps heal cuts and wounds and keeps teeth and gums healthy. Vitamin C also helps the body absorb iron more easily.



NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS AND PEDIATRIC ENT HEALTH

Noise-induced hearing loss, or NIHL, can occur when loud noises damage the inner ear. Join Daniel Merenda, MD, ENT specialist at United Hospital Center, as he shares the science behind NIHL and describes steps one can take to prevent it.

NIHL is often associated with decibel levels. What should we know about decibel levels, and what are the symptoms of noise-induced hearing loss?

Sound intensity is measured in decibels - the more intense the sound, the higher its decibel (dB) level. As decibel level and sound intensity rises, so does one's risk for NIHL. When discussing risk for NIHL, decibel level and the length of time someone listens to a specific sound should be considered. For example, listening to music at volumes louder than 85 dB for long periods can cause permanent hearing loss.

Want to HEAR more about NIHL? Visit UHHouseCall.com for the full interview with Dr. Merenda.



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Mountaineers battle in Big 12



The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

West Virginia University head coach Bob Huggins has never backed down from a challenge. His teams do not give up on a season, regardless of how bad it is going. Those are two constants that can be considered guarantees each and every year. This campaign is a prime example as the Mountaineers entered the Big 12 Tournament with a noticeable limp. They had lost seven of the last eight games and an NCAA Tournament bid was a longer shot than a Powerball with a Power Play win. Nonetheless, Huggins and company did what they always do, refocus, and prepare for the task at hand.

The opening round brought a lockup with Kansas State. The Mountaineers were looking for redemption following a five-point setback in Manhattan, Kansas

back on Valentine's Day. Last Wednesday, it was the Eers turn to break some hearts. The 15,295 fans in attendance (the most that have seen this squad since Jan. 29 at Arkansas) viewed a total team effort as WVU picked up 29 bench points which proved to be the difference-maker in the affair — that and the hot hand of Sean McNeil.

McNeil pumped in the game-high 21 points. It was the third-highest point production of the season for McNeil. His best game, ironically, came against this same K-State team in early January when he hit for 26 points.

Malik Curry added 17 points in the victory. Both players were also extremely hot from the floor. They were a combined 13 of 22 (59%), and, as a team, WVU was nearly 53%

from the field. The win allowed little prep time for Huggins as a date, with top seed Kansas loomed less than 24 hours after the Kansas State triumph.

Midway through the first half, Mountaineer guard Taz Sherman was hit with a technical foul for arguing a no-call on his shot attempt. Sherman felt he was fouled and voiced his frustrations, prompting the call from official, Doug Simons. Simons kept his whistle hot, hammering Huggins with a technical foul just seconds after lighting Sherman up. Huggins had wandered beyond half court to dispute the initial lack of a foul call and the subsequent call on his player. The whistle didn't stop there, as Simons utilized a rapid-fire technique to blast Huggins with another technical foul and, at the same time, emphatically tossing the mentor out of the match-up.

After studying the game tape multiple times, it was unclear to me what Huggins said that warranted the second technical

and the game-altering second infraction. It didn't appear to be much, and I can guarantee that what Huggins said to the official after the ejection appeared to be much worse. It takes a lot of nerve to toss the sixth winningest coach in Division I history, especially in a tournament game. Given the juncture of the tilt it was even more surprising. Most ejections occur in the second half and typically near the end of the game when the outcome has already been determined. The six foul shots awarded after quick-draw Simons' calls left the Mountaineers in a 24-4 hole that they could not get out of despite a valiant effort. The frustration of this situation parallels that of the entire season. The effort was evident, but sometimes you just can't win for losing.

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 we 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 & 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.

This week's winners of the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week award are Robert C. Byrd's Brayden Thomason and Bridgeport's

Mitch Duez.

Flying Eagle basketball standout Brayden Thomason scored a game-high 27 points in the regional loss to Fairmont Senior last Tuesday. He also dished out a team-high four assists in the setback.

Indian hoopster, Mitch Duez, turned in an impressive outing in a regional setback to Wheeling Park last Wednesday. Duez scored a game-high 18 points, grabbed three rebounds, dished out three assists, recorded two steals, and blocked a shot.

Congratulations to Robert C. Byrd's Brayden Thomason and Bridgeport's Mitch Duez for being named Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week.

League lets kids give basketball a try



From The World Of Parks & Recreation

By Doug Comer

I am sure that the Curry, Durant, and James families had to start their children from somewhere, and I am sure it involved a form of rec league basketball in the old gymnasiums across the United States. That is where our parks department steps in providing youth sports for those who want to experience the game at a young age.

I remember playing games at St. James gym with the parks and recreation league when I was a youngster. The best player on our team was Suzanne Pettrey (Bishop) who would later play basketball for Washington-Irving High School as well as the Lady Mounties of "Dub Vee."

Fast forward to

today and things are pretty much the same. Harrison County Parks and Recreation offers a rec league basketball program to kids between the ages of 5-8. Roughly 80 kids signed up for the two-month program. The teams are chosen based on the location of the child's school as compared to having clinics and rating kids for a draft.

"It is a pretty easy way of handling the teams," said Recreation Director Jack Cann, who runs the league. "We get on average between 8-11 kids on the roster and it has been working out pretty well. The kids know each other from the neighborhoods and schools so the shyness factor is somewhat eliminated from the start."

Staffing has been pretty good as most are players from the high school level. A couple players played ball at the college level as well. All have experience working with their coaches through high school and know the basics of basketball involving dribbling, passing and shooting. We have officials that help with the younger kids, and they tighten up things with the older group of kids.

For the first couple weeks, we had practice involving the fundamentals and then we set the team free for play. Along with four quarters of basketball with a running clock, they get breaks to run up to the parents, grab a drink and get a kiss from their mom. We keep it very loose here with this league as we want the kids to have a ton of fun and learn the game of basketball. Later down the road if they choose to continue



Kids in Harrison County Parks and Recreation's youth basketball league learn the basics. Courtesy photo.

playing, they can make it competitive.

"We want to expose the kids to the game of basketball and have fun," said Cann. "We will provide all the tools needed to succeed and it is up to them to put in the work to make them

a better player. We love that the kids are putting forth the effort and the results are showing each week we see them."

Last week, the league took a pause just to recharge the batteries but opened back up this week and

offered team photos for all teams and players. We are trying to run this league similarly to other competitive leagues, and little things like team photos are keepsakes players will have for life.

United Way hosting virtual St. Patrick's Day fundraiser

The United Way of Harrison and Doddridge Counties will hold a virtual fundraiser, "The Luck of Giving Give-A-Thon" on Thursday, March 17. The event will be streamed on Facebook Live and will feature entertainment from local artists and messages from community members, according to a press release.

The nonprofit, which has 18 partner organizations, held its first virtual St. Patrick's Day fundraiser last year

due to the pandemic.

The event will be streamed from the Robinson Grand in Clarksburg from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"The past few years have been extremely difficult for everyone," said Brad Riffie, Executive Director of United Way of Harrison and Doddridge Counties. "That's exactly why our United Way fundraising campaign means so much to our 18 partner organizations and the local residents they

serve. Children, seniors, people with disabilities, grandfamilies, veterans, and other groups all have access to a better life thanks to our community's efforts. We are 22 percent away from hitting our \$750,000 goal this year. Please help us get there if you can."

If you would like to enter the drawings, go to unitedwayhdc.org; call 304-624-6337; or text UNITEDHDC to 304-624-6337.



United Way of Harrison and Doddridge Counties



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John Harrison Rice

John Harrison Rice, age 83, passed away on February 25, 2022, after a brief battle with multiple myeloma. John was a loving husband, father, and grandfather who lost the love of his life, Mary, in August 2020 after 62 years of marriage. It was his most difficult challenge, but just as he dealt with all his life experiences, he managed through the loss with strength and grace. John's greatest gift to his children was his unwavering love of Mary.

John was born in Clarksburg, WV to George Bowers and Jean Finlayson Rice. He is survived by his children John L. (Susan) Rice, Ringoes NJ, Jim (Jennifer) Rice, Nellysford, VA, and Julie Gregory of Shinnston, and grandchildren Katie (John) Griffin, Stamford, CT, Carter Rice, Denver, CO, Jackson Rice, Clearwater, FL, and Jennings Rice of Los Angeles, CA. He is survived by his brother, George (Judy) Rice of Shinnston, and by brothers and sisters-in-law Charlie (Judy) Rose and Anita (Bill Stehney) of Moundsville. Multiple cousins, nieces, nephews and close acquaintances added to his full and accomplished life. A brother, David Rice, predeceased him in 2012.

John was a proud resident of Shinnston who contributed to his community in many, many ways. As a teenager, he was a 4-letter sportsman at Shinnston High School where he was also honored to be named as The Spartan during his senior year. Along with his brothers, he worked in the family businesses which included the only movie theater, racetrack, and drive-in theater the town had ever known. After attending West Virginia University, he graduated from Ohio Northern University with a BS in Pharmacy, and he returned to Shinnston where he operated Rice's Drug Store with his father for decades. After selling the store, he worked as a pharmacist at UHC until his eventual retirement. John served on the Harrison County Board of Education for 12 years where at the age of 28, he was elected to serve as President. When he was elected, he was the youngest board president to serve in the state of West Virginia. He continued to serve his community through leadership roles in countless civic and community organizations, and he was a proud inductee of the Shinnston Hall of Fame.

He was a father, professional, and role model to his children and grandchildren. He lived the values of compassion, empathy, and

consideration through his leadership in the First United Methodist Church. As a mainstay of the Shinnston business community, he ensured that those needing assistance to cover the cost of prescriptions were always able to get the medicines they needed regardless of ability to pay. At a time when we long for the small-town values that seem to have slipped away, we are reminded of the example he set when it came to finding the common ground with his customers, neighbors, and friends.

The family would like to thank the staff from Harmony at White Oaks and Amedisys for their support, assistance, and care.

Friends are invited to join a memorial service on March 26 at the First United Methodist Church in Shinnston. Please join the family in sharing memories beginning at 9:30 am followed by a service at 11 am.

In lieu of flowers and in John's memory, the family asks that you consider donations to the Mary M. Rice Scholarship Fund at the First United Methodist Church, 64 Rebecca Street, Shinnston WV 26431.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at Harmerfuneralhome.com

Mark Duane Gregory

Mark Duane Gregory, 50, of Haywood, passed away peacefully at his home on March 7, 2022 after a courageous battle with esophageal cancer.

He was born on January 30, 1972 in Clarksburg, a son of the late Duane Moody and Susan Franseen (Lemon) Gregory.

Mark is survived by his wife of 30 years, Traci Gregory; three daughters Shanden Gregory and companion Cailin Robinson of Weston, Brenna (Joshua) Ramsey of Shinnston, Krislen (Michael) Bennett of Wallace; five grandchildren Caemon and Casten Bennett and Ali, Kinsley and London Ramsey; one brother Michael (Marc) Gregory of Lumberport; two brother-in-law's Michael Baker of Haywood and Raymond (Kim) Baker of West Milford. He is preceded in death by his father and mother-in-law, Raymond and Lucille Baker of Hepzibah, and his paternal grandmother Mary Gregory.

Mark was a 1990 graduate of Lincoln High School. He worked as a CNC Machinist for D&M Welding, Fairmont and Quality Machine Bridgeport. He owned/operated his own lawn care business since 1993.

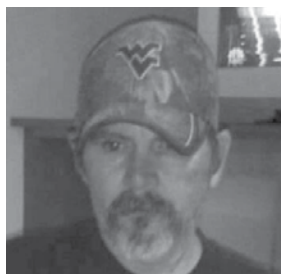
Mark was an avid outdoorsman. He loved to hunt, fish and spend time working in his yard. He was a Mountaineer fan. He loved spending

quality time with his family, especially his five grandchildren. His son-in-law's held a very special place in his heart. He was a proud father, grandfather, and wonderful husband.

Per his wishes, Mark was cremated.

A dinner honoring Mark and celebrating his life will be held Saturday, March 19, 2022 at 2:00pm at "The O" located in the Social Tap. 2036 Anmoore Road Bridgeport, WV 26330

Online memories and condolences may be shared at Harmerfuneralhome.com

Jack Leonard Blair

Jack Leonard Blair, 59, of Four States, passed away on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at his residence. He was born in Clarksburg, WV on November 23, 1962, son of the late Elish Burl Blair and Daisy Mae Ables Blair.

Jack enjoyed playing video games and spending time with his grandson.

Jack is survived by his daughter, Crislin Blair of Four States; brothers: Mike Blair of Buckhannon, Russel Blair of Clarksburg, Ricky Blair of Bridgeport, J.R. Blair and fiancé Allison of Buckhannon, and Lee Blair of Clarksburg; sisters: Nancy Gillespie and husband Bill of Salem, Nell White and husband Roger of Clarksburg, Martha Buller and companion William of Clarksburg, Janet Gillespie and companion Joe of Anmoore, and Laura Zickefoose of Anmoore; grandson, Mason Blair of Four States and his companion, Crystal Jones of Four States, as well as several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Jack is preceded in death by two brothers: Freddie Blair and Johnnie Blair, and one sister, Sarah Blair.

In keeping with Jack's wishes, he was cremated.

A memorial service was held on Monday, March 7, 2022 at The Remnant of Hope Worship Center, 1138 Morgantown Ave., Fairmont at 11:00am with Reverend Douglas Wyatt officiating.

Donations can be made to his care fund on his memorial page.

Patricia Jo Martin

Patricia Jo "Patty" Martin, 83, of Clarksburg passed away at United Hospital Center on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

She was born July 22, 1938 as Patricia Jo Nuzum in McAlpin, WV on Shinn Run to the late Robert Righter

Out Of The Past

Memorable Photographs from around Harrison County.



Shinnston volunteer firemen in March 1974 in Hutchinson. L-R: Alex Karnis, Lt. Jarrett, Chief Harmer, Don Fortney, Art Whiteman, & Tom Harrison. Photo courtesy of Bobby Bice.

Nuzum and Virginia Laura Davis Nuzum. She was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, Burton Edwin Martin, and brothers James Nuzum and Richard Nuzum. She is survived by her only son Jason Martin and his wife Lisa of Carroll, OH and two grandchildren, Olivia Martin and Simon Martin, both of Carroll, OH.

Patty was a 1956 graduate of Shinnston High School and she attended West Virginia University and Potomac State College while majoring in music. She had an incredible talent for singing and she was featured in various musicals, groups, and operas while in college. Another gift of Patty's was her ability to speak in front of crowd along with helping to encourage and motivate others. She used these talents first as a lecturer and then as the owner of the local franchise of The Diet Workshop where she helped thousands of people in northern West Virginia to lose weight and improve their health.

She was a faithful Christian with a servant's heart. Patty was a 70+ year member and dedicated servant at Coon's Run Baptist Church in Adamsville where she served as a vocal soloist, choir member, teacher, and on various committees. Throughout her life, she sang as the soloist, often accompanied by her lifelong friend Edgar Wayne Southern on piano, at countless weddings, funerals, and special events touching the lives of others.

Patty's family wishes to thank Dr. Isha Woofter, the staff at United Hospital Center, and the staff at Harmony at White Oaks in Bridgeport for the exceptional care provided to her.

Family and friends may call at the Coon's Run Baptist Church, 2142 Adamsville Rd., Shinnston, WV on Friday, March 4th from 2:00-4:00 PM and 6:00-8:00 PM. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, March 5th at Coon's Run Baptist Church at 11:00 AM

with Pastor Max "Sonny" Palmer officiating. Interment will follow at the Bridgeport Cemetery. Online condolences may be sent to harmerfuneralhome.com. A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.

Bobby Wayne McCauley

Bobby Wayne McCauley, 79, died Thursday, March 3 at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. He resided with his present wife, Ivy M. McCauley in Grafton, WV.

Bobby Wayne McCauley was born October 5, 1942, a son of the late Dhring and Lillie Olive McCauley. He graduated from Shinnston High School in 1961.

He is survived by two brothers, James McCauley of Dallas, NC and William McCauley of Cleveland, OH; one daughter, Michelle McCauley; two grandsons, Wayne McCauley and James Marsden, one granddaughter Amber Guzman. He is also survived by two stepchildren, Vernon William Louk and Nora Lynn Gussman and his grandchild, Kayla Faith Gussman.

He was preceded in

death by his daughter Cheryl F. McCauley and will be interred next to her in St. Paris, OH. Mr. McCauley was preceded in death by two sisters and eight brothers.

He served in the US Army and National Guard and was a veteran of the Korean War. He worked at the International Paper Company in Ocala, OH. He was in service to his community in other capacities, including as a transport driver for the Champaign Transit System. As a young man, he played the piano and sang religious songs for local churches and over the Clarksburg radio on Sundays. He was loving and well-loved and will always be remembered.

Friends and family were received at Harmer Funeral Home Monday, March 7th from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm. The funeral service followed the visitation at 6:30 pm with Pastor Aaron Cayton officiating. Interment was held on Tuesday at Evergreen Cemetery in St. Paris, Ohio.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at Harmerfuneralhome.com

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“Pam Tillis to perform”

cont. from page 1

Was Memphis,” in 1996 for “Mi Vida Loca,” and in 1998 for “All the Good Ones Are Gone.” Tillis is also a nine-time Academy of Country Music Award nominee, a two-time Grammy Award winner, and a six-time Grammy nominee. “Some days it feels like I was

raised on 90s country music,” said Jason A. Young, the Robinson Grand’s consulting program manager. “Pam Tillis’ soulful voice is as familiar to

me as family, and I simply cannot believe she is coming to Clarksburg.” The venue is located at 444 W. Pike St. Tickets went on sale

Friday, March 11 at 10:00am. Prices start at \$28 and can be purchased online at www.therobinsongrand.com or by calling the Robinson Grand ticketing center at 855-773-6283 beginning at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 11.



Pam Tillis, who has six number one hits and 14 top ten singles, will perform at the Robinson Grand in April, according to a news release. Tillis will perform as part of an acoustic trio. Courtesy photo.

Two spring fruit pruning workshops set

By Erin Beck
Editor

Two fruit pruning classes are scheduled in the region, one in Clarksburg on April 2 and one in Philippi on Saturday.

The Harrison County Extension master gardeners will meet on April 2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a free pruning workshop.

Mira Danilovich, West Virginia University Extension horticulture specialist

and master gardener coordinator, will discuss pruning equipment and demonstrate pruning techniques, according to a press release. Pruning fruit trees will be the focus, but Danilovich can answer other pruning questions.

Plan to arrive at Harrison County Adaland Mansion Recreation Complex by 10:45 a.m. to carpool to the workshop location

at Pearl Arnett’s in Clarksburg. In case of poor weather, the workshop may be canceled. To sign up, visit <https://tinyurl.com/HCPruuning>. You can also contact the Harrison County Extension office at 304-624-8650 or email jefriend@mail.wvu.edu.

Adaland Mansion in Philippi is also hosting a similar free workshop, also supported by WVU’s

Extension Office, according to a press release. That class will be held on Saturday, March 19 at 1 p.m.

Attendees are asked to bring their own pruners and to show up at the orchard which is just beyond the barn on the road to the mansion.

For more information about Adaland Mansion visit www.adaland.org and Adaland Mansion at Philippi on Facebook.



Last year’s spring-planted heritage apple orchard on the grounds of Philippi’s Adaland Mansion is the site for this spring’s fruit tree pruning demo and class on Saturday, March 19 at 1 p.m. The picture above shows the orchard after it was planted in the spring of 2021. Courtesy photo.

Paint-and-snack fundraiser to benefit Cub Scouts in April

A paint-and-snack fundraiser will be held to benefit Cub Scout Girls Pack 159 on Sunday, April 3. The event will be held from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Lumberport United Methodist Church.

Brenda Gray, Pack 159 Den Leader for the Bears (third grade scouts) and a pack committee member, said funds raised will offset the costs of membership fees, supplies for badge projects, and activities. She asked those interested to sign up by March 31 so organizers can plan for supplies.

Clarksburg self-taught painting teacher Marsha Greathouse will be

leading the class. The skill level is for 8 and up.

“Participants will get the opportunity of fellowship, refreshments, and learn some painting techniques,” Gray said. “Participants also help shape the future of leaders through their generous participation in the fundraiser.”

Pack 159, a newly forming pack for girls, serves the communities of the Shinnston/Lumberport/Wallace areas. It 159 meets every Friday from 6-7 p.m. at Big Elm Elementary and is open to new participants. -Erin Beck



Participants in an upcoming paint-and-snack fundraiser will be painting a flowerpot with a mischievous bunny inside. The event benefits Cub Scout Girls Pack 159. Courtesy photo.

“opinion continued”

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tried to intervene on behalf of customers over and over. The response from Suddenlink was always less than satisfactory. That’s why the Public Service Commission recently took the extraordinary measure of fining Suddenlink

\$2.2 million and demanding 16 very specific corrective actions. The \$2.2 million penalty fine will not be sent to the Commission or to any other government agency bank account. The Public Service Commission has

ordered Suddenlink to refund that money directly back to its existing customers who have been forced to endure years of bad customer service. The Commission has also put Suddenlink on notice that these penalties can

continue to accrue until the Commission determines that the company is finally providing the safe, adequate, and reliable service customers are paying for. Consumers deserve to get the services they request and

pay for. When the service breaks down, customers deserve to be able to report the problem and have the service fixed. If you are a West Virginia customer of one of the businesses we regulate, know that the Public Service

Commission will do everything in our power to make sure you get the service you are paying for and deserve. You have my word on it.