

Wind Down Wednesdays line-up announced

Series includes two Shinnston-based acts

By Erin Beck
Editor

The City of Shinnston has announced the line-up for Wind Down Wednesdays, an annual concert series held on The Green.

Two of the acts are Shinnston-based. The free series kicks off May 18 with Last Year's Model, consisting of musicians from Shinnston and surrounding areas, while on Aug. 3, Andy Benson of Shinnston will perform.

Acts will typically be held on the first Wednesday of the month, except for the first event.

Rounding out the line-up, Byron Cooper will play June 1, John Bonnett will play July 6, and Aristotle Jones Music will perform Sept. 7.

Brendan Gallagher, co-owner of Black & Teal Concepts, works with the city on event promotion and is founding member of Last Year's Model. He described his band as a mix of 1970s and 1980s alternative music. They play originals and covers. Last Year's Model consists of Gallagher, lead singer; Tim Shrout, bass player; Brandon Wood, lead guitarist; and Zach Kines, drummer. Their first full-length album, "The Neon Lights Collection," is available on streaming services.

Cooper plays a mix of soul, funk and R&B. Bonnett plays an assortment of music, often 1970s and 1980s classic rock style. Jones is known as the "Appalachian soul man" and does what is "best described as "Appalachian funk," Gallagher said.

The Aug. 3 Andy Benson show could serve as an early birthday party for the Shinnston native, who turns 35 the next day.

A singer-songwriter who started teaching himself guitar around 18, Benson described his music as outlaw, traditional country.

"I'm not much of a pop music guy," he said.

Benson said his first gig was playing harmonica at the local Moose. He went on to play, often cover songs, with several bands over the years.

Over the past few years, he was drawn to writing music. He still plays some covers, such as those of Tyler Childers, Hellbound Glory, Cody Jinks and



Andy Benson, a singer-songwriter and rhythm guitar player, performs during a private party in Mount Clare on St. Patrick's Day. A nearly lifelong resident of Shinnston, he will perform a combination of cover songs and originals at the Wind Down Wednesday on The Green Aug. 3. Courtesy photo.

Sturgill Simpson. Attendees at the Aug. 3 show can expect both.

Benson said he fell into songwriting by listening to musicians who write their own songs, such as Guy Clark and Townes Van Zandt.

"Emotionally, it hits me in a different way," he said.

When he listens to music written by the performer, it feels more "true" to him.

"For me, it's more about touching somebody than talking about your tractor and your light beer and all that garbage," he said with a laugh.

He writes about "fated love," as well as the grind of everyday living.

"Everybody spends their time in the rat race in one way or another," he said.

He said his songs are about "general struggles in life that we all go through."

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BUILDING AMAZING CITIES

By JIM HUNT
author, speaker, consultant

Interesting places

Living in West Virginia, we often overlook some of the most interesting places and head off looking for adventure in our adjoining states or beyond. While many people enjoy West Virginia's outdoor recreation activities and there is no question that we have more than many other places, we also have some of the most interesting cities and small towns scattered throughout our beautiful state. As someone who has been able to visit most of the cities and towns in our state, I want to point out some of my favorites and encourage you to take some time and visit these Amazing cities and towns.

A perennial favorite of mine is Buckhannon, located in the heart of central West Virginia. As you drive into town, you are met with a beautiful mural across the street from the Upshur County courthouse, a beautiful brick structure kept in impeccable shape. The Main Street business district is one of the most visited downtowns in the state and almost every storefront is filled with interesting shops and restaurants. The campus of West Virginia Wesleyan is a picture of what a small-town college campus should be, and admiring the trees and red brick buildings can take up much of an afternoon. Jawbone Park is next to the downtown area and is usually buzzing with activity, from a farmers' market to families playing on the well-kept, green grass. If you can go during the Strawberry Festival, you can also sample some of the delicious foods and desserts and take part in a decades-long celebration.

Continued on Page 3.

Educational event to focus on recovery

By Sarah Hayes
Staff Writer

"They say one pill can kill, and it can," said Ellen Condron, a Harrison County nurse and Fairmont State University professor.



Ellen Condron

to 8 p.m. The focus will be on treatment, recovery, and resources.

Featured guests will speak from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The keynote speaker is U.S. Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II, who has spoken at several Community Conversations.

Condron received her bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from West Virginia University and has spent most of her nursing career as parish nurse at All Saints Catholic Church in Bridgeport. She has also been a professor at Fairmont State University since 1990. She has taught a variety of classes but prefers to keep her focus on mental health and

This is one of many of the reasons Condron started organizing Community Conversations in Bridgeport.

Community Conversation #10 regarding substance use disorder will be held on April 25 at the All Saints Catholic Church's social hall at 317 East Main St. in Bridgeport from 5 p.m.



William J. Ihlenfeld, II

substance use disorder.

In 2016, Condron organized the first Community Conversation to help educate the community, whether it be law enforcement, lawmakers, parents, teachers, or students. She said she soon discovered the topic couldn't be contained to just one Community Conversation. She also wanted to share the most current and accurate data.

"The overdose death rate is climbing and climbing," she said. Since black-market fentanyl made its appearance, the rate of overdose-related deaths has climbed significantly. The Associated Press reported last week that provisional data through October suggests the nation is on track to see at least 105,000 overdose deaths in 2021 — another record high and up from 93,000 the year before. Fentanyl became the drug most often detected in drug overdose autopsies in the state in 2017, according to the state Department of Health and Human Resources.

Resource Hour will be from 5 to 6 p.m. and will include naloxone training in which participants will be given kits to keep in their homes. Naloxone reverses the effects of opioids and is used to revive people who have overdosed. Substance use disorder specialists will be available during this hour as well.

Condron said she wanted to "bring people together who made the most impact" during previous Community Conversations. Other speakers will include a parent who is representing Hazel's House of Hope in Morgantown. He will share his experience with losing his daughter to a fentanyl overdose and speak about the services provided by Hazel's House of Hope. Since April is Alcohol Awareness Month, Heidi O'Toole, a WVU counseling educator, will be speaking about alcohol-related deaths. Dr. Jen Randall Reyes, a WVU behavioral health clinician, will be speaking on the rise in overdoses due to fentanyl. Ann Hammond, program director for Help4WV, will be speaking on the importance of helplines.

WV Young Writers

Winners From Harrison County

Simpson Elementary student places in Young Writers Contest

By Erin Beck
Editor

Caroline Ashcom, a fifth-grade student at Simpson Elementary School, is among three Harrison County students who placed third in their categories in the 2022 West Virginia Young Writers Contest.

Those students included Caroline, who wrote "Lucid;" Brynn Sickles, a fourth-grade student at Norwood Elementary School, who wrote "The Shapeshifter;" and Mary Calvert, an eighth-grade student at Washington Irving Middle School, who wrote "A Star Filled Story."

The competition, which began in 1984 and aims to celebrate student writing, divided students into six categories. Third and fourth-grade students competed against each other, as did fifth and sixth graders, as well as seventh and eighth graders.

The names of those students who placed, along with their stories, were provided by Jenna Williams, curriculum coordinator at Harrison County schools and county coordinator for the contest.

The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal is featuring Harrison County's placing stories. Brynn's story was featured last week. Caroline's story is as follows.

Continued on Pg. 3.





OPINION

By Kelli Caseman

Listen to West Virginia's struggling youth

By Kelli Caseman

Think Kids Executive Director

This month, the CDC released new data from anonymous surveys completed by 7,705 high school students from 128 schools around the U.S. during the first six months of 2021. The report is the first of its kind since the onset of the pandemic to share self-reported data from adolescents after months in isolation. Here's what they had to say:

- Forty-four percent of students reported that they persistently felt sad and hopeless during the past year.
- Twenty percent of students said that they had seriously considered attempting suicide, and nine percent attempted suicide in that time period.
- Fifty-five percent of students reported that they experienced emotional abuse by a parent or other adult in their home. Emotional abuse was defined as swearing, insulting, or belittling the adolescent.
- Eleven percent of students reported experiencing physical abuse by a parent or other adult in their home. Physical abuse was defined as hitting, beating, kicking, or physically hurting the adolescent.
- About 75 percent of LGBT youth said they suffered emotional abuse in their home, and 20 percent reported physical abuse.

For years before the pandemic, America's youth were experiencing a sharp decline in their mental health. It's a decline specific to their age group, with no corresponding increase in adult rates. Back then, researchers were calling these alarming statistics a "wake-up call."

Then came the pandemic, and those calls went unanswered. In 2021, emergency room visits for suicide attempts rose 51 percent for adolescent girls compared with the same period in 2019, according to the recent U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory, which addressed the nation's youth mental health crisis. A CDC report released in February found that emergency room visits by teenage girls relating to eating disorders had doubled during the pandemic.

Of its most recent report, the CDC Acting Principal Deputy Director said, "These data echo a cry for help."

We've heard this echo here in West Virginia for many months—mostly from students at our state universities. They created the Green Bandana Initiative, a project designed to bring awareness, trainings, and help students address mental health issues on university campuses. There have been op-eds in state newspapers and calls for the Governor to sit down with students and discuss the use of pandemic funding to help address the escalating problem.

Continued on Page 4.

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

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

April 21, 1908: Traditional musician Phoebe Cottrell Parsons was born in Calhoun County. Parsons's traditional claw-hammer banjo style, unaccompanied ballad singing, riddles and storytelling have influenced countless numbers of younger musicians.

April 21, 1936: President Roosevelt established the Jefferson National Forest. The West Virginia portion of this forest includes 18,530 acres in Monroe County.

April 22, 1908: Marshall "Little Sleepy" Glenn was born in Elkins. Glenn coached basketball at West Virginia University from 1934 to 1938 and football from 1937 to 1940. He was inducted into the WVU Sports Hall of Fame in 1992.

April 22, 2003: Activist Judy Bonds, a Raleigh County native, received the Goldman Environmental Prize for her fight against mountaintop removal. Her efforts inspired thousands and turned a local issue in West Virginia into a national cause.

April 23, 1857: Andrew Summers Rowan was born in Gap Mills, Monroe County. Rowan, a military officer, was chosen as the messenger when President McKinley wanted to send a

Super Crossword NATION NOTION

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sore
 - 4 Under the ocean
 - 10 "Get what I'm sayin'?"
 - 15 Store
 - 19 Prior to, to poets
 - 20 Gofer's job
 - 21 Gut bacterium
 - 22 Dana Perfumes fragrance
 - 23 Person born in early October in Benghazi?
 - 25 Family car in Khartoum?
 - 27 Eddie — (leisurewear chain)
 - 28 Carrere of the screen
 - 29 Rock concert booster
 - 30 Make furious
 - 31 Silky cat in Luanda?
 - 34 Beyond city limits
 - 37 Merit badge displays
 - 38 Kazan of filmmaking
 - 39 It precedes omega
 - 40 Clear-minded
 - 41 Lead-in to history
 - 44 Chess ploy in Banjul?
 - 47 Ballroom dance in Apia?
 - 53 Ency., e.g.
 - 54 Ancient Central Americans
 - 55 See 112-Down
 - 56 Italian "my"
 - 57 Russia's Alexis I, e.g.
 - 59 Envy, e.g.
 - 60 Dark-haired man in Bandar Seri Begawan?
 - 63 Lumber tool
 - 65 Former Oriole Ripken
 - 68 Extremist
 - 69 "Delta Dawn" singer Tucker
 - 71 Pathologist's study
 - 74 Long time
 - 75 Mo. in which fall starts
 - 77 Doc in Tijuana?
 - 79 Cinch — (trash bag brand)
 - 81 "Keep this in"
 - 83 Do a fist bump
 - 84 Scandal-ridden company of 2002
 - 85 Japanese brew
 - 88 Old TV's "— Na Na"
 - 89 Tropical devil ray in Valletta?
 - 91 Sleeping garment in San Miguelito?
 - 95 Orig. copies
 - 96 Well out of range
 - 97 Precept
 - 98 Is the right size for
 - 100 "That made no sense to me"
 - 106 People rattling things off
 - 108 Engaged guy in Marseilles?
 - 111 Actress Saoirse
 - 112 Long time
 - 113 Hip-hop producer
 - 114 The Beatles' "I — Walrus"
 - 115 Buyable apartment in Brazzaville?
 - 118 Fish eggs in Barcelona?
 - 120 Wine city in California
 - 121 — a million
 - 122 Secret recorder disguised as a writing instrument
 - 123 — gow poker
 - 124 Supermodel from Somalia
 - 125 "Check," to a card player
 - 126 Motown's Franklin
 - 127 Lingo suffix
 - 18 Word-wit bit
 - 24 Michelle of "Crazy Rich Asians"
 - 26 Erwin of film
 - 29 Opera opus
 - 32 Some vipers
 - 33 Korbut of gymnastics
 - 34 Secretive viewers
 - 35 B-52 org.
 - 36 Ensnares
 - 42 Meander
 - 43 Arabian ruler
 - 45 Half a bikini
 - 46 Gallic pal
 - 47 Native-born Israeli
 - 48 "What —" ("Ho-hum")
 - 49 Harold's film partner
 - 50 Dodge of old
 - 51 "Hang on —"
 - 52 Boxing event
 - 57 Precept
 - 58 Hades river
 - 59 Go like a fish
 - 61 "May — a favor?"
 - 62 Personal ID
 - 64 Takes in
 - 65 — terrier
 - 66 Dressy tie
 - 67 Pop singer Lewis
 - 70 Verdi's slave
 - 72 With 90-Down, appear that
 - 73 Writer Ferber
 - 76 Dismissive remarks
 - 78 Not panicky
 - 79 Partaking of with others
 - 80 Aspiration
 - 82 — Mahal
 - 85 On — with
 - 86 Space that's invulnerable to attack
 - 87 Large boa
 - 88 Joust verbally
 - 89 — Hari
 - 90 See 72-Down
 - 92 Lace town WSW of Paris
 - 93 Willful insult
 - 94 Sorvino of the screen
 - 99 Potshot taker
 - 101 Heavy vapor
 - 102 Genie house
 - 103 Like early audiobooks
 - 104 Unstressed vowel sounds
 - 105 — -weenie
 - 107 Chinese idea
 - 109 Large wader
 - 110 Kick out
 - 112 With 55-Across, she eloped with Ernie Kovacs
 - 115 Caesar's 151
 - 116 Artist Yoko
 - 117 Mo. neighbor
 - 118 Jacuzzi site
 - 119 "Nope"

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Find the Super Crossword Answers on Page 7!

message to Cuban General Calixto Garcia. The 1899 pamphlet, "A Message to Garcia," made the incident famous.

April 24, 1865: The McNeill's Rangers surrendered to Union troops at New Creek (now Keyser). The Confederate guerrilla force probably never numbered more than 100 men at any time, but they managed to do damage to Union operations.

April 25, 1863: About 1,500 Confederate soldiers under Gen. William "Grumble" Jones advanced through Greenland Gap, a deep pass through New Creek Mountain in Grant County. The Confederates encountered 87 Union soldiers who held off several assaults before finally surrendering.

April 25, 1923: Union leader Arnold Ray Miller was born at Leewood on Cabin Creek in Kanawha County. In December 1972 he defeated Tony Boyle to become president of the United Mine Workers.

April 26, 1816: General Alexander Welch Reynolds was born in Lewisburg. He served in the armies of the United States and the Confederacy. After the war, Reynolds accepted a commission as a colonel in the forces of the khedive of Egypt, the ruler of Egypt under the Ottoman Empire.

April 27, 1978: An accident at the Willow Island Power Station on the Ohio River killed 51 men. The scaffolding that had been erected for

use in the construction of a new cooling tower collapsed, sending them plunging to the ground.

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.

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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 Auxiliary Unit 31 monthly meeting

Thursday, April 21
7 p.m., American Legion Post 31, Shinnston

Ham/bean and ramp dinner

Jones Run Farm club dinner on Saturday, April 23 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Jones Run Community Center 3602 Jones Run Road, Lumberport

Take-out meal includes ham and beans, cornbread muffins, fried potatoes with ramps, seasoned wilted ramps and fresh ramps for \$12.

For more information: 304-783-4868 Joy Marshall

Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Mission

408 Morgantown Ave, Fairmont
Rev. Sasha Nedich (724) 966-7428

www.holytrinityserborthwv.org
Liturgy: Saturday, April 23 at 10 a.m.

Please check to make sure of no cancellations
724-966-7428

“Wind Down” Cont. from Pg 1.

Music gives both the listener and the songwriter a way to feel and process those emotions, he said.

“Everybody’s got a reason for enjoying what they enjoy or coping with what they cope with,” he said. “Sometimes it’s the same, sometimes it’s not, but music seems to be that universal language where you’re getting what you want out of it, you’re getting what you need out of it, if it only be for the three minutes that you hear the song.”

He has a Facebook page, A.M. Benson, as well as an Instagram: @andrewmichaelmusic.

Each show begins at 6 p.m. Minigh Family Dentistry is the series sponsor.

Food trucks will be on site at each concert, according to Gallagher. Locally brewed beer will also be available and vary from event to event. Organizers also try to bring out kid-specific activities, such as the ponies last year.

Last year, the event drew 125 to 150 people each time, Gallagher said. He also said the event will give locals a reason to come see a vibrant and growing downtown.

“The main thing is about community and giving people a chance to just come out and see each other and hang out with one another and listen to some good music, eat some food and utilize our green space downtown,” he said.

For more on the acts, Bonnett has a Facebook group, John Bonnett Music. Jones has a website, www.aristotlejones.com. Cooper has a Facebook page called Six Six.

Shinnston Fire Chief retires

Shinnston Fire Chief Dylan Oliveto announced via Facebook on March 30 that he was retiring from the chief position.

“The life of a volunteer firefighter has become a hard life to live and balance all of the important things that go on outside of the department,” he wrote. “We balance family, career, fire department, and all of the personal activities that we do to maintain our sanity or insanity. With that being said, I have made the decision to retire from the position of Chief of the Shinnston Fire Department.”

He also thanked “all of the brothers and sister that have supported me and the department.”

Oliveto served 26 years, six as chief. He said Donnie Lindsey would serve as chief until a permanent chief is selected. He will also continue to volunteer.

Oliveto did not respond to interview requests.

“Jim Hunt” Cont. from Pg. 1.

The towns of Davis and Thomas are other hidden gems in West Virginia. Located in the mountains of Tucker County, these quaint towns have seen a rebirth and are a popular getaway for those in the District of Columbia and Maryland. There are several craft breweries and restaurants in both towns and the grocery stores have some of the best assortments of beer compared to towns many times their size. Located next to several ski resorts, Davis and Thomas have developed into a year-round destination area and there is not a bad time to visit. For West Virginians, Davis and Thomas can make a great weekend escape or a weeklong adventure. There are many rental cabins available throughout the year, but it is best to plan ahead since more and more people are discovering these two places.

Along the Ohio River in West Virginia sit several interesting towns and a weekend or day trip can turn into a small-town lover’s idea of “Almost Heaven.” New Martinsville in Wetzel County is a

“Young Writers” Cont. from Pg 1.

“Lucid”

Herbal tea flows lightly into a tiny floral cup, I look down and take a sip. It burns my upper lip, but only a little.

I walk up the stairs silently, enter my bedroom, and tug the string to my lamp and watch as the light dims. Softly, I fall into my bed. With my head resting on my pillow, I gently close my eyes.

I can do anything when I sleep. See anything, hear anything, smell anything, feel anything... be anything.

I can see winding rivers, feel the cool water brushing up on my ankles. I can hear woodland animals going about their day in the neighboring forest. I see the cold morning dew resting on the grass. Bugs tickle my legs as I observe the world around me. I smell bonfires coming from my neighbor’s campsite. Wind swirls through my hair causing a slight chill. I feel tiny pebbles under my feet as I walk around the campsite.

Or I’ll be at the beach with my toes in the sand. The grainy texture is nothing new. I walk past the crowd of people on the beach and make my way towards the sea. The ocean sings an old familiar song. I can smell the salty water. Young children splash and play around me. The sun is shining brightly, as I stand covering my eyes. Seagulls squawk and fly overhead.

Perhaps I may be biking through the streets of Italy. My bike is a sage green color with a brown basket on the front. Inside the basket, there is a small golden doodle puppy named Odie. Upon our return from the beach, we are going to get food. We proceed to bike for about 15 minutes; Odie decides to peep his head out of the basket to take in the beautiful scenery. White brick walls covered in flowers tower over us casting a slight shadow. Odie’s tail starts wagging, aromas of bread swirl around us. I immediately know we are close to the

beautiful river town and driving around gives you a look back in history at some of the architectural gems, lovingly restored along the river. I’ve had many great visits to New Martinsville and most included a great meal and some quiet time watching the tugboats and barges on one of the iconic rivers in America. St. Marys is a town in Pleasants County that also makes the most of its location along the river. It is said that the founder of the town, Alexander Creel, had a vision of Mary, as he passed the site of the town on a boat going down the Ohio River. No visit to St. Marys is complete without seeing the freight train that travels down the middle of 2nd Street each day in a fast-disappearing remnant of a bygone era.

This barely scratches the dozens of interesting cities and towns in our beautiful state, and I will be highlighting many more in future columns. If you are looking for an Amazing weekend, explore the Amazing cities and towns of West Virginia. You won’t be disappointed!

restaurant. I keep going down the street and pull into the parking lot. My bike rests on the wall. I put Odie on his leash, and we casually step in.

The restaurant is filled with windows and light cascades throughout the interior. There are dark hardwood floors. Standing proudly on the floors are the tables, all of them are round and have tiny glass vases on them filled with roses and daisies. A waiter walks up to me and leads me to my seat. He sets a menu on the table, as I order my drink.

“Just lemonade please,” I request politely.

“Right away,” he replies before he promptly walks away.

Odie sits in my lap while we wait. Not long after, the waiter comes back with my lemonade. He sets it on the table and I take a sip, it’s perfect! It isn’t too sweet, but not too sour. The flavor tingles on my tongue, but just as I close my eyes I am in an apple orchard.

It is autumn, the trees have orange and gold leaves, they are overflowing with apples! The trees are planted in rows based on what kind of apples they grow. Jonagold, Pink Lady, Honey Crisp, McIntosh, and so, so many more! Every time I pick an apple off of a tree, it regrows in a matter of seconds. I lug around a basket that seems to be bottomless, as if it could carry all the apples in the world. I walk around for hours in awe, simply admiring the elegant autumn weather.

I might be relaxing in December. Just my dog and I in a cabin. I sit on the couch beside the crackling fire with Molly at my feet. She’s a mutt with long black and brown fur. My hand glides gently across her back as the Christmas tree glistens in the corner of my eye. I lean back with not a care in the world. I hazily close my eyes and fall asleep.

Soon after, I hear buzzing. I lazily open my eyes and am disappointed to find out that it was just my alarm. I can do anything when I sleep. See anything, hear anything, smell anything, feel anything... be anything.

SHINNSTON

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GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen

Ribbon cutting held for commercial kitchen

The Progressive Women's Association recently held a ribbon-cutting for the new commercial kitchen in the Uptown Event Center in Clarksburg. The kitchen was made available by a \$10,000 grant from EQT written by Audra O'Dell and Elinda Carson.

Ellen Rossi, president of the EQT Foundation stated, "We are honored to share in the excitement with our community partner, the PWA, as they open their new kitchen space for the use of the community. It is such an innovative project and one we hope will be used by many."

Clarksburg Mayor James Marino gave a

welcome and the Chamber of Commerce handled the ribbon-cutting. Laura Goff Davis supplied refreshments.

Mrs. O'Dell gave tours of the kitchen and explained the use of the new equipment. Some of the new equipment includes a dehydrator, convection oven, and bottler, and other items. Complimenting the kitchen is a dining area that can seat approximately 175 people. This is an excellent venue for receptions, meetings, and parties.

It was announced that individuals wanting to use the facility can do so by scheduling an appointment with Ms. Carson.

It is the hope of the PWA that this facility will encourage entrepreneurs to start their businesses for future success. Individuals who are trying to start up food businesses or farmers who want to can their products will find all the necessary equipment at the PWA.

Also at the ribbon cutting, I stated that this is only one of many services that the PWA provides for the area. It also helps us continue our mission of service.

Take care and until next week "Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine."



The Progressive Women's Association recently held a ribbon-cutting for their commercial kitchen, which is open for use by the public. Courtesy Photo.

"Struggling Youth" Cont. from Pg. 2.

And in late 2021, Think Kids released a series of blog posts on the increased demand for children's mental health services. Child therapists said kids were coming to emergency rooms in crisis with nowhere to send them for treatment.

But few in leadership positions seem to be listening— not from the Governor's office or Legislature. As Logan Riffey eloquently put it in his recent op-ed: "In a given legislative session, there are 86,400 minutes. It breaks my heart that collegiate mental health was unworthy of even one minute of serious consideration on the floor of either chamber."

It's interesting that from this recent survey of high school students, the CDC found that a sense of being supported and belonging at school had a positive effect on students, despite the continued challenges of the pandemic. Students who felt close to persons at school had a lower prevalence of poor mental health during the pandemic— 28.4 percent compared to 45.2 percent.

Think about that. To be seen, heard, and valued by adults in the school setting lowered the prevalence of poor mental health for high school students during the pandemic. And yet, this acknowledgment is what is being withheld from the college students asking for help from our policymakers. It's a simple first step they're refusing to take.

The lack of access to youth mental health care is not unique to West Virginia, or even the United States. Neither is the increasing rates of poor youth mental health. What's different is that many other states see it and are addressing it, but for whatever reason, we're letting our youth suffer without a coordinated response.

An easy first step is to remember that connections matter. Communities can collaborate to provide youth opportunities for academic, social, mental, and physical health services. Get adolescents and young adults engaged and create strong social supports for them.

Parents and advocates, we can make youth mental health an election issue. Ask candidates what they'll do to build more capacity in the mental health care system to keep kids out of emergency rooms, cut wait times for mental health services, and develop a qualified, sustainable workforce of children's mental health professionals.

We have an obligation to the younger generations to be the adults they need us to be. For many adolescents, the pandemic is far from over. It's time to hear and acknowledge what they've been trying to tell us.

Think Kids is a nonprofit that advocates for the health and well-being of West Virginia's children. The editor of The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal also sometimes freelance writes for Think Kids.

Lurch Fest plans underway

The Barbour County Historical Museum and Philippi Main Street are partnering with other local organizations to sponsor the Second Annual Lurch Fest in Philippi on August 6, according to a news release.



Ted Cassidy

The one-day festival began last year to celebrate Philippi native Ted Cassidy who brought to life the character Lurch in the TV sitcom "The Addams Family." As part of the initial fest, Philippi Main Street unveiled a life-size statue of Lurch fabricated by Bixby Studios of Morgantown.

The statue will again be on display during this year's festival so that fest-goers can have a picture taken with Lurch.

The fest will be on Museum Street in Philippi, immediately

in front of the Historical Museum, and will spread out onto all the cobblestone roadway in that area plus the open grass area on Bosworth Street.

Musicians will play from 12:30 until 9 p.m. High Ground Brewery will again attend this year's fest with a special beer developed for Lurch Fest, "You Rang." Mountain Man Ax Throwing is booked again because of its popularity last year. Christopher Cook, the author of an upcoming biography of Ted Cassidy, also plans to attend. A new attraction this year will be a three-category costume competition.

Food vendors and craftspeople are currently registering for the limited space. The vendor registration form may be secured from the Philippi Main Street Facebook page or by calling Tammy Stemple at 304-457-3700, ext. 226.

The Historical Museum will be selling Lurch Fest 2022 t-shirts and a Lurch bobblehead.

For more information about Lurch Fest, visit the BC Historical Museum and Main Street Facebook pages.



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April is National Donate Life Month (NDLM),

a month commemorating those who have received transplants, recognizing those who continue to wait, honoring donors and donor families, and thanking registered donors for giving hope. Established by Donate Life America and partnering organizations in 2003, NDLM features an entire month of local, regional, and national activities aimed at encouraging Americans to register as organ, tissue, and cornea donors and to celebrate those that have saved lives through the gift of donation.



DISCOVER ORGAN DONATION

Who can be a donor?

People of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential deceased donors. Your medical condition at the time of death will determine what organs and tissue can be donated. Living donors should be in good overall physical and mental health and older than 18. Some medical conditions could prevent an individual from being a living donor. Transplant programs complete a full patient evaluation to protect both the living donor's and the recipient's health and safety.

How many people across the nation are waiting for a transplant?

CORE's goal is to end the deaths of those on the transplant waiting list, all the while maintaining integrity for the donation process, dignity for the donors, and compassion for their families. There are 100,000 individuals across the country waiting for a life-saving transplant. In West Virginia, that number is approximately 500 people.

How often are people added to the national transplant waiting list?

Every 10 minutes is how often someone is added to the national transplant waiting list. Unfortunately, approximately 20 people die each day waiting for an organ transplant. Although 90% of Americans say they support organ, tissue, and cornea donation, only 30% know the essential steps to becoming a donor. **However, a single donor can save up to 8 lives.**

Why Should I Register My Decision to Be a Donor?

Most Americans support donation as an opportunity to give life and health to others. Unfortunately, many people overlook the important step of registering as a donor. Donors are often people who die suddenly and unexpectedly. Their families are then faced with deciding at a time of shock and grief. Registering relieves your family of this burden. You can save up to eight lives and heal the lives of more than 75 people. Your registration symbolizes hope to patients waiting, and sharing it with your family lets them know your decision.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE GIFT OF ORGAN DONATION AT UHHOUSECALL.COM.

United Hospital Center (UHC) Held Flag Raising Ceremony

UHC partnered with Donate Life West Virginia and CORE in hosting a Flag Raising Ceremony to begin National Donate Life Month. During the ceremony, the mission of organ donation and the memories of donors were honored through stories, prayers, and celebration.

The annual observance encourages organ donation awareness and honors organ donors and their families. UHC was the first hospital in the state to host the ceremony and will fly the Donate Life flag throughout April to recognize the tremendous impact of organ donation.

This National Donate Life Month, we ask the public to be part of this interconnected, life-sustaining community by registering as an organ, tissue, and cornea donor; and championing the Donate Life cause. Visit core.org/register and enter the necessary registration information online. It only takes about a minute.



@UnitedHospitalCenter

Follow UHC on Facebook for your daily dose of health tips, hospital updates, and more!



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The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

Welcome to Morgantown, Mr. Daniels!

The transfer portal has been unkind to West Virginia University's head football coach, Neal Brown. All it has done is take away a ton of talent from the Mountaineer program until now. This past week, J.T. Daniels made Morgantown his new home, at least for now.

Daniels began his college football career in sunny California at the University of Southern California in 2018. He then had a hankering for some peaches, so he transferred to Georgia in 2020. The 6-foot 3-inch, 210-lb junior made his way to "Touchdown City" because of his connection with new offensive coordinator, Graham Harrell.

Harrell played signal caller way back in the late 2000s at Texas Tech. At that time, quarterback whisperer Mike Leach was the Red Raider head coach. Harrell started on the ground floor at North Texas as the offensive coordinator and QB coach for three seasons from 2016-2018. Harrell



Graham Harrell

proceeded to climb the coaching ladder, moving to USC from 2019-2021, when he and Daniels worked together.

Brown struck gold when he hired Harrell and for the offensive-minded coordinator, it was a no-brainer to move to Mo-Town. The Big 12 has long been known as a point-producing conference with little resistance from defenses around the league. Harrell is licking his chops in anticipation of the main course, which is this upcoming season.

Brown thought he would have to wait for the actual season to start before getting a return on his investment. Christmas came early for Brown when Daniels made his intention known. There is little doubt that Daniels would not have come to town if it weren't for Harrell.

Brown already has highly trained newcomer Nicco Marchiol learning the ropes from Harrell, and all reports indicate that Marchiol is as good as advertised. The question is, "Will Marchiol be ready to compete at the Division I level by the start of the season?" If you ask the youngster, the answer will be yes, but it is difficult to place all of your eggs (especially the ones collected last Sunday) in one basket.

Daniels is a proven player with experience on his side. If Marchiol isn't ready, then Brown has a backup plan. Now here is where things get tricky. It's hard to say what promises were made to lure each of these fine throwers of the football to WVU. More than likely, playing time was the common denominator for both players. Having two top-notch signal callers is a great problem to have as long as you can keep both of them for the duration. The plot thickens in Morgantown and it gives Mountaineer Nation lots to talk about during the off-season.

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

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 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.

Last week's winners are Robert C. Byrd's Vai Simmons and Quinten Cooley. Both athletes stood out last Tuesday in Bridgeport. Simmons and Cooley earned high point honors in the Harrison County championship track and field meet.

Flying Eagle Vai Simmons claimed second-place finishes in the 200 meters, 400 meters, and the long jump. Simmons also picked up a third-place ending in the 100-meter dash.

Flying Eagle Quinten Cooley had a trio of first-place finishes in the long jump, the 110-meter hurdles, and the 300-meter hurdles.

Congratulations to Robert C. Byrd's Vai Simmons and Quinten Cooley for being named the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week!



From The World of Parks & Recreation

By Doug Comer

Golf preparation can give you an edge

What I love about writing for the Shinnston News is the ability to go off-topic and talk about my passion for golf. And normally around this time, I like to discuss ways to get ready for the season, so here is my annual speech.

First and foremost, check your equipment. Inspect the grips to check the wear and tear that happens with golf clubs as well as the club heads. Like most, if you store your clubs in the garage, the temperatures can affect the epoxy that holds the head of the club to the shaft. Make sure they cannot twist around and if they do, get them to your pro for a repair.

The golf grip is important as it is what you hold onto when playing the game. Having worn-out grips can affect the performance of the club resulting in higher scores. Make sure that the grips are not dry-rotted or worn down. A new set

of grips on any club will make them feel brand new. I usually change mine once every two years, but others who play often should get them done annually.

For the golfers who play with forged steel irons, you may want to go the extra mile and get your lies inspected. Because it is a softer steel, clubs may bend based on how often they are hit. Normally the play happens in the scoring irons as you are prone to hit a wedge more often than a four iron. If you fall under this category, then I advise having them checked.

So, now that our clubs are ready, we need to get the body in shape as well.

Stretching is crucial with golf as flexibility is important to the swing. With more flexibility, you are able to increase width in the swing resulting in distance. Trunk rotation stretches as well as shoulder stretching are two great areas to focus on. To add, any type of back stretching is a necessity to help you from getting injured during the season. A bad back is no good for you, especially in the summer months.

Weightlifting has always been a part of a golfer's career. Gary Player was the measuring stick back in the 1950s as he was the epitome of physical fitness. Even to this day, his morning ritual includes pushups and sit-ups. Tiger Woods took that regimen into the turn of the century

with his transformation from skinny to buff, and today's golfer has made it a science with a balance of meals, workouts and stretching. It is all about distance nowadays as golfers are making some of the older golf courses look almost obsolete.

Some simple stretching techniques include the twisting stretch, hip press, scarecrow twists, standing side stretch and of course shoulder flossing, which you see quite often on the first tee by pros and amateurs. To find the proper way to stretch using those five options, simply Google using the name and you will find details.

Some weightlifting ideas can occasionally not even involve weights. A lot of the tour guys like to use the power bands, especially when working the legs. Moving forward with bands on your thighs and ankles as well as side-to-side can help strengthen the legs, hip, groin, quads and glutes. The lower body is so important for drive and rotation in the golf swing.

If you plan to use any weights, be sure to strengthen the proper muscles like the shoulders, upper and lower arms and try not to bulk up as it can restrict your range of motion. It is OK to be strong like Brooks or Bryson, but their main priorities in their workouts are stretching and flexibility exercises, as those are keys to longevity. Just ask Phil Mickelson, who is 51 years old and still playing golf with the young guns.

Registration ongoing for Canaan Valley races

In a news release, the Canaan Valley Running Company issued a call to runners to register for the 4th Annual Canaan Valley Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K Presented by Mountain Top Realty and Canaan Valley BBQ.

The race will be held at the Canaan Valley Resort on April 30-May 1.

"We are excited to be launching our fourth season of our flagship race: the Canaan Valley Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K," said Robby McClung, owner and founder of the Canaan Valley Running Company. "Even with a global pandemic, this race has continued to grow and improve every

year. This year will be no exception. Runners and spectators can expect some exciting new additions."

"Available runner registration slots are limited, so we encourage runners to register today before it is too late," added McClung.

The 2021 season saw 1,600 runners participate in Canaan Valley Running Company races.

Runners who are interested in participating in the Canaan Valley Half Marathon, 10K, 5K race may visit canaanvalleyhalfmarathon.com to register.

Buckhannon to host acclaimed band competition

In less than a year and a half, thousands of international visitors will pour into West Virginia for the World Association of Marching Show Bands 2023 competition, according to a news release.

The World Association of Marching Show Bands 2023 World Championship will take place from July 17-24, 2023.

"We are absolutely thrilled to bring this event to West Virginia and to heighten the exposure of our beautiful region and state to new audiences," stated Randy Sanders, president of the 2023 host committee.

According to the news release, 47 bands from 24 nations have submitted applications to compete for the title of world champion in several disciplines

of music, including marching performance, jazz, symphonic, percussion, auxiliary dance and more. In addition to the competition, numerous events are scheduled to take place throughout the week of the competition.

"This competition will give West Virginia an opportunity to shine like never before," Sanders added.

This is only the second time in the event's 26-year history it will take place in the U.S. and the first time being hosted on the East Coast. The last U.S. host was Palm Springs, California and the event garnered 10,000 visitors.

Fundraising efforts by the WAMSB 2023 Host Committee are underway.

DHHR reports pediatric flu death

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR), Bureau for Public Health confirmed, in a news release last week, the influenza-associated death of a child during the 2021-2022 flu season.

The last influenza-associated pediatric death was reported during the 2019-20 flu season.

While adult flu deaths are not required to be reported, influenza-associated deaths of children under the age of 18 are required to be reported to the local health department within one week. Health departments then report those deaths to the state. To protect the family's privacy, no details of the death will be released including the child's name, hometown, county, age and gender.

"This tragedy is a solemn reminder of the importance of flu vaccination, the most effective protection against the illness," said Dr. Ayne Amjad, state health officer and commissioner of DHHR's Bureau for Public Health. "While young people with chronic illnesses and compromised immune systems are at increased risk for serious complications, about 40% of children who die from influenza every year have no preexisting conditions."

The Bureau for Public Health urges all West Virginians 6 months of age and older to get vaccinated against the flu. "It's not too late to get your flu shot as influenza is still circulating across the state," added Dr. Amjad.

Those who are very susceptible to flu and its complications include children

under the age of five years old, the elderly, and people with underlying health conditions (e.g., diabetes, asthma, etc.). Infants under six months of age cannot receive the influenza vaccine. The best way to protect them is to have everyone who will have contact with the infant receive a flu vaccine, and to also limit an infant's exposure to large groups of individuals.

People who think they might have the flu should contact their doctor immediately to see if they need treatment with a prescription antiviral drug which can help prevent flu infections from becoming more serious. Treatment with an antiviral drug is especially important for hospitalized patients, people with severe flu illness and people who are at high risk of serious flu complications based on their age or health.

Other precautions people can take to protect against the spread of flu and other viruses include:

- Staying home when sick until fever-free for at least 24 hours
- Covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and then discarding the tissue promptly
- Washing hands frequently, preferably with soap and water

A total of 16 influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported nationwide during the 2021-22 influenza season, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For more information, visit <https://oeps.wv.gov/flu/pages/default.aspx>.

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OBITUARIES

Brenda Lou Bell

Brenda Lou Bell, 61, of Shinnston, passed away early Wednesday morning, March 30, 2022 at her residence. She was born in Parkersburg on March 24, 1961 in Parkersburg, daughter of Patricia Carol (Mackey) Bell, of Shinnston and the late Jennings Paul Bell.

Brenda attended schools in South Parkersburg. She worked at several nursing homes around Parkersburg, but worked the longest at Worthington Manor Care Center in Parkersburg. After her father passed in 1993, she moved in with her mother. She worked at Best Western Hotel for several years until being diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer. She took chemotherapy for over four years.

In addition to her father, Brenda is preceded in death by two brothers: Paul Martin Bell and Brian Lee Bell and her companion, Ed Hastings.

Brenda is also survived by one daughter, Heather Dawn Hastings of Shinnston; one granddaughter, Kristen Lee Bowers and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Family received friends on Sunday, April 3, 2022 from 2:00pm – 8:00pm at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston Service was held on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 11:00am with Pastor Tim Sandy officiating. Interment followed at Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

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



William Garrison Elwell, IV

William Garrison Elwell, 46, of Clarksburg, WV, passed away Friday, April 8, 2022. He was born July 23, 1975 in Clarksburg, WV. He is the son of the late William Garrison Elwell II and Debra Dianne Hennings, formerly of Clarksburg, WV. Along with his parents, William was also preceded in death by his grandparents Sue and Ernie Phares, and brother William Garrison Elwell III, of Clarksburg. He is survived by one brother, Barry Burrows Jr. of Lost Creek; sister Jessica Elwell of Clarksburg; five children, Jordan Elwell, Bradley Elwell, Kolby Elwell, Brooke Elwell, and Colyn Elwell. He is also survived by several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins, whom he cherished dearly.

William (Billy) Elwell was a great person who would do anything for

anybody. He was a hard worker and devoted father cherished by many family members and friends. He was quite the comedian and would always make you laugh. Billy never met a stranger anywhere he went. He loved collecting marbles, loved horses, and loved being outdoors with his family and friends. Billy's life was cut short and a lot of people are going to miss him. He would see the beauty in a lot of things people couldn't see, things as small as picking up rocks in the river. Billy was a good man that passed too soon that will be missed by many.

Per his wishes, Billy was cremated.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at Harmer funeral home.com

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.



Theodore "Ted" Lee Moore

Theodore Lee "Ted" Moore, 74, of Shinnston, passed away on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at United Hospital Center due to complications from lung surgery in October 2021. He was born in 1947 in Fairmont to the late Theodore Lee Moore and Celia Mae Weatherholt Moore.

He was a former employee of Ingersol Rand, Clarksburg, for 12 years and retired from Allegheny Energy with 27 years of service in July 2009. He graduated from Salem College with a BA degree in July 1975.

Ted was a member of the following organizations: Past Master of St. John's Lodge A.F. & A.M. #24, member since 1976; member of The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry since 1977, he was 33 degree; Nemesis Shriners; Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of WV, Adoniran no. 11; Clarksburg Commandry no. 13 Knights Templar, Past Patron of Queen Esther chapter no. 11 Order of the Eastern Star; member of Green Hills Country Club since 1976, with a career eight holes in one; he was a member of the First Baptist Church of Shinnston.

Ted is survived by his wife of 51 years, Rebecca "Becky" Nuzum Moore of Shinnston; son, Theodore "Trey" L. Moore III and very special companion, Kimberly Cochran of Shinnston; brother, Michael R. Senchina of Shinnston; sister in law, Judy Byrne and husband Barry of Sebring, FL; godsons; Spencer and Preston Willett of Midlothian,

VA; niece, Misty Faircloth of Enterprise and two nephews, Chris and Kevin Byrne of NC.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by one brother, William Edward Moore; step father, Michael R. Senchina and his mother and father in law; Ernest "Red" and Glenna Nuzum.

Ted and Becky loved being "snow birds", spending seven months in Lakeland, FL every year since retiring.

Friends and family were received at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston, on Saturday, April 16, 2022 from 2:00pm to 8:00pm and on Sunday, April 17, 2022 from 3:00pm to 8:00pm. Service was held on Monday, April 18, 2022 at 11:00am with Pastor Chris Byrne and Pastor Kevin Nuzum, officiating. Interment followed at the Shinnston Memorial Cemetery with graveside services being conducted by St. John's Masonic Lodge No. 24 A.F. & A.M.

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



Cynthia Kay Lewis (Gregory)

Cynthia Kay Lewis, 66, of Shinnston passed away on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at Ruby Memorial Hospital. She was born August 26, 1955 in Salem, OH a daughter of the late Samuel Byron and Ilda Jean Coddington Gregory.

She is survived by her son, David Kordyban and his wife Cristey; and her granddaughters, Kerri and Katie Kordyban, all of Oakland, MD; her siblings, Chuck Gregory and his wife Laura of Dearborn, MI; Cheryl Lewis of Clarksburg; Barbara Dillsworth of Oakland, MD; and Debbie Weathers and her husband Chuck of Florida; as well as her nieces and nephews, Elizabeth; Summer; Carla; Clint; Chad; and Kristie.

In addition to her parents, Cynthia was preceded in death by her daughter, Laurie Todd; her sister, Gloria Gregory; her nephew, Sammy Lewis; and her very dear friends, Frank Lechner and Sandra Glaspell.

Cynthia enjoyed vacationing and spending time with her friends. Most of all she loved spending time with her family. She could be found at all social gatherings of her friends and neighbors at Virginia Way Apartments. Her free time was spent doing jigsaw and crossword

Out Of The Past

Memorable Photographs from around Harrison County.



The 1951 Shinnston post office group gathers for B.F. Riley's retirement at The Hut, a restaurant once located across from Shinnston High School near where the former Nuzum home now stands. Photo courtesy of Bobby Bice.

puzzles. The family would like to thank the "Nursing Angels" that have helped her during hospital and rehabilitation visits.

The family received friends at Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St. Shinnston, on Monday, April 18, from 11:00 am until the time of the funeral service at 1:00 pm. Brother Paul Goldizen officiated the service. Private interment followed at the Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

Online condolences and memories can be shared with the family at www.perinefunerals.com

The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Lewis family.

William Ray Spatafore

Mr. William Ray Spatafore, 76 years of age of Bridgeport, WV passed away at his residence surrounded by his family.

He was born April 16, 1945, the son of the late Salvatore and Mary Mancina Spatafore. He was preceded in death by his first wife Linda Hickman Spatafore in 2006. They had celebrated forty years of marriage.

He is survived by his second wife Beckie Jenks Spatafore and they had celebrated thirteen years of marriage; two sons Samuel Spatafore and wife Denise and their

children Antonio and Dominic, and William Spatafore II and his wife Lori and their children Nick and Bella; two daughters Julie Cava and husband Vincent and their children Amelia, Vincenzo and Gino and Valerie Lively and her husband Scott and their children Grant and Julianna; Beckie's two children David F. McCoy and Carrie Biddle and her husband Scott and their son Reid; four brothers Louis Spatafore and his wife Maria, Joseph Spatafore and his wife Joyce, John Spatafore and his wife Beverly and Samuel Spatafore and his wife Sherry; a brother-in-law Ronald Shull and many nephews and nieces. He was also preceded in death by a sister Mary Ann Shull.

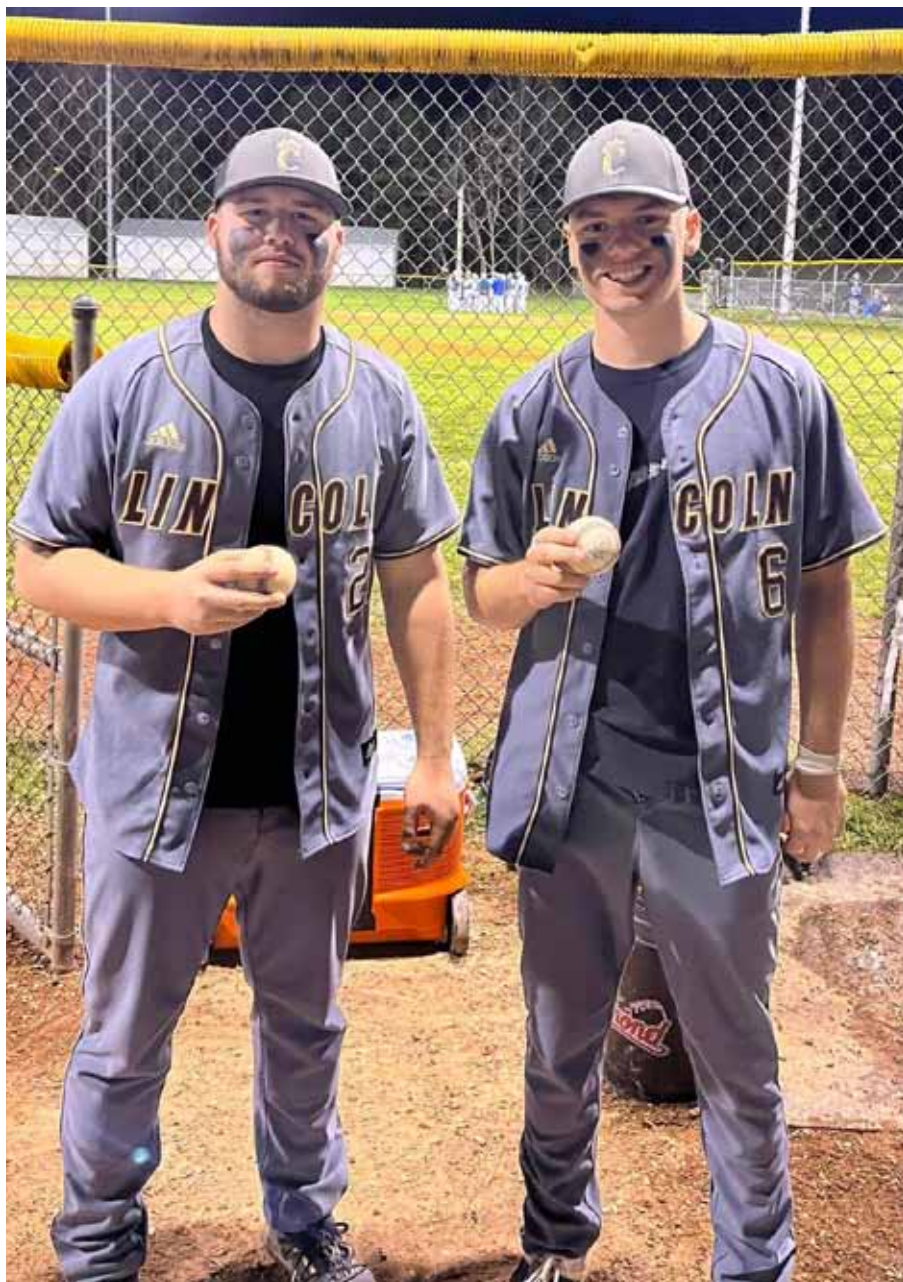
Bill was a 1962 graduate of Notre Dame High School and earned a bachelor of arts degree in education from Fairmont State College. Bill grew up helping his father with the family business, The Friendly Tavern. He left town with his wife Linda for a very brief time to teach industrial arts in Tiffin, Ohio. After a few short years, they returned back home to help out with the family business, Jack's Friendly Furniture in Clarksburg. One of his joys in life was working with his brothers at Jack's Friendly, engaging

with the customers and many friends that would constantly visit the store. He was blessed to travel to many destinations including visiting family multiple times in Italy and sightseeing in Alaska and relaxing in the Caribbean. Besides work, his favorite pastime was spending time with his family and grandchildren. His passion was always his family. Bill loved the Lord and lived a life that showed it. He was known by all as a kind, patient and above all else, a selfless man. Bill never met a stranger. Every person in the world, to him, was just a friend he hadn't met yet. He was a planner and manager of life who loved planning trips and attending his grandchildren's ball games, cheerleading events, recitals and parties. Even though Bill faced health challenges over the last few years, his hope and faith in Christ remained steadfast, and he will always be remembered for his love and support of his family and friends.

Condolences may be extended to the family at www.fordfuneralhomes.com. The Spatafore family has entrusted the care and arrangements to the Ford Funeral Home, 215 East Main Street, Bridgeport, WV.

Answers

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Lincoln High School's baseball team beat Grafton 15-5 last week. Levi Moore and Lance Hostuttler both hit home runs. Courtesy photo.

No rate changes planned; sewer project discussed

By Erin Beck
Editor

Shinnston City Council passed the 2022-2023 water and sewer budgets as well as the 2022-2023 excess levy and coal severance budgets at their April 11 meeting.

Mayor Pat Kovalck said there were no major changes so no water or sewer rate increases are planned.

During his mayoral report, he did say that officials are opening discussions on a potentially costly project in the future, although it would be several years before it came to fruition.

He said representatives from the Shinnston sanitary and sewer board

recently met with representatives of the Greater Harrison Public Service District. Officials began talks about laying additional sewer lines in the Saltwell, Adamsville and Owings area, he said. Engineers said for Shinnston's plant to accept additional sewage, upgrades to the plant would be needed. The project would cost approximately \$12 to \$15 million.

"So it's substantial," he said. "And I don't want to get anybody in an uproar. I don't want people to panic and think we're doing this tomorrow. This is going to be like I said, years and years down the road."

Kovalck also said he recently attended a gathering for Shinnston Deputy Chief Bobby Ryan, who retired for medical reasons.

WorkForce WV encourages West Virginians to apply for the Job Jumpstart Program, announces more than 12,500 approved applicants

WorkForce West Virginia encourages West Virginians who are returning to work to apply for the Job Jumpstart Program (JJP). Since its launch in January, 14,685 West Virginians have applied and 12,533 have been approved to participate in the program. The JJP provides a one-time, \$1,500 payment to eligible West Virginians. Payment distribution to approved applicants began in late February.

"The Job Jumpstart Program has had a very successful kickoff and we encourage West Virginians who are returning to work or who have completed a training or certification program to continue to apply for these funds," said Scott Adkins, acting commissioner of WorkForce West Virginia. "Currently, nearly 86 percent of applicants have met the requirements and qualify for this program. WorkForce West Virginia remains committed to assisting West Virginians experiencing unemployment and providing access to necessary resources."

The JJP was created to assist West Virginians returning to the workforce. Those eligible for the program include:

West Virginia residents who have not previously received a JJP payment and one of the following:

Receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), were unemployed or underemployed and have become employed since January 1, 2022 and maintain employment for 8 consecutive weeks working 32 or more hours per week, or enroll and complete an approved certification program and/or approved WorkForce West Virginia training program from January 1 to August 12

Were unemployed or underemployed (working less than 32 hours per week) and have become employed since January 1, 2022 and maintain employment for 8 consecutive weeks working 32 or more hours per week

Enroll and complete an approved certification program and/or approved WorkForce West Virginia training program from January 1 to August 12

Individuals are required to register with WorkForce West Virginia and complete the pre-screening questionnaire. WorkForce West Virginia will review all submitted applications and required verification documents to determine eligibility. Once an application is reviewed and approved, the \$1,500 payment will be processed and distributed.

For more information about WorkForce West Virginia and the JJP, visit www.workforcewv.org.

Dementia training for police set to become law

West Virginia police cadets will now be required to receive two hours of specialized instruction on how to identify and communicate with those with Alzheimer's disease and dementia after legislation passed the West Virginia Legislature.

Gov. Jim Justice was scheduled to sign the bill into law on Tuesday, during a signing ceremony at 10 a.m. at the State Capitol, according to a news release.

Alzheimer's Association statistics show that six in 10 individuals with dementia will wander. With 39,000 West Virginians ages 65 and older living with Alzheimer's, that is a potential for 23,400 interactions with a first responder.

"We are grateful to our lead sponsor, Sen. Ron Stollings, as well as our advocates in both chambers for championing this critical legislation to protect the health, safety, and

dignity of those with Alzheimer's and to ensure that law enforcement personnel are well trained and equipped to encounter people with Alzheimer's and dementia and provide peace of mind for caregivers around the state," said David Zielonka, public policy manager for the Alzheimer's Association West Virginia Chapter

Alzheimer's is a progressive, fatal brain disease that kills nerve cells and tissues in the brain, affecting an individual's ability to remember, think, plan, speak, and walk. In the United States, more than 6 million people have the disease.

The Alzheimer's Association is a voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. If you or your loved one has Alzheimer's and you need assistance, call the Alzheimer's Association's 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900.

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Lincoln High graduate inspires business students



Clinten Aragon, owner of WV Fitness 24 and a 1996 Lincoln High School graduate recently spoke to Lincoln High School students.

He was the second entrepreneur inducted into Lincoln's Entrepreneur Wall of Fame, according to Lincoln High School.

On April 14, he spoke to Mrs. Jaclyn Loss' and Mrs. Julie Yearego's business students about goal setting, the importance of a resume, entrepreneurship, the power of podcasts, leads and prospects, marketing, sales, and taking risks.

He told students, "You are your goals" and "Where there is change, there is an opportunity."

Courtesy photo.

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