

Lumberport receives state funding for sewer project

By Maralisa Marra

The City of Lumberport was recently able to secure funding from the Legislature for a vacuum truck to pump their septic systems, which the mayor says will allow them to more quickly address sewer problems.

For the past several years, the City of Lumberport has relied on outside source vacuum trucks for the pumping of their septic systems, according to Lumberport Mayor Betty O'Dell.

The outside source pumping has been costly for the city, so they have been seeking a solution to lower the monthly pumping costs, O'Dell said.

"We have septic tanks that we pay monthly for an outside company to come in, and it would be a substantial amount of savings if we did it ourselves," O'Dell said.

In January at the Municipal League meeting in Charleston, O'Dell discussed the city's water project idea to lower pumping costs with Senator Mike Romano, D- Harrison.

Rather than relying on outside pumping companies or implementing an entirely new sewer system, O'Dell said they have been hoping to purchase their own vacuum truck instead.

A vacuum truck is "used by cities to handle large-scale liquid and sludge clean up, most commonly in sewer

and septic system maintenance," according to First Environmental.

After speaking with Romano, he asked O'Dell to present what the city wanted to purchase and why.

In March, the city reached back out to Romano with their plan for acquiring the vacuum truck, O'Dell said.

She said they had to decide on the size of the truck because Lumberport needs a certain number of gallons of fresh water for rinsing purposes.

Romano was able to secure a \$15,000 grant from the Legislature, which he presented to the City of Lumberport at their City Council meeting on June 13.

O'Dell said the vacuum truck they are planning on lease purchasing will cost nearly \$100,000, so with the grant money they are able to move forward with their water project and acquire the truck.

"Once we get started, it'll be so much better because with an outside firm, they're on a schedule every Thursday, and we have problems in between, so we have to pay extra for them to come out," O'Dell said, "And sometimes they are booked, and they can't get here...so this way, we are readily available when needed."

"I just want to thank Mike Romano on behalf of the town of Lumberport for the gracious donation," O'Dell said.



State Senator Mike Romano, D- Harrison

July 1 fireworks show scheduled

By Maralisa Marra

On July 1, the city will be celebrating the Fourth of July at the Ferguson Memorial Park with the festivities beginning at 6 p.m.

The Veterans Band, which plays rock music, will kick off the evening followed by Byron Cooper, and the Shinnston Community Band will be the closing act, according to Brendan Gallagher, co-owner of Black & Teal Concepts.

The Heavenly Hoagies food truck will also be attending. Fireworks are to begin at dark.

Next step in addressing dilapidated buildings: funding

By Maralisa Marra

The Shinnston Development Authority has compiled a list of Shinnston's dilapidated buildings, according to City Manager Chad Edwards, who is also a member of the SDA.

"We are moving forward," Edwards said, but he also said that "the key word with this is money."

Edwards said that compiling the list of structures that need attention was the first part, but every building that made the cut does not necessarily require demolition.

"It [the list] can go anywhere from certain things that need touched up to things that just need torn down," Edwards said.

Although the city has the ability to officially condemn a building if need be, Edwards said a condemned building has to be demolished within a certain time frame.

He said that requires financial support, especially if asbestos is present. If so, it raises the price of demolition, Edwards said.

"The house on Charles Street, for example, it has to be treated as asbestos because it burned... because if it burns, then it is considered asbestos," Edwards said.

In February, Edwards had said the city planned to sue Charleston-based NAJ LLC over that structure; in April, he said NAJ LLC had offered to give the city the property instead. Although it is unknown whether or not this property has asbestos, since it has burned, it must be treated as asbestos no matter what.

The property is not yet in the hands of the city because NAJ LLC broke their agreement with the city, according to Edwards. Edwards said that NAJ LLC was supposed to give all of their properties to the city and stop buying properties within city limits, but a couple weeks ago, the city discovered that NAJ LLC bought another property in town.

Edwards noted that there are forms of funding coming soon, including money from a statewide opioid settlement with manufacturers like Johnson & Johnson, Endo, and Teva.

"Because these houses are being used for nefarious purposes sometimes, then we can use some of that money to tear down houses," Edwards said.

He also mentioned that the Legislature passed a bill that was proposed by State Auditor J.B. McCuskey to set aside a fund for dilapidated houses. Edwards hopes that fund will help tackle the dilapidated building issue in Shinnston.

The bill in which Edwards referred to is the Community Resurrection and Economic Development Act that will "set aside taxpayer money to help municipalities demolish buildings that cannot be salvaged," according to the Charleston Gazette-Mail.

"Things are looking up," Edwards said. The city is still waiting on more information about the Community Resurrection and Economic Development Act.



Lumberport Mayor Betty O'Dell, at the City Council meeting when the town received some state funding toward a sewer project



BUILDING AMAZING CITIES

By JIM HUNT
author, speaker, consultant

Weston's future looks bright

Weston is putting the pandemic in the rear-view mirror and preparing for a bright future. The city of just under 4000 residents is strategically located just off of Interstate 79 in Lewis County and is still a leading player in the oil and gas industry in West Virginia. Although Weston has lost population over the years from a peak of 8,900 in 1950, the city still has an intact central business district and is working to remove some dilapidated buildings and identify areas that can be developed with modern structures.

The largest building in Weston is the former Weston State Hospital which is an impressive structure and known as one of the largest hand-cut masonry buildings in the United States. In 2007, the hospital became privately owned and is now called the Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum. The grounds of the hospital contain over 26 acres and are now open for tours and special events.

I had the opportunity to meet the city manager of Weston recently and he is an impressive young man. His name is Nate Stansberry, and he has been on the job since January of 2021. He is a graduate of Lewis County High School in 2006 and obtained a civil engineering degree from Marshall University. He has worked in many areas of the country and worked internationally in the Marshall Islands. As a civil engineer, he brings a unique set of skills to Weston and is a good fit for a small West Virginia

See "Hunt" on Pg 3.

City officials discuss trouble with water meter installation

By Maralisa Marra

At last week's Shinnston City Council meeting on June 13, City Manager Chad Edwards updated the council on the installation of the AMR water meters and the difficulties city officials say were caused by the company, Ferguson Waterworks, responsible for the installation.

Automatic meter reading sends water use data to a centralized database saving utility workers from making as many trips to each home.

Mayor Patrick Kovalck said that city workers fixed his leaking water meter, instead of the Ferguson workers he said were responsible for the job. Therefore, he expressed concern about how many hours a week city workers were spending remedying installation issues when they are not responsible for them.

"It has not been a very good process," Edwards said. "I'm not happy with Ferguson, and I've not been happy since we started."

Edwards said the company is tearing up citizens' yards and neglecting to fix them.

He also said that the contract with Ferguson, of Columbus, Ohio, states that they are supposed to fix the yards after installation.

"So we signed a contract and that was pretty much the last I saw of them [Ferguson]," Edwards said. "They didn't wait until the ink dried until they started going back on half of the stuff they promised."

Shinnston city workers have taken on the majority of the responsibility of the installation of the AMR meters when the contract between the city and

Ferguson indicates otherwise, city officials say.

Edwards said, "This is going to be a Trey situation probably," referring to City Attorney Trey Simmerman.

See "Water Meters" on Pg 3.



The Shinnston Lions Club received a donation from the Shinnston Senior Citizens group to help buy American flags for downtown, said Lions Club President Dave Minor. Courtesy photo.

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OPINION GUEST COLUMN

Keep West Virginia's birthday celebration going

by Chelsea Ruby

Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Tourism

You did it.

For the past five years, the Department of Tourism has asked you to celebrate West Virginia's birthday by sharing your favorite Almost Heaven places and moments on social media. You've responded in a huge way: tens of thousands of posts that have been seen tens of millionsof times and showcased every corner of our state.

And it worked! We've transformed perceptions of West Virginia. Suddenly, our state is one of the hottest tourism spots in the world, making the 2022 top-destinations lists of Condé Nast, TIME, USA Today, Lonely Planet, and Frommer's.

When we organized the first West Virginia Day social media takeover, we knew it would make an impact, but wow! We had no idea what amazing results it would set in motion.

The premise is simple: Social media influences most travel decisions. And it gives West Virginia the potential for a big marketing advantage. For one thing, it's visual, and there's no place more beautiful than West Virginia.

For another, it bypasses traditional marketing and lets people who are passionate about something communicate that feeling directly to other people. That's why it's powerful. And no one is more passionate about their state than West Virginians. If that wasn't clear enough six years ago, it certainly is today.

Now let's keep it going. This year we have more than ever to celebrate. America's newest national park, the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve, was a smashing success in its first year, garnering worldwide media attention.

New tourism investment is booming, with more than \$250 million in projects in the pipeline. Just last month, White Sulphur Springs welcomed the Schoolhouse Hotel, the world's first all-ADA compliant hotel. In Fayetteville, a group of three retired school buildings is being transformed into a boutique hotel, modern apartments and townhomes.

Our state parks are completing \$151 million in maintenance and improvements, including a new lodge at Cacapon Resort State Park and renovations at every lodge and cabin in the system. Last year's state park visitation set a record, and this year's is on pace to break it.

The state has two new tourism trails to highlight our natural beauty and country roads.

See "Guest Column" on Pg 4.

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

June 23, 1944: A tornado struck Shinnston and the surrounding area, killing 103 people and injuring hundreds more.

June 23, 2016: Eight inches of rain fell in a 12-hour period. The Meadow, Cherry and Elk rivers, as well as Howard Creek, flooded downtowns and The Greenbrier resort, killing 23 people in central and southern West Virginia.

June 24, 1842: Author Ambrose Bierce was born. Bierce found the setting for some of his famous short stories in the mountains of Civil War-era West Virginia.

June 25, 1811: Bridge builder Lemuel Chenoweth was born near Beverly, Randolph County. His many bridges also included the earliest covered bridge at Beverly and the famous Philippi covered bridge.

June 26, 1887: Sheriff Don Chafin was born in Logan County. Chafin was a bitter foe of union organizers and, with financial support from coal companies, used his many deputies to keep labor organizers out of Logan County.

June 26, 1892: Pearl Buck was born in Hillsboro in the home of her maternal grandparents. She received the Nobel Prize for Literature for "The Good Earth."

June 26, 1936: Basketball star Harold Everett "Hal" Greer was born in Huntington. Greer was the first African American athlete to play at Marshall College (now University). During his three-year college career, Greer scored 1,377 points and averaged 19.4 points per game.

June 27, 1897: Musician Maceo Pinkard was born in Bluefield. Pinkard became one of

Super Crossword

COMING-OF-AGE MOVIES

- ACROSS 1 Binary 5 GPS guesses 9 White stuff that falls 13 Gum rub-on for toothaches 19 "One-l lama" poet 21 Sported 22 Nullify 23 Start of a riddle 25 Noteworthy periods 26 Crony 27 Fisher of "Star Wars" 28 U.N. medical agcy. based in Geneva 29 Words before roll or tear 30 Hockey glove 32 Riddle, part 2 36 "Washboard" muscles 37 Cut of beef 38 2001 bankruptcy company 39 Sushi bed 40 Squalid room 42 4.0 is a good one, for short 45 Golden ager 47 Riddle, part 3 54 Tom, Dick and Harry, maybe 55 Puzzles 56 Not abridged 57 Spares no expense 61 Hack off 62 Prez after HST 63 See 42-Down 64 Noteworthy periods 65 Riddle, part 4 69 Bakery buy 70 Luau souvenir 71 Prevarication 73 Flier of myth 74 Bogs, e.g. 77 Ice homes 79 Tel Avivian, for one 82 Used to be 83 Riddle, part 5 89 Skylit lobbies 90 Put turf on 91 Give a new hue to 92 2004-11 Laker Lamar 95 Place to "dry out" 98 Be a sign of 99 Small, as Abner 100 End of the riddle 105 Guy 106 Give a new hue to 107 Rock producer Brian 108 Hit the sack 109 Affront, to a hip-hopper 110 Java is one 112 Riddle's answer 117 Money in the form of coins 118 Author Wiesel 119 Player of multiple records, of sorts 120 "Mad" one in Wonderland 121 Star studier's sci. 122 Figure skater Lipinski 123 Leisure tops 12 Pint-size 13 Ten squared 14 Transplant, as a perennial 15 Of yore 16 Knighted actor Derek 17 Of national origins 18 Alain-René ("Gil Blas" author) 20 None at all 24 Lead-in to lateral 28 "Orlando" novelist Virginia 30 Actress Helgenberger 31 Certain steel girder 32 Taiwan tea 33 Feudal estate 34 2010 Super Bowl MVP Drew 35 French for "stop" 37 Horse, when running 41 Organic part of soil 42 With 63-Across, boomer's kid 43 Mile High Center architect 44 Some Christians 46 Austrian "a" 48 New Age pianist John 49 In a frenzy 50 Stare stupidly 51 37th president 52 Abject fear 53 Feudal laborers 57 Former baseball boss Bud 58 Brand of pasta sauce 59 One of the boxing Alis 60 Meadow mother 62 Meadow mother 66 Guess qualifier 67 Petty of "Tank Girl" 68 Cookie bar from Mars 69 Lariat 71 Pillage 72 "Uncle!" 75 Collegately stylish 76 Tilt weapon 78 44th president 79 Pocatello's state 80 Psyche part 81 Went first 84 Have a link with 85 Horse's gait 86 Mistreatment 87 Nullify 88 — Stanley Gardner 92 A bit weird 93 Place to be pampered 94 Egg-based dish 96 They follow Marches 97 Subject of a 2016 U.K. referendum 98 With 115-Down, she sang "All Alone Am I" 101 Lamp spirit 102 Frisky water animal 103 Bakery buy 104 Put up, as a tent 105 "I — think so!" 109 Cloning stuff 111 Make believe 112 Briny deep 113 Outmoded TV accessory 114 "I solved it!" 115 See 98-Down 116 Soon-to-be grads: Abbr.

Grid for the Super Crossword puzzle with numbered starting points for across and down words.

Find the Super Crossword Answers on Page 7!

the most successful songwriters of the 1920s Jazz Era.

June 28, 1936: Athlete Charles Louis "Chuck" Howley was born in Wheeling, Howley played linebacker for 12 seasons for the Dallas Cowboys. He was named All-Pro six times and named to six Pro Bowls.

June 29, 1845: George Wesley Atkinson was born in Charleston. In 1896, Atkinson was elected governor in an upset victory over Cornelius C. Watts of Charleston which ended 26 years of Democratic rule.

June 29, 1952: Writer Brece D'J Pancake was born in South Charleston and grew up in Milton, Cabell County. Many of Pancake's stories are set in Milton, fictionalized as "Rock Camp."

June 29, 2012: A violent storm called a derecho raced across West Virginia, leaving downed trees and damaged homes in its wake. About 688,000 homes and businesses lost power for a week during a widespread heat wave.

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

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“Water Meters” From Pg 1.

Edwards added, in an interview later, that just two companies had bid on the meter installation, Ferguson and Citgo Water, after two other companies bid and withdrew due to their issues with parts of the contract.

He said he would be meeting with Ferguson officials to discuss the problem soon.

Edwards also told the council that Charleston company NAJ, LLC has bought another piece of property on Pike Street. Edwards said he had informed Simmerman of the matter.

In February, Edwards said the city planned to sue over an abandoned home burned by fire and owned by NAJ, LLC, located on Charles Street; in April, he said the company had offered to give the property to the city to avoid litigation.

However, in an interview earlier this week,

“Hunt” From Pg 1.

city with aging infrastructure and a desire to revitalize and improve the business district and expand opportunities for local citizens.

Weston has a long history of glass manufacturing. In 1993, the West Virginia Museum of American Glass opened to highlight the state’s history in the glass industry. A large, colorful mural adorns the building that houses the museum and is one of the largest murals in the state. The West Fork River runs parallel to Main Avenue and is visible from many areas of the city. Large houses and impressive commercial buildings line the central business district and some have recently undergone renovation and add to the charm of the city.

With the possibility of more remote workers and online businesses, Weston is well-positioned to attract tech workers looking for outdoor recreation

activities and a home close to an interstate highway. With the Stonewall Dam and Stonewall Resort, Weston has recreational activities close by and is just a short drive to winter activities like skiing and snowboarding at mountain resorts.

In speaking with the city manager, I learned housing remains a large need in the city. He is looking to attract developers and others to explore the possibility of building new, market-rate housing for young professionals and retirees. The need for affordable and reliable broadband is also needed to ensure that remote workers and other entrepreneurs have all the tools to make them successful.

While revitalizing a city is not easy, Weston appears to have many of the tools in hand to accomplish the goal and begin a bright future.

Edwards said that the deal with NAJ was for them to give all of their properties to the city and stop buying them, as well, but a couple weeks ago, the city found out that NAJ bought another property in town, so “for right now, the lawsuit is on.”

Edwards informed the council that he attended a meeting at the American Legion Post 31 about Harrison County’s attempt to coordinate a suicide prevention effort for veterans. He is a part of the group and welcomed anyone to join in with the effort to support veterans.

Monroe Street and Norma Lane have already been paved, Edwards said, and he hopes to continue the rest of the paving by September.

The council approved and Kovalck signed a memorandum of understanding regarding a statewide opioid settlement with several companies and the state’s settlement with Endo

Health Solutions.

“West Virginia will receive a \$99 million settlement from Janssen Pharmaceuticals for the drug company’s role in West Virginia’s opioid epidemic as part of an ongoing trial,” according to WBOY.

The Endo Settlement refers to the \$26 million settlement that West Virginia will receive from the opioid maker Endo Health Solutions, according to ABC News.

Shinnston will receive a portion of the funding.

In other matters, the current council members voted and approved the 2022 City Council election results to certify the new representatives of Shinnston’s four wards, W. Max Palmer representing Ward 1, Amanda Sayers in Ward 2, Pat Kovalck in Ward 3, and Julia Currey in Ward 4.

Phillips to serve as Fairmont State’s interim president

Submitted by Fairmont State University

On June 10, the Fairmont State University Board of Governors voted to enter negotiations to name current Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost, Dianna Phillips, as the university’s interim president.

“Over the last couple of weeks, we’ve been very pleased with Dr. Phillips taking administrative responsibility for the campus, and the board would like to enter into negotiations to ask Dr. Phillips to be our interim president with mutual terms if so willing,” said Fairmont State University Board of Governors Chairman, David Goldberg.

Phillips brings more than 20 years of demonstrated success in higher education to the position, serving in a number of roles ranging from executive, leadership and faculty positions. Prior to her tenure at Fairmont State, Phillips served as the president of the Harford Community College in Bel Air, Maryland.

Phillips possesses a doctorate degree in philosophy in social foundations of education with an emphasis in higher education administration from the University of Buffalo, in addition to a master’s degree from Buffalo State College in student personnel administration with an emphasis in adult education. She received a bachelor’s degree in business administration with an emphasis in legal studies from National University in San Diego, along with an associate general studies degree from Chaminade University in Honolulu.

“As a West Virginia native and granddaughter of a coal miner, higher education has made a profound impact in my life,” Phillips said. “I am honored the board has instilled their confidence in me to serve Fairmont State University as the interim president, and I look forward to continuing the wonderful work on campus alongside our faculty, staff and students. It takes all of us to move the university forward.”

Goldberg announced the university will begin the process of a national presidential search RFP in September. Updates and information regarding the

university’s presidential search will be available at www.fairmontstate.edu/presidentialsearch.

In addition to the interim president announcement, the board voted to extend the university’s Memorandum of Understanding with Pierpont Community & Technical College. The extension will allow for Pierpont’s aviation maintenance technology program to continue to be housed in the Fairmont State University Robert C. Byrd National Aerospace Education Center until June 30, 2023, with the potential to extend an additional year.

Chairman Goldberg noted Fairmont State and Pierpont Community & Technical College will work to negotiate rates for the space that are amenable for both institutions. A three-person committee will also be named with representatives from both the university’s and Pierpont Community & Technical College’s Board of Governors as the institutions move forward with the extension.

“We as a board want to support Pierpont Community & Technical College and the mechanics program,” Goldberg said. “It’s vital to North Central West Virginia. It’s vital for job creation with all of the businesses at the airport. We are steadfast wanting to support the growth of that program, and this board is very solid in that.”



Dr. Dianna Phillips



A tornado that struck Shinnston in 1944 caused mass destruction of property, like this home, and death. The Bice-Ferguson Memorial Museum will recognize the anniversary of the tornado, which museum officials have said led to the strong sense of community in Shinnston today, on Thursday, June 23 at 6 p.m. Courtesy photo.

Golden Horseshoe winners honored

Last week, the West Virginia Department of Education recognized 221 eighth-grade students from middle schools across the state, including six from Harrison County, as 2022 Knights of the Golden Horseshoe at the West Virginia Culture Center in Charleston.

The WVDE inducted the students as part of the 306th anniversary of the Golden Horseshoe legacy, recognizing them for their achievement in knowledge of West Virginia history, a news release stated.

“These students demonstrated both the resiliency and dedication required for this achievement,” said State Superintendent of Schools W. Clayton Burch. “The work ethic exemplified by this class is evidence that they will be incredible ambassadors for the Mountain State. I look forward to the many wonderful things they will achieve.”

Students from Harrison County include:

- Charles Lane, Washington Irving Middle School
- Addison Veigel, Bridgeport Middle School
- James Fazalare, Bridgeport Middle School
- Braydon Hendricks, Mountaineer Middle School
- Shyanne Rathbun, Mountaineer Middle School
- Abigail Louk, South Harrison Middle School



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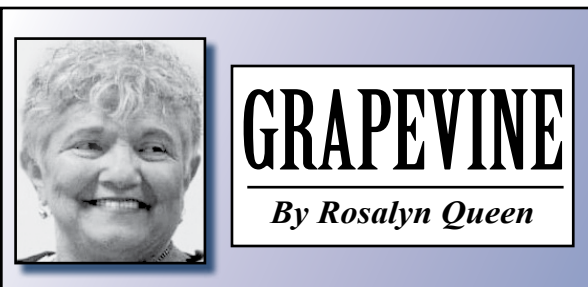
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GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen

I was advised that last Friday and Monday were holidays, and a lot of people were not working. After a little research, I found that one of the holidays is referred to as Juneteenth. I have heard this word often but want to share just exactly what we observed.

Juneteenth is the anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. The announcement was made by General Gordon Granger proclaiming freedom for all enslaved people. Throughout time, different areas commemorated this holiday, but in 2021, President Joe Biden signed the bill proclaiming Juneteenth as a National Independence Day and making it the newest national holiday.

It appears the hot days of summer are here. With record-breaking temperatures, we are being advised to stay indoors and drink plenty of fluid for our own safety. I have been following this advice and have been staying in the house.

My kids have been enjoying the pool, but I still did not want to take any chances on getting overheated. My apartment stays very comfortable, and I have found the best thing for me to do is curl up with a book and stay cool.

I went to the library to pick up some books they got ready for me, and they sent me Danielle Steele's newest book "Beautiful." I have probably read at least 75 of her books, and I have found that this newest is not among her best. Steele presents a story of a woman who moves beyond tragedy to a life more meaningful than she believed could exist. Her introduction of characters in the first half as opposed to the last half are so unique—as only Steele can do. Pick up the book for a good read.

The second book I read was a new author to me: Mariah Stewart. The title of the book is "Sugarhouse Blues." It is a story about three estranged sisters who were drawn back together by the stipulations in their father's will. The story goes into detail about how the sisters try to restore the true meaning of family. As new hurts and secrets arise, each sister must strive to overcome these incidents and achieve forgiveness and love. Find a shady spot, fix a tall glass of ice water, and start reading. A wonderful way to spend a hot afternoon.

I know the price of gas will curtail some of our plans for vacations this summer. Try to plan some new day trips to parks close to home. Rediscover the rocks and trails at Audra State Park or take a picnic lunch to Grafton or Stonewall Resort. Mini day vacations may have to suffice this year.

I also hope you will make your reservations for the Women of Distinction Luncheon to be held on June 30 at noon at the Uptown Event Center at 306 Washington Avenue in Clarksburg. A wonderful group of ten women will be honored, and Marla Faree will be the keynote speaker. Call 304-624-6881 for reservations.

Last, my sincere condolences to Mary Ann Malcolm and her family on the loss of Bill. I know there are no words that can convey what his absence will mean.

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

Senior citizens mark Mother's Day

Submitted by Janet Dotson

The Shinnston Senior Citizens group met on May 13 at the American Legion with President, Janet Dotson presiding

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem.

A Mother's Day tea was held with a fancy tray of cookies, peanut butter and chocolate fudge served.

A pitcher of iced tea or hot tea was also available.

Deloris Minor was recognized as the oldest mother, Nannette Hixon as the youngest mother, and three mothers tied for the most children, Jeanette Bonell, Donna Yelich, and Jo Smith.

The winners all received a special flower. Every mother and aunt got a flower.

College of Business & Aviation to launch adult degree completion program

Fairmont State University's College of Business & Aviation has been granted approval to offer a new adult degree completion program, according to a news release. The program is designed for people already working with some college credits who don't want to or can't commute for classes.

Beginning in the fall of 2022, students will have the opportunity to enroll in the Bachelor of Science in Strategic Leadership program to complete a four-year degree online. To be eligible for acceptance into the Strategic Leadership program, students must possess an associate degree from a regionally accredited institution or have 60 or more transferrable credits from one or more regionally accredited institutions.

"According to a study by JobsEQ, in the past year nearly 70 percent of job postings which specified a degree credential as a minimum qualification required a bachelor's degree of some type," said Fairmont State University College of Business & Aviation Dean, Timothy Oxley. "Clearly, of these job postings in West Virginia which require a college education, a bachelor's degree is still a strong entry-level or career-boosting credential."

The program also allows for individuals with an associate degree in a technical or applied field where there is no corresponding baccalaureate option to complete a four-year degree, including areas in applied manufacturing technology, applied design, emergency medical services, industrial technology, paralegal studies, welding technology or veterinary technology.

Students enrolled full-time may complete the entirety of the 30-hour curriculum in an 11-month period, from August through July.

Program coordination will be assumed by the Dean of the College of Business & Aviation, with program oversight, admissions and advising to be coordinated through the Director of the Regents Bachelor of Arts program.

The deadline for the Fall 2022 application is August 1. The online application may be accessed at www.fairmontstate.edu/apply. For more information, contact Pamela.Stephens@fairmontstate.edu.

Members then participated in the Harrison County Seniors Citizens Center Board of Directors election.

Before the vote, Ron Watson, Diane Singleton and Bill O'Field talked to our members. The election ran smoothly.

A Chick-fil-A meal was served to all. Twinkies were passed out for dessert. Cover-all Bingo and the 50/50 drawing were won by Dortha Parsons. The first door prize went to Donna Yelich.

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almost heaven

"Guest Column" From Pg 2.

The West Virginia Waterfall Trail debuted last week, featuring more than two dozen waterfalls around the state and prizes for visiting them. And the West Virginia Mountain Rides program features the state's most beautiful scenic routes, aimed at attracting motorcyclists and drivers alike. The first official Mountain Ride was launched last month: Seneca Skyway, which starts in Lewisburg and winds through the Allegheny Highlands to Canaan Valley and Green Bank.

Hats off to the leader of this remarkable turnaround, Governor Jim Justice, whose commitment to economic development and tourism is unmatched. Together with the support of the West Virginia Legislature,

hundreds of millions of dollars have been invested in tourism over the past several years. West Virginians will benefit from this investment for generations to come.

And, of course, West Virginia is as gorgeous and inviting as always. Summer is upon us. The hills are lush and vividly green. Adventure awaits.

Just in case you need another reason to get out there and enjoy what West Virginia has to offer, we've picked Instagram-ready scenic overlooks in every region of the state where you can snap a post-worthy picture. Students at Nicholas County Career and Technical Center have built Almost Heaven photo backdrops for each site—super-sized wooden swing sets where you can take in the unbelievable views. On June 20, the locations will be revealed at www.wvtourism.com/views.

So let's step up to the challenge again this year. Show the world what you love about West Virginia. Celebrate by visiting your favorite Mountain State spot, taking a picture, and posting it on social media using #AlmostHeaven for all to see. There's no better way to show off your West Virginia pride—and help create West Virginia jobs while you're at it.

Chelsea Ruby was appointed Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Tourism by West Virginia's 36th Governor Jim Justice in March 2021. This appointment marked an elevation of the West Virginia Tourism Office to a cabinet-level department, where Ruby served as Tourism Commissioner for four years.

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Good Health Guide



Words of Wellness

By Jill Fratto
Life & Health Coach
jillfratto@gmail.com

Work with your body to find harmony

The first thing that popped up on my phone screen this morning was an article about a man coming back from the military to surprise his wife (after winning over half a million dollars, but that is not part of my story.) Upon returning home to his wife, she had a surprise of her own... a four-week-old

baby boy that the father did not know about. Yes, it was his, she just wanted to surprise him.

The story goes on to say that the woman gave birth four weeks earlier and had not known that she was pregnant. I thought, "What?!" I can't get this out of my head. In the article, it quickly stated that doctors say this is more common than you think.

If you don't know that your body is producing another human being for nine months, I have to wonder what else she was dealing with in her life that disconnected her so much from her body. Part of me thinks maybe this is a good thing. Maybe she was so spiritually connected that she didn't notice a BABY growing inside of her. But the wellness side of me says, how could you not notice any change?

How does this relate to you? Especially if you are a man reading this? Are you paying attention

to your body? Are you listening to what it needs from you? Are you letting others tell you what is wrong or not wrong with you? Do you leave it up to your doctor to tell you if you are healthy or not? Too many people do this, even when, deep down, they have their own answers.

Listen to your body. Your body is a physical reflection of what you hold in your mind, and it can't take care of itself. My dad's mantra has always been, "If you don't take care of your body, where are you going to live?" He may not have made that up, but he made it real for me. I encourage you to connect with your body in a positive way. Listen when it says it is in pain or tired. Make changes when something doesn't feel right. Don't leave it up to others to guide your decisions about your health. Connect with your body and work together to find harmony and wellness. You deserve it.

United Hospital Center Urology offers rare stone treatment device

United Hospital Center announced earlier this month it is one of two hospitals in the nation equipped with the MODULITH® SLX-F2, which "combines everything needed to best treat all types of stone disorders using non-invasive or minimally invasive methods," according to a news release.



According to United Hospital Center, the sophisticated design of the MODULITH® SLX-F2, which treats stone disorders, makes cleaning and disinfecting much easier, saving valuable time and increasing patient safety. Courtesy photo.

"With minimal side effects and virtually pain-free, this is a highly effective treatment offered in North Center West Virginia at UHC Urology," the news release states.

According to the manufacturer's website, the equipment offers "a wide spectrum of general endourological and diagnostic features," including extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy combined with state-of-the-art endourology, stone therapy and X-ray.

Lithotripsy treats kidney stones by sending ultrasonic energy or shock waves directly to the stone. The shock waves break a large stone into smaller stones that then pass through the urinary system. Endourology refers to a specialty in urology where minimally invasive techniques are used.

"At UHC Urology, patients have access to a wide array of innovative tools, technologies, and techniques specifically designed to treat complex urinary

diseases," said Dr. Grant L. Franklin, Jr. "Our patients have different needs, and I want to offer them the best possible treatment."

UHC Urology also welcomes Dr. Ali Merhe to the practice in August, which is located at 135 Professional Place, in Bridgeport. To learn more about UHC Urology please go to www.wvurology.com/SLX or call 681-342-3660.



Dr. Grant L. Franklin, Jr.

Alzheimer's Association offers heat advice for families facing dementia

Submitted by the West Virginia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association

As temperatures rise across West Virginia, extreme heat can have a significant impact on everyone's safety. But high temperatures can be especially stressful and confusing for individuals with Alzheimer's and other dementias. Alzheimer's disease causes a number of changes in the brain and body that may affect a person's safety, including changes in sensitivity to temperatures.

Today, there are more than 6 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease, including 39,000 in West Virginia. Taking measures during extreme heat can prevent injuries and help a person with dementia feel more relaxed and less overwhelmed.

"People living with Alzheimer's and other dementia can be vulnerable during extreme weather because their judgment may be impaired, and they may be unable to communicate discomfort," said Teresa Morris, program director for the Alzheimer's Association West Virginia Chapter. "It's really important to take extra precautions with these individuals when there is extreme heat or other excessive weather conditions."

The Alzheimer's Association West Virginia Chapter is offering important safety tips for caregivers and families facing Alzheimer's and other dementias during these hot temperatures:

See "Alzheimer's" on Pg 6.

DHHR reports another Harrison County COVID-19 death

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) reported on June 14 that another Harrison County man had died due to COVID-19.

The man was 93 years old. The death made 257 confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the county, of an estimated 21,119 cases since the start of the pandemic. The virus has been particularly deadly for older people and those with pre-existing conditions; although long-ranging effects for younger people are still being studied.

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The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

New locker rooms add pride in Shinnston

Lincoln High School has seen its fair share of improvements over the last several years. While many schools in North Central West Virginia dream of making renovations, the administration at the Shinnston-based school is busy making their dreams a reality.

The most recent eye-catching addition at Stydahar Field is the new locker rooms. It has been a long time coming, and two Sundays ago the final product was unveiled via an open house. The building process began a few years ago but was slowed by COVID-19. Through the hard work and perseverance of the school administration and veteran Head Football Coach Rob Hawkins, the deal was done.

The original locker rooms were constructed in 1976, and over time, the need for newer and larger locker rooms surfaced. "The original locker rooms served their purpose for a long time, but we ran out of room," explained Hawkins. He also said, "We have had two locker rooms for 20 years. When I played back in the 80s, all we had were hooks on the wall. Jimmy Lopez then built wooden lockers and later we had metal lockers when Coach Herrod was here."

The lack of space forced storage of equipment into the trainer's room, the coach's office, and in the off season, the shower room. Complicating the issue even more was the fact that the middle school did not have a locker room of their own. Not only did that pose an immediate problem with space, it also was a major inconvenience

for the younger players. They would have to tote their belongings to and from Stydahar Field daily. That is a workout both physically and mentally. Making sure that you have the checklist of items needed on practice days and game days would take away from the focus of the players.

This new facility will eliminate that issue as the middle school now has its own locker room. The soccer and track teams will also benefit as they now have their own brand-new digs.

The entire project was a huge undertaking that took an entire community effort to complete. "I don't think we could have asked for more from the community. Several businesses, some classes (my class of 1987 donated two lockers), former players, and several individuals donated large sums of money," Hawkins said. The collaborative effort of the community coupled with the Harrison County Board of Education made this possible.

At the high school, a trio of individuals were credited by Hawkins for seeing this project materialize from start to finish: Russ McKeen, David Decker, and Holly Hawkins. Holly Hawkins is one of the best athletic directors in the state, and her impact was critical in this case. "Her vision of how nice it should look has come to fruition," Hawkins said.

The amount of pride that these student athletes will garner is immeasurable. Having their own room to roam makes all of this effort worthwhile. Now Hawkins would like to move over the long-standing Cougar traditions from the old facility to the new one, "I hope the culture that we had in the old locker room will travel with us. It was a special place for our players, and now they have a beautiful locker room that the players can carry that culture to and be proud of."

This project is well deserved for the athletes and coaches like Rob Hawkins that care so much about them!

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

Tee it up!

By Bill Nestor

It is golf season once again, and we will take a look at golf courses of interest. North Central West Virginia owns its fair share of golf enthusiasts, and our goal is to partner them up with courses for a win-win situation.

Our first edition of "Tee It Up" took us to Knottsville Road just outside of Grafton to Tygart Lake Public Golf Course. This 18-hole par 72 tract ranges 6,255 yards from the tips and has been a mainstay in the area since 1967. The layout offers exceptional views and with multiple tee boxes, a challenge for golfers of all skill levels. The teeth of this course are bunkers that guard the greens, punishing rough, water hazards, and mature trees that make golfers pay the price for errant tee shots.

The front nine is straight forward, and what you see is exactly what you get; it provides an opportunity to get your round off to a good start. It also owns the signature hole, #7, a modest par 3 that plays just 144 yards from the back tee. It is guarded by water in front and to the right of the green.

The back side is much more of a challenge with water coming into play on the first five holes. The final three holes are there for the taking and can send you off to the hole 19 as a happy customer. #16 is a short par 4, #17 is a par 5 that has a narrow landing area off of the tee but opens up nicely to a downhill green, and #18 is a 331-yard par 4 closing out some great scoring opportunities down the stretch.

I have been a big fan of Tygart Lake Public Golf Course for a long time, and I can say that I have never seen it in better shape. There have been several improvements recently that has made a difference. This coupled with excellent maintenance makes this course a must play this golf season.



Lincoln High officials thank Delegate Clay Riley, R-Harrison, for his help securing state funds for the new locker rooms at Stydahar Field. Courtesy photo.



Lincoln High School held an open house for new locker rooms on June 12. Courtesy photos.

"Alzheimer's" From Pg 5.

Make a plan. Family and friends should regularly check in on a person living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias during extreme heat. Arrange alternative plans for cooler spaces, if air conditioning is unavailable, and dress in loose, light clothing.

- **Pay attention at night.** Keep people living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias cool by using fans and keeping the air conditioning on. At night, low temperatures can still exceed 75 degrees with little fluctuation in humidity levels, making for difficult and exacerbating sleeping conditions, heightened anxiety, and increased agitation.
- **Prepare for behavioral challenges.** Research shows that heat can increase

agitation and confusion in people. Try to remove behavioral triggers by addressing the person's physical needs related to the heat, then tend to their emotional needs.

- **Stay hydrated.** Increased water intake is essential to maintaining good hydration and health during extreme heat. Know the signs of heat exhaustion to avoid heat stroke. Dehydration may be difficult to notice in a person living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, as signs like increased fatigue, dry mouth and headache may be difficult to detect.
- **Stay indoors and out of the sun.** Heat stroke and heat exhaustion may occur in extreme heat conditions, but symptoms may be difficult to detect in people living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. Keep individuals cool by using air conditioning at

home or move to a public place, such as a senior center or shopping mall. If you must go outside, be sure to dress appropriately, loose, light clothing, wear a hat, and apply sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30 or higher.

- **Stay informed.** Keep an eye on local weather forecasts. High temperatures are not the only cause for concern. Humidity and air pollution indices can cause breathing difficulties. The person should be monitored regularly and seek medical attention if symptoms arise of dehydration, heat exhaustion, or heat stroke.

The Alzheimer's Association is here to help families take measures to prepare for and cope with such extraordinary circumstances. For more information, visit alz.org or call the 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900.

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OBITUARIES

John Edward Canjar



Amanda Gogan of North View; his stepchildren: Bobbie Jean Underwood and husband Jerry of Peora, Mike Wright and wife Debbie of Meadowbrook, Treasa Jaggie of Clarksburg, David Jaggie and wife Ashley of Terra Alta, and Carolyn Jaggie of Huntington; many grandchildren and great grandchildren that he loved dearly; nephew, Brian Douglas Stalnaker; niece, Desiree Dawn Stalnaker; niece in law, Julie Ann Gump and his dear friend, Kurt Kendall.

In addition to his parents, his is also preceded in death by one brother, David Stalnaker.

Family and friends were received at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston, on Thursday, June 16, 2022 from 11 a.m. until the time of service at 1 p.m. with Pastor Dan Adkins officiating. Interment followed at Enterprise I.O.O.F. Cemetery.

Military Honors were provided by the US Army and Harrison County Honor Guard.

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

Mary Sue Riffle (Synder)



Mary Sue Riffle, 64, of Owings, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at her home. She was born September 14, 1957 in Clarksburg a daughter of the late Troy L. Snyder Sr. and Charlotte Ann Jones Snyder. She is survived by her children, April Long of Wadena, MN; and J.J. Riffle and his wife Ashley of Lumberport; her grandchildren, Josh and Lexi Long; Haley and Trenton Warner; and James and Madelyn Riffle; her brothers, Troy Snyder, Jr. and his wife Pam of Owings; and Paul Snyder, Sr. of Owings; as well as two nieces and three nephews. In addition to her parents, Mary was preceded in death by her sister-in-law, Katherine Kaye Snyder. Mary was attended of the Owings Community Church. For many years, she was employed at the Harrison County Health Department as an in-home aid. She also worked at Pressley

Ridge in Clarksburg. In her free time, Mary liked to crochet, quilt, and sew. She also enjoyed going camping and fishing. A Gathering of Friends will be held at Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St. Shinnston, on Friday, June 24, 2022 from 6 p.m. until the time of the Memorial Service at 7 p.m. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Riffle family.

Carla Denise Earnest



Carla Denise Earnest, 63, of Wallace passed away on June 15, 2022 surrounded by her loving family. She was born in Clarksburg on July 29, 1958, the daughter of the late Carl Richard "Dick" Emerson Earnest and Ina Mae Powers Earnest.

Carla graduated from Liberty High School, Class of 1976. She worked at Eagle Convex Glass Factory as a Glass Cutter for over 15 years. She also was self-employed in the cleaning business. She was very interested in ancestry and genealogy tracing the family back hundreds of years. She loved spending time with her whole family, riding her Honda Rebel (just to outrun the Harleys), mowing grass, spending time in her swimming pool, road trips, going to the beach, and laying in the sun.

Carla is survived by two children, Marcey Jacinda Forquer and husband Zach of Clarksburg, Dana Jay Godfrey and companion Kayla Patrick of Shinnston; two grandchildren, Caitlin Paige Forquer and companion Tommy Fluharty, and Abriana Hope Godfrey; sisters Sharon Cain, Donna Dennison and husband Jim; three brothers, Richard Earnest and wife Penny, Leroy Earnest and wife Annie, and Paul Earnest and wife Tina; two living Aunts Sandra (Bobby) Jenkins and Kathryn (Buck) Miller; nieces and nephews Jacqueline (Tommy) Fornash, Bobby (Marci) Earnest, Jonathan Earnest and Companion Laycie, Shane Earnest and companion Patience, Timmy (Arie) Dennison, Harley Earnest and Companion Michael, Joey Earnest and Companion Hailey,

Out Of The Past

Memorable Photographs from around Harrison County.



Vincent Lumber and the former Dairy Queen were surrounded by flood waters on June 26, 1975. Photo courtesy of Bobby Bice.

Michael Earnest, Irissa Earnest, Torie Earnest, Jadeyn Earnest, Tymber Earnest and many cousins, great nieces, nephews, and very special lifelong friends Kathy Anderson and "Dang" Phongsri Bramer.

Family received friends at Davis Funeral Home 124 Olen Thomas Drive, Clarksburg on Saturday, June 18, 2022 from 4-8 p.m. and on Sunday, June 19, 2022 from 11 a.m. until time of service at 1 p.m. with Pastor Jon Hayes officiating. Interment followed at Little Rock Camp Cemetery. Davis Funeral Home is honored to serve the Earnest family.

Thelma Jean Arcuri Valerio



Thelma Jean Arcuri Valerio, 73, of Clarksburg, passed away on Sunday, June 12, 2022 at her residence. She was born August 1, 1948, a daughter of the late Tony and Jule Moore Arcuri. Surviving are two sons, David Rouleau and his wife Kairy, Butler, PA, and James Arcuri, Jr., Detroit, MI; four grandchildren, Alan Elswick and his wife Kaitlynn, Dustin Watkins

and his wife Stormy, Lucas, Madison, and Ethan, James Jr., Casey, Chase, and Taylor; five great-grandchildren, Ben, Willa, Isabella, Julia, and Giavanna; her siblings, Sarah Arcuri, Oma Lucas, and Mikey Joe Arcuri; her sister-in-law, Linda Hedrick Wright, several nieces and nephews; and her close friends Mela Swiger and Monica and Angie Capozzi. Jean was also preceded in death by her daughter, Shelley Arcuri and two brothers, Jeff and Randy Arcuri. Cremation services were provided by the Perine Funeral Home and no public services will be held. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Arcuri/Valerio family.

College of Nursing to host nursing academy for high school students

Fairmont State University's College of Nursing will host a free nursing academy for local high school students interested in pursuing the careers as professional nurses, according to a news release.

The academy will take place June 27 - 29 from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Fairmont State's campus in the Education Building.

Students eligible to participate include 10th - 12th graders residing in Harrison, Marion or Monongalia Counties.

"The mission of the nursing academy is to inspire students to pursue a professional career in nursing by exposing students to experiences and opportunities that nursing has to offer, and to help establish an

education path that will lead to a professional career in nursing," said Fairmont State University College of Nursing Dean, Laura Clayton.

The nursing academy is funded through a grant from the West Virginia Center for Nursing. For more information or to register, contact tina.reed@fairmontstate.edu.

Roger Allen Stalnaker



Roger Allen Stalnaker, 61, of Shinnston, passed in his home on June 14, 2022 at 1:05am. He was born in Clarksburg on June 5, 1961 to the late Dorsey Stalnaker and Mary Katherine (Harbert) Stalnaker.

He served in the Army National Guard and was in Desert Storm. He was a 10-year member of the Orioles Club in Shinnston. Roger is survived by his companion of 17 years, Kathryn Arnett of Shinnston; one brother, Doug Stalnaker and wife Amanda of Mannington; one daughter,

Super Crossword

Answers

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UHC physician recognized

Dr. Matthew Scott Szarko, M.P.H., has been recognized by the State Journal as part of the Generation Next: 40 Under 40 class of 2022.

“As a pathologist at WVU Medicine United Hospital Center, he feels strongly about taking care of the residents of a state that has provided so much for him,” a news release states. “The award speaks to the success that can be achieved within West Virginia.”

Dr. Szarko received his medical degree and completed his anatomic and clinical pathology residency from West Virginia University School of Medicine in Morgantown. He finished his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in the Mountain State.

United Hospital Center officials noted that although pathology may be less visible



Matthew Scott Szarko, M.D., M.P.H. UHC Pathologist

on the front lines of public health, it plays a significant role in safeguarding the public through the identification of infectious diseases, such as COVID-19.

Dr. Szarko has spent his entire career at either a West Virginia business or at a WVU Medicine hospital, having worked at both Camden Clark Medical Center in Parkersburg and now at UHC in Bridgeport.

In addition to being a staff pathologist at UHC, he is also credentialed for five hospitals in North Central West Virginia. Dr. Szarko is board certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology by the American Board of Pathology and he is currently the secretary of the West Virginia Association of Pathologists.

This native of Parkersburg met his wife, a Fairmont native, while attending college in Morgantown. He now resides in Bridgeport with his wife and two children since 2017.

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Soda Pop Chops With Smashed Potatoes

Ingredients

- 1 ½ pounds small red potatoes, halved
- 1 cup root beer
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder, divided
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- ¾ teaspoons pepper, divided
- ½ teaspoon salt, divided
- 4 bone-in pork loin chops (7 oz. each)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons butter

Directions

- Place potatoes in a large saucepan and cover with water. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium; cover and cook until tender, 15-20 minutes.
- Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine the root beer, ketchup, brown sugar, chili powder, Worcestershire sauce and 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder; set aside. In a large resealable plastic bag, combine the flour, 1/2 teaspoon pepper and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Add pork chops, one at a time, and shake to coat.
- In a large cast-iron or other ovenproof skillet, cook chops in oil over medium heat until chops are lightly browned, 2-3 minutes on each side. Drain. Add root beer mixture; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer until a thermometer reads 145°, 6-8 minutes. Remove pork and keep warm. Let stand for 5 minutes before serving.
- Bring sauce to a boil; cook until liquid is reduced by half. Meanwhile, drain potatoes; mash with butter, remaining garlic powder and remaining salt and pepper. Serve with pork chops and sauce.
- Remember, readers, if you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share, we welcome your submissions. Email your recipe to us at debra@mountainmedianews.com. And don't forget to stop by your local Price Cutter to purchase all of your cooking and baking needs.



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WATER OPERATOR

The City of Shinnston, WV is seeking applicants for the position of Water Operator in a WV Class 2 facility. This employee performs a variety of semi-skilled and skilled technical work in the operation and maintenance of municipal water production. The position requires rotation of on-call and weekend and will be expected to work overtime as required. Under the direct supervision of the Chief Water Plant Operator, the worker is responsible for operating and maintaining equipment at the water treatment plant; assisting in gathering data, performing tests and generating reports; assisting in ordering materials and supplies; and performing other related functions as assigned or apparent. Assists in the operation and periodic inspection of equipment at the water treatment plant. Maintains equipment, process tanks, buildings, and grounds in a clean and orderly manner. Obtains water samples and performs simple standard chemical and process control tests. Monitors and/or inspects numerous process control parameters for proper operations. Assists supervisor in maintaining and reviewing accurate maintenance records and monthly reports.

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or equivalent; Valid WV driver's license with clean record, a valid Class 1 Operator license in the State of West Virginia or ability to obtain Class 1 Operator license within 6 months. Class 2 water operator license preferred.

Desirable Qualifications: Experience with water & sewer piping/repair. Operation of large equipment; mechanical / technical skills experience in water / wastewater. Prior experience working for a municipality (public works, public utilities).

Starting wage range will be dependent upon licensure. Obtain an application from the City of Shinnston website @ <http://www.shinnstonwv.com/>. Interested candidates are required to submit an application with supplemental information to: City of Shinnston, 40 Main Street, Shinnston, WV 26431. Applications will be accepted until the vacancy is filled with those received by July 21st earning first consideration.

The City of Shinnston is an equal opportunity employer.

Fairmont State announces 2022 summer camp lineup

Fairmont State University's Academy for the Arts announced, in a news release last week, that organizers have planned a robust lineup of summer camps for the 2022 season.

The Academy for the Arts summer camps offer students opportunities to explore and build skills in the performing arts. Serving grades K-12, camps are offered in various subjects at convenient times to meet the needs of parents and children, organizers say.

“We’re excited to offer so many opportunities for expanding skills, exploration and fun this summer,” said Director of Performing Arts, Outreach and Development, Leigh Anne Riley. “Included in our lineup are many camps for both younger children and high-school-aged students. Summer is an excellent time for young people to build skills, friendships and explore new interests through our unique camp offerings. The Academy utilizes Fairmont State facilities, and our highly qualified instructors are drawn from Fairmont State faculty, staff and area teachers. Our camps cover areas of musical theatre, acting, improv dance, singing and more.”

The 2022 Academy for the Arts summer camps include:

- Showstopper: Exploring Musical Theatre Dance – June 27 – 30, grades K – 3
 - Broadway Babies – July 11 – 15, grades K – 2
 - Kid-Prov Jr – July 18 – 22, grades 3 – 6
 - So You Wanna Be A Star? – July 18 – 22, ages 13 – 18
 - Young Tony Award Showcase! – July 18 – 22, grades 3 – 6
 - “Baby Mine, You Are My Sunshine” – July 18 – 22, Ages 0 – 3 and caregiver
 - Kid-Prov Sr – July 25 – 29, grades 7 – 12
 - Act the Zoo! – August dates TBA, grades K – 3
 - Scene Study – Exploring “The W’s” – August dates TBA, grades 4 – 12
- In addition to camps, the Fairmont State Academy for the Arts offers classes, private visual art, music, singing, acting and performance lessons year-round through the music, theater and visual arts preparatory programs.
- For more information, visit www.fairmontstate.edu/academycamps.

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