

The SHINNSTON News & Journal HARRISON COUNTY

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Focusing on local news throughout Harrison County.



July 28, 2022 - Aug 3, 2022

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American Legion installs new officers



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31, Shinnston, installed new officers Thursday, July 21. Pictured from left to right are Dortha Parsons, historian; Betsy Turner, chaplain; Roxie Nicholson, treasurer; Marsha Duckworth, Unit 31 president; Carla Wilfong, second vice president; and Margaret Yost, secretary. Not pictured are Parry Jenkins, first vice president, and Karen Flanigan, sergeant-at-arms.

Submitted by Betsy Turner

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31, Shinnston held a covered-dish dinner at 6 p.m. followed at 7 p.m. by the installation of officers for the 2021-2022 Auxiliary year on Thursday, July 21 at American Legion Post 31.

Roxie Nicholson, past Department president, American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia, performed the installation.

Officers for the coming year are Marsha Duckworth, Unit 31 president; Parry Jenkins,

first vice president; Carla Wilfong, second vice president; Margaret Yost, secretary; Roxie Nicholson, treasurer; Karen Flanigan, sergeant-at-arms; Dortha Parsons, historian and Betsy Turner, chaplain.

During the regular meeting, highlights of the 100th Convention and upcoming events were discussed. There was also a presentation by Brenna Wilfong about the DECA club, which prepares students to be leaders and entrepreneurs, and a special project for homeless veterans this club would do in partnership with Unit 31.

Legion members awarded at 100th convention



Members of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31, Shinnston, attend the American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia's 100th convention in Huntington. From left to right, in the front row, are members Dortha Parsons, Karen Flanigan, Roxie Nicholson and Marsha Duckworth. Back row: Kim Mellie, Carla Wilfong and Margaret Yost.

Submitted by Betsy Turner

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31, Shinnston, received several plaques and awards at a statewide convention earlier this month.

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia held its 100th convention July 7-9 at the Doubletree by Hilton in Huntington. The convention is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, amending the Department Constitution, receiving reports of Department officers and

chairmen, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before it.

Seven members of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31, Shinnston attended the convention, including two past department presidents. Unit 31, Shinnston brought home several plaques and awards in the category of units with at least 151 members.

These included the traveling plaques for Unit Chaplain's Report, History, Poppy Membership, Public Relations, Community Service, Field Service and Auxiliary Emergency Fund. They

See "Convention" on Pg 9.



BUILDING AMAZING CITIES

By JIM HUNT
author, speaker, consultant

My first car

With all the discussion about the price of gas, I thought back to 1969 when gas was 34 cents a gallon and a fill-up was rarely over \$6 or \$7. I was working at Blair Motor Supply in Clarksburg during my summer break from college. A car was a luxury for a young college student and freshmen were not allowed to have a car on campus. As I came into work one day, Bud Morris, the manager of Blair

Motor, said, "Hey, I think I found you a car!" An elderly lady had passed away and the heirs to her estate were going to sell her belongings, including a 1960 Ford Falcon with only 9,000 miles on it. I couldn't believe my ears and asked him, "How much are they asking for it?" \$50, he said. Even in 1969, \$50 was about as low a price as you could ask for a car, especially one that was in excellent condition, with low mileage.

It was going to take a few months to get all the lady's affairs in order, so I patiently waited throughout the summer. I had purchased some new floor mats and was ready to climb in my new ride and head back to Morgantown for my second year of college. Unfortunately, the bank realized what a prize they had in the car and decided to take bids for the car. I reluctantly bid \$199 and learned that the winning bid was \$250. My hopes were dashed.

See "Hunt" on Pg 3.



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WVU Medicine

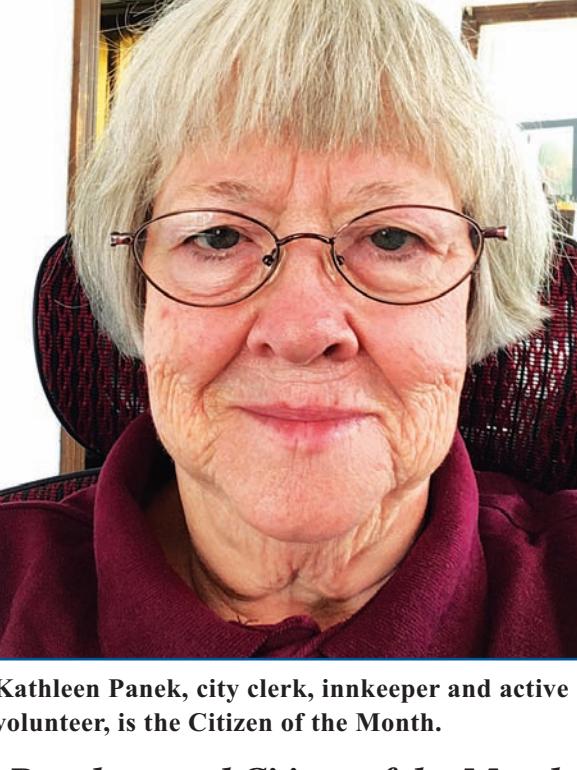
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Each week copies of the News & Journal are distributed in each hospital to patients compliments of these community-minded sponsors listed:

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City clerk, B&B owner is advocate for state

The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal has named Kathleen Panek as Citizen of the Month, a recognition sponsored by Dorsey Funeral Home in Shinnston – locally owned and operated.



Kathleen Panek, city clerk, innkeeper and active volunteer, is the Citizen of the Month.

Panek named Citizen of the Month

By Maralisa Marra

City Clerk and owner of Shinnston's beloved Gillum House Bed & Breakfast, Kathleen Panek, or better known as Shinnston's cheerleader, has dedicated the greater portion of her life to serving the Shinnston community.

Her unceasing love and dedication to the betterment of the city is infectious. Not only is she our leading advocate in what Shinnston has to offer the world, but she is an advocate for what the Mountain State brings to the table, as well.

In 1996, Panek and her husband purchased the Gillum house from the Harris family who were the heirs after the Gillums. Panek said she knew she eventually wanted to own a bed and breakfast.

"I walked in that house, and it screamed, 'Stop looking. I'm yours,'" Panek said.

Ever since, she has hosted guests from all over the world—France, England, North Wales, Germany, Spain, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada, Mexico, and the list continues.

The Gillum house was built in 1912 and purchased by Troy Gillum in 1918, according to Panek. She has made it a point to keep the house's roots alive. There are three rooms each with a significant name: The Gillum Room, Rosi's Room, and The Harris Room. The Gillum Room features the original clawfoot bathtub in its ensuite bathroom while Rosi's Room is named after the Gillum's third and last child who was born in there during the war years. The Harris Room pays tribute to the Harris family who purchased the house from the Gillum family.

As Panek devotes attention to opportunities available in Shinnston and West Virginia, she takes

See "Citizen" on Pg 3.



Kathleen Panek, Citizen of the Month at right, works in Shinnston's community garden with volunteer Alexis Herndon.



Guest Column

By Charlotte Lane

Utility scams can happen to anyone

Anyone can be targeted for a utility scam – including the Chair of the Public Service Commission.

That's right; recently I was at home when my phone rang. My caller ID indicated the call was coming from Scott Depot. When I answered, the caller told me I was behind on my electric bill and unless I made payment over the phone the power company was going to terminate my service in 45 minutes.

I was so shocked and startled I actually questioned whether I could be delinquent on my bill. When I told the caller I was sure I had paid the bill he hung up on me. I then called the power company and was told my bill was current and I had been the intended victim of a scam they are seeing all too frequently in our area.

So let's go over the basic steps to take to avoid being a victim.

Don't ever give out your Social Security number, birthdate, mother's maiden name, credit card or bank account numbers, driver's license number or any personal, identifying information to an unsolicited caller.

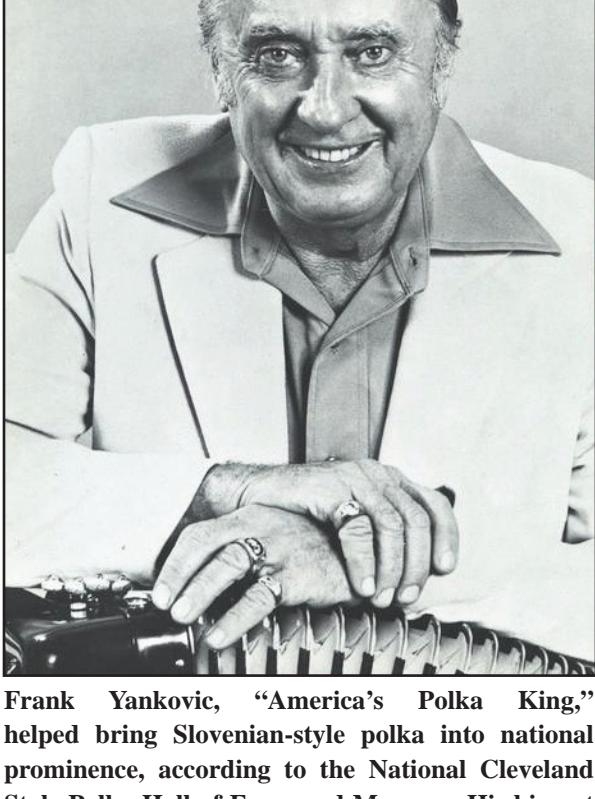
If you have not had any prior notice of an outstanding bill and someone calls claiming to represent your utility company, says your bill is seriously past due and threatens to shut off your service if you don't pay immediately, hang up. It's a scam.

If someone asks for payment on a prepaid debit or gift card, hang up. It's a scam.

If someone threatens you on the phone, hang up. If they come to your door and threaten you, don't let them in. Lock the door and call the police.

These criminals are ruthless and, unfortunately, the practice is becoming all too common. Protect yourself. If you believe you have been the victim of a utility scam, immediately report it to the police and then contact your utility company.

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History



Frank Yankovic, "America's Polka King," helped bring Slovenian-style polka into national prominence, according to the National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame and Museum. His biggest hits were "Just Because" in 1948 followed by "Blue Skirt Waltz"; both sold more than two million copies. He received the first Grammy Award in the polka category in 1986.

July 28, 1915: Frankie Yankovic was born in Davis, Tucker County. Yankovic did more to popularize polka music than any other performer.

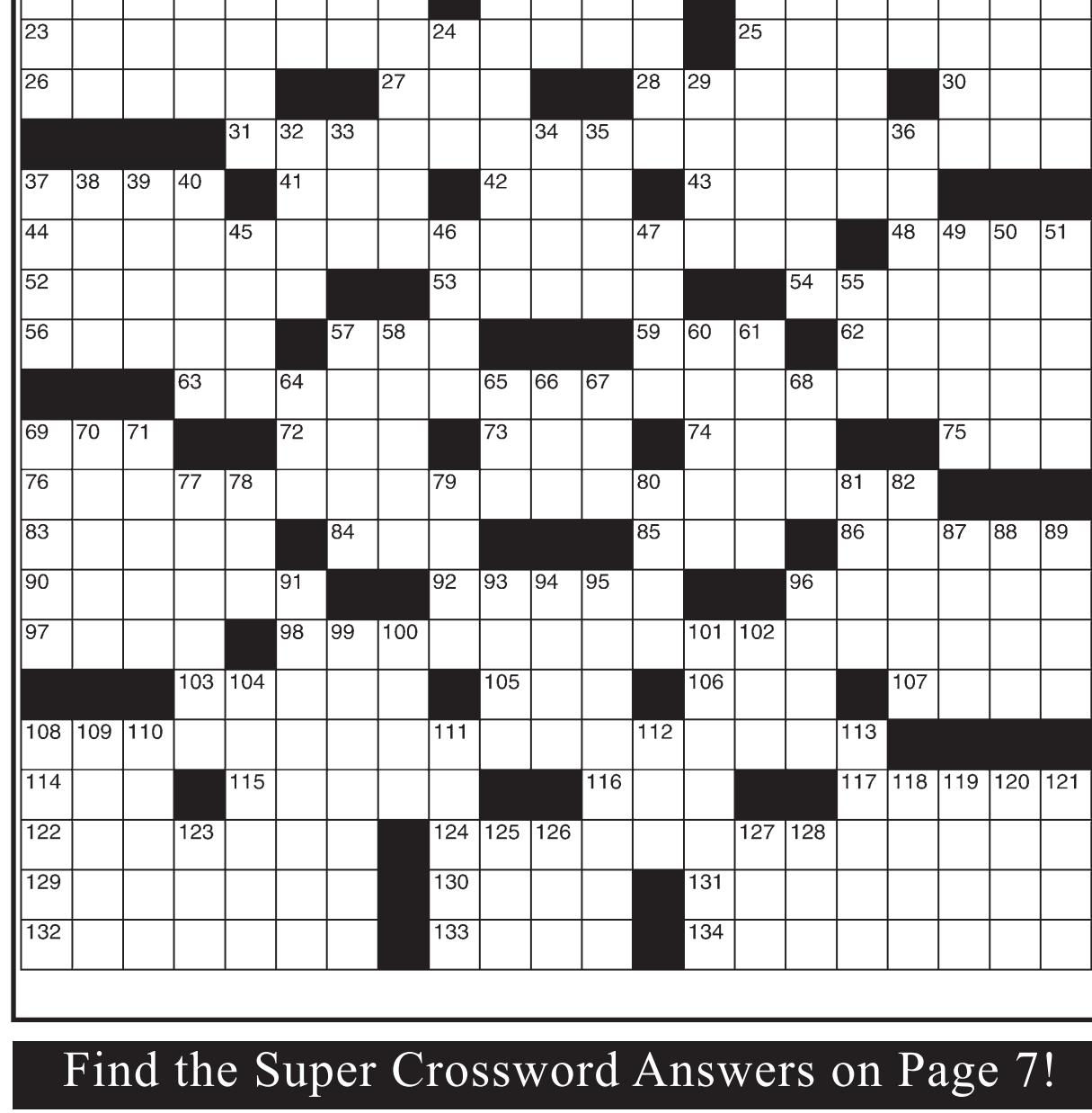
July 29, 1873: Malcolm Malachi "Mack" Day was born. As sheriff of McDowell County, he claimed that God had called him to enforce Prohibition, even arresting an uncle and his own son.

July 29-31, 1915: Camp Good Luck, believed to be the world's first 4-H club encampment, was held at Elkwater in southern Randolph County.

July 29, 1918: Novelist Mary Lee Settle was born in Charleston. Her literary reputation rests on the "Beulah Quintet," a sequence of five historical novels spanning four centuries.

July 30, 1973: The Frederick Hotel in downtown Huntington closed to transient trade. After it was built in 1905, it was touted as the

Super Crossword														ALMOST INDIVISIBLE				
ACROSS	56	From days of yore	105	Meal crumb	6	Feeling blue	46	University sports org.	93	Proton holder	7	Cruel Amin	47	Actress Laura	94	Prefix with byte	95	Tennis, volleyball and badminton
1 Compositions of a classical tradition	57	Luggage screeners' org.	106	Raw metal	8	People painting, e.g.	49	Casa brick	96	Narrow valley								
9 Financial: Abbr.	59	Univ. dorm overseers	107	Title for Judi Dench	9	Shoes and boots	50	Drive away	99	Dogs closely following their owners								
13 Toddler girl, to Scots	62	Listerine competitor	108	Hearst bimonthly with beauty and dating tips	10	Arabic for "son of"	51	The "P" of AP	100	15th of the month, maybe								
20 16th-century Spanish explorer	63	Oedipus-themed Aeschylus play	114	Former U.K. record co.	11	Lay turf on	55	Hearth refuse	61	Doesn't go on								
21 Wind quintet instrument	69	A-E linkup	115	Fake	12	Romero of "Batman"	57	Score speed	64	Moving truck								
22 Ancient French region	72	Docs' gp.	116	Muhammad of the ring	13	Grows fond of	58	Escargot	65	Grand opening?								
23 Low-value red card	73	Herr's "one"	117	Feudal lord	14	Drew forth	60	Moving	101	Most snug								
25 Dangerous current	74	Hanks of "Big"	122	Be averse to	15	Wife, to Juan	66	Inspired stuff	102	"... — quit!" (threat ender)								
26 20-ounce Starbucks drink	75	Raised trains	124	What the starts of the longest answers in this puzzle are?	16	Back muscle, for short	67	Electees, e.g.	104	Blazing								
27 Body design, for short	76	Instrument players gifted in a Christmas song	129	One making modifications	17	"One Day at —" (sitcom)	68	"Eww, no more!" in a text message	108	Roomy auto								
28 Transmission repair chain	83	Log house	130	Helper	18	Supply — (certain economist)	69	Mark Twain's Thatcher	109	Novelist Zola								
30 Adult fellows	84	Bullring shout	131	Homer with nobody on	70	Writer — Bothe Luce	110	Lookout view	111	Kathmandu's nation								
31 Witches in "Macbeth"	85	Some RNs work in them	132	Straightens up	71	Red-ink entry	112	Heady drink	113	"Tickle Me" dolls								
37 Apple choice	86	Make ecstatic	133	Red-ink entry	72	Brand for sore eyes	118	— facto	119	K thru 12								
41 Sculling item	90	Figure skater Yamaguchi	134	Upper layers of fertile earth	73	Doc using an otoscope	120	Earth science subj.	121	Guesses on costs: Abbr.								
42 Suffix with Midwest	92	"Jack Sprat could — fat"	1	Shakespeare play ending	74	Look intently	123	Allow to	125	Grande opening?								
43 Rose petal oil	96	Aquarium bed material	2	T. — Price	38	Place for grist	88	Overbrim	126	Age-verifying docs.								
44 1992 Tony nominee for Best Musical	97	Fabled snow beast	3	Disney sci-fi film of 1982	39	Rah-rah	89	Otherwise	127	Failing tic-tac-toe row								
48 Seniors' org.	98	Virginia and Georgia were part of them	4	Not worth debating	40	Surrenders	91	"Someone's already claimed that seat"	128	Lofty peak								
52 Tricky pitch	103	Pried (around)	5	Not qualified	45	Heredity unit												



Find the Super Crossword Answers on Page 7!

most elegant hotel between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati.

July 31, 1932: Actor Theodore Crawford "Ted" Cassidy was born in Pittsburgh but was raised in Philippi. He was best known for his role as Lurch on "The Addams Family."

Aug. 1, 1921: Baldwin-Felts detectives shot and killed Sid Hatfield and Ed Chambers as they approached the McDowell County Courthouse in Welch. As Matewan's police chief, Hatfield had assisted the United Mine Workers campaign to organize Tug Fork miners.

Aug. 1, 1940: Justice Franklin Cleckley was born in Huntington. He was the first African American to serve on the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. In 2001, the Supreme Court referred to Cleckley's handbooks on evidence and criminal procedure as "the bible for West Virginia's judges and attorneys."

Aug. 2, 2009: Golfers Sam Snead and Bill Campbell became the first two inductees into the West Virginia Golf Hall of Fame.

Aug. 3, 1897: Fire destroyed much of downtown Lewisburg. The town was rebuilt and evolved in the next century into the hub of one of the state's major farming areas and a center for education and the arts.

Aug. 3, 1907: Harley Orrin Staggers Sr. was born in Keyser. Staggers served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 32 years.

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](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org) 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.

Back to School Bash

Friday, August 5

4:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Ages 4 -18

Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library lawn
404 W. Pike St., Clarksburg

Join us on First Fridays for free backpacks, school supplies, and connecting with local organizations.

Registration not required

Indoor yard sale

Saturday, Aug. 6

St. Ann's Catholic Church
610 Pike St., Shinnston
8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Hot breakfast until sold out

Used book sale

July 25-Aug. 13

Tuesday- Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
West Virginia Heritage Crafts
exit 115 I 79 Quiet Dell Grade School
304-622-3304**Used book sale**

July 7-July 29

Monday-Friday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.Bridgeport Public Library
1200 Johnson Ave. Bridgeport
304-842-8248**Lunch at the Library**

Weekdays, July - August 12

Free lunch, 12 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Kids 18 years & under

Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library
404 W. Pike St., Clarksburg

Registration is not required. Drop-ins welcome.

Please do not leave your children unattended.

Hot wing eating contest

Aug. 24, 6 p.m. at Buffalo Wild Wings

45 Betten Court, Bridgeport

United Way fundraiser

Organizers looking for local bosses for "who's the boss" theme

Register or sponsor a contestant at <https://www.unitedwayhdc.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=187> by Aug. 24. 304-624-6337

The Gillum Room at the Gillum House Bed & Breakfast in Shinnston, owned by Kathleen Panek, includes a king bed. The private bathroom also has a claw-foot tub and shower.

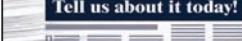


Breakfast is served at the well-known Gillum House

Bed & Breakfast in Shinnston, owned by Kathleen Panek.

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"Hunt" From Pg 1.

Although I was disappointed, I kept an eye out for another low-priced car and happened on another 1960 Ford Falcon. It was a station wagon and was not nearly as nice as the first one. It needed a paint job and new tires, but my dad agreed to help me, and I bought it for \$200. We pulled it into the backyard and started sanding the body and getting it ready for a new paint job. I had never worked on a car before and knew very little about sparkplugs, valve covers and brake pads. My dad was a pretty good mechanic, and we slowly got the car repaired and ready to paint. A friend of my dad painted cars and he came over one night and painted the car in the backyard. We put the bumpers back on and snapped some of the chrome on the sides and it was ready for its new tires.

It looked pretty good, and I headed back to Morgantown with my new ride. I was living in the fraternity house on top of one of the biggest hills in Morgantown and as I headed up the hill, the little 4-cylinder engine made it part way up before slowly

"Citizen" From Pg 1.

guests to explore the city of Shinnston and surrounding areas such as wineries, trails, and state parks.

Not only does Panek show guests what makes Shinnston so special, but she makes sure all of the food she serves is locally grown and harvested. She purchases eggs and honey as well as meats from locals. She also said she sells mugs thrown by local potter Riffle Pottery out of Cowen, as well as West Virginia Fruit and Berry jams and jellies.

"I try to promote West Virginia as a whole," Panek said, "I've done a lot of roaming around, so I know where to tell people to go [in West Virginia]."

Panek also grows a variety of herbs and fruits in her own garden to serve.

The Gillum House just celebrated its 26-year anniversary on July 3.

Aside from being Shinnston's innkeeper, Panek finds the time to volunteer through many other outlets. She previously served on City Council and religiously attended every council meeting and still does. Since 2009, Panek has also served as Shinnston's city clerk.

She attends all the Municipal League conferences and said, "I close for the days that I'm going to be out of town at a conference. I just shut down the place [The Gillum House], and I do what needs to be done for the city." Panek runs every municipal election and makes it a point to work all the other elections held, as well.

Panek is a current member of the Shinnston Garden Club and the Woman's Club; she is a past president of



Kathleen Panek, Citizen of the Month and member of the MCPARC Community Band of Marion County, prepares for a street concert in Fairmont June 11. "These are the 'toys' I played in the percussion section – often several plus the suspended cymbals in the same song," she said. She also plays in the Shinnston Community Band.

drifting backward. After heading back down the hill, I realized that I would need to build up a head of steam before tackling the hills.

Only a few guys had cars back then and my little blue Falcon was used regularly to go to the store or for the occasional beer run. My parents had told me not to let anyone else drive the car but like a lot of things, I had to learn this the hard way. One of my fraternity brothers asked to borrow my car to pick up a keg of beer. I was a little nervous but felt relieved when I saw him pulling up in front of the fraternity house. I then heard a loud crash and the breaking of glass, and I realized that the keg had rolled into the rear window and smashed the glass into a million pieces.

The 1960 Ford Falcon lasted for about two years, and I ended up selling it for about what I had in it. While it didn't have seat belts, automatic windows, air conditioning or many other features, it holds many great memories and I often think back to those days with a smile on my face.

both clubs. She also fits in an hour each week for St. Ann's Blessed Margaret of Castello Adoration Chapel.

Panek is a member of the base team of the Shinnston Community Garden, which donates all produce to The Lord's Pantry.

"The involvement with the community garden is something that I'm fairly pleased with," she said. "Everything that is grown and harvested gets weighed, logged in, and then taken over to The Lord's Pantry, and they distribute it."

She is also a lifetime member of the Shinnston Historical Association.

"I'm everywhere," she said.

Panek also donates to and supports school fundraisers and purchases fruit from Lincoln High School's band.

Panek said she spearheaded the B&Bs for Vets program in Shinnston and took it nationwide in 2010. According to the website, "The B&Bs for Vets program is designed to thank our nation's veterans and active military for their service. This program has been in operation for 14 years and during that time Bed & Breakfasts, Inns and other unique lodging properties across the United States and Canada have offered thousands of complimentary room nights to active-duty military and veterans."

Participating lodging professionals provide free lodging for one night on or around Veterans Day. Panek began the program in Shinnston in 2008.

She also finds time to serve on the advocacy committee for the National Bed and Breakfast Association, and she is a board member and treasurer of the North Bend Rails to Trails Foundation.

Aside from everything else, Panek has been a member of the Shinnston Community Band since 1996, and in December of 2021, she joined the MCPARC Community Band of Marion County.

"I push Shinnston as much as I can," Panek said, "I support everything I can."

Past Shinnston City Manager Amy Wilson reflected on Panek's service to the community.

"One of the things I admire most about Kathleen is her love for our community and our state," she said. "When I first met her, she proudly declared herself as the city's point of contact for tourism, recreation, and hospitality, providing resources, positivity, and assistance any way that she could. She's such a selfless, dedicated advocate not only for the City of Shinnston, but for the state of West Virginia."

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GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen

An untold story of the Italian Festival office locations and the staff

Once the charter had been written and filed with the secretary of state, a board had been appointed for the festival, and a date had been set for the real work to begin.

It was readily accepted that there would need to be a good mix of individuals who could support the festival financially and those who were able to volunteer their services in many different areas. In setting up the original board and those that followed, studies were made to find individuals who could lend support in building, bookkeeping, legal, authenticity, fundraising and many other areas. Soon it became very evident early on that the festival would need a paid staff and a permanent location.

This is the story I hope to document for you now:

In 1979 Jay Rockefellow was governor, Dan McCarthy was county commissioner, Arch Benninger was mayor, and Patsy Trecost was city manager. With very few months to get the first festival on the street and limited funds, Merle Moore, a festival founder and the director of the Clarksburg Harrison Library Found room in the local library, and with the approval of the library board, the first festival office was headquartered in the library.

Any place there was room, festival work was done that first year with most of the board and committee meetings held in the library conference room or at the Waldomore. After a search was initiated, it was decided to hire Bob Kovacevich of Beckley as the coordinator, and he was assisted by Loretta Mazzei from Bridgeport.

They were the team that led all the volunteers to a successful first festival. James D. Larosa, a Clarksburg businessman, served as the first chairman of the board of directors. After the first festival, because of limited funding and a decision not yet made as to whether we needed a year-round office, Kovacevich wrapped up the first festival and headed back home.

Local Legion welcomes national president

Submitted by Betsy Turner

American Legion Post 31 and the American Legion Family (Auxiliary, Sons and Riders), particularly American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31, were honored to host American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel on July 1. American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia President Cathy Post was also on hand for the festivities.

President Daudistel was greeted at Post 31 by Acting Commander Tom Jenkins and Patrick Kovalck, who was Shinnston mayor at the time, and members of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31. Acting Commander Jenkins presented Daudistel with an American Legion Post 31 t-shirt and a Post 31 license plate. Auxiliary Unit 31 and Third District President Carla Wilfong presented her with a wooden cheese board and accessories that had been crafted in West Virginia. During this time auxiliary

members also were able to discuss auxiliary initiatives and programs with the national president.

Following the presentations, Unit 31 served a luncheon of ham and chicken salad finger sandwiches, fruit salad and dessert.

After lunch, the group went to the Clay District Veterans Memorial where Daudistel and Post honored veterans with a wreath-laying ceremony.

In addition to visiting with Shinnston's American Legion Family, the national president was scheduled to travel to Middlebourne for the dedication of Post's special project, the Gold Star Mothers Living Memorial, on July 2.

To be continued...

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Mya

Saturday

Jon B.

Tony! Toni! Toné!

Sunday

Chingy

multifestwv.org



American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel, left, was welcomed by Shinnston Councilman Patrick Kovalck, right, to Shinnston earlier this month.

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Good Health Guide



Words of Wellness

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

Love your neighbors, now more than ever

We are all connected. As I write this, our world is mourning on so many levels. We may sometimes feel disconnected by viewing the news or social media as we are inundated with negative, tragic events. But tragedy reminds us of the love that exists every day in our hearts as we reach out to help friends and neighbors in need.

In West Virginia, we have a special connection as Mountaineers. We support each other and hold each other up. It's important now that we model this not only in our own communities, but in our world at large. I still believe that love is stronger than hate and I believe now we are called more than ever to love our neighbors on all levels. Information pushed on social media and by news outlets can make us feel anger, separation, and depression, but I assure you, love is all around us.

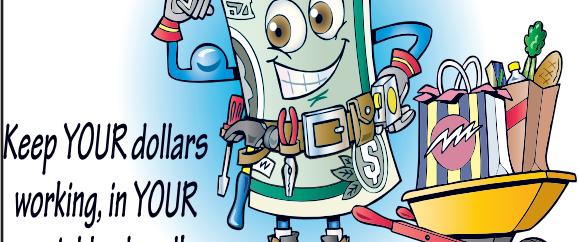
Take the opportunity to unplug from every update that comes across your phone. Live through your day noticing the love and kindness that still prevails. I was on a training call with nearly 300 people from all over the county last week. I could feel the love and amazing energy as people connected and I realized that most people want to do good and feel good.

We need to let that light shine, rather than focusing on negative events that are happening. They will still happen, but we can counteract the negative in the world by sending out positive, loving energy. That's it. You don't have to organize a protest or sign a petition. Just be kind to all who cross your path every day.

A Course in Miracles, a self-study program in spiritual psychology, shares a formula for healing that stands out to me during these challenging times:

See perfection where others see limits.
See wholeness where others see brokenness.
Love while others fear.
While we may feel like crying or feeling sorry for those who have been impacted by loss, they will benefit more by us rising up and sending them love, light, and prayers. Use your good fortune to send positive energy to those who need it most. No one benefits from feelings of fear or pity, but they will benefit from love. Visualize your love showering those who need it and holding them in their time of need. We can't always be there physically to help those in need, but we can all make the same spiritual impact.

Let's share the love, Mountaineers.



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Marion County COVID-19 death reported

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) reports as of July 25, 2022, there are currently 3,159 active COVID-19 cases statewide. There have been two deaths reported since the last report, with a total of 7,123 deaths attributed to COVID-19.

DHHR has confirmed the deaths of an 82-year old male from Marion County and a 92-year old female from Berkeley County, according to a news release.

"As we face another day in this difficult time of COVID-19, we must renew our efforts to practice the prevention measures that can stop the spread of this deadly virus," said Bill J. Crouch, DHHR Cabinet Secretary. "Please schedule your vaccine or booster shot today."

CURRENT ACTIVE CASES PER COUNTY, AS OF MONDAY: Barbour (20), Berkeley (160), Boone (59), Braxton (18), Brooke

(15), Cabell (164), Calhoun (8), Clay (11), Doddridge (11), Fayette (102), Gilmer (5), Grant (16), Greenbrier (60), Hampshire (17), Hancock (36), Hardy (26), Harrison (111), Jackson (36), Jefferson (52), Kanawha (347), Lewis (29), Lincoln (46), Logan (81), Marion (102), Marshall (57), Mason (54), McDowell (55), Mercer (189), Mineral (50), Mingo (50), Monongalia (192), Monroe (35), Morgan (14), Nicholas (65), Ohio (44), Pendleton (7), Pleasants (5), Pocahontas (17), Preston (42), Putnam (113), Raleigh (163), Randolph (18), Ritchie (11), Roane (22), Summers (18), Taylor (22), Tucker (5), Tyler (9), Upshur (48), Wayne (42), Webster (26), Wetzel (22), Wirt (8), Wood (173), Wyoming (51). To find the cumulative cases per county, please visit coronavirus.wv.gov and look on the Cumulative Summary tab which is sortable by county.

Mental health conference planned

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance of West Virginia is hosting an annual conference on Aug. 27 in Morgantown.

It will be held at the Euro Suites Hotels starting at 10 a.m., according to a news release. Doors open at 9:45 a.m.

The registration fees include \$25 for members of the general public, \$10 for affiliate members, \$10 for students and free for attendees on Zoom.

Automatic closed captions will be used on Zoom. Automatic sign language interpreters will be on hand at the event.

Lunch is included.

Proof of full vaccination is required and may be shown at the door or emailed in advance to conference.wvdbsa@gmail.com. The CDC considers fully boosted people those who've received recommended boosters; more information is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>.

For more information, email conference.wvdbsa@gmail.com.

Mon Health proposes Bridgeport hospital

Mon Health System announced, in a news release last week, that it has filed a formal application for a certificate of need to build and operate a new state-of-the-art small format hospital in Bridgeport.

The project cost is estimated to be \$22.5 million. The hospital, which would serve the greater Harrison County community, will be built at Charles Pointe in Bridgeport, according to the news release.

Charles Pointe is a \$1.5 billion planned community located on 1,700 acres in the city of Bridgeport.

"We believe that this is the perfect solution for Harrison County and surrounding communities," said David Goldberg, president and CEO of Mon Health System. "Because many Harrison County communities already know and trust Mon Health for their medical care, we look forward to opening this new hospital to keep healthcare local to our patients."

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**The Bottom Line**By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor**Tiger competes at The Open**

The final major golf tournament, The British Open, took place a couple of weeks ago. It was the thrill tournament this year that Tiger Woods has played in, and not surprisingly, they were major tournaments.

It is remarkable that Woods could even compete considering the injuries that he sustained in a single vehicle car crash on February 23, 2021. Woods had open fractures to both the tibia and fibula in his right leg. He also suffered serious foot and ankle injuries which caused the 15-time major champion to proclaim this was the most painful thing that he has ever encountered.

That says a lot considering Woods has had five back surgeries including a spinal fusion surgery five years back. These injuries equaled countless hours of rehab and more hours in an ice bath than most of his peers spend on the practice range.

Woods, at 46 years old, is chasing his dream. Since a young age, Woods has had his sights set on a record. Jack Nicklaus won 18 major championships and has long been viewed as the best golfer of all time. Woods has been in hot pursuit of that mark since he turned pro, winning his first major, the Masters, at age 21.

His most recent win was, once again, the Masters in 2019 which snapped an 11-year slump. The decade plus one draught was a direct result of the above-mentioned health issues.

The spinal fusion surgery was a huge success and it allowed him to put in the work to get back into form.

It appeared as if everything was falling into place and Woods would make a strong push towards the Golden Bear's mark.

Then came the car crash just when it seemed he was back to his old form. It was devastating to Woods on so many levels. Most of his time is spent trying to overcome the aftereffects of the accident. It takes everything he has in the tank and it leaves no opportunity to fine tune his game.

He desperately needs to log some valuable competitive rounds. This year he has only finished all four rounds in a tournament once.

Most recently, he missed the cut at The British Open. The old course is special to Woods. He had claimed The Open title there twice and he wanted to give it another go, not just because it was the 150th Open, but because he might not have another opportunity to play this venue again.

It will be five to seven years before it returns, and there is no guarantee Woods will be able to play competitively that far down the road.

There is some speculation that this could be his last tournament. Could you blame him for hanging it up after all that he has endured? The drive is there, and he wants to win now as much as ever, so it does not seem to be the end of the road. He also has additional motivation: his children. He wants to win for them, and it also affords him a chance to display hard work and dedication on a daily basis. Practicing what you preach is always a good move, especially when it comes to parenting.

Catching Nicklaus might be a long shot, but another win or two could be in the cards for Woods. Counting him out is never a good idea, and besides, what a great story it would be.

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



This week's edition of "Tee It Up" landed at the Bridgeport Country Club. The course is a par 72 that ranges 6,398 yards.

The front nine is slightly shorter but not by much. The big daddy is the first hole, a 572-yard par 5. The back side starts the same way with a 551-yard par 5. Hole 13 is a challenging par 3 that ranges 230 yards. It is a fan favorite among members.

Multiple tees promise a fun and challenging round for golfers of all skill levels. Bentgrass tees and green, smooth fairways, punishing rough, and fast greens are trademarks of this course that set it apart from others in the area.

Friendly and knowledgeable staff, a nice practice area, and a top-notch 19th hole are huge pluses at this venue. Membership also has its advantages such as use of the pool and tennis courts.

The entire facility is well-kept and the attention to detail is what stands out on this golf tract.

The sense of pride there is overwhelming, and the members know what they have in their club.

The Bridgeport Country Club offers something for everyone, and a round of golf there always provides a great day on the links!

**From The World of Parks & Recreation**

By Doug Comer

Parks Commission faces big changes moving forward with HCPR

Clarksburg City Parks and Marion County Parks and Recreation have operated under the West Virginia Code working as an autonomous government department relying on a board of directors to help make the area park programs what they are today.

Through the help of levy dollars and revenues generated through rentals, pools, entertainment, and other various means to generate dollars, these departments have historically made major impacts on the communities they call home.

There are many more departments like these throughout the nation that operate separately from their city or county governments when it comes to planning, scheduling, and improving the parks and its programs. The government's role involves human resources, payroll, and retirement, as well as information technology and other variants needed to help with the day-to-day operations.

In the 1970s, Harrison County Parks developed a Parks Commission in order to follow the guidelines of the code and work under similar fashions as many in the area do today. Yet, over the years, the Parks Commission slowly transformed from a commission to an advisory board.

As many have read in the newspapers or seen on television, the County Commission wants to shift those responsibilities back to the Parks Commission Board in hopes to keep things consistent to the wording of the recent Levy, which passed earlier this year, saying that the dollars distributed will go directly to the parks and recreation department under the Harrison County Parks Commission.

When dealing with something of this magnitude, legal departments from both the County and Parks Commissions expressed great interest in how things would fall into place.

In recent meetings over the past four months, many questions arose between the counsels of all

parties involved.

The protection of the current employees and how their status would change, the properties involved and how they would be operated, and the decision-making process on future parks projects were all questioned. Since the inception of making these changes, the first discussion was of a memorandum of understanding laying out all the details involved between the two parties.

In the initial MOU drawn up by the County Administrator and the Commission's Legal Department, there were a few topics that needed to be addressed, discussed, and amended before all parties could reach an agreement. To stress, all meetings have been very professional, and they are very close to drawing a final document to appease all parties.

They hope to have all this laid to rest well before Labor Day.

Parks Director Mike Book has

been down this road during his

40 plus years of tenure with the

county. Depending on the County

Commission or the Parks Board,

things have been back and forth

between the two.

In the end, both parties agree that all things done are for the benefit of the community, especially the kids.

Both are strong supporters of the summer parks programs, Energy Express, and the school-year enrichment programs. All have major impacts on the community and those who have worked with the department have expressed

their positive comments to all

parties and what our department

means to them.

When all is done and settled, the goal is to continue to provide a safe and friendly place for families to meet, kids to play, and for people of all ages to have some form of recreation.

Both commissions have been

influential in the success of where

the parks department is today and

will continue to strive to exceed

the mission statement of the parks

and recreation department.

Sharks conclude successful season

Submitted by Tonya Barnes

The Shinnston Sharks swim team achieved several first-place finishes and a meet record at the final swim championship earlier this month.

On July 15 and 16, 43 members of the Shinnston Sharks swim team competed in the North Central West Virginia Summer Swim Championship in Buckhannon. Fourteen teams competed in 120 events over the two-day swim meet. Overall, the team finished with over 130 top 10 finishes.

The boys relay team for the 15 – 18 age group, Quade Harris, Matthew Smith, Owen Guthrie, and James Hadjis achieved overall first-place finishes in both the 200 Meter Free Relay with a time of 1 minute 43 seconds and the 200 Meter Medley Relay with a time of 1 minute and 53 seconds, a new meet record. Guthrie finished second in overall points in the boys 15 -18 category.

The girls relay team for the 15 – 18 age group achieved overall second-place finishes in the same two relays. The 200 free relay team was comprised of Marra Johnson, Amelia

Romano, Maggie Guthrie, and Camryn Shingleton who finished the event in 2 minutes and 6 seconds. The 200 Meter Medley was completed in 2 minutes and 21 seconds with Addyson Tharp replacing Maggie Guthrie in the lineup.

Romano finished tied for third in overall points in the girls 15 – 18 categories.

Jaxon Kupfer finished with an impressive first-place finish in the 25-meter fly with a time of 26.05 seconds in the boys 7/8-year-old category.

Samuel Lipps of the boys 9/10-year-old category finished first in the 50-meter backstroke.

In the 100-meter backstroke for girls 13/14, Lila Barnes earned first place with a time of 1 minute 21.29 seconds.

Other notable performers were Isabella McGrady, earning second-place medals in both the 200 Individual Medley with a time of 2 minutes 25.59 seconds and the 50-meter fly with a time of 34.41 seconds and Colton Key who finished in the top 3 in 6 of 7 events.

The Sharks swim at the Shinnston City Pool and are coached by Rick Johnson and Sonia McGrady.



Lila Barnes with coach Sonia McGrady



Jaxon Kupfer



Samuel Lipps



From left, standing, are Maggie Guthrie, Marra Johnson, Amelia Romano, Lila Barnes, Isabella McGrady, Addyson Tharp. Camryn Shingleton is in front, sitting.



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Garden Club thanks Kovalck



The Shinnston Garden Club, which met June 23, recognized Patrick Kovalck, standing, for his time serving as mayor.

Submitted by Debra Herndon

The luncheon meeting of the Shinnston Garden Club was held at Casey's in Shinnston on June 23. President Dorothy Rota welcomed those present. Vice President Wanda F. Ashcraft gave devotions and reports were presented by Secretary Letha Stutler and Treasurer Debra Herndon. Those ill and in distress were remembered.

Ashcraft presented outgoing Mayor Patrick Kovalck with a rose and a sign to commemorate his successful tenure as Mayor and to congratulate him on winning another term as third ward council member.

Updates on beautification projects were reported and a program, Celebrating West Virginia, was given by Ashcraft.

See "Garden" on Pg 9.



OPINION

By Chad Edwards

There's no shame in asking for help

By Chad Edwards

City Manager

These are difficult times financially. All of us have felt the pinch of higher prices at the gas pump, at the grocery store, and at retail stores. The City of Shinnston wants everyone to know that if you are having trouble paying a higher-than-normal utility bill that there are ways we can help.

First, if you feel your bill is too high, contact the office and make sure your bill is right. With the installation of automated meter readers, the readings should be much more accurate, but nothing is 100% foolproof. Also, because your account is confidential, no one in the office can discuss your account on any social media platform.

Second, if it turns out you used more water than you expected or fell behind due to financial stress and the bill is more than you can bite off at one time, our office workers would be more than happy to work out a deferred payment agreement for up to 12 months.

Here's how it works. If the bill is behind or too high and you can't afford it, we can take that bill and divide it up into more affordable payments. Keep in mind that you are still responsible for the current months. Our utility office workers will walk you through the plan and you can decide what works best for your situation.

There is no shame in this. We all need help from others at various times in our lives no matter who we are. Here at the City of Shinnston we are more than happy to help if we can. So don't wait until your water has been shut off before reaching out for help.

The last thing any of us want is to shut someone's utilities off. Again, there is nothing to be ashamed of. All accounts are confidential, and we'll do anything we can to help out until you get back on your feet. If you have any questions, contact us at 304-592-2126.

Woman's Club hears Historical Association president

Submitted by Debra Herndon

Woman's Club Co-President

The Woman's Club of Shinnston met June 20 at the Clubhouse at 6 p.m. Co-President Debra Herndon greeted those present. Recording Secretary Wanda Ashcraft presented devotions and led the group in prayer. Herndon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Entries for the arts and crafts competition were on display. Going on to the district level were one entry from Debra Herndon in the sewing category and three entries from Mary Ann Spadafore in the photography, knitting and miscellaneous categories.

The speaker for the evening was Shinnston Historical Association President, Robert P.

See "Woman's Club" on Pg 9.

KEEPING LOCAL HISTORY ALIVE

Submitted by Debra Herndon

Bice-Ferguson Museum Director

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. Nowadays, with most people's inclination to prefer visual stimuli to the written word, a picture is probably worth twenty-five hundred words. The Bice-Ferguson Museum has several collections of photographs, divided into subjects for the perusal of the public. One collection is a group of snapshots from the late 50s or early 60s. The Farmerette (currently Casey's in Enterprise) was owned by Bob and Blanche Moore and was often used by groups for meetings and banquets. It also featured curb service, where waitresses would bring your food out to you on a tray that hooked onto your car. The Farmerette also

hosted bands for teenagers. Come by, and see if you can spot folks you are familiar with. Often photographs and other memorabilia are not appreciated by family and end up in an estate sale, or worse, in a dump. If you have objects or photos pertinent to the Shinnston area, please consider donating them to the Museum. The Bice-Ferguson Museum is open Thursday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through October. Appointments outside of these times or other information are available by contacting the museum director at shinnstomuseum@yahoo.com or 304-677-6650.



This collection of photos from the former Farmerette in Enterprise is a snapshot of the time. The Bice-Ferguson Museum is in the process of identifying some of the people at the Farmerette in these photos.

LIBRARY NOTES

Submitted By Debbie Starkey

Lowe Public Library Director

The summer reading program, which ended on July 17, was successful again this year. We extend a special thank you to all who contributed in any way. A magic show is also in the works and will be posted to our Facebook.

Library Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

August Events

Magic show date to be announced

Book club will meet on Aug. 16 at 2 p.m.

They will be discussing: "Don't Tell 'Em You're Cold" by Katherine Manley.

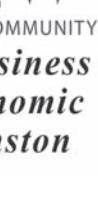
Best-sellers books available for check-out

"The 6:20 Man" David Baldacci; "The

Hotel Nantucket" Elin Hilderbrand; "Sparring Partners" John Grisham; "The Last Thing He Told Me" Laura Dave; "Escape" James Patterson and "Where the Crawdads Sing" Delia Owens.

New additions

Large print: "The Summer Place" J. Warner; "Summer Love" Nancy Thayer; "Dead Man's Hand" David Nix; "Taylor Callahan" William Johnstone; "Drop Dead Gorgeous" Rachel Gibson; "Texas Twilight" Caroline Fyffe and "The House at Mermaid's Cove" L. Ashford. Other additions: "Beyond the Desert Sand" Tracie Peterson; "Cold Cold Bones" Kathy Reichs; "Listen to Me" Tess Gerritsen and "6:20 Man" David Baldacci;

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"Women's Club" From Pg 8.

(Bobby) Bice. Bice brought numerous items and photos from early Shinnston businesses including Columbia, Rex and Princess Theaters; Harmer, Riley and Tetric Funeral Homes; Farmers, Peoples and First National Banks;



Bobby Bice, Shinnston Historical Association president, speaks about early advertising to the Woman's Club June 20.

Hurst Brother's Grocery, Coffindaffer Clinic and many more. The theme was advertising and give-away items were examined such as fans, bank bags, eyeglass cases and bottle openers.

The evening concluded with refreshments of sloppy joes, pineapple upside-down cake and a veggie tray. The door prize was won by Viviane Spagnuolo. Present not previously mentioned were Chad Edwards, Co-President Mary Ann Ferris, Kathleen Panek and Judy Wilson.



Members of the Shinnston Woman's Club listen to Bobby Bice, president of the Shinnston Historical Presentation, present on early Shinnston businesses. Members of the Shinnston Woman's Club listen to Bobby Bice, president of the Shinnston Historical Presentation, present on early Shinnston businesses.

"Garden" From Pg 8.

Those present, not previously mentioned were Donna Post, Paula Harrison, Beth Linn, David Harbert, Shirley Bowen, Harrison County Commission President Susan Thomas, Harrison County Commissioner Patsy Trecost, Virginia Livingston, Joyce Miker, Steve Miker, Kathleen Panek, Deloris Minor and Enith Minor Wright.



Outgoing Mayor Patrick Kovalck, standing, speaks with members of the Shinnston Garden Club, who recognized him for winning a term as third ward council member and thanked him for his time as mayor.

"Convention" From Pg 1.

received awards for their Chaplain's Prayer Book, Unit Scrapbook, History and most new Junior Members. They also brought back the award for most new members in the American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia third district. The annual fall conference for this district will be held at Post 31 in September.

Department officers elected and installed for the 2022 -2023 Auxiliary year are:

President-Savanna Kauffman; First Vice President-Debbie Michael; Second Vice President-Laura Clark; Secretary/Treasurer-Susan Brown; Chaplain-Kimberly Mellie;

Historian-Stephanie Handley.

The president's theme is "Lighting up our future for our veterans." The colors are red, white and green and the flowers are poppy, poinsettias with pinecones and holly (cherries). President Kauffman's special project is a Christmas Veterans Affairs Gift Shop, and the goal is to raise \$10,000 that will go towards the veterans gift shop at Martinsburg, Beckley, Clarksburg and Huntington VA Medical Centers. The gift shop provides gifts to our veteran inpatients and their families. Trying to give our veterans what they deserve because

that is what we are here for. The Department membership theme this year is "Christmas 365 around the World."

As part of its volunteer efforts, on May 7, the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31, Shinnston held its yearly Poppy Drive at the Price Cutter in Shinnston and Fairmont to raise money to support activities at the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center and the West Virginia Veterans Nursing Home. Items purchased and given to the veterans included everything from personal care items to DVD players and DVDs for the common areas.

LEGAL NOTICES**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

Proposed Amendments to the WV Constitution to be on the November 8, 2022, General Election Ballot are as follows:

Title of Amendment: "Amendment No. 1: Clarification of the Judiciary's Role in Impeachment Proceedings Amendment"

Summary of Purpose: Clarifying that courts have no authority or jurisdiction to intercede or intervene in or interfere with impeachment proceedings of the House of Delegates or the Senate; and specifying that a judgment rendered by the Senate following an impeachment trial is not reviewable by any court of this state.

Full Text of the Amendment:

ARTICLE IV.

§9. Impeachment of officials.

Any officer of the state may be impeached for maladministration, corruption, incompetency, gross immorality, neglect of duty, or any high crime or misdemeanor. The House of Delegates has the sole power of impeachment. The Senate has the sole power to try impeachments and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members elected thereto. When sitting as a court of impeachment, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals, or, if from any cause it be improper for him or her to act, then any other judge of that court, to be designated by it, shall preside; and the senators shall be on oath or affirmation, to do justice according to law and evidence. Judgment in cases of impeachment does not extend further than removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust or profit, under the state; but the party convicted remains liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment according to law. The Senate may sit during the recess of the Legislature for the trial of impeachments. No court of this state has any authority or jurisdiction, by writ or otherwise, to intercede or intervene in, or interfere with, any impeachment proceedings of the House of Delegates or the Senate conducted hereunder; nor is any judgment rendered by the Senate following a trial of impeachment reviewable by any court of this state.

Title of Amendment: "Amendment No. 2: Property Tax Modernization Amendment"

Summary of Purpose: To amend the State Constitution by providing the Legislature with authority to exempt tangible machinery and equipment personal property directly used in business activity and tangible inventory personal property directly used in business activity and personal property tax on motor vehicles from ad valorem property taxation by general law.

Full Text of the Amendment:

ARTICLE X.

§1. Taxation and finance.

Subject to the exceptions in this section contained, taxation shall be equal and uniform throughout the state, and all property, both real and personal, shall be taxed in proportion to its value to be ascertained as directed by law. No one species of property from which a tax may be collected shall be taxed higher than any other species of property of equal value; except that the aggregate of taxes assessed in any one year upon personal property employed exclusively in agriculture, including horticulture and grazing, products of agriculture as above defined, including livestock, while owned by the producer, and money, notes, bonds, bills and accounts receivable, stocks and other similar intangible personal property shall not exceed fifty cents on each one hundred dollars of value thereof and upon all property owned, used and occupied by the owner thereof exclusively for residential purposes and upon farms occupied and cultivated by their owners or bona fide tenants, one dollar; and upon all other property situated outside of municipalities, one dollar and fifty cents; and upon all other property situated within municipalities, two dollars; and the Legislature shall further provide by general law for increasing the maximum rates, authorized to be fixed, by the different levying bodies upon all classes of property, by submitting the question to the voters of the taxing units affected, but no increase shall be effective unless at least sixty percent of the qualified voters shall favor such increase, and such increase shall not continue for a longer period than three years at any one time, and shall never exceed by more than fifty percent the maximum rate herein provided and prescribed by law; and the revenue derived from this source shall be apportioned by the Legislature among the levying units of the state in proportion to the levy laid in said units upon real and other personal property; but property used for educational, literary, scientific, religious or charitable purposes, all cemeteries, public property, tangible machinery and equipment personal property directly used in business activity, tangible inventory personal property directly used in business activity, personal property tax on motor vehicles, the personal property, including livestock, employed exclusively in agriculture as above defined and the products of agriculture as so defined while owned by the producers may by law be exempted from taxation; household goods to the value of two hundred dollars shall be exempted from taxation. The Legislature shall have authority to tax privileges, franchises, and incomes of persons and corporations and to classify and graduate the tax on all incomes according to the amount thereof and to exempt from taxation incomes below a minimum to be fixed from time to time, and such revenues as may be derived from such tax may be appropriated as the Legislature may provide. After the year nineteen hundred thirty-three, the rate of the state tax upon property shall not exceed one cent upon the hundred dollars valuation, except to pay the principal and interest of bonded indebtedness of the state now existing.

Title of Amendment: "Amendment No. 3: Incorporation of Churches or Religious Denominations Amendment"

Summary of Purpose: To authorize the incorporation of churches or religious denominations.

Full Text of Amendment:

ARTICLE VI. The Legislature.

§47. Incorporation of religious denominations permitted.

Provisions may be made by general laws for securing the title to church property, and for the sale and transfer thereof, so that it shall be held, used, or transferred for the purposes of such church or religious denomination. Provisions may also be made by general laws for the incorporation of churches or religious denominations.

Title of Amendment: "Amendment No. 4: Education Accountability Amendment"

Summary of Purpose: The purpose of this amendment is to clarify that the rules and policies promulgated by the State Board of Education, are subject to legislative review, approval, amendment, or rejection.

Full Text of Amendment:

ARTICLE XII. EDUCATION.

§2. Supervision of free schools.

Subject to the provisions of this section, the general supervision of the free schools of the State is vested in the West Virginia Board of Education which shall perform the duties prescribed by law. Under its supervisory duties, the West Virginia Board of Education may promulgate rules or policies which shall be submitted to the Legislature for its review and approval, amendment, or rejection, in whole or in part, in the manner prescribed by general law. The board shall consist of nine members to be appointed by the Governor, and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for overlapping terms of nine years. No more than five members of the board shall belong to the same political party, and in addition to the general qualifications otherwise required by the Constitution, the Legislature may require other specific qualifications for membership on the board. No member of the board may be removed from office by the Governor except for official misconduct, incompetence, neglect of duty, or gross immorality, and then only in the manner prescribed by law for the removal by the Governor of state elective officers. The West Virginia Board of Education shall, in the manner prescribed by law, select the State Superintendent of Free Schools who shall serve at its will and pleasure. He or she shall be the chief school officer of the state and shall perform the duties prescribed by law. The State Superintendent of Free Schools shall be a member of the Board of Public Works as provided by subsection B, section fifty-one, article VI of this Constitution.

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SHOP. FRESH. SAVE.

Ginger Soy Chicken Breasts

Submitted by Debra Smith

Explore new flavors over an open flame this summer! Just about anything can be cooked over an open flame. No matter the type of grilling they are using, cooks who prepare meals over an open flame can't help but notice the distinctive flavor that is unique to grilled foods. Trying something new this grilling season can open cooks eyes to a host of flavors they might not instantly associate with grilling. The following recipe for "Ginger Soy Chicken Breasts" is one such meal that can open cooks eyes to the many wonderful foods that can be cooked over an open flame.

Ginger Soy Chicken Breasts

- 2 tablespoons grated fresh ginger
- 3 garlic cloves, crushed 2 tablespoons dark brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons sesame seeds
- 2 teaspoons toasted sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon medium dry sherry
- 1/2cup soy sauce
- 4 boneless chicken breast halves, slashed (see below)
- Salt
- Black pepper
- 1 recipe Cilantro Coconut Sauce (see below), optional

Combine ginger, garlic, sugar, sesame seeds, sesame oil, sherry, and soy sauce. Add chicken and toss to coat evenly. Cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes, turning once. Grill according to instructions below. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Serve hot with Cilantro Coconut Sauce (optional).

With a sharp knife, cut 3 parallel slashes through skin, about 1/4-inch deep.

Outdoor grill: Grill skin-side down on medium-hot coals until crisp, about 7 minutes. Turn and continue grilling until chicken is opaque with no trace of pink, another 5 minutes.

Indoor grill: Preheat broiler. Broil skin-side up until skin is crisp, about 7 minutes. Turn and continue cooking until chicken is opaque with no trace of pink, another 5 minutes.

Cilantro Coconut Sauce Makes 2 1/8 cups

- 1 handful cilantro leaves
- 1 handful fresh mint leaves
- 4 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 green chile, seeded and chopped
- 1 avocado, peeled, halved and pitted
- 1/2teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 3 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- 1 1/2cups coconut milk
- Salt
- Tabasco sauce

Place cilantro, mint, garlic, chile, avocado, cumin, sugar, lime juice, and coconut milk in a food processor or blender; pulse to a puree. Add salt and Tabasco sauce to taste.

Cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes to allow flavors to blend.

Serve chilled.

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.

"Country comic" to perform in Clarksburg



Awakening Events, Inc. is bringing Chonda Pierce to downtown Clarksburg on Sunday, Sept. 18, at the historic Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center, located at 444 W. Pike St. in Clarksburg.



Pictured, from left, are the auxiliary cooks for the day, Margaret Yost, Marsha Duckworth, Carla Wilfong, Parry Jenkins, Dortha Parsons, Roxie Nicholson, Karen Flanigan and Betsy Turner.

Submitted by Betsy Turner

The American Legion Family (Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders) of American Legion Post 31 in Shinnston celebrated the Fourth of July on from 2 - 4 p.m. with a dinner for

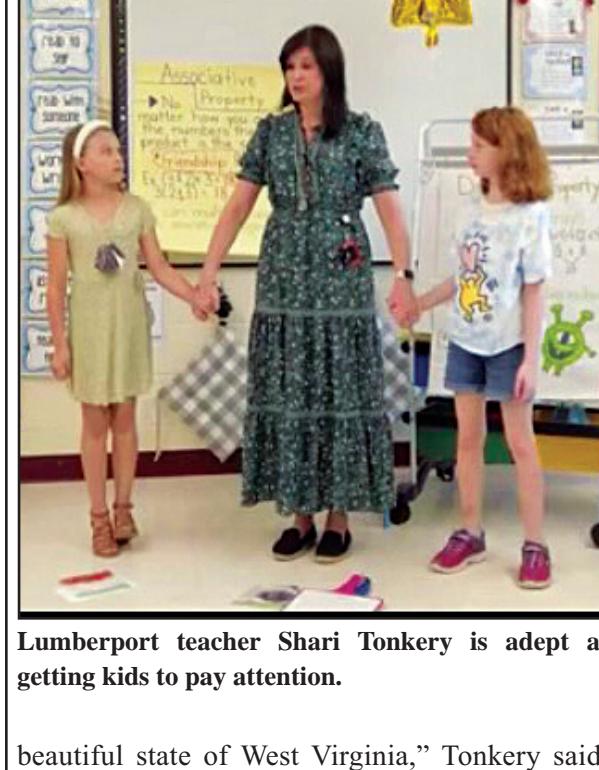
members, family and friends. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31 prepared a picnic-style meal of hot dogs with all the fixings, baked beans, potato salad, and a variety of desserts. The event was considered a success with approximately 40 people in attendance.

Lumberport teacher named Teacher of the Year finalist

By Maralisa Marra

The West Virginia Department of Education announced last week that Lumberport Elementary third-grade teacher Shari Tonkery is one of the 10 finalists for the Teacher of the Year award.

"I feel honored to be a top ten finalist representing all hard-working educators in the



Lumberport teacher Shari Tonkery is adept at getting kids to pay attention.

beautiful state of West Virginia," Tonkery said. "I'm also so proud to represent Harrison County. We have an amazing school system that works diligently to prepare our students and staff."

"Lumberport Elementary has an outstanding staff and such kind-hearted students. Teaching is a passion. Educators have such a huge impact on the lives of the future," she added.

Tonkery said she encourages students to believe in themselves because when "students believe they can succeed, they will succeed." She teaches them that once they understand they do not know something "yet," they still have the power to learn it. She calls this the "power of yet."

According to the West Virginia Department of Education, colleagues said Tonkery is "a motivator, role model, advisor, and positive influence for every student that crosses her path. West Virginia's Teacher of the Year and School Service Personnel of the Year will be announced on Sept. 13 during a ceremony at the West Virginia Culture Center in Charleston.

Tonkery, who has taught in Harrison County for 14 years, loves teaching third grade and said "it's a wonderful age" because kids that age experience many lightbulb moments, and they are learning a

number of new skills. "It is a very pivotal age," Tonkery said.

"It's just such a blessing, and I would give all the credit to the good Lord and all of the teachers that have helped me. Our little school is amazing at Lumberport," Tonkery said, "The teachers [at Lumberport] truly care and our administrator truly cares."

She said, "I'm just very honored that I get to be in this position."

One of Tonkery's former students, Macy Bart, reflected on her third-grade year with Tonkery during the 2021-2022 school year.

Bart said, "She cares about everybody, and she makes sure that everybody gets enough attention." She also said, "She makes us laugh."

Bart said that rather than sitting at their desks all day, Tonkery makes them move around and have fun while learning. "We're learning and we don't know it," Bart said, "She makes everybody feel happy."

Bart reflected on the brag tags that Tonkery gave students. Tonkery uses the brag tags, which have sayings referencing the students on them, as a way to reward students' good deeds and triumphs.

"If you would do something good, she [Tonkery] would give you a little piece of plastic and you would put it on your necklace, and everybody had at least 20 brag tags," Bart said.

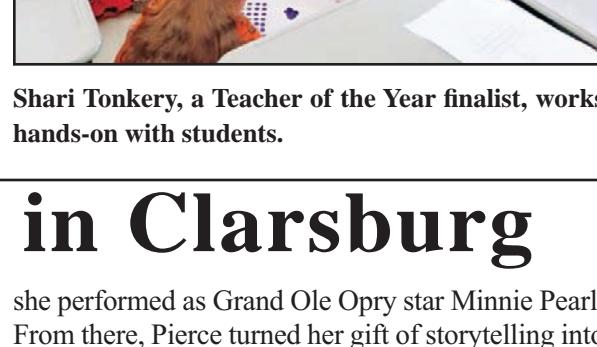
Bart said when they would do worksheets to prepare for tests, Tonkery would make it fun, and students were able to choose their favorite writing tool, such as colored pencils, crayons, or markers, to do their worksheet with. "She makes it fun to do a lot of things, so it's not just boring," Bart said.

Tonkery unified her class quickly, according to Bart. "Whenever she started teaching, everybody just started to come together," Bart said.

Bart said one of her favorite things about Tonkery is that "she doesn't look at everybody the same, she sees everybody with a different personality."

Tonkery made sure to recognize and build each of her students' strengths and see each of them for who they truly are.

Bart said she will miss Tonkery next year.



Shari Tonkery, a Teacher of the Year finalist, works hands-on with students.

Chonda Pierce, sometimes called the Queen of Clean in comedy, is a stand-up comedian, television hostess, author, and now actress who "channels her life experiences into positivity, bringing laughter to audiences around the country," according to a news release.

"There are so many things to love about Chonda Pierce coming to Clarksburg," said Jason A Young, the Robinson Grand's program manager. "Perhaps the top of that list, she is just plain funny. Chonda Pierce makes people laugh."

Emmy-nominated and best-selling comedian Chonda Pierce or "the country comic" as Billboard Magazine dubbed her, has been making audiences laugh for more than two decades with her combination of fierce wit and southern charm. Pierce got her start working at Opryland Theme Park in Nashville where

she performed as Grand Ole Opry star Minnie Pearl. From there, Pierce turned her gift of storytelling into a successful comedic career, selling more comic albums than any other female comedian.

"This is our first time working with Awakening Events, Inc. out of Tennessee," said Young. "They picked a great one to start with, and we have another big one already in the works. We are lucky they chose to bring such top-shelf talent to the Robinson Grand."

Tickets for Chonda Pierce Live in Concert are on sale now. Patrons who place their order before Aug. 5 can receive a 20% discount when they enter the code "INSIDER" at check-out. All tickets can be purchased online at tickets.therobinsongrand.com or by calling the Robinson Grand ticketing center at 855-773-6283.