

Volume 32 Edition 18 (USPS 494-420) • (304) 647-5724 • newsandjournal@yahoo.com • \$1

## All Seasons named Business of the Month

*Vance says God showed her the way*



Left, Laura Templeton and right, Barbara Vance, receive an award for running the best florist in Harrison County. Vance told the Shinnston News that she'd had no previous experience as a florist before starting All Seasons but the shop has met with much success.

All Seasons Florist And Greenhouse opened its doors in 1988 and owner Barbara Vance said she started out with no previous experience, only a calling she felt she must answer.

"We were just looking for a business to open and the florist closed down in Shinnston and we thought, 'Why don't we be florists?'" Vance said. "(We) had no idea, knew nothing about it. So I just prayed for God to show us, and people from the church came down when we were first opening and prayed for us, and we dedicated our business to God, and God showed me how to make the stuff."

Her sister joined her several years later, and together they've run the family owned and operated business, located at 600 S Pike St. Like her sister, Laura Templeton said she had never really seen herself as a florist before joining Vance in her business.

"I was only 25 when I started," Templeton said. She said that she learned how to make the



All Seasons gears up for spring and summer with a variety of flowers and options. Owner Barbara Vance said that the spring season keeps them busy with prom and Mother's Day.

arrangements from Vance and has been working by her side ever since.

All Seasons offers an array of flower arrangements for many occasions, as well as silk flowers, wreaths, lanterns, balloons, stuffed animals and candy. According to Vance they offer, "a little bit of everything." Pick-up and delivery are both available.

All Seasons also won best florist in Harrison County this year for WV News' Best Of Harrison County contest.

Templeton said her favorite part of the job is the people. "The regular customers," she said. And according to the sisters, they continue to have returning customers from both in and outside the county.

"Once a year we have people from New Martinsville who come down here," Vance said. "Lots of people call from out of state, and we have customers from all over the country."

All Seasons is open Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. except for on Saturday, when it closes at 2 p.m.

## Legion sees record turnout

*Elections held, birthday celebrated*



Pictured from left to right are Auxiliary Department President Savanna Kauffman and Past Department Presidents Susan Brown, Dortha Parsons, Roxie Nicholson, Paulette Anderson, Susan Wade and Ann Buchanan.

Submitted by Betsy Turner

The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary Departments of West Virginia, 3rd District, elected officers when they held their annual spring conference on Saturday, March 4, at American Legion Post 31, Shinnston.

This year had a record turnout of approximately 100 people from throughout the state.

The joint session was opened with a prayer by American Legion Department of West Virginia Historian and Acting 3rd District Chaplain Robin Shingleton and brought to order by 3rd District Vice Commander Cliff Shingleton with welcoming remarks by American Legion Post 31 Commander Bruce Grimes. Dignitaries attending were introduced by Vice Commander Shingleton including current American Legion Department Commander Tom Hicks; three past Department Commanders, Frank Nicholson, Jack Gerrard and Fred Buchanan; current Auxiliary Department President Savanna Kauffman; past Department

See "Legion" on Pg 6



### BUILDING AMAZING CITIES

By JIM HUNT  
author, speaker, consultant

## Lancaster, Pennsylvania



News and Journal columnist Jim Hunt made a stop at City Hall during his trip to Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

This past week, I had the opportunity to visit the City of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Lancaster is a historic city and has the distinction of serving for one day as the temporary capital of the United States during the American Revolution. The city was founded in 1729 and incorporated as a borough in 1742 and incorporated as a city in 1818. It is one of the oldest inland cities in the United States and served as capital of Pennsylvania from 1799 to 1812. The first long-distance paved road in the United States was the former Philadelphia to Lancaster Turnpike. The turnpike was paved with stone the entire distance and overlaid with gravel. The cost of the turnpike was \$450,000, a huge sum at the time.

The current city has a population of nearly 60,000 residents, with nearly a third being of Puerto Rican

See "Hunt" on Pg 3



## Classmates clean up park



Students who helped with the clean-up, pictured left to right are Isaac Coffman, Kelsey Stanton, Dession Hatchett, Farah Gerrard, Kylee McCray, Liam Gallagher, Rachel Miller and Grant Nuzum.

Lincoln High School DECA and NTHS (National Technical Honor Society) students took part in a clean-up project Friday, April 28 at Lumberport City Park, according to a news release. The project was led by Rachel Miller, DECA member activities director, who organized the effort.

Students spent three hours picking up trash around the park, removing sticks from the grounds,

sweeping off basketball and pavilion areas and raking/bagging several large trash bags of leaves collected inside the main basketball court. They offered thanks to the City of Lumberport for providing the large trash bags and removal of collected waste.

To learn more about DECA and/or NTHS, please visit: [www.deca.org/about](http://www.deca.org/about) and <https://nthhs.org/>

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# Guest Opinion

By Kathleen Panek

## Shinnston should be proud

This afternoon as I was scrolling through the posts on Facebook there was a post by world traveler Rick Steves. He had recently returned to his hometown in the State of Washington and the previous evening, the Board of Education had discussed the budget and to make that budget work the discussion was to cut the band, choir, drama, and arts. He was shocked that a Board of Education would actually consider, and most likely will, no longer fund the arts in their school system.

That made me so proud of West Virginia and Shinnston. Shinnston has always promoted the arts. Throughout the existence of Shinnston there have been bands, not just sports. Yes, football, basketball, and baseball were important – every town had their teams, but they also had bands.

When I first moved to Shinnston it was a joyous thing for my artist husband to discover the very active Dabblers, a group of quite talented artists that included Deloris Minor and the late Beverly Paushel. It helped make him feel welcome in his new city and become a West Virginian. As with anything, there is a season and as the years passed, so did many of the Dabblers but the arts were not forgotten.

Thanks to the All-School Reunion in 1996, when the Shinnston High School Band of 1952 performed a Concert, the Shinnston Community Band was formed. It remains active and has grown, including musicians from all over the area. But now there is a new group in Shinnston of a new genre of music and it has been welcomed with open arms also. The Soapbox, The Press, and The Palette have come to town along with new music festivals. And Shinnston is showing welcome and support. Every Wind Down Wednesday features local bands, offering an opportunity to showcase their music.

West Virginia as a whole supports the arts. There is Mountain Stage and the WV Music Hall of Fame, as well as country music stars and opera stars.. Appreciation of the arts may be found going back in time to the Wheeling Steel Choir as well as to current day radio personality Aristotle Jones and his Born & Bred Concert Series, showcasing up-and-coming musicians.

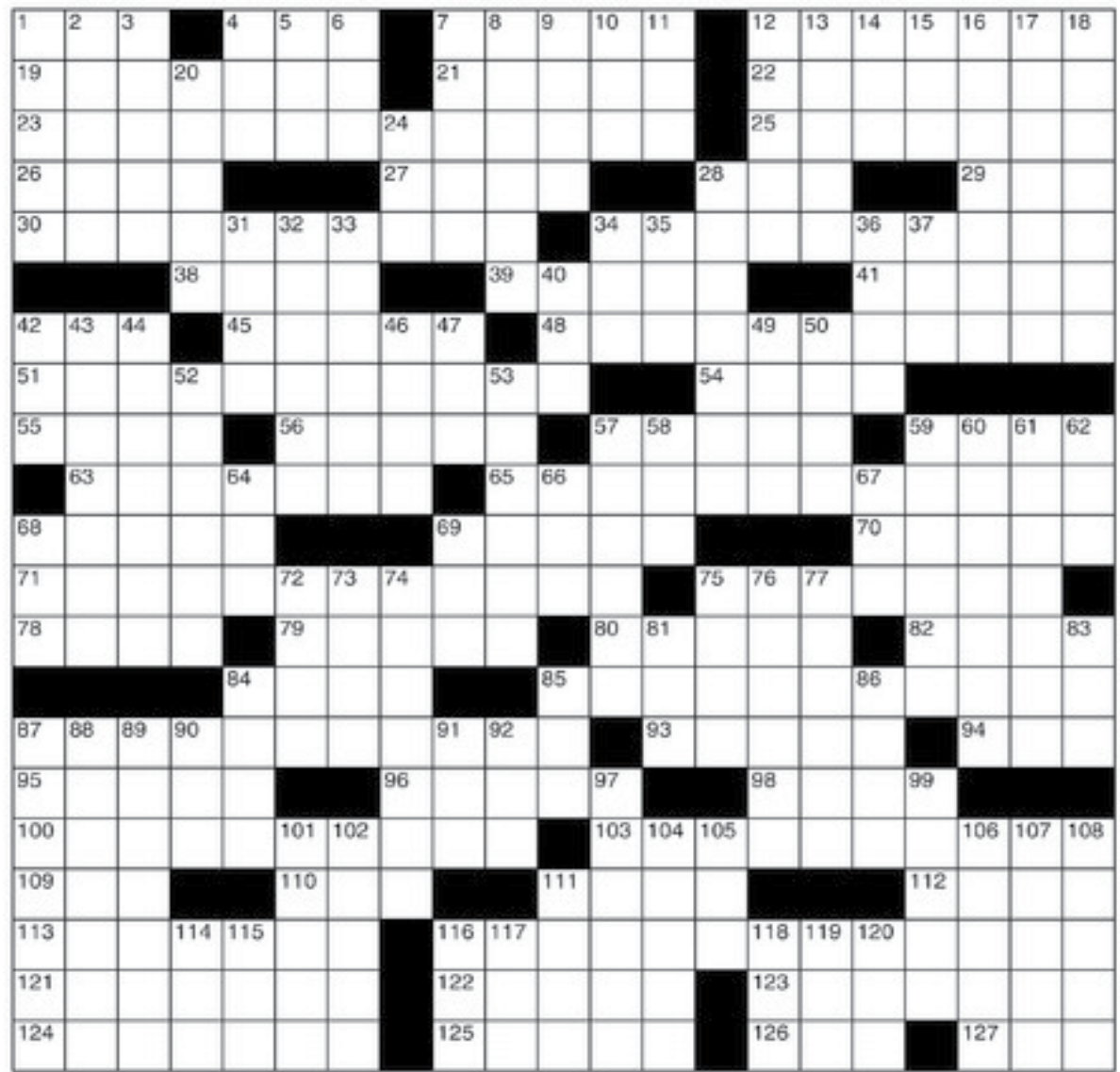
While many places in this wonderful country are cutting the arts in their schools, West Virginia shines as it encourages our high school bands, choirs, and plays as well as the art classes. Is it any wonder then that we are West Virginia Proud!

Kathleen Panek is a Shinnston resident, as well as the owner of the Gillum House Bed & Breakfast and the city clerk.

# Super Crossword

TWELVE OF DIAMONDS

- |   |   |   |                              |                           |                                    |
|---|---|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                                       | 45 "Scorpio" co-star Delon                | 85 Cincinnati baseballer's chewy candy?         | 123 Sideways                 | 33 Charming old-fashioned | 81 Koch and Asner                  |
| 1 "Sharkey" (70s sitcom)                            | 48 Chicago moonlighting as a journalist?  | 93 "Oh My My" singer Ringo                      | 124 Felt hats                | 34 Sch. in Provo          | 83 Always, in odes                 |
| 4 Winter bug  | 51 Detroit baseballer's Easter flowers?   | 94 Ending with cash                             | 125 Dog strap                | 35 Puffer from            | 84 Old TV part                     |
| 7 Corn, to Brits                                    | 54 Vaping item                            | 95 Kitchen range brand                          | 126 Single bill              | 36 Smelly city air        | 85 Letters after Sen. Javits' name |
| 12 SoCal daily paper                                | 55 Designer von Fürstenberg               | 96 Warhol and Roddick                           | 127 "Nuts" actor Wallach     | 40 Old IBM products       | 86 "It's either you —"             |
| 19 Mammal with a black mask                         | 56 Like many tiny headphones              | 98 Pixar's lost swimmer                         | <b>DOWN</b>                  | 42 Noshed on              | 87 Haul away                       |
| 21 Cook's wear                                      | 57 Put the — (try to coerce)              | 100 Kansas City baseballer's toast topper?      | 1 Jenny with a diet plan     | 43 The top story          | 88 One-celled organisms            |
| 22 Ant-Man's partner in a 2018 superhero film       | 59 Omph                                   | 103 Pennant won by a Pittsburgh baseballer?     | 2 Singer LaBelle             | 44 Rabbittlike rodents    | 89 Actor Burr                      |
| 23 Oakland baseballer's footwear?                   | 63 Gold lumps                             | 109 President pro —                             | 3 Women's golf star Lorena   | 46 Lands in eau           | 90 Genetic stuff                   |
| 25 Boarded, as a train                              | 65 Money owed by a Washington baseballer? | 110 Right-angled pipe joint                     | 4 Enemy                      | 47 Actress Vardalos       | 91 Skit show since '75             |
| 26 Langston Hughes poem                             | 68 Tether again                           | 111 Sleek, in brief                             | 5 Filming locale             | 49 MBA subj.              | 92 Mount — (Charley Weaver's home) |
| 27 Stuff hitting an umbrella                        | 69 Actor Quinn                            | 112 1993 Nobelist Morrison                      | 6 Bi- minus one              | 50 — colada               | 97 Hexes                           |
| 28 Fa-la linkup                                     | 70 OshKosh — (kids' clothing brand)       | 113 Some wind players                           | 7 Member of a Kenyan tribe   | 52 Motor                  | 99 "King — Hill"                   |
| 29 Coop female                                      | 71 What a Minnesota baseballer sleeps on? | 116 Florida baseballer's rod-and-reel activity? | 8 Plant pests                | 53 Some Muppet dolls      | 101 Volkswagen model               |
| 30 Calamari prepared by a San Francisco baseballer? | 75 Enormous                               | 121 Web page for aficionados                    | 9 "Fe" element               | 57 Just one little bite   | 102 Somebody — problem             |
| 34 Atlanta baseballer's collection of Kia cars?     | 78 Latin "to be"                          | 122 Figure skating leaps                        | 10 Saldana of "Guess Who"    | 58 — Tin Tin              | 104 From Erin                      |
| 38 Son of Isaac                                     | 79 Litigious sorts                        |   | 11 Type widths               | 59 More antsy             | 105 Actor Ely                      |
| 39 Watch slyly                                      | 80 Taunt                                  |   | 12 No. 2 in a statehouse     | 60 10th-century pope      | 106 French river                   |
| 41 — Park (home of Edison)                          | 82 Article in Ulm                         |   | 13 Burn — in one's pocket    | 61 Lack                   | 107 Record of a single year        |
| 42 Attys.' gp.                                      | 84 Pioneer Boone, briefly                 |   | 14 Vietnamese New Year       | 62 Final degree           | 108 2003 Ben Affleck flop          |
|   |   |   | 15 — Jima                    | 64 Sparkly rock           | 111 Field of study                 |
|   |   |   | 16 Search to find a criminal | 66 Spots on TV            | 114 Propyl lead-in                 |
|   |   |   | 17 Actress Getty             | 67 16-oz. units           | 115 Tristan's title                |
|   |   |   | 18 Subsidize                 | 68 Numbered rd.           | 116 Bad, to Luc                    |
|   |   |   | 20 Exact copy                | 69 Pt. of ETA             | 117 Hatchet, e.g.                  |
|   |   |   | 24 Grand — (wine type)       | 72 Clumsy — ox            | 118 "Alice" spinoff                |
|   |   |   | 28 Riviera resort            | 73 Skipjack, e.g.         | 119 Holm of film                   |
|   |   |   | 31 Old autocrat              | 74 Reveal everything      | 120 Holy Mlle.                     |
|   |   |   | 32 — Mae (loan offerer)      | 75 Grain in ale           |                                    |
|   |   |   |                              | 76 South Korean airline   |                                    |
|   |   |   |                              | 77 Confidential           |                                    |



**FIND THE SUPER CROSSWORD ANSWERS ON PAGE 6!**

## THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

CHARLESTON, WV – The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at [www.wvencyclopedia.org](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).

**May 4, 1896:** The Children's Home Society of West Virginia was formed by a group of Charleston ministers. Their goal was to place orphaned and neglected children with caring families rather than crowd them into county poorhouses.

**May 5, 1923:** A fire started by welders working on a new swimming pool destroyed most of Luna Park, an amusement park in Charleston. Although Luna's owners announced they would rebuild, the park never reopened.

**May 5, 1923:** Golfer Bill Campbell was born in Huntington. He won more than 30 championships over a seven-decade career and is considered one of the best amateur players in history.

**May 6, 1812:** Activist and physician Martin Robison Delany was born in Charles Town. In February 1865, he was commissioned as a major in the U.S. Colored Troops. He was the only Black Civil War officer to be given a field command.

**May 6, 1968:** A continuous miner machine at the Gauley Coal & Coke Saxsewell No. 8 mine at Hominy Falls, Nicholas County, cut into an adjacent mine, which was filled with water. The resulting flood drowned four miners and trapped 21 others.

**May 6, 1968:** Newspaper publisher and Bluefield native John S. Knight received the Pulitzer Prize for his long record of service and his series of columns opposing the Vietnam War.

**May 7, 1824:** Logan County was created by the Virginia General Assembly from parts of Giles,

Tazewell, Cabell and Kanawha counties. The county seat was first known as Lawnsville, then Aracoma, and finally Logan.

**May 7, 1857:** William A. MacCorkle was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, on his father's plantation. He served as West Virginia's ninth governor.

**May 7, 1928:** The Keith-Albee Theater opened in Huntington. The opening program featured a comedy called "Good Morning, Judge," a newsreel, and five stage acts. But the theater itself, with its elaborate interior, clearly was the star of the evening.

**May 7, 1983:** The New River Gorge National Park and Preserve began operations when the first visitor center opened near Fayetteville.

**May 8, 1864:** Clarence Wayland Watson was born in Fairmont. Watson was a prominent coal baron and served in the U.S. Senate from 1911 to 1913.

**May 8, 1998:** Former U.S. Senator Jennings Randolph died at the age of 96. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1932 and served a total of 40 years in Congress.

**May 9, 1800:** Abolitionist John Brown was born in Torrington, Connecticut. His 1859 raid on Harpers Ferry galvanized the nation, further alienating North and South in the lead-up to the Civil War.

**May 9, 1843:** Confederate spy "Belle" Boyd was born in Martinsburg. On July 4, 1861, Boyd shot a Yankee soldier and started her spy career.

**May 9, 1863:** Confederate raiders arrived at Burning Springs, Wirt County. There they set fire to 150,000 barrels of oil, oil tanks, engines for pumping, engine houses, wagons, and oil-laden boats.

**May 10, 1863,** "Stonewall" Jackson died from wounds suffered at the Battle of Chancellorsville after uttering the words, "Let us cross over the river

See "History" on Pag. 3

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## N&J Briefs

### FROM AROUND HARRISON COUNTY

The Shinnston News provides a calendar of events 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](mailto:newsandjournal@yahoo.com)

#### Clarksburg First Friday

4:30-8 PM. Friday, May 5th

Piñata making, Cinco de Selfie station, and water safety at Orpheum Park. Golden Ticket candy bar contest, vendors, kids activities, and food trucks at Jackson Square. Pickle ball on Trader's Avenue. Live music at Orpheum Park. Hot dog sale and live music at Uptown Event Center. Art Gallery, Clarksburg History Museum, Model Railroad Club, local businesses and restaurants open extended hours. Movie "Encanto" at the Robinson Grand Theater at 7:00 (tickets \$7).

Clarksburg Visitors Bureau, 304-622-2157

#### Poker Run

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June 3 at RG's Almost Heaven Harley Davidson

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### "History" From Pg 2.

and rest under the shade of the trees." He is buried in the Stonewall Jackson Cemetery in Lexington, Virginia.

**May 10, 1908:** The first official observance of Mother's Day was held at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton and simultaneously in Philadelphia. The holiday resulted from a vigorous campaign by Anna Jarvis, who wanted to commemorate the spirit of her mother's work as a social activist.

**May 10, 1960:** John F. Kennedy defeated Hubert Humphrey in the West Virginia primary. It dispelled the widely held belief that being a Roman Catholic was an insurmountable obstacle to becoming president.

### "Hunt" From Pg 1.

heritage. The city celebrates its Puerto Rican heritage with a festival each year. The city also is well known for the concentration of Amish and Mennonite communities. Many of the residents live along tree lined streets that look much like they did over a hundred years ago. The downtown has a mix of businesses and has mixed some newer buildings among the historic stone buildings of years past. The Central Market, built in 1889, is the oldest continuously run farmers market in the United States and features handmade Amish goods that are popular with tourists.

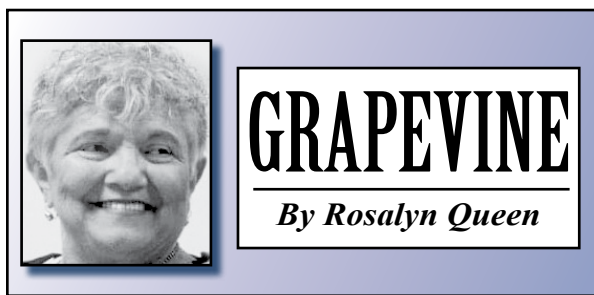
I really enjoyed spending some time in the downtown district that featured a large town square, surrounded by stores, restaurants and the Lancaster Public Library. Red Adirondack chairs are lined up and become a popular place for people to relax and take in the sights. A feature that seemed to be popular with both young and old was swings, suspended from black metal structures. I've seen these swings in some other cities and I think they are a good attraction. The area was well kept, and a gentleman was sweeping up and keeping things in place. His blue shirt said he was part of the Lancaster Downtown Improvement District, a group founded in 1992, that keeps the downtown attractive and clean. These districts are formed and funded by the property owners and businesses in the district and can really make a difference in the

economic viability of the downtown.

The reason for my visit to Lancaster was to introduce Matt Grandinetti of Duke's Root Control to officials with the city. Duke's Root Control works with many cities in Pennsylvania and is interested in meeting with city officials throughout the state to explain the innovative way to address issues with the public sewer systems. In older cities, like Lancaster, root intrusion can wreak havoc with sewer infrastructure and cause backups and service interruptions. Using Duke's system, the sewers can be treated with an environmentally friendly process that kills the roots in the pipes without damaging the trees or above ground vegetation. It doesn't involve digging up pipes in the ground which can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and cause major disruptions.

I'm looking forward to a return visit to Lancaster, soon, to meet Mayor Danene Sorace, who is the 43rd mayor of Lancaster and only the second woman to hold the mayor's seat. Mayor Sorace worked for an environmental organization prior to becoming mayor and launched the city's first ever green infrastructure plan. I left a signed copy of my book, "The Amazing City-7 Steps to Creating an Amazing City," with her Executive Assistant Bernie Burkholder and look forward to spending some more time hearing about this historic, Amazing city!

## Area has longtime library and new pizzeria



This past week I attended two very special events. I am still trying to get out and sometimes it becomes very hard, but the effort was worth it this week.

On Thursday evening the Friends of the Library held their annual meeting at the Friedlanders Building. There was a lovely dinner prepared and served by My Mother's Daughter. The Friends are a group of volunteers who promote and support the Clarksburg Library. Membership is available to anyone interested in furthering public library services in our area. Victor Folio, president, conducted a short business meeting and Rebecca D'Annunzio, treasurer gave a treasurer's report. I have very fond memories of the library, its staff and the Friends as I spent a lot of time there with the Late Merle Moore, Clarksburg librarian. We all should be very proud of our library and the services it renders to our citizens.

The committee presented a live performance by Doris Fields as popular blues singer, Bessie Smith. This talented actress and singer certainly entertained the audience with the history and music of Bessie Smith. The presentation was a History Alive! program of the West Virginia Humanities Council.

My next little outing found me at a ribbon cutting in Glen Elk. It was the official grand opening of Elwood's Pizzeria. It is located on Fourth Street across from the bakery. Two young entrepreneurs, Aaron Gallo and Greg Harris have made a dream come true with this business. It is named after a friend who recently passed away. You know part of a good pizza is enjoying it in the Glen Elk atmosphere.

The establishment is open Tuesday to Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.. It offers all the traditional foods such as pizza, hoagies, calzones and sandwiches. But the mouth watering winner is the pizza crust. It is comparable to the best in our area. Lunch specials are offered daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Inside dining is available.

It was such a pleasure to attend this event. The atmosphere was so warm and the owners were so sociable. The best part was the food but I enjoyed meeting old friends.

Just a reminder that zucchini season will be here very soon. Be prepared with your favorite recipes. For some reason I am most anxious to try fried zucchini cakes. I have found several recipes and will share them with you in future columns. Please do not forget when you get overwhelmed with zucchini you can shred it, squeeze the water out of it and freeze it in one cup measurements and use it to make zucchini bread.

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

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## “As the roster turns” for Huggins



### The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor  
Sports Editor

The world of college athletics is constantly changing. If you are a soap opera fan, the current landscape is for you. Players are constantly on the move which means there is never a dull moment and for West Virginia's Head Basketball Coach Bob Huggins, from March 13 through May 11 is a continual roll of the dice. “As the roster turns” — that is the life Huggins is currently living and he won't be able to rest until just before Mother's Day.

The on again, off again relationship with big man Jimmy Bell has been enough to keep Huggins up at night. Bell initially rediscovered his love for football and spent a few weeks in pads after Huggins and Mountaineer Head Coach Neal Brown agreed to let Bell test the gridiron waters. Once Bell had a chance to sow his pigskin oats, he would have a pow with Huggins and Brown to decide his future at the university. Two occurrences made Bell reach a decision before the conference. The Gold-Blue Spring Game didn't go as well as planned, and Huggins added a big piece to his hoops puzzle to bring a total of four new additions. RaeQuan Battle transferred in from Montana State, joining Jesse Edwards, Kerr Kriisa and Omar Silverio. There are eight returners and that makes for a crowded locker room. Bell started all 34 games for Huggins last season but the numbers aren't

exactly what he or Huggins wanted. Bell averaged 4.8 points and 5.2 rebounds per game. Sometimes things just don't work out and a parting of ways is good for both parties.

Battle spent four years at Montana State averaging 17.7 points per game and a shade under 30 minutes a year ago.

Edwards comes from Syracuse and brings a strong presence. The 11 foot, 230 pound hoopster averaged 14.5 points per game and 10.3 rebounds.

Kriisa spent three years in Arizona before coming to Morgantown. He averaged just shy of double digits and 5.1 assists for the Wildcats. Kriisa is a true floor general which is essential when blending a deep and talented roster. He will be an assistant on the floor for Huggins this upcoming season.

Silverio comes from Manhattan where he spent four years in the Jaspers program. Silverio averaged 10.9 points and 3.3 rebounds last season.

Ironically, Silverio was a previous teammate of Mountaineer Jose Perez. Perez would have been a difference-maker last year but he was ruled ineligible by the NCAA. The year prior, Perez started 29 of 30 games and averaged 18.9 points, dished out 4.5 assists, and grabbed 3.2 rebounds at Manhattan.

If you compare this portal period to a movie, Huggins is the hero and he is about the ride off into the sunset. Barring any twists, this story should end with Hugs all smiles and that would mean more smiles for Mountaineer Nation.

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

## Harrison County EMS



## Athletes of the Week

It's that time once again to acknowledge the efforts of Harrison County's student-athletes. Each week we review the performances of the athletes from the six schools (Bridgeport, Liberty, Lincoln, Notre Dame, Robert C. Byrd, and South Harrison) in our county.

The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal's Athlete of the Week award is an avenue to promote the youth of our county while bringing attention to their athletic accomplishments.

This past week's winners of the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week Award are Lincoln's Aliyah Elder and Notre Dame's Dominick Bombardier.

Cougar softball player Aliyah Elder was 2 for 3 with a run batted in against Philip Barbour on senior night this past Monday. Elder also had a hit in Thursday's 1-0 win over Robert C. Byrd.

Fighting Irish baseball player Dominick Bombardiere was 2 for 3 with a double and a triple against in a win over Clay-Battelle this past Saturday. He also scored a pair of runs in the victory over the Cee Bees.

Congratulations to Lincoln's Aliyah Elder and Notre Dame's Dominick Bombardiere for being named the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week!

## Golf events release

### WVGA May 2023 Schedule of Events

May 1-3	Mid Amateur Championship	Williams Country Club
May 3	104 <sup>th</sup> WV Amateur Qualifier	The Pines Country Club
May 6	Junior Match Play Qualifier	Bel Meadow
May 7	Callaway Rookie Tour	Mimbel Par 3 Golf Club
May 8	104 <sup>th</sup> WV Amateur Qualifier	Parkersburg Country Club
May 8	WV Senior Series	Sistersville Country Club
May 9	WV Senior Series	Wheeling Country Club
May 10	WV Senior Series	Oglebay Resort (Palmer)
May 10	104 <sup>th</sup> WV Amateur Qualifier	Edgewood Country Club
May 13	Callaway Rookie Tour	St. Mary's Golf Club
May 13-14	Junior Match Play Championship	Parkersburg Country Club
May 15	104 <sup>th</sup> WV Amateur Qualifier	Glade Spring Resort (Cobb)
May 17	WV Amateur Series	Riverside Golf Club
May 17	104 <sup>th</sup> WV Amateur Qualifier	Locust Hill Golf Course
May 18	WV Senior Series	Little Creek Golf Course
May 22	104 <sup>th</sup> Amateur Qualifier	Guyan Golf & Country Club
May 22-24	Senior Amateur Championship	Sleepy Hollow Golf Club
May 25	104 <sup>th</sup> Amateur Last Chance Qualifier	Bel Meadow Golf Club
May 28-31	104 <sup>th</sup> WV Amateur Championship	The Greenbrier Resort

CHARLESTON, WV — The West Virginia Golf Association has released its list of events in May, according to a news release shared by the WV Press Association.

## Fairmont State tennis secures NCAA Championship bid

ERIE, Pa. — The Fairmont State men's tennis team continued its historic season after securing the first NCAA Championship bid in program history following a 4-2 victory over the No. 2 seed in the region, Edinboro, in the Atlantic Region #2 Championship on Saturday (April 29) at Westwood Racquet Club in Erie, Pa.

The Fighting Falcons won the doubles point and a trio of singles matches for the victory. Kan Watanabe and Alexandre Pages teamed up to claim the No. 1 doubles match, 7-5, according to a news release. The duo of Elia Barozzi and Seena Saadevandi took down their opponents in the No. 2 doubles duel and won in a tiebreaker, 7-6 (4) to swing the doubles point to the Falcons.

Saadevandi earned a 7-6 (7), 6-3 win in No. 3 singles for the second point. Alexandre Pages captured a 6-3, 6-4 victory in No. 4 singles. Mohamed El Helaly closed out the duel for the Falcons with a 7-5, 7-5 win in No. 5 singles to send the Falcons to the NCAA Championships.

The Fairmont State men's tennis team secured a spot in the 16-team NCAA Men's Tennis National Tournament, which is set to begin on May 11 at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Fla. Seedings and match times will be released by the NCAA when all regional matches have concluded.

### Match Results

#### Doubles

#1: Watanabe/Pages (FAIR) def. Sabio / Polombarini (BORO), 7-5

#2: Barozzi/Saadevandi (FAIR) def. Dorval/Sneekumer (BORO), 7-6 (4)

#3: Sacchi/Acuna (BORO) def. El Helaly/Stacy (FAIR), 6-4

#### Singles

#1: Sabio (BORO) def. Barozzi (FAIR), 6-3, 4-6, 6-2

#2: Acuna (BORO) def. Watanabe (FAIR), 6-2, 6-3

#3: Saadevandi (FAIR) def. Sneekumer (BORO) 7-6 (7), 6-3

#4: Pages (FAIR) def. Martins (BORO), 6-3, 6-4

#5 El Helaly (FAIR) def. Dorval (BORO), 7-5, 7-5

#6 Stacy (FAIR) vs. Sacchi (BORO), 3-6, 7-6 (1) (DNF)

## West Virginia's tourism education initiative to launch statewide



Tourism Secretary Chelsea Ruby joins Gov. Jim Justice and BabyDog at the announcement.

By Matt Young, WV Press Association

CRAIGSVILLE, WV — Gov. Jim Justice, along with several state officials, during a press conference last week at the Nicholas County Career and Technical Center (CTC), announced the launch of the “Shape Our Future” initiative — West Virginia's new hospitality and tourism education program.

The new initiative has been developed as part of the W.Va. Department of Tourism's statewide “Tourism Works” program, and seeks to develop the workforce for the anticipated growth of tourism jobs over the next three years. Also on hand for the press conference were Tourism Secretary Chelsea Ruby, State Superintendent of Schools David Roach, and Clinton Burch, technical education officer with the W.Va. Department of Education.

“This is one of my all time favorite projects,” Ruby told the students and community members in attendance. “We've all heard people say that there

are no jobs in West Virginia. That's not true, and today we're here to talk about the explosive growth in tourism. Today, as we speak, there are over 70,000 people in the state who are working in the tourism industry.”

According to Ruby, tourism-employment in West Virginia is projected to grow by “more than 20,000 openings” each year for the next three years, adding that “about half of those will be management level positions.” As stated in data released by the Higher Education Policy Commission, these “management level positions” are expected to command a salary in the range of \$60,000.

“I'm here to tell you that there are going to be a lot of really great opportunities,” Ruby said.

The Tourism Works program is being funded through a \$5.1 million grant provided by the U.S. Economic Development Administration. According to a statement from Justice's office, the “education component” of the program focuses on preparing students for the “substantial increase in job openings,” and connecting them with “viable career opportunities.”

The statement adds that, “Tourism brought in approximately \$5 billion in visitor spending last year — a record for the state — along with nearly \$300 million in recent private tourism investment and tourism tax credit applications, which will expand tourism infrastructure in the state.”

Next to the podium was Clinton Burch, who began by praising Justice for the partnerships the governor has created between “business and education,” noting that, “Career technical education in the State of West Virginia would not be possible without partnerships like you're seeing here today.”

“We want to grow this opportunity across the state,” Burch said. “Last year alone, the State of West Virginia had over 50,000 students participate in a technical course in either high school or middle school. That number has doubled over the last five years.”

“When you hear 20,000 jobs in tourism over the next three years, that's why we all put our heads together

and said, ‘How do we tackle this? How do we bring education to the forefront to really make the economy and the workforce be ready for this demand that's coming?’” Burch added. “That's what you're seeing here today.”

The announcement was made at the Nicholas County CTC in recognition of the students who participated in the construction of the “Almost Heaven” swings that have been placed in scenic locations across the state. Additional projects include the “Good Gauley Coffee Shop,” a student-run coffee shop and roastery, as well as numerous planned future tourism projects.

When Justice addressed the audience, he began by saying, “It's amazing what you're doing. Really and truly, you're absolutely doing greatness like you can't imagine.”

Justice reciprocated Burch's praise, and complimented both Ruby and Roach, as well as everyone in attendance, by saying, “The people that are right here amongst us right now are the engines that make this country run all the time.”

According to Justice, the anticipated 21,000 upcoming jobs may “turn into 210,000 in the blink of an eye.”

“We're going to start teaching and training our students to be ready for these jobs that are on the way, and this is just the tip of the iceberg,” Justice added.

Through the Shape Our Future initiative, hospitality and tourism curriculum will soon be available in schools in all of West Virginia's 55 counties, and a “Tourism Pathway” program is currently in the pilot-stage. Once fully integrated, the Tourism Pathway program will afford high school students the opportunity to earn college credits and career certifications in hospitality and tourism.

Through additional partnerships with the W.Va. Department of Economic Development and the state's Community and Technical Colleges, the Department of Tourism plans to create additional educational opportunities through the Tourism Works program in the coming months.

# BUSINESS MATTERS

## Entrepreneur contest begins



classes three months prior to the contest to prepare contestants for the event. Participation is not mandatory but recommended. Pre-recorded pitch will be filmed during this time.

Awards and Grand Prize

There will be one grand prize winner that will receive a cash prize, thanks to the

sponsors of The Tank. Grand prize winner will also receive the benefits for a twelve month period after the contest is completed. Benefits include but are not limited to the following: Membership with the chamber, mentorship from accountants, attorneys, insurance specialist, financial planners, financial institutions, human resource representatives, SBA representatives, etc., at the sole discretion of the host.

Fan Favorite

One entrant will be selected as fan favorite the night of the event and a portion of ticket sales will be used as the fan favorite award.

Angel Investors

Angel Investors for all contestants may also be in the audience for opportunities to invest.

More information is at [http://www.harrisoncountychamber.com/tank\\_about.cfm](http://www.harrisoncountychamber.com/tank_about.cfm).

The Harrison County Chamber is planning The Tank Entrepreneur Contest, according to a news release.

Deadline to apply is July with the event to take place on Oct. 5 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Robinson Grand.

Applicants have an opportunity to win a year's worth of mentorship (legal, accounting, marketing, human resources, etc.) and a grand prize of more than \$10,000. All contestants have the opportunity to gain support, guidance, and exposure for their business, along with the possibility of being picked up by an Angel Investor and a Fan Favorite win.

Entry is available on the Harrison County

Chamber website, [www.harrisoncountychamber.com](http://www.harrisoncountychamber.com). To enter, entrants must complete and submit the online registration information and mail registration to Harrison County Chamber 520 West Main St., Clarksburg WV 26301. Entrants must enter on an individual basis. No team entrants will be allowed.

The host and application committee will select applicants during the first week of May 2023. Selection will be based on application, balance sheet, business plan, and profit and loss sheet if applicable.

Phase Two: Workshops and Coaching Classes:

The host will provide workshops and coaching

Classes three months prior to the contest to prepare contestants for the event. Participation is not mandatory but recommended. Pre-recorded pitch will be filmed during this time.

Awards and Grand Prize

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sponsors of The Tank. Grand prize winner will also receive the benefits for a twelve month period after the contest is completed. Benefits include but are not limited to the following: Membership with the chamber, mentorship from accountants, attorneys, insurance specialist, financial planners, financial institutions, human resource representatives, SBA representatives, etc., at the sole discretion of the host.

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## West Virginia celebrating largest number of registered businesses

CHARLESTON, WV. – The state of West Virginia now has a total of 155,442 registered businesses that are active and registered in the Mountain State. According to a news release from WV Secretary of State Mac Warner, that's the highest number of registered businesses ever recorded in West Virginia.

Warner attributes the state's business growth, in part, to the increased ease and convenience of opening a new business in West Virginia. Warner said that his office worked with the Legislature to: (1) modernize the WVSOS Business & Licensing Division; (2) create the WV One Stop Business Center and online portal; and (3) establish regional offices in Clarksburg and Martinsburg. The process that used to routinely take more than two weeks to register and open a new business in West Virginia can now take less than two hours.

“West Virginians have long been innovators, and our office is innovating for them with enhanced customer tools that help to welcome new businesses and getting them properly registered,” Warner said. “We’ve moving at the speed of business in an effort to help entrepreneurs and business owners get open for business. Just last week, our office registered West Virginia’s first business onsite at an entrepreneurship conference and launched our AI-powered chat bot to help answer citizens’ business questions 24/7.”

More information about the Secretary of State’s Office is at [business4.wv.gov](http://business4.wv.gov).

National Small Business Week was celebrated from April 30 to May 6. To learn more about National Small Business Week and the services and programs provided by the SBA, see [sba.gov](http://sba.gov).

## Small Business Week winners named

The U.S. Small Business Administration West Virginia District Office is excited to announce the names of the four 2023 West Virginia Small Business Week award winners, according to a news release.

### 2023 West Virginia Small Business Person of the Year

Anthony and Heather Wheeler, Owners - Paris Signs

Paris Signs is a sign company dedicated to offering creative solutions to customers, located in Huntington, WV. Anthony and Heather Wheeler are co-owners of the business that has seen consistent growth since inception.

The business was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2020, and an ice storm

simultaneously damaging their facility and delivery vehicles.

SBA’s COVID-19 EIDL relief program helped the business through this tough time. In 2022, they saw a 50% increase in sales and have grown to 31 employees. They are bursting at the seams and recently purchased an additional location.

### 2023 West Virginia Small Business Exporter of the Year & Mid-Atlantic Regional Winner

Douglas Kreinik - Kreinik Manufacturing Co., Inc

Kreinik Manufacturing, located in Parkersburg, WV, is a family-owned manufacturer of silk and metallic threads for needle workers, crafters, scrapbookers, quilters, fiber artists, fly fishermen, and even fashion houses and costume designers. The business was started by Doug’s parents in their home in 1970. Doug joined the business in 1983 and the business moved to the current facility.

Kreinik utilized a variety of SBA products and services, including: the Emerging Leaders Program (now T.H.R.I.V.E.), STEP grant, SBDC counseling, and most recently the COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Paycheck Protection Program loan. The pandemic assistance he received helped him to stay in business during the difficult time. Working with a skeleton crew, Doug was able to modify his machines to produce elastic for masks, including an order for 10,000 yards for the National Guard.

### 2023 West Virginia Veteran-Owned Small Business of the Year

Anne & Joe Perella - A & J Sewing Studio LLC

A&J Sewing Studio is a family-owned,

independent sewing, quilting and embroidery machine dealership and service center in Morgantown, WV. The shop also sells fabric, thread, patterns, Horn of America furniture, and conducts sewing classes. Anne and Joe both served our country; Anne for 27 years retiring at the rank of Lt. Colonel, LTC and Joe for 28 years retiring at the rank of LTC.

The business received assistance from SBA’s Resource Partner, the WV Small Business Development Center, an SBA loan-guarantee with MVB Bank, and COVID-19 pandemic assistance through the Paycheck Protection Program.

### WV Woman-Owned Small Business of the Year

Angie Cowger - Custard Stand Chili / The Custard Stand

The Custard Stand Chili, located in Webster Springs, WV, makes the families personal recipe of Custard Stand Hot Dog Chili and Custard Stand Chili Soup. You may recognize them from, their pitch on Shark Tank in 2016, or from one of the 3,500 stores in more than 25 states, including, Kroger, Meijer, Sam’s Club, Walmart, Harris Teeter, and other small grocery chains and independent stores.

Angie Cowger, better known as the Chili Queen, has a long-standing relationship with the SBA. She has utilized the loan-guarantee program, Paycheck Protection Program, COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, counseling from the WV Small Business Development Center, was a member of the Emerging Leaders Program, and has received ongoing counseling from the West Virginia District Office with contracting programs.

## Home Style summer series starts this week

### Humane Society fundraiser to be held in July



Megan Oliverio of Sweet Events, a bakery, will be the first special guest at Home Style’s Girl’s Night Out Event. She said that she’s been a part of this in the past, and that it always amazes her how supportive Shinnston is of small businesses.

By Kara Linaburg

On Thursday May 4, Girls Night Out kicks off the season at Home Style LLC on 604 Pike St. in Shinnston. “We’ve been doing them for years now,” owner Amanda Sayers said of the Girls Night Out summer series.

She said that the May 4 theme is “shopping and sweets. “So we’ll have shopping here at Home Style, and Megan Oliverio from Sweet Events will be here with her desserts,” Sayers said.

Oliverio of Sweet Events in Bridgeport is one of the special guests joining Sayers at her store for the events. “It’s a summer series,” Oliverio said. “So, it’s always

something she does in the summer. It’s always a Thursday evening and each of them are usually themed.”

Oliverio said that May 4 is “kicking off the summer,” and ladies can bring a friend or two for shopping, specials, refreshments, and perhaps win prizes.

She said that each event is fun and themed, but the one for locals to watch out for is July 6. “The July one is the one that we really put our heart into because it is a fundraiser for the Humane Society (of) Harrison County. So with that event we go all out,” Oliverio said. She is an animal lover and said that having the Humane

Society there makes it special for her.

“There’s dinner, and I usually donate a dessert,” Oliverio said. You make a donation, and you can have dinner with us and then we both have raffles, and all the money goes to the Humane Society. We both have sales and the Humane Society will be there and will have adoptable animals. It’s a big one.”

“Our hope is to get as many animals adopted that night,” Sayers said. “And then we have different donation jars and things like that, and all profits from all those donations goes to the Humane Society, and Megan and I usually give a portion of our proceeds as well. It’s just an event that we love to do. It’s one that’s near and dear to our heart just because we’re big animal people.”

Dates for the Girls Night Out series are as follows:

- May 4 from 5-8 p.m
- June 1 from 5-8 p.m
- July 6 from 5-8 p.m



Home Style in Shinnston begins its summer series this week. Guests can expect door prizes, refreshments, and deals during each event, and owner Amanda Sayers will have special guests each night.

**Mike Ross**  
*Producer & Supporter of Natural Resources*  
 Coalton, WV 26257  
 Phone: (304) 472-4289

“Legion” From pg 1



Pictured are Auxiliary members who helped with both events. From left to right are Parry Jenkins, Margaret Yost, Andrea Skelly, (in back) Cliff Shingleton, Dortha Parsons, Roxie Nicholson, Department President Savanna Kauffman, Karen Flanagan, Carla Wilfong, Marsha Duckworth, Cheryl Turner and Robin Shingleton.

Presidents Roxie Nicholson, Susan Brown, Susan Wade, Dortha Parsons, Ann Buchanan, Patricia Moore and Paulette Anderson; and American Legion Auxiliary 3rd District President Kim Mellie and Unit 31 President Marsha Duckworth.

State Commander Hicks addressed the group on membership and other initiatives throughout the state and the group then divided into their respective business meetings.

The 3rd District Auxiliary meeting was opened with the presentation of the gavel to 3rd District President Kim Mellie by Auxiliary Unit 31 President

Marsha Duckworth followed by the opening prayer given by 3rd District Chaplain Betsy Turner followed by the “Pledge of Allegiance” and the “Preamble to the Constitution” and the “Mission Statement” of the American Legion Auxiliary. The annual memorial service was held to honor the members who had passed away during the year.

Committee chairmen were introduced by Department President Savanna Kauffman and committee reports were given by Carla Wilfong, State Poppy Committee and Volunteer Services Committee, on volunteer hours at both the

VA Hospital and care givers; and Susan Brown, Department Secretary/Treasurer was the last to address the group on the ongoing activities in her office and upcoming events.

Nominations and election of 3rd District Officers for the 2023-2024 Auxiliary Year was held and the new officers are Kim Mellie, Post 31, Shinnston, 3rd District President and April Wallace, Unit 7, Buckhannon, 1st Vice President. These ladies will be sworn into office during the summer convention in July 2023.

The groups rejoined for a rigatoni luncheon provided by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31.

The day’s activities progressed into Sunday, March 5, 2023 with American Legion Post 31, the American Legion Family (Auxiliary, Sons, Riders) along with their families and friends and American Legion and American Legion Departments of West Virginia dignitaries celebrating the American Legion’s 104th birthday. The celebration was held at American Legion Post 31, Shinnston, WV.

The program was opened by

Bruce Grimes, Commander, Post 31 and the invocation by Robin Shingleton, American Legion Post 31 Chaplain and Treasurer. Tom Willis, Adjutant, Post 31, presented the POW/MIA Service in remembrance of those military service members who were prisoners of war or still missing.

Introductions of Post 31 Officers was made by Commander Grimes. Introductions were also made by Kim Mellie, American Legion Auxiliary 3rd District President and Marsha Duckworth, Auxiliary Unit 31 President.

Following the program the attendees enjoyed a dinner of baked steak, fried chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, tossed salad with rolls/butter prepared and served by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31. As with most birthdays the meal was completed with a birthday cake decorated with the American Legion logo.

Pictured are Auxiliary Department President Savanna Kauffman and Past Department Presidents: Susan Brown, Dortha Parsons, Roxie Nicholson, Paulette Anderson, Susan Wade and Ann Buchanan.

Super Crossword

Answers

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# OBITUARIES



**Nancy Nichole Exline-Webb**

Nancy Nichole Exline-Webb, 52, of Lumberport, passed away on Sunday, April 23, 2023 following a courageous 27 year battle with several types of cancer. She was born in Clarksburg on February 16, 1971 a daughter of Thomas C. Exline of Lumberport, and the late Sherry Lynn Hall Exline.

Nancy is survived by her loving husband, Michael H. Webb, whom she married on December 29, 2018.

She is also survived by her daughter, Kaitlin M. Exline and her fiancé Seth Stalnaker of Beverly; her step-sons, Michael H. Webb Jr. and his wife Georgia of Cottageville; and Bryan Elliott Webb and his wife Tara Dawn of NC; step-granddaughters, Vivien and Lucia Webb of Cottageville; her step-grandson, Bryan Elliott Webb Jr. of NC; her brother, Thomas Kelly Exline and his girlfriend, Susan L. Longwell of Lumberport; her mother-in-law, Shirley Mae Webb of St. Albans; her brother-in-law, Charles Webb and his wife DeeDee of St. Albans; her uncle, Michael Exline and his wife Carolyn of Lumberport; and her aunt, Mary Beverly and her husband Charles "Pete" of Clarksburg; as well as several cousins.

In addition to her mother, Nancy was preceded in death by her aunt, Imajean McIntire and her husband Ronald; grandparents, Owen E. and Waneda Exline; and Glenn R. and Hazel Madeline Hall; and her father-in-law, Charles H. Webb.

Nancy graduated from Liberty High School in 1989 and went on to graduate from Fairmont State College in 1993. She started her career as an Economic Service Worker with WV Department of Health and Human Resources Bureau for Children and Families where she retired as the Commissioner with 20 years of service. Nancy served as Vice-President of the Lumberport Lions Club and was

President of the Lumberport Lions Club Cemetery Association. She loved Lumberport and currently held the position of Town Recorder.

Her passion was always helping those in need. Nancy was a Christian who served the Lord by being a former Sunday school teacher, choir director, and deacon. She also served as a Girl Scouts Troop Leader and was a Patient Advocate at the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center. Nancy also enjoyed camping, fishing, traveling, and spending time with her family.

The family would like to thank the Nurses and Clinical Associates at the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at the WVU Ruby Memorial Hospital. And a special thank you to Drs. Hannah Hazard – Jenkins and Adham Salkeni, and Nurse Practitioners, Samantha Hall and Holly Shapiro for their devoted and loving care.

Interment was at the Lumberport Lions Club Cemetery. Online memories and condolences can be shared with the family at [www.perinefunerals.com](http://www.perinefunerals.com)

The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Exline-Webb families.



**Shirla Atha**

Shirla Atha, 76, of Bridgeport passed away Sunday, April 23, 2023, at United Hospital Center surrounded by her family. She was born September 8, 1946, a daughter of the late Homer Claude and Iva Maxine (McDonald) Atha.

Preceding her in death were her sisters Donna Rapp and Carol Fleming, and brother-in-law William (Bill) Holbert. She is survived by her sons Darren and wife Cindy Hardman of Clarksburg and Joshua Hardman of Bridgeport, her sisters Claudia Holbert of Fairmont, Debra (Paul) Samargo of Buckhannon, brother-in-law Tom Fleming of Fairmont, and her baby brother Daniel (Kimberly) Atha of Mt. Clare. In addition, Shirla leaves behind 2 grandsons,

3 granddaughters, 1 step-granddaughter and 6 great-granddaughters. She is also survived by many nephews and nieces.

She was a graduate of Shinnston HS, Class of 1964. Shirla worked as a C&P Telephone Operator for many years. She earned the 55th Annual Voice with a Smile Award for helping a young, blind boy who was mistakenly left home alone. She also worked as a Harrison County bus driver before finally retiring from Ruskin Manufacturing. She later decided to come out of retirement and to serve her community as a school crossing guard for Simpson Elementary School. To know Shirla was to know her family. She enjoyed sharing childhood stories of her parents, siblings, and cousins. She also loved sharing recent news about her children and many grandchildren. Shirla enjoyed spending time with family, reading books, and in the last several years, she found her talent for painting.

As per Shirla's wishes, she will be cremated.



**Donald S. Entwistle**

Donald S. Entwistle, 83, of Stafford, VA, formerly of Bridgeport, WV passed away on Thursday, April 20, 2023 in Fredericksburg, VA. He was born in New Bedford, MA a son of the late Gordon and Alice Souza Entwistle.

He was married for sixty years to the love of his life, Patricia Ann Entwistle. She preceded him in death on November 12, 2018.

Surviving are three sons, Bruce Entwistle and his wife Laura of Sparta, NJ, Mark Entwistle and his wife Michele of Eynon, PA, and Scott Entwistle and his wife Vicki of N. Massapequa, NY; three daughters, Jeanine Denno and her husband Charlie of Stafford, VA, Marci Simon and her husband Eugene of Palm Harbor, FL and Jennifer Hathaway and her husband Frank of Niceville, FL; 19 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; one sister, Judith

Perusse of Morganton, NC; and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Entwistle was a graduate of New Bedford Vocational High School and went on to serve in the USMC Reserves for six years and retired from Grumman Aerospace with 38 years of service in Air Craft Production Management.

He was a member of the All Saints Catholic Church in Bridgeport, WV.

In keeping with his wishes, Mr. Entwistle was cremated.

A gathering of family and friends will be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am at All Saints Catholic Church, 317 E Main St, Bridgeport, WV 26330 where a Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 am with Father Walt Jagela presiding. Inurnment will follow in the Bridgeport Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be extended to the family at [www.amoscarvelli.com](http://www.amoscarvelli.com). A service of Amos Carvelli Funeral Home.



**Yvonne Denise Bramer Eakle**

Yvonne Denise Bramer Eakle, 56, of Clarksburg passed away on Saturday, April 22, 2023 in the Ruby Memorial Hospital following an extended illness.

She was born in Clarksburg on November 17, 1966, a daughter of the late Donald F. Bramer, Sr. and Margaret A. Weber Bramer.

She is survived by her husband, Thomas Blaine Eakle, whom she married on October 8, 1998.

Also surviving are her sister, Eva Conner and her husband Scott of Bridgeport; brother, Donald Bramer, Jr. and his wife Paula of Bridgeport; brother-in-law Larry Eakle of Clarksburg; sisters-in-law, Connie Davis and her husband Todd of Alma, and Traci Hartman of Sashe, TX; several nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews whom she loved dearly, including a wonderful nephew, Jordyn Bailey, who stayed with her husband to comfort him at the hospital; aunts and uncles, Mary Dunaway, Gary Weber and his wife Linda, Debbie Camp and her

husband Steve, Arnold Bramer and his wife Connie, Gary Eakle and Alberta Fragale.

In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her grandparents, Wade and Mildred Bramer and Paul and Eva Weber; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Rex and Patricia Eakle, sister-in-law, Donetta Eakle and brother-in-law, James "Jamie" Eakle.

Yvonne was a 1985 graduate of Bridgeport High School. She attended Clarksburg Beauty Academy and then worked as manager of Stone & Thomas Hair Salon before retiring from T & T Hair Design in Nutter Fort after several years of service. She touched numerous people in her years as a beautician and enjoyed making people laugh. She also enjoyed being in her yard growing beautiful flowers. But most of all, Yvonne enjoyed spending time with her husband, friends and family.

In keeping with her wishes, Yvonne will be cremated. A memorial service will be scheduled at a later date.

Expressions of sympathy may be extended to the family at [www.amoscarvelli.com](http://www.amoscarvelli.com). A service of Amos Carvelli Funeral Home.



**Valinda Dawn Short Harris**

Valinda Dawn Short Harris, 65, of Clarksburg passed away on Saturday, April 22, 2023 in the United Hospital Center.

She was born in Clarksburg on November 29, 1957, a daughter of the late Charles R. and Pauline Dawn Fernandez Short.

She is survived by her husband, Tim Harris, to whom she would have been married 47 years in June.

Also surviving are two daughters, Justina Tate and her husband Frank of Clarksburg and Jennifer Queen of Clarksburg; four grandchildren, Dane Tate, Anthony Queen, Trey Queen and Sydney Queen; one brother, Charles Russell Short II and his fiancé Cindy Tetrick of Bridgeport; one brother-in-law, Stephen Harris and his wife Laura of Harper's Ferry; Jason Jenkins of Good Hope, who was a special part of the family; and her dog Max and two cats.

She was also preceded in death by two nephews, Charles Russell "Chad" Short III and Ryan Harris; and her mother-in-law and father-in-law, Lawrence E. Harris and Delphina V. Davis Harris.

Valinda was a graduate of Roosevelt Wilson High School and was a beautician and owner of Valinda's Beauty Boutique. She was an animal lover, loved taking annual family vacations to the beach and was Christian by faith.

Family and friends may call at the Amos Carvelli Funeral Home, 201 Edison Street, Nutter Fort on Thursday, April 27, 2023 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, where funeral services will be held at 3:00 pm with Pastor Jay Linaburg officiating.

In keeping with her wishes, Valinda will be cremated following the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Expressions of sympathy may be extended to the family at [www.amoscarvelli.com](http://www.amoscarvelli.com). A service of Amos Carvelli Funeral Home.

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## Attorney General sets May stops for North Central West Virginia

CHARLESTON, WV — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey announced a representative from his office will meet with North Central West Virginia residents in May to discuss consumer-related issues and answer any potential questions.

“These public events are a great way for consumers to talk one-on-one with our consumer representatives,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “Residents can easily get questions answered, learn what is going on in their area and how to keep personal information safe and secure.”

Pam Krushansky, a consumer outreach and compliance specialist with the office, will host the events as scheduled below:

- May 1: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. – County Commission Meeting Room, 106 West Main St., Kingwood
- May 3: 11 a.m. to noon – Hill Top Senior Center, RR 32, Thomas
- May 8: 11 a.m. to noon – Mineral County Commission Meeting Room, 68 Armstrong St., Keyser
- May 9: 11 a.m. to noon – Taylor County Senior Center, 52 Trap Road, Grafton
- May 10: 11 a.m. to noon – Harrison County Senior Center, 500 W. Main St., Clarksburg
- May 10: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Shinnston Library, 40 Bridge St., Shinnston
- May 11: 11 a.m. to noon – Marion County Senior Center, 105 Maple Drive, Fairmont
- May 15: 11 a.m. to noon – Barbour Senior Center, 58 N. Crim Ave., Belington
- May 17: 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – Seneca Center, 709 Beachurst Ave., Morgantown
- May 17: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. – WVU OLLI Mountaineer Mall, 5000 Greenbag Road, Morgantown
- May 25: 11 a.m. to noon – Upshur County Senior Center, 28 N. Kanawha St., Buckhannon
- May 30: 11 a.m. to noon – Lewis County Senior Center, 171 W. 2nd St., Weston
- May 31: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Randolph County Commission Meeting Room, 4 Randolph Ave., Elkins
- May 31: Noon to 1:30 p.m. – Flanagan Hill Community Center, Route 72, Red Creek

For information on additional requirements specific to any location, attendees are encouraged to contact Pam Krushansky at 304-741-5834. In case of inclement weather, please call ahead.

## Mountaineer passes the rifle



Mary Roush, the 68th Mountaineer mascot, officially passes the rifle to Mikel Hager, the 69th Mountaineer mascot, during a ceremony at the Mountainlair, April 21. (WVU Photo/Brian Persinger)

MORGANTOWN, WV — Carrying on a West Virginia University tradition, Mikel Hager began his role as the Mountaineer mascot Friday, April 21 when Mary Roush passed the rifle during a symbolic ceremony at the Mountainlair.

Hager, a four-year WVU cheerleader, is a senior exercise physiology major minoring in psychology and communication studies from Madison. He was announced as the 2023-24 Mountaineer mascot March 4, and made his first official appearance as the Mountaineer during the annual Gold-Blue Spring Football Game Saturday, April 22.

“I am honored to have the privilege and opportunity to serve WVU and the state of West Virginia as the 69th Mountaineer,” Hager said. “I hope to make the best of my time in the buckskins and have an impact on Mountaineer fans

everywhere.”

Roush is a sophomore advertising and public relations major minoring in sports communication from Mason. She said fulfilling the Mountaineer duties was an unforgettable experience.

“Serving as the Mountaineer has been the greatest honor of my life,” Roush said. “I am forever grateful for the fans I’ve been able to meet and the places I have been able to see. I am so excited to see what Mikel will do during his time in the buckskins and I wish him all the best.”

Other former Mountaineer mascots in attendance at the annual Passing of the Rifle ceremony included Mark Boggs (1984), Michael Garcia (2014-2015) and Trevor Kiess (2018).

The event was presented by the Mountaineer Mascot Program and Mountain Honorary.

## World record attempt planned

Clarksburg, WV – Rock ‘n’ roll recording artists and globe-trotting journeymen Devon Allman and Donavon Frankenreiter are hoping to make history in 2023. The longtime friends have teamed up for the “See It All American Tour” to attempt to set the Official World Record for fastest time to play a concert in each of the 50 states, which is currently 50 in 50 days set in 2003, according to a news release.

The concept is simple, but the execution will be brutal as Allman and Frankenreiter seek to complete the challenge in 49 days. To commemorate this special occasion, the two multi-talented artists are releasing a collaborative new single “See It All.”

The See It All Tour will launch on August 5 and make its West Virginia stop on Tuesday, August 15 at The Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center in downtown Clarksburg, WV. Throughout the tour, Devon and Donavon, who will perform a collaborative set with a four-piece backing band, will be joined nightly by rotating support acts: Matt Andersen, JD Simo, Matt Costa, Davy Knowles, Mishka, Jackson Stokes, and Goodnight Texas.

“I’ve had this idea in my back pocket for the better part of a decade,” shares Allman. “50 shows in the 50 United States in 50 days. I think growing up reading

the World Record books, it’s just always been a fantasy to go after a world record. This undertaking is going to be really difficult, but very rewarding and I really found the perfect co-conspirator in Donavon Frankenreiter. We have been jamming together for years now and are quite simpatico...he is the perfect Evel to my Knievel.”

“There’s no better way to see it all but by playing all 50 states in under 50 days and I couldn’t think of a better friend to do something this crazy with,” adds Frankenreiter. “I first met Devon on the Allman Family Revival Tour and we always talked about doing something together. One morning, Devon called me and said he had this crazy idea about breaking a world record. As soon as he said 50 shows in 50 states under 50 days I said ‘Yes, let’s do this.’ And now, a year later, we are ready to see it all... or at least attempt to see it all!”

For nearly four decades, Donavon Frankenreiter has been traveling the globe, first as a professional surfer and now as a musician. With over a dozen albums under his belt, Frankenreiter has worked it on the touring trail worldwide for three decades, entertaining audiences with his unique blend of laid-back grooves, philosophical lyrics, and soulful delivery. Donavon is a brand ambassador for Flying Embers as well as Sanuk Footwear and also co-owner

of Humble Brands, Caddis Eyewear and several other companies.

Blues Music Award-winning singer, guitarist, songwriter, and producer Devon Allman(son of rock legend Gregg Allman) has appeared at the world’s biggest festivals and co-founded the supergroups Royal Southern Brotherhood and The Allman Betts Band, amassing a recording catalog of 11 albums. Allman also writes a column for Guitar Player Magazine, is endorsed by Gibson guitars, and serves on the board of directors for the National Blues Museum.

Be a part of music history and cheer on Team D&D as they attempt to set the Official World Record on the See It All Tour this August and September. Let’s kick the tires and start the fires!!

Tickets for Allman and Frankenreiter’s “See It All American Tour” start at only \$25 and go on sale to Friends of the Robinson Grand on Tuesday, April 18 and to the general public on Friday, April 21 at 10 a.m. All tickets can be purchased online at [tickets.therobinsongrand.com](https://tickets.therobinsongrand.com) or by calling the Robinson Grand ticketing center at 855-773-6283.

## LEGAL

### WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Division of Highways NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service ([www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com)) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until June 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call	Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
014	2023840001	R084-REM/GR-24 00		GUARDRAIL D4 2024 REM GUARDRAIL D4 2024 REM GUARDRAIL D4 2024 REM GUARDRAIL COUNTY: DISTRICT 4

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractors’ licence is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must include one of the following forms properly executed with each proposal: Proposal Guaranty Bond, Cashier’s Check, or Certified Check for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on [www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com).

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

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## Stonewood CEOS meet

The Stonewood CEOS (Community Educational Outreach Service - WVU Extension) met April 17 at the Congregational Missionary Church Annex, according to a news release.

Members were welcomed by president Deloris Wilson. A candle was lit in memory of deceased members.

Members present were Deloris Wilson, Ladonna Tucker, Jan Johnson, Estella Farnsworth, Lesita Snider, Darlene Francis, April Stout, Barbara Graham, Eva Summers, Willa Jean Green, and Betty Shreves.

Devotions were read by Willa Jean Green from Psalms 24; King of Glory. The members recited the American and WV flag salutes in unison. Minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted as was the treasurer's report and committee reports.

Continuing education: Eva Summers, chairperson, encouraged all members to have a goal of participating in leadership/office/ and committee training and to attend three to five County Commission meetings this year.

Membership and Marketing: Ladonna Tucker announced that the quilt for the Fireman's Festival raffle will be completed in a few days. The club also made four quilts for an individual and all proceeds will be donated to the Stonewood Fire Department for their children's fall event.

Health Motivator: Willa Jean Green talked about the importance of children having healthy lunches rich in protein. Some examples are dried fruits, jerky, nuts, canned tuna, and salmon.

Wilson gave a book report entitled "The Indigo Girl" by Natasha Boyd. The book is historical fiction based on real life agriculturist, Eliza Lucas, who figured out how to grow and extract dye from indigo plants on her plantation in South Carolina, which eventually brought great wealth to the territory. It's an intriguing story and an interesting read.

Club members brought 26 jars of jelly for the Mustard Seed food pantry; also some members will go to Norwood School to make a presentation of books to the school library, one being written by member Darlene Francis entitled "How Billy Bunny Made Everyone Smile". Congrats to Darlene for this donation.

Green taught the lesson on pollinators. Who are the pollinators? Bees, butterflies, flies, bats, fish, hummingbirds, and flowers are a few of the most important ones. Actually there are 200,000 species of insect pollinators in existence. People can help the environment by planting specific flowers and plants that attract pollinators; an example would be marigolds.

Heritage: Francis brought a beautiful handmade quilt made with polyester fabric by her husband's aunts; the exact age is unknown, but she has had it over 35 years. Wilson brought pieces of jewelry from Israel that was gifted to her.

Reminders: The May meeting will be on May 8; members will go out to lunch after the meeting to celebrate CEOS week a little early. Remember to bring Energy Express items to the meeting. An international student luncheon will be held at St Mark's Church on June 9.

## Plant exchange planned

In a news release, the Harrison County Extension Master Gardeners invited the public to join them for a plant

exchange at 10 a.m., Saturday in the gazebo of the Harrison County Parks and Recreation Complex.

Be sure to arrive early to get checked in prior to the swap. If you have a plant that you've been needing to separate, just don't enjoy anymore, or want to share, this event is for you. Outdoor and indoor plants are welcome, as well as vegetables you may have started from seed.

If you want to share seeds, bring them along as well.

The rules for the plant exchange are simple. You must bring at least one plant or transplant to take a plant. Absolutely no money is to be exchanged. Do not start exchanging plants until 10 a.m., and please do not bring any invasive plants. If you have questions about what is considered an invasive plant, check out: <https://extension.wvu.edu/lawn-gardening-pests/gardening/garden-management/invasive-species-in-your-landscape>.

Following the plant exchange, Harrison County Master Gardeners will be presenting information on how to care for your new transplants. This will be a great opportunity to learn from Master Gardeners and to ask your burning questions about caring for young or new transplants.

If you have further questions about the plant exchange, please call Jennifer Friend at the Harrison County Extension Office, 304-624-8650 or email [jefriend@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:jefriend@mail.wvu.edu).

## UHC Auxiliary holds awards luncheon



In the front row, from left to right are Lyda Lister, Carol Gaynor, and Joy Adams. In the back row, from left to right are Janet Wilson, Kimberly Denny, Shelia Heston, Pat Gray, Sharon Montgomery. Helen McCarty, Betty Pulice

The Auxiliary to United Hospital Center held its annual Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, April 19, according to a news release.

It was held at the Bridgeport Conference Center at Charles Pointe, beginning at noon. The tables were beautifully decorated by Social Chair, Cynthia Campbell. Each place setting also had a bottle of clear, foaming hand soap, with a "Thank You for Being a Helping Hand" note attached.

Sharon Montgomery, Auxiliary President, welcomed everyone to the afternoon festivities. Invocation was given by UHC Chaplain, Rev. Johnmark Camenga, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by President-Elect, Pat Gray. Lunch was served shortly after this.

President Sharon Montgomery introduced the guests and recognized the Auxiliary Past Presidents who were in attendance. Guests were Dr. Mark Povroznik, Vice-President, Quality and Patient Safety; Lora Edgell, Director of Development; Johnmark Camenga, Chaplain and Patient Advocate; John Fernandez, Vice-President Operations; Shirley Cunningham, Human Resources Assistant; and Janis Dobbins, AWWHA President-Elect. Past Presidents in attendance were Lyda Lister, Carole Moodispaugh, Helen McCarty and Carol Gaynor.

President-Elect, Pat Gray, Gift Shop Manager, Scott Griffiths, and the Director of Volunteer

Services, Denise Steffich, conducted the Memorial Service for seven volunteers who passed away this past year. Those memorialized were Norma Garrett, Arlene Bashnett, Carol Burnside, Annabell Barnard, Betty Gaston, Mary Gibson, plus our former Gift Shop Manager, Ida Diem.

Reports were given by Sharon Montgomery, President, and Dr. Mark Povroznik, and Denise Steffich.

Receiving hours pins were: 100 hours – Russell Cook, Kimberly Denny, Lois Reed. 500 Hours – Shelia Heston; 1000 Hours – Pat Gray, Robbi Whiteman, Karen Whyte. 2500 Hours – Sandy Miller. 3500 Hours – Sharon Montgomery. 16,500 Hours – Carol Gaynor.

Receiving pins for years' service were: 10 Years – Sharon Montgomery. 15 Years – Helen McCarty, Betty Pulice, Janet Wilson. 20 Years – Carol Gaynor. 25 Years – Joy Adams. 55 Years – Lyda Lister.

These festivities were followed by the Auxiliary Business Meeting and installation of new officers, conducted by President Sharon Montgomery. The Incoming officers are President – Pat Gray; President-Elect – Donald Niles; Secretary – Judy Gonzalez; Treasurer, Judy Maxwell.

The gavel was passed from Sharon Montgomery to Pat Gray, after which there were drawings for door prizes, followed by the recitation of the Auxiliary Prayer and adjournment.

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# Health summit scheduled

BUCKHANNON, WV—The 2023 Try This WV Youth Summit & Conference will be June 15-17, according to a news release. These in-person events will be held on the beautiful campus of WV Wesleyan College in Buckhannon.

The Youth Summit, in partnership with the WV Prevention Research Center's Youth Advisory Board (YAB), is on June 15 for West Virginians ages 13 to 22 and their guardians/facilitators. The annual Try This Conference, held at WVWC since 2014 prior to COVID, will finally be returning June 16-17.

Join the Try This team and partners to celebrate projects and leaders, build knowledge and skills, explore new healthy-community possibilities, and network across West Virginia with others who want to see their neighborhoods, communities, and state move in a healthier direction.

Try This WV aims to help knock West Virginia off the top of the worst health lists, community by community, by building a statewide grassroots network of emerging leaders who expand opportunities for physical activity and/or healthy food in their communities.

For more information about the 2023 Try This WV Youth Summit & Conference, or to register: <https://www.trythiswv.org/2023conference>




# Students of the Month named

Lincoln High School has announced the February students of the month. The student's biographies were released late in error, said Holly Hawkins, assistant principal.



**Emalee Jo Brown**

Emalee Jo Brown is the daughter of Sean and Amanda Brown of Shinnston, and the granddaughter of Larry & Char Brown of Shinnston, Tina Carson & Dave Meadows of Clarksburg, and Roger Carson of Lumberport.

Academically, Emalee has excelled throughout her four years at Lincoln High School. She has earned a spot on the perfect honor roll due to her exceptional grades. Also, those exceptional grades, reputation, and service, earned her membership into the National Honor Society as a junior. Emalee is currently ranked in the top 20 of her class and has received Top Scholar awards in multiple classes.

Emalee has been an invaluable asset to the cheerleading and softball teams at Lincoln. As a four year member of the cheerleading team, she has created quite a name for herself as she has been part of several years of successful seasons and there is no doubt that her talent helped pave the way for the team to win the 2022 West Virginia Class AA State Championship. In 2022 & 2023, Emalee was chosen as First team Big 10 Cheerleader.

In addition to lettering in softball for three years, Emalee was a part of teams that earned back-to-back Big 10 Championship titles in 2021 & 2022 and a Sectional Championship in 2021. She was awarded First team All-County Right Fielder for 2022.

Emalee's hard work does not stop in the classroom or athletic fields. She has been an active member all four years in the Student Council, where she was selected to serve on the Executive Committee. She is also a member of the Key Club and yearbook staff. Emalee has spent countless hours volunteering for her school and her community. She has collaborated with multiple clubs and organizations to serve many worthwhile programs, such as Angel Luv, Feed-A-Family, Trunk-or-Treat for WVU



**Mason Bradley Loss**

Hospitals, Big Elm Fall Fest, the United Way, the Humane Society, youth sports and Lincoln Middle School.

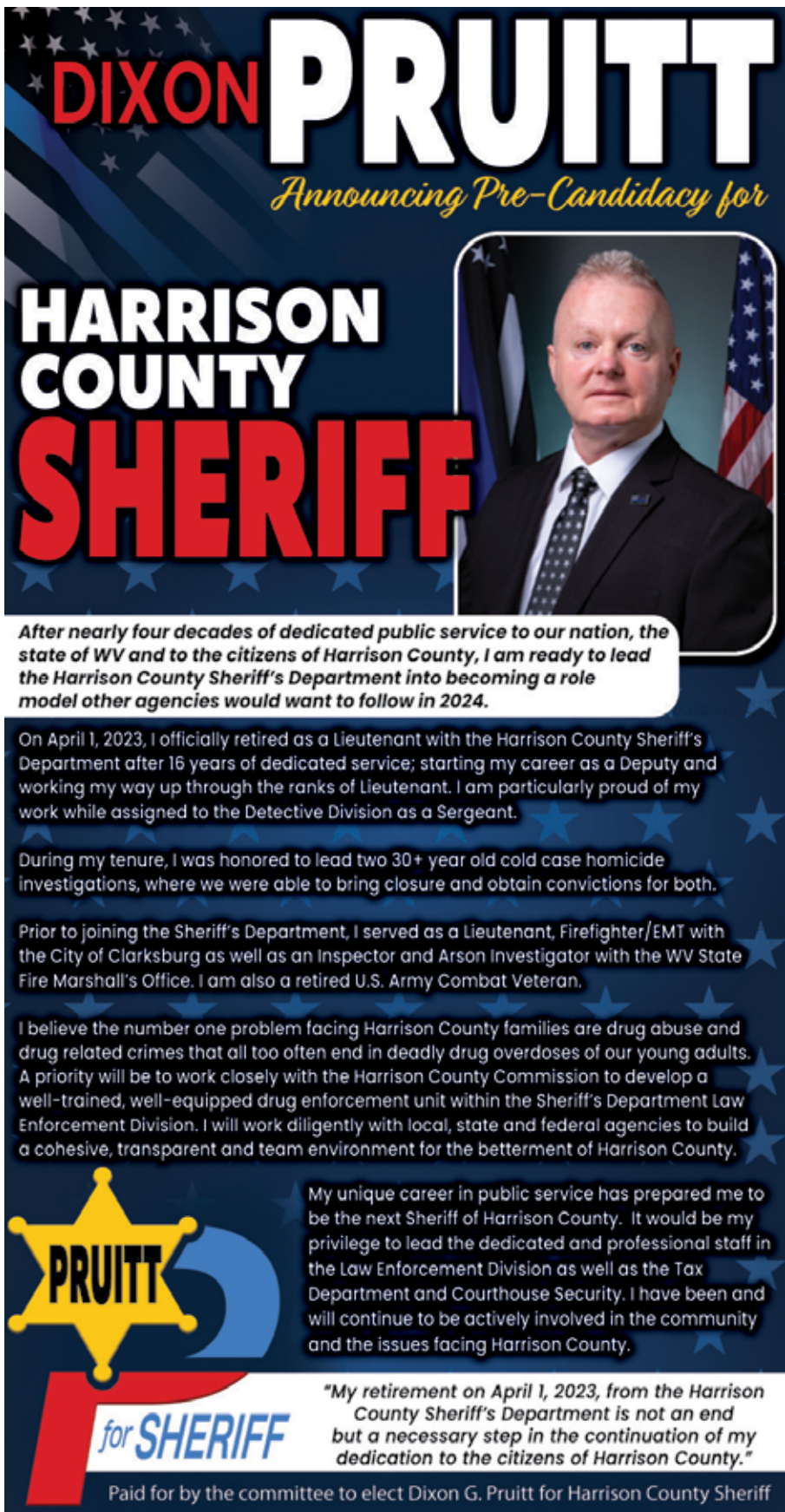
Emalee has been accepted into Fairmont State University and has endless possibilities for her future.

Mason Bradley Loss is the son of David and Megan Rowan, and the grandson of John and Judith Loss, and Dave and Brenda Rowan.

Throughout his four years at Lincoln, Mason has earned a spot on the honor roll due to his exceptional grades. He is in the top 15 of his class, and has qualified as a PROMISE scholar. Mason was inducted into the National Honor Society his junior year, where he currently holds the office of vice president, has taken many college-level classes throughout high school, and has received many Top Scholar awards throughout the years.

Mason has been a member of the marching band all four years. He also holds membership on the Student Council Executive Committee, Key Club, and Cougars Celebrate. He served as assistant stage manager for the school production of "The Wizard of Oz," and holds the title of president for the 4-H Club, the Shinnston Tornados. He has spent countless hours volunteering in his community. Some of these include: Angel Luv, Feed-a-Family, UHC, Trunk-or-Treat, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Feed-a-Family, Shinnston's Women's Club, and WVU Hospitals.

Mason plans to attend West Liberty University in the fall where he will obtain a bachelor's degree in biology, and then plans to pursue a master's degree in physician assistant studies.



**DIXON PRUITT**  
*Announcing Pre-Candidacy for*  
**HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF**

*After nearly four decades of dedicated public service to our nation, the state of WV and to the citizens of Harrison County, I am ready to lead the Harrison County Sheriff's Department into becoming a role model other agencies would want to follow in 2024.*

On April 1, 2023, I officially retired as a Lieutenant with the Harrison County Sheriff's Department after 16 years of dedicated service; starting my career as a Deputy and working my way up through the ranks of Lieutenant. I am particularly proud of my work while assigned to the Detective Division as a Sergeant.

During my tenure, I was honored to lead two 30+ year old cold case homicide investigations, where we were able to bring closure and obtain convictions for both.

Prior to joining the Sheriff's Department, I served as a Lieutenant, Firefighter/EMT with the City of Clarksburg as well as an Inspector and Arson Investigator with the WV State Fire Marshall's Office. I am also a retired U.S. Army Combat Veteran.

I believe the number one problem facing Harrison County families are drug abuse and drug related crimes that all too often end in deadly drug overdoses of our young adults. A priority will be to work closely with the Harrison County Commission to develop a well-trained, well-equipped drug enforcement unit within the Sheriff's Department Law Enforcement Division. I will work diligently with local, state and federal agencies to build a cohesive, transparent and team environment for the betterment of Harrison County.

My unique career in public service has prepared me to be the next Sheriff of Harrison County. It would be my privilege to lead the dedicated and professional staff in the Law Enforcement Division as well as the Tax Department and Courthouse Security. I have been and will continue to be actively involved in the community and the issues facing Harrison County.

*"My retirement on April 1, 2023, from the Harrison County Sheriff's Department is not an end but a necessary step in the continuation of my dedication to the citizens of Harrison County."*

**PRUITT**  
for SHERIFF

Paid for by the committee to elect Dixon G. Pruitt for Harrison County Sheriff

# Dixon Pruitt files pre-candidacy for sheriff

After nearly four decades of dedicated public service to his nation, to the state of West Virginia, the Clarksburg Fire Department, and the Harrison County Sheriff's Department, Quiet Dell resident Dixon Pruitt is announcing his pre-candidacy for Sheriff of Harrison County.

Pruitt provided the following information via news release.

On April 1, 2023, Pruitt officially retired as a Lieutenant with the Harrison County Sheriff's Department. First hired by Sheriff Jim Jack, Pruitt served the Sheriff's Department for 16 years. During his time as a Sergeant with the Detective's Division, he led the investigation to close two 30+ year old cold case homicides that occurred in Harrison County.

Prior to joining the Harrison County Sheriff's Department, Pruitt served as a Firefighter/EMT with the City of Clarksburg as well as an Inspector and Arson Investigator with the WV State Fire Marshall's Office. He is also a retired U.S. Army Combat Veteran.

"It has been an honor to serve my country, my state and the people of Harrison County," Pruitt said. "As a Veteran, a Firefighter, and a career Law Enforcement professional, I believe that hard work and transparency creates confidence from the citizens we serve."

"My unique career in public service has prepared me to be Sheriff of Harrison County," Pruitt continued. It would be my privilege to lead the dedicated and professional staff in the Law Enforcement Division as well as the Tax Department and Court House Security.

Pruitt said that his priority in Law Enforcement would include working with local, state and federal agencies to address drug-related crimes throughout Harrison County.

"I will work with the County Commission to develop a well-trained and equipped drug enforcement unit. I will support community policing by working closely with municipal leaders and local schools, and I'll be a voice for everyone who has been shut out of the system. I will build a cohesive working team environment with all agencies for the betterment of all Harrison County," Pruitt said.

Pruitt said that one of the biggest problems facing Harrison County families are drug abuse and drug related crimes that all too often end in deadly drug overdoses of our young adults.

"We must do better. We have to do better. Our neighbors and our schools are depending on their local law enforcement to protect our families," Pruitt said. "Harrison County still leads the state and the nation in the number of overdose deaths per capita due to illegal drug use."

Pruitt said he wants to make the Harrison County Sheriff's Department an example that other agencies would want to follow. If elected, he said that he will lead by positive example.

Pruitt is a resident of Harrison County who has had a respected career in public service. Pruitt lives in Quiet Dell with his wife, Leslie Queen Pruitt, a retired court reporter. Pruitt is recognized as a problem solver with close working relationships with local community leaders.