

May 11, 2023 - May 17, 2023

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# Motherhood means more than giving birth to a child



Sandra Cumberledge said that her aunt, Tonya Hamrick, has played the role of a mother in her life. Left to right, Hamrick and Cumberledge.



Makayla Dixon said that her mother has supported her in every way possible. Left to right, Jenna Ash and Dixon.

By Kara Linaburg

The first Mother’s Day was celebrated on May 12, 1908, by Anna Jarvis in Grafton, West Virginia, and has grown into a day to honor not only biological motherhood but maternal bonds.

Motherhood is a role that extends beyond birthing a child and creating life. Oxford Languages defines a mother as a woman who brings up a child with care and affection, protectively looks after someone with kindness, or a woman who gives birth. Wikipedia defines a mother as a female parent of a child, either by having helped raise them or by having given birth to them.

Maykayla Dixon, of Clarksburg, said that when she needed her, her mom “has dropped everything to love and support me in every way possible. She is the most beautiful and talented person that I know.” As a teen, Dixon left Morgantown, where she was living at the time, to move in with her mother in Harrison County. According to her mom, Jenna Ash, she had waited and hoped that her daughter would one day be able to live with her. She and her mom are both better because of this time, according to Dixon, and she said they have been blessed with many “favorable” memories since.

Motherhood is also selfless. Jay Linaburg, who is a current resident of Clarksburg, said “at an early age my father, who loved his family very much, passed away when I was twelve. I became angry at God, wondering how could God love me and take my father at such a young age.” Linaburg said his mom worked hard as a single mom to provide for her four children, and no matter what happened,

See “Mother’s Day” on Pg 8

## Local churchgoers find unity in divisive times



From left to right are John Paul Nardelli, Lou Ortenzio, Desi Underwood, Kara Linaburg, Courtney Compton Bradley and Michael Burge. Linaburg is the author of this piece. Other people pictured are in a group that meets weekly when they are able. They said that learning from each other and their differences is important for their personal spiritual growth. The group has been meeting on and off for two and a half years.

By Kara Linaburg

April 28, five people of different ages, beliefs, and backgrounds, sat around the table at Stonewall Coffee in downtown Clarksburg, drinking coffee and debating apologetics, theology, and church doctrine like they’ve done weekly when possible for the last two and a half years. Several regular members of the group were missing that day and according to Desi Underwood, assistant director of the Clarksburg Mission, any given Friday varies in attendance depending on members’ schedules, and some members come and go.

The group is unique because each one at the table has a different story about their experiences in a church and they come from different denominations and churches in the area. One woman who attended

See “Churchgoers” on Pg 8

## Wilson Martino Dental 2023 Family & Friends Scholarship recipients announced

Dr. Robert Martino, CEO of Wilmar Management (parent company to Wilson Martino Dental, TLC Dental, iSmile Specialists and the Smile Defenders) is proud to announce the 2023 Wilson Martino Dental Family and Friends High School Scholarship Recipients.

Dr. Martino initially established the Wilson Martino Dental Family and Friends Scholarship in 2020 to honor of the perseverance, determination, and flexibility of students as they navigated the chaotic environment of their high school career, according to a news release.

Despite the diverse conditions presented by the recovery from the global pandemic, these students have successfully moved towards graduation and are pursuing bright futures.

Congratulations to the 2023 Scholarship Recipients.



**Camryn Elizabeth Ielapi**, a 2023 Bridgeport High School Honors Graduate, is the daughter of John and Stephanie Ielapi. Camryn has been accepted

to WVU.



**Kami Reese Linger**, a graduating member of the South Harrison High School Class of 2023, is the daughter of Dr. Edward Linger and Barbie Paugh. Kami has been accepted to Fairmont State University where she will major in English Education.



**Chloe Cale**, a 2023 Buckhannon Upshur High School Honors Graduate will be attending West Virginia Wesleyan College this fall. She is the daughter of Amanda Downs.



Alyssa Rae Dunn,

an honors graduate of the Robert C. Byrd Class of 2023, will be attending Alderson Broaddus College and has signed to play soccer there as well. Alyssa is the daughter of Tracy Weaver and Brian Dunn.

**Ava Marie Skinner**, will graduate from Lincoln High School with the Class of 2023 and has an aspiring

dental career in the field of Orthodontics and Dental Hygiene. She is the daughter of Amy Jo Swiger and Jeremy Brent Skinner.



See “Scholarship” on Pg 6



Emalee Brown is crowned Prom Queen by Principal David Decker on Saturday.



Nick Anderson is crowned Prom King by Principal David Decker on Saturday.





OPINION

How much are you carrying?

By Bryan Golden

You wouldn’t be able to lift a 55 gallon drum filled with water. Although you could easily pick up a cleaning bucket filled with water, you wouldn’t want to hold it for a long time. If you tried, it would feel as if it were getting heavier rather quickly.

Holding a cup filled with water is a cinch. Anyone can do it. But how long can you hold it for? The longer it’s held, the heavier it seems. At some point in time, you would need to put it down.

Just as a seemingly light object becomes heavier the longer it’s held, so do the burdens you carry around with you on a constant basis. An issue that initially appears minor grows in significance the longer you hold onto it.

The weight increases steadily as you clutch onto numerous concerns. You become bogged down even faster with the cumulative mass of your collected burdens. Your stress level rises while your energy and enthusiasm drops. Because the progression is gradual, it’s not readily noticeable until it starts to become overwhelming.

Every time you pick up a minor burden it appears to be no big deal. It gets added to your load without much thought. Since the mental weight increases gradually, you adjust to it and incrementally adjust to the growing load.

Each issue alone may be relatively insignificant. Even though you may not be consciously aware of its presence, you are still affected subconsciously. Since the weight you are carrying rises so gradually, you accept the increasing burden as normal and tolerable.

As such, you don’t readily perceive the incremental additions to your stress level. Although you may feel anxious, more irritable, less energetic, and less patient, there is no one obvious culprit you can identify. This fact further compounds your frustration.

Over time, you forget exactly why you are carrying many of the burdens. The details fade, leaving behind only emotions or bad feelings. You become weighed down by accumulated mental debris that is no longer identifiable.

Worry makes things worse. It intensifies whatever you are carrying. Worry drains your energy without accomplishing a thing. Worry doesn’t help you in any way.

There is not one good reason to accumulate mental issues. It’s a bad habit that needs to be corrected as soon as possible. In order to accomplish this, you must change your approach.

Let’s consider an alternative scenario. Each time you pick up a small burden you let it go rather than carrying it. It’s that simple. With this approach your burden never grows. This works because there’s no point dragging problems around with you.

Here’s how you deal with new issues. For each, ask yourself the following questions: Does this really matter? If not, let it go. Is this worth my energy? If not, let it go. Do I have any control over the issue? If not, let it go. If yes, take the appropriate action and then let it go.

Also, stop worrying. It’s OK to be concerned and take action when and where appropriate. When you let your burdens drop, it’s easier to release the accompanying worries as well. Constant worrying is deleterious to your mental and physical wellbeing. Furthermore, it causes you to hang onto those very things you should be letting go of.

Stay vigilant. Be aware of what you are picking up. It’s too easy to revert back to your old pattern. As you empty your mental load you’ll feel lighter. You will quickly realize how pointless it is to pick things up in the first place.

BryanGoldenistheauthorof“DaretoLiveWithoutLimits.” Contact Golden at Bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com Copyright 2023 Bryan Golden

Got a Great Local News Story?

Tell us about it today!

BOOK OPENINGS

ACROSS

DOWN

1 "Billy —" (1991 gangster film)

9 Certain line on a weather map

15 God of love

20 It'll make a walking surface shine

21 Sterling or Shannan of the NFL

22 Cartoon art of Japan

23 Washington monument

25 Tasty morsel

26 Devoured

27 Stitch

28 Caesar's 604

30 "Othello" villain

31 Flung

33 Belief that one is destined to be a savior

38 Call to cop cars, in brief

40 Weasel look-alike

41 Concept

42 Singer of the 1984 hit "Too Late for Goodbyes"

48 Hwys., e.g.

49 Von Sydow of "The Exorcist"

52 Prayer opener

53 "Chances —" (1957 hit)

54 Dept. of Justice div.

56 Vatican VIP

57 Not distributed, as cards

59 One working to take control

65 Actress — Dawn Chong

66 Mean Amin

68 Lucy's Desi

69 Dog types

70 City west of Lake Superior

74 Freely

77 "Guys and Dolls" song

78 Meadowland

79 Punch sound

82 Narrative at the start of the Bible

85 Sportsperson

88 Ship's frame

89 Cry on "The Simpsons"

90 Biblical verb ending

92 Big blood line

93 Sinuous fish

94 Small pellets for air guns

96 Famous 1804 duel

100 High-school jrs.' exam

102 Billy portrayed by Brad Pitt in "Moneyball"

104 Swelled head

105 Los Angeles neighborhood

109 Tranquillize

115 Brazilian berry in juices

116 "Eat — eaten" (law of survival)

117 Lister's abbr.

119 "How Do I Live" singer LeAnn

120 Mint family herb

122 What the first words of eight long answers in this puzzle are

127 Crawl

128 Ready to go

129 Thorn in one's side

130 Ibsen's "— Gabler"

131 Family tree females

132 Have faith in

6 Poking tool

7 Earthy colors

8 One who used to be in the club

9 Dogma suffix

10 "Homeland" airer, for short

11 Rowing tool

12 Of a wedding

13 Southwestern tribe

14 Past artifact

15 Panther, e.g.

16 Not fully aged

17 Hot-and-cold dessert

18 PR concern

19 Juice cleanse, e.g.

24 She-sheep

29 Render null

32 Quarterback Marino

34 IRS datum

35 — Paulo

36 "Son of," in Arab names

37 Rx writers

39 With 42-Down, restaurant dish of the day

42 See 39-Down

43 Forearm part

44 Store of ore

45 State of rage

46 Nabokov title heroine

47 Born, to Gigi

48 Trunk bone

50 Copied

51 Boomers' kids

54 "The Nanny" star Drescher

55 Grooved ring holding a gem

56 Supplication

58 "My Girl Tisa" star Palmer

60 Dramatist David

61 First-class

62 Central

63 WWII sub

64 First subway line in NYC

67 "— use!" ("I give up!")

70 Tuning knob

71 Final: Abbr.

72 "Pipe down!"

73 Hideous foe of Popeye

74 Dull pain

75 Factual

76 Skillfully executed

79 Impudent

80 Sgt. Snorkel's pet dog

81 Phase out nursing

83 Takes too much, in brief

84 "— out!" (ump's cry)

86 "Bali —"

87 Cyber-chuckle

91 1978 Stephen King book

94 Cove relative

95 First-column bingo square

96 Scrooge's cry

97 Prefix with lateral

98 Clergyman's subj.

99 Year divs.

101 Covered with gunky stuff

102 Brand of pizza crust

103 Swimmer Gertrude

105 Emerge from an egg

106 Earthy colour

107 Instrument with pipes

108 Spearheaded

110 Uneven, as leaf margins

111 Long sofa

112 Alter formally

113 Verizon, e.g., for short

114 German city

118 Sleuth's lead

121 Federal ecology org.

123 Top-left PC key

124 Neckline type

125 Cheez- — (crackers)

126 Puppy's bite

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 11, 1909:** Filmmaker Ellis Dungan was born. After years of working in the feature film industry in India, he settled in Wheeling, where he shot documentaries and produced films for the state and the region.

**May 11, 1930:** Physician John C. Norman, Jr., was born in Charleston. A noted thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon and researcher, he was best known for his work toward creating an artificial heart.

**May 12–14, 1921:** Bullets peppered down on about a dozen mining towns in the Matewan-Williamson area, and nonunion miners fired back, in what became known as the Battle of the Tug. Three people were shot and killed.

**May 13, 1962:** Editorial cartoonist Henry Payne was born in Charleston. In 1989, Payne was the first editorial cartoonist in the country to make his work available via computer.

**May 14, 1878:** Photographer Rufus “Red” Ribble was born in Blacksburg, Virginia. For nearly 40 years he traveled the coalfields making panoramic photographs of miners, towns, family reunions, church congregations and school groups.

**May 14, 1906:** Social reformer Mary Behner was born in Xenia, Ohio. From 1928 until 1937, Behner worked in the coal camps along Scotts Run near Morgantown, fighting poverty and creating social and educational outlets for families.

**May 14, 1943:** Alan Mollohan was born in

Fairmont. Mollohan served in the U.S. Congress from 1983 to 2011.

**May 15, 1880:** The state’s first telephone exchange was placed in service in Wheeling with about 25 subscribers.

**May 15, 1886:** Minnie Buckingham Harper was born in Winfield. She was the first Black woman to serve as a member of a state legislative body in the United States. She was appointed by Governor Howard Gore on January 10, 1928, to fill the unexpired term of her husband, E. Howard Harper.

**May 15, 1893:** Albert Sidney “Sid” Hatfield, controversial police chief of Matewan and martyred hero to union coal miners, was born near Matewan, on the Kentucky side of Tug Fork.

**May 15, 1953:** George Brett, the Hall of Fame third baseman for the Kansas City Royals, was born in Glen Dale in Marshall County. Along with Hank Aaron, Willie Mays, and Stan Musial, he is one of only four players in Major League history to accumulate 3,000 hits, 300 home runs and a .300 career batting average.

**May 16, 1778:** About 300 Wyandot and Mingo Indians attacked Fort Randolph at Point Pleasant. Unable to take the fort, they proceeded up the Kanawha River toward other settlements.

**May 16, 1928:** Minister Robert Graetz Jr. was born in Clarksburg. He helped organize the Montgomery bus boycott, and was the only White minister in the highly segregated Alabama city to support the boycott publicly.

**May 17, 1854:** A violent windstorm swept up the Ohio River and severely damaged the Wheeling Suspension Bridge.

**May 17, 1862:** The Battle of Pigeon Roost took place in Princeton during the Civil War. Union soldiers were noisily approaching Princeton from the southeast, unaware that the Confederates were lying in ambush. The attack left an estimated 18 federal troops killed and 38 wounded.



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)*

Book sale

Bridgeport Public Library  
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Rally for dinner at Brickside Bar and Grille at 5 p.m.  
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“Hunt” From Pg 1.

The Museum of American Glass in Weston was established in 1993 as a nonprofit with a goal to discover, publish and preserve whatever may relate to the glass industry in West Virginia, the United States of America or wherever else glass has been manufactured. It is probably one of the nicest tributes to the glass industry and it is in one of the richest regions for glass making in America. From the time I was a small boy, I can remember people talking about the McNicol China factory and the glass plants in the Adamston neighborhood and North View neighborhood in Clarksburg. The tall brick smokestacks dotted the landscapes throughout Central West Virginia and many of my relatives worked at the Hazel-Atlas factory, later to become Continental Can and finally Anchor Hocking. The museum captures the variety of glass and there is even a small rendition of a glass factory. I remember my mother having a small glass candy dish in the shape of a hen. It was an amber color and she had it for most of my life. The display at the museum had dozens of these glass dishes in every color and size. A quick search on Google indicates that these dishes that probably sold for a dollar or two are now selling for around \$40 apiece. These were only one style of glassware on display and I’m sure a visit would bring back memories of long ago for many visitors.

It is hard to imagine what an impact the glass industry has had on thousands of families in our area. Many people spent their entire careers working in the factories and stories about the “hot end” or the “decorating” department can elicit hours of anecdotes from men and women who worked in the factories. Before plastic and Styrofoam, glass was used for beer and soda bottles, as well as dishes and cooking bowls and thousands of other uses. Even insulators that were on every electric pole were made of glass. Many years ago, when McDonald’s restaurants needed a giveaway, they would give away colorful glasses, in the hundreds of thousands,



The museum has a model of the Jeanette Glass Company, which began operations in the late 1880s in Jeanette, Pennsylvania.



News and Journal columnist Jim Hunt was impressed by the variety of blue glassware on display at The Museum of American Glass in Weston.



Jim Hunt, who captured this photo, remembers his mother having a small glass candy dish in the shape of a hen and was awed by the variety at the museum.

Surprisingly, the admission to the museum is free and you would gladly pay several dollars to see the variety of exhibits and the sheer number of pieces. If you have elderly relatives, this would be a great place for a day trip, and I am sure this would put a smile on their faces. I plan to take my granddaughters to the museum when they visit from South Carolina this summer. Like many places I write about, this is a jewel, just waiting to be discovered. Give it a try and I’m sure you will be impressed with this Amazing museum.

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## WVU baseball is hitting it out of the park



### The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor  
Sports Editor



**West Virginia University Baseball Head Coach Randy Mazey has impressed fans coaching this year's baseball team.**

West Virginia University's baseball team has been playing at an incredibly consistent level all season. This past Saturday, they had a ten-game win streak snapped by Oklahoma, but even the 6-3 setback to the Sooners couldn't stop the Mountaineer momentum that has been growing all season. Mountaineer Nation has taken notice of Head Coach Randy Mazey and his team's strong play. In this Saturday's loss at Monongalia County Ballpark, WVU set a new single game attendance mark at 4,387. It surpassed the previous record set in 2019 and shows the backing that this year's edition is receiving because of its play.

Wednesday of last week, the Mountaineers beat Pitt 10-0 in front of over 4,000 fans. It provided a second

win over the Panthers in the last few weeks. WVU has been ranked nationally consistently, drawing respect from around the country in the process. The Big 12 Conference is looking up at the Mountaineers. Mazey has his team in the lead with only two more conference clashes remaining.

As of Saturday, the Mountaineers owned a 35-12 record that included a 12-5 conference record. As good as WVU is at home (15-5), they are more impressive on the road versus conference foes. WVU is 7-2 in away from Morgantown Big 12 play. Coming into the weekend, the Mountaineers had lost just one Big 12 clash with Kansas. The other Big 12 opponents (Kansas State, Oklahoma State, TCU, and Baylor) suffered setbacks to the gold and blue. The Horned Frogs and Bears received the broom treatment. The sweeps of TCU and Baylor gave up big wins to West Virginia and helped them to a multi-game lead in conference play. The wins over the Cowboys and the Wildcats loom large because they are second and third respectively in the conference ranking.

This weekend, WVU welcomes Texas Tech to town. The Red Raiders are hovering around .500 in Big 12 play. This is the last chance to see WVU at home during the regular seasons, and what better way to celebrate Mother's Day than at the baseball field.

A trip to Austin, Texas will close out the regular season. The Longhorns play their last seven games at home and will be settled in by the time Mazey's men come to town. Texas is in fourth place in the Big 12 and owns a 22-7 record in Austin. If WVU can put the horns down, they could possibly lay claim to their first ever regular season championship in the Big 12.

There is a tremendous advantage for the winner of the regular season. The top seed will play the eighth seed and then the winner of the fourth and fifth seed lock-up.

Mazey has his sights on the big prize, a trip to the College World Series. It's the focus of every program in the country. This year the ticket to the post seasons has already been punched. It's just a matter of when and where they will end up. A Big 12 title could mean more games in Morgantown, and that is on every WVU fan's wishlist.

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 Liberty's Charlee Johnson and South Harrison's Layton Wageman.

Mountaineer softball standout, Charlee Johnson has been hitting home runs at a rapid rate. This past week, she belted them when it matters the most, in the second season. On Thursday, Johnson had a homer with three RBIs in a loss to Philip Barbour. The next contest, an elimination game versus Elkins, provided intense pressure. Johnson responded with another home run to help her squad to a win over Elkins.

Hawks baseball player, Layton Wageman came up big last week, propelling his team into the LKC Night of Champions Tournament. Wageman picked up the win on the mound over Doddridge County going five innings and striking out seven batters. He also helped his own case going three for three at the plate and with a pair of RBIs.

Congratulations to Liberty's Charlee Johnson and South Harrison's Layton Wageman for being named the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week!

## Bridgeport woman selected for Golf Hall of Fame



**Caroline Ramsey of Bridgeport was Club Champion at Clarksburg Country Club once and 19 times at Bridgeport Country Club. Before coming to West Virginia, she was the Kalamazoo (MI) Women's City Champion in 1974 and the Gull Lake (MI) Club Champion in 1975.**

CHARLESTON, WV — The West Virginia Golf Association (WVGA) is extremely excited to announce the 2023 West Virginia Golf Hall of Fame inductee Caroline Ramsey of Bridgeport. She will be enshrined in ceremonies conducted later this year and join 19 others as recipients of this prestigious honor, according to a news release.

The West Virginia Golf

Hall of Fame revealed its first ever inductees in 2009, when the incomparable pair of William C. Campbell and Sam Snead were enshrined as the inaugural class. Since that time an impressive list of those who made a profound impact on the game of golf in the Mountain State have been honored.

Caroline Ramsey had an esteemed playing career in West Virginia which includes four West Virginia Amateur Championships (1969, 1975, 2001 & 2002), 14 West Virginia Women's Senior Amateur Championships (1998-2001, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2014-2016), seven years as West Virginia Women's Senior Player of the Year (2008-2011 and 2014-2016) and West Virginia Women's Player of the Year in 2014. Additionally, she was the WVGA Club Tournament Women's Champion in 1998 and competed in 30 years of Virginia's/Carolina's Matches.

"Caroline Ramsey is

a name everyone knows in West Virginia golf and she is so deserving of this honor. Her career accomplishments are unmatched, and she continues to add to her legacy as she continues to compete in WVGA events," said WVGA Interim Executive Director Chris Slack. "We are so excited for her and look forward to her induction ceremony later this year at her home club of Bridgeport Country Club."

In addition to her individual championships and honors, she is a seven-time member of the USGA Women's State Team. She competed in the 1971 U.S. Women's Amateur Championship, the 1963 U.S. Girls Junior Championship and was Runner-Up in the 1969 National Intercollegiate Championship.

The WVGA Hall of Fame Selection Committee Chairman Tim McNeely said, "It was an honor to be a part of this HOF process this year. Caroline Ramsey is very

much deserving and will be a wonderful addition to the HOF. I look forward to Bridgeport Country Club's support and rolling out the carpet for an event later this year in her honor.

West Virginia Golf Hall of Fame History

Stuart Bloch (2014)  
William C. Campbell (2009)  
Sally Carrol (2015)  
Patrick D. Carter (2013)  
Berridge Long Copen (2016)  
Scott Davis (2017)  
Barry Evans (2019)  
Steve Fox (2015)  
Larry Martin (2015)  
Harold Payne (2011)  
Julius Pollock (2013)  
Fritzi Stifel Quarrier (2014)  
Caroline Ramsey (2023)  
Sam Snead (2009)  
Denny Shute (2012)  
Barney Thompson (2017)  
Ed Tutwiler, Jr. (2010)  
Susan Vail (2019)  
Brad Westfall (2016)  
Slugger White (2016)



**Senior Delaney Haller impressed the crowd on Friday while recording her 300th regular season strike-out and then later in the game her 800th career strike-out.**

## Rentals available for summer events



### From The World of Parks & Recreation

By Doug Comer

The County Commission has invested the Vital Service Levy dollars over the past two years into county owned properties including the Recreation Complex located on Route 19 south outside of Clarksburg as well as the three other properties to allow for recreational and social activities to be used on those properties.

First, for most that may not know, the rec complex has available a 240-person capacity indoor area for wedding receptions, family reunions as well as many other social events for those looking for a place to host their special event. The indoor area has a glassed-in wall facing a golf course and would be scenic for anyone looking for a place that can front as a background setting for photos.

Director Mike Book, who moved into this building close to 20 years ago, knew that this facility would be used for multiple activities including a home for school function enrichments, summer parks programs and of course, special events as he explains.

"We have hosted anything from elimination dinners to basket fairs and everyone has positive feedback about the building. It is quite a beautiful venue if you are here for a wedding or even here to explore our dinosaur exhibit. It is great to have a place like this for the citizens in the area to use when needed."

The other properties at Spelter, Goodhope and Summit Park focus primarily on recreation as each has a facility for sports like baseball or softball. Other recreational activities include basketball courts, playgrounds and shelters for those who wish to host family or team functions. A ton of effort has been put into the fields as a lack of properties throughout the county has caused coaches to reach beyond the normal fields for practice of play.

The field at Goodhope received a new fence and backstop over the past year and plans for new dugouts are in the future for the field. To add, a half-court basketball pad was placed last season as well as a 24'x24' shelter for families to use while kids are at play. The final project was the install of some playground equipment for the kids to use. To Book, all improvements will allow for numerous happenings at the park.

"We hope to have some different things this summer as these outlying properties including music in the park. The only hang up at Goodhope is parking, but the church up the street has allowed for people to use it in cases like this or for baseball games. We have to get all properties up to ADA compliance and have all amenities available before we plan to host on these grounds."

Spelter has seen vast improvements to the baseball field and the removal of an old trailer that once sat on the grounds. After that project was complete, a gravel parking lot was installed to open up parking for those who use the field or the park itself. The park has been used for sports in the past as well as annual retreats by the local church. The shelter and playground area as well as a basketball court makes the property a prime place to spend weekends with the family or friends.

Finally, Summit Park was once a property that hosted many softball tournaments, family and community

reunions as well as host to county operated sports leagues like soccer, t-ball and area competitions like punt, pass and kick or the Kirkland soccer challenge. Possibly the biggest piece of property related to recreation, the grounds were in bad shape once the Summit Park Association deeded the land to the county.

"We have had a lease agreement for years with the county and used this property for many of our activities," said Book. "Through the years, the property saw few improvements and it got to a point where the SPA could not properly repair the issues, the county stepped in and since has made improvements. But, we have a ways to go."

The area, which still is a great area for league softball as well as family functions, has seen improvements to the middle field as Neel's fence replaced the older fencing with new, including a backstop. New dugouts and bleachers make the property perfect for those Sunday softball games with the buddies while the family members can look above at the picnic shelter and cheer on their spouse.

Restroom facilities are available and parking is ample on the upper lot. Kids can play on the playground and even have their own game of ball on the Little League field, which has hosted youth sports for years. Plans to replace the backstop as well as the outfield fencing are in the works and should be complete by year's end. There was a drainage issue in the back, but has now been remedied and we can resume the fence and backstop replacement.

For families, coaches or anyone looking to use the facilities, please feel free to contact the parks office and we will be glad to help make your league, party or seasonal league the best it can be.



# HCSCC SPOTLIGHT

Featuring news from the Harrison County Senior Citizen Center

## Board approves audit

### Annual meeting set

The HCSCC Board of Directors held a hybrid in-person and on Zoom meeting on April 27 and the following actions were taken:

- Approved the Title VI Plan
- Approved the Fiscal Year 2022 Year Audit and Form 990

The next Board meeting, which will be an annual meeting, will be on Thursday, June 22, at 9:30 a.m. in person in the boardroom and on Zoom.

Remaining board meeting dates scheduled for 2023 are: June 22, Sept. 28, and Oct. 26.

### 2023 Board Members

Bill O’Field, president; Ryan Kennedy, vice president; Sandra Mossor, secretary; Donald Burton, treasurer; Janet Dotson; Franklin Hairston; Sharon Hamilton; Will Hyman; Harley Jeffries; Bill Phillips; Donna Stuart; Susan Thomas; and Betty Waddy.

## Center to host Meet the Candidates event

Harrison County Senior Center will host a “Meet The Candidates” program, an always well attended annual event, on May 17 in the ballroom.

Candidates for the Clarksburg City Council seats and Water Board seats will each have five minutes to share their campaign information.

The social will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the program at 6 p.m., and additional candidate visitation will follow the program.

## Center mourns death



Sandra Mossor, who recently died, was an active participant in bowling outings. Here, she concentrates on the game.

Harrison County Senior Center Board of Directors is saddened to report the death of longtime board member, Sandra Mossor, who passed away on April 30. In addition to being the current board secretary, Mossor was an active member of Eastview Satellite and in several senior center clubs and activities.

She participated in several bowling outings and really enjoyed the fun and laughter. Her kindness and generosity touched everyone who met her. She brightened the room with her infectious laughter, and she will be sadly missed by her Kinley Café morning group and many groups of card playing buddies.



Sandra Mossor, at right, was a frequent cheerful participant in card games at the Senior Center.

## Walmart donates to senior center



Surrounded by Walmart store associates, Walmart Asset Protection Coach Tim Christafore, left, presents a \$500 check to HCSCC board member Betty Waddy, center, and board president, Bill O’Field, right. The donation will be used to support the HCSCC Walk to End Alzheimer’s Team and the operations of the Harrison County Senior Center.

## Members partner with Parks and Recreation



From left to right are Board President Bill O’Field; Kendy Clutter, center member, and Donna Stuart, of Harrison County Parks and Recreation.

HCSCC member Kendy Clutter served as a volunteer greeter on the final day of the “Dem Bones” Dinosaur Exhibit at the Harrison County Parks and Recreation Complex.

HCSCC provided volunteer greeters for each of the eight weekends open to the public.

Volunteer greeters included Bill O’Field, Mike Gorzka, Pam Amos, Betty Waddy, Randall Lynch, Joe & Carla Caruso, Sandy Walker, Carol E. Brown, Susan Thomas and Kendy Clutter.

Also participating was Erica Perry, children’s librarian at Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library.

## Book Talk in the Café set



JoAnn James, pictured here, is preparing for a Book Talk at the center. Her book “Seeds for Enlightenment 101” is a compilation of reflective thoughts, aspirations, and hopes.

JoAnn James’ Book Talk on her book “Seeds for Enlightenment 101” will be held on Wednesday, May 17 at 11 a.m. in the Kinley Café.

The Book Talk will be hosted by the HCSCC Book Club and co-sponsored by the Harrison County Senior Center and the Cultural Foundation of Harrison County.

For more information on future Book Talks, contact Book Club facilitator Bill O’Field at 304-623-6795.

## Tai Chi Class celebrates World Tai Chi Day



Center members celebrate Worldwide Tai Chi and Qigong Day on April 29.

Worldwide Tai Chi and Qigong Day is celebrated each year on the last Saturday in April. This year, on Saturday, April 29, HCSCC and YMCA Tai Chi class members, along with other Tai Chi enthusiasts from the local area, celebrated at 11 a.m. at Clarksburg City Park in Nutter Fort with an hour of Tai Chi followed by a potluck lunch in the park

pavilion and socialization. World Tai Chi Day Participants included Carol E. Brown, Mark Coffindaffer, Joanne Feldman, Carla Kesling, Ronald Kesling, Donald Leggett, Tina Louk, Scott Marks, Sue Marks, Naomi Powell, Doris Riegel, Chris Swisher, Micheline Sheppard, Suzanne Skaggs, John Vaughan, and Shirley

Williams. Douglas Evan Leggett and Bill O’Field were also in attendance, but not photographed.

Although Tai Chi is slow and gentle, it improves the key components of fitness — muscle strength, flexibility, balance, and, to a lesser degree, aerobic conditioning, according to Harvard Health Publishing.

### Harrison County Senior Center

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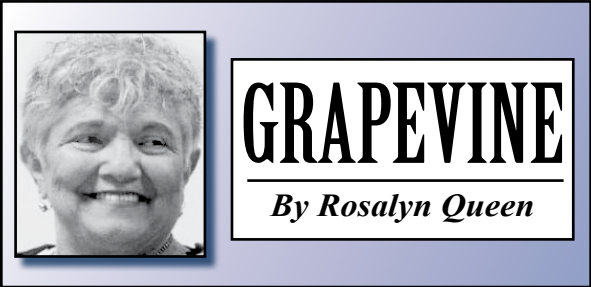
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# Festival events begin



## GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen

The West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival is alive and well. It seems to me that the committee has given a breath of fresh air to it and it was very evident at the Spring Gala this past week. The event was a sell out crowd with wonderful food.

The Spring Gala is held each year for the purpose of announcing the young lady who will be the next Regina Maria and her court. Approximately 41 individuals were presented as members of the court. They included the maids of honor, the princesses, the Junior court, the minor court and the Regina’s attendants.

The young lady who will be crowned on Labor Day weekend as Regina Maria was announced as Delaney Wells. She is 21 and the daughter of Natalie Tennant and Eric Wells.

Over the past week you have probably had the opportunity to read many articles about Delaney but I want to share one with you about her grandmother, Rose Mary Tennant. Back during the very early history of the festival, we had an Italian Trivia Contest. It was composed of four people teams who competed against each team. Rose Mary was a member of a team from Fairmont. As I remember this team was very competitive. They really prepared themselves for the tournament and came prepared to win. And win they did: for seven or eight years. This

was one of the first events on the weekend before and it gave us all the opportunity to get geared up for the festival. I remember how much Rose Mary and her team brought to the festival. Not only were they competitive Italians but they brought a lot of knowledge that rubbed off on most of us in attendance. I know that Rose Mary is so proud to know that her granddaughter will be serving as the Regina this year.

Rose Mary is really a Clarksburg girl. She is a Brunetti from the North View area and the famous Smitty’s Pizza. She still has a brother in the area and he was in attendance at the Gala. Somehow there is a connection between them and my Burnett heritage. I enjoy corresponding with Joyce Jones, the daughter of Rose Mary’s sister, Bee Arther. So I am also proud of Delaney. It makes me very happy for Rose Mary to know that her granddaughter is continuing to present and preserve our heritage. She was one proud Italian.

I also want to add a footnote here. Avery Queen, MacKenna Robey, Emily Smith and Dominick Robey are all members of the court this year. All four of them are direct descendants of Florence Roberti and William Burnett, being their great, great grandchildren. I only know that the mission of the festival was to preserve and present our heritage, and when we have four generations participating we are fulfilling the mission.

Do your part in keeping the Festival. “Alive and Well.”

Happy Mother’s Day to all the mothers out there. Do something special for your mother.

Keep safe and healthy and until next week “Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine.”

## “Scholarship” From pg 1



Lynlee Tullos will graduate with highest honors from Buckhannon-Upshur High School and will be in the Dental Hygiene program. She is the daughter of James and Michaela Tullos.

“Our 2023 Scholarship Recipients’ exemplify many characteristics of success; they are forward-thinking, motivated, hardworking individuals who participate in many extra-curricular activities, leadership roles, honor rolls and National Honor Societies, and exhibit the qualities we appreciate in our future workforce and leaders,”

said Martino. “We are not only proud of their high school achievements, but know they will go on to do great things for the communities they serve through their chosen education path and future careers.”

Dr. Martino is the CEO of the Wilmar Management organization, which includes the six Wilson Martino Dental offices located across North Central WV, TLC Dental in Morgantown, iSmile Specialists, and the national chain of Smile Defenders Dental Offices. They also manage and house Dr. Martino’s national charitable organization, Freedom Day USA, along with Dentistry’s Best Of Class Award Winning Product, OraCare. Dr. Martino’s team is also aligned with multiple community outreach projects, partnerships, and various additional businesses.

## Super Crossword

### Answers

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OBITUARIES



Margaret A. Friend

Margaret A. Friend, 67, of Clarksburg, passed away on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 in Bridgeport. She was born on March 26, 1956 in Clarksburg, a daughter of the late Wanda Campbell.

She is survived by her husband of 14 years, Robert Friend, whom she married on June 17, 2008.

She is also survived by three children, Melissa Vargo of SC, Robert Friend, II and Anouk of PA, and Randall Friend of Clarksburg; four grandchildren, Isabelle, Olivia, Charlie and Cordelia; and two siblings, Brenda Netzer and Jr. Campbell.

Margaret enjoyed going to flea markets and she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends.

Davis Funeral Home and Onsite Crematory is handling the cremation and honored to serve the Friend family. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.DavisFuneral-HomeWV.com](http://www.DavisFuneral-HomeWV.com).



Belva Jane Posey

Belva Jane Posey, 71, of Weston, passed away on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 in Weston. She was born on June 1, 1951 in Camden, a daughter of the late George Calvin Rogers and Louise A. Messenger Rogers.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 45 years, Kenneth Posey, who passed away on September 8, 2015.

She is survived by her two daughters, Mary Beth Moore of Weston and Janice Trader and her husband Michael also of Weston; grandchildren, Emilea Smith and her husband Michael and Scott Goldsmith and his partner

Taylor Kuno; and two very special great grandsons who are on the way; two sisters, Carrie Opal Lockhart and her husband Bob and Betty Sue Srout and her husband Larry.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was also preceded in death by her brothers and sisters, Louella Clem, Betty Shepherd, Ann Jamison, George Clayton Rogers and Denver Rogers.

Belva enjoyed being outdoors, especially fishing, reading her daily devotional and working puzzles. She also loved spending time with her fur babies, Toby and Tyg.

Per her request she will be cremated and there will be a celebration of life held at a later date. Online condolences can be made on [www.DavisFuneralHomeWV.com](http://www.DavisFuneralHomeWV.com). Davis Funeral Home and Onsite Crematory is honored to serve the Posey family.



Rebecca Holden

Rebecca Holden Finly, born June 1, 1939, of Country Club Road, Clarksburg, passed Tuesday May 2, 2023.

Becky, as her friends knew her, was preceded in death in 1992 by her beloved husband, George Cadman Finly, whom she married in May of 1960 and who was president of the Central Supply Company.

Also preceding her in death was her brother, Thomas Harden Holden of Charleston, WV (1938-2001).

She was raised in Salem, WV by her late father, West Virginia State Senator Walter Arden Holden (1910-2002), and mother, Ethel Williams Holden (1907-1958). She attended Salem High School and West Virginia University, where she studied Home Economics, was a member of the Alpha Xi Delta social sorority, and was active on campus, having been elected Spring Spree Queen and Mountain-er Queen.

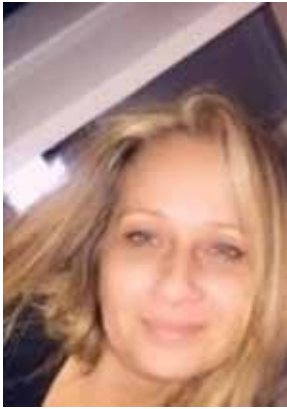
Becky was involved with the Clarksburg League for Service, Clarksburg Garden

Club, Tuesday Club, and served on the Holly Ball Committee for many years. She was a longtime, active member of the First United Methodist Church of Clarksburg. She was passionate about her gardening and artwork and was talented on the tennis court. She cared deeply for her family and friends and was affectionately re-named “Guinny” by her grandchildren, Isabelle, Emma, and Frederick.

Surviving are: son, George Arden Finly, and daughter-in-law, Heather Homonnay Finly, of Clarksburg; granddaughters, Isabelle Frances Finly of Sarasota, FL and Emma Finly Alonso, as well as Emma’s husband, Christian Michael Alonso, of Greenville, SC; daughter, Mary Clare Finly of Charleston, WV and grandson Frederick Finly Prichard of Ann Arbor, MI; niece, Rebecca Holden Smith of Charleston, WV.

Celebration of life to be announced at a later date. Gifts in memoriam may be directed to the Alzheimer’s Association, Attn: Ride to End Alz SC, 4600 Park Rd, Suite 250, Charlotte NC 28209.

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



Amy Suzanne Mason Brand

Amy Suzanne Mason Brand, 52, of Masontown, WV, passed away on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at her residence. She was born on October 6, 1970, in Anderson, IN, a daughter of Raymond L. and Judy K. Palmer Mason. She is survived by her loving husband, Michael A. Brand.

Mrs. Brand was a Christian by faith and a 1989 graduate of Anderson High School, as well as Fairmont State University. She was

currently working with WVU Medicine as a centralized scheduler, she formerly worked with Swanson Plating for over 14 years as a purchasing agent.

Amy enjoyed everything outdoors. She spent many hours gardening, boating, and tent camping. She loved sitting around a fire of an evening. She was known to be the life of the room, never knowing a stranger. She truly was a kind and caring friend, who would always take care of others. Amy loved spending time with her family, but especially her grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she is survived by her children, Kara Butler, Austin Ferguson, Katie Brand, and Haylee Ferguson, her brother, Mark Mason, and her half-brother, Tim Palmer and his wife Brenda. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Addisyn, Khaliyah, Kingstyn, Ty Ty, Jaicee, Joleah, Aralynn, and Alylah, a brother-in-law, Barry Brand, and a loved one, Lucretia Ferguson.

Amy is preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Elizabeth and Millard Palmer, as well as her paternal grandparents, Florence and Albert Mason.

Memorial contributions may be made to HOPE, Inc., Women’s Domestic Abuse Center, P.O. Box 626, Fairmont, WV 26555.

The Brand family has entrusted the arrangements to the Ford Funeral Home, Ford Chapel, 201 Columbia Street, Fairmont, WV 26554. Friends will be received on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, from 12 P.M until 1 P.M. The funeral will be held in the funeral home on Tuesday at 1 pm with Pastor Josh Morgan officiating. In accordance with her wishes, cremation services will follow the funeral service. A celebration of life will be held in Anderson, Indiana at a later date. Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.fordfuneral-homes.com](http://www.fordfuneral-homes.com).



Janice Elaine Whinnie

Janice Elaine Whinnie, 70, of Farmington, passed away on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. She was born August 8, 1952 in Fairmont, a daughter of the late Charles Jacob and Helen rose Marchiney Mullenax.

Janice was employed by WVU Medicine as an IT (tech) specialist where she retired with over 20 years of service. She enjoyed rescuing cats and was compassionate towards animals. She was a computer whiz helping anyone with repairs and also enjoyed cooking.

Survivors include a son Christopher Jude Ribel (Melissa Alonzo) of Farmington; a stepson: Danny (Sherri) Whinnie of Farmington; grandchildren: Robert, Wednesday, Lydia, and Nicholas Ribel; stepgrandchildren: McKenzie and Levi Whinnie; great grandchild: Carol Bagley; lifelong friend: Susan Buchannon; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband John William Whinnie who died October 20, 2022; a sister: Susie Harr and a brother: Roger Mullenax.

There will be no public visitation or funeral services. Cremation arrangements are entrusted to the Hutson Funeral Home in Farmington. [www.hutsonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.hutsonfuneralhomes.com)



Russell Wayne Hayes

Russell Wayne Hayes Sr, 58, of Fairmont, passed away Tuesday, April 25th, 2023 at Cleveland Clinic Hospital in Ohio. He was born April 25th, 1965, in Fairmont, a son of the late Roy Hayes, Sr and Carolyn (Roupe) Hayes. Mr.

Hayes was employed at Fairmont Catholic as a Janitor for many years before having his own business of Digging Graves and then doing construction.

He enjoyed spending time with his wife, children, and grandchildren. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Karen Hayes, 2 sons Russell (Melissa) Hayes and Jason Hayes and a daughter Ivy Hayes (Billy Cox). 2 Grandsons Nick and Jason Hayes and a Granddaughter Ahrayah Hayes. 1 Sister Martha McCoy (Perry) and 2 brothers Roy ”Bub” Hayes and Billy Hayes (Gerry) of Mannington. And several nieces and nephews. Russell was preceded in death by his parents, grandson Russell Hayes III (Bubby) , 2 sisters Sheila Burton and Peggy Wright.

Friends may call at the Hutson Funeral Home, 3171 Husky Highway, Farmington, on Friday from 4-8 p.m. where funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday. Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery in Fairmont. [www.hutsonfuneral-homes.com](http://www.hutsonfuneral-homes.com).

POST YOUR LEGALS IN THE SHINNSTON NEWS JOURNAL

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“Mother’s Day” From pg 1



Kaleigh Bowie said that as a young mother, she now more fully appreciates the love of her mom as she learns to care for and nurture her daughter, Clover.



Jay Linaburg, front right, said his mom Mary Mae Linaburg, top left, never gave up on him. He is pictured with siblings.

as Linaburg struggled with substance use disorder for years after, “she loved me even though.” He remembers the prayers his mother prayed for him, and how she continued to call him to make sure he was okay even when he lived miles from home in Augusta, Georgia.

A mother’s love is unconditional. Women who are not mothers through birth, can still play an important and vital role in others’ lives. They are teachers, mentors at jobs, neighbors, and friends. They are the women who shape those they care for, encourage them and stand beside them in the storms.

“I love my aunt (Tonya Hamrick), who has played a huge motherly role in my life,” Sandra Cumberledge, who works for the Women’s Teen Challenge in Harrison County, said. “She opened her home to me when I was struggling the most, but most importantly, opened her heart. She has taught me how to live my life according to God’s word and continually prayed blessings over my life. She has been my encouragement and always spoke life over me. She has loved me unconditionally and is always there when I need her. I honestly don’t know where I’d be without her or what I’d do without her support. I wouldn’t be who I am today if it wasn’t for her.”

A mother’s love also reaches beyond biological ties. Kaleigh Bowie, a young mother in her early

20s who lives with her husband in West Milford, recently had their first baby, Clover. She said that before becoming pregnant with Clover, she was naive to what true motherhood meant. “The first couple weeks of being Clover’s mother were almost more than I could bear, with several realizations dotted in of ‘Oh my gosh. This is my life now. Forever,’” Bowie said. “Truthfully, it wasn’t until Clover was three weeks old that I started enjoying being her mom.”

Bowie said that being a mother is giving her a deeper appreciation of what being a mother means. “I thought I respected mothers before being one, annually honoring my mother with ‘You’ve always been there for me. You’ve always loved me...’ cards and toasts and gifts. But now I know the immense burden of providing constant attention, right now, nutrition, and love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” She said that she is learning the selflessness of loving her daughter more than she loves herself.

Mother’s Day is Sunday. Happy Mother’s Day to all mothers, work moms, stepmoms, aunts, sisters, friends, and mentors who freely love the younger generation around them, changing lives whether they know it or not.

*Jay Linaburg is the father of the reporter.*

“Churchgoers” From pg 1

for the first time, said that she had been raised in a church of extreme fundamentalism, but she said she no longer knows which denomination she belongs to and is currently seeking. John Paul Nardelli is Catholic, Michael Burge is pastor of the United Methodist Church in Stealey and will soon be moving to Shinnston with his family. Underwood said she wasn’t raised with a religious background.

“I was raised by atheist parents,” Underwood said. “Churches were cults and the Catholic Church was Satan himself. I was raised in a Catholic neighborhood, which didn’t help with what my parents were teaching, because the Catholic kids would tease me and say I was going to hell because I wasn’t baptized. So that just solidified what my parents were teaching me.”

According to Live Science, there are more than 200 church denominations in the United States and over 45,000 globally. The variety of beliefs of doctrine, theology, and each’s emphasis on certain ideals, often cause church splits and division, like the example of Southern Baptists who split from the Baptists in 1845. American theologian, John Piper, said on the website “Desiring God,” that the “church is fractured.” “Over the past couple years, we have experienced a lot of division among Christians at the levels of networks and denominations, but also inside local churches and among friends, too,” he said.

Even before everyone had arrived at Stonewall that dreary morning and the clock had struck 11 a.m., the official meeting time, the debate had begun about the taking of communion. Underwood said that the “passionate discussion” had been going on the last couple Fridays they were able to meet.

Underwood became a Christian eight years ago, and said she met Nardelli who is on the board at the Clarksburg Mission and learned that he was Catholic. She said she had some burning questions for him that she’d always wondered about his faith.

They eventually started meeting at

Stonewall to discuss faith and religion. “And people just started coming and that was two and a half years ago. So it has just grown,” Underwood said. “I have learned that there is so much I assumed and didn’t know. It gets heated, but I think that everyone has bonded. You need to be challenged. You need to be questioned.”

Underwood said that, where once she was criticizing the Catholics, now she finds herself defending them. She said that coming together has been about unity and learning, and at the end of the day, they’re still friends and there for each other.

The topics for that Friday’s meeting bounced back and forth as people threw out questions or playful barbs about another’s beliefs. They pondered if the Earth was created in seven literal 24 hour days and then quickly switched to discuss different styles of worship and what is true worship and what is just unnecessary extravagance in the contemporary church services. “I’m just going to throw all of America under the bus,” Courtney Compton Bradley said. “We have a problem with being still. We cannot be still. It’s grind all the time, wake up and work 60 hours a week, wake up at 5 a.m and go, go, go. And then we go to church and we want smoke and we want lights. We want to be emotionally elevated.”

“And we want it to be done in 45 minutes,” Burge, current Stealey United Methodist pastor, said.

“I think there is more power in being still,” Compton Bradley added.

The conversations were at times blunt as they asked the others’ beliefs or challenged what they meant when they weren’t clear. But in the end, regardless of topics brought to the table, unity remained in one thing. “We come together as believers of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,” Nardelli said. “That’s great common ground.”

“People think there’s so much division, and there is,” Underwood. “There are things that are different, but there really is more unity than division. And if people could just see that.”

Tickets to worldwide marching band competition now available

Lee Greenwood to perform at opening ceremonies

BUCKHANNON, WV — Only two and a half months remain until bands from around the world will descend upon Buckhannon for the World Association of Marching Shows Bands (WAMSB) 2023 competition and tickets are now available.

According to a news release, tickets will be available for six different WAMSB events. Tickets to the official WAMSB 2023 opening ceremonies, final field competition and official closing ceremony tickets are \$20 each. Concert band adjudication, drumline competition and preliminary field competition tickets are \$10 each. Three hundred and seventy-five ticket packages featuring access to all WAMSB events will be available for \$75.

Randy Sanders, president of the WAMSB 2023 Buckhannon Host Committee, confirmed that Grammy award-winning recording artist Lee Greenwood, known for hit song “God Bless the U.S.A.” will perform at the official WAMSB 2023 opening ceremonies beginning at 7 p.m. July 19.

“Having tickets available to the public and the incredibly talented Lee Greenwood helps capture how close we



Lee Greenwood, who has 25 charted singles to his name, will perform at the official World Association of Marching Shows Bands 2023 opening ceremonies beginning at 7 p.m. July 19.

are to competition week,” Sanders said. “We cannot wait for the competitors and spectators to be part of this one-of-a-kind event that was two years in the making.”

The WAMSB 2023 Competition will take place in Buckhannon from July 17-24. This is only the second time in the event’s 26-year history that it has been held in the United States and it is going to create a significant impact across the region, bringing in thousands of international participants.

This event will provide short-term economic impacts to the state and serve as an opportunity to foster long-term economic development, recurring tourism and provide an opportunity for elected officials, colleges and more to develop relationships with international dignitaries.

Tickets can be purchased online at [wamsb2023.com](http://wamsb2023.com). Soon, they will be available at various locations in Buckhannon.

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.



# Extraordinary nurse recognized at VA Medical Center



Registered Nurse, Amy Thrain, of Louis A. Johnson VAMC was recently honored with The DAISY Award® For Extraordinary Nurses, which honors nurses who go above and beyond.

CLARKSBURG, WV – Registered Nurse, Amy Thrain, of Louis A. Johnson VAMC was recently honored with The DAISY Award® For Extraordinary Nurses. The award is part of the DAISY Foundation’s programs to recognize the super-human efforts nurses perform every day, according to a news release.

The nomination submitted read: Ms. Amy Thrain was nominated by one of Louis A. Johnson’s Veterans. He was very proud to submit the nomination noting that she is responsible for saving his life and that of countless other Veterans due to her great determination. He noted her as being GOLD!! It was also noted that she is very dedicated to the detox and rehabilitation program for all Veterans, and she truly cares about every Veteran that enters through the doors here at Louis A. Johnson VAMC as he noted that Amy cares 110% for all Veterans. This Veteran shared that Amy saved his life, and that is a “Big Deal,” and she deserves more than this nomination for the Daisy Award; however he stated he was not very good at recognizing those so deserving. He ended his nomination by writing, “Thank You Very Much!!”

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, CA, and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient

families.

“When Patrick was critically ill, our family experienced first-hand the remarkable skill and care nurses provide patients every day and night. Yet these unsung heroes are seldom recognized for the super-human work they do. The kind of work the nurses at Louis A. Johnson VAMC are called on to do every day epitomizes the purpose of The DAISY Award”, stated Bonnie Barnes, FAAN, CEO and Co-Founder of The DAISY Foundation

Dr. Piper Knight, Associate Director of Patient Care Services, stated “The nurses here at the Louis A. Johnson VAMC provide the best care to our Veterans and this is an outstanding example of the dedication, attention, determination, and engagement our nurses strive to provide to all Veterans. As we celebrate Nurses Month this is another exemplary attestation to the care provided to our Veterans and the gratitude from our Veterans.”

For a complete listing of healthcare organizations currently running the program, please go to <http://DAISYfoundation.org>

In addition to the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses, the Foundation expresses gratitude to the nursing profession internationally in over 4,600 healthcare facilities and schools of nursing with recognition of direct care Nurses, Nurse-led Teams, Nurse Leaders, Nurses Advancing Health Equity, Nursing Faculty, Nursing Students, Lifetime Achievement in Nursing and through the J. Patrick Barnes grants for Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Projects, Medical Mission Grants their new Health Equity Grant program. More information is available at <http://DAISYfoundation.org>.

# Attorney General warns of Medicare scam

CHARLESTON, WV — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey is warning consumers to be cautious of Medicare scams that seek to steal personal and sensitive information, according to a news release.

Scammers are known to pose as a Medicare representative or an affiliate and ask for bank account, credit card, Medicare and/or Social Security information, and in some instances seek payment for the consumer’s newly issued Medicare card.

The Attorney General’s Office’s Consumer Protection Division fielded numerous reports of consumers having received such calls in recent weeks, including at least five West Virginia consumers who recently reported falling for the scam.

“There are many people who unfortunately target and exploit the elderly for nefarious purposes,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “People who fall prey to this scam often do so because they are scared to lose their benefits, but that’s a threat scammers use to trick consumers into handing over personal, identifiable information

“Don’t give into intimidation tactics— bullying or intimidation tactics is an immediate red flag.”

This scam has been continuing since after 2018 when distribution of new Medicare cards began. The new cards contain a new beneficiary number, instead of the recipient’s Social Security number, to limit fraud. There are no new updates planned.

The initial scam morphed into the

“new Medicare card scam.” Reports have indicated scammers identifying themselves as employees of the Social Security Administration, Medicare or the Department of Insurance are calling consumers to say the person needs a new Medicare card or that they need to turn in their paper card for a plastic one. They then request personal information.

Another variation is the scammers call consumers telling them there’s been an issue with their Medicare number and they need to clarify it by providing their personal identifiable information.

Medicare representatives—or for that matter, Social Security officials—will not call anyone uninvited to threaten the cancellation of benefits, request money and/or ask for personal information such as his or her new Medicare beneficiary number.

Always remember Medicare already has all the information about participants. Should Medicare require additional information, they will send a letter telling the participant what specific government agency they should contact to provide it.

The Attorney General’s elder abuse litigation and prevention unit encourages anyone with questions or concerns to contact the unit’s senior services and elder abuse hotline at 304-558-1155 or [HelpForSeniors@wvago.gov](mailto:HelpForSeniors@wvago.gov).

Senior citizens and their loved ones also can subscribe to the email scam alerts at <http://bit.ly/SeniorScamAlert>.

# Attorney general’s office settles with Kroger

CHARLESTON, WV — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey on Thursday last week announced a settlement has been reached between his office and Kroger for \$68 million. The pharmacy chain was the last remaining defendant in a lawsuit involving Walgreens, Walmart, CVS and Rite Aid.

The following information was provided via press release.

The settlement with Kroger resolves the lawsuit that alleged the pharmacy chain failed to maintain effective controls as a distributor and dispenser against diversion that contributed to oversupply of opioids in the state.

“Let this be a warning to others: We fight hard for those affected the most by the opioid epidemic and will stop at nothing in getting justice for them,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “West Virginia remains on top in settlement dollars per capita. And although the hundreds of millions of dollars we secured from these companies will not bring back the lives lost from the opioid menace, our hope is that the money would provide significant help to those affected the most by this crisis in the state.”

Kroger has agreed to pay \$34 million upfront per the settlement agreement, then \$12 million on June 30, 2024, another \$12 million on June 30, 2025, and then lower additional payments over the next seven years to reach the \$68 million total.

The deal also comes with a 2.94% Most Favored Nation protection—a guarantee that West Virginia won’t be prejudiced by a future national settlement.

As far as the other pharmacy chains in the lawsuit, Walgreens settled in January for \$83 million.

Walmart and CVS settled with the state last September: Walmart agreed to a settlement of \$65,070,000; CVS for \$82.5 million.

Last August, Rite Aid settled for up to \$30 million to resolve similar litigation.

The lawsuits allege the pharmacies’ contribution to the oversupply of prescription opioids in the state have caused “significant losses through their past and ongoing medical treatment costs, including for minors born addicted to opioids, rehabilitation costs, naloxone costs, medical examiner expenses, self-funded state insurance costs and other forms of losses to address opioid-related afflictions and loss of lives.”

“Getting justice from those responsible for the opioid epidemic in the state has always been my top priority as your Attorney General—so many lives have been lost and so many families have been shattered by this epidemic,” Attorney General Morrisey said.

The money from all opioid settlements will be distributed under the terms of the West Virginia First Memorandum of Understanding which allows for the creation of the West Virginia First Foundation.

In March, Gov. Jim Justice signed SB 674, which recognizes the Foundation and authorizes the governor to make appointments to its board of directors with the advice and consent of the Senate.

As a private, nonstock, nonprofit group, the Foundation will distribute any settlement or judgment funds awarded from litigation for abatement purposes—it will be pursuant to the terms of the MOU.

As the central organization dedicated to addressing the opioid crisis throughout the state, the Foundation will receive 72.5% of each settlement or judgment, 24.5% of settlement and judgment dollars will be allocated to local governments and 3% will be held in escrow by the state.

This allocation maximizes the amount of money that will be available for an opioid abatement fund and will distribute money throughout the state. This distribution will allow the money to help people and fund projects most in need.

The Foundation will be managed by a board of 11 members, five of whom will be appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. To represent the interests of local governments, the MOU establishes six regions, and one member will be chosen from each of those regions.

An executive director will run the day-to-day operations of the foundation.

So far, all 55 counties and 220 of 229 cities and towns have signed on to the MOU.

“Now is the time for healing as we move on with the establishment of the West Virginia First Foundation,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “Let our efforts to rid the state of this epidemic judge us in the future. By no means is this the end of our journey: We will continue fighting this scourge, no matter the stakes.”





## Zach Williams’ tour making stop in Clarksburg



CLARKSBURG, WV – The Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center, in partnership with Awakenings Events, LLC is bringing award winning Christian country rock artist Zach Williams to downtown Clarksburg for an Acoustic Evening of Stories & Songs on Friday, Sept. 15, at the historic Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center located at 444 W. Pike St. in Clarksburg. Get ready for a night of unforgettable music and soul-stirring performances as Zach Williams takes the stage on the Hundred Highways tour!

“Zach Williams will blow you away with his powerful vocals, raw talent, and chart-topping hits” said Jason A Young, the Robinson Grand’s program manager, in a press release.

From “Chain Breaker” to “Rescue Story,” Williams’ music speaks to the heart of what it means to be human, and this acoustic performance is an opportunity to hear Zach’s music in a way that feels personal and intimate.

“Whether you’re a longtime fan or a newcomer to the genre, this is a show you won’t want to miss,” said Young. “So come join us for an unforgettable night of music, worship, and community.”

Get your tickets now and experience the magic of A Hundred Highways with Zach Williams.

Tickets for An Acoustic Evening of Stories & Songs with Zach Williams start at only \$28.75. All tickets can be purchased online at [tickets.therobinsongrand.com](https://www.therobinsongrand.com) or by calling the Robinson Grand ticketing center at 855-773-6283.

## Children’s mental health week raises awareness

CHARLESTON, WV – Children’s Mental Health Acceptance Week, an annual observance that aims to raise awareness about the importance of mental health for children and promote acceptance and understanding of mental health issues, is being held from May 7-13, according to a news release.

While all of May is Mental Health Awareness Month, this week focuses on the needs of children, the week allows parents, educators, healthcare professionals, and mental health advocates to come together and learn how to support children struggling with mental health challenges.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, one in five children between the ages of 6 and 17 in the United States experience a mental health disorder each year. These disorders can significantly impact a child’s life, including their academic performance, social relationships, and overall well-being. However, many children do not receive the help they need due to stigma and a lack of awareness.

In West Virginia, First Choice Services’ Children’s Crisis and Referral Line offers 24/7 access to trained professionals who can locate resources for those concerned about their child’s mental health, according to the news release, from First Choice Services. They refer to community-based support and treatment. They can arrange an intervention from a Children’s Mobile Crisis Team if a child is in severe distress. Calls to the line have steadily risen, with March showing the highest number of calls, 160.

Ann Hammond, program director for the line, says the program’s goal is to find resources to keep the child in their own home rather than inpatient or residential care. “Many people who call us are surprised at the number of resources they didn’t know about in their community. Some people think the only way to get mental health treatment is in a hospital, but that’s not true.”

If you are concerned about your child’s mental health, call or text 1-844-HELP-4WV or chat online at [HELP4WV.com](https://www.HELP4WV.com).

## WVU researchers find bariatric surgery lowers risks for people with common liver disorder

Researchers at West Virginia University have uncovered critical data showing bariatric surgery as a treatment method for patients with nonalcoholic fatty liver disease has a significant impact on improving clinical outcomes, according to a news release.

The study, led by Dr. Shailendra Singh, included thousands of patients diagnosed with NAFLD, a condition that is seeing an upsurge and contributes to multiple other afflictions.

While bariatric surgery has long been associated with reducing cardiovascular disease and death in patients with obesity, the research team set out to explore whether the same held true for patients with NAFLD. Their study was published in the Journal of the American Medical Association Network Open.

“NAFLD is one of the most common causes of liver disease in the United States,” said Singh, associate professor and director of bariatric endoscopy in the WVU School of Medicine. “The global prevalence of NAFLD has reached 25% and is projected to be more than 33% by 2030. NAFLD is closely associated with obesity and metabolic syndrome, and it can lead to various complications, such as liver cirrhosis, cancer and cardiovascular diseases.

“Our study provides critical data about the impact of bariatric surgery on patients with NAFLD and supports its use as a therapeutic modality to improve clinical outcomes.”

As the name implies, NAFLD is a buildup of fat in the liver not related to heavy alcohol use. While the cause is unknown, researchers say it is more common in people who are obese, have type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure or high levels of fats such as cholesterol and triglycerides in their blood. People who are middle age or older are at a higher risk, although children can get the disease.

Currently, no specific medications are approved to treat NAFLD, and lifestyle changes aimed at weight loss remain the main treatment. Singh’s new research points to bariatric procedures as a viable option.

“Obesity is a significant risk factor for cardiovascular disease, one of the leading worldwide mortality causes,” Singh said. “Bariatric surgery is an effective weight-loss intervention in patients with obesity.”

Different types of the minimally invasive procedure are in practice, all which modify the stomach and intestines so the patient has an increased feeling of fullness and therefore takes in less food.

### Some strawberries available for walk-up sale

The Bridgeport High School Alumni & Friends Foundation has brought back the popular Strawberry Sale, according to a news release. The deadline for orders passed on Sunday, but some extra strawberries can be picked up at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 12 at The Bridge Sport Complex, 400 Forrester Boulevard, just off Route 131.

## Entries open for the 98th annual State Fair of WV

LEWISBURG, WV — Entries are officially open for the 98th Annual State Fair of West Virginia’s livestock and home, arts, and garden competitions. All rules and regulations, as well as registration instructions are posted on the State Fair’s website, according to a news release. The deadline to enter is July 14.

Competition highlights for 2023 include a revamped Sheep Shearing Competition, fan-favorite best pepperoni roll and chocolate lover’s dessert delight cooking contests, and of course, the rest of the cooking, flower, produce, needlework, and fine arts competitions. True to the State Fair’s mission, livestock competitions are also available for West Virginia’s 4-H and FFA, and open show classes.

“Every year exhibitors gather to honor the State Fair’s mission of promoting agricultural knowledge and advancement, and the arts. Exhibitors enter award winning produce, flowers, baked goods, livestock, and more. We’re looking forward to seeing what everyone brings out this year!” said Agriculture Competitions Manager Alexis Porterfield-Mulcahy.

Please visit [statefairfofwv.com](https://www.statefairfofwv.com) more information or to register online.

The 10-day State Fair of West Virginia is celebrating 98 years on August 10-19, 2023. The State Fair of West Virginia, with a \$13.8 million-dollar economic impact on the state of West Virginia, is a 501 © 3 non-profit corporation committed to the traditions of agriculture, family entertainment, and education. For more information, please visit [www.statefairfofwv.com](https://www.statefairfofwv.com), or follow fair events on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and Twitter. Join the conversation by using #sfwv2023!

## West Virginia recognizes Mental Health Month

CHARLESTON, WV – The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR), Bureau for Behavioral Health joins partners across the country during Mental Health Month to raise awareness about the vital role mental health plays in overall health and well-being. Governor Jim Justice also proclaimed May as Mental Health Month in West Virginia.

“This is an important opportunity to remind West Virginians that there are supports available during times of difficulty and stress,” said Dawn Cottingham-Frohna, commissioner of DHHR’s Bureau for Behavioral Health. “Prevention along with early identification and intervention are critical to reducing the burden of mental illnesses and other chronic conditions.”

Resources include [HELP4WV](https://www.HELP4WV.com), which serves as a point of contact for all West Virginians in crisis and are seeking help for themselves or a loved one. Call, text or chat: 1-844-HELP4WV or [www.help4wv.com](https://www.help4wv.com). The Children’s Crisis and Referral Line, a separate source of support provided by [HELP4WV](https://www.HELP4WV.com), is also available 24/7/365 to assist with community-based resources and support specific to children and youth. Call, text or chat: 1-844-HELP4WV or [www.help4wv.com/ccl](https://www.help4wv.com/ccl).

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers 24/7 access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing mental health-related distress including thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crisis, or any other kind of emotion distress. Call or text 988 or chat [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org) for crisis support. 988 also serves as the Veterans Crisis Line (press 1 option).

In addition, DHHR’s Bureau for Behavioral Health, Office of Children, Youth and Families administers programs to promote the behavioral health of children and youth in West Virginia communities through primary prevention and individualized services for mental health, substance use, and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

For additional information, visit [dhhr.wv.gov/bbh](https://dhhr.wv.gov/bbh). To view and apply for careers in the behavioral health field, visit [dhhr.wv.gov/Pages/Career-Opportunities.aspx](https://dhhr.wv.gov/Pages/Career-Opportunities.aspx).