

Lincoln High School Class of 2023 Congratulates Graduates at Commencement

By Stephen Smoot

When most people think of the glare and attention of “Friday Night Lights,” they tend to imagine athletes on the gridiron. Last Friday, however, the glare of Friday night lights lay on the proud graduates of the Lincoln High School Class of 2023.

The band struck up “Pomp and Circumstance” and after the opening stanzas, graduates started to file into the gymnasium. Boys wore black robes while the girls donned old gold. They found their way to the black and yellow chairs lined up for them on the gymnasium floor.

To the left and right, proud parents, family, friends, teachers, and staff looked on.

David Decker, principal, opened the ceremony with “I present to you the Lincoln High School Class of 2023” while the crowd rose for the first standing ova-



Lincoln High School graduates of the Class of 2023 prepare to commence their ceremony

tion of the night. Students remained standing as Keely Stire led the assembly with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the band playing the Star Spangled Banner.

She then gave the invocation, thanking “our Heavenly Father” for “blessing us with loving teachers, administrators, coaches, and others.” Stire added that “we know, God, that you have a plan for each chapter in our lives.”

Stire then gave her speech. She implored her classmates to understand that “as we start our new beginning, we have these wonderful memories to carry with us.”

Next to the podium came Anna Hayhurst, selected as Miss Cougar. She recalled “the late nights spent studying” and “the essays turned in at the last minute” as part of the high school experience. Hay-

hurst added that “every single one of us, no matter where we are headed next, has a unique story to tell.”

The student body president, Nick Kellar, then took the stage. He first expressed “what a privilege it is to be standing here.” Kellar asked his fellow students to not let the moment of graduation pass without reflection. He said “just appreciate what a special moment

See “Graduation” on Pg 6

Lincoln High School Key Club Has a Field Day Helping the Community

By Stephen Smoot

Earlier this month, the Lincoln High School Key Club organized and held a field day event. Called “Field Day With Friends,” qualifying students from eight schools came to enjoy the sun, fun, and excitement of competition and play.

According to the Lincoln High School Facebook page, the club “hosted a fun day full of events, food, and friends. It was a beautiful day and a beautiful event.” Schools from across Harrison County came together to participate.

Key Club is the youth branch of the Kiwanis service club. Like adults in Kiwanis, the Key Club attracts community minded individuals determined to make their hometown and surrounding area a better place to live.

Ana Belcastro, club president, explained that “Key Club puts together community related events.” She then shared some of the programs that the club performed over the past year, including trunk or treat, feed a family, and more. She added that “we visited a nursing home and sang Christmas carols.”

About the field day, Belcastro added that “This year we had eight schools. Last year, we only had our high school and a middle school.” For 2023, they had two elementary, five middle, and one high school.

“We set up different games,” Belcastro said. She described how the Key Club members enjoyed not only helping the competitors, but playing with them as well. Club members monitored games and assigned first, second, and third place awards and prizes.

Aliyah Elder had served this year as club historian. She talked about how much club members enjoyed bringing Christmas trees to the nursing home and interacting with the residents there.

Community service lies at the heart of Key Club. Many students have to perform service to meet school requirements. Others do it from a devotion to community. Alli Bragg, who served as treasurer this year, stated that the club is “a great opportunity to get involved with school activities and be involved in the community.”

Students often hesitate before making a different kind of commitment and “sit on the fence” about joining clubs or other extra curricular activities. Junior board member Alexis Williams explained that “a lot of students in school are on the borderline



The Key Club’s Field Day With Friends brought students together from a record eight schools to compete and also enjoy the beautiful late May weather

of whether to join.” She added that “as a freshman, it’s a scary thing to get involved, but there’s always a good outcome.”

Another important aspect of the club is being student centered. Students run the club, make the decisions, organize events, and make them run well. The club emphasizes drawing on as many talents as possible, not focusing on one or a few people.

Later, the Key Club chose its officers for the 2023-24 school year. Ana Belcastro will serve as president, Alli Bragg as vice president, Abby Jones as secretary, and Aliyah Elder as treasurer.

Cheyenne Batton and Alexis Williams will be senior board members. The junior board will have Eden Ashcraft and Sylvie Salerno. Chesnea Boyles and Cade Riley will serve on the sophomore board.

Bonnie’s Bus to offer mammograms in Riverton, Rock Cave, and Fairmont

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. – Bonnie’s Bus mobile mammography unit will visit Pendleton, Upshur, and Marion counties offering three-dimensional (3D) digital screening mammograms and breast care education to women.

A service of WVU Medicine-WVU Hospitals and the WVU Cancer Institute, Bonnie’s Bus will be at:

North Fork Primary Care in Riverton from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 13. For an appointment, call 304-358-2355, ext. 1149.

Community Care of Rock Cave from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 14, 15, and 16. For an appointment, call 304-924-6262, ext. 1057.

Juneteenth Health Fair in Fairmont from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 17. For an appointment, call 304-933-9693.

The screening mammograms are billed to private insurance, Medicaid, or Medicare, if available. Patients who are underinsured or uninsured and meet enrollment criteria will be assisted in enrolling in the West Virginia Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program (WVBCCSP) to cover the cost of their screening mammogram. Uninsured women living in West Virginia who are 40 and older can receive a free screening mammogram on the Bus through the generosity of grant funding and donations. A physician’s order is needed for a mammogram.

Bonnie’s Bus has provided more than 26,000 mammograms for women throughout West Virginia and led to the detection of more than 125 cases of breast cancer since 2009. Many of those screened are underinsured or uninsured and qualify for screening through the WVBCCSP.

Bonnie’s Bus works in collaboration with a statewide partnership of clinicians, public health professionals, women’s groups, and other

See “Bonnie’s Bus” on Pg 6



BUILDING
AMAZING CITIES

By JIM HUNT
author, speaker, consultant

Sharing the Simple Joys of Mowing a Well-Manicured Yard

I can’t remember the first time that I cut the grass at my childhood home, but it was the beginning of a lifelong love of a freshly cut lawn. We had a red Briggs and Stratton mower that cut a swath of about 20 inches wide. I would try to keep the lines straight and not throw any grass on the sidewalk. I don’t know if my mother or dad appreciated the care that I put into the job, but it didn’t even feel like a chore to me. I would usually do the grass on Saturday mornings, and it would take about two hours to do it right. My dad would tell me about how he cut his grass with a push mower and never had the “modern” convenience of a gasoline mower.

After several years of only mowing our yard, I was asked by my Aunt Rose if I would cut her grass. She would pay me six or seven dollars and as much iced tea as I wanted. I couldn’t believe that she would pay me that much for something I loved to do. Her yard was a lot steeper than mine and I had to put a rope on the handle in order to cut the bank in front of her house. As the news spread of my willingness to cut grass and the neatness that I employed, I soon had several yards to cut.

My mother told me about two sisters who lived across the street from one another on Washington Avenue in Clarksburg, who needed someone to cut their grass. They had beautiful lawns and when I was done mowing, it looked like something out of Better Homes and Gardens. I think that was when I really learned how nice a yard could look and the importance of edging and trimming the shrubs.

See “Hunt” on Pg 3



McDonald's

of
Harrison County

OPINION

Plato, Aristotle, and the Problem With Idealism

The word “idealism” comes with an overly generous connotation. Most often, the word gets used to describe fresh and youthful points of view. No one ever refers to any negative belief system as “idealistic.”

What underlies the notion of idealism, however, does not naturally bend toward good or evil. The function of idealism can serve either path.

Idealism comes from one of history’s titans of philosophy, Plato. Plato expressed his ideals on the subject in “The Allegory of the Cave.” One begins one’s path toward enlightenment in the pit of a cave, with just enough light from flambeaux to see the forms of shadows reflected on the wall. Plato explains that most people see their reality here and never leave the pit of the cave.

In his philosophy, Plato outlines the notion that reality comes from within. If one can struggle to find their way up from the pit, toward the real and natural light of the Sun. Once one escapes the cave and enters an enlightened state, they can then become philosophers or other sorts of leaders.

Idealism, then, is the idea that one should create a reality in the mind, then work to change the world to fit it.

The problem with idealism at its most extreme point is that each member of the human race has their own unique vision of the way things ought to be. Some have more power than others to create their vision. Again readers may reflexively think of positive examples of idealism, but know this.

Adolf Hitler, Mao Tse Dong, and Josef Stalin were the 20th Century’s most successful idealists.

To make one’s vision come true in its purest forms, one must run over the ideals, rights, and lifestyles of a lot of other people. Plato’s Republic, which serves as a design for his ideal society, is ruled by philosophers. Philosopher kings, as he called them, work with subordinate soldiers and businessmen for defense and economic prosperity. So far, so good, but the evil is coming.

The evils emerge at the bottom of society. For idealists to have the freedom to think, Plato assigns a large class of slaves to prevent those at the top from having to endure manual labor or menial tasks. The more pure the idealism followed, the more individuals must surrender their rights and freedoms to make way for the Vision.

Aristotle, Plato’s most famous student, thought differently.

To Aristotle, the world represented all of reality. He studied science, politics, and a number of other subjects in more depth than most had before. To him, trying to impose one’s vision on the world and its people represented futility. He taught the philosophy of realism.

Realistic people accept the world as it is and conform their minds to fit it. They solve problems presented by the world with tried and true ways that worked in the past. Extreme realism would lead to endless cycles of the same, with no change expected or possible. It is not as potentially evil as idealism carried to extremes, but the staleness would have a negative effect.

Thomas Jefferson, as in many other fields of endeavor, showed us the way down the middle path.

During the 1780s, Jefferson worked on one of the early nation’s most pressing problems, what to do with the unorganized territories north and west of the Ohio River. Like most Americans prior to the 1820s, he believed that only landowners had enough stake in their country to be allowed to vote.

Jefferson also believed, however, that as many Americans should enjoy that right as possible. The Ohio Country gave him the solution. He developed a plan to allow almost any American with any money at all to purchase lands owned by the Articles of Confederation government north and west of the Ohio.

This infused much needed cash into the central government, but also followed plans to pay for the establishment of infrastructure in the West. The grid pattern visible on these lands and those of the Great Plains, visible from space, follow Jefferson’s vision.

Jefferson’s idealism worked because he grounded it in the political realism of the mid 1780s United States. A more pure idealist may have suggested simply overturning the property requirements, but that would have created divisions and not solutions.

Idealism does its most good when checked by, and grounded in, realistic assessments of people and situations.

ACROSS

1 Publisher Adolph

5 Pile up

10 Hit with an open hand

14 Mafia heads

19 Defrost

20 Fireside drink

21 Lead-in to byte

22 O. Henry literary device

23 Yore

25 Finks

26 City in France

27 Trickled out

28 Graduation cap dangle

30 Tickled Muppet

31 Entrees with pastry crusts

33 Wood-cleaning product

36 Forest array

37 Rich wall tapestry

38 Cholesterol-lowering drugs

39 Predecessor of Andrew Johnson

44 Naval vessel inits.

45 — Sea (Asian lake)

46 Gravy-train job

48 Take on moguls

51 Week's seven

55 Grouchy type

57 Zingy flavor

58 Hockey great Mikita

59 Japanese city

61 Australian territory in the Indian Ocean

66 Greek deity of wisdom

68 "Kate & —" (old sitcom)

69 Uncultured

70 Ivy League school in Providence

75 Backless sofa

76 Laws, to Brits

77 Prefix with drama

78 Scots' refusals

80 Bird-built home

81 Kin of -ette

82 Left-leaners

86 "Tomb raider" Croft

88 Sister, say

89 2016 Best Director winner for "La La Land"

95 Zoo collection

99 Letters after alphas

100 Localities

101 Certain letter-shaped pattern, to Brits

104 Set free

106 Touch down

107 "Yes —!" ("You bet!")

108 Shortcoming

109 Compadre

111 Arctic bird

112 Ancestor ... or what the first word of seven answers in this puzzle can have?

116 Cab ticker

117 — -Z ('80s Camaro)

118 Fountain of Rome

119 Architect Saarinen

120 People staring

121 Parched, old-style

122 Pfeiffer of "Cybill"

123 Drearily dull

DOWN

1 Baseball great Mel

2 — -Town (the Windy City)

3 Pet in an exercise wheel

4 "Popeye" tot

5 Compass

6 Color variations

7 Did superbly on

8 Corn core

9 Ell precursor

10 Attaches, as a seal bell

11 Dog tether

12 Chichi

13 Sporty 1990s Toyotas

14 U.S. snoop gp.

15 Nabs

16 Hoi — (the masses)

17 Like single-person bands

18 B-board overseers

24 Kimono-clad hostess

28 "Baywatch" actress Bingham

29 Of formal public worship

31 School org.

32 Space sphere

33 Med. scan

34 Big tea holders

35 Use a surgical beam on

37 God of Islam

40 Circle section

41 "I Need to Know" singer — Anthony

42 "Open this door!"

43 March Madness gp.

47 Little — (tykes)

48 Diet drastically

49 Oklahoma neighbor

50 Use the tab key, perhaps

51 Not too hard to carry out

52 Houston baseballers

53 Loutish types

54 Distorts

56 Display of great daring

58 Killed, as a dragon

60 Shaker Lee

62 Ending for project

63 35mm camera type

64 Seventh scale notes

65 Lawn turf

67 Quarterbacks' called changes

71 — Hill, San Francisco

72 Like cold tea

73 Powder room

74 "Awright!"

79 Mexican Mrs.

82 Fact falsifier

83 Aura

84 Manorial lord

85 Meyers of late night

87 Funnel-shaped flower

88 One leaving a smear

90 — "King" Cole

91 Built

92 Suede, e.g.

93 — Vegas

94 Ending for Siam

95 On fire

96 Capital of Niger

97 Set on fire

98 "You are right about that"

102 — "Jacques" (kids' song)

103 Misstep

104 Christopher who played Superman

105 Chaperone in "The Hunger Games"

108 Historical plaintiff — Scott

110 Surgery ctrs.

112 Bouquet-bringing gp.

113 Tram cargo

114 Period

115 Rip off

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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.

June 1, 1880: An 86-round bare-knuckle prize fight for championship of the world was held in the Brooke County town of Colliers, between defending champion Joe Goss and challenger Paddy Ryan. Boxing was illegal in every state, and matches were often held in railroad villages to avoid big-city police.

June 1, 1935: Musician Hazel Dickens was born in Mercer County, the eighth of 11 children. She was a pioneering old-time and bluegrass musician, known for preserving the traditional vocal styles of West Virginia.

June 1, 1858: The Artists’ Excursion left Baltimore on its way to Wheeling. A Baltimore & Ohio executive planned the rail trip to promote tourism. About 50 passengers were on board, including artist and writer David Hunter Strother, who described the experience in an article for *Harpers* magazine.

June 2, 1951: Cornelius Charlton died of the wounds he received in battle during the Korean War. Charlton, a Raleigh County native, was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously.

June 3, 1856: Harriet B. Jones was born in Pennsylvania. After attending Wheeling Female College and graduating from the Women’s Medical College of Baltimore, she opened a private practice in Wheeling, becoming the first woman licensed to practice medicine in West

Virginia.

June 3, 1861: The first land battle of the Civil War between organized troops took place in Philippi. About 3,000 federal troops drove about 800 Confederates from the town.

June 3, 1861: A company of Confederate soldiers known as the Logan Wildcats was created at the Logan Courthouse. The company, consisting of about 85 men, first saw action at the Battle of Scary Creek.

June 3, 1936: The first Strawberry Festival was held in Buckhannon. More than 6,000 spectators attended the festivities, which also included a parade of 30 princesses down Main Street.

June 4, 1975: Clark Kessinger died in St. Albans, Kanawha County. Kessinger was among the most prolific and influential fiddlers of the 20th century, and one of West Virginia’s most important traditional musicians.

June 5, 1859: A great frost killed crops in the Preston County fields. The fields were replanted with hardy buckwheat, which was successful and became a staple crop, celebrated in the annual Buckwheat Festival in Kingwood.

June 6, 1919: Historian Otis Rice was born in Hugheston, Kanawha County. Rice was named West Virginia’s first Historian Laureate in 2003.

June 6, 1989: During the Pittston strike, about 60 miners embarked on a four-day march from Logan County to Charleston, retracing the path of the 1921 Armed March on Logan.

June 7, 1899: Congresswoman Elizabeth Kee was born in Radford, Virginia. She became West Virginia’s first female member of Congress in 1951.

June 7, 1926: An explosion at a sand mining operation in Morgan County killed six men. Their deaths were the inspiration for the ballad “The Miner’s Doom.”

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

June 5th will be the final day of student attendance in Harrison County Schools. June 12 will be the final day of work for all 200 day faculty and staff.

The Harrison County Chamber of Commerce will hold their Business@Breakfast on June 2. Networking starts at 8 AM and the presentation will last from 8:30 to 9:30 at the Holiday Inn Express White Oaks. The event is offered as a “free educational service thanks to our generous sponsors.”

The Second Annual Harrison County Pet Expo will be held on June 3 at 10 AM. Those who bring physical donations will receive 10 free raffle tickets. (Find out where)

The Region VI Workforce Development Full Board will meet Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 10:30 am at the Marion County Convention & Visitors Bureau located in Pleasant Valley, WV. For more information about the meeting, contact Maria Larry at 304-368-9530.

“Hunt” From Pg 1.

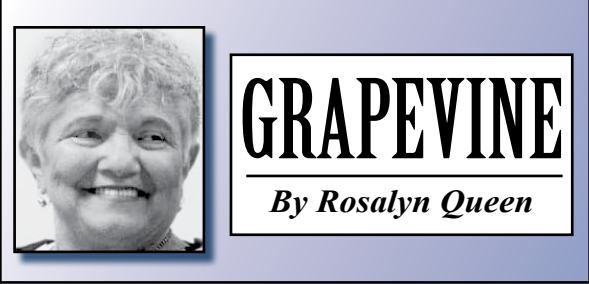
I think the sisters were in competition with each other and they would always be adding something that the other one did not have.

When I finally got married and had my own yard, I tried to duplicate some of the yards that I had admired and realized how hard it was to make them look good. It was about that time that weed eaters became popular and I would edge along the sidewalk and really loved how it looked. Being a little OCD, I would often edge my neighbor’s sidewalks because I wanted it to look like everyone on the street cared as much as I did about the grass but few people did and I think my neighbor was a little upset that I had overstepped my properly line and infringed on their unruly lawn.

I now have a large yard and invested in a riding

mower to complete the task of lawn mowing. As anyone who owns a riding mower knows, it is one of the joys of life. I sometimes will cut my grass each week, whether it needs it or not. My wife makes fun of me, but it is one of the most enjoyable things I do. I have also purchased a blower and a wheeled weed eater that allows me to trim along the ditch line and when it is done, it resembles Augusta during Master’s Week. After 60 years, I still enjoy cutting the grass and admiring it after it is done. I’m sure one of these days, I’ll find some entrepreneurial young lad who is looking to make a few bucks and let him take over the grass cutting duties, but for now, I still spend my Saturdays on my Cub Cadet, riding up and down the yard in search of the perfect line!

Of Dolls, Dreams, and Carrie Davis



a magazine. She ran across an article outlining a contest for Miss Amazing. She read all the details and the one requirement was that any girl with any “disability” could qualify. Since Carrie was mentally challenged this was exactly the contest that might put a crown on her head. She entered the contest, did all the right things and ultimately was crowned West Virginia Miss Amazing. 2023. She will be traveling to Chicago next month to compete in the National Contest.

Carrie is a local young girl. She works at the Looking Glass and volunteers in several community projects especially at the Progressive Woman’s Association.

Next week she will be traveling to Pennsylvania to crown the young lady who will capture the title of Miss Flamazing, 2033. The State Director is Lacey Rae and she will be accompanying Carrie.

Our community is backing Carrie with donations to help her in the national contest. For more information please call Mrs.. Queen at 304 838 4682.

The organization’s motto is Always Remember to Wear Your Invisible Crown.” A motto that carries much meaning.

It is so thrilling to see the excitement in Carrie. No matter the outcome, some little girls dream has come true. Good luck Carrie.

Stay happy, stay healthy and until next week “Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine.”

Every little girl, as she plays with her dolls dreams of someday becoming a Queen and wearing a crown. As time moves on. Some of these dreams dissipate as the youngster concentrates on her future, on her dreams of becoming a nurse, an astronaut, a teacher, a policeman or serving her country. Some young ladies even fulfill her dream of wearing a crown as she dedicates a portion of her life on the pageant circuit.

You. Might only interview one of these contestants to find out just exactly how hard it is to pursue this dream. It requires sacrifice, hard work, financial assistance and the help of those around them. But it surely must be worth it when their dream is fulfilled.

And so the story of Carrie Davis. She has had this dream but did not work on it till later in life. Deep down she thought she might never be able to fulfill this dream. One day while looking through

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Mountaineers Compete in Big 12 Baseball Tournament



The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor



J J. Weatherholt is West Virginia University's star infielder and an all Big 12 selection for 2023

The Mountaineers entered the Big 12 Tournament limping to the number three

seed. WVU was pitted against number six Texas Tech in the fourth and final match. The nightcap brought all eyes on WVU and Mazey elected to start David Hagaman. It would be the freshman's first career start and he would allow four runs in the first few innings. WVU would struggle at the plate, scoring just a pair of runs en route to the 6-2 setback.

The next night, the Mountaineers started their journey through the losers' bracket. The trip didn't last long as Oklahoma State ended the tourney with a 3-2 triumph. It was the fifth consecutive affair where WVU started with an early deficit that would prove insurmountable. In that five game span, the Mountaineers scored just 13 runs, well below their regular season production.

The silver lining to the early exit is that Mazey has time to put together a game plan for the NCAA Tournament while giving his players a well-deserved rest. The Eers have played 57 games since February 17th and now there is a chance to recharge the batteries.

The talent is there as 13 players garnered Big 12 honors. Leading the way is sophomore second baseman J. J. Weatherholt. Weatherholt became the first Mountaineer to be named Player of the Year in the Big 12 Conference. Mazey won Coach of the Year. It was the second time that he has won that award.

Mountaineer Nation hopes that this year's edition has its best baseball ahead. Here is to a strong NCAA showing for the extremely talented team.



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.

Track Athletes Selected As Final Athletes of the Week For the 2022-23 School Year

The female Athlete of the Week from Lincoln High School is Hannah Rowan. She placed third in the West Virginia Track and Field Championships single A division in the 400 meter race. She timed at 1:01.83.

The boys selection for Athlete of the Week was a little more difficult. Three relay teams placed fifth in state competition for the Cougars. The 4x100 squad achieved a time of 1:01.83. Patrick Kovach, Aiden Rice, Gerald Parado, and Liam Gallagher formed the team.

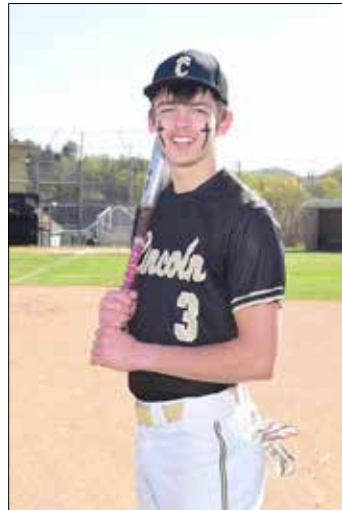
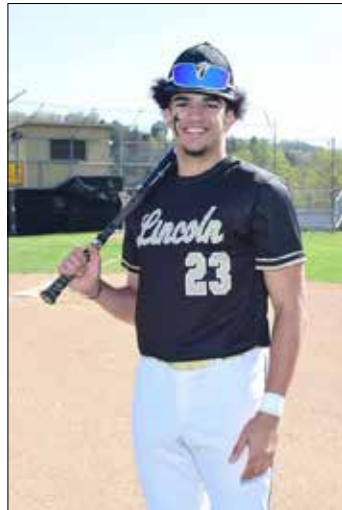
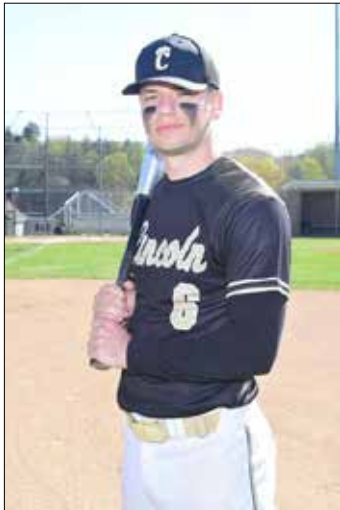
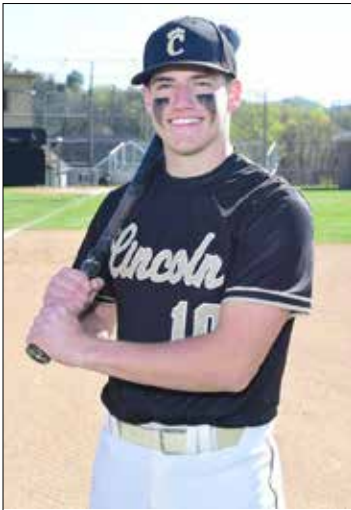
Lincoln's 4x200 team of Brayden Edgell, Perine, Kovach, and Nick Kellar timed at 1:34.99.

The 4x400 team ran for a time of 3:38.03. Nick Kellar, Parado, Kovach, and Edgell composed this squad.

Since the three boys teams tied for fifth in their finish, they also tie in this week's selection.

Congratulations to these standouts for earning Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal's Athletes of the Week!

Five Cougars Earn Spots On All County Baseball Squad



Corbin Ayers, Kance Hostuttler, Nick Kellas, Maddox Perine, and Noah Sears earned all county honors for excellence on the baseball diamond.

By Stephen Smoot

Shinnston High School landed five players on the local all Harrison County baseball squad.

Corbin Ayers, Lance Hostuttler, and Nick Kellar earned first team honors.

Ayers had 37 hits in 80 at bats for a .462 average. And racked up a 3-1 record appearing in ten games as a pitcher. He was second on the team in runs batted in with 25 and first on the

team with a slugging percentage of .637 and 37 hits.

Hostuttler led the Cougars with 25 RBIs and a batting average of .473. He also enjoyed a team leading .574 on base percentage and placed second on the squad with 10 stolen bases.

Kellar led the team in runs scored with 37 and had a team third best batting average of .403. He achieved a fielding percentage of .939.

Voters chose to place Maddox Perine and Noah Sears on the second team. Perine hit for a .313 average and an on base percentage of .421. He had 21 hits and 17 RBIs. Sears has a .320 batting average with a .427 on base percentage, 24 hits, and 28 runs scored.

Selection is made from the county's high school coaches as well as members of the Clarksburg Exponent-Telegram staff.

WVU Track Star Advances to NCAA National Championships

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Junior Ceili McCabe advanced to the NCAA National Championships, as the West Virginia University track and field team finished competition at the NCAA East Preliminary Round at Visit Jax Track at

Hodges Stadium in Jacksonville, Florida, on Saturday night. McCabe finished second overall in the 3,000-meter steeplechase quarterfinals in 9:54.41 to earn a spot at the NCAA National Championships in Austin, Texas, from June 7-10.

The Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, native earns her third consecutive trip to the NCAA Championships in the steeplechase. She tallied All-American honors the last two seasons, with a top finish of third place in 2022.

"This has been a



Celli McCabe earns a spot in the NAAs with a second place performance in the East Preliminaries

very successful season on so many levels," Mountaineer coach Sean Cleary said. "Most of our performances exceed the rankings that we entered the meet with, which is something to be proud of. This group has been incredible for us since the beginning of the year."

Redshirt senior Mikaela Lucki and senior Katherine Dowie also raced on the second day of competition. Lucki ran in the 5,000-meter and 1,500-meter quarterfinals, while Dowie ran with McCabe in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

Dowie finished in a time of 10:36.14 to finish No. 32 overall.

In the 1,500-meter quarterfinals, Lucki placed 22nd in

4:23.58, before finishing 20th in the 5,000-meters after crossing the line in 16:17.67.

"We began competing the first week of September, and now nine months later we have eight qualifiers for prelims and a heat winner in Ceili who now qualifies for the NCAA finals. To stay on task for nine months and still be competing at such a high level should have all associated with our program feeling very proud."

The 2023 outdoor season continues for McCabe when she races at the NCAA Outdoor Track & Field National Championships in Austin, Texas, from June 7-10.



As family and friends look on, Isaac Coffman signs his letter of intent to compete in cross country and track at Fairmont State University



Harrison County Receives \$500,000 to Identify, Clean Up, and Develop Contaminated Industrial Sites

By Stephen Smoot

The Harrison County Economic Development Corporation announced late last week that they had received half a million in federal funds for a community wide brownfields assessment. Eleven different local and regional government agencies received grants totalling almost \$11 million across the state.

“Our goal is to develop a complete assessment of the Brownfield sites within Harrison County as a database. These sites will be prioritized and act as a catalyst for reuse” said Amy Haberbosch Wilson, executive director of HEDC, in a news release. “The initial target areas will identify sites within the County, and properties in and around the City of Clarksburg for reuse.”

Moving forward, the HEDC will work with public and private partners to determine the best path forward for safely and effectively developing these properties.

The brownfields program, established with the US Environmental Protection Agency under the Clinton Administration, seeks to clean up former industrial properties found to have contamination in the soil and elsewhere. According to the West Virginia University Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities webpage, brownfields are properties “the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.”

Due to the prevalence of unsafe building materials, such as asbestos and lead paint prior to 1978, any

industrial structure predating that could be a brownfield. Over 450,000 estimated brownfields hinder development of businesses, green space, or other potential uses.

US Senator Joe Manchin supported the effort, funded by what he called the “bipartisan infrastructure law.” He stated that “Addressing and restoring brownfield sites across West Virginia is vital to strengthening our communities and boosting economic development,” Senator Manchin said. “Our Bipartisan Infrastructure Law continues to deliver critical investments for West Virginia, and I am pleased the EPA is investing in these ten important programs.

Both US Senators worked to bring these funds to brownfield development. “In almost every corner of our state, brownfield sites present potential opportunities for economic growth and expansion,” said US Senator Shelley Moore Capito, the ranking member of the relevant committee.

She added in her news release that “When crafting the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, I helped prioritize funding to deliver needed resources to the EPA’s Brownfields Program that would benefit communities in West Virginia.”

According to a HEDC release, “once a site has been selected for the program, EPA Brownfields grant funds for Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments can be accessed. Grant funds can also be used for lead-based paint and asbestos material surveys, mold studies, national historic preservation act applicability, and certain types of planning activities.”

USDA Reports Red Meat Production Up 25 Percent Over Spring 2022

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during April 2023 totaled 900,000 pounds. This was up 25 percent from April 2022. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is the total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 1,330,000 pounds live weight, up 32 percent from April 2022. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,200 head, up 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 69 pounds from the previous year, at 1,125 pounds. Commercial calf slaughter was not published because data were less than level of precision shown or not applicable.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 182,000 pounds live weight, up 27 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 282 pounds. Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.20 billion pounds in April, down 8 percent from the 4.54 billion pounds produced in April 2022.

Beef production, at 2.07 billion pounds, was 11 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.54 million head, down 10 percent from April 2022. The average live weight was down 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,354 pounds.

Veal production totaled 3.6 million pounds, 21 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 21,900 head, down 22 percent from April 2022. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from last year, at 280 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.12 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.77 million head, down 3 percent from April 2022. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 291 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.0 million pounds, was down 11 percent from April 2022. Sheep slaughter totaled 185,900 head, 6 percent below last year. The average live weight was 117 pounds, down 6 pounds from April a year ago. January to April 2023 commercial red meat production was 18.1 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2022.

Accumulated beef production was down 5 percent from last year, veal was down 13 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up slightly.

Capito Addresses Harrison County Chamber of Commerce



U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) meets with Harrison County residents at the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner in Bridgeport, W.Va. on Thursday, May 25, 2023.

BRIDGEPORT, W.Va. – U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) yesterday evening traveled to Bridgeport, W.Va. where she provided the keynote address at the 104th Annual Harrison County Chamber of Commerce’s awards dinner. During her remarks, Senator Capito provided an update on the latest from Congress, as well as her efforts to deliver for the people of Harrison County and all of West Virginia.

“I was honored to address the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce, and visit with the great business leaders and residents of the county,” Senator Capito said. “The Chamber is doing great work to make Harrison County a leader in West Virginia, while also strengthening economic development in our state. I’m looking forward to seeing the

continued progress that Harrison County will make in the future.”

“The Harrison County Chamber was excited to welcome Senator Capito to our 104th Annual Dinner. We were eager to hear updates on the various committees she serves and how current policies affect the people and businesses in the Mountain State.” Randall Randolph, Harrison County Chamber Executive Chairman Board of Directors, said.

“We were honored to have Senator Capito as the keynote speaker before a capacity crowd at our 104th Annual Dinner. We enjoyed her updates on current topics in Washington DC that affect Harrison County and all of West Virginia.” Kathy Wagner, President of the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce, said.

Gov. Justice Announces Department of Economic Development Team Partakes in Business Development Mission to Korea, Japan and Taiwan

CHARLESTON, WV — Gov. Justice announced that members of his Department of Economic Development team and members of the WV Senate and House of Delegates traveled to Taiwan as part of a business development mission to Korea, Japan and Taiwan.

“International investment is a significant and growing sector of our economy,” said Gov. Justice. “International companies from 33 countries have invested billions in West Virginia, and those companies employ 30,000 West Virginians. It is really great that part of our Department of Economic Development and our state legislature visited with some of these international companies and spread the word about our great state.”

WV Department of Economic Development Secretary Mitch Carmichael, Director Mike Graney and others traveled to Taiwan to meet with companies that have invested in West Virginia or are considering the state for future projects.

“We were very excited to be in Taiwan and to continue our mission through Japan and Korea to help spread the word about why other companies and even countries are saying Yes to West Virginia,” said Carmichael. “We hope that fostering our existing relationships and creating new ones will allow many companies to learn about what we have to offer as a state.”

In Taiwan, Carmichael and Graney were joined by President Blair, Speaker Hanshaw and several other members of the Senate and House for a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the Taipei World Trade Center to officially open the West Virginia Taiwan Office. This office aims to promote West Virginia as a location for Taiwanese investment and assist West Virginia companies in exporting to Taiwan.

One Taiwanese company in West Virginia, APG Polytech, is located in Mason County. More companies in Taiwan are planning to invest in the United States to supply their customers here. Having an office in the country will enable West Virginia to compete for those investments as the companies consider their location options. The office will focus on industries where West Virginia offers a profitable location. These sectors include automotive, chemical, metals, building materials, aerospace and other manufacturing and technology areas.



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THANK YOU FOR READING

“Graduation” From pg 1

this is. I want you all to just look around this room and take it in.”

He finished with “appreciate the fact that God gave you life” and finally, thanked his classmates “for all the time we got to spend together.”

Kierstn Posey followed Keller to the dais. She spoke of bringing to life a constructive attitude and showing kindness to others. Regardless of all the changes, good and bad, that life imposes, “there is one thing we can control, our attitude.” When showing kindness, “people will never forget how you made them feel.”

Delaney Haller, then Alexis Marie Herndon spoke next. Haller admitted that on the first day, “I was terrified.” Then the accomplished athlete talked about how “together we laughed, cried . . . took every day in stride.” Herndon discussed the “tumultuous challenges” of this class’s school experience, including COVID and other obstacles. She ended with “we started as scared children. Now we’re young adults.”

Decker then shared his impressions of, and pride in, the Class of 2023. “It is an honor,” he shared. Then he added “we’ll honor the name of each graduate and their contribution to the legacy of Lincoln High School.”

That legacy includes earning “over \$1 million in post secondary education.

Attorney General Morrisey Joins Multistate Brief Against Biden Administration Over Illegal Migrant Mass Release

CHARLESTON — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey this week joined 22 other attorneys general in an amicus brief, urging the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit to deny the Biden administration’s bid to stay a preliminary injunction against the parole of illegal migrants into the United States.

“The Biden administration might as well put a ‘we’re open’ sign up along our borders,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “This is callous, dangerous and most of all against the law.”

“Time and again this administration shows its utter disregard for the safety and wellbeing of Americans.”

The program is known as Parole with Conditions in Limited Circumstances Prior to the Issuance of a Charging Document (PWC)—the Biden administration has said in light of the crisis at the border, it was authorized to parole illegal migrants into the United States so long as they promise to complete their processing paperwork by mail within 60 days.

Recently, a U.S. District Court judge issued a preliminary injunction against the policy. The Biden administration requested a stay be imposed to block that order.

The coalition argues the policy “violates federal immigration law, exacerbates an unprecedented dangerous crisis at the southwest land border, and will contribute to the ongoing uncontrolled influx of aliens ...,” according to the brief.

As a matter of fact, the federal judge who issued the injunction wrote that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is violating the mandatory detention required in federal immigration law by releasing migrants “en masse through various, non-detention policies, including the Parole+ATD policy and the exercise of ‘prosecutorial discretion.’”

Attorney General Morrisey joined the Virginia-led brief with Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

Decker wrapped up his words by quoting Benjamin Franklin. He shared that “this Founding Father” said “lost time is never found again.”

After he shared this wisdom, the graduates received their diplomas.

The final student to address the graduates was Lance Hostuttler. He shared “what an honor it is to be named Mr. Cougar” and told his classmates that “it’s been a great four years.”

Then he asked the assembly to remember “a classmate who could not be here today, Levi Tinder (check name) At his behest, all gave 23 seconds of silence in his memory.

“Maybe we didn’t have the most normal high school experience,” Hostuttler said, “but I wouldn’t have had it any other way.”

Decker closed the proceedings by asking all to “please stand as we honor our school together” as the band played the alma mater.

Then he ended by saying “families, friends, and guests, I present to you the 2023 graduates of Lincoln High School.

Graduates celebrated, hugged families and friends, said good-bye to friends, some of whom they may never see again until reunions.

Then all walked off into the night as graduates faced the next chapter of their lives.

West Virginia farmers have one week left to return the 2022 Census of Agriculture

Charleston, West Virginia, May 23, 2023 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will end data collection for the 2022 Census of Agriculture on May 31. West Virginia producers who have not yet returned their completed questionnaires have just one week left to respond. Federal law requires everyone who received the ag census to complete and return it.

Recipients can respond online at accounts.usda.gov or by mail.

“Agriculture is important in our state and the census data will be used by all who serve American agriculture,” said NASS State Statistician Alissa Cowell-Mytar. “Your response means you are being represented and helping to shape the future of farming and rural communities.”

USDA NASS is reminding ag census recipients that if they produced and sold \$1,000 or more of agricultural product in 2022, or normally would have produced and sold that much, they meet USDA’s definition of a farm. However, land-owners who lease land to producers, those sole-

ly involved in conservation programs, and even those who may not have farmed in 2022 are still required to respond.

“If you received the ag census but do not fit the definition of a farm, are no longer farming, never farmed, or have another update for us, please write your status on the form and mail it back. Every response matters,” said NASS Administrator Hubert Hamer.

The ag census differs from other USDA surveys. Beyond being conducted just once every five years, it provides important demographic information and data on certain commodities, such as horses, bison, and Christmas trees, that would not otherwise be available. The Census of Agriculture collects information on nearly every aspect of American agriculture for a complete picture of the health of the industry. Changes to the 2022 questionnaire include new questions about the use of precision agriculture, hemp production, hair sheep, and updates to internet access questions.

“Bonnie’s Bus” From pg 1

community leaders working to help reduce the number of deaths from breast cancer in West Virginia.

Made possible by a generous gift from West Virginia natives Jo and Ben Statler to the Cancer Institute, Bonnie’s Bus is operated in partnership with WVU Hospitals. The Bus is named after Jo Statler’s late mother, Bonnie Wells Wilson.

For information on Bonnie’s Bus, see WVUCancer.org/Bonnie.

Hotsinpiller Memorial Foundation Announces Scholarship Awards For 2023

CONGRATS Class of 2023!

This past week Pam was able to do one of her favorite things... hand out scholarships!

This year we had 4 High School Senior Recipients of the James and Derek Hotsinpiller Memorial Scholarship.

Logan McCartney - Robert C. Byrd High School

Delaney Haller - Lincoln High School

Brady Hosaflook - Bridgeport High School

Kaitlyn Archer-Lewis - Bridgeport High School

To date we have awarded 70 Scholarships to West Virginia High School Seniors, College Students, and Law Enforcement officers pursuing degrees in criminal justice and/or social sciences.

This couldn’t be done without YOU!

Our community’s generosity and support of the race over all of these years is what continues to make our mission of getting more Law Enforcement Officers out on the street a success!

So, from our family, our board of directors, and our race committee, THANK YOU! We truly couldn’t do this without your support.

Water Street/Indiana Avenue to be closed beginning Thursday, June 1, 2023

Harrison County, WV – County Route 20/51, Water Street/Indiana Avenue, will be closed at mile post 0.26, near the intersections with Woodland Avenue and Scalise Lane, from 7 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Thursday, June 1, 2023, through Friday, June 9, 2023, for culvert replacement.

This is a total road closure during work hours. All traffic, including emergency vehicles and school buses, must take alternate routes. The road will be open each day after working hours. Motorists are advised to plan and allow additional time for their commute. Inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances could change the project schedule.

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OBITUARIES



Robert “Bobby” Rosko Dodd Jr.

Robert “Bobby” Rosko Dodd Jr., 58, of Clarksburg, passed away on May 16, 2023 at United Hospital Center in Bridgeport, WV surrounded by his loving family. He was born on February 23, 1965 in Clarksburg, WV born to the late Dottie Lou (Bragg) Goodwin and his parents were Robert Rosko Dodd Sr. and Mildred Addie (Humphrey) Dodd.

Bobby was a very kind, caring, and loving man. He was an amazing, father, son, brother, and uncle. He came from a very large family and he was a very loved man that will be missed dearly by his loving family.

Bobby enjoyed fishing and playing cards. He also loved to collect knives and lighters.

Bobby is survived by the mother of his children, Barbara “Barb” Allan; five daughters, Leanna Dodd and fiancé Wayne Johnson of Salem, Ashley Dodd, Stacy Dodd and companion Cesar Castro Torres, Rebecca Rule and companion Stephen Morris all of Clarksburg, Samantha Moore and husband Clayton of Shinnston; three sons; Calvin Feeney, MA, Jeremy Rule and wife Tia of Roanoke, VA, Robert Ross Dodd and fiancé Shanea Kovar, Lost Creek, WV; grandchildren; Robert “Robbie, Andrew, Calvin, Brayden, Shayla, Tritan, Shawn, Jalynn, Michael, Addie, Anthony “AJ”, Abel, Athena, Maxwell, Joseph, Alexandria, and Stefan; one brother, Edward William Vanscoy and wife Bobbie of Haywood; three sisters, Shannon Escolopio and John of Wallace, Mary Jane Lucas of Haywood, Sandy Richards of Clarksburg, and his best friend Lugnut.

In addition to his parents, Bobby was preceded in death by his son, Andrew Mac Rule; a host of brothers and sisters; his loving companion, Brenda Sipes and his ex-wife, Lovie May Starr.

Family and friends will be received at Dorsey Funeral Home on May 19, 2023 from

4-7PM.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to his Care Fund on his memorial page. Online condolences can be made on www.Dorsey-FuneralHomeWV.com. Dorsey Funeral Home is honored to serve the Dodd family.



Thomas Carl (Tom) Greaver

Thomas Carl (Tom) Greaver, 83 of Enterprise went home to be with the Lord Jesus Christ at 12:15am Tuesday morning. He was surrounded by his loving family.

He was born May 11, 1940 son of the late Thomas A. and Luvon Greaver of Owings, WV. He was preceded in death by His brother Bob Greaver of Shinnston. He is survived by his wife: Shirley Irene (Ashley) Greaver.

Two daughters: Cynthia and husband Walter of Reynoldsburg, OH and Kim and husband Mike of Lumberport, WV.

He is also survived by two sisters Karen Cravton of New Smvrna. FL and Janet Dotson and husband Roger of Shinnston and one brother, Dave of Shinnston; along with many nieces and nephews.

He dearly loved his four grandchildren and ten great grandchildren: Isaiah Farris and wife Summer of Sulphur, OK and their three children, Trinity, Patriot, and Honor; Ashley Dytzel and husband of Shinnston. WV and their

three children. Reese. Thomas. and Lincoln: and Abigail Milnes and husband Billy and their four children, Gabrielle, Adalynn, Connor, and Luke, and grandson Devin Decker

Tom proudly served in the U.S. Army as a sniper scope repairman. He retired as a coal miner from the Loveridge Coal Company in Mannington, WV.

He was a faithful member for over twenty years of the Bible Baptist Fellowship Church in Gypsy, WV. His loyalty and faithfulness to the Lord were a solid example to family, friends and all who Tom loved to fish and served

for many years as

treasurer of the Shinnston Seniors.

The family wishes to thank WVU hospice for their kindness and care in last months of his life.

Funeral arrangements will be handled by the Harmer Funeral Home in Shinnston, WV. Visitation is Thursday from 2pm to 7pm. The Funeral will be Friday at 11:00am at Harmer Funeral Home. Pastor Dave Luther of Warren, Ohio presiding. Internment at the Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at www.harmerfuneralhome.com



Mae Marie Holcomb

Mae Marie Holcomb, 74, of Worthington, passed away on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at United Hospital Center. She was born in Fairmont on August 14, 1948 a daughter of the late Lester and Bertha Hibbs Ott.

She is survived by the love of her life, Edwin Lee Holcomb, whom she married on March 5, 1968. Mae is also survived by her children, Ellis Lee Holcomb and his wife Bev of Texas; Yolanda Martin and her husband Rusty of Shinnston; and Cassie Swiger and her husband Jason of Worthington; her grandchildren, Ryan Holcomb and his wife Sarah of Lumberport; Cameron and Drayke Martin of Shinnston; and Alli and Maci Bragg of Worthington, as well as her sister, Charlene Keller of O’Dell’s Knob.

In addition to her parents, Mae was preceded in death by her brother, Harlan Ott; and her sisters, Margaret and Rosetta Ott.

Mae’s number one love was spending time with her children and grandchildren. She could always be found cheering on her grandchildren from the sidelines or at the race-track. Mae also enjoyed camping. She was a loving and devoted wife who held a deep, personal bond with Jesus Christ.

In keeping with her wishes, no public services will be held. Online memories and

condolences can be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com

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



Betty Jo Arnett Shaw

Betty Jo Arnett Shaw, 90, of Camp Run Rd., Wallace, went to be with her heavenly family, Sunday, May 21, 2023, at 3:50am at the United Hospital Center surrounded by her family that she leaves behind to carry on her love. She was born in Jacksonburg, July 8, 1932, a daughter of the late Osty and Lucy Arnett

On December 10, 1954, she married the love of her life, Paul J. Shaw, Sr. who preceded her home on June 7, 2001.

Together they raised ten wonderful children: James E. Shaw, Sr. and his wife Debra, both who preceded her in death, Evelyn D. Mileto and her husband Joe, Wallace, Roberta K. Owens and her companion Randy Butcher, Lumberport, Rodney P. Shaw and his wife Clara, Jane Lew, Steven L. Shaw and his wife Shelba “Sis”, Wallace, Mary Ann Reynolds, Paul J. Shaw, II, Elizabeth “Janie” Gowan and her husband Daniel “Boone”, Meadowbrook, Billy Joe Shaw and his wife Debbie, Wallace and Jeffrey L. Shaw and his wife Bridget, Fairmont.

Betty leaves behind 35 loving grandchildren and will reunite with two: James Shaw Jr. and his companion Alisha, Christopher Shaw, Laura Gump and companion Richie, Kayla Piercy, David Mollohan, Jr. and his wife Abby, Robert Mollohan, Michael Mollohan and his wife Erica, Kimberly Adams and her husband Trey, Brian Owens and his wife Amberli, Joyce Owens and her fiancé Chris, Kevin Owens and his wife Kristy, Katherine Holden and her husband Dale, Michelle Boyd and her husband Kenya, Donnie Batten and his wife Johnna, Dennis Batten and his wife Chrystal, Sheila Sumpter and her husband Chuck, Steven Shaw and his wife Tonya, Beretta Watson and her husband Kyle, Ryan Shaw and his companion Gabby, Jesse Reynolds, Zack Reynolds and his companion Ashley, Rachel Reyn-

olds, Hannah Reynold and her companion Matt, Nathan Reynolds and his companion Carey, Rebecca Shaw and her companion Isaiah, Samantha Shaw, Justin Shaw and his wife Bryanna, Paul Shaw, III and his companion Lexi, Daniel Gowans and his wife Abby, William Shaw and his companion Jennifer, Brandon Shaw and his wife Brittany, Christine Dunn, Austin Vandergrift, Hunter Kinsley and his companion Jasmine, and Ethan Shaw. Those meeting her in heaven Timothy Shaw and Michelle Mollohan.

She leaves behind great and loving memories for 67 great grandchildren, 4 expected soon and 8 great-great grandchildren; also surviving are a sister, Emma Williams Poling, her brother, John Arnett and his wife Darlene, brother-in-law, Dewayne Cumberledge and many nieces and nephews.

She is reuniting in heaven with two sons-in-law: David Mollohan and Mark Reynolds; two daughters-in-law: Angela (Holt) Shaw and Michelle (Ball) Shaw two brothers, Clarence Arnett and his wife Barbara, James Arnett and his wife Mary; two sisters, Shirley Owens and her husband Harold, Linda Cumberledge and first husband Dionisio Santos.

Betty was loved and cherished by many. She enjoyed crafting, yard sales, auctions, flowers, and reading her Bible. She helped raise many of her grandchildren and enjoyed the visits from the great grandchildren. She loved her little dog, Sally who gave her comfort.

The family will receive friends at the Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St., from 3-8pm, Thursday where funeral services will be held at 11am, Friday, May 26 with Pastor Keith Swiger officiating. Internment will be in the Lion’s Club Cemetery in Lumberport. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Shaw fam-

ily.



Terri Jo Swiger

Terri Jo Swiger, 59, of Wallace, passed away at 12:58pm, Saturday, May 20, 2023. She was born in Clarksburg, January 24, 1964, a daughter of Loretta Carol Swisher Purkey and the late Ronald Jeffrey Purkey.

Surviving are her husband, Roderick Nile Swiger, whom she married September 18, 1999; her children: Matthew Brian Purkey and his wife Marianne, Lumberport, Roderick Keith Swiger and his fiancé Dana Moore, Worthington, Lucas James Purkey and Joseph Dale Purkey, both of Huntington; six grandchildren: Gabriella Renee Purkey, Kenlee Jo Purkey, Sebastian Purkey, Colton Purkey, Maleana Purkey, and Johanna Purkey; several grandchildren; her siblings: Angela Purkey Mahaney, Harrisville, Todd Purkey, West Union, Monica Lacher, Salem, and Ronald Purkey, Jr.; her step-siblings: Richard Boyce, Jr., Tammy Boyce, Dennis Boyce, and Kenny Boyce; and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Terri was preceded in death by a brother-in-law, Brian Mahaney.

Terri was an employee of the State of WV for 14 years having worked at both the Department of Corrections and most recently at the Department of Motor Vehicles. She enjoyed many things including: woodworking, crafting, yard sales, working outside in her garden, motorcycles, camping and fishing. Her favorite place on earth was near the sand and water. She loved her dogs, Darsy and LayLay. She loved spending time with her family at cookouts and get togethers and made the best potato salad on earth. She especially loved her grandchildren and spending time

See “Obits” on Pg 8

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“Obits” From Pg 7

with them. She will be missed by all.

The family will receive friends at the Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St., Shinnston, from 2-8pm, Wednesday where funeral services will be held at 11am, Thursday, May 25th with Pastor Robert L. Shingleton officiating. Interment will be in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery at Brown. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Harrison County Humane Society. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Swiger family.



Mark (Marty) Yeager Jr.

Mark (Marty) Yeager Jr., age 50, passed away May 21, 2023 at Ruby Memorial Hospital surrounded by loved ones. He was born November 30, 1972 to his parents, Mark Yeager Sr. of Fairmont, WV and Paulette Chucci of Clarksburg, WV. Mark was a graduate of Lincoln High School in Shinnston, where he pursued a career for a few years serving our country in the United States Marine Corp.

After serving his country, he returned home to his roots, where it all began. Mark has one daughter, Sierra; and two sons, Tyler and Lil Marky. Anyone who knew Mark knew he was a character, he loved to make you laugh and gave the best bear hugs anyone could ask for. He also loved to go muddin' with the gang and then spend the evenings by the fire talking and laughing about the mishaps of the day.

Mark is survived by his mother Paulette Chucci and brother Brad Chucci of Clarksburg, WV; one daughter, Sierra, and two sons, Tyler and Lil Marky.

He was preceded in death by his father, Mark Yeager Sr.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at www.harmerfuneralhome.com

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.



Edgar “Ed” Allen Orr

Edgar “Ed” Allen Orr, 80, of Wallace, WV passed away on Friday, May 26, 2023, at United Hospital Center. He was born on April 18, 1943 in St. Clairsville, OH to the late Albert Leslie Orr and Lydia Edwin (Francis) Orr.

Ed worked as a coal miner for 18 years at Glory Coal. He also worked at Wholesale Tire and was a truck driver. He enjoyed weed eating, mowing grass, fishing, hunting, having cookouts, spending time with family and watching westerns. Ed was a member of the First Baptist Church in Wallace.

Ed is survived by his loving wife, of 57 years Judy (Shaw) Orr. They were married on November 18th 1965. Also, his son Daniel “Danny” Orr of Wallace: two daughters: Renee “Sissy” Judy Orr of Wallace and Becky Batton and her husband Jacob of Wallace. Grandchildren: William “Billy” and companion Candy, Robert “Bobby” and wife Stacey, Ryan and companion Ashley all Adams, Cheyenne

Batton and step grandson, Larry Saunders. Great grandchildren: Rylan, Corbin, Trenton, RJ, Levi, Ariana, Ryanna, Aden, Angel all Adams and step great granddaughter, April Saunders.

Special family members: Truman “Butch” and Carol Shaw, Ruthie Sendling, Jimmy Orr, Dave Bennett and companion Joyce Luchuck, Larry and Debbie Bennett; sister, Freda Clark of Canton, OH, as well as many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his siblings: Harvey Orr and wife Betty, Dempsey Orr and wife Mary, Clem Orr and wife Betty, Bernice Jacobs and husband Bill, Dale Orr and wife Sue, Mary Smily and husband Leo, Leslie Orr, Jr. and wife Ellen, Shirley Brown and husband David, Martha DeBertrand and husband Ernie, Helen Kimball and husband Walter, Tate Clark and daughter in law, Doris Orr.

A special “Thanks” to Pastor Mark Greaver and his wife Sherry.

Family will receive friends at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston, WV, on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 from 2:00pm - 8:00pm. Funeral service will be on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 11:00 am with Pastor Mark Greaver officiating. Interment to follow at Lions Cemetery in Wallace, WV.

Online condolences can be made on www.DorseyFuneralHomeWV.com. Dorsey Funeral Home and Crematory is honored to serve the Orr family.

Governor Jim Justice Announces Appointments to Three New Health and Human Services Cabinet Departments

CHARLESTON, WV – Gov. Jim Justice announced today that he has made three cabinet appointments to three new departments of the Executive Branch, following the passage and signing of a bill to reorganize the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Health – Dr. Sherri A. Young, DO, MBA, FAAFP

Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Human Services – Dr. Cynthia Persily

Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Health Facilities – Michael Caruso

Dr. Jeffrey Coben, Interim Cabinet Secretary for the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, will continue to assist during the reorganization process. Dr. Clay Marsh and Retired Major General James Hoyer will also continue to serve in advisory roles.

“We have made incredible progress in DHHR, and the achievements have been remarkable because we are pulling the rope together,” Gov. Justice said. “As we reorganize DHHR into three departments, I am confident that these cabinet secretaries will maintain the exceptional improvements we’ve made and continue to make us proud. There are so many positive things happening at DHHR, and we want to continue making things better as we transition to this new organizational structure. I am certain that our new cabinet secretaries will help us achieve that.”

House Bill 2006, passed during the 2023 Legislative Session, reorganizes

the current West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources into three separate departments, each overseen by its own cabinet-level secretary, effective January 1, 2024.

All three new secretaries will begin working with their respective departments in the coming months in preparation for the January 1, 2024, official transition.

The West Virginia Department of Health will include the Bureau for Public Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Center for Threat Preparedness, Health Care Authority, Office of Inspector General, and Human Rights Commission.

The West Virginia Department of Human Services will include the Bureau for Behavioral Health, Bureau for Child Support Enforcement, Bureau for Family Assistance, Bureau for Medical Services, Bureau for Social Services, and Office of Drug Control Policy.

The West Virginia Department of Health Facilities will include Hopemont Hospital, Jackie Withrow Hospital, John Manchin Sr. Health Care Center, Lakin Hospital, Mildred Mitchell-Bateman Hospital, Welch Community Hospital, and William R. Sharpe, Jr. Hospital.

The three cabinet secretaries will develop a memorandum of understanding to establish the Office of Shared Administration, which will provide shared services from centralized units such as finance, human resources management, management information services, and constituent services.



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Public Hearing

A Public Hearing on: 1) **ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND ESTABLISH GENERAL RULES, REGULATIONS, PROHIBITIONS, AND REQUIREMENTS RELATIVE TO THE CITY'S STORM WATER SYSTEM AND THE COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION OF STORMWATER**, 2) **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SHINNSTON TO AMEND AND RESTATE ARTICLE 905.04(d) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF SHINNSTON, WEST VIRGINIA**

will be held on June 12th, 2023, in Council Chambers at 43 Bridge Street. Comments from citizens can be made at the meeting or written comments can be sent to the City Manager at 40 Main Street, Shinnston, WV 26431. Comments by mail must be received by 4 P.M. on the day of the meeting. The Public Hearing will be followed by a Regular Meeting where the 2nd reading of this ordinance will be on the agenda.

LEGAL

150CSR02
Tariff Form No. 8-A
(Tariff Rule 8.1.a. et seq.)
PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES UPON APPLICATION WITHOUT PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATES

NOTICE is hereby given that Allied Waste Services of North America, LLC d/b/a Mountaineer Transfer Station, a public utility, has on May 17, 2023, filed with the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA, an application containing increased rates, and charges for furnishing waste disposal services to customers at the Mountaineer Transfer Station in Westover, West Virginia.

The proposed increased rates and charges will produce approximately \$1,892,594.71 annually in additional revenue, an increase of 31.38%. The purpose of Mountaineer Transfer Station's rate case filing is to increase rates and charges for increased operation and maintenance costs relating to Mountaineer Transfer Station's compliant and continued operations. The proposed increased rates and charges will not become effective until approved by the Commission. Mountaineer Transfer Station's current and proposed rates, on a per-ton basis, are as follows:

	Present Rates	Proposed Rates	Increase \$/SS	Percent Increase
C & D	25.75	44.75	19.00	73.79%
Landfill and Assessment	36.50	36.50	.00	
Total Gate Rate - C & D	62.25	81.25	19.00	30.52%
MSW	25.75	44.75	19.00	73.79%
Landfill and Assessment	36.50	36.50	.00	
Total Gate Rate - MSW	62.25	81.25	19.00	30.52%
Recycling	35.00	54.00	19.00	54.29%
Recycling processing charge	16.35	16.35	.00	
Total Gate Rate - Recycling	51.35	70.35	19.00	37.00%
Minimum Charge	2.90	10.90	8.00	275.86%
Landfill and Assessment	4.10	4.10	.00	
Total Gate Rate - Minimum Chg.	7.00	15.00	8.00	114.29%
Bag Rate	0.62	2.12	1.50	241.94%
Landfill and Assessment	0.88	0.88	.00	
Total Gate Rate - Bag Rate	1.50	3.00	1.50	100.00%

Both the present and proposed rates referenced above, excluding recycling, minimum charge and bag rate, are exclusive of any legislatively mandated or authorized per-ton assessment fees and any other per-ton assessment fees due to any governmental entity.

Mountaineer Transfer Station has no resale customers.

The increases shown are based on the averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing. Any increase in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Commission. (If a hearing is scheduled, notice will be given of the time and place of hearing.)

Anyone desiring to protest or intervene should file a written protest or notice of intervention within thirty days, unless otherwise modified by Commission order. Failure to timely protest or intervene can affect your rights to protest any rate increases or to participate in future proceedings. All protests or requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the protest or intervention. Requests to intervene must comply with the Commission's rule on intervention set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All interventions may be mailed and be addressed to Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P. O. Box 812, 201 Brooks St., Charleston, West Virginia 25323, or hand delivered. Protests may be filed online through the Commission website using the "Submit a Comment" link or may be mailed or hand-delivered to the Executive Secretary at the address above.

A complete copy of this tariff, as well as a representative of Mountaineer Transfer Station to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or their agents at the office of Mountaineer Transfer Station located at: 201 12th St., Fairmont, WV 26554.

A copy of the proposed rates is available for public inspection at the office of the Executive Secretary of the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

"A Newspaper The Whole Family Can Read"

Shinnston Harrison County
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Lincoln Selects Students of the Month For May



Catherine Ann Caruso

Catherine Ann Caruso is the daughter of Valerie and JC Caruso, and the granddaughter of Joseph and Carla Caruso, and Patricia Corcoglioniti and the late Joseph Corcoglioniti. Throughout her four years at Lincoln, Catherine has earned a spot on the honor roll due to her exceptional grades.

She will graduate with Magna Cum Laude honors. She was inducted into the

National Honor Society her junior year, and holds membership in many clubs and organizations, such as Key Club, DECA, National Honor Society, and National Technical Honor Society where she serves as Secretary. Also noteworthy is the fact that Catherine serves as the Secretary of the Senior Class.

Catherine is a four-year member of the soccer team, and a three-year member of the marching and concert bands Outside of school, Catherine enjoys coaching U6 soccer, dancing at Ingra & Company, camping, and traveling.

Catherine has plans to attend Fairmont State University to major in Healthcare Management.



Sydney Morgan Foster

Sydney Morgan Foster is the daughter of Jeffrey and Laura Foster and David and JoDee Decker. Sydney is the granddaughter of Pamela H. Clifton, James and Becky Foster, Greg and Nancy Moninger, William and Rita Decker, Guy and Susan Gage and the late John C. Clifton.

Academically, Sydney has excelled throughout her four years of high school. She has earned a spot on the perfect honor roll several semesters. She has maintained a 3.8 GPA while earning 28 college credits. Sydney’s exceptional grades, reputation, and service earned her membership into the National Honor Society her junior year. She was the coordinator of the service project Feed a Family. She was also awarded a Top Scholar award.

Sydney is a four-year member of the Key Club. She was selected to attend the Key Club Convention her freshman year. Sydney organized a group from the Key Club to ring the bells for the Salvation Army. She volunteered for parents and grandparents’ night out. Sydney also has been an active member of the student council, where she was selected to serve on the Executive Committee. She was elected senior class Historian. She assisted with the coordination of the daddy daughter dance, prom, and senior breakfast.

Sydney was a two-year member of the strings group where she played the violin. She participated in Music at the Mall during her tenure in strings. Sydney has volunteered at Meadowview Manor and played bingo with the residents. She has also volunteered with the non-profit group Stars and Strides. It was during this experience that Sydney determined her future career path of elementary education and school counseling.

Sydney has been accepted into West Virginia University where she plans to obtain an undergraduate degree in elementary education and then pursue a master’s degree in counseling.

Fairmont State Offers Scholarships For Day Camps In June

Fairmont State University’s Falcon Center will welcome back its 6-week Falcon Day camp this summer from June 19 until August 4. Recently the Truist West Virginia Foundation and the Walmart Community Foundation gifted the Falcon Center with a grant so that families of children ages 6-12 can receive a full or partial scholarship for up to 3 weeks of camp. The deadline to apply for this scholarship is May 31, 2023. Those interested in applying for the scholarship can do so by visiting www.fairmontstate.edu/day-camp-scholarship.

“The Falcon Day Camp is one of the many incredible opportunities the local community has to experience Fairmont State at a young age,” said Interim Director of the Falcon Center Spencer Flanagan. “Connectedness to our local community is important. We are passionate about our students and the great things we have to offer, and we want our community to experience that firsthand.”

The day camp offers educational and recreational activities that are simple to follow and fun to participate in. The activities offer children physical and nutritional activities along with socialization, leaving them with personal growth, increased self-esteem, respect for different cultures, teamwork and social communication.

“We are excited to be able to re-open our Falcon Day Camp this summer! It is a great opportunity

for young children to experience the campus at Fairmont State while having fun with their peers,” said Recreation Program Coordinator Janel Kittle. “We have some great activities planned and some amazing staff ready to welcome our community kids to campus!”

Some of the activities that take place during the Falcon Day Camp include swimming, visits from the local fire and police departments, recreational team sports, arts and crafts, bounce houses and more. Additionally, each week there will be a camp theme for campers to participate in. These themes include “Aloha Summer!”, “The Great Outdoors”, “Secret Agent”, “Lost in Space”, “Superheroes Assemble” and “Around the World”.

The price of enrollment for the camp varies based on the number of children enrolled, the number of weeks enrolled, and the time of enrollment. Early drop-off from 7:00-7:30 a.m.can be arranged for an additional \$25 weekly fee. Fairmont State employees do receive enrollment discounts.

Registration for the Falcon Day Camp is from March 17 until July 27. To learn more about pricing and how to enroll, visit www.fairmontstate.edu/falconcenter/falcon-center-day-camp.

Any questions about the Falcon Center Day Camp can be directed to Janel Kittle at Janel.Kittle@fairmontstate.edu or 304-368-7223.

Golden Horseshoe Winners Announced

The West Virginia Department of Education recently announced the list of Golden Horseshoe winners.

From Harrison County, the awardees are: Eric Alvarez, Bridgeport Middle School Micah Brittain, Bridgeport Middle School Henry Smith, Bridgeport Middle School Leroy Song, Bridgeport Middle School Seth Nay, Lincoln Middle School Nathaniel Linger, South Harrison Middle School Owen Curtis, Ravenswood Middle School

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) will recognize 226 eighth grade students from middle schools across the state as Knights of the Golden Horseshoe. Once again, the WVDE will host three separate ceremonies, and a complete list of winners can be found on the WVDE website.

First Ceremony Details

The first ceremony begins at 9 a.m. and recognizes recipients from the following counties: Boone, Braxton, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Fayette, Harrison, Jackson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Putnam, Roane, Wayne and Wirt.

Second Ceremony Details

The second ceremony begins at 11:00 a.m. and recognizes recipients from the following counties: Gilmer, Greenbrier, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mingo, Monroe, Nicholas, Pleasants, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Summers, Tyler, Upshur, Webster, Wetzel, Wood, Wyoming and West Virginia Public Charter Schools.

Third Ceremony Details

The third ceremony begins at 1:30 p.m. and recognizes recipients from the following counties: Barbour, Berkeley, Brooke, Doddridge, Grant,

Hampshire, Hancock, Hardy, Jefferson, Marshall, Mineral, Monongalia, Morgan, Ohio, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Preston, Taylor, Tucker and the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

More About Golden Horseshoe

This year marks the 307th anniversary of the Golden Horseshoe legacy, and it remains the longest-running program of its kind in the country with the annual state recognitions dating back to 1931. The program’s legacy dates back to 1716 when Governor of the Virginia Colony Alexander Spotswood organized and recognized a delegation of men who explored the land west of the Allegheny Mountains (most of which is now West Virginia). He presented each of them a small golden horseshoe to commemorate their bravery for crossing the mountain.

WV Tourism Continuing Its Stargazing Promotion All Summer

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Now that the kids are out of school and Memorial Day Weekend is over, West Virginia families can plan some time in the backyard or at a state park enjoying an evening looking at the sky and stars.

According to WV Tourism, West Virginia is home to one of the largest and darkest skysheds within the Eastern United States, which is why Travel + Leisure dubbed West Virginia one of the “most under-the-radar stargazing destinations” last year.

The West Virginia Department of Tourism has partnered with the International Dark-Sky Association to launch a new campaign highlighting the state’s endless stargazing opportunities. While the promotion began in April in conjunction with International Dark Sky Week, the fun runs through the end of the summer.

Fairmont State Model UN Team Travels to New York City

After a three-year hiatus, Fairmont State University’s Model United Nations team made a successful return to the National Model United Nations Conference, held annually in New York City.

The goal of the National Model United Nations Conference is to “advance the understanding of the UN and contemporary global issues through quality educational programs that emphasize collaboration and cooperative conflict resolution and to prepare participants for active global citizenship.”

“Our students researched their assigned country and then created diplomatic resolutions to real problems addressed by the United Nations committees,” said Sarah Sakaguchi, Fairmont State’s Coordinator for Educational Pathways for International Centers and Students.

Representing the Union of Myanmar, the delegation of eight Fairmont State students competed against nearly 100 different teams from 100 different countries. Sakaguchi said this year’s topics ranged from disarmament and non-proliferation to human rights for those displaced by climate change.

Maiya Bennett, the 2022-2023 Fairmont State MUN president, said Fairmont State’s team members sat on six committees, found themselves represented

on 11 adopted resolutions, and ultimately received an honorable mention for their efforts.

“These students spent many hours each and every week - during the semester and over winter break - writing position papers, researching and memorizing the stances of our team country Myanmar, practicing moots, sharpening their diplomatic skills and saving their pennies for this trip,” said Professor Robert Lee Bolton III, who supervised the team alongside Sakaguchi and Professor Dr. William Harrison. “Still, without the University’s support, I do not think it would have been possible for us to do this conference. On the train ride back to Pittsburgh, multiple students told me it will be a lifelong, happy memory.”

Sakaguchi, a Fairmont State alumna, was a member of the Model UN student organization during her time as a student and was thrilled to see its success continue.

“Model United Nations is a student organization and program that Fairmont State University is proud to maintain,” she said. “I can remember participating when I was a student here: the hours spent studying, preparing, practicing, all to go to the conference and compete in New York City. I am extremely proud of these students and that I could be apart of Model UN once again.”

Congressman Mooney Introduces the Digital Dollar Pilot Prevention Act

WASHINGTON, DC – Rep. Alex X. Mooney introduced H.R. 3712, the Digital Dollar Pilot Prevention Act to close the Federal Reserve’s Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) pilot program loophole. Specifically, this bill would prohibit the Federal Reserve from establishing, carrying out, or approving a program intended to test the practicability of issuing a CBDC.

Fourteen House Republicans signed onto the bill as original cosponsors: Pete Sessions, Bill Posey, Ralph Norman, Byron Donalds, John Rose, Andy Ogles, Jeff Duncan, Greg Steube, Randy Weber, Glenn Grothman, Ronny Jackson, Victoria Spartz, Harriet Hageman, and Bob Good.

This legislation is endorsed by Club for Growth, Heritage Action, FreedomWorks, Americans for Tax Reform, and American Blockchain Initiative.

“Congress cannot give an inch when it comes to CBDCs. CBDCs would threaten the liberties of law-abiding Americans and are being used by authoritarian countries right now to crack down on dissent.” said Rep. Alex X. Mooney. “That’s why closing this pilot program loophole is so important—to prevent the Federal Reserve from bypassing the will of Congress. I am proud to introduce this legislation to do exactly that.”

“The Federal Reserve should never develop a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC). Moreover, spending time and taxpayer resources on research or pilot programs would be an end-around on Congressional intent, authorization, or jurisdiction. The Federal Reserve should be focused on fulfilling its formal mandate of taming Bidenflation, not mimicking China.” David McIntosh, President, Club for Growth

“The Biden administration’s calls for Central Bank Digital Currencies is another authoritarian measure to restrict and monitor Americans’ spending habits. FreedomWorks applauds Rep. Mooney’s efforts to introduce legislation that would bar the Federal Reserve from establishing any CBDC pilot programs without an act of Congress. We must do everything we can to prohibit unelected bureaucrats from inflicting their inflationary and repressive policies on the American taxpayer.” – Adam Brandon, President and CEO, FreedomWorks

“A central bank digital currency poses significant risks to the U.S. economy. A CBDC has the potential to infringe on privacy, abuse tax enforcement, and crowd out privately issued cryptocurrencies,”

said Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform. “There are no market failures that necessitate the study or creation of a CBDC. That is why I am proud to support Rep. Alex Mooney’s Digital Dollar Pilot Prevention Act, which would prohibit the Federal Reserve from working on a pilot program to develop a CBDC without authorization from Congress.”

“Allowing CBDC loopholes like ‘pilot programs’ is a disservice to the American people that threatens our economic sovereignty and national security. We should not rely on government-controlled digital currencies when private options can provide better security, privacy, and innovation. China’s notorious digital yuan rollout is also a ‘pilot program’ that has been nothing but a dystopian pet project for Communist central-planners. We believe our nation should protect our financial independence and reject any attempts to undermine it through CBDC pilot program loopholes. It’s time for the United States to prioritize the interests of its citizens and U.S. competitiveness on the world stage when looking at how to unleash the dollar on the internet. Private options provide the necessary competition and innovation to drive the industry forward, and we must not let government-backed monopolies stifle progress. We urge other members of Congress to join Congressman Mooney and protect our financial system by banning CBDC pilot program loopholes now.” – Alex Allaire, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, American Blockchain Initiative

For background, Congressional Republicans have been clear that the Federal Reserve does not have the statutory authority to issue a CBDC without an act of Congress, despite the Federal Reserve’s ambiguity. CBDCs pose major privacy and government surveillance concerns. Still, the Federal Reserve caught attention late last year for its CBDC pilot projects, even contracting with the private sector to build potential CBDCs for the United States which went beyond traditional research.

Right now, China is circulating its CBDC as part of a “pilot” program which will be used to monitor the transactions of its people and restrict banking access to government dissenters. Legislation is needed to ensure that the Federal Reserve cannot make an end run around Congress and issue a CBDC as part of any pilot program while stopping its current development dead in its tracks.

Manchin Joins Groundbreaking of Form Energy Factory in Weirton, WV, Made Possible by Inflation Reduction Act

Weirton, WV – Today, Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV), Chairman of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, joined Form Energy Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer Mateo Jaramillo, U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm, West Virginia Economic Development Secretary Mitch Carmichael and other Form Energy and West Virginia leaders at the groundbreaking for Form Energy’s new iron-air battery manufacturing plant in Weirton, West Virginia.

Form Energy’s investment in West Virginia is a result of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), an energy security bill designed to incentivize domestic manufacturing and drive energy innovation. The IRA will help ensure that Weirton and West Virginia remain on the cutting-edge of the energy technologies of the future for years to come.

A historic steel community, Weirton is located on the Ohio River with direct access to rail, river, and highway infrastructure that will enable Form Energy to transport West Virginia made batteries across the nation. Form Energy selected Weirton as the home of its first factory after a robust, year-long, nationwide site selection process that included reviewing over 500 candidate locations across 16 states. The company ultimately chose a 55-acre site in Weirton because of the historic steel community’s strong cultural heritage and existing transportation infrastructure.

Form Factory 1 is Form Energy’s first factory in West Virginia and the company’s first high-volume battery manufacturing plant. The manufacturing facility represents a total direct investment of up to \$760 million and, when operating at full capacity,

will employ at least 750 workers from Weirton and the surrounding communities. Form Factory 1 is being constructed on a site that previously housed the Weirton Steel Mill.

“For generations, West Virginians have done the heavy lifting. We’ve mined the coal that forged the steel that built the tanks and ships that allowed our country to become the greatest industrial might the world has ever known. West Virginian workers and families have made the hard sacrifices to power our country to become superpower of the world and a global energy leader. With today’s groundbreaking, West Virginia is once again stepping up to the plate and building on our legacy as America’s energy powerhouse while helping ensure our nation’s energy security and independence.

“Today’s groundbreaking is a direct result of the Inflation Reduction Act, and this type of investment, in a community that has felt the impact of the downturn in American manufacturing, is an example of the IRA bill working as we intended. The people of Weirton’s unbeatable work ethic, our strong community college workforce programs, and the infrastructure already in place, along with incentives we included in the Inflation Reduction Act, have all come together to ensure that Weirton and all of West Virginia will continue to use our natural resources — coal and gas that we can produce cleaner than anywhere else in the world — as we invest in advanced energy technologies of the future. Today, we have proven that competitive investments that drive innovation, not elimination, are the keys to a thriving, energy independent nation,” said Chairman Manchin.

Ranking Member Capito Statement on Supreme Court’s Ruling in Sackett V. EPA

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), Ranking Member of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee, issued the below statement following the Supreme Court’s ruling in Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency, which ruled in favor of the petitioners and significantly narrowed the authority the federal government has to regulate “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) at the expense of states and private citizens under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

“Today, the Supreme Court sent a loud and clear warning shot to the Biden administration about its attempts to overregulate the lives of millions of Americans. By rejecting the ‘significant nexus’ test, the Court protected America’s farmers, ranchers, builders, and landowners from overreach under the Clean Water Act, and ruled President Biden’s recent WOTUS rule goes too far.

“We already knew the EPA’s recent regulatory actions were harmful to American consumers, workers, and employers, but with two straight losses in major environmental cases – WV v. EPA and now Sackett v. EPA – the Court has confirmed the Biden administration’s pattern of environmental overreach is illegal. I was proud to both support the petitioners on this case last year and lead a successful effort this year in Congress to overturn the Biden WOTUS rule, and am thrilled with the Court’s decision today, which is a major win for individual freedom.”

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