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Harrison County Sheriff's Department's Citizen Academy to Foster More Understanding and Communication Between Law Enforcement and the Community



Deputy Sheriff Reserve Mike Lambiotte recently graduated from the 2023 FBI Citizens Academy and put what he learned to work in the Harrison County model. Sheriff Robert Matheny and DSR Coordinator B. K. VanHorn attended the ceremony as his guests. Pictured from left to right: DSR VanHorn, DSR Lambiotte and Sheriff Matheny. Phot courtesy of the Harrison County Sheriff's Department

By Stephen Smoot

"This is the first time ever that we have done something like this in Harrison County."

So reports Mike Lambiotte of the Harrison County Deputy Sheriff's Reserve concerning the upcoming inaugural Citizen Sheriff's Academy. Its goal lies in creating in depth training and education to show citizens the real work of local law enforcement.

Lambiotte had previously attended an FBI Citizen Academy. According to the FBI website, these "give business, religious, civic, and community leaders an inside look at the FBI." The mission of these lie in fostering "a greater understanding of the role of federal law enforcement in the community through frank discussion and education."

The FBI version gave Lambiotte inspiration to recreate the program and all of its community benefits on the county level. "We want to make sure it's not a Clarksburg and Bridgeport academy, but make sure to include the whole county."

Participation from all county communities will ensure that the sheriff's department gets the most benefit from the feedback aspect of the Academy.

"We borrowed a lot from the FBI Citizens

Academy," Lambiotte explained, then added that they also took inspiration from sheriff's departments in West Virginia, North Carolina, and Florida. They focused on "a lot of hands-on" education, including a "range day" where attendees under supervision and with guidance can "fire weapons the sheriff's department uses," such as ARs, tactical shotguns, and more.

According to the department's news release, the mission is "to further a greater understanding of the role of the Sheriff throughout Harrison County," through use "of demonstrations, lectures, PowerPoint and videos, interactions, hands on, guest presenters, and frank discussions."

The Academy will cover a variety of topics, many of which lie outside the direct notice of the public and media. These include "Courtroom Procedures, Staging (jail and transport), Court

Security, the role of the Bailiffs; Process Division, those who serve papers; The Tax Division; The work of Detectives . . . The Patrol Unit . . . and scenarios deputies face every day in the field from traffic stops to violent crimes; K-9 Team, with training and demonstrations."

Sessions start on August 10 and last until the Oct 5 graduation. Sessions take place once per week with a special range day session on Sept 10. Jeff Sandy, a former US Treasury Agent, Sheriff of Wood County, and current West Virginia Secretary of Homeland Security will attend graduation as the guest speaker.

Those eligible must live in Harrison County, be 18 or over, have no conviction or pending charges on a personal record, pass a background check, and meet all other terms and conditions laid out on the application. Those turning in applications who meet those conditions will be accepted on a preliminary basis pending results of the background check. Final selection decisions are made by the Harrison County Sheriff.

"When they graduate," Lambiotte explains, "they will know more than any other civilian about how law enforcement works, what their deputies deal with, including all of the uncertainties on traffic stops. They will be the most well-informed people in the community."

He also explained that "they will become ambassadors for the sheriff's department and they will have direct links back." Just as important, "the sheriff's department will know more about the community."

City Manager Discusses Creating Communication Group To Help Coordinate Next Year's Town Independence Day Celebration

By Kara Linaburg

In the July 10 City Council meeting, a few of the items on the agenda were set aside for a later date due to the people they concerned not being able to attend. Mayor Rodney Strait said that in a future council meeting there will be an award given to Bear, a dog from the police force, from Modern Woodman, and a proclamation for Saint Ann's Catholic church.

Regarding the 4th of July celebrations, city manager, Chad Edwards, said that there was some miscommunication regarding the events in town. "Next year we will have a communication group," Edwards said. He plans to have one text thread for people, such as the fire department who needs to be in the know, and to make sure the times and possible cancellations are announced more smoothly.

Edwards said that no one this year was in disagreement of this or was trying to create chaos, but that there "were a lot of moving parts," when you take in regard the number of people involved in the celebration, such as band members and media crew.

Edwards said that they are also looking for creative ways to keep expensive sound equipment dry and to not have to cancel if there is a chance of rain for the 4th of July in 2024.

Rodney Strait said that he attended the 4th of July celebrations held in town and was thankful for the Lion's Club's flags hung around town.

In his city manager report, Edwards said, "I want everyone to know that the DOH came in and I met with them,"

Edwards said that he told the DOH that he still had plans to finish the parking lot to the DOH's regulations, and the DOH, "actually came to offer some assistance with potholes and stuff like that."

Edwards also discussed budgets with the council in his report. "Balance forward on the access levy is \$141,138 and that with the projected income, we should have a revenue of \$290,038." He explained the percentages "broken down" according to what the voters passed, and said that \$43,505.70 of that money "will go to the park."

Edwards said with the money used for the park, they are completing the pavilion as well as "tons" of other things that need done. "There's no shortage."

Mary Ann Ferris asked if some of the park money could go to pickle ball courts and Edwards said, "absolutely."

Lawn care is also included in the cost going towards the upkeep of the park, and Pat Kovalck, council member, said that it's "money well spent."

Harrison County Assessor Explains New State Vehicle Tax Laws and Rules

By Kara Linaburg

Rocky Romano, Harrison County assessor, attended and spoke at the July 10 city council meeting to spread the word about a personal property tax cuts notice. "Most of you have probably already received your assessments from me," Romano said. He said that he had come that night to explain "what is going on with the vehicle tax."

Romano said that last year when the governor "took it upon himself to battle against amendment two" he was attempting to "lower or do away with in time our personal income tax. He also offered to try to do a rebate on the vehicle tax. Ok, well those are two components that are in this bill. The governor's bill, which he put out to legislation, did not pass, and then later on, the senate's bill did not move. It went through the house and the senate started tweaking it a little bit, and the house and the senate and the governor all worked well together on this House Bill 2526." This bill provides tax relief for citizens beginning in 2024 and not before.

Romano feels the word needs to get out to better inform people about how to pay their personal property tax this year. He is concerned "especially with seniors who like to pay their taxes in full and be done with it."

"The very first thing they need to know is to pay only half of their personal property tax ticket this year, before October 1st. Then pay their second half after January 1, 2024, before April 1," said Taylor County Assessor, Christa Kinsey, in a press release. "If you pay all of your tax this Fall, you won't receive any credit whatsoever on next year's taxes. However, next year, their full personal property tax will be credited if they decide to pay

See "Property Taxes" on Pg 6



**BUILDING
AMAZING CITIES**

By **JIM HUNT**
author, speaker, consultant

Amazing Travel Hacks In An Ever Changing World

As I am preparing for an upcoming trip to Tacoma, Washington, I thought it might be interesting to talk about some of the little things that have made my life much easier as I travel around the country. I see so many people struggling through airports and navigating the changing rules and I often think, if they only adjusted a few little things, they might have a better travel experience. Make no mistake, travel can still be a challenge and no amount of preparation or planning can avoid all problems, but here are a few that I've used to great success.

The first "hack" is proper packing. Too many times I see travelers struggling with multiple bags and overstuffed suitcases. I've streamlined my packing by choosing clothes that can be worn with one color of shoes and pants. My go to color is black shoes and black pants and a variety of shirts and pullovers of complimentary colors. This allows me to only pack one belt and one color of socks. My shaving kit has travel sizes of toothpaste, shaving cream and other needs. I generally try to pack a couple days of pills in my shaving kit and carry important pills in my briefcase or backpack if I carry one.

It might seem unimportant, but having a good quality suitcase is also a needed accessory. I've had the same Samsonite suitcase for over twenty years. It has taken me around the world, and I've gotten used to having it by my side. It rolls on four wheels and can stand by itself. It also fits in almost all the overhead spaces in modern aircraft. It is the typical black suitcase, but I buy a bright color tape and put it on the handle, to make it stand out. I also

See "Hunt" on Pg 3



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Guest Column

By Charlotte Lane
Chair, WV Public Service Commission

Where is that phone number?

The Public Service Commission gets hundreds of misdirected calls each year from angry utility customers. They want to pay a bill or ask a question about their service, but they can't find the right number.

Almost every utility lists the Commission's telephone number somewhere on its bill, and frustrated customers often call us by mistake. Then they experience another round of difficulty when PSC operators have to direct them back to reading their bill to find the correct number.

You can't pay your bill or change your service by calling the Public Service Commission. You must contact your utility.

So, I have studied five common utility bills. My electric bill is simple to read. On the first page, about halfway down on the right, is a telephone number for making payment by phone. There is also an 800 number for the customer operations center. That's common practice with electric companies.

My gas bill is a little busier, but the front page also includes an 800 number, clearly marked as "general information," for making payments or inquiries. The reverse page provides details on bill paying options and an explanation of charges.

My water bill is from a major utility, so bills from smaller water suppliers may look different. This bill is complex, but about halfway down on the left is an 800 number for customer service.

On my sewer bill, two-thirds of the way down on the left is a bold-faced "customer assistance" note. As with water bills, sewer bills from smaller utilities may vary widely.

My cable bill features a block that offers "ways to pay." My provider offers an 800 number, but advises the customer to "upgrade your services and manage your account" by going online otherwise. I did not find a toll-free number to call if one had a complaint.

The Public Service Commission does not regulate the internet. If you have a problem with your internet service provider and cannot work it out with the company, you should call the attorney general's office at (304) 558-8986. His website clearly informs citizens that his office handles broadband and internet complaints.

So, there you have it. Hopefully, you can avoid some frustration by taking a minute to look closely at your utility bill and find the correct number to call concerning your problems.

- Major Utility Customer Service Numbers
- Appalachian Power/Wheeling Power 800-982-4237
 - Hope Gas 800-688-4673
 - Monongahela Power/Potomac Edison WV 800-686-0022
 - Mountaineer Gas 800-834-2070
 - West Virginia American Water 800-685-8660

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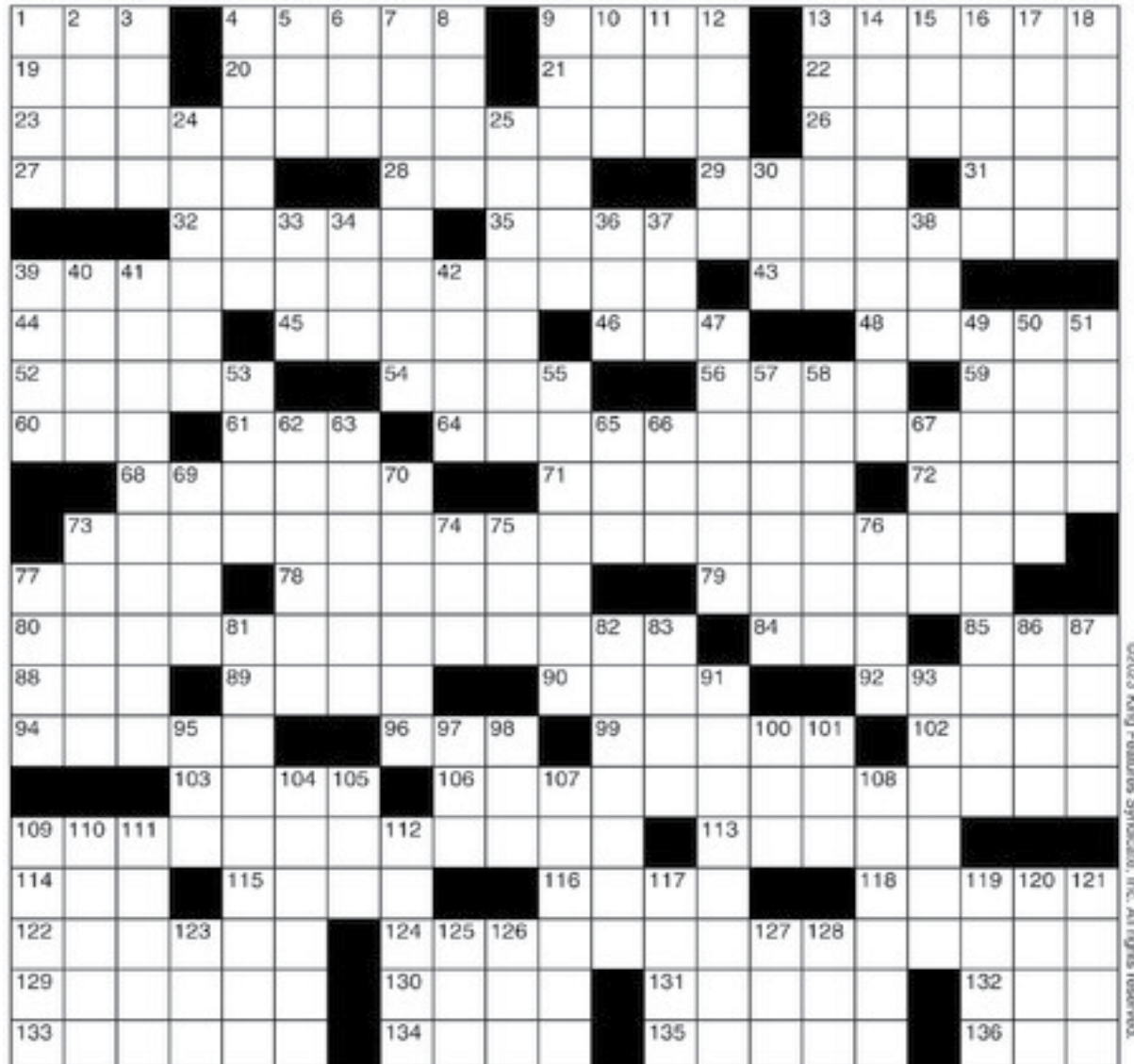
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Super Crossword

NINE FLEET

- ACROSS**
- 1 By means of
 - 4 Seizes suddenly
 - 9 Niche religion
 - 13 Cousins of rumbas
 - 19 Noah's craft
 - 20 Zellweger of "Bee Movie"
 - 21 Assistant of Frankenstein
 - 22 Mount where the 19-Across landed
 - 23 1987 comedy starring Nicolas Cage and Holly Hunter
 - 26 Set fire to
 - 27 Streisand musical film
 - 28 Diner relative
 - 29 Portion (out)
 - 31 Part of "GWTW"
 - 32 Mosque God
 - 35 Black-and-yellow stinging insect
 - 39 1993-2004 Chrysler sedan
 - 43 Thing to fly in the wind
 - 44 Pertaining to
 - 45 Seat in a bar
 - 46 Seat in a church
 - 48 Things
 - 52 Give new weapons to
 - 54 Fluctuate wildly
 - 56 Cole — (shoe brand)
 - 59 Curious pet
 - 60 Gift label
 - 61 Pro- — (some tourneys)
 - 64 Sport fish also known as "little tuna"
 - 68 "Them's the breaks!"
 - 71 Title word before "Inferno" or "Peak"
 - 72 Came to rest
 - 73 Atlanta daily since 2001
 - 77 "Game of Thrones" actress
 - 78 Charlotte — (Virgin Islands capital)
 - 79 Turning out
 - 80 Windy City airport
 - 84 Adobe Acrobat file
 - 85 "— believer!"
 - 88 Almond-hued
 - 89 Actress Olin
 - 90 Plaintiff
 - 92 Turns toward
 - 94 Darling child
 - 96 Perceive
 - 99 limited a sheep
 - 102 — -pedi
 - 103 "It's My Turn" singer Diana
 - 106 Small, floating cephalopod
 - 109 Device used in cardiology
 - 113 Actress Eve
 - 114 Everything
 - 115 Venus de —
 - 116 9-to-5er's shout
 - 118 Of a junction point
 - 122 Gazed angrily
 - 124 Principle of capitalism
 - 129 Showing on TV
 - 130 Work to make
 - 131 Second-largest city of India
 - 132 — out a win (just prevail)
 - 133 Distant
 - 134 California, par exemple
 - 135 Stellar hunter
 - 136 Abbr. that can precede nine key words in this puzzle
- DOWN**
- 2 "Dies —" (Mass hymn)
 - 3 Similar
 - 4 Car radiator covering
 - 5 Toon pal of Stimp
 - 6 "The Ice Storm" director Lee
 - 7 Plastic pail or shovel, say
 - 8 Toxin fighters
 - 9 Form a rough judgment of
 - 10 Vanity
 - 11 With
 - 15-Down, filmflaming guy
 - 12 "Lady and the —"
 - 13 Rum cocktail
 - 14 Evita's land
 - 15 See 11-Down
 - 16 Big name in faucet filters
 - 17 Solemn vows
 - 18 Expensive
 - 24 Veteran
 - 25 Casual statement of sympathy
 - 30 Comic shriek
 - 33 Fleur-de- — (iris)
 - 34 Kitchen pest
 - 36 Fabric flaw
 - 37 Bardic verse
 - 38 Rainy
 - 39 Juicy gossip
 - 40 Draft-eligible
 - 41 Coercing
 - 42 Edifice topper
 - 47 "Let's suppose ..."
 - 49 Like the study of habitats
 - 50 County in the Bay Area
 - 51 "Undo" mark
 - 53 Bryn —, Pennsylvania
 - 55 Info that's not up to date
 - 57 Pub spigot
 - 58 Preposterous
 - 62 Domestic household
 - 63 Hit hard, as the brakes
 - 65 Airline to Copenhagen
 - 66 Apnea-treating doc
 - 67 Abel's brother
 - 69 Blacklisting org. of the 1940s-'50s
 - 70 Petting zoo animals
 - 73 2008-12 Mets pitcher
 - 74 Roman 151
 - 75 Suffix with planet
 - 76 Petty quarrel
 - 77 Eight: Prefix
 - 81 Doled-out share
 - 82 French inn
 - 83 2021 is one
 - 86 Diner list
 - 87 Sale rack caveat
 - 91 Pursued speedily
 - 93 Key related to C major
 - 95 Bungle
 - 97 Lead-in to center or dermis
 - 98 Do lunch
 - 100 Gift for music
 - 101 Clunker
 - 104 Wee bit
 - 105 Note above fa
 - 107 Very strong
 - 108 One of a bowler's targets
 - 109 "Horrible" cartoon
 - 110 Actress
 - 111 Fire alert
 - 112 Credit card lure
 - 117 — Chinese
 - 119 God, to Gigi
 - 120 Inquires
 - 121 Some blue jeans
 - 123 Brazilian city, in brief
 - 125 Hamelin pest
 - 126 Slice of time
 - 127 Yale attendee
 - 128 Pi-sigma link



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.

July 20, 2010: Carte Goodwin became the nation's youngest sitting senator. Goodwin was appointed to fill Robert C. Byrd's seat in the U.S. Senate following Byrd's death.

July 21, 1924: Don Knotts was born in Morgantown. Knotts will be forever remembered for portraying Barney Fife on The Andy Griffith Show.

July 22, 1859: Athlete "Jack" Glasscock was born in Wheeling. Glasscock, who played barehanded, was one of baseball's premier shortstops of the 19th century.

July 22, 1937: Musician Tommy Thompson was born in St. Albans, Kanawha County. Through his group, the Red Clay Ramblers, and a career that spanned four decades, Thompson played a major role in spreading the popularity of old-time music.

July 23, 1863: Financier and industrialist Isaac Thomas Mann was born in Greenbrier County. As president of the Bank of Bramwell and the Pocahontas Fuel Company for three decades, "Ike" Mann held vast holdings in coal, timber and especially financial institutions.

July 23, 1919: Novelist Davis Grubb was born in Moundsville. His renown came with his first novel, The Night of the Hunter (1953), a gripping suspense story adapted to film in 1955 and for television in 1991.

July 24, 1823: Arthur Boreman, West Virginia's first governor, was born in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. His family moved to Middlebourne, Tyler County, when he was still an infant.

July 24, 1919: Sam Taylor of Mercer County became the first West Virginia State Police trooper. During his tenure, Taylor tracked moonshiners and bootleggers, and helped set up new state police detachments.

July 24, 1929: Cornelius Charlton was born in East Gulf, Raleigh County. Charlton was killed in battle during the Korean War, and he was honored posthumously with the Medal of Honor.

July 24, 1942: Actor Chris Sarandon was born in Beckley. A film, stage and television performer, some of his credits include The Nightmare Before Christmas, The Princess Bride and an Oscar nomination for Dog Day Afternoon.

July 24, 1983: Kansas City Royals player and Glen Dale native George Brett was involved in the "Pine-Tar Bat Incident." After hitting a game-winning home run against the New York Yankees, the umpires ruled that Brett's bat had too much pine tar on it and called him out. The ensuing melee at home plate is classic baseball lore.

July 25, 1864: A colony of eight Catholic nuns set out from Washington, D.C., and Frederick, Maryland, for Parkersburg. The sisters, who created a monastery there and named it DeSales Heights, ran a boarding school for young women for 75 years.

July 26, 1942: Camp Washington-Carver was dedicated and opened to the public. The camp, located at Clifftop, Fayette County, was the first statewide 4-H camp for African-Americans in the country. The camp's Great Chestnut Lodge is West Virginia's largest log structure.

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

The North Central West Virginia Parkinson support group will hold their monthly meeting on Saturday, July 29th at the Brickside Bar & Grill, Bridgeport WV. The room is available from 12 to 1 pm for anyone who wants to grab lunch. The guest speaker will begin at 1 pm. If anyone would like more information about this group, please contact Tracey Robertson at (304)363-1028.

The Lumberport Fire Department is looking to hold a 4 man Golf Scramble on September 9th. We are looking to see how many people would be interested in this event. If you could leave a like or a comment to show interest it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support!

The Shinnston citywide yard sale will be held on the first Saturday in August, which is the 5th

The first annual baseball skills camp will take place between Aug 14 through 16 at Shinnston Little League Field. Signups are at 8 AM on Aug 14 with a cost of \$50. Ages 6 through 12 may participate. Proceeds benefit the Shinnston Little League

“Hunt” From Pg 1.

attach a sturdy identification tag that covers the name and address under a tab. Too many times, I have seen travelers not be able to identify their cases and those who use flimsy tags, often find they have been torn off in transit. The idea of covering your name and home address is useful because of the ease of criminals finding out you are out of town or convincing you that they “know” you and ask for money or other nefarious purposes.

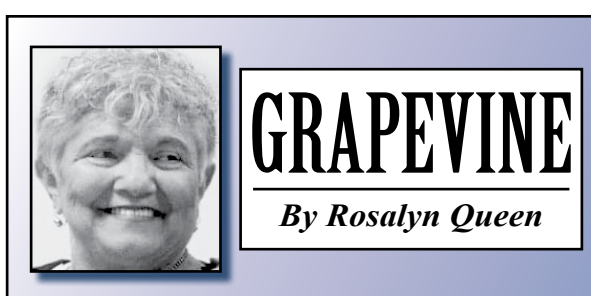
Many travelers don’t use rideshare services like UBER or LYFT on a regular basis and it can be disarming to be getting into a strange car without the traditional markings of a taxi or limo service. I always check the model of car and the

drivers name when they confirm the ride. If there is any discrepancy, I will not get in the car without some explanation of the issue. I also snap a picture of the car as it is pulling up, including the license plate. It can also be helpful to put your destination into Waze or Google maps, to make sure you on the right route. Generally, the UBER or LYFT driver is using the same app and it just reassures you that you are not being diverted. While this is not a huge problem, it always pays to be careful. Be sure to let someone know before you get in a car and if you feel in danger, alert your contact. When you get to your hotel, it is a good practice to request any things you need, when you

first arrive. While people used to request to be far away from the elevator, as I get older, I request a room near the elevator. This avoids going down a dim hallway, late at night and gets you to your meeting or event on time. I also request two keycards, even when I am by myself. I keep one card in my wallet and one in my pocket. Some cards are still susceptible to magnetic interference, and you don’t want to get to your door after a long night and find out your keycard doesn’t work.

These are just a few things that I have found that makes my travel less stressful. I think I may do another column on these “hacks”, as I’ve thought of a few more that I think are helpful. Safe travels!!!

A Truly Grand Wedding For a Special Couple



Well it is finally here. I am talking about the wedding of my grandson, Bennett Queen and his intended, Meredith Ward.

Back in May after the Primary Election we all gathered in the Court Room of Judge Bedell to witness Ben being sworn in as the State Senator from our district. Before a packed room the Judge administered the oath of office to Ben with Meredith holding the Bible that Ben placed his hand on. Once the oath was administered and the Judge congratulated Ben, Ben asked the Judge for the Mike and after a few thank yous Ben got down on one knee and proposed to Meredith. They had been going together for a while and we all suspected that soon they would be getting married. But you can imagine how shocked we all were as this was a complete shock to us. After all the crying and congratulations we all adjourned to the Robinson Grand where an engagement and political party was held.

This was the beginning. Plans started falling in place as the couple announced the date as July 15. All the ladies immediately started selecting dresses for all the events, especially for the rehearsal dinner and the

wedding. Plans were made for a bridal shower and for the bachelorette and bachelor parties. All events were held and much celebration went on.

The rehearsal dinner will be held at Muriel’s after a short rehearsal at the Simpson Creek Baptist Church. where the ceremony will be held. The wedding will take place at 5:30 on Saturday with the reception to follow at the Robinson Grand Theatre.

This is certainly a different agenda for this wedding then for any of the others of our family. I would have spent weeks making cookies and favors for the wedding. As with my daughters I was sewing gowns up Until the last minute when they were ready to go down the aisle. This was different as I have my two dresses hanging in my closet and I have matched my jewelry and accessories. My toes are done and I await my hair appointment tomorrow morning .

Although this is different, an 83 year old grandmother appreciates the difference. I am anxious to attend the ceremony and look forward to greeting all the guests. Thanks to everyone who helped make this happen. I wish Ben and Meredith a lifetime full, of happiness. May your every wish come true.

Take care and until next week “Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine.”

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The Pieces Are In Place In Morgantown



The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

West Virginia men's basketball interim head coach Josh Eilert rounded out his coaching staff recently. It resembles a homecoming for former players that if they had some eligibility remaining would help in this upcoming season roster more on the hardwood than on the bench.

DaSean Butler wasn't just an exceptional scorer, he was a born leader as well. Butler scored 2,095 points in four seasons in Morgantown. From 2007 to 2010, Butler's teams would notch 107 victories, the most in program history, and in 2020 he was inducted into the WVU Sports Hall of Fame.

Alex Ruoff is the second most recognizable name on the staff and is entering his second season on the sideline. From 2006 to 2009, Ruoff knocked down 261 three-pointers, the most in program history, on his way to 1,420 career points. Ruoff played 12 seasons of professional hoops, which makes him a player favorite since every one of them have professional aspirations. Ruoff will be in the WVU Sports Hall of Fame someday.

Jordan McCabe is the most recent player to wear the gold and blue uniform. McCabe was a Mountaineer from 2019 to 2021. He saw action in 94 games before moving on to the University of Nevada - Las Vegas program. He was set to join the staff when Bob Huggins was still the leader of the program and Eilert decided to bring McCabe

in to honor the previous commitment.

Demarr Johnson is a holdover from last year's staff. Johnson had played one season for Huggins at Cincinnati (1999 to 2000) before embarking on a 16 year professional career that included seven of those in the NBA. Johnson was the director of player development at Cincinnati before joining WVU's staff to replace Larry Harrison.

The biggest question occurred when the longest tenured assistant, Ron Everhart, was moved to a desk job. Everhart had been an assistant since 2012-2013 and prior to that was the head coach at McNeese State, Northwestern, and, most recently, Duquesne. A Fairmont native, he's had a dozen years of program running experience prior to his move to the Mountaineer program. Everhart will now be the director of community relations and player outreach.

There are four other key contributors to the program that will be retained by Eilert. One of the most integral is Jay Kuntz, a 15 year veteran, continues his role of director of player personnel/recruiting. Trent Michaels, last year's operations coordinator and former graduate assistant, is now the Director of Men's Basketball Operations. Tyler Cheng continues on as the athletic data statistician, a position he has held since 2019. Jared Kortsen stays on as the video and scouting coordinator for a second consecutive campaign; prior to that he was WVU's graduate manager

Eilert has assembled an impressive staff. A little shuffling and a couple of key additions have him all set for the upcoming season. Now he must block out all of the outside distractions and deal with some major defections. We will save those topics for another day. S you know, the plot has thickened and a constantly evolving backdrop has kept the program at the forefront of the national spotlight.



Head Across the County Line to Tee It Up At Green Hills

This week's edition of Tee It Up took us to "the friendly city" to visit Green Hills Country Club. It is known as Fairmont's premier golf course and a visit there proved the point.

The layout of this exceptional course is classic and it provides a fair, challenging, and enjoyable round for golfers of all skill levels. The difference maker that sets Green Hills Country Club apart is the commitment to excellence from the individuals that strive to make it the best club it can be.

Joe Haller has been a member since 1994. Haller has been on the board of directors, but stepped down to help the club with a major need. Haller has maintained the facilities, putting in as much time as needed to ensure that everything runs at the highest level possible. According to Haller, there is a large number of members who have been a part of the club for a long period of time.

"There is a longstanding tradition here. It is a second home to a lot of members," explained Haller. "Green Hills Country Club is almost hypnotizing in a sense because once you visit, you don't want to leave." It's come full circle here. Members' children grew up here and now they have become members themselves. Members are used to the best here. An impeccable golf course, sparkling pool, oversized dining room, and a full restaurant bar that offers a 19th hole that is second to none.

From tee to green, every component of this course is in perfect condition. The fairways have that lush look and a super soft feel. The rough is punishing and it provides a fair penalty for missing the target off of the tee. The majority of the greens are guarded by some of the best bunkers in the Mountain State. They are strategically placed and full of sand. The greens are rolling perfectly at a time of year other courses are slowing down because of the heat.

This track plays 6,223 yards from the blue tees and offers multiple tees to ensure a pleasurable round. The signature hole is number two, a 220 yard par three from the blues. It is guarded by water with a fountain in the middle.

Green Hills Country Club has something for everyone and if you are looking to play at one of the best venues around, then you had better load up your sticks and head to Fairmont!

Tucker to Represent United States at Pan American Game

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. – Fifth-year Mary Tucker is set to represent the United States at the 2023 Pan American Games in both air rifles and smallbore after a successful trip to Colorado Springs, Colorado for the 2023 Rifle Pan Am Selections Match.

Tucker opened the week taking the top spot in air rifle with a 1276.8 and 117 X's while finishing in second place in smallbore with a 1183.5 and 61 X's.

She scored the highest mark in air rifle across both days of competition, posting a 633.6 on day one and a 635.2 the following day. In smallbore, Tucker sat in seventh place with an opening-day score of 585, seven points off the lead, before a final-day score of 594 vaulted her into a second-place finish.

With the results, Tucker has earned a berth on Team USA and will compete in Santiago, Chile at the Pan America Games beginning on Oct. 20.

Senior Molly McGhin and fifth-year Malori Brown also competed at the event.

McGhin competed in both events taking sixth place in air rifle with a 1257.0 and fourth in smallbore with a 1181.0. Brown competed in smallbore, taking seventh place with a 1169.5.

Eilert Announces Signing of Jeremiah Bembry

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. – West Virginia University men's basketball interim head coach Josh Eilert has announced the signing of Jeremiah Bembry to a grant-in-aid for the 2023-24 academic year.

Bembry, a 6-foot-5, 185-pound guard from Brooklyn, New York, attended Florida State in 2022-23, where he did not compete in any games and redshirted.

"I love the versatility and the size that Jeremiah will bring to the point guard position," Eilert said. "He's an outstanding ball handler who can lead the break, penetrate and shoot. He's a very athletic, left-handed guard who will fit in well into our defensive schemes with his tremendous length. Jeremiah is a high character student-athlete who comes from a great family. We are excited to have him join our Mountaineer basketball program."

Bembry graduated from Executive Education Academy in Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 2022. He played in 32 games over two seasons and averaged 13.9 points per game over his two-year career. Bembry averaged 14.1 points in 15 games as a senior.

He had 27 points in a 67-62 win over Muhlenberg, 23 in a win over Nativity BVM and 21 against Wilkes-Barre Area. Bembry had 10 double figure scoring games in 15 games as a senior.

As a junior, Bembry averaged 13.7 points, 7.0 rebounds, 6.0 assists and 2.0 blocked shots per game. He helped lead Executive to the quarterfinals of the PIAA Class 3A State Tournament. Bembry had 23 points in the final prep game of his career against Loyalsock Township and totaled 21 in a 98-56 win over Roberto Clemente Charter School. He earned a 4.0 GPA in high school.

Bembry attended Marist High in Bayonne, New Jersey, as a freshman and a sophomore. He averaged 16.3 points per game as a freshman and averaged 15.0 points, 6.0 rebounds and 3.0 assists as a sophomore.

Hammond Announces Signing of Finland Native Syrja

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. – West Virginia University rifle coach Jon Hammond has announced that Lauri Syrja has signed a national letter of internet and athletic grant-in-aid for the 2023-24 academic year.

"Lauri is the next addition of many international students we have had represent WVU Rifle and we are excited for him to join the program," Hammond said. "We know he will bring a strong work ethic, international experience and enthusiasm to the team and we look forward to welcoming him into our WVU Family."

Syrja is an accomplished international rifle athlete racking up a plethora of accomplishments as a native of Maakeski, Finland.

He is a 2022 smallbore mixed team European Champion, a two-time Nordic Champion and a 10-time Finnish Champion. He has been a part of the Finnish national rifle team since 2019 while being named the best young athlete in the Tavastia region in 2022.

From 2022-2023, Syrja has managed 11 top-25 finishes at World Championships, ISSF Junior World Cups and European Championships across various disciplines.

Syrja is a graduate of Padasjoki High School. He also competed as a part of the Leppa club team under the coaching direction of Marko Leppa.

Grammy Nominee Artist David Crowder Visits Clarksburg Amp July 21st



From The World of Parks & Recreation

By Doug Comer

Contemporary Christian Music performer David Crowder is set to perform Friday, July 21st at the Clarksburg Amphitheater with gates opening at 6:00 PM. Tickets are still available for purchase online or at the gate, however, less than three hundred tickets remain for the Grammy nominated music star.

From Waco, Texas, Crowder began performing while attending Baylor University. During the time he attended the Christian based university, he noticed the lack of numbers attending church. So, through his music, his ambition was to draw more people to church and things just took off from there.

In 2012, he separated from his band aptly named the David Crowder Band and began a solo career

with the release of his first album, Neon Steeple. His first song off the album "I Am" hit the charts and rose to No. 3 on the Christian Songs Chart. Since then, he has released four albums including his 2021 release "Milk and Honey" and even a holiday album.

Songs like "Good God Almighty" and "In the House" will highlight a song list for all to enjoy. Those who are aware of his music have nothing but praise for the 51-year-old artist. He brings a good fan base to his shows as his unique style of sound really sets the tone.

"We attended a concert a few years back and the music is electric and just a joy to listen to," said one fan. "Those who enjoy listening to that genre of music will be surprised at the energy he brings during his concerts. We would see him anytime he is in our driving area."

The Amp is located at Veterans Park in the upper area adjacent to the VA Hospital. It has hosted up and coming bands over the years like Florida-Georgia Line and Old Dominion as well as rockers like .38 Special and Kansas. Tickets normally range from \$35-\$55 based on seating and there are plenty of activities to do while waiting for the music to start.

"Many of us like to get there early and tailgate like we are at Mountaineer Field," said John Lacaria of Clarksburg. "We are big fans of country music and have attended many of these concerts including Tracy Lawrence a few weeks back and all the seating is great. Before the shows, we take our grandkids down to the playground or play mini golf. Inside, there are plenty of items available at the concession stand and a couple food trucks usually show up and sell food as well."

For those looking to purchase tickets to Crowder can go to the Clarksburg Amphitheater webpage or purchase tickets at the gate. Coming in August is country performing artist Matt Stell, who visits the Amp on Saturday August 26th. This will conclude the major acts for the concert season.

Stell is touring in the midwest right now and will pass through Clarksburg on Saturday before heading to the New York State Fair in Syracuse later in August. In 2019, his song "Prayed for You" has been his staple song. However, his newest album "One of Us" will have some of the songs that will make the set list. Tickets are now available for sale and plenty of reserved seats are available for purchase.

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“Property Taxes” From pg 1

the full amount prior to October 1, 2024.”

“By paying in ‘24 and getting that credit,” Romano said, “you’re going to be good.” He explained that “if your bill is \$600 dollars and you pay the \$300 this year and the second half next year, that will definitely be accredited.”

The third component of the bill that Romano explained at council that night was for disabled veterans who are considered “90-100% disabled.” Disabled veterans could receive credits on their primary residence.

And the fourth and final component of the bill is for small businesses (as defined as appraised value 1 million

or less). “It allows you to take the rest of your personal property, like furniture and equipment, all of that, and get 50% of credit for other personal property.

“It’s very important that veterans pay the second half in 2024 and that we pay the second half in 2024.”

“County officials strongly supported Governor Justice and the legislature in giving our citizens this tax relief,” said WV Association of County Officials’ Executive Director Jonathan Adler in an email. “Through their leadership, West Virginia enjoys record surpluses, and the people deserve these tax breaks.”

West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History Seeking Entries for the 2023 West Virginia Juried Exhibition

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) is announcing a call for entries for its 23rd biennial West Virginia Juried Exhibition. The show will be on display at the Culture Center in Charleston. Since 1979, the exhibition has celebrated the exceptional talents and creativity of Mountain State artists.

Submissions for the exhibit in the form of digital images on CD or USB flash drive are currently being accepted through Friday, Aug. 11. Artists may submit two pieces for the exhibition with a limit of three digital images per entry. Entry forms and properly identified images must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$20 per piece. Make check payable to West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History. Digital images can be mailed to WVDACH, West Virginia Juried Exhibition (WVJE) 2023, The Culture Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd., E., Charleston, W.Va. 25305-0300, hand-delivered to the Culture Center at the State Capitol Complex, or emailed to Rachel Keeney, exhibits coordinator. Image file sizes must be small

enough to be received through email, an entry form must be included, and entry fee will still need to be mailed to the department.

Eligible entries include works created in the past two years in the areas of painting, sculpture, printmaking, drawing, photography, digital art, mixed media and crafts.

Entrants must be over the age of 18 and must be residents of or maintain a permanent residence in West Virginia. Entrants also must complete a WV-DACH Artists’ Register form and submit six slides or digital images representative of current work for the file at the department. The images submitted for the Artists’ Register are not used in judging entries into the exhibition.

A prospectus for the exhibit is available online at <https://wv-culture.org/agencies/museums/>.

The department will present up to \$33,000 in awards for the exhibition. The awards are made available through the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and the WV-DACH through funds appropriated by the West Virginia Legislature and the National Endowment for

the Arts. Awards may include three \$5,000 Governor’s Awards (purchase awards), seven \$2,000 Awards of Excellence (purchase awards) and eight \$500 Merit Awards (non-purchase awards). Works receiving Purchase Awards become part of the West Virginia State Museum’s permanent art collection.

The exhibit will open at the Culture Center with an awards ceremony and reception at 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023, and remain on display through Feb. 10, 2024. The exhibit showcases the work of state artists and craftspeople and provides the public with a comprehensive view of art and craft activities in the state.

For more information about submitting your entries or signing up for the artists’ register, contact Keeney at (304) 558-0220, ext. 128 or Rachel.M.Keeney@wv.gov.

Bring the Whole Family to Cranberry Fun Day on July 29 at the Cranberry Mountain Nature Center

RICHWOOD, W.Va., July 14, 2023 – Everyone is invited to the annual Cranberry Fun Day Saturday, July 29, from noon to 4 p.m. at Monongahela National Forest’s Cranberry Mountain Nature Center.

The day kicks off with a celebration of Smokey Bear’s 79th birthday at noon, with cake and punch. Be sure to get your picture taken with Smokey Bear. After lunch, join in nature activities and programs, such as learning about native fish and how firefighters put out wildland fires. During your visit, you will also have an opportunity to make an ornament for the 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas tree. Roy

Moose will present “Snakes of West Virginia” at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. All activities are free.

“The Cranberry Fun Day is just that, a lot of fun!” said Diana Stull, Cranberry Mountain Nature Center Director. “Come early, bring a picnic lunch and spend the whole day. It’s enjoyable for all ages!”

The nature center is located 14 miles west of Marlinton and 23 miles east of Richwood at the intersection of State Route 39/55 and Forest Road 150 (Highland Scenic Highway). The nature center is open Thursday through Monday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through fall. Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

West Virginia’s Revitalization Program Now Accepting New Community Applications

CHARLESTON, WV — The West Virginia ON TRAC (Organization and Training for Revitalization and Capacity) program is now accepting applications from communities seeking assistance in community improvement and development. As a program under the West Virginia Department of Economic Development, ON TRAC aims to support towns in their endeavors towards economic growth.

To ensure a successful application process, community representatives are required to attend a complimentary application and introductory workshop. This mandatory workshop equips participants with effective techniques to enhance their chances of securing a spot in the limited ON TRAC program.

The workshop is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, conducted via Zoom. To register for the workshop, please contact Jennifer Brennan at 304-957-3971 or via email at Jennifer.L.Brennan@wv.gov.

ON TRAC offers a comprehensive range of resources to help communities stimulate economic growth, including evaluation, education, and networking opportunities. Communities selected for ON TRAC will receive specialized training in downtown or neighborhood revitalization, a thorough assessment of their strengths and weaknesses, access to an extensive online library of databases and resources, action-planning services, telephone consultation, scholarship and grant information, as

well as technical design visits.

Governor Jim Justice commended the program, stating, “I think that ON TRAC is a vital initiative that empowers our great communities, providing them with the necessary tools and support to up economic development. Through evaluation, education, and networking resources, this program gives these communities what they need to thrive and revitalize their districts.”

It is important to note that communities are required to participate in ON TRAC for a minimum of two years before becoming eligible to apply for accreditation as a Main Street community. Currently, West Virginia boasts 12 accredited Main Street Communities and 10 ON TRAC Communities, showcasing the success and impact of these programs in the state.

Main Street West Virginia, an integral program under the West Virginia Department of Economic Development, focuses on the revitalization of historic commercial districts by offering technical services, design assistance, and continuous training for board/committee members and program managers. Leveraging the National Main Street Center’s Four-Point Approach®, Main Street West Virginia ensures a comprehensive approach encompassing organization, promotion, design, and economic restructuring.

For more information about the ON TRAC program and the application process, please visit wvcad.org/infrastructure/main-street-wv-and-ontrac.

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OBITUARIES



Idola May Bryant

Idola May Bryant, 86, of Clarksburg, passed away on Thursday, July 13, 2023 at River Oaks Healthcare Center. She was born on October 18, 1936 in Dayton, OH to the late Frederick Charles Miller and Lucille Molly (Gibson) Miller.

Idola had worked as a hospice caregiver, Shinnston Industrial Bakery, Go Mart and as a cook for Shinnston Grade School. She loved to playing bingo and cards. Idola was very social and loved spending time with her family.

She is survived by two daughters: Dreama Hansen of Salem and Theresa L. Couture of Salem; five sons: Carson Bush of Clarksburg, John Bush and wife Teresa of Shinnston, Scott Bush and wife Kimberly of Nashville, TN, Shawn Bryant of Clarksburg and L. T. Bryant and wife Dianna of Shinnston; grandchildren: Robert, James and Chasity Bush, Jesse and Jared Bush, Daniel Couture, Steven and Richard Marks and Natasha Bryant, Tiffeny Ridley and Madeline Bush as well as several great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Idola is preceded in death by one son, Thomas Kibler and three brothers:

Dick Miller, Edmond Miller and Fred Miller.

Family and friends will be received at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston, on Thursday, July 20, 2023 from 4:00pm until 8:00pm and the funeral service will be held on Friday, July 21, 2023 at 11:00am with Pastor Thomas Bell officiating. Interment will follow at Lumberport Lions Cemetery.

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



Theresa Ann Dean

Theresa Ann Dean, 51, of Shinnston, passed away at 2:30pm, Saturday, July 15, 2023, at the Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. She was born at the Camp Lejeune Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, NC, August 16, 1971, a daughter of William Gene and Naomi Dianne Fultz Dean of Shinnston.

In addition to her parents, Theresa is survived by her daughter, Summer MB Baker and her husband Philemon, Clarksburg; two sons, William Dominick "Willie" Fragmin, and Antonio Donte Morris, both of Shinnston; three grandchildren, William Lee Strother, Annebelle Baker, and

Roland Baker, all of Clarksburg; one brother, Michael Dean and his wife Joy; nephew, Ryan Dean; niece, Victoria Dean; and two step nieces, Hannah Fazio and Rachel Collet, Jane Lew. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Winston "Bud" and Margaret "Peg" Dean, and Reatice and Nora Fultz.

Theresa was employed with the Federal Bureau of Investigation for 30 years where she was a supervisor for the last 6 years. She will be greatly missed.

A memorial gathering will take place at the Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St., Shinnston, on Sunday, July 23, from 1pm until the time of the memorial service at 3pm. Pastor J. Edward McDaniel will officiate the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Dean family.



Mabel P. Hardman (Crites)

Mabel P. Hardman (Crites), 91, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Sunday, July 9th, 2023, with family and friends by her side. Mabel was

loved immensely by her family and caring friends. She was born on December

20th, 1931, to the late Andrew Crites and Bessie Layfield Crites. Mabel married Harold Hardman on March 29th, 1952. They were married for 54 wonderful years. Together they had three daughters, Janie(Price), Diane (Wentz), and Kimberly (Maxwell). Mabel was a dedicated employee for many years at Davis-Weaver Funeral Home in Clarksburg, WV. She was extremely hard-working, loyal, caring, and driven. Mabel was known as a wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, great-great-grandmother, a friend, a warrior, and the nickname her husband had given to her, boss.

Mabel was best known for loving her family. She always placed them first and supported them in all of their achievements, dreams, and wishes. Mabel loved Christmas, baking, her rose garden, family dinners,

listening to music, her grandchildren, and being there for others. She always placed others before herself.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff at Bridgeport Healthcare, formally known as Stonerise Nursing Home, in Bridgeport. They became an extended family unit for Mabel, and her loved ones. The

family would also like to thank Mabel's caregiver and friend,

Pat Guerra. She became a dear and close friend that looked after her.

Mabel was preceded in death by her husband, Harold Hardman, her youngest daughter, Kimberly Kay Maxwell, and her granddaughter Cheyenne Maxwell. Mabel is survived by two daughters and three sons-in-laws,

Diane and husband David Wentz, Janie Price and fiancé Donnie Garrett, and Brian Maxwell. Also surviving is her brother, Dale Crites of Shinnston; eight grandchildren, Scott Price and wife Heather, Shawn Price, Krissy

Beringo and husband Jason, Lori Taylor and husband Bob, David Brian Wentz, Amanda Adams and husband Curtis, Shari

Tonkery and husband Aaron, and Melissa Maxwell; twelve great-grandchildren, Brock Price, Chance Price, Cole Price, Noah Beringo, Nathan Beringo, Grayson Taylor, Meredith Taylor, Douglas Newlon, Kylie Newlon, Nicholas Maxwell, Bentley Tonkery, and Paxton Tonkery; one great-great-granddaughter, Alivia Price; and several nieces and nephews.

Friends and family will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Wednesday from 4-8 and funeral service on Thursday at 11:00 am with Pastor Thomas A. Snyder officiating.

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



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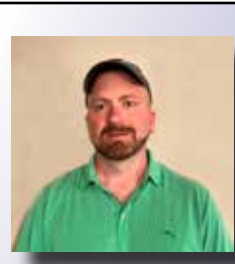
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The same building hosted the Shinnston Emergency Squad and also the city's Moose Lodge.

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Two Churches in Shinnston Celebrate a Century of Serving Christ



The Story Behind the Photo

By Bobby Bice



This year marks the centennial anniversary for two churches in Shinnston. In 1923, two additional religious congregations formed within the town: The Parish of Saint Ann and the United Brethren Church on west side. The accompanying image shows the congregation of the United Brethren Church, taken during the summer of 1932, nine years after its founding, when the first major addition to the church building was completed and dedicated.

At one time, there were twenty-six United Brethren Churches in Harrison County. Shinnston's was located along west side's Clark Street and is today known as Otterbein United Methodist Church. The original structure of the church was a single elevated auditorium, supported on locust posts, built in 1923. During the summer of 1932, the ground level of the church was enclosed to add a basement, which [still] contains the kitchen and classrooms as well as lavatories. Also at that time, the auditorium was redecorated and its entrance,

as well as the choir loft and chancel were all remodeled along with the addition of a bell tower. The bell in the bell tower, as well as the first folding chairs to be used in the downstairs classroom, was all donated by then church member Benjamin Duty. The exterior of the building was painted and flowers and shrubbery were planted on the grounds. To further bring beauty and color to the building, five beautiful stain-glass windows were added, which were purchased by members whose names they bear. As visible in the photo, three of these windows are in the sanctuary and face Clark Street while the other two are in the vestibule/bell tower room. The church has had two more additions over the years, which allows for a very comfortable setting. More stain-glass windows have been added and the auditorium is now turned 90 degrees from its original floor plan with the original altar being a former upstairs classroom.

Many people may wonder where the name Otterbein derives. On November 16, 1946 at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, the United Brethren denomination joined with the Evangelical Church and officially changed its name to the Evangelical United Brethren Church, hence the Shinnston U.B. Church became the Shinnston E.U.B. Church. Then in 1968, the Evangelical United Brethren Church joined with the Methodist Church and formed what is still known today as the United Methodist Church. To instill the origins of the United Brethren into its name, the church became known as Otterbein United Methodist Church, to honor Philip William Otterbein, a U.S. Clergyman and Founder of the United Brethren in Christ.

Many current and former church members have dedicated much time to service within the walls of the building as well as community outreach. One hundred years have passed since Shinnston's west side gained a church building in which to worship, but the stewardship of its members remains as strong today as it did when this image was taken. And that is the story behind the photo!

Attorney General Morrissey Leads Coalition in Brief Asking US Supreme Court to Restore Accountability for the Rogue CFPB

CHARLESTON — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey is leading a coalition of 27 states in asking the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold a lower court's ruling that found Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's unprecedented funding mechanism unconstitutional.

The case, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau v. Community Financial Services Association of America Ltd., centers around the bureau's funding means.

Under current law, the CFPB can obtain hundreds of millions of dollars each year merely by sending a half-page letter to the Federal Reserve.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled in October this funding mechanism for the federal agency, which was formed during the Obama administration and given vast power over the U.S. financial industry, is unconstitutional.

The Appropriations Clause of the U.S. Constitution explicitly gives Congress the power of the purse as an oversight over federal agencies. The Fifth Circuit, in the October decision, ruled the 2010 Con-

gress improperly gave away that power when it granted CFPB an independent, perpetual income stream.

In the 13 years since Congress made that mistake, the CFPB has resisted congressional oversight, engaged in misbehavior before federal courts, and locked States and other parties out of key regulatory decisions.

"We are asking the Supreme Court to, once and for all, set the record straight and order CFPB to acquire, through Congress, constitutionally appropriated funds," Attorney General Morrissey said. "The CFPB cannot operate outside the boundaries provided by the Constitution."

Currently, the agency gets its funding from the Federal Reserve. If the Supreme Court upholds the Fifth Circuit's ruling, then the bureau would need to get an appropriation approved by Congress through normal processes. Congress would then have an opportunity to rein in some of the agency's activities, which have increased borrowing costs for some consumers and shut other consumers out of the credit market entirely.

"Unless Congress crafts a constitutional appropriations scheme, we see no other alternative but a substantial revision to the scope of the agency's work," Attorney General Morrissey said, writing in the brief that "the financial system will not fold if the Court merely asks Congress to appropriate a few funds."

The Fifth Circuit ruled CFPB's bypass of Congressional appropriations violated the Constitution's appropriation's clause and separations of powers doctrine.

According to the Constitution's Appropriation's Clause, "no money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of Appropriations made by law."

"The Appropriations Clause offers Congress one of its most powerful tools to supervise and control federal administrative agencies," according to the coalition's brief. "The appropriations power is essential to the separation of powers ..."

All 50 states have weighed in on this case, making this one of a few cases where voices of all 50 states are being expressed in

the Supreme Court.

A brief filed in the Supreme Court in December by a 16-state coalition also led by Attorney General Morrissey described the CFPB as a "failed experiment," and asked the Court to "reinvigorate the protections of the Appropriations Clause, not weaken it."

Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Wyoming joined Attorney General Morrissey in the latest brief.

LEGAL

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Division of Highways NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia, until August 8, 2023 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the construction of the following project(s):

Call Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
012	2023170019	S317-279/00-2.60 00	UPGRADE & WIDEN PAVEMENT MOD 279 AND I-79 EXIT RAMP MODIFICATIONS WV 279/GENESIS BLVD MP 2.345 COUNTY: HARRISON

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractor's license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must submit electronically with their bid a Proposal Guaranty Bond for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater.

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

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

Plenary Indulgence on the occasion of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

From *L'Osservatore Romano*

In a decree published on Wednesday, 5 July, the Apostolic Penitentiary announced the opportunity for the faithful to obtain a plenary indulgence on the occasion of the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which will be celebrated on Sunday, 23 July. The following is a translation of the decree outlining the necessary conditions for obtaining the indulgence, either for oneself or others.

DECREE

The Apostolic Penitentiary, in order to increase the devotion of the faithful and to procure the salvation of souls, by virtue of the faculties attributed to it by the Supreme Pontiff Francis, Pope by Divine Providence, accepting the recent request presented by His Eminence Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church Kevin Joseph Farrell, Prefect of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life, on the occasion of the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, already instituted by the Supreme Pontiff on the fourth Sunday of the month of July and which this year will be held on the theme "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk 1:50), graciously grants from the heavenly treasures of the Church the Plenary Indulgence, under the usual conditions (Sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion and prayer in accordance with the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff) to grandparents, the elderly and all the faithful who, motivated by a true spirit of penance and charity, participate on 23 July 2023, on the occasion of the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, at the solemn celebration over which the Most Holy Father Francis will preside in the Vatican Papal Basilica, or at the various functions that will be held throughout the world, a Plenary Indulgence that may also be applied as a suffrage to the souls in Purgatory.

This Court of Mercy also grants the Plenary Indulgence on this same day to the faithful who devote adequate time to visit, in person or virtually, through the media, their elderly brothers and sisters in need or in difficulty (such as the sick, the abandoned, the disabled).

The Plenary Indulgence may also be granted, provided that they free themselves from any sin and with the intention to fulfill the three usual conditions as soon as possible, to the sick elderly and to all those who, unable to leave their homes for a serious reason, will unite spiritually with the sacred services of World Day, offering to the Merciful God their prayers, their pain and the sufferings of their lives, especially while the words of the Supreme Pontiff and the various celebrations are broadcast through the media.

In order, therefore, that this opportunity to attain divine grace through the power of the Keys of the Church may be more easily realized through pastoral charity, this Penitentiary firmly requests priests, equipped with the appropriate faculties to hear confessions, to make themselves available, with a ready and generous spirit, for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance.

This Decree is valid for the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary.

Given in Rome, at the See of the Apostolic Penitentiary, on 15 June 2023.
Mauro Card. Piacenza Major Penitentiary
Krzysztof Nykiel Regent

Fairmont State University now offering new scholarship for students with excellent high school GPAs

Fairmont State University is now offering a new scholarship for incoming students. The Falcon Excellence in Residence Scholarship is a \$2,000 scholarship for incoming/new students who choose to live on campus during their journey as a Falcon and have a high school GPA of 3.5 or higher. The \$2,000 scholarship will be applied to student's first-year tuition at Fairmont State (\$1,000 a semester). The scholarship does not require ACT/SAT testing scores.

"We realize that a lot of students spend all four years of high school working very hard," said Alicia Kalka, Associate Vice President of Enrollment and Student Life. "But sometimes these high-achieving students just don't test well. We don't want these students to feel as if all that work has gone down the drain due to one low test score, which is why we decided to find a way to reward these high-achieving students with the Falcon Excellence in Residence Scholarship."

In order to receive the \$2,000 scholarship students must:

- Be admitted to Fairmont State and enrolled in classes
- Have a completed housing application (please note students must accept their offer of admission to fill out a housing form)

- Be a first year student and have a 3.5 high school GPA
- Must live on campus in any residence hall (except Morrow Hall)

Those who meet the criteria will have the \$2,000 applied to their student account automatically (no additional scholarship application is necessary).

"We want to see every student who comes to Fairmont State succeed," said Vice President of Student Success Ken Fettig. "We hope that offering scholarships like this will not only alleviate financial worries for students but also encourage them to live on campus where they will be close to resources like tutoring, mental health counseling, academic advising, student health services, and other resources Fairmont State provides to help them thrive."

To apply for admission to Fairmont State University visit www.fairmontstate.edu/apply. If you are an admitted student interested in the scholarship and you still need to apply for housing, you can do so by visiting www.fairmontstate.edu/housing.

Students or families who have questions about the Falcon in Residence Scholarship may contact the Office of Admissions and Welcome Center at (304) 367-4010 or admit@fairmontstate.edu.

Treasurer Moore Urges Residents to be on the Lookout for Second Round of 'West Virginia Cash Now' Notices

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – State Treasurer Riley Moore is urging West Virginians to be on the lookout for letters that will be sent out next week informing some residents they should receive an unclaimed property check from the Treasurer's Office this fall – without the need to file a claim with the Office.

The letters are part of the Office's "West Virginia Cash Now" program, which automatically sends unclaimed property checks to verifiable residents without the need to go through the claims paperwork process.

"Now in its second year, the West Virginia Cash Now program has already been a tremendous success in returning unclaimed property back to West Virginia citizens," Treasurer Moore said. "Last year, thousands of West Virginians cashed checks ranging between \$100 to \$5,000 through this program, and we're looking forward to returning millions more dollars to our people this fall."

The Treasurer's Office is preparing to send 3,677 notification letters next week, representing nearly \$4.2 million worth of unclaimed property claims. Residents will be informed they should be receiving checks for their unclaimed properties in October.

West Virginia Cash Now launched last year following passage of House Bill 4511, an unclaimed property modernization bill that Treasurer Moore proposed to lawmakers during the 2022 regular session. Among its many provisions, the bill created a more automated approach to claims processing which now allows many West Virginians to be reunited with their missing money automatically – no paperwork required.

Through the West Virginia Cash Now program, the Office's Unclaimed Property Division is able to quickly issue checks to residents who already have addresses and contact information that are readily verifiable in legal databases.

Treasurer Moore said his Unclaimed Property Division has more than 3 million listings valued at more than \$300 million. The Cash Now program will apply to one of the most common types of claims:

Individual property owners with claim amounts ranging from \$100 to less than \$5,000.

Treasurer Moore emphasized that once you receive the letter, you simply have to wait for your check to be mailed in October – you do not have to file a claim with the State Treasurer's Office.

In addition to verifying the address of the individual, Treasurer Moore said the letters will serve to inform people this program is legitimate and not a scam.

"One of the biggest challenges we have when we contact someone about their unclaimed funds is they often think it's a scam," Treasurer Moore said. "I know it's reasonable to be skeptical when something sounds too good to be true, but we need people to know the unclaimed property program is not a scam. It's our legal responsibility at the State Treasurer's Office to return lost funds to our citizens, and the West Virginia Cash Now program is one of the ways we're working to fulfill that obligation."

More information about the program is available at the Unclaimed Property Division's official website, which has now been transitioned to an official .gov web domain: www.WVUnclaimedProperty.gov.

Information on the Cash Now program is available by clicking on the "WV Cash Now" tab at the top of the page.

While the Cash Now program created a new automated process for certain claims, it does not apply to all claims. Businesses, government entities, estate claims and securities are not covered by the program because additional documentation is required to verify the owner. Individuals with claims of \$5,000 or more will also still have to file paperwork with the Office to receive their claim.

Since the new program will not cover all claim types, Treasurer Moore emphasized that individuals should still regularly visit www.WVUnclaimedProperty.gov to search and see if the Office is holding any assets in their name.

Fairmont State University Art Professor and students create mural for Clarksburg Community Center

A new mural adorning the side of the Kelly Miller Community Center in Clarksburg features the work of Fairmont State University Art Professor Joel Dugan and his students.

The mural, which honors the career and legacy of long-time Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation employee Mary Hunt, was unveiled at a community celebration hosted by the West Virginia Community Development Hub last month. Upon Hunt's retirement, she and the Hub began seeking artist applications for the mural, which was supported through funding from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation. Dugan's portfolio of both personal and professional projects stood out among the candidates and earned him and his students selection for the mural.

Dugan said he was grateful to be commissioned to complete the project and that he views the opportunity to create public art as a symbiotic relationship between the community and his students.

"Public art creates an identity and a sense of place for the citizens of small communities while also creating the opportunity to transform a student's understanding of how art can impact the regions in which they study and live," said Dugan.

Dugan, alongside students Dylan Allum, Zara Harold and Hannah Sprout, began painting the mural in April, after holding focus group meetings with individuals in the Clarksburg community.

"We always want to make sure the public is active in helping to create the vision," said Dugan, who is also

the chair of Fairmont State's Department of Architecture, Art and Design.

The mural is 28 feet tall and pays tribute to the Community Center's original use as a Black school in Clarksburg's predominantly African-American neighborhood of Monticello. The Center has since been converted to house a fitness center, a computer lab and various community programming and educational opportunities.

"We wanted to enrich the space and represent the amount of vibrancy we have heard in the stories about the building itself," said Dugan. "We also wanted to immortalize some of the community servants who have given so much to the well-being of the members of that building and the youth who they serve."

The WV Black Heritage Festival board of directors and M.O.R.E., a community leadership team in the Monticello neighborhood, partnered with the Hub to install the mural. Dugan and other groups of students will now turn their efforts to two more murals to be completed in the North Central West Virginia region before the end of the summer.

"West Virginia doesn't really have galleries, so the open-air gallery route is the most attainable for us," said Dugan. "It takes us out of the comfort zone of the classroom and into larger community spaces. I cannot speak enough about the transformation that takes place when students see the community come out and support them. There is so much excitement in seeing the walls of these spaces come to life."

West Virginia Department of Agriculture Program Targets a Familiar Invasive Pest

By Stephen Smoot

"West Virginia's forests are one of our state's most important resources," says Kent Leonhardt, State Commissioner for Agriculture in a recent release. He added that "from tourism to our timber industry, our forests are an important economic driver."

State forests, however, remain under threat from a number of potential pests. Few have plagued them for as long as the pest commonly called the gypsy moth. Government agencies switched the terminology to "spongy moth" due to concerns over the word "gypsy" used as a slur against the Romani people of Eastern Europe.

Gypsy moths first appeared in Massachusetts in 1869. According to the West Virginia Division of Forestry, they spread south and west at a rate of about five to 10 miles per year. The first adult gypsy moths were trapped in West Virginia in 1972 and the first caterpillars captured in the wild six years later.

The WVDA operates a program funded by grants from the US Forest Service to suppress gypsy moths. It helps to cover the cost. Grant allocations vary year to year. These grants help to fund a joint suppression project run jointly by the WVDA and the US Department of Agriculture's quarantine program for this pest. Harrison, as well as 43 other counties, are eligible for help.

From now until August 31, qualified landowners can request an egg mass survey from the WVDA. Applications must come from a landowner, or combination of landowners with plots of at least 50 acres. This year, the grant covers applications of Mimic and BTK treatments. Mimic treatments will

cost landowners \$13 per acre while BTK will cost \$17 per acre. The USFS grant covers 50 percent of the cost this year.

These treatments use fungal and viral treatments that specifically attack the gypsy moth population. They work best in rainy and humid conditions.

Landowners must also provide a \$1 per acre deposit up to \$500. If the land qualifies for testing, the deposit will go toward the cost of the treatment. Treatments to suppress the egg masses will take place next year.

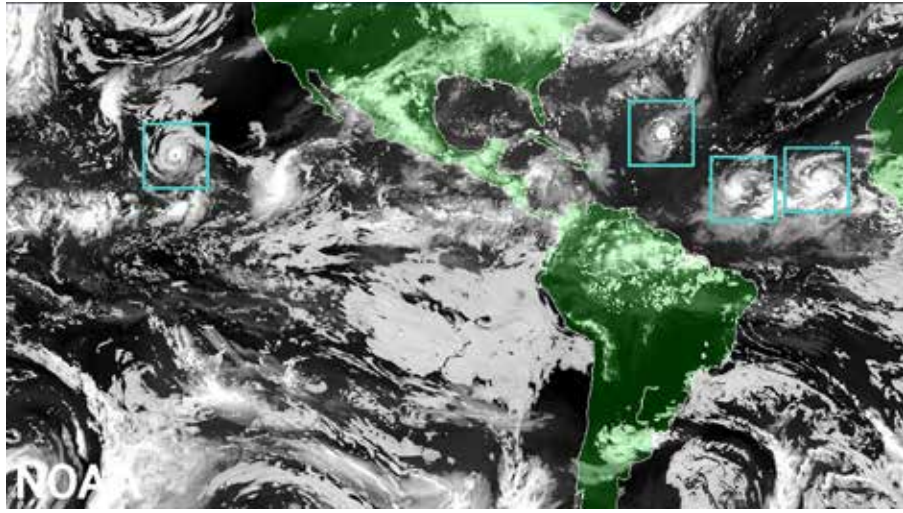
Scott Hoffman, who works out of the WVDA Mineral County office, reported that "this year the damage is in a smaller area." Morgan County saw outbreaks earlier in the year. Hoffman added that "a lot of years, it might be the whole mountain" defoliated by the moths.

Harrison County residents should also "be on the lookout" for another emerging pest, the spotted lantern fly. These brilliant and beautiful insects bring destruction to maple and black walnut trees, many fruit trees common to West Virginia, and can wreck havoc on vineyards. According to James Watson from the WVDA they live by "sucking sap from plants and out of trees."

Though not yet seen in north central West Virginia, the spotted lantern fly has established themselves in the Eastern Panhandle and are known to spread quickly through "riding" on automobiles. The best way to prevent their spread lies in killing off the equally harmful and invasive "tree of heaven," which is the preferred host for the spotted lantern fly.

Those who find a spotted lantern fly in the wild should photograph it, record as many details as possible, then report the information to bugbusters@wvda.us.

NOAA launches new hurricane forecast model as Atlantic season starts strong



The Hurricane Analysis and Forecast System (HAFS) “moving nest” Model. Global map showcasing land mass in green and water in black, clouds in white and tropical storms outlined in a green boxes representing the moving nest model.

NOAA’s National Hurricane Center — a division of the National Weather Service — has a new model to help produce hurricane forecasts this season. The Hurricane Analysis and Forecast System (HAFS) was put into operations on June 27 and will run alongside existing models for the 2023 season before replacing them as NOAA’s premier hurricane forecasting model.

“The quick deployment of HAFS marks a milestone in NOAA’s commitment to advancing our hurricane forecasting capabilities, and ensuring continued improvement of services to the American public,” said NOAA Administrator Rick Spinrad, Ph.D. “Development, testing and evaluations were jointly carried out between scientists at NOAA Research and the National Weather Service, marking a seamless transition from development to operations.”

Running the experimental version of HAFS from 2019 to 2022 showed a 10-15% improvement in track predictions compared to NOAA’s existing hurricane models. HAFS is expected to continue increasing forecast accuracy, therefore reducing storm impacts to lives and property.

HAFS is as good as NOAA’s existing hurricane models when forecasting storm intensity — but is better at predicting rapid intensification. HAFS was the first model last year to accurately predict that Hurricane Ian would undergo secondary rapid intensification as the storm moved off the coast of Cuba and barreled toward southwest Florida.

Over the next four years, HAFS will undergo several major upgrades, ultimately leading to even more increased accuracy of forecasts, warnings and life-saving information. An objective of the NOAA Hurricane Forecast Improvement Program (HFIP) is, by 2027, to reduce all model forecast errors by nearly half compared to errors seen in 2017.

HAFS provides more accurate, higher-resolution forecast information both over land and ocean and is comprised of five major components: a high-resolution moving nest; high-resolution physics; multi-scale data assimilation that allows for vortex initialization and vortex cycling; 3-D ocean coupling; and improved assimilation techniques that allow for the assimilation of novel observations.

The foundational component is the moving nest, which allows the model to zoom in with a resolution of 1.2 miles on areas of a hurricane that are key to improving wind intensity and rain forecasts.

“With the introduction of the HAFS forecast model into our suite of tropical forecasting tools, our forecasters are better equipped than ever to safeguard lives and property with enhanced accuracy and timely warnings,” said Ken Graham, director of NOAA’s National Weather Service. “HAFS is the result of strong collaborative efforts throughout the science community and marks significant progress in hurricane prediction.”

HAFS, the first regional coupled model to go into operations under the Unified Forecast System (UFS), was developed through community-based collaboration and the streamlining of the operational transition process. As HAFS uses the FV3 — the same dynamic core as the U.S. Global Forecast System — it will have a unified starting point when initiated for hurricane prediction and will also integrate with ocean and wave models as underlying inputs. The current standalone regional hurricane models, HWRF and HMON, each have their own starting point for modeling the atmosphere. Leveraging the FV3 in HAFS reduces overlapping efforts, making the NOAA modeling portfolio more consistent and efficient.

HAFS is also the first new major forecast model implementation using NOAA’s updated weather and climate supercomputers, which were installed last summer. HAFS would not be possible without the speed and power of these new supercomputers, called the Weather and Climate Operational Supercomputing System 2 (WCOS2).

NOAA developed HAFS as a requirement of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017, which directed the agency to conduct ongoing research and development to improve hurricane prediction and warning under the Hurricane Forecast Improvement Program. Specifically, the Act called for NOAA to improve prediction capability for rapid intensification and storm track. HAFS development was also enabled by fiscal year 2018 and 2019 hurricane and disaster supplemental funding, and continued acceleration with support from the 2022 Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act.

HAFS was jointly created by NOAA’s National Weather Service Environmental Modeling Center, Atlantic Oceanographic & Meteorological Laboratory and NOAA’s Cooperative Institute for Marine & Atmospheric Studies

Capito Announces Nearly \$2.8 Million in Funding for Various Programs in West Virginia

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), a member of the Senate Appropriations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committees, today announced a total of \$2,799,136 in federal funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and U.S. Department of Education (DoE) to support projects throughout West Virginia.

USDA FUNDING: First, Senator Capito announced \$1,999,664 in total from the USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) to support five different projects at West Virginia State University (WVSU) that study a variety of methods of maximizing value from different crops.

“I am happy to see this NIFA funding heading to support programs at WVSU that will pioneer new advances here in our state,” Senator Capito said. “These programs have the potential to increase efficiency in the way we grow and consume food, and can also increase the knowledge we have in science and agriculture to

build on in the future.”

NSF FUNDING: Next, Senator Capito secured \$699,472 in funding for West Virginia University (WVU) and Marshall University from NSF to support energy and biology research.

“West Virginia has a proud history of having some of America’s top research universities. I am excited to see how WVU can revolutionize the way we understand and produce energy with plasma and what we can learn about the history of life itself from Marshall,” Senator Capito said.

EDUCATION FUNDING: Finally, Senator Capito announced \$100,000 in funding to the West Virginia Department of Education from the U.S. Department of Education (DoE) to help expand statewide training and technical assistance to families and practitioners of deaf-blind students for communication and education.

“Every West Virginia student is valuable and deserves access to a quality education,” Senator Capito said. “This funding from the DoE will help ensure that deaf-blind students have resources that meet their learning needs so they can reach their fullest potential.”

DHHR Addresses Stolen SNAP Benefits

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) reminds West Virginians participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) of the heightened risk of Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card fraud and stolen benefits. The U.S. Department of Agriculture and DHHR have recently received several reports of card skimming, phishing, or cloning scams to steal SNAP benefits.

DHHR is working with state and federal partners, SNAP retailers, EBT processors, and other industry experts to protect SNAP benefits and combat SNAP benefit theft.

“Card skimming can happen to anyone who uses a credit, debit or EBT card, including SNAP participants,” said Janie Cole, DHHR’s Commissioner for the Bureau for Family Assistance. “SNAP benefit theft victimizes low-income individuals who rely on these benefits to feed their families, and it will not be tolerated.”

Theft of SNAP benefits is punishable by federal and state law and can include imprisonment and financial penalties. If a recipient of SNAP benefits is convicted of benefit theft, penalties may also include being banned from participating in the SNAP program.

Through the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, DHHR can replace stolen EBT benefits due to card skimming, cloning or phishing, retroactive to October 1, 2022, and through September 30, 2024. Replacement benefits cannot exceed the actual amount stolen or the household’s benefit allotment amount for the two months immediately preceding the theft, whichever is lesser.

West Virginia residents who receive SNAP benefits and believe benefits have been stolen due to card skimming, cloning, or phishing, should contact their local DHHR office or contact the DHHR Customer Service Center at 1-877-716-1212 to file a claim.

New assistant coach comes to Herd after serving as HC at Glenville State

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Marshall men’s basketball coach Dan D’Antoni announced the addition of Justin Caldwell as an assistant coach on Friday.

Caldwell has served as head coach at Glenville State the past five seasons.

“We’re happy to welcome Justin Caldwell on board,” D’Antoni said. “He’ll help improve the college experience for our kids, as well as help in recruiting and on the court.”

D’Antoni said Caldwell’s experience both on the court and in the community will help Marshall continue its growth of building relationships — something D’Antoni sees him assisting Director of Basketball Operations Neal Scaggs with in the future.

“He will work with Neal to build a lot of community relationships and help get our kids involved in the Tri-State and in the state of West Virginia,” D’Antoni said.

Like D’Antoni, Caldwell is a Mullens, W.Va., native. He is also familiar with the up-tempo style of D’Antoni after having implemented a similar style at Glenville State.

In 2021, Glenville State’s team averaged 95.5 points per game and was ranked as high as No. 13 nationally. Both the 2021-22 and 2022-23 teams averaged 12 3-pointers per game with the 2022-23 team leading the nation in that category.

During his time at Glenville State, Caldwell mentored John Williams, who was an NCAA Division II All-American and a two-time All-MEC performer. He also coached former Marshall player Phil Bledsoe, who was a two-time All-MEC First Team selection.

Caldwell was also an elite scorer in his collegiate days, tallying 1,997 points in three years at West Virginia Wesleyan and one season at Glenville State. During his year with the Pioneers, Caldwell averaged 23.7 points per game.