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## Assistant Chief Pilot welcomed to Fairmont State's Aviation program



Fairmont State University's Aviation Center of Excellence has welcomed Jeremy Griffin as its first full-time Assistant Chief Pilot. Jeremy began his new position within Fairmont State's Aviation program back in June. Griffin previously worked as a part-time flight instructor for the program.

"Jeremy is a game changer for helping students pursue in-demand careers as pilots," said Chief Pilot and Director of the Aviation Center of Excellence Joel Kirk. "Currently, pilot training provides one

of the best returns on the investment of education dollars one can make—our graduates have a 100% job placement and some may secure a six-figure starting salary."

Assistant Chief Griffin brings over 30 years of experience to the position. He is a retired U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 5 and primarily served as a gun pilot for AH-64 Apaches and H-60 Blackhawks. Griffin has extensive experience as a special operations evaluator and instructor pilot, and is one of the few pilots in the United

States rated in Russian helicopters. Griffin is also a certified Airline Transport Pilot, Multi-Engine Instructor, Certified Flight Instructor and Certified Flight Instructor Instrument in both rotary and fixed-wing aircrafts.

"I grew up here in Bridgeport and to come home after retiring from the military is pretty neat and surreal after 30 years," said Griffin. "I am pretty fortunate. It's a really great opportunity to be back in my hometown and help young people learn how to fly."

In addition to his immense field experience, Griffin also possesses a degree in Aviation from Liberty University. Griffin will be taking over as the Aviation program's lead for multi-engine training, using his substantial knowledge to train the next generation of aviators.

To learn more about Fairmont State's Aviation program, visit the College of Business and Aviation homepage.

## Glenville State University Announces Kyla Lovejoy as New Pioneer Mascot



Glenville State University is thrilled to introduce Kyla Lovejoy as the new Pioneer Mascot, embodying the spirit, energy, and pride of the university's vibrant community.

Selected after an extensive and competitive search process, Kyla Lovejoy, a native of Chloe, West Virginia, emerged as the perfect

embodiment of the university's values and traditions. With a strong commitment to representing Glenville State University with enthusiasm, Kyla is poised to become an exceptional ambassador for the uni-

versity, both on and off the field.

"I am excited for Kyla to represent Glenville State University as the Pioneer for the 2023-2024 year! She is an engaged student leader, and I am confident that she will bring a unique perspective to the role where her leadership and communication skills will be on full display, said GSU (Glenville State University) Director of Student Life Conner Ferguson."

Kyla Lovejoy is no stranger to Glenville State University, having actively participated in various campus events and student organizations during her time as a student. Her involvement in community service, leadership roles, and her genuine enthusiasm for Glenville State University set her apart as the ideal candidate to carry the torch as the Pioneer Mascot.

"I am incredibly honored and excited to be

See "Lovejoy" on Pg 6

## Fairmont State signifies the start of the new academic year during the opening session



Fairmont State University kicked off the beginning of the 2023-2024 academic year during the opening session on Monday, August 14. Faculty and staff congregated in Colebank Gym to enjoy breakfast and hear from campus leadership during the event.

The beginning of opening session began with opening remarks from Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Dianna Phillips.

"The whole energy of the campus goes up because we are all here together. It is my pleasure to welcome you to academic year

2023-2024 and to kick off the opening session," said Phillips. "We are welcoming a new class and our new colleagues to advance the mission of our institution, and we are in fine shape to begin this academic year."

New faculty and staff members were introduced to the campus community by Dr. Phillips, and the keynote speech was provided by Fairmont State President Dr. Mike Davis, who started as President on July 1.

Dr. Davis formally introduced himself and addressed the Fairmont State employees present at the

opening session.

"I am thankful to be with all of you here today. I have been at Fairmont State for about a month and a half, and I can say without a doubt it was the right decision to come here," said Davis. "Every time I turn around there is another superstar at this university doing innovative student-centered or community-centered meaningful work. This is a great place to be President because of all of the work you're doing to make it a special place."

After his introduction and addressing those present, Dr. Da-

vis went on to outline the process of building a new strategic plan for the University, which should be finished by the 2024-2025 academic year. He encouraged all employees to voice their opinions and collaborate using each other's expertise when crafting the strategic plan.

During the closing remarks Dr. Phillips announced the relaunch of the Center for Teaching and Learning Innovation (CTLI). The CTLI is a shared space where faculty and staff can unite to explore best practices, scholarship, and excellence in teaching and learning to promote student success and increase transformational impact. Services offered by the CTLI include professional development, consultations, micro-credential and curriculum development, onboarding and more.



**BUILDING AMAZING CITIES**

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

## Blue Ridge Parkway



In the photo l-r, Dennis and Belen Hutson, Lori and Pat Joyce, and Pam and Jim Hunt.

One of the added bonuses on our trip to Asheville, North Carolina was an enjoyable drive along the Blue Ridge Parkway, just a few miles from Asheville. Our friends, Pat and Lori Joyce and Dennis and Belen Hutson joined us on the trip, and we headed to Mount Mitchell State Park to see the highest point east of the Mississippi River and it did not disappoint. While West Virginia highways are unique, the views of the Appalachian Mountains are stunning and go on for as far as the eye can see. There are also numerous pull offs along the parkway to see the views. At every one, there were several cars and multiple motorcycles taking a break to enjoy the overlooks. We met several people from as far away as New Hampshire and everyone was marveling at the beautiful views.

The history of the Blue Ridge Parkway makes for an interesting story. The idea for the project was born during the Great Depression in the early 1930s when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt

See "Hunt" on Pg 3

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# BFS Companies Adds \$10,000 to YCF's Campaign

Morgantown, WV – Your Community Foundation of North Central West Virginia, Inc. (YCF) announces a new endowment fund as part of YCF's \$1 Million Match Campaign. The BFS Addiction Prevention Fund was created with a \$10,000 donation.

The BFS Addiction Prevention Fund will provide support to programs geared to lessen and alter the destructive impact of alcohol and drug addiction on children and their families through education and professional support at the grassroots level. Eligible charitable organizations will reside within YCF's service area, which includes Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, and Taylor Counties.

BFS Companies began in 1974 as an agriculture business with the first store, Southern States, located in Bruceton, WV. Today, the business is spread across several states with four Southern States stores, 21 petroleum bulk plants, more than 75 BFS Foods convenience stores and 11 liquor stores. BFS employs more than 2,000 people and is headquartered in Morgantown, WV.

"Recognizing the devastating impact of addiction, BFS is committed to supporting prevention initiatives in the communities where we live and work," said Marshall Bishop, owner of BFS Companies. "We are pleased to partner with YCF in supporting grassroots organizations working to alleviate the addiction epidemic."

As part of YCF's \$1 Million Match Campaign, BFS Companies' donation will be matched 100% to the YCF Addiction Prevention Initiative Fund by an anonymous donor.

"On behalf of YCF, we want to thank Mr. Bishop and BFS Companies for supporting their community," said Patty Showers Ryan, YCF President. "The annual earnings from this Fund will provide grant dollars to local groups in our region doing the important day-to-day work to fight addiction."

To date, YCF has received \$925,000 towards the \$1 Million goal. For more information, please call YCF at (304) 296-3433, or visit: <http://www.ycfwv.org>.

### About BFS Companies

BFS Companies began in 1974 as an agriculture business (Bruceton Farm Service) when Marshall Bishop purchased the Southern States store in Bruceton Mills, WV. That side of the business has had steady development over the years with four Southern States stores and 21 petroleum bulk plants in WV, MD, PA and OH.

In the early 1980's, the very first BFS Foods convenience store was opened in Mt Lake Park, MD. Since then, BFS has been a growing convenience store chain with more than 75 locations and 11 liquor stores in their four-state operating area. This growth has been through acquisitions and new builds.

BFS is firmly committed to offering goods and services that meet the needs in the many communities they serve. With more than 2,000 employees living and working in those communities, BFS is constantly abreast of the changing needs of their customers. This is why BFS also operates 95+ branded fast foods inside or beside the BFS Foods convenience store locations. Those brands include Burger King, Little Caesars Pizza, Subway, Dairy Queen, IHOP, Huddle House and Tim Hortons Café & Bake Shop.

For nearly 50 years, the BFS mission has been to provide Better, Faster Service to their customers and career growth opportunities to their employees who wish to advance. BFS Companies remains a private, family owned and operated corporation headquartered in Morgantown, WV.

For more information, go to <https://www.bfscorporation.com>.

### About YCF

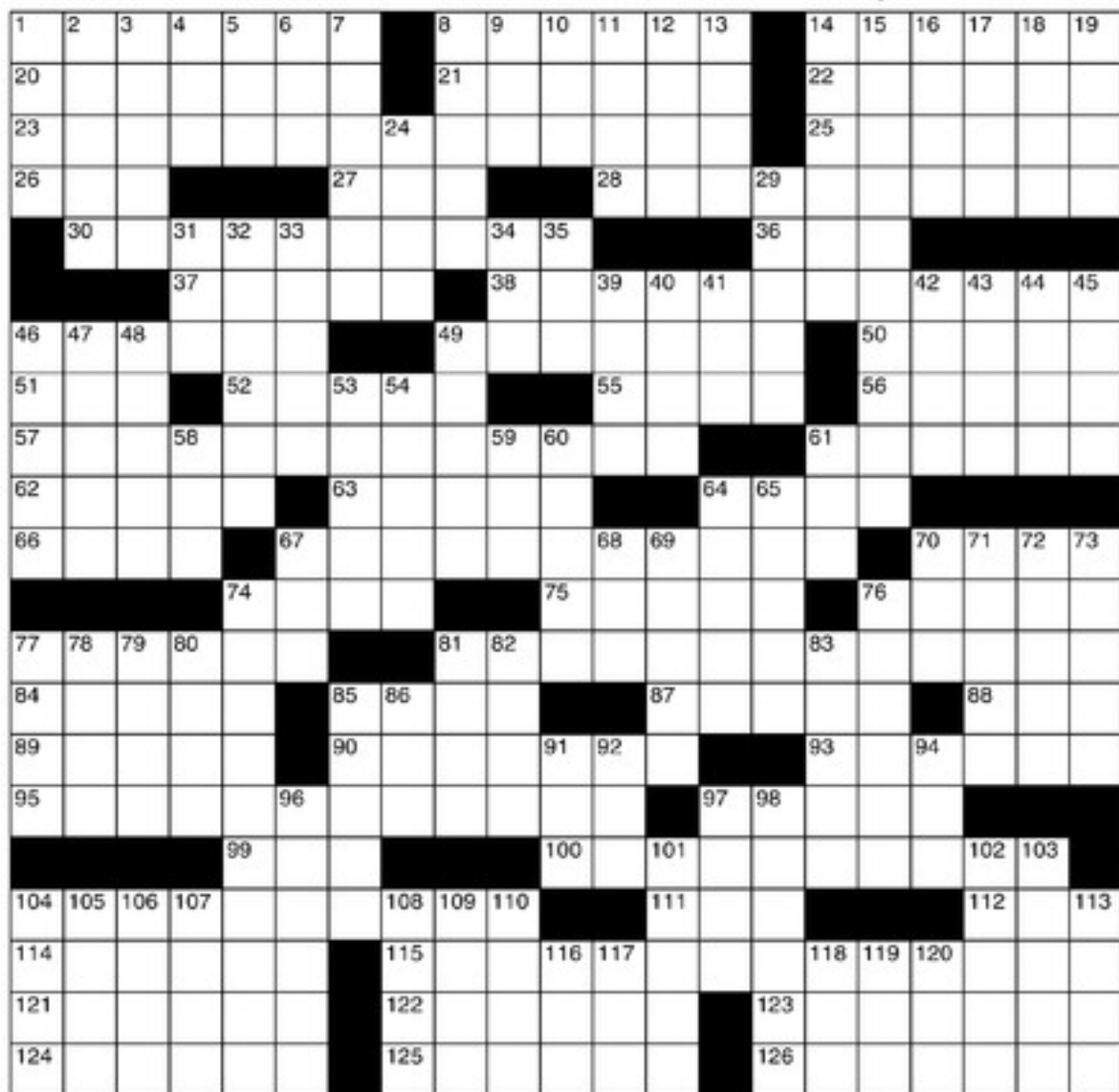
YCF is a tax-exempt public charity created by and for the people of North Central West Virginia to manage multi-generational endowments. YCF enables local people with philanthropic interests to support the issues, easily and effectively, they care about.

YCF accepts donations in the following ways: checks, tribute gifts in honor or memory of a loved one, PayPal, matching gifts, stocks or securities, IRA gifts, wills, and bequests.

The establishment of an endowment fund with YCF requires a minimum donation of \$10,000, which donors may achieve over three years. The principal is invested, and the earnings provide grant dollars – forever. For more information please call (304) 296-3433 or visit YCF's website, [www.ycfwv.org](http://www.ycfwv.org).

# Super Crossword "YOU'RE A BEAST!"

- ACROSS**
  - 1 Quick heartbeat sound
  - 8 Jordanian's language
  - 14 Do over again
  - 20 Exercise caution
  - 21 Baseballer Minnie
  - 22 Come about over time
  - 23 Oscar-nominated actress for "Georgia"
  - 25 The X's of XOXO
  - 26 Even, in golf
  - 27 Was in a pew
  - 28 "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous" host
  - 30 "Morning Has Broken" singer
  - 36 Eggy holiday drink
  - 37 Building floor
  - 38 Noted Dodge City sheriff
  - 46 Watch via Hulu, e.g.
  - 49 "A Christmas Carol" miser
  - 50 Too trusting
  - 51 "Got ya!"
  - 52 Jestful sort
  - 55 Opening in a schedule
- 56 Cove, e.g.
  - 57 2013-14 co-host of "The View"
  - 61 Foldable beds
  - 62 100-eyed mythical giant
  - 63 Boat's load
  - 64 NFL Hall of Famer Carter
  - 66 Well-honed
  - 67 "The Situation Room" host
  - 70 Middle East's — Strip
  - 74 Diving venue
  - 75 Made a typo, e.g.
  - 76 Got along
  - 77 "GLOW" star Brie
  - 81 Longtime panelist on "To Tell the Truth"
  - 84 Funny stuff
  - 85 Hooplas
  - 87 "Hey, I was thinking ..."
  - 88 Crude liquid
  - 89 Partner of alas
  - 90 Nine-sided figure
  - 93 Sharp pang
  - 95 Defensive tackle whose #86 was retired by the Chiefs
  - 97 Best athletes
- 99 Gray color
  - 100 1958-82 Crimson Tide football coach
  - 104 Champion of 15 golf majors
  - 111 Corp. kahuna
  - 112 Parseghian of Notre Dame
  - 114 Like a day in June, in a Lowell poem
  - 115 People ... or an alternate title for this puzzle
  - 121 Flavorings for absinthes
  - 122 Tell, as a tale
  - 123 Outstanding
  - 124 Liquefy anew
  - 125 Old truisms
  - 126 No-goodnik
- DOWN**
  - 1 Tire-filling tool
  - 2 "I, Robot" writer Asimov
  - 3 Colta or firma preceder
  - 4 Virtuoso
  - 5 Fido's foot
  - 6 Newsmen Melber
  - 7 More jittery
  - 8 Very slightly
  - 9 — Tin Tin
  - 10 "Lust, Caution" director Lee
  - 11 Atom modeler Niels
  - 12 Goller Aoki
  - 13 Barber's tool
  - 14 Tie again, as a necktie
  - 15 Supersmart supervillain
  - 16 Emulate a supermodel
  - 17 Snow queen in "Frozen"
  - 18 With, to Fifi
  - 19 "Concetta" pianist John
  - 24 SEAL's group
  - 29 Map of Hawaii, often
  - 31 Lao- —
  - 32 Actor Keach and singer Lattisaw
  - 33 Greeting on a May greeting card
  - 34 "Chicago Med" ailer
  - 35 Fraternal patriotic org.
  - 39 Reggae singer Peter
  - 40 "Holy —!"
  - 41 In the past
  - 42 Throw a fit
  - 43 Fodder tower
  - 44 Cooking appliance
  - 45 Clears, as profit
  - 46 Pat of "Wheel of Fortune"
  - 47 At that place
  - 48 Cooking appliance
  - 49 Neck warmer
  - 53 Singer Marilyn
  - 54 Bluff-busting poker words
  - 58 Prioress, e.g.
  - 59 Abbr. for three primary colors
  - 60 Words on a flat rental sign
  - 61 Yule tree
  - 64 Prague native
  - 65 — a beet
  - 67 Prevailed
  - 68 NYC subway inits.
  - 69 Test in a fitting room
  - 70 Moo goo — pan
  - 71 Fire felony
  - 72 1983 Woody Allen movie
  - 73 "Hello" singer
  - 74 Political patronage, informally
  - 76 Migrating birds' regular route
  - 77 "Moby-Dick" helmsman
  - 78 Real doozie
  - 79 Apple option since 1998
  - 80 Ankle coverer
  - 81 Coffee from Hawaii
  - 82 "This — emergency!"
  - 83 Star-giving critic, e.g.
  - 85 — chili (pepper type)
  - 86 Cry of Homer Simpson
  - 91 Chin-wag
  - 92 Nearly zero
  - 94 "— Little Teapot"
  - 96 A "Baby Bell" phone co.
  - 97 Environs
  - 98 Choice loin steaks
  - 101 Tiptops
  - 102 Dubbed
  - 103 The "T" of LGBT, in brief
  - 104 Old overlord
  - 105 "XOXO" actress Skye
  - 106 Ghastly
  - 107 Loosen up
  - 108 Other, in Oaxaca
  - 109 Batted without playing the field, for short
  - 110 "CSI: NY" actress Ward
  - 113 Choral voice
  - 116 Ugly witch
  - 117 Pickup's kin to Luisa
  - 119 "I Hate Valentine's Day" actress Vardalos
  - 120 Quaint hotel



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

## THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

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

**Aug. 24, 1918:** Louis Bennett Jr. died of injuries sustained when his plane was shot down by German anti-aircraft fire. Bennett, with 12 combat kills, was West Virginia's only World War I fighter ace.

**August 25, 1903:** Soprano Susanne Fisher was born in Sutton. Fisher was the first West Virginian to sing at the Metropolitan Opera.

**Aug. 25, 1921:** Miners began to arrive at Blair Mountain near the border of Logan and Boone counties. Sheriff Don Chafin, a hated symbol of anti-unionism in southern West Virginia, met them with a combined force of deputies, mine guards, civilian volunteers, and others.

**Aug. 25, 2000:** The Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope was dedicated. It is the world's largest fully steerable radio telescope.

**Aug. 26, 1863:** Union and Confederate forces collided in what became known as the Battle of White Sulphur Springs. The next morning, with ammunition nearly depleted, Union General William Averell retreated to his base without accomplishing any of his objectives.

**Aug. 26, 1918:** Mathematician Katherine Johnson was born in White Sulphur Springs. For 33 years, Johnson worked for NASA, making calculations for manned space flights, including the Apollo 11 moon landing. In 2015, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

**Aug. 27, 1902:** Mary McClain was born Mary Smith in Huntington. McClain was a blues

legend who performed at Carnegie Hall, the White House, the Apollo Theatre, and the Cotton Club.

**Aug. 28, 1900:** Harrison H. Ferrell Jr. was born in Chicago. Known as "the Dean" to generations of students, he was professor of German, 1928–66, at West Virginia State College (now University) and served as dean and in other capacities from 1930 until 1970.

**Aug. 29, 1952:** A groundbreaking ceremony was held in Mercer County to mark the beginning of construction of the West Virginia Turnpike. Initially, most of the turnpike was just two lanes because officials believed revenues would be too low to finance four lanes.

**Aug. 30, 1862:** Confederate raiders under the command of General Albert G. Jenkins attacked and occupied Buckhannon, where they captured 20 prisoners and 5,000 stands of small arms.



The Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope was dedicated on Aug. 25, 2000. It is the world's largest fully steerable radio telescope.

# N&J Briefs

**FROM AROUND HARRISON COUNTY**  
The Shinnston News provides a calendar of events free of charge to churches and nonprofit organizations. Please submit your listing two weeks prior to the event. Send via email to [newsandjournal@yahoo.com](mailto:newsandjournal@yahoo.com)

The North Central West Virginia Parkinson support group will hold their monthly meeting on Saturday, August 26th at the Brickside Bar & Grill, Bridgeport WV. The room is available from 12 to 1 pm for anyone who wants to grab lunch. This month will be our open meeting where those in attendance get an opportunity to share and ask questions. If anyone would like more information about this group, please contact Tracey Robertson at (304)363-1028.

Harrison Economic Development Corporation is having an Annual Membership Luncheon on August 28th 11:30AM – 1:00PM at the CEC, Inc. Offices. The address is 120 Genesis Blvd, Bridgeport, WV. Please RSVP – to [amy@harrisonedc.com](mailto:amy@harrisonedc.com), [luis@harrisonedc.com](mailto:luis@harrisonedc.com), or use QR Code below. Let's talk about ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT!! We're looking forward to seeing you all there!!

**Luncheon for Carrie Davis**

Where: Uptown Event Center. 305 Washington Ave  
When: Thursday, August 17  
Time: 1:00 pm  
Proclamations and Key to City will be presented. State Director will be present.  
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## "Hunt" From Pg 1.

visited the newly constructed Skyline Drive in Virginia. Virginia Senator Harry Byrd suggested the road could be extended to connect with Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and in 1933, the Interior Secretary approved the project with a budget of \$16 million.

Construction began on September 11, 1935, and the architects put a major emphasis on preserving nature and Appalachian culture and history. When World War II began, about 170 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway had been completed and were open to the public. A 10-year development plan in the 1950s helped spur the remaining construction. And by 1966, all but 7.7 miles of the Parkway had been finished.

To finish the project, the Linn

Cove Viaduct was constructed. This engineering feat, a 1,243-foot concrete bridge, was constructed from the top down to limit effects on the natural environment. With the Viaduct in place, the Blue Ridge Parkway was finally complete. The Parkway officially opened on September 11, 1987—exactly 52 after construction began. In the years since, the Blue Ridge Parkway has become the most visited National Park Service site.

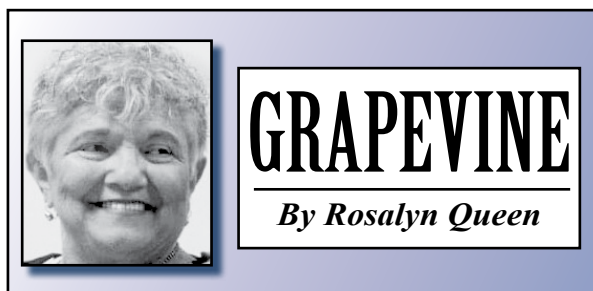
There are no gas stations on the parkway and only non-commercial vehicles are permitted. The speed limit is a leisurely 45 MPH, and you never get behind a tractor trailer since commercial vehicles are banned from the parkway.

When we reached Mount Mitchell State Park, we spent

some time in the exhibit and learned a little of the history of this part of North Carolina. We then headed up the last few hundred feet to reach the top of the mountain and it seemed like it was straight up. We huffed and puffed and finally made it to a 360-degree observation deck where there were about two dozen visitors looking out over the mountains and taking pictures. The elevation was 6,684 feet and the view was spectacular. The trip back down was easy, and we grabbed some bottles of water and a few souvenirs, before heading back to Asheville.

I would highly recommend checking out the Blue Ridge Parkway and Mount Mitchell State Park, if you want a relaxing weekend with friends or family.

## Volunteering and Vegetables



Pictured is a relatively old fruit that is being reintroduced to, our area it is "ground cherries."

Over the past couple of months I have been volunteering at the Clarksburg Farmers Market which is held every Saturday morning. I love to see the fresh vegetables and fruits. I have been living on the fresh tomatoes and corn. But every time I walked by one booth I noticed these containers of items that looked like little lanterns or they looked like something that was wrapped in a parchment paper. Well, after much observation I finally asked the vendor just what these were. She graciously took one and peeled back the wrap and snapped off the

little fruit and held it out for me to take and eat. Much to my surprise it had a good taste. It tasted like a mixture of fruits, maybe pineapple, and orange.

This really sparked my interest so I immediately got on my iPad and looked up ground cherries. There is a wealth of information. You can find out how to plant them, care for the plant and how to cook them. There are many delicious recipes using this fruit. The one that most appealed to me was the chocolate covered fruit. You prepare it just as if you were making chocolate covered strawberries. You peel the husk back leaving it still connected to the fruit and dip it in the chocolate. The husk adds a unique decor to your table.

This fruit was made available to me by Sue Richardson of Richardsons Farm located in Fairmont, WV. She is at the market every week offering a wide variety of vegetables and fruits. If you have not stopped by the market I urge you to do so to help support our local vendors.

Talking about vegetables my tomatoes are not doing well. They remain small and as they ripen they seem to have a rotten spot on the bottom. I really hope they correct this and furnish me with a batch for a good salad. I think I am going to get a batch of peppers.

Just wanted to mention two events that the PWA co sponsored this past week. The Business After Hours co sponsored with Sutter Roofing was a great event and had a great turnout. What a great way to interact with other businesses in our area. The other event was a luncheon to honor Carrie Davis who participated in the State and National Miss Amazing contest. What a warm and caring way to honor Carrie.

It is Italian Festival time and I hope to see you all on the street. It looks like it will be a great festival.

Take care, be safe and until next week "Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine."

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| Model #305, Biloxi, \$36,825   | <b>BALANCE OWED \$14,500</b> |
| Model #403, Augusta, \$42,450  | <b>BALANCE OWED \$16,500</b> |

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## Hoops Roster At WVU Is Set!



### The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor  
Sports Editor

It looks as if West Virginia University men's basketball interim head coach Josh Eilert has filled his roster for the upcoming season. He even added a new coach for good measure. Last week, Eilert brought in Eastern Michigan Transfer guard, Noah Farrakhan. Farrakhan spent two years in Michigan and averaged 12.1 ppg on 43% shooting from the field. He also averaged 4.1 rebounds and 2.3 assists in just 31 games. August has been a good month for Eilert as a week prior to signing Farrakhan he inked Ofri Naveh. Naveh has the size to bang in the paint and the ball skills to play on the outside making him a multi-dimension hoopster. The best news is that he comes to Morgantown as a freshman which could lead to several seasons in a Mountaineer uniform. A day after signing Naveh, Eilert received some bad news. Omar Silverio's appeal for a waiver to suit up for West Virginia this upcoming season was denied by the NCAA. Silverio played last year for Hofstra averaging 10.9 points, 3.3 rebounds, 1.1 assists and 1.1 steals per game. This is the second time in as many seasons that the Mountaineer basketball program has been told no by the NCAA. Last year, Jose Perez was viewed as a potential game changer but the NCAA gave him the big D. Not a divorce but a denial. It almost caused a divorce as Perez looked to go elsewhere but eventually decided to make Morgantown his home this upcoming season. Kerr Kriisa was a former head coach, Bob

Huggins stepped down. Kriisa is a true point guard that started 34 of 35 games a year ago for Arizona. Kriisa began to step out on Eilert but eventually decided to stay. Quinn Slazinski signed in late July. Slazinski is a 6'9, 215 pound forward that grew up in Houston. He transfer portal expert having played at Iona and prior to that, Louisville. He averaged 11.3 points and 5.7 rebounds last year.

Jeremiah Bemby is rumored to be the real deal. He was at Florida State but did not see any game action for the Seminoles. If he is as good as advertised, this squad would complete for titles and championships. Eilert nabbed a 30 year veteran as a senior advisor. James Dickey comes to the University with 30 years of Division I experience. Dickey has made stops at Oklahoma State, Kentucky, Arkansas and Central Arkansas as an assistant. He was also an assistant at Texas Tech before spending a decade as the head coach of the Red Raider program.

Eilert has done an excellent job of filling a roster late in the game by utilizing the transfer portal to near perfection. He has also surrounded himself with a mix of great basketball minds. The younger coaches are relatable to the players and the old guard has seen everything there is to see on the hardwood at least once. Now all that is left is to play the games.

The start of high school football is finally here. Lincoln opens this Friday when the host Braxton County. Liberty hits the road for a lock-up with Elkins. Bridgeport invades Buckhannon for a date with the Bucs. Robert C. Byrd has the longest trip of any county team, traveling to Keyser. South Harrison will host Wirt County rounding out the schedule.

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

## 120 Fairmont State Student-Athletes Recognized on Winter/Spring All-MEC Academic Teams

### 10 Fairmont State teams were represented on the conference academic awards list.

BRIDGEPORT, W.Va. – The Mountain East conference revealed its All-MEC Academic Teams and the Commissioner's Honor Roll for winter and spring sports during the 2022-23 academic year. The sports included in the winter and spring honors are: acrobatics and tumbling, baseball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's swimming, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's track and field, softball, women's lacrosse and men's wrestling.

Fairmont State Athletics had a total of 120 student-athletes recognized.

To be a member of the All-MEC Academic Team, the student-athlete must be a member of the active roster and have a grade-point average of 3.70-4.00 in the semester of their championship season. To qualify for the Commissioner's Honor Roll, a student-athlete must be a member of the active roster and post a grade-point average between 3.25-3.69 in the semester of their championship season.

#### Acrobatics & Tumbling Academic All-MEC

Peyton Barnes  
Olivia Daniels  
Brionni Dowson  
Hope Kiszka  
Brylee Knotts  
Elizabeth Maurer  
Reghan Mollohan  
Natalie Moore  
Jalynn Park  
Giavana Poyner  
Kassidy Price  
Kaylee Rehak  
Rylee Vinson  
Madeline Walker  
Lauren Whittier

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Emily Brock  
Zara Christophe  
Avery Keller  
Jacklyn Kelly  
Kathryn Koehl  
Taylor Openlander

#### Baseball Academic All-MEC

Connor Bailey  
Noah Canterbury  
Ryan Goff  
Dylan Gongola  
Elias Gordon  
Brett Haskins

Tyler Haskins  
Francis Lopez  
James Manley  
Conor McSparran  
Steven Ricketts  
John Romig  
Nicholas Schroader  
Hudson Smith  
Taylor Tennant  
Frank Why  
Jacob Young

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Noah Armstrong  
Peyton Brown  
Michael Ferrell  
Logan McClure  
Evan McDade  
Isaac Miller  
Quintin Reep  
David Tennant

#### Men's Basketball Academic All-MEC

Morgan Chisler  
Colin Comer  
David Jolinder  
Harrison Linkous  
Seth Younkin

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Adam Deininger  
Tyler Ganley  
Przemyslaw Golek  
Alfonse Hale  
Kaito Shike  
Thomas Williams

#### Men's Swimming Academic All-MEC

Kyle Carson  
Patrick Fubio  
Trevor Gallardo  
Zachary Groe  
Christopher Pfaltzgraff  
Grant Ridenour  
Mason Titchenal

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Nathan Harvey  
Christopher Hoover

#### Men's Tennis Academic All-MEC

Elia Barozzi  
Mohamed El Helaly  
Alexandre Pages

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Seena Saadevandi  
Alexander Stacy  
Jacob Boone

#### Softball Academic All-MEC

Katy Darnell  
Emily Riggs  
Charlie Schlosser

Elizabeth Waszkiewicz  
Peyton Wetherholt  
Hannah Workman  
Isabella Yelle

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Emma Gates  
Bella Hess  
Mackenzie Maddy  
Brianna McKenzie  
Jordan Novak  
Shelby Reed

#### Women's Basketball Academic All-MEC

Katy Darnell  
Alyssa DeAngelo  
Noah Harris  
Leslie Huffman  
Madeline Huffman  
Gracey Lamm  
Mahya Lindesmith  
Emily Starn

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Laynie Beresford  
Aaliyah Brunny  
Jertaya Hall

#### Women's Swimming Academic All-MEC

Victoria Anderson  
Alexis Antol  
Zsofi Bevardi  
Eulalia Castan  
Kayla Fogle  
Cheri Signorelli  
Kaitlyn Stumpf

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Veronica Mann  
Sarah Stallman

#### Women's Tennis Academic All-MEC

Elodie Buclin  
Maria Fonseca  
Emily Harper  
Emme McKnight  
Candela Sevilla  
Mackenzie Sorton

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Ainara Pastor Garcia

#### Wrestling Academic All-MEC

Austin Brett  
Thomas Graden  
Nathan Pelesky  
Jasup Spragg  
Colton Stoneking

#### Commissioner's Honor Roll

Brady Bany  
Addison Courtney  
Kolton Parsons

## Harrison County EMS



## Athletes of the Week

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

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

The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal Athletes of the Week this past week are Bridgeport's Colton Gerhards and Jackson Cogar.

Gerhards started the high school gold season off with an impressive effort at the Bridgeport County Club last Tuesday. The Tribe matched up with Lincoln and R.C.B. and came out with a huge win. Gerhards was the medalist shooting a sizzling 37 to pace the Indians.

Cogar helped the Indian soccer team to a 3-1 win Class AAA power Parkersburg South. Cogar netted a pair of goals to push the Tribe to the hard-fought home victory.

Congratulations to Bridgeport's Colton Gerhards and Jackson Cogar for shining in the SN & HCJ's Athletes of the Week!

## Lincoln Football

The Lincoln football team has grown accustomed to making the playoff scene. Veteran Head Coach, Rob Hawkins has built a winner at his alma mater and Cougar fans are expecting that trend to continue.

The offense will be guided by sophomore, AJ Bart. According to Hawkins, Bart is very talented, has a strong arm, and really matured in the offseason. His receiving corp is an experienced group led by seniors Brayden Edgell and Noah Sears along with junior Aiden Rice. Toss in the multi-dimensional senior Maddox Perine and then the passing game becomes extremely dangerous. Perine will be the starting tight end but can also flex out to become a coverage nightmare for opposing defenses.

Replacing standout running backs Levi More and Antwan Hillard along with quarterback, Nick Kellar, is no easy task. Moore and Hillard were a great one-two punch and Kellar was a top shelf signal caller. However, there is a dynamic duo that has been waiting patiently to carry the load in the backfield. Seniors, David Burdette and Nate Swiger are primed and ready to show that they are ready to carry the load.

Senior, Caleb Miller is the only returning starter on the offensive line from a year ago. But there are several gifted bigs up front that have logged several reps. The two most experienced are seniors Riley Lanham and Dillon Shaw. Juniors Zach Cottrill, Gabe Kellar, and Christian Skidmore are joined by freshman, Brycen Moore to make up the nucleus of the line.

The defensive unit has been impressive early on and Hawkins pointed out that this group must stop the run, in order to be successful. The line is led by Miller, Lanham, Skidmore and Moore. Perine moved from linebacker to the defensive end and is joined on the other end by senior, Liam Gallagher. Swiger is a returner at linebacker, Shaw will be a contributor at linebacker, and the third is Rice, who was a member of the secondary in 2022.

The defensive backfield consists of cornerbacks Edgell and senior Gerald Parado. Also lending support in the secondary are safetys Burdette and Sears.

Special teams play is indeed special this year for the Shinnston-based school. Gallagher is one of the best kickers in the Mountain State and Perine is an impressive punter. Swiger and Parado are the kick returners and Edgell and Rice will handle the punt returning duties.

Hawkins will look for leadership from his group of seniors. They are solid and they are ready to take their turn to guide this roster back into the postseason. There are eleven of them and they are all dedicated. If all goes as planned this will be yet another exceptional campaign for the Cougars!



## Dr. Robert Beto joins medical staff



Bridgeport—A graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan College, Buckhannon, with a degree in biology, Robert J. Beto II, M.D., went on to earn a degree in pharmacy from West Virginia University School of Pharmacy and received his medical degree from West Virginia University School of

Medicine. His residency in internal medicine was at WVU, as was his cardiology fellowship. Prior to coming to United Hospital Center, he worked at the Heart Institute at West Virginia University Hospitals and most recently has been the founder and CEO of HeartNexus,

Inc., a telecardiology service and physician staffing company.

He is board certified in internal medicine/cardiovascular disease and is a fellow in the American College of Cardiology. Dr. Beto has been published extensively in medical journals and books and has served as a researcher for several medical studies, plus has been a presenter at multiple conferences. Most recently, he has also been an associate professor at the WVU School of Medicine, among other positions with the school.

Dr. Beto joins UHC Cardiology, the practice of Gerardo C. Lopez, MD and John A. McKnight, MD. His office is located at 527 Medical Park Drive, Suite 304 in Bridgeport. For more information please call (304) 842-0007 or visit [www.uhccardiology.com](http://www.uhccardiology.com).

## Papa named United Hospital Center's new Vice President of Support Services



Bridgeport, W.Va.—David F. Hess, M.D., president and CEO of WVU Medicine United Hospital Center (UHC), announced today the appointment of Charles Brandon Papa, as the new Vice President of Support Services at UHC.

“We are thrilled to welcome Charles as part of the executive leadership team at WVU Medicine United Hospital Center, as I am confident that he will serve as a thoughtful leader and mentor to those he directly oversees,” said Dr. Hess. “His extensive background, with more than 30 years of leadership in facilities management, will only continue to enhance the growth and development of UHC in the region and in the state.

Awarded with a national Department of the Year by Healthcare

Facilities Management Magazine and the American Hospital Association, Papa recently served as the Director of Facilities Management and Construction at Brandon Regional Hospital, a 436-bed hospital in Brandon, FL. His responsibilities included five free standing emergency departments and off-site offices, which total to 650,000 square feet.

The announcement comes after an extensive national search for the replacement for Geoff Marshall's position, who retired in June after he marked a 42-year career at UHC, which included the development and construction of the Bridgeport medical campus in 2010.

Before joining Brandon Regional Hospital in 2020, Papa served in several senior and

AVP facilities management roles at Cleveland Clinic Martin Health in Stuart, Florida; Maine Medical Center/Maine Health in Portland, Maine; Baptist Medical Center in Jacksonville, Florida; Bridgeport Hospital in Bridgeport, Connecticut; and Unity Health System in Rochester, New York.

“I'm fortunate to have the opportunity to join this high-performing team and becoming a member of the WVU Medicine United Hospital Center family,” said Papa. “The confidence that has been shown to me, by entrusting me with the future expansion and growth of one of the largest and most progressive hospitals in the state, is truly humbling. I am looking forward to getting started.”

Papa is a graduate of the University of Kings College in Toronto, Canada, in Facilities Management and the University of New York in Cobleskill, New York, in Institutional Management. He and his wife, Tracy reside in Fairmont and look forward to exploring the scenic beauty of West Virginia and all that the state has to offer.

## How to Manage Grief Associated with Alzheimer's

### National Grief Awareness Day is August 30

CHARLESTON, WV – AUGUST 21, 2023 – National Grief Awareness Day is dedicated to discussing the myriad of ways people cope with loss. It is very common for caregivers and those living with Alzheimer's or another dementia to experience the stages of grief, so it's crucial to acknowledge these feelings and seek support.

#### Stages and Experiences of Grief

Dr. Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identified five stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. The Alzheimer's Association explains how these stages can manifest in a caregiver or loved one living with the disease.

You might deny that you or a loved one has Alzheimer's or other dementia, or refuse to seek or believe a diagnosis. Ignoring the onset or worsening of symptoms is another form of denial.

Some people feel

frustrated and angry that they have the disease and aren't able to do everything they did before. Caregivers can experience resentment or feelings of abandonment when their lives are impacted by Alzheimer's.

For caregivers of people in later stages of dementia, bargaining may involve the hope that your loved ones' struggle will end. This can lead to feelings of guilt that you didn't do enough or that you miss your life before you became a caregiver.

Depression and sadness are common. You may mourn someone who has passed away or the life you had before dementia. Sadness can look different for everyone. Some people withhold feelings, shut down, or withdraw from activities. Others may be more open with emotions and ask for help. Both are normal responses.

Acceptance can take time. It involves understanding your emotions

and how grief is affecting you, while learning to live with the good and bad days. Finding humor or moments of joy in difficult times can also be considered acceptance.

#### Moving Through Grief

Grief is normal and necessary. Individuals might not experience all of the stages of grief, and they often feel different for everyone.

For caregivers, research suggests that becoming educated about dementia, having support, and organizing care plans can make grief easier. If someone is overwhelmed by their feelings, help them find a healthy outlet. This can involve talking to a healthcare professional, keeping a journal, or making time for enjoyable activities.

Seek out people who understand and can empathize, such as a support group. The Alzheimer's Association hosts educational programs and caregiver support groups at various locations, days and times across the state. Visit [alz.org/crf](http://alz.org/crf) and enter your zip code to find programs near you.

Those concerned about themselves or a loved one can contact the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline to schedule a care consultation and be connected to local resources, guidance and support. To reach the Helpline, call 800.272.3900.

## Hot Weather Can Endanger Those Living with Alzheimer's

### Caregivers should plan ahead to keep loved ones safe and healthy

CHARLESTON, WV – AUGUST 17, 2023 – As temperatures rise, extreme heat impacts everyone – but it can be especially dangerous for people living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia. Alzheimer's causes a number of changes that may affect the brain and body, including changes in sensitivity to temperatures.

Today, there are more than 6 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease. Taking measures to plan ahead for weather changes, like extreme heat, can prevent injuries and help a person with dementia feel more relaxed and less overwhelmed.

Teresa Morris, Program Director for the Alzheimer's Association West Virginia Chapter, offers important tips for families during the hot summer months:

Make a plan. Family and friends should make plans to regularly check in on a person living with Alzheimer's disease during extreme heat. Spend time in cooler spaces whenever possible, stay inside when possible, and dress in loose, light clothing.

Pay attention at night. Keep people living with Alzheimer's cool by using fans and air conditioning. At night, low temperatures can still exceed 75 degrees with little fluctuation in humidity, making for difficult and exacerbating sleeping conditions, heightened anxiety and increased agitation. Sleep interruptions may increase wandering behaviors.

Prepare for behavioral challeng-

es. Heat can increase agitation and confusion. It's common for a person living with dementia to wander or become lost or confused about their location at any stage of the disease. Six in 10 people living with dementia will wander at least once; many do so repeatedly.

Stay hydrated. Water intake is essential to maintaining good hydration and health during warm weather. Dehydration may be difficult to notice in a person living with Alzheimer's, and signs like increased fatigue, dry mouth and headache may not be well communicated by the person with the disease.

Watch the weather. High temperatures aren't the only cause for concern. Humidity and air pollution can cause breathing difficulties and increased confusion. Anyone with Alzheimer's or dementia should be monitored regularly and given immediate medical attention if symptoms like dehydration, heat exhaustion or heat stroke occur.

There are 39,000 West Virginia residents aged 65 and older living with Alzheimer's disease, according to the Alzheimer's Association 2023 “Facts and Figures.” That number is expected to increase to 44,000 by 2025.

Those concerned about themselves or a loved one can contact the Alzheimer's Association West Virginia Chapter at 304.343.2717 to schedule a care consultation and be connected to local resources. To reach the 24/7 Helpline, call 800.272.3900.

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# DHHR to Host In-Person Hiring Event for Positions in Kanawha County

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) will host an in-person interviewing event for positions within DHHR’s Bureau for Family Assistance and Bureau for Social Services in Kanawha County on Thursday, August 17, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event will be held at 4190 Washington Street West, Charleston, WV 25313, and will interview for the positions of Child Protective Service Worker, Economic Service Worker, and

Family Support Specialist. A special hiring incentive of \$2,500 is offered to selected candidates in the position of Child Protective Service Worker with a one-year commitment. Interested applicants may call 304-389-6058 for additional information or to schedule an interview time. Job seekers are encouraged to visit DHHR’s employment page to view open positions and special hiring rates throughout the state of West Virginia.

Interested applicants may call 304-389-6058 for additional information or to schedule an interview time.

Job seekers are encouraged to visit DHHR’s employment page to view open positions and special hiring rates throughout the state of West Virginia.

# Folklife Center announces two major events to kick off the semester



the acclaimed Kennedy Barn String Band, will be on hand all day to provide lessons in a unique, unstructured format. What makes this event special is the lack of a schedule or formal plan: the day progresses based on what attendees want to do.

There will be jamming and song swapping as well as time for questions about techniques, tunes, and more.

Folks are encouraged to bring their instruments and any questions they have. Beginners are also welcome, and the Folklife Center will provide cardboard dulcimers and beginner instruction for all to use.

For more information, please email Folklife Center Director Lydia Warren at lydia.warren@fairmont-state.edu or call (304) 367-4286.

Fairmont State University’s Frank and Jane Gabor Folklife Center will host two major events during the first week of classes on August 24 and August 26.

Emily Reitz, local herb expert and owner of The Ginger Plantsman, will present a lecture on local seasonal plants Thursday, August 24 at 6 p.m. at the Frank and Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center. The event is free and open to all. The Folklife Center is located on Squibb Wilson Blvd. on the campus of Fairmont State University.

“We are excited to welcome back Emily Reitz, who is dedicated to educating the community about locating and using local herbs and plants in our everyday lives,” said Director of the Folklife Center Dr. Lydia Warren.

Reitz graduated from Fairmont State Univer-

sity and has extensive knowledge on regional plants and herbal remedies. Her lecture will focus on seasonal allergy causes and potential herbal treatments. There will be time at the end for a Q&A session.

On Saturday, August 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Folklife Center will host the Wartz ‘n All Dulcimer Jam.

“At the Folklife Center, we strive to be a barrier-free meeting place where students, community members, and experts can gather and learn, and hosting this dulcimer event is an exciting example of that,” said Warren. “This will help our regional tradition of music-making grow stronger and better, and we can’t wait to welcome visitors!”

After a multi-year hiatus, event co-founder Rob Lackey is excited to bring the event back. Lackey, a member of

## “Lovejoy” From pg 1

selected as the new Pioneer Mascot,” Kyla Lovejoy expressed. “Being able to represent Glenville State University is a dream come true. I look forward to engaging with the students, faculty, staff, and alumni, and to bringing an unforgettable spirit to our campus.”

As the Pioneer Mascot, Kyla will play a pivotal role in enhancing the university’s presence at athletic events, community gatherings, and various campus activities. Her infectious energy, engaging persona, and dedication to fostering a positive atmosphere will undoubtedly resonate

with everyone associated with Glenville State University.

Glenville State University eagerly anticipates Kyla Lovejoy’s first appearance as the Pioneer Mascot during the upcoming fall semester, symbolizing a new era of unity, enthusiasm, and shared pride within the Glenville State community.

For more information about the Glenville State University Pioneer or to request an appearance, contact the GSU Office of Student Life at Student.Life@glenville.edu or by calling (304) 462-6400.

## 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 September 12, 2023 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

| Call             | Contract   | State Project   | Federal Project | Description   |
|------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| 027              | 2020000589   | S317-50-4.39 00 | NHPP-0050(408)  | STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT BRISTOL BR EB & WB 0.30 M E CR 50/6 - 0.42 M E CR 50-6 COUNTY: HARRISON |
| <b>BRIDGE:</b>   | 11754  |                 |                 | CONCRETE SLAB ON FABRICATED STEEL GIRDER  |
| <b>SPAN(S):</b>  | 4  |                 |                 | <b>STRUCTURE STEEL:</b> 1,124,277.00  |
| <b>BRIDGE:</b>   | 11755  |                 |                 | CONCRETE SLAB ON FABRICATED STEEL GIRDER  |
| <b>SPAN(S):</b>  | 4  |                 |                 | <b>STRUCTURE STEEL:</b> 1,187,127.00  |
| <b>DBE GOAL:</b> | 14% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL. |                 |                 |   |

### REMARKS:

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 deferment, 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.

## Legal

(2021-S-00000331 - Harrison County - WV TJ, LLC)

To: JOHN RUDOLPH CHRISTINA, OCCUPANT, IRS, ATTN: ADVISORY CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

**DISTRICT CLAY SHINNSTON CORP MAP 1006 PARCEL 0190 0000**

You will take notice that WV TJ, LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2021-S-00000331, 1 TRACT (LOTS 4 5) PARRILL ADD, located in CLAY SHINNSTON CORP, which was returned delinquent in the name of CHRISTINA JOHN RUDOLPH, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Harrison County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 4th day of November, 2021, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after October 1, 2023, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, September 30, 2023, will be as follows:

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to September 30, 2023.   | \$ 1,374.72 |
| Amount of subsequent year’s taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to September 30, 2023.   | \$ 1,235.19 |
| Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2022, following the sheriff’s sale to September 30, 2023. | \$ 1,100.30 |
| Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff’s sale to September 30, 2023.   | \$ 270.71   |
| Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to <b>The Honorable Robert Matheny, Sheriff and Treasurer of Harrison County.</b>                           | \$ 3,980.92 |
| Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to <b>The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.</b>  | \$ 35.00    |

**You may redeem any time before September 30, 2023, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.**  
Return this letter and both certified funds to the WV State Auditor’s Office, County Collection Division 1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2

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## Super Crossword

### Answers

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| M | A | R | E | W | I | N | N | I | N | G | H | A | M | K | I | S | S | E | S |
| P | A | R | S | A | T | R | O | B | I | N | L | E | A | C | H |   |   |   |   |
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prise; Marissa Caruso and husband Anthony, of Fairmont; Dawson Bland of Shinnston; and Jadyne Bland of Indiana; and Madison Akers of Shinnston.

Her memory is also kept alive by many great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild: Skylar and Ashley Martin; Kayden Thompson and Brody Swiger; Audrey Akers; CaSaun and CayVon Akers, and CamRyn Hawkins; Ellie, Emma, and Evander Altovilla; Titan and Kolt Myers; and great-great-granddaughter Addalynn Martin.

Sandy was preceded in death by her parents, Edwin G. and Mary E. Wright; her brother, Earl O'Dell; grandson, Dustin Akers; great-grandson, Hunter Lane; and great-granddaughter Aubrey Weidow.

Sandy was a devoted member of the congregation at the Shinnston Church of Christ. She retired from the Kroger Co. after 29 years of service.

Sandy was a wonderful daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. She was always a helper and a friend when needed. She was always cracking jokes and making people laugh. She gave freely of herself without expecting anything in return.

Friends were received at Harmer Funeral Home on Sunday, August 20, 2023 from 2:00PM-8:00PM. A funeral service was held at the funeral home on Monday, August 21, 2023 at 11:00 with Evangelist Jesse Phillips officiating. Interment will follow at Enterprise Cemetery.

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

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.



**Carol A. Quain**

Carol A. Quain, A resident of Wappinger Falls and formerly of Ossining, passed away Wednesday, August 16, 2023. Carol was born on March 4, 1940 and was the daughter of John and Helen (Holton) Kollar. She was 83.

She was a graduate of the Ossining High School in 1958. During and after High School she was a secretary at Briarcliff School District and was also a Cashier with the Ossining School District. Carol was married to Charles Gavin Quain on March 28, 1959 in Tarrytown. Charlie (Gavin) Predeceased her on May 19, 1995.

Carol is survived by her companion of 17 years Edward Baker; her sons Brian (Patty), John (Tonita), Gavin (Kim); her sister Alayne Baldinger and sister in law Rose Kollar; grandchildren Alyssa, Brian, Crystal, Ashua, Michael, Nicole, Caitlin, and Kelsey; and two great grandchildren Simon and Charles. She was Predeceased by her son Richard and her brother Richard Kollar.

Visiting hours were held on Friday August 18 from 4-8 Pm at Dorsey Funeral Home. The Funeral Service was held Friday at 7:30 Pm. The interment took place on Saturday 10:45 Am at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Sleepy Hollow, NY.

**West Virginians For Affordable Health Care Mark the One Year Anniversary of the Historic Inflation Reduction Act**

(CHARLESTON, WV) – On August 16, 2022, President Joe Biden signed the historic Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) into law, lowering costs and improving health care for hundreds of thousands of West Virginians. “The Inflation Reduction Act includes the most significant expansion of affordable health care in more than two decades,” said Ellen Allen, Executive Director of West Virginians for Affordable Health Care. “Lowering costs will be a life saver for seniors and families who have been forced to choose between affording their prescription drugs or going to the doctor and making ends meet.”

The IRA lowers premium costs for 13 million Americans who purchase coverage on the Affordable Care Act marketplaces, including over 23,000 in West Virginia. It also gives Medicare the power to negotiate drug prices, limits the cost of insulin to \$35 a month, and caps senior out-of-pocket prescription drug costs. Thanks to this law, Medicare finally has the power to negotiate for lower prescription drug prices that alone will benefit over 300-thousand West Virginians.

“The Inflation Reduction Act is a game-changer, lowering health care costs for seniors and families across West Virginia and all Americans to make health care a right, not a privilege,” said Allen. “The policies included in the IRA will save Americans thousands of dollars a year — the greatest health care achievement since the passage of the Affordable Care Act.”

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care brings a consumer voice to public policy so that every West Virginian has quality, affordable health care and the opportunity to lead an informed, healthy and productive life. It achieves its mission by working with partners to identify and advocate for positive public policy change, developing and coordinating innovative public education programs, protecting and preserving programs that serve its mission, and assisting individual consumers in navigating the healthcare system.

**Terry Deremer Named Wilson ITA Division II Men's Tennis National Coach of the Year**

**Deremer is the first Fairmont State head coach since 2017 to be honored as national coach of the year.**

TEMPE, Ariz. – Terry Deremer was voted the 2023 Wilson Intercollegiate Tennis Association Division II Men's Tennis National Coach of the Year, the association announced on Tuesday (June 6).

“I am honored for the recognition,” said Deremer. “It is very special, and I am incredibly proud of what our players and staff have been able to build here at Fairmont State. It is a special place.”

The Mountain East Conference Coach of the Year led the Fairmont State men's tennis team to a historic season which culminated in a trip to the NCAA National Tournament. Deremer's squad won a program-best 18 dual victories during the 2023 season. The Fairmont State Athletics Hall of Famer helped his team improve by 10 wins from the 2022 season. The Falcons captured the Mountain East Conference Tournament Championship after a thrilling 4-3 win over top-seeded Charleston under Deremer's direction. The Falcons achieved their highest ITA National Team ranking in program history and were slotted No. 32 in the final ITA rankings of 2023.

Five of Deremer's players earned All-MEC honors this season including All-MEC First Team honoree Elia Barozzi and All-MEC Second Team players Mohamed El Helaly, Alexandre Pages, Seena Saadevandi and Kan Watanabe. Barozzi was selected as the NCAA ELITE 90 winner at the national championship site and was later named a College Sports Communicators Academic All-American.

Deremer becomes the first coach in MEC history to earn the recognition from the ITA. He is the first Fairmont State head coach to receive a national coach of the year award since 2017.

**Out of the Past**

Memorable photographs from around Harrison County



The Harison County Bank's Lost Creek branch, circa 1919.

## Fairmont State reinstates music and theatre minors



Fairmont State University has reestablished its music and theatre minors after these programs were discontinued in 2020. The music and theatre minors can be taken in tandem with most of Fairmont State's academic programs.

"We are thrilled to re-introduce the minors in music and theatre to our students," said Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Chris Kast. "Both options have been revised to provide additional academic training for those who have been participating in our Fairmont State Marching band, choir, theatre performances, or just any-one interested in the subject matter. We foresee these programs serving as a vital link between our academic and community programming."

Both the music and theatre minors are 18 credit hours. The theatre minor includes courses in production, design, acting, directing and more. The music minor includes courses in written theory, aural theory, music business, piano, music history, ethnomusicology, major ensembles and other similar topics.

"Fairmont State has a proud tradition of Theatre and Music going back more than 100 years. In fact, the International Thespian Society was founded at Fairmont State in 1929," said Humanities Chair Dr. Angela Schwer. "We're proud of our dedicated faculty in these disciplines, and we hope that students will take advantage of the opportunity to round out their liberal arts education

by acting in Masquers plays, and performing music with Collegiate Singers, Marching Band and Wind Ensemble. Adding a minor in Music or Theatre is a way for students to take their performance to the next level."

Fairmont State President Dr. Mike Davis also voiced his excitement at the reintroduction of these programs.

"I am thrilled to see the growth and revitalization of the performing arts on campus," said Davis. "The performing arts give a richness to our lives that have no equal and I am excited to watch these programs expand and thrive in the coming years."

To learn more about the music and theatre minors, visit the College of Liberal Arts homepage.

## BFS Companies Adds \$10,000 to YCF's Campaign

Morgantown, WV – Your Community Foundation of North Central West Virginia, Inc. (YCF) announces a new endowment fund as part of YCF's \$1 Million Match Campaign. The BFS Addiction Prevention Fund was created with a \$10,000 donation.

The BFS Addiction Prevention Fund will provide support to programs geared to lessen and alter the destructive impact of alcohol and drug addiction on children and their families through education and professional support at the grassroots level. Eligible charitable organizations will reside within YCF's service area, which includes Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, and Taylor Counties.

BFS Companies began in 1974 as an agriculture business with the first store, Southern States, located in Bruceton, WV. Today, the business is spread across several states with four Southern States stores, 21 petroleum bulk plants, more than 75 BFS Foods convenience stores and 11 liquor stores. BFS employs more than 2,000 people and is headquartered in Morgantown, WV.

"Recognizing the devastating impact of addiction, BFS is com-

mitted to supporting prevention initiatives in the communities where we live and work," said Marshall Bishop, owner of BFS Companies. "We are pleased to partner with YCF in supporting grassroots organizations working to alleviate the addiction epidemic."

As part of YCF's \$1 Million Match Campaign, BFS Companies' donation will be matched 100% to the YCF Addiction Prevention Initiative Fund by an anonymous donor.

"On behalf of YCF, we want to thank Mr. Bishop and BFS Companies for supporting their community," said Patty Showers Ryan, YCF President. "The annual earnings from this Fund will provide grant dollars to local groups in our region doing the important day-to-day work to fight addiction."

To date, YCF has received \$925,000 towards the \$1 Million goal. For more information, please call YCF at (304) 296-3433, or visit: <http://www.ycfwv.org>.

About BFS Companies

BFS Companies began in 1974 as an agriculture business (Bruce-ton Farm Service) when Marshall Bishop purchased the Southern States store in Bruceton Mills, WV. That side of the business has had steady development over the years with four Southern States stores and 21 petroleum bulk plants in WV, MD, PA and OH.

In the early 1980's, the very first BFS Foods convenience store was opened in Mt Lake Park, MD. Since then, BFS has been a growing convenience store chain with more than 75 locations and 11 liquor stores in their four-state operating area. This growth has been through acquisitions and new builds.

BFS is firmly com-

mitted to offering goods and services that meet the needs in the many communities they serve. With more than 2,000 employees living and working in those communities, BFS is constantly abreast of the changing needs of their customers. This is why BFS also operates 95+ branded fast foods inside or beside the BFS Foods convenience store locations. Those brands include Burger King, Little Caesars Pizza, Subway, Dairy Queen, IHOP, Huddle House and Tim Hortons Café & Bake Shop.

For nearly 50 years, the BFS mission has been to provide Better, Faster Service to their customers and career growth opportunities to their employees who wish to advance. BFS Companies remains a private, family owned and operated corporation headquartered in Morgantown, WV.

For more information, go to [www.bfsccompanies.com](http://www.bfsccompanies.com).

About YCF

YCF is a tax-exempt public charity created by and for the people of North Central West Virginia to manage multi-generational endowments. YCF enables local people with philanthropic interests to support the issues, easily and effectively, they care about.

YCF accepts donations in the following ways: checks, tribute gifts in honor or memory of a loved one, PayPal, matching gifts, stocks or securities, IRA gifts, wills, and bequests.

The establishment of an endowment fund with YCF requires a minimum donation of \$10,000, which donors may achieve over three years. The principal is invested, and the earnings provide grant dollars – forever. For more information please call (304) 296-3433 or visit YCF's website, [www.ycfwv.org](http://www.ycfwv.org).

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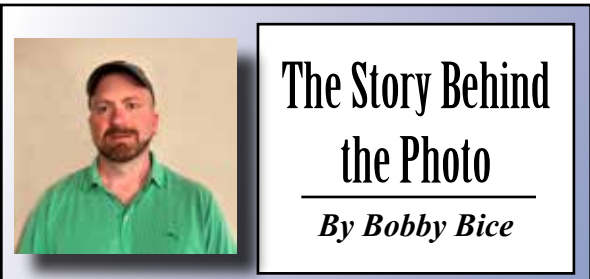


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# Catholic Traditions Still Run Deep In Shinnston



**The Story Behind the Photo**  
By Bobby Bice



**Laying a cornerstone and showing the depth of the Catholic Church tradition in Shinnston**

Last month's article noted that two Shinnston churches observe centennial anniversaries this year. In that article, the old United Brethren Church (now Otterbein UMC) was discussed; this article will pertain to The Parish of Saint Ann, more commonly known as St. Ann's Catholic Church. For those who may not know, the patron saint of the parish, St. Ann, is traditionally known to be the mother of the Virgin Mary and grandmother of our Lord Jesus Christ as well as the patron saint of miners.

The accompanying image shows Richardson Lumber & Construction Company owners Bob and Carnel Richardson (son & father, respectively) at the cornerstone laying ceremony for the present yellow brick building. The image was taken in May 1952 when construction began, but the new building was not completed until the Spring of 1953. Its completion would mark the fifth building to serve the Catholic faith in Shinnston.

Prior to establishing a place for worship in

Shinnston 100 years ago, the Catholic community then had to travel to Clarksburg or Monongah in order to hear Mass. It is interesting to note that the first masses in Shinnston were held in the largest building currently in town, one known to many as the old G.C. Murphy building at the southwest corner of Pike and Bridge Streets. The structure was then housing the Shinnston Furniture & Undertaking Company and the first Catholic masses were held there in a funeral parlor. Attendance soon grew larger than the chapel could comfortably hold so Tofake Simon, a local businessman and one of the proprietors of the Rex Theatre on lower Walnut Street (now a parking lot for Casey's Restaurant), offered the theatre as a new place to hold masses. The theatre accommodated the congregation for awhile, but parishioners soon realized the need for a permanent location dedicated to this newly formed parish within the town of Shinnston.

A committee was formed and soon found and purchased the church's current property in the block between Maloy Court and Mahlon Street. The location then contained an old harness shop operated by Walter Hursey and also a two-story house. The harness shop was converted into a church (being the third building to house masses) and the house was used as a rectory. Both were operated as such until Richardson's began construction of the 1952 building, which is still in use today.

During the ten months of construction for the new building, services were held in the UMWA hall along upper Charles Street, marking the fourth building to hold masses. The current church building has been added onto since this image was taken over 70 years ago. A new rectory has also been built behind the church as well as a beautiful prayer chapel, which is

open for all to come and pray. Much could be written on the establishment as well as continual service of faith since the parish was established in Shinnston in 1923. However, I decided to focus attention on the structures that housed masses in the community, which, in keeping with the column title, is the story behind the photo!

## Glenville State University's Enrollment Surges to New Heights, Building on Record Numbers from Previous Year

Glenville State University is excited to announce a significant achievement in its educational journey, as the institution proudly marks its largest overall enrollment since 2015. This remarkable milestone is a testament to the university's unwavering commitment to academic excellence, innovative programs, and fostering a vibrant and inclusive learning community.

With a renewed focus on offering high-quality education and enriching experiences, Glenville State University has experienced a surge in enrollment across many disciplines. The university's dedication to providing a nurturing environment for students to excel academically, engage in meaningful research, and actively participate in campus life has contributed to this remarkable growth.

"We are thrilled to witness such a robust increase in our student enrollment, which reflects the tireless efforts of our faculty, staff, and administration to provide an outstanding educational experience," remarked Dr. Mark A. Manchin, President of Glenville State University. "This accomplishment underscores our commitment to preparing our students for success in a rapidly changing world while maintaining the close-knit, supportive atmosphere that Glenville is known for."

Along with the largest overall enrollment since 2015 as mentioned before, Glenville State University recorded the largest online number of students with a 27% increase since Fall 2022.

With the graduate level programs in full swing, Glenville State University recorded a 109% increase in graduate students from Fall 2022. These programs include Master of Business Administration, Master of Arts in Teaching, and a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction.

As Glenville State University celebrates this remarkable achievement, it looks ahead with enthusiasm to the future. With a continued focus on innovation, academic excellence, and student success, the university is poised to make an even greater impact on the region, the nation, and beyond.

For more information about applying to Glenville State University, please contact our Admissions Office at 304-462-6130 or visit [glenville.edu/admissions/apply](http://glenville.edu/admissions/apply).

## The West Virginia Folklife Program Presents First of Three Folklife Apprenticeship Showcases

Elkins, W.Va.—The West Virginia Folklife Program, a project of the West Virginia Humanities Council, will present three showcases featuring its seven participating pairs of the 2022-2023 Folklife Apprenticeship Program.

The first event takes place on Saturday, September 9, at 3 p.m., at the Phil Gainer Community Center in Elkins. This showcase celebrates fiber arts with Enrica McMillon (Randolph County) and her apprentice Barbara Weaner (Tucker County), soul food cooking with Xavier Oglesby and his apprentice and niece Brooklynn Oglesby (Ra-leigh County), and mushroom foraging with Sharon Briggs and her apprentice Anthony Murray (Hampshire County).

The event is free and open to the public. It starts at 3 p.m. with a demonstration hour. During that time, the public can meet the program participants, including Xavier and Brooklynn Oglesby, who will be preparing potato salad in the kitchen.

At 4 p.m., the formal presentation starts, with West Virginia State Folklorist Jennie Williams leading a conversation with the pairs about their traditional art forms, apprenticeship experiences, and connections to their communities. A reception will follow, featuring soul food prepared by the Oglesby family.

The next event will be Saturday, September 30,

4 p.m., at the Frank and Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center at Fairmont State University. It will feature West Virginia old-time fiddle music with Gerry Milnes (Randolph County) and apprentice Annick Odom (Monongalia County), clawhammer banjo with Joe Herrmann and apprentice Dakota Karper (Hampshire County), and fiddle repair with Chris Haddox and apprentice Mary Linscheid (Monongalia County). The final event, held Sunday, November 5, 3 p.m., at the Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center in Clarksburg, celebrates Appalachian storytelling with Bil Lepp and his apprentice James Froemel.

To RSVP for these free public events, please go to [wvfolklife.org](http://wvfolklife.org) and see "Save the Dates for the WV Folklife Apprenticeship Showcases."

The West Virginia Folklife Apprenticeship Program offers a stipend to West Virginia traditional artists or tradition bearers working with qualified apprentices on a year-long in-depth apprenticeship in their cultural expression or traditional art form. These apprenticeships encourage experts in their respective art forms to share their techniques and artistry, as well as the histories and traditions of these folklife practices. This

marks the third year of the biennial Folklife Apprenticeship Program.

The West Virginia Folklife Program is a project of the West Virginia Humanities Council and is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Folk & Traditional Arts Program. West Virginia Folklife is dedicated to the documentation, preservation, presentation, and support of West Virginia's vibrant cultural heritage and living traditions.

For more information on the event and West Virginia Folklife Program, visit [wvfolklife.org](http://wvfolklife.org) or <http://wvhumanities.org/programs/west-virginia-folklife-program/>, or contact Jennie Williams at [wiliams@wvhumanities.org](mailto:wiliams@wvhumanities.org) or (304)346-8500.

The West Virginia Humanities Council, an independent nonprofit corporation, is governed by a board of directors whose members are drawn from all parts of West Virginia. The state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), it is supported by the NEH, the State of West Virginia, and contributions from the private sector. The purposes of the West Virginia Humanities Council are educational, and its mission is to support a vigorous program in the humanities statewide in West Virginia.

## Rep. Carol Miller Joins U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement on a Targeted Enforcement Action Operation



WASHINGTON, D.C. - Yesterday, Congresswoman Carol Miller (R-WV) joined the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on a targeted enforcement action operation ride-along in Cabell County. Congresswoman Miller accompanied officers in an observational capacity as law enforcement officers conducted the operation.

"The fight for the United States is not overseas or at the border, but it's right here in our communities. When Speaker McCarthy appointed me to serve on the task force to combat Mexican drug cartels, it was important to see firsthand what was happening at the front lines. Witnessing ICE and law enforcement lay their lives on the line to protect Americans every day was a humbling experience I won't soon forget. I will continue fighting to stop the flow of drugs and human trafficking that comes across the southern border every single day," said Congresswoman Miller.

Since her first term in Congress, Congresswoman Miller has been fighting to secure the border to prevent drugs and crime from affecting communi-



ties in the United States. She currently serves on Speaker Kevin McCarthy's (R-CA) Congressional task force targeted on combating Mexican drug cartels.

Congresswoman Miller joined the Field Office Director Camilla Wamsley for a pre-operational briefing and rode along with law enforcement where the operation took place.

### Background:

Last year, Congresswoman Carol Miller visited the U.S. - Mexico border and experienced the southern border crisis. This ride along has been the second time the Congresswoman saw first-hand the devastating impact President Biden's open border is having on Americans.

Congresswoman Carol Miller also joined the Conservative Political Action Coalition (CPAC) for an anti-human trafficking summit. She continues to fight for the victims of human trafficking due to an open southern border.

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## Champion Sized Cabbages in Local Market



Plants were bought at Bice's Greenhouse and raised by Rick Wilson from Shinnston, WV. In total, the 6 cabbages weighed 108.6 lbs. The



biggest one weighed 19 3/4 lbs. The others weighed in at 19 1/2, 19, 18, 17, and 16 lbs, which was the smallest.

## Capito Leads Bipartisan, Bicameral Delegation to Indo-Pacific Region

*Members received briefings on Hawaii wildfires, U.S. and Indo-Pacific security and energy matters, discussed empowerment of women and girls with Women's World Cup leaders*



U.S. Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) and Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) and Representatives Chrissy Houlahan (D-Pa.-06), Kathy Castor (D-Fla.-14), and Nicole Malliotakis (R-N.Y.-11) with Admiral Samuel J. Paparo Jr., Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Yesterday, a congressional delegation (CODEL), led by U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), returned to the United States after traveling to Pearl Harbor, Australia, and New Zealand. In addition to Senator Capito, the delegation included Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) and Representatives Chrissy Houlahan (D-Pa.-06), Kathy Castor (D-Fla.-14), and Nicole Malliotakis (R-N.Y.-11).

During the trip, the delegation engaged with senior leaders throughout the Indo-Pacific to discuss a variety of topics, including domestic and international security matters and energy issues throughout the region. The members also engaged with senior leaders at the Women's World Cup to discuss the empowerment of women and girls. Additionally, the delegation visited the U.S. Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where they met with Commander Admiral Samuel J. Paparo Jr., and General Charles Flynn, who is coordinating defense support to civil authorities for the wildfire response in Hawaii.

"Through this series of visits, we had the opportunity to meet with senior leaders in the Indo-Pacific on matters that impact our nation and our allies, and to learn more about our country's response to the devastating wildfires in Hawaii. I'm thankful to grow our relationship with leaders in the Pacific, as well as in both Australia and New Zealand regarding the importance of bilateral ties and partnerships between our nations. Additionally, it was encouraging to engage with leaders of the Women's World Cup and discuss ways that we can capitalize on momentum to grow women and girls empowerment efforts. I look forward to applying the information gained during this trip through my work in the U.S. Senate," Senator Capito said.

"Our bipartisan all-female congressional delegation to the Indo-Pacific region sent a strong message as we examined the security and economic issues that affect our nation and that region. Our visit also underscored the



U.S. Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) and Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) and Representatives Chrissy Houlahan (D-Pa.-06), Kathy Castor (D-Fla.-14), and Nicole Malliotakis (R-N.Y.-11) with U.S. Navy sailors in Sydney, Australia, for the 2023 Malabar Exercise.



U.S. Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) and Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) and Representatives Chrissy Houlahan (D-Pa.-06), Kathy Castor (D-Fla.-14), and Nicole Malliotakis (R-N.Y.-11) at the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

value in encouraging and highlighting women in athletics in the same way we support men's athletics, a goal that can help inspire more young women to reach their athletic potential and dreams," Senator Hyde-Smith said.

"This CODEL has been eye opening for me, but it also served as a stark reminder of the important effect that women and girls can have on our national and global security," Rep. Houlahan said. "I was proud to see that the progress we are making here at home in the U.S. on gender equity is running parallel to progress being made by our Indo-Pacific partners. I want to thank Senator Capito for bringing this bipartisan, bicameral coalition together. We know that when everyone is included, we build a stronger and safer world."

"Our bipartisan delegation to the Indo-Pacific region demonstrates that America is strengthening bilateral relationships across the region. Senator Capito led our delegation in engaging with military, business and diplomatic leaders regarding new opportunities to bolster our national and economic security. I am grateful to the many men and women we met who are serving across the region, particularly those who are coordinating response to the devastating wildfires in Hawaii. I look forward to working to strengthen our partnerships in the region while supporting the empowerment of women and girls globally," Rep. Castor said.

"In a short period of time, we were able to learn ways Congress can support our service members and military leadership in the Indo-Pacific, expand free trade with our allies to diversify supply chains and reduce reliability on Communist China, and empower women around the globe. It is evident that Australia and New Zealand are two strategic and key allies and the mission of the Five Eyes and AUKUS intelligence and military partnerships is more critical today than ever," Rep. Malliotakis said.

## DHHR and WVABCA Share Back-to-School Resources to Prevent Underage Drinking and Substance Use

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Department of Human Resources' Bureau for Behavioral Health (BBH) and the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration (WVABCA) are partnering to help students succeed this back-to-school season with prevention programming and messages about alcohol and substance use.

BBH leads a statewide substance use prevention network that works with schools and communities to implement effective prevention strategies with funding from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Evidence-based programs (EBPs) build students' resilience and encourage healthy alternatives to underage drinking and substance use, including Too Good for Drugs, Keep a Clear Mind, Botvin LifeSkills, and Positive Action. More than 90 schools also receive tiered support through BBH-funded Expanded School Mental Health grants or West Virginia Department of Education SAMHSA-funded Project AWARE grants.

"BBH aims to build protective factors like positive role models and a safe culture so that it is easier for all students to make good choices," said Dawn Frohna, BBH Commissioner. "We appreciate our partners including WVABCA that have joined us in our mission to help students thrive in their homes, schools, and communities."

WVABCA's Fall Safety Plan for Students starts in September with the 11th annual NO School Spirits PSA contest. WVABCA will also be traveling the state visiting high schools to deliver its premier DUI Simulator Program. For more information, visit <https://abca.wv.gov/> or WVABCA's Facebook page.

"With initiatives such as our PSA contest, students take part in prevention messaging to address the harms that can result from underage alcohol use," said WVABCA Commissioner Fred Wooton. "WVABCA is committed to working with DHHR's Bureau for Behavioral Health, the Governor's Highway Safety Program, and other groups to deliver programs and services to protect our youth as a new school year gets underway."

WVABCA will also hold its 3rd annual Alcohol Prevention, Enforcement, Education and Policy conference October 11-12, 2023, at Canaan Valley Resort on alcohol and substance use topics for law enforcement, educators, community health specialists, prevention coordinators, and other stakeholders. Held in conjunction with Community Connections, Inc., and with funding from the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association, the multidisciplinary conference includes a prevention track facilitated by BBH staff, as well as law enforcement and media communication tracks.

Anyone interested in implementing effective prevention programming may find West Virginia's substance use prevention contacts and guidance at <https://helpandhopewv.org/prevention-works.html>. A new BBH Clearinghouse also provides a database of prevention, treatment, and recovery EBPs researched by state experts.

BBH funds several helplines through SAMHSA funding, operated by First Choice Services, to assist West Virginians in need of behavioral health support. The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and 844-HELP4WV (844-435-7498), which includes the Children's Crisis and Referral Line, are available 24/7 with call, chat, and text options.

In addition to state resources, SAMHSA's "Talk. They Hear You."® campaign helps parents and caregivers, educators, and community members get informed, be prepared, and take action to prevent underage drinking and other substance use.

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

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