



The SHINNSTON News & Journal HARRISON COUNTY

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Focusing on local news throughout Harrison County.*



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Shinnston Police Department Seeks Clerk

By Stephen Smoot

The motto of American law enforcement is “to protect and to serve.” Most think first of the officers who put their lives on the line every time they go on duty. Even the best law enforcement officers, however, would struggle to perform as well if their department lacked skilled administrators

to keep the operation running smoothly. Shinnston Police Department is seeking out one such individual to fill in the job of police clerk. The position combines the roles of police clerk and administrative assistant to the chief of police, Jon Harbert. According to the chief, there are “a lot of requirements that

go with that position.” Harbert stated that an ideal candidate would start with “people skills” and experience “being able to deal with the public.” Duties of the position would include collecting tickets and fines, coordinating court hearings with judges, handling records, and “keeping everything in place with Charleston.”

That means ensuring that the department stays in line with state laws, rules, and regulations. The candidate should also have office management skills and experience. Over the past five years, the police clerk has also performed grant writing work for the department. Locating and applying for grant support has

grown into an ever-expanding resource for law enforcement at all levels. Harbert said “they will have to learn to be a grant writer,” if they do not have that skill coming into the job. To attract the best possible candidates, Harbert stated that “we’re keeping it a competitive wage.” The position will

also include health insurance, optional eye and dental coverage, and paid holidays and sick leave. Harbert shared that the former clerk came onto the job at the same time as he became chief, approximately five years ago. She left the role to take another position with the city.

Mollie McCartney Cecil Newest Member of the UHC Medical Staff



Bridgeport, WV— Mollie McCartney Cecil, MD, FAAFP, specializes in medical weight management, gearing the program to the needs of the individual by focusing on four areas: food, movement, behavior change, and medical management. It’s an

approach that finds what works for the individual because everyone’s weight management journey differs. Dr. Cecil is a summa cum laude graduate of West Virginia University, earning dual degrees in history and biology. She continued her education at WVU

by earning her medical degree, and then took her residency in the university’s Department of Family Medicine. She also returned to the school and earned a master’s degree in history. She has held various positions, most recently as Women’s Health

Medical Director at the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center. In addition to being a practicing physician, she has taught at WVU School of Medicine as an assistant professor. Board certified in family medicine, Dr. Cecil is a member of the American Academy

of Family Physicians and the West Virginia Academy of Family Physicians. Dr. Cecil can be found at UHC Medical Weight Management, located at 527 Medical Park Drive, Suite 102, Bridgeport. For more information, please call 681-342-7570.



Pictured left with the da Vinci SP Single Port Surgical System is Mohammad “Moe” Hout, MD and Ali Merhe, MD, urologists at UHC Urology. This is the latest addition to UHC’s robotic surgery portfolio and the fourth da Vinci robot.

WVU Medicine United Hospital Center Expands Robotic Surgery Portfolio

Bridgeport, WV— WVU Medicine United Hospital Center, a leader in cutting-edge medical technologies, is delighted to announce the latest addition to its robotic surgery portfolio – the da Vinci SP® Single Port Surgical System by Intuitive Surgical. This state-of-the-art technology represents a significant leap forward in the field of minimally invasive surgery, enhancing patient outcomes and reducing recovery times. The da Vinci SP® Single Port Surgical

System stands out for its innovative design, enabling surgeons to access the body through a single small abdominal incision. This unique approach, combined with the advanced capabilities of the SP robot, ensures a higher level of precision, resulting in improved patient outcomes and reduced recovery times. “Patients undergoing surgeries with the SP system can now benefit from a significantly reduced hospital stay, experiencing faster recovery and a quicker return to their daily

lives. In contrast to more invasive procedures, the da Vinci SP® system requires only one small incision, leading to minimal blood loss, reduced scarring, and a lower risk of infection. Patients undergoing surgeries with the SP system report less pain, translating to a decreased need for pain medications and a smoother recovery process,” said Dr. Merhe MD, Urology. “The addition of the da Vinci SP® Single Port Surgical System to our robotic surgery portfolio is a testament

to our commitment to advancing medical technologies and improving patient care,” said Matt Camerlin CRNA, AVP of Surgical Services. “This cutting-edge system not only enhances the accuracy of surgical procedures but also elevates the overall patient experience by minimizing invasiveness, reducing

See “WVU” on Pg 5

A Brave New World



By Jim Hunt for the News and Journal

I was looking through some old papers and I ran across a report card that I had received from my junior year in high school. As I looked over the various subjects, I saw that I had received an A in typing. My high school typing class was filled with girls, which might explain why I had taken the class. We would have timed exercises where our teacher would have a stopwatch and I can remember pounding away on the old black typewriters and when the teacher called “STOP”, most of the girls had far more on the page than me. Fortunately, your skill at typing was composed of speed and accuracy and although I was a good bit slower, I rarely had any errors. I didn’t know it at the time, but my typing class was one of the most valuable classes of my high school and college years.

Few other classes prepared me for the future like my typing class. When computers became popular, I adapted my skills to the computer keyboard and could quickly navigate this new technology. While work colleagues would struggle and “hunt and peck” their way through assignments, I was efficiently finishing my work. Who could have imagined that our lives would be dominated by these “word processors”, as they were called. I think that artificial intelligence may be the new “tech skill” that young people will need to advance in the future. I have been using it and I can see what all the buzz is about. Things that used to take days, can be completed in seconds. You can ask it to give you a list of thirty things to do on a trip to London and it spits them out, faster than you can read them. You can ask it to write you a poem or a short story about any subject and it quickly pens a work of literature. You can give it something that you have written and ask it to correct grammar and punctuation and it completes the task without fail.

See “Hunt” on Pg 3

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OPINION

Advanced Technology Is Sometimes the Wrong Choice

By Stephen Smoot

Once upon a time, the idea of technology advances used the same optimistic dynamic of "Whig" history. Today is better than yesterday and tomorrow will be better still.

Those living in today's world understand that progress does not necessarily move the world irresistibly toward a better future. Making the wrong choices can bring worse results than standing pat.

Technological advances for more than the past generation emphasize the digital over the non digital, the centralized over the local, and screens over printed paper.

Two weeks ago, this space featured an evidence-based argument critical of both the educational and even recreational replacement of books with reading material on computers of phones.

Last week, the British Broadcasting Company ran an article on "the spectacular failure of self-checkout technology. They quoted American author and sociologist Christopher Andrews as saying "they're finding that people need help doing it, or that they'll steal stuff."

Dollar General reviewed their self-checkout policy and concluded "we had relied and started to rely too much on self-checkout in their stores." Company CEO Todd Vasos shared this insight on a recent earnings call and said they will increase the number of employees in the stores.

Last summer, soon after California approved the use of 24/7 robotaxis, a Cruise self-driving car collided with a San Francisco fire truck on its way to a call.

Moving to advanced technology usually makes for positive headlines. People are often fascinated by the bright and shiny. They forget the similarities to the raccoon trap in Where the Red Fern Grows.

See "Smoot" on Pg 6

Super Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Grappler, backwoods-style 8 Skylit courts 13 Astronaut Wally 20 "The Stranger Beside Me" true-crime writer 21 Flowers in the iris family 22 Some sweatshirts 23 Swift warship for law enforcement? 25 Finales 26 Makes mother's milk 27 Comic Radner 29 "How about that!" 30 Lugosi of "The Raven" 33 Hefty books 34 Defectively built flat-bottomed boat? 36 Pumpkin's color 38 Resident of Tehran 40 Makes a choice 41 Light, speedy boat transporting Oreos? 45 Just barely 48 Indian state known for silk 49 United 50 In a smoothly elegant way 53 Neon, e.g. 56 French mime master 59 High-sterned ship orbiting Earth? 61 "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" star Andy 65 Central Canadian tribe members 67 Upscale hotel 68 Small combo 69 Discovering a sharp-bowed rowboat? 74 Safe, at sea 75 Do a tally of 77 "Get what I'm sayin', man?" 78 Zealous 80 Paint a passenger ship? 83 Soapmaking solution 86 Auditing org. 87 Message on a tombstone 89 Kabuki sash 90 Enthusiasm 95 Prison, in London 96 Very fast ship decorated with shrubbery? 99 Coll. reunion attendee 102 Father Sarducci of old 3-Down 104 Quick-witted 105 Racing boat with lots of mollusks attached? 109 Fill with joy 113 Lyric verses 114 Billiards stick 115 They make up molecules 116 Abstruse 118 Reproductive organs 120 Sub-sinking ship full of aquariums? 125 Lay aside 126 Bert's pal 127 Introductions 128 In clothes 129 Actors O'Neal and Reynolds 130 Says "OK" 6 One voted in 7 Book page opposite a verso 8 Severe 9 Samples something 10 Singer Diana 11 With 13-Down, thick glacial mass along a polar shore 12 BB shooter 13 See 11-Down 14 Magazine publisher Nast 15 Wannabe surfer 16 Exiled Amin 17 Key into a cash register 18 Acting king 19 Good traits 24 He-sheep 28 "— may be so bold ..." 30 — Raton 31 Lovers' deity 32 Neighbor of Thailand 34 Clayey fertilizer 35 Herd of seals 37 "— a break!" 39 Gave a new interior design to 42 Welsh canine 43 Mom's bro 44 Ball supporter 45 Org. for cavity fillers 46 Doc's warm treatment 47 "For" votes 51 Like thrift store goods 52 — facto 53 Sly deception 54 Prices to play 55 Variety of trapshooting 57 Spot's noise 58 Etching liquid 60 Husband of Eva Perón 61 Actress Keanan 62 Enthusiasm 63 Gold-fancying king 64 Boxers' event 66 Waffle brand 70 No, to Nikita 71 Torres with 12 Olympic swimming medals 72 Antique item 73 "Hooray!" 76 "Guilty" or "not guilty" 79 Onetime TV host Philbin 81 Debut on Wall St. 82 Zippo 84 Woofing pet 85 Actor Vigoda 88 Olympic skier Mahre 91 Meeting building regulations 92 Tater 93 Head, in Metz 94 Mining strikes 95 Big inits. in SUVs 97 Certain deer leather 98 Hamlet's duel opponent 99 Peace treaty 100 Shutter piece 101 Fidgetiness 102 Valuable rock 103 Long, loose outerwear 106 Nitpickers split them 107 Olympic skier Mahre 108 Sprayed, with "down" 110 Mining strikes 111 Downed 112 Electric car producer 116 Sicilian resort city 117 Investments for later yrs. 119 Home: Abbr. 121 Suffix with budget 122 — and yang 123 Doc for head colds 124 Blog feed format inits.

Grid for Super Crossword with numbered starting points for clues.

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. Jan. 25, 1814: Francis Harrison Pierpont was born near Morgantown. On June 20, 1861, Pierpont was unanimously elected as governor of the unionist Reorganized State of Virginia, which sat at Wheeling until West Virginia entered the Union two years later. Jan. 25, 1878: Activist Lenna Lowe Yost was born in Basnettville in Marion County. She held key leadership roles in the woman's suffrage and temperance movements. Jan. 25, 1889: Anna Johnson Gates was born in Kanawha County. The state's first

female state legislator, Gates was elected to the House of Delegates in 1922 and served a single term. Jan. 26, 1850: Wyoming County was formed by the Virginia General Assembly from part of Logan County. Jan. 26, 1960: Burnsville High School basketball player Danny Heater scored 135 points in a varsity game against Widen, setting a national record. Heater went on to receive an academic scholarship to attend the University of Richmond. Jan. 27, 1925: Bernard L. Coffindaffer was born in Nicholas County. In the 1980s and 1990s, Coffindaffer erected clusters of crosses along the highways of West Virginia and much of the Southeast. Jan. 27., 1933: Folk artist George Connard Wolfe was born in Standard, Kanawha

County. A self-trained sculptor, he made his own tools from automobile leaf springs and engine valves and worked in stone and wood. Jan. 27-28, 1998: Flat Top on the Mercer-Raleigh county line received a record snowfall of 35 inches in a 24-hour period. Jan. 28, 1902: Miners Hospital No. One opened at Welch, with a young Dr. Henry Hatfield as president. The legislature had passed a law requiring state hospitals for those engaged in dangerous occupations, and eventually three hospitals for miners were built in different sections of the state. Jan. 28, 1937: In a flood that drove a million Ohio Valley residents from their homes, the Ohio River crested at Huntington at 69.45 feet, more than 19 feet above flood stage. By the time the water receded, five people were dead, and the city was in

ruins. Parkersburg, Ravenswood and Point Pleasant also were badly damaged. Jan. 29, 1903: The great rhododendron was designated the official state flower of West Virginia, after being recommended by the governor and voted on by public school schools. Jan. 30, 1818: Nicholas County was created by the Virginia legislature from parts of Greenbrier, Kanawha and Randolph counties. The county was named for Wilson Cary Nicholas, a Virginia governor and U.S. senator who lived from 1761 to 1820. Jan. 30, 1895: Mingo County was created from the southern part of Logan County. Mingo is the youngest county in West Virginia. Jan. 31, 1878: Educator William Woodson Trent was born in rural Nicholas County. He served as state superintendent of schools from 1933

Newspaper advertisement for The News & Journal, including contact information for Michael Showell, Debra Smith, and Bill Nestor, and subscription rates.

DoHS Approves Highmark Health Options West Virginia

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS), Bureau for Medical Services (BMS) approved the Highmark Health Options West Virginia (HHO WV) application to become a Managed Care Organization (MCO) option for Medicaid eligible West Virginians. HHO WV Blue Cross and Blue Shield-branded health plans will be an option

for West Virginia Medicaid beneficiaries beginning in June, for a July 1, 2024 coverage date. “This partnership is a testament to our unwavering commitment to the well-being of West Virginians,” said Cindy Beane, DoHS Bureau for Medical Services Commissioner. “It signifies our continued commitment to ensuring comprehensive and accessible health services for our Medicaid members and fostering a healthier tomorrow for all.” HHO WV’s parent company, Highmark Inc. (Highmark), has a more than 30-year history serving Medicaid enrollees. Highmark, one of the 10 largest health insurers in the United States, currently cares for more than 500,000 Medicaid beneficiaries across three states. “We appreciate the

trust the state has shown in us through this selection,” said Jason Landers, HHO WV president. “It’s an honor and privilege to serve all West Virginians, and a responsibility we don’t take lightly. We are excited to provide a Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance plan that will make the state proud.” The statewide contract between HHO WV and BMS will be in effect for four years. BMS contracts

with three other MCOs for the provision of Medicaid medically necessary services: Aetna Better Health of West Virginia, The Health Plan of West Virginia, and UniCare. Services carved out of managed care include point of sale pharmacy, long-term care, Home and Community-Based waivers, and non-emergency medical transportation services. West Virginians interested in HHO WV

can enroll beginning in June. First-time Medicaid beneficiaries can enroll through wvpath.wv.gov, calling 1-877-716-1212, or visiting their local DoHS office, formerly a part of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR). Current beneficiaries interested in switching to HHO WV should visit mountainhealthtrust.com/enroll or call 1-800-449-8466.

Petition Asks Appeals Court to Declare New EPA Rule Unlawful

CHARLESTON — Morrisey is co-leading a West Virginia Attorney General Patrick petition asking the U.S.

Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to declare the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s new rule unlawful. The new rule pertains to the procedures under which states submit state implementation plans as mandated by Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act. Attorney General Morrisey led a multistate coalition last February raising issues on the then proposed rule. “It’s either the EPA missed our letter or

ignored our concerns,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “Rather than listen to our advice, EPA has doubled down—issuing a rule that vastly increases the EPA’s authority while imposing compliance obligations even stricter under the Clean Air Act.” “The states should retain their discretion on how to best regulate existing emission sources, like power plants.” Under a section in the Clean Air Act, states must submit their plans

for the establishment of implementation of standards of performance for existing emission sources. The new rule gives states less discretion in figuring out how these existing sources can comply with less time to comply. “Petitioners will show that the final rule exceeds the agency’s statutory authority and otherwise is arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, and not in accordance with law,” the coalition wrote

in the petition filed Tuesday. Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Wyoming joined the West Virginia- and Oklahoma-led petition—the Arizona Legislature and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality also joined the petition

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

Mountaineer Food Bank hosts Veterans Table Food Distribution in Clarksburg

Every month, the Mountaineer Food Bank will host a Veterans Table food box distribution for Veterans and their families on the third Friday of the month. In January, the food bank will be held on a different date – Friday Jan. 26, 2024. This free food distribution program is held in the VA Park in Clarksburg

The Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center is excited to announce comedian Henry Cho’s “From Here to There 2024” Friday, July 26, 2024 at 8:00p.m. at the historic Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center located at 444 W. Pike St. in Clarksburg, W. Va

The Palette in Shinnston is offering an Origami class Tuesday, January 23, 6-7:30pm for \$20.

The Palette is also offering “Everyone’s Watercolor” a class for all levels every Wednesday, 1-3:00pm, January 17, 24, 31 and February 7, weather permitting. \$30 each class. Supplies provided or bring your own. They are also offering a Snowman Painting Class for all ages,

Thursday, January 25, 6-7:00pm, \$10 for an 8x10 canvas.

The Palette in February is offering a kids art class at 6 PM on Feb 6, neurographic art class at 6 PM on Feb 13, and watercolor classes on Feb 7 and 14 from 1 to 3 PM

Join us upstairs at the Palette! Email Bethany Nuzum at thepalettewv@gmail.com to register and or more information.

The next two Shinnston City Council Meetings will take place on Feb 13 and 26 at the city building at 7 PM

There will be an SDA meeting at the City Building on Feb 21 at 6:30 PM

The Almost Heaven Barn will host a Masquerade Valentine’s Dinner and Dance from 5 to 11 PM on Feb 17

Lincoln High School will host a Father Daughter Dance put on by Jewel City Church from 6 to 8 PM on Feb 24

Justice unveils 2024 West Virginia Vacation Guide

CHARLESTON, WV — Gov. Jim Justice today unveiled the 2024 West Virginia Vacation Guide, the state’s official travel magazine. Travelers can view the 112-page guide online or get a free copy mailed to them directly. Last year, the West Virginia Department of Tourism distributed over a quarter of a million printed guides to travelers across the nation and around the world.

“I could not be more excited about this year’s vacation guide because it showcases our state’s incredible beauty,” Gov. Justice said. “From the breathtaking views to charming mountain towns, this guide truly brings West Virginia to life, and we continue to prove that we’re the diamond in the rough. We have people from all over the world wanting

to explore our state, and this guide serves as a big reason why interest is still on the rise.”

This year’s cover depicts a magnificent starry sky surrounding the Hanging Rock Raptor Observatory in Monroe County. Using a special printing technique, the front cover is textured to give readers an earthy, sensory experience before even opening the guide.

“Showcasing our great state in what we do, and this magazine is our premiere printed piece. We’ve produced some amazing guides in the past, but this one is my all-time favorite. It is packed with stunning photography and features hidden gems in every corner of the state,” West Virginia Department of Tourism Secretary Chelsea Ruby said. “This year, we are

encouraging folks to not only order themselves a copy, but to also send one to friends and family members they’d like to see visit the Mountain State this year.”

The 2024 Vacation Guide was produced in partnership with Dotdash Meredith, a leading publisher that also produces Southern Living, Real Simple, and Parents magazines. This partnership has been recognized in the past by the U.S. Travel Association when West Virginia was recognized as having the top printed piece in the county two years ago. By partnering with Dotdash, the 2024 guide will be mailed directly to 100,000 Travel + Leisure subscribers in West Virginia’s target markets to encourage travel to the Mountain State.

Organized by

seasons, this year’s guide highlights the multitude of activities to experience in West Virginia all year long. The “field guide” in the front of the book, is the introduction to the unparalleled sights and adventures that can only be found in the Mountain State. The guide also features a section all about the state’s arts and culture scene with a special story about artisans and creative entrepreneurs throughout West Virginia.

Four perforated postcards, with images from each of West Virginia’s distinct seasons make easy tear-away keepsakes and add an interactive element to the guide. There’s also a quiz that helps readers discover the road trip best suited for them based on their interests.

“Hunt” From Pg 1.

The experts have cautioned that this new technology needs significant ‘guardrails’ to keep it out of the hands of those who may use it to do harm to society. I would agree that the potential for nefarious characters to wreak havoc is entirely possible. Already, the video and audio artificial intelligence can take a speech by a political figure and manipulate it to be nearly undetectable as a fake. Seeing the President or other

political figure spouting false information or ill intent is not only possible but being done on social media sites throughout the internet. Some will say that it is easy to spot the fakes, but as artificial intelligence develops, it will learn from its mistakes and fine tune its processes to eliminate the ability to distinguish reality from computer generation. The positive uses for artificial intelligence are immense and things like medical research can cut

years off development of cures for many terrible diseases and illnesses. Analysis of data can change the way businesses operate and allow things like the Amazon deliveries to become almost immediate, with drones and autonomous vehicles dispatched as soon as you click on the order button. Grocery stores can analyze their purchases and predict with near certainty, what and how many items to order.

While we need to be extremely cautious, the cat is already out of the bag and millions of people, throughout the world are experimenting and discovering new uses for artificial intelligence. Young people will need to learn this new technology and figure out where they fit in. Much like my typing class in 1967, the speed of technology waits for no one and those who succeed need to explore and master in ways not even fully known.

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The Lincoln Middle School wrestling team earned the title of Harrison County champions.

Photo courtesy of Nickitta Glaspell



Lincoln Middle School Earns County Wrestling Title

On Jan 13, the Lincoln Middle School wrestling squad defeated three other teams to take the Harrison County wrestling championship. This season serves as only the second that the team, coached by Cody Glaspell and Clifford White, has competed. The team features 20 wrestlers: Ashton Prangler (not pictured) and

See "Wrestling" on Pg 6



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.

Harrison County Athlete Spotlight

By Bill Nestor

The Harrison County athletes in the spotlight this week are Liberty's Conner Holden and Notre Dame's Naelyn Chandra.

Mountaineer basketball player Conner Holden helped his squad to an impressive Big 10 Conference win over Buckhannon-Upshur, recently. Holden scored 20 points, grabbed four

rebounds, and recorded four steals in the win.

Fighting Irish hoopster Naelyn Chandra had an impressive outing in a loss last week at Trinity. Chandra pumped in a game-high 21 points and hauled down five rebounds in the setback.

Congratulations to Liberty's Conner Holden and Notre Dame's Naelyn Chandra for shining bright in the SN and HCJ spotlight!

The Best Bids Farewell to College Football

This is the time of year where everyone places their focus on football. Michigan just won the National Championship after pounding Washington. Most fans felt the Wolverines had the title in the bag after edging Alabama in the opening game of the playoffs in overtime.

The Crimson Tide played its worst game since the season opening loss to Texas and the setback ended up costing the storied program more than just a chance at a 17th national title.

Legendary football coach Nick Saban announced his retirement shortly

after the culmination of the campaign, ending his tenure in Tuscaloosa. Saban roamed the sidelines from 2007 to 2023, winning six national championships in his 17 years as the main man. The best part of the Saban story are his roots in the Mountain State and Harrison County in particular.

Saban grew up in Monongah, which is eight miles from Shinnston. Even if he was just an average coach, it would be hard not to root for him. Add in the fact that he is arguably the greatest coach of all time and it is obvious why he is a fan favorite among



locals.

The fifty dollar question is why did Coach Saban choose to retire now. He is 73 years young and appears to be in great shape. He still is very competitive and appeared to have the desire to compete. Saban is the type of coach that could be envisioned going out on top, retiring after hoisting another championship trophy.

Some speculate that all of the changes in

college football have pushed his frustration level to the point of no return. NIL deals and the transfer portal have really changed how to bring players into a program and how they are coached.

A few examples are Shedeur Sanders (Colorado), Arch Manning (Texas), and Caleb Williams (University of Southern California.) The endorsement deals for these three college football players are

rather impressive. Sanders pulls in \$4.5 million, Manning hauls in 2.8 million, and Williams nets \$2.8 million.

It's hard to coach players that young who make so much cash. Money has always been the major motivator and players would work hard in college to receive their payday in the NFL. Getting paid early decreases the motivation and lessens the work ethic.

Saban has always been an "early to rise, late to bed" coach that would always outwork his counterparts. In order to be successful, he needs the same type of effort from his

players. He is also an old school coach and if you don't do your job, you are going to get an ear full. The transfer portal allows players to depart a program any time for any reason, which forces coaches to become more like baby sitters and less like leaders.

Saban is a leader of men and a builder of character. Respect, values, and integrity are important to him and he wanted his players to learn the keys of winning both on and off the field. He will be missed not only at Alabama, but throughout college football as a whole.

3 States, D.C., USDOJ Join as Plaintiffs in Suit Against NCAA Transfer Rule

CHARLESTON — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey on Thursday announced three other states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Department of Justice have joined the bipartisan multistate coalition led by Ohio in a lawsuit challenging the NCAA's Transfer Eligibility Rule.

The coalition now consists of 10 states,

D.C. and the USDOJ. "We are confident in the merits of our case that the NCAA's transfer policy is flawed and has failed to maintain a consistent and defensible transfer rule," Attorney General Morrisey said. "More states have joined with us along with the DOJ to set the rule straight to reflect fairness for the athletes and adherence to the law."

"The NCAA needs to enact consistent, logical and defensible rules that are fair and equitable for everyone."

The coalition argues "the connection between the Rule and academic well-being or athletic amateurism is tenuous at best and is outweighed by the harm it does to college athletes and consumers of college athletics."

The lawsuit, which was originally filed in December in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia,

came on the heels of the NCAA's decision denying RaeQuan Battle a transfer waiver so he could play basketball for West Virginia University. After a hearing in federal court, Battle and other multiple-transfer students were permitted to participate in games.

The coalition further contends the NCAA's transfer rule "artificially deters players and teams from achieving optimal matches by forcing college athletes to weigh the one-year ineligibility period against the benefits of moving to a better matched school. It is

ironic that this rule, stylized as promoting the welfare of college athletes, strips them of the agency and opportunity to optimize their own welfare as they see fit."

The lawsuit alleges the NCAA violated Section 1 of the Sherman Act.

A week after the filing, Judge John Preston Bailey of the Wheeling Division of the district court granted a temporary 14-day restraining order against the NCAA which barred the association from enforcing its transfer rule.

Five days later the

court entered a consent order converting the TRO into a preliminary injunction that allowed student-athletes burdened by the association's transfer rule to play through the winter and spring sports seasons without fear of retaliation.

Attorney General Morrisey was part of the original seven-state coalition led by Ohio—Colorado, Illinois, New York, North Carolina and Tennessee. The amended lawsuit was joined by the District of Columbia, Minnesota, Mississippi, Virginia and the USDOJ.

POST YOUR LEGALS IN THE SHINNSTON NEWS JOURNAL



WVU Medicine completes 100th transplant surgery

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. – WVU Medicine and the WVU Medicine Transplant Alliance recently completed their 100th solid organ transplant surgery. This milestone marks a significant chapter in the history of the program, which has transformed lives and offered hope to patients facing organ failure across West Virginia and the surrounding region. “Reaching 100 transplants is a true

milestone in the care of our patients,” Michael Shullo, Pharm.D., WVU Medicine Transplant Alliance vice president, said. “This accomplishment reflects the dedication and expertise of our entire team, from physicians and nurses to coordinators and support staff. Every day, we are humbled by the trust our patients place in us, and we are committed to exceeding their expectations.”

The WVU Medicine Transplant Alliance was established in 2019, completing its first heart transplant in November 2019 and first kidney transplant in March 2020. The program quickly gained recognition as West Virginia’s first and only multiorgan transplant center and for performing the first heart transplant in the state. The program has performed 37 heart transplants and

63 kidney transplants. Three of the patients received both a heart and a kidney. “The team at the Transplant Alliance has worked extremely hard to establish the multi-organ transplant center here at WVU Medicine,” George Sokos, D.O., WVU Heart and Vascular Institute Department of Cardiology interim chair and WVU Medicine Transplant Alliance medical director, said.

“They have worked countless hours preparing protocols for evaluation, surgical procedures, and medical treatment before and after transplant. In addition, the significant efforts of the nurses, physicians, and other staff throughout the hospital are truly appreciated by the entire transplant team as well as the patients and their families.” The 100th organ transplant recipient,

David Wildesen, 51, of Mountain Lake Park, Maryland, received a kidney. The surgery was successful, and Wildesen is doing well and was discharged home after a short stay in the hospital. For more information on the WVU Medicine Transplant Alliance, visit WVUMedicine.org/Transplant. To register as an organ donor, visit RegisterMe.org/WVUMedicine.

Breakthrough in treating Alzheimer’s using targeted drug delivery reported

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. – A potential advancement in the treatment of Alzheimer’s disease was announced today by researchers at the West Virginia University Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute (RNI). A first in-human study, featured in the latest issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, demonstrates that focused ultrasound in combination with anti-amyloid-beta monoclonal antibody treatment can accelerate the clearance of amyloid-beta plaques in the brains of patients with Alzheimer’s

disease. Anti-amyloid-beta (Aβ) monoclonal antibody therapies, such as aducanumab, lecanemab, and donanemab, can reduce amyloid-beta plaques and slow the progression of Alzheimer’s. Until now, these promising antibody therapies had limitations in reaching the brain due to the blood-brain barrier (BBB), a protective barrier between blood vessels and the brain that blocks harmful substances from getting into the brain, but also limits the access of therapeutics. More than

98 percent of drugs do not readily cross the BBB, thus requiring systemic treatments with higher doses and more frequent therapies. RNI scientists used a focused ultrasound (FUS) system developed by Insightec to safely and temporarily open the BBB to allow the anti-amyloid-beta antibodies increased access to targeted areas of the brain. The FUS MRI-guided treatment helmet holds more than 1,000 ultrasound transducers, which were directed to specific brain regions with high amyloid-beta plaques.

In this first-in-human proof-of-concept study, three patients (two male and one female, aged 59-77) with mild Alzheimer’s disease received six standard monthly infusions of aducanumab antibody, immediately followed by FUS-mediated BBB opening in regions with high amyloid-beta plaques. The results demonstrated the safety of this approach and increased reduction of amyloid-beta plaques measured by PET scans. “After six months of antibody treatment, we observed an average of 32 percent more


reduction in amyloid-beta plaques (53 percent centiloid) in brain areas with blood-brain barrier opening compared to areas with no such opening,” Ali Rezai, M.D., lead author of the study and executive chair of the RNI, said. “Focused ultrasound is a non-invasive outpatient procedure for BBB opening with great promise for improving drug delivery to the brain.” “The next phase of the clinical trial will begin this year to explore how to further accelerate amyloid-beta removal in a shorter time with focused ultrasound in combination with lecanemab antibody,” according to Dr. Rezai. “This is an exciting time in the treatment of Alzheimer’s disease,” Marc Haut, Ph.D., director of the RNI Memory Health Clinic, said. “We are hopeful that the work we are doing may lead to improvements in outcome for many


other patients and their families coping with Alzheimer’s.” About the West Virginia University Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute The WVU Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute (RNI) is a comprehensive multidisciplinary patient care, education, and research institute providing neurological and mental healthcare for 275,000 patients annually. The 250 physicians and scientists of the RNI improve lives by pioneering advances in neuroscience, brain health, and therapeutics. The RNI team uses the latest technologies with academic, government, and industry partners to make tangible progress to combat public health challenges ranging from addiction to Alzheimer’s disease. For more information about the WVU Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute, visit WVUMedicine.org/RNI.

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“WVU” From Pg 1.

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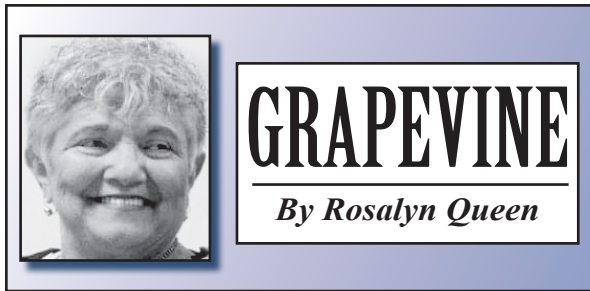
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The Right Foods Warm the Soul on Chilly Days

If by chance you woke up last night and looked out the window you were treated to a beautiful sight. The snow was hanging from the tree branches and created a white blanket over the entire community. There is nothing that can compare to this scene. I know that there are those of you who are unhappy and complaining about this. But remember you live in West Virginia and we have four seasons. This will only last a while and it will be gone. Then you can feel bad about the torrid heat and the allergies season.

I could list a hundred reasons why the beautiful streams of summer are great to paddle in and why there is no comparison to the beauty of the fall foliage. Yes folks, you live in West Virginia. And we have four seasons. Enjoy the snow, if only to look out the window or going for a walk or better yet a sleigh ride. Have a snowball fight and just remember it will be gone soon. Support our local ski resorts, if just to get lunch and watch the skiers going down the slopes. There is one thing



for sure and that is that it is cold. And there is nothing better than a bowl of hot vegetable soup. This past Sunday I had a beef roast with onions, carrots and potatoes. I cooked it on the crock pot overnight and put it on warm all day. The meat was so tender it pulled a part with a fork. The juice in the

bottom of the pot was too good to discard. So I decided to use these leftovers for soup. I took my soup pot and diced some celery, a few more onions and carrots and let them boil and added the"left overs from the crock pot. Next I added a can of diced tomatoes, a can of peas, corn, green beans, and two cans of

tomato soup. Last fall when cabbage was so abundant I par boiled some and placed it in baggies in the freezer and used some of this in the soup. I like my broth seasoned with tomato soup but you can use tomato sauce. Make a hot sandwich such as grilled cheese or compliment the soup with a plate of cottage cheese. A great meal with enough soup for several days and it gets better. Every time you warm it up. Another soup that is great for these winter days is potato soup or

chicken pastina. Even just the smell while the soup is cooking warms the soul. I want to remind you to take care of yourself health wise. Be sure to take your shots. I also suggest eating oranges and anything with Vitamin C. This is also a good time to read that book you have been thinking about or crocheting a blanket for the newest baby in the family. Take care, enjoy this beautiful white blanket and until next week "Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine."

"Smoot" From Pg 2.

inside. Raccoons will grab the shiny object, forming a fist that cannot escape the nail barb unless it lets go. The raccoons remain too entranced by the object to let go of it, despite the fact that it causes pain and that they can never escape. One of the most dangerous choices made by the government in recent years lies in the adoption of electronic voting machines. Many jurisdictions saw them as a cleaner and more reliable way to tabulate elections after the

debacle of the 2000 presidential election. Even worse, the 2020 election saw hundreds of thousands of Americans casting their votes online. Bradley Tusk, founder of Uber and founder of a University of California- Berkeley based working group on the subject said "the current cybersecurity environment (makes) it infeasible . . . to draft responsible standards to support the use of internet ballot returns." Cybersecurity expert Ron Rivest compared online voting to "asking

a kid to play in traffic." Electronic voting machines themselves also present serious challenges. In 2022, the United States Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency sent an advisory to state secretaries of state that a popular vendor of electronic voting machines has software vulnerabilities that left them vulnerable to hacking. J. Alex Halderman, computer science professor from the University of Michigan, has repeatedly testified

that there is no fully safe way to tabulate votes with electronic devices. He asserts that hand-marked paper ballots are the most secure way to vote and that only paper ballots allow for "meaningful post election audits." Halderman explained that "sophisticated attackers, such as hostile nation-states (or) election insiders" could create chaos in key elections, which "would carry very serious consequences." The legendary Italian air power expert,

General Giulio Douhet, correctly said in the 1920s that in future wars "the bomber will always get through" even the best of air defenses. Not every bomber, but enough to cause damage, take lives, and disrupt a society. One may say the same about hackers with the resources of a nation-state or other source of largess behind them. Adoption of technology should always come with the consideration of the law of unintended

consequences. Policy makers need to go beyond savings, efficiencies, or other arguments for and examine the most important question of any big decision, which is "what is the absolute worst that can conceivably happen?" Honestly looking at the worst case scenario and its costs should accompany every such discussion. Technology can bring amazing benefits, but it can also wreck havoc in such situations.

"Wrestling" From Pg 4.

Bryson Minigh, Collin Golden, Collin Shriver, Declan Squires, Issac Elliott, Jace Poe, Jameson Westfall, Jaycee Wilson, Kristian Radabaugh, Nick Glaspell, Pahton Newbrough,

Romeo, Ranger Poe, Roger Duckworth, Ryan Skinner, Silas Raines, Walker Sayers, Waylon Shock and William Welch. A total of six wrestlers placed first. They are as follows:

Jace Poe-Wright in the 70 pound weight class, Ryan Skinner (110), Nick Glaspell (123), Kristian Radabaugh (145), Peyton Romeo (190), Isaac Elliott (285) Other teams

competing were Bridgeport, Washington Irving, and Mountaineer. Lincoln Middle School will participate in the Mid 10 Championship on Jan 27 at Elkins High School.

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OBITUARIES

Michael “Mikey” Edward Freeman II

Michael “Mikey” Edward Freeman II, 32, of Vandalia, Ohio, formerly of Clarksburg, passed away after having complications from cardiac arrest at Hendricks Hospital in Danville, Indiana. He was brought back to his parents’ home and passed away with his family by his side. Born in Clarksburg on October 8, 1991, Mikey was the son of Michael E. Freeman and Susan (Lyon) Freeman and the grandson of the late Bryan and Eileen Freeman and William and Nina Lyon.

Michael graduated from Robert C. Byrd High School and Fairmont State University. He was an aeronautical mechanic for Stephens Aerospace and Defense Systems in Dayton, Ohio. He enjoyed fishing, working on cars and reading books by James Patterson. He was also known as a ‘dog whisperer.’

In addition to his parents, Mikey is survived by one sister, Madison Freeman and niece Maisie Parker, whom he spoiled, and his German shepherd, “Zander.”

He was a Christian by faith. Honoring his wishes, he will be cremated. A memorial service with family and friends will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to: WVU Medicine Hospice 2673 Davisson Run Road Clarksburg, WV 26301

Also, his family would like to express a deep thank you to WVU Medicine Hospice and Hendrick’s medical

staff for their kindness and caring nature during this difficult time.

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



Helen Louise Harbert

Helen Louise Harbert, 93, of Fairmont, passed away peacefully on Friday, January 19, 2024 at the Tygart Center in Fairmont. She was born August 1, 1930 in Fairmont, a daughter of the late Cecil Owen Long and Thelma Zuspan Wood. She was also preceded in death by her grandparents who raised her, C.E. “Dick” and Emma Zuspan.

She is survived by her two sons, Gary Harbert and his wife Cindy of Anderson, SC; Danny Harbert and his wife Karen of Fairmont; her grandchildren, Steven Marshall Harbert and his wife Angela of Barrackville; Mary Desiree Harbert of San Antonio, TX; and Richard Lee Harbert of New Mexico; nine great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and grandparents, Helen was preceded in death by her grandchildren, William Edmond Harbert and Melissa Kay Harbert; her brother, John Wood; and her former husband, Bill Harbert.

Helen was a 1948 graduate of West Fairmont High School and went on to graduate

from Bowling Green Business University in 1950. She loved to paint and watch the Bob Ross television show. She was a member of the New Life Ministries Church where she enjoyed singing and playing the organ. She was also active in the church’s food pantry.

Friends will be received at Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St. Shinnston, on Tuesday from 2-8 pm. A funeral service will be held at the funeral home on Wednesday, January 24th, at 11:00 am with Pastor Charles Chipps officiating. Interment will follow at the Shinnston Memorial Cemetery. Online memories and condolences can be shared with the family at www.perinefunerals.com

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



Glen Perine

Glen Perine, 88, of Bridgeport, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at his residence. He was born in Reynoldsville, March 31, 1935, a son of the late Forest Elexis “Tom” and Florence Hardman Perine. On August 26, 1955, he married Helen Jean McCarty Perine, who preceded him in death on August 27, 2021, after celebrating 66 years of marriage.

Surviving are three

children; Rev. Robert Glen Perine and his wife Janey, Harrisville, Pastor Jeffrey Alan Perine and his wife Julie, Bridgeport, Beth Ann Wilmoth and her husband Dave, Bridgeport; and his daughter-in-law Jackie Perine, Shinnston. He was known as “Pappy” to his 13 grandchildren— Jason Perine and his wife Leslie, Rachele Coffey and her husband Brian, Deanna Garrett and her husband Gary, Rebecca Prunty and her husband Chad, Adam Perine and his wife Tara, Brittany McQuaid and her husband Andrew, Andrew Perine and his wife Sarah, Jeffrey Perine, Allison Satterfield and her husband Ryan, Mitch Wilmoth and his wife Brittany, Alana Hoskinson and her husband Alex, Kayla Cottrell and her husband Cody, Jacob Perine and his fiance Jaryn; 30 great-grandchildren, many extended family and his beloved dog, Sugar Baby. Glen was also preceded in death by a son, Timothy E. Perine.

Glen served with the Army National Guard for 6 years. He was formerly employed at the Union Carbide and retired from CNG Transmission with 35 years of service. He was a member of the Reynoldsville Baptist Church for more than 70 years where he served as a deacon for more than 50 years, many of those years as Chairman. He also was a choir member, Sunday School teacher, and past treasurer at the church. He served for more than 30 years on the Board of Directors for the Hope Federal Credit Union and was a past president.

Glen and Helen enjoyed having their large family in for holidays and special events. He was a man of faith who raised his family in a Christian home and passed down his legacy and love for Jesus Christ. He loved his family and will be deeply missed.

The family will receive friends at the Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St., Shinnston, from 2-8pm, Friday. A funeral service will be held at the Reynoldsville Baptist Church, 3043 Wilsonburg Rd., Reynoldsville, at 10am, Saturday with Rev. Robert Perine, Pastor Jeff Perine, Pastor Jon Hayes, and Dick Miller officiating. Glen will lie in state one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be in the Bridgeport Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Reynoldsville Baptist Church or Judson Baptist Camp. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Perine family.



William J. Salerno

William (Bill) Jennings Salerno, 85, of Pine Bluff, passed away Tuesday, January 9th, 2024 at United Hospital Center. He was born in Pine Bluff, WV on December 19th, 1938, a

son of Tony and Maria Rosa Salerno.

Bill was preceded in death by his first wife Jane and son Michael who died tragically in a fire in 1968 along with a sister Antionette. He was also preceded by 6 brothers, Sam, Patsy, Joe, Albert, Jimmy and Junior Salerno and 4 other sisters, Jennie, Rosie, Gay and Mary.

Bill is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Martha Salerno of Pine Bluff, WV, five children and ten grandchildren, Toni Williams (Rory) of Covington, LA and children Aubrie Johnson (Gabriel) of Salem, WV and Aliza of Covington, Stacia Talkington (Jason) and children Isaac, Leah, Jude and Eden of East Berlin, PA, Kristen Toth (Brandon) and children Lydia and Braxton of Pine Bluff, WV, Nicholas Salerno (Amber) and daughter Sloane of Bridgeport, WV, William Salerno (Tabitha) and son Hastings of Williamsburg, VA. Bill is also survived by one sister, Polly Costa of Fairmont, WV; sister-in-law, Mary (Cookie) Salerno of Shinnston, WV; brother-in-laws, Tom (Nancy) Moore, Dave (Linda) Davis, Libby (Bud) Hildreth, Bernard (Barb) O’Dell, Minda Shingleton, Linda (Sid) Hickman and Mary (Matt) Osbourn. In addition, Bill had many nieces and nephews that were a very important part of his life.

Bill got his early schooling at the old one-room Pine Bluff School, graduated successfully from Shinnston High School where he met Jane his first wife, and attended Fairmont State College for one

See “Obituaries” on Pg 9

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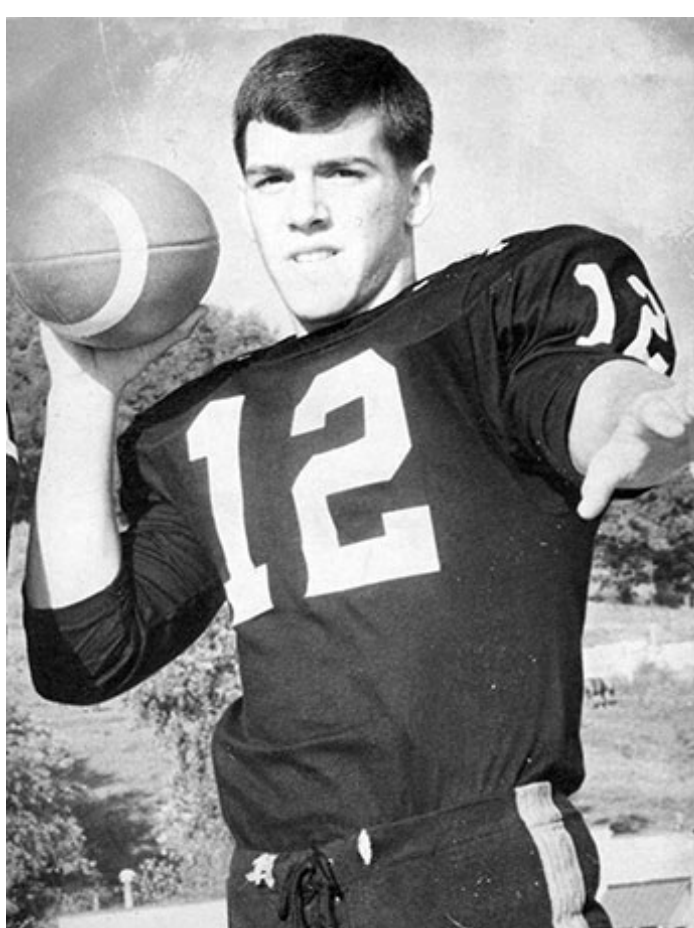
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Out of the Past

Memorable photographs from around Harrison County



Saban Sails Into Sunset After Six Titles With Crimson Tide

Nick Saban, one of college football’s greatest coaches, won his first championship as a senior quarterback for Class A Monongah in 1969.

Though from just over the county line in Marion who played for a rival to Harrison County squads, Saban’s status as a legendary coach earned him a large following of fans throughout the region.

He played defensive back at Kent State and, after a series of assistant coaching positions, first accepted a head coaching post at the University of Toledo.

After one year, Saban became defensive coordinator under the legendary Bill Belichick with the Cleveland Browns. He later coached at Michigan State, Louisiana State, and the Miami Dolphins before his 17 year stint with six national titles at the University of Alabama.



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Gov. Justice proposes \$50 million for affordable housing

CHARLESTON, WV — In a move to address the growing need for housing in areas experiencing economic expansion, Gov. Jim Justice proposed in his budget an allocation of \$50 million in surplus funds to support the construction of new single- and multi-family housing units across West Virginia.

Gov. Justice discussed the budget proposal and the need for additional housing during his regularly scheduled Administration Update Briefing.

“West Virginia is booming, and with new companies and a thriving tourism

industry, we need homes for our growing workforce,” Gov Justice said. “This proposed investment is a strategic step towards ensuring our communities have the capacity to welcome and retain talented individuals who are discovering what we’ve known all along: that West Virginia is the best place to live, work, and raise a family.”

The Governor’s proposal comes at a time of unprecedented economic growth in the state. Recent developments, including the arrival of major employers like Berkshire Hathaway and Nucor, coupled

with the establishment of the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve, have fueled significant demand for housing in areas across the state.

“Housing is a critical component of economic development,” said Erica Boggess, Executive Director of the West Virginia Housing Development Fund (WVHDF), the state’s housing finance agency. “The people who come to work for companies like LG Electronics or Nucor or for our new national park need suitable, affordable homes. We are grateful the Governor has

recognized this need and the Housing Development Fund stands ready to bring new and affordable housing to our workers in areas across the state.”

While the details of the proposed program are still under development, the WVHDF anticipates utilizing the majority of the funds for:

Low-interest rate lending: This program will incentivize the construction of affordable housing units in targeted areas of growth.

Pre-sale and financing assistance: This initiative will help

home builders pre-sell units and assist buyers with securing financing before construction begins.

“We are looking forward to working with the state Economic Development Authority, Water Development Authority, the Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council, and other appropriate groups to make sure we spend this money efficiently to meet the housing needs of West Virginia,” Boggess said. “We need to pull the rope together to ensure that we capitalize on this investment now and in the future.”

About the West Virginia Housing Development Fund

The West Virginia Housing Development Fund was established to increase the supply of residential housing for individuals and families of low to moderate income and to provide construction and permanent mortgage financing to public and private housing investors. The West Virginia Housing Development Fund is an Equal Housing Opportunity Lender, NMLS # 198038. For more information, visit www.wvhdf.com

Morrissey’s Mobile Office Sets February Stops for North Central W.Va.

CHARLESTON — Attorney General Patrick Morrissey announced a representative from his office will meet with north central West Virginia residents in February to discuss consumer-related issues and answer any potential questions.

“These public events are a great way for consumers to talk one-on-one with our consumer representatives,” Attorney General Morrissey said. “Residents can easily get questions answered,

learn what is going on in their area and how to keep personal information safe and secure.”

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

Feb. 1: 11 a.m. to noon – Senior Center, 500 West Main St., Clarksburg

Feb. 1: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. - Shinnston Library, 40 Bridge St., Shinnston

Feb. 5: 11 a.m. to noon – Senior Center, 52 Trap Road, Grafton

Feb. 7: 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – Seneca Center, 709 Beachurst Ave., Morgantown

Feb. 7: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. – WVU OLLI Mountaineer Mall, 5000 Greenbag Road, Morgantown

Feb. 8: 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – Senior Center, 171 West Second St., Weston

Feb. 12: 11 a.m. to noon - County Commission Meeting Room, 68 Armstrong St., Keyser

Feb. 14: 11 a.m. to noon - County Commission Meeting Room, 106 West Main

St., Kingwood

Feb. 15: 11 a.m. to noon – Senior Center, 404 Main St., Fairview

Feb. 16: 11 a.m. to noon - Senior Center, 105 Maple Drive, Fairmont

Feb. 21: 11 a.m. to noon – Senior Center, 28 North Kanawha St., Buckhannon

Feb. 22: 11 a.m. to noon – Senior Center, 217 Senior Lane, Parsons

Feb. 26: 11 a.m. to noon – Senior Center, 47 Church St., Philippi

Feb. 28: 11 a.m. to noon – County Commission Meeting

Room, 4 Randolph Ave., Elkins

For information on additional requirements specific to any location, attendees are

encouraged to contact Pam Krushansky at 304-741-5834. In case of inclement weather, please call ahead.

Routine voter list maintenance continues

Charleston, W. Va. – Voter list maintenance has been a priority for the WV Secretary of State’s Office since Secretary Mac Warner first took office in 2017. Warner is asking voters who may need to update their current voter registration or who haven’t voted recently to check their status.

Working closely with all 55 county clerks, Warner says that his office provides the tools necessary to operate a uniform, non-partisan voter registration

list maintenance process. Since 2017, Warner reports that over 400,000 deceased, duplicate, out-of-state, outdated, convicted felons, or otherwise ineligible registration files have been removed from the Statewide Voter Registration System. At the same time, more than 333,000 new voters have been registered to vote, which includes more than 100,000 high school students.

Over 109,000 instances

of possible abandoned voter registrations in West Virginia have been identified recently by an updated address comparison with the United States Postal Service (USPS), the WV Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), or by official election mail that was returned as undeliverable. Of those, 88,000 addresses will soon, or already have, received an important confirmation postcard from their county clerk’s office.



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(2021-S-0000046 - Harrison County - JEFFERY COTTRILL)

To: JAMES B. HAUGHT, 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 EAGLE LUMBERPORT CORP MAP 1804 PARCEL 0151 0000

You will take notice that JEFFERY COTTRILL, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2021-S-0000046, 1 LOT 1 FAIRMONT B & I ADD, located in EAGLE LUMBERPORT CORP, which was returned delinquent in the name of HAUGHT JAMES B, 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 March 4, 2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 3, 2024, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 3, 2024.	\$ 471.05
Amount of subsequent year's taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 3, 2024.	\$ 341.56
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, 2021, following the sheriff's sale to March 3, 2024.	\$ 1,063.36
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 3, 2024.	\$ 52.97
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Robert Matheny, Sheriff and Treasurer of Harrison County.	\$ 1,928.94
Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.	\$ 35.00

You may redeem any time before March 3, 2024, 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

(2020-S-00000182 - Harrison County - VOLUSIA VENTURES LLC)

To: OCCUPANT, TIFFANY MCAKEY, THE ESTATE OF STEPHEN RAY BISSETT, STEPHANIE PALETTA, 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 SIMPSON OUTSIDE DISTRICT MAP 2305 PARCEL 0056 0000

You will take notice that VOLUSIA VENTURES LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000182, 2 LOTS 8 9 BLK 5 MEADOWBROOK INC PCL58, located in SIMPSON OUTSIDE DISTRICT, which was returned delinquent in the name of PALETTA STEPHANIE LANE &, 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 5th day of November, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after March 4, 2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 3, 2024, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 3, 2024.	\$ 282.38
Amount of subsequent year's taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 3, 2024.	\$ 157.11
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, 2021, following the sheriff's sale to March 3, 2024.	\$ 1,191.83
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 3, 2024.	\$ 316.98
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Robert Matheny, Sheriff and Treasurer of Harrison County.	\$ 1,948.30
Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.	\$ 35.00

You may redeem any time before March 3, 2024, 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

Mooney Will Not Fund the Government Until Border Is Secure

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Congressman Alex X. Mooney voted against the latest Continuing Resolution, which once again passed with overwhelming Democrat support and punts the government funding deadlines to March. Congressman Mooney joins with Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) in voting against funding the government until our border is secure. Congressman Mooney said of his position, “Customs and Border Patrol encountered a stunning 3.2 million illegal aliens in 2023 and just today there have been 5,000 illegal crossings at the Southern Border. This is a crisis. The House has passed the Secure our Border Act. The Senate must take action. I will not vote for a government funding deal that does not secure our border.”

Wisdom From “Poor Richard’s Almanack”

By Benjamin Franklin

“A man in a passion rides a mad horse.”

“Those who are feared are hated.”

“Do good to thy friend to hold him, to thy enemy to gain him.”

Nominations open for W.Va. Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Division of Forestry (WVDOF) today announced that nominations are open for the next round of honorees for West Virginia’s Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame (WVAFHF). The Hall of Fame highlights the people, businesses, organizations, institutions and foundations that have significantly contributed to agriculture, forestry and family life in West Virginia. Selected nominees will be inducted during a recognition dinner in July at Jackson’s Mill. Submitted nomination forms must be received by February 16, 2024 to be considered. “This honor is given to those who have lived in West Virginia and have had a long-tenured association with agriculture, forestry and/or family life and have made outstanding, direct contributions to those industries,” said Jeremy McGill, WVDOF Assistant State Forester, and President of the WVAFHF. “Inductees must demonstrate the highest standards of leadership and contributions on local, state, national and international levels. We look forward to the opportunity to induct a new class into the Hall of Fame.” Nomination forms are available from the West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame website or by contacting McGill via email at Jeremy.R.McGill@wv.gov or by phone at (304) 439-3003.

“Obituaries” From Pg 7

year. He received his real-life education and hands-on training working at Salerno Brothers, working with his brothers, since high school. Bill became a highly competent operator of all types of heavy on- and off-road construction equipment. He was a decades-long member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 137 and well known in the region for his expert crane operating skills. While working at Salerno Brothers, he was involved and worked on numerous major infrastructure projects that provided significant economic opportunity for the local community and region, including the construction of I-79, the Harrison Power Station, and numerous sewer and water projects throughout the region of WV, PA and MD. During this time he also operated a coal strip and stone quarry in the Pine Bluff area that supplied many construction projects throughout the decades. In the mid-90s, he incorporated Bingamon Corp and continued to run the stone quarry and trucking operation, which continued to be a significant contributor to the local community. Bill became a very well-known business owner in the area and had a reputation for being fair and generous in the local community. He contributed funding, equipment, and services to numerous local community projects and events over the years, including the Shinnston Veterans Memorial, Lincoln football stadium lighting, Shinnston Community Park, and the Annual Turkey Trot, to name just a few. Bill’s strong work ethic, passion for life and compassion for people were heavily influenced and molded during his formative years as a young man working at Salerno Brothers, working the family farm, proudly serving his country in the US Army during the Vietnam conflict, and enduring the tragic loss of his first wife and young son and raising his infant daughter as a single father for almost 10 years with the help of his entire family. Fortunately, Bill then met the future love of his life, Martha Moore, at the Wyatt Market and in 1978 started a new chapter that resulted in 45 happily married years and 4 more loving and talented children. Bill’s passions were his family and his work. He especially loved being a farmer, putting up hay, and tending to the many horses and cattle he raised over the many years. He became a well-known horseman and cattleman in the area and was known for raising some of the finest Belgian horses, many of which would be sold in the Amish Country over the years. His horses and wagons were a familiar sight in many a Shinnston and Mannington parade and Fairs over the years, something he was always very proud of. Bill was also a faithful member of the Wyatt Family Patriarch, Dedicated Son and Brother, Faithful Husband, Father and Grandfather, American Patriot, Skilled Operating Professional, Successful and Respected Entrepreneur and Businessman are some of the many words you can use to describe Bill Salerno. He will be best remembered for the legacy of a large and loving family that he leaves behind and the many good friends he made and the generosity and compassion he showed many people in the local community over his many years. In lieu of flowers please make donations to St. Jude Children’s Hospital to 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Friends and family will be received at Harmer Funeral Home 300 Pike St. Shinnston on Saturday, January 13, 2024 from 4:00PM - 8:00PM and on Sunday from 12:00 PM - 8:00PM. A funeral service will be held on Monday January 15, 2024 at 11:00AM at Harmer Funeral Home with Pastor Chris Shingleton and Pastor Roy Clark officiating. Entombment will follow at Shinnston Memorial Cemetery Mausoleum. Online memories and condolences may be shared at Harmerfuneralhome.com



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An uninterrupted journey of unity

From L'Osservatore Romano

The joy that Pope Paul vi's pilgrimage brought to the life of the city of Jerusalem 60 years ago, and the energy of newness that it generated, are still part of the life of Christians in the Holy Land today. As always in fact, as for all things that have to do with Jerusalem, the profound meaning of those events and in particular of the encounter between the Holy Father and Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras, changed the face of the Church and outlined her journey up to today.

The Bishop of Rome returned to Jerusalem, from where he had set out 2,000 years ago. During the pilgrimage that took him to the most important holy sites, he encountered the highly visible wounds that history had left on the geography of the places and in the people of that time and of today. But he also received the strong and powerful embrace of the entire population, that welcomed him with incredible joy and enthusiasm, unquestionably showing to its pastors its willingness not to be constrained by the difficult history of this Land, but rather to want to go beyond. Film clips from the time show Paul vi entering the Holy City, almost crushed by the enthusiastic and euphoric crowd.

Indeed, sometimes, small gestures that perhaps were unknowingly awaited and sought by many, are enough to liberate the desire for encounter and

peace that lies in the heart of all men and women, especially here in the Holy Land, marked as it is by external tension, conflict and division. Christian Jerusalem was stationary, almost suspended, between ancient laws, rules that seemed to paralyze rather than regulate ordinary life. Pope Montini's visit was responsible for breaking what at the time seemed to be a very solid wall of various status quos, often used more wrongly than rightly, to avoid having to deal with one another. That simple visit was enough to sweep away centuries of dust from our relations.

The meeting with the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople was undoubtedly the highlight of the pilgrimage. Peter's return to Jerusalem, the place of birth of the One, undivided Church, after 2,000 years, could not avoid that wound, the deepest wound of all, which marked the Church's journey for an entire millennium. Indeed, Peter's return to Jerusalem was also the beginning of a new journey for all Christians, one of reconciliation, of rereading and redeeming each other's history, of desire and nostalgia for the lost unity. After all, returning to and leaving Jerusalem always and necessarily bears with it a profound change. For Christians, Jerusalem is the place that gave concreteness to Redemption, that changed the meaning of forgiveness, justice and truth. One cannot come to Jerusalem without dealing with

these realities, which I repeat, have a special concreteness here.

Much has changed in Ecumenical Dialogue since then. Today we take the attitude of respect and friendship among Churches for granted. We owe this to them, to the Pope and to the Ecumenical Patriarch, and to their courage and vision. With his pilgrimage of prayer to the Holy Land in 2014, and his commemoration of the meeting with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, Francis concretely showed how far the Church had journeyed in those 50 years and after that. In 1964, the meeting took place on the Mount of Olives, a place of significance, but located on the peripheries of Jerusalem. In 2014 instead, it took place in the heart of Christian Jerusalem, the Holy Sepulchre, which is not only the place of Christ's Death and Resurrection but also the Place which, rightly or wrongly, is considered the symbol of our divisions.

Certainly, we who live in Jerusalem are well aware that the journey is still long, and we know how difficult it is sometimes to stay and live together, but the simple fact that this important event could take place in our most cherished place is an unmistakable sign of the journey that has been undertaken up to now. Sixty years ago, that embrace tore down the wall of division between the two Churches, inaugurating a new era for the life of the Church. The embrace that took place

50 years later renewed the momentum of joy and unity in the Spirit that none of us can now foresee, but which is already bringing abundant fruits to the life of the Church today. We see this in the restoration work at the Basilica, which is carried out together, a fact that is taken for granted today, but that would have been unthinkable until a few years ago. Encounters, statements and shared initiatives among the Churches are today considered ordinary routine. Shared pastoral work in schools and parishes are expressions of a desire for fraternity that is not a desire of just a few but of the entire local Christian community, in its various denominations. The pastoral Vademecum of the Catholic Church which provides practical guidelines on how mixed families (which are almost all of them) can celebrate the sacraments in a way that respects the sensitivities of all, is another example of this. Today too, perhaps even more than in the past, we need courageous men and women who are capable of vision, of knowing how to look beyond the present suffering, freeing our hearts, oppressed by too many fears; people who, like Paul vi and Athenagoras did with their words and gestures, know how to indicate the difficult and fascinating way of peace to Christians in the Holy Land today.

* Cardinal, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem By Pierbattista Pizzaballa*



Buffalo Chicken Dip

Submitted by Debra Smith

When it's football season, and you're ready to watch the big game, or just having a house full of guest, it's time for crowd pleasing snacks!

Buffalo Chicken Dip is one of my family's all time favorite dips. It is super easy to make, and it is the one most requested.

This baked chicken dip is best served hot. The ranch dressing and hot sauce give this dip the traditional "Buffalo Chicken Wing" flavor.

You can also put it in the slow cooker to keep it warm (if it lasts long enough). I hope this becomes one of your family favorites as well!

Directions

- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup shredded cooked, boneless, skinless chicken breast
- ½ cup Buffalo wing sauce (or your favorite hot sauce)
- ½ cup ranch salad dressing
- 2 cups shredded Colby-Monterey Jack cheese
- French bread baguette slices, celery sticks or corn chips (for dipping)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spread cream cheese into an ungreased shallow 1 quart baking dish.

Layer the chicken, salad dressing, wing sauce (or hot sauce) and sprinkle the cheese on top.

Bake uncovered, 20 – 25 minutes, until the cheese is melted. Serve hot with baguette bread slices, celery sticks or corn chips. Enjoy!

Remember, readers, if you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share, we welcome your submissions. E-mail your recipe to us at debra@mountainmedianews.com. And don't forget to stop by your local Price Cutter to purchase all of your cooking and baking needs.



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