

Harrison County Commission Discusses Region Four Participation

By Stephen Smoot

Last week, the Harrison County Commission wrapped up a light agenda in a less than 10 minute session. Commissioners opened the meeting by reciting the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved two access and remediation agreements with county property owners, one in Shinnston.

Parties reached agreement in January and commissioners approved them approximately a month later.

The agreement came about due to "nuisance conditions . . . on the Parties' property in Harrison County, West Virginia . . . thereby requiring specific timeframes for remediation." The county and the property owners made their agreement after

negotiations.

In the agreement, the property owners have 15 days to remove personal items, but cannot allow additional debris to build up. For consideration of \$1.00, the county will obtain access to the properties to do necessary work to remove any nuisances.

Another item from a month ago also appeared on the agenda, the appointment of a county

representative to Region Four. The memorandum of understanding that helped to establish the West Virginia First Foundation approved the dividing of the state into six different regions, the fourth of which contains Harrison County.

The West Virginia First Foundation was created by the West Virginia Attorney General's office to help

See "Region" on Pg 3



Mayor Larry Hushour of Mount Airy, Maryland and Jim Hunt.

Maryland Mayors!



By Jim Hunt for the News and Journal

AlliConnect, a company that has an innovative solution to matching first responders with the appropriate professional counselor in times of crisis.

Like many states, Maryland is composed of a diverse set of cities and towns, from the town of Port Tobacco, with 23 residents to Baltimore, with over 550,000 residents. It includes beach towns, like Ocean City and North Beach to mountainous areas like

C u m b e r l a n d , Frostburg and Friendsville. You can spend the day at the beach in the summer or drive a few hours and be skiing at the Wisp ski resort in the evening. Being so close to Washington, DC, I can remember driving through Chevy Chase and Bethesda, Maryland thinking I was in DC. And I'm sure that many North Central West Virginians have passed the "Clarksburg" signs along the Washington, DC beltway and thought

See "Hunt" on Pg 3

Major Movie Production Brings Lights, Camera, and Action to Shinnston

By Stephen Smoot

"We build stories." That serves as the tagline and also a sort of mission statement for Allegheny Image Factory, a company that has played a key role in crafting a number of major motion picture productions and has come to Shinnston to shoot their latest project.

Jeff Tinnell, along with his brother and partner Robert, have lived and worked around the world, from Los Angeles to Europe. Their roots, goals, and dreams, however, remain solidly fixed in West Virginia.

Over 30 plus years of creating video work from advertisements to movies featured on Lifetime and Netflix, Tinnell says "you learn a lot."

He went on to say that "you learn what moves people. We work to build stories that move people, that connect with people."

People are the foundation of storytelling, in the eyes of Tinnell and his brother. "That's the important point, to cut through the white noise," he explained, adding that "there's a lot of fascinating facets of life in people's stories." Those



Melissa Joan Hart will star in an upcoming movie filmed partly in Shinnston.

come from the entire spectrum of joy, pain, struggles, sacrifices, and successes.

"Everyone has a story," Tinnell shared, saying also "there's a skill to pulling that story out and presenting it in a unique way."

The story shot in Shinnston is tentatively called "The Bad Guardian". Thought that could certainly change. The film stars Melissa Joan Hart, star of Sabrina the Teenage Witch, God's Not Dead, and a number of uplifting family and

Christmas films. It also stars Lala Anthony, who played in films such as The Perfect Find, You People, and 9 Bullets.

According to a recent write-up in The Hollywood Reporter, the plot is "following the headlines and debate surrounding the guardianships of Wendy Williams and Britney Spears." It went on to say "the network has ordered a movie about a court-appointed guardianship gone wrong."

Lifetime also told The Hollywood Reporter that "more than two million Americans are currently living under a guardian or conservatorship and it's estimated that state courts confiscate over \$50 billion from their wards each year."

The same network recently released a four-part documentary called "Where Is Wendy Williams?"

"It's a well-written, well-crafted, and timely subject," Tinnell stated. The film tells the story of a widower who, after suffering an accident, finds himself ensnared in the system by a "court-appointed corrupt guardian who takes over their life." His daughter "battles to get her father back to the family."

The film's purpose shines "a light on what goes on with folks," in citations that rarely come to light.

Though shot in Shinnston and surrounding areas, the film's story is set in the Midwest. Another recent production by Allegheny Image Factory, a romantic comedy called The Feast of the Seven Fishes, illuminates the culture of the Italian

See "Movie" on Pg 3

By Bethany Nuzum

This past week I attended the Maryland Mayors Association Legislative Conference in Annapolis, Maryland. It was a great turnout of mayors from throughout Maryland and they were meeting to discuss legislation that was happening in the State Capitol Building that will affect cities and towns in Maryland. My colleagues from Bearing Advisors were presenting a session on rising health costs and the staggering increases in suicide and mental issues within the public safety sector that featured Phil Riley, the managing member of Bearing Advisors and Colleen Hilton of

Next Week At The Palette

By Bethany Nuzum

Next week at the Palette, we will have an "Everybody's Watercolor" class on Wednesday, March 13, 1-3:00 at a cost of \$30 with Judy Mattson Reed.

This week we will be painting flowers. Supplies are provided or you can bring your own.

Also, we have a "Calming Art" class on Tuesday, March 12,

6-7:00pm for \$20

This week we will learn about the benefits of Zentangle. Supplies provided or bring your own.

No experience required.

To register for classes please email thepalettewv@gmail.com.

Check Facebook or Instagram for gallery hours featuring Carlyn Martin Light and for upcoming classes and events.

Bonnie's Bus to Bring Free Mammogram Screenings to Immaculate Conception

The Immaculate Conception Parish Nurse Ministry is sponsoring Bonnie's Bus to be on site by the Parish Center at 150 South Maple Ave on April 11, 2024. Registration is

required and screening guidelines are enforced.

Bonnie's Bus provides mammograms to individuals who fall within screening guidelines, including women, men,

transgender, and gender-diverse people who: Live in West Virginia and are age 40 or older, regardless of ability to pay; live in West Virginia and are age

35-39 and requesting a baseline mammogram with a payment source; are age 40 or older with a previous breast cancer-related issue and need a routine

See "Bus" on Pg 4



OPINION

Of Children, Boundaries, and Troublesome Trends In Society

By Stephen Smoot

A recent meme going around Facebook starts by saying "1993: People say don't homeschool your kids because they will be weird." The panel underneath reads "2024: Kids in schools allowed to identify as cats and inanimate objects."

In the past few years, a pernicious doctrine has permeated school and health care systems across the nation. School authorities and parents have been strongly encouraged to embrace the notion that children should be permitted to "choose" their gender, or be allowed to "identify" as whatever they wish to be that day.

Often this encouragement comes with a minimal amount of counseling or analysis.

Some areas in the United States and across the world have brought punitive sanctions against parents that stand in the way of their children making significantly life-altering decisions. Parents have lost custody of their own children because they seek to maintain authority over their children's lives and the values they learn.

And hospital systems across the nation eagerly and quickly, and in anticipation from windfall profits

generated by expensive surgeries and years of post operative care, set up entire departments to facilitate child "transitions"

Their zeal is the same as a credit card company's would be should minors of all ages be encouraged to sign up for them.

It should be noted that, by and large, West Virginia schools and educators have not moved to the radical end of the spectrum on this issue.

Activists assert that shoving parental rights aside is necessary because children experiencing issues of gender confusion might commit suicide. The reality is that mental illness and suicidal desires have come to fruition in people whose parents did allow - or in some cases even encourage - their children to have their bodies changed and psyches damaged.

One of the classic maxims of child psychology and psychiatry is that children generally push to find where limits and boundaries exist. They usually do not do this to cause problems for parents or other caregivers. According to the Children's Center for Psychiatry, Psychology, and Related Services, "boundaries and limits actually help children feel more secure. Adherence to

See "Smoot" on Pg 8

Super Crossword ADDITIVE-FREE

- ACROSS 1 Not suitable 6 "Sorry to intrude ..." 10 Capricious ideas 15 Cartoonist Addams, informally 19 Payments to the IRS 20 Oscar winner Robert De — 21 Capital of Vietnam 22 Sword handle 23 Fifth Avenue skyscraper 26 Other, in Acapulco 27 Identity hider 28 Altitudes: Abbr. 29 — -C (PC copy command) 30 What a groom may toss 32 "Uh-huh" 34 Pioneer Boone, informally 35 Orthodox Jewish movement 37 Rapper — Rida 40 Technique for viewing a slow process quickly 43 Cattle farm 45 Prefix with nourished 46 In a daze 47 First first lady of the U.S. 51 Gets close to 55 Sesame seed paste 56 Pucksters' org. with the Calder Cup 57 Newspaper think piece 60 Born as 61 Toon sheet 62 Hedy of "Ecstasy" 66 Rome's — Fountain 67 Dollar bill 68 Advance inquiry into a crime, e.g. 72 Israeli city close to Ben Gurion Airport 73 Big name in life insurance 74 Decrease 75 Doc for the neck up 76 D-H linkup 77 FDR or HST 78 Former "Idol" judge 79 Bob of play-by-play 82 Wolfed down 84 Launching of people into orbit 88 Insurance payment 92 "The Simpsons" shopkeeper 93 Was overlong 94 Dual-focus course about bodily structures 100 Some kitchen appliances, for short 101 From a northwest Italian port 102 Certain South African 103 Arena level 105 "Hallelujah Chorus" composer 106 Rough — wood 107 City vehicle 108 Gas brand 112 Water, in Acapulco 113 What love is, per a Four Aces #1 tune, with "a" 118 Crate piece 119 Capital of South Korea 120 Actress Best 121 Really mad 122 The "T" of 66-Down 123 Day divisions 124 Bargain 125 Restaurant notice that's applicable to this puzzle's seven longest answers? 18 Tempestuous 24 Spicy cuisine 25 — Reader (magazine) 31 Carrier based in New Delhi 33 Hawke of film 34 Salvador of surreal art 35 Spicy 36 From — Z 37 Sig Nu, e.g. 38 Video game tomb raider 39 Teetering 41 — -di-dah 42 Attila follower 44 Refrigerate 48 More artful 49 — a soul 50 "— in Manila" (Ali-Frazier fight) 52 Consecrating 53 Nevada airport 54 In view 57 Mining finds the court 59 Show plainly 63 Poker cost 64 Supplies with personnel 65 Coach Parseghian 66 LG or RCA products 68 Petition 69 "Thumbs-up!" 70 Gas in signs 71 Gasless car 78 Tipoffs in hoops, e.g. 80 Christie's "A Pocket Full —" 81 Depots: Abbr. 83 Not old-fashioned 84 Cabinet dept. since 1965 85 Twosome 86 Abbr. on military mail 87 Societal 89 It might have mascara on it 90 Pas' mates 91 Opal ending 94 Horror-struck pitcher Denny 96 Yearly 97 Gordie of hockey 98 Itched (for) 99 Seine feeder 104 Trendy again 106 Stimulate 107 — fide 109 Phony 110 Creates a lap 111 Blood type, for short 114 Prefix with pagan 115 Part of TTYL 116 HST follower 117 Loud noise

Grid for Super Crossword with numbers 1-122 indicating starting positions for words.

FIND THE SUPER CROSSWORD ANSWERS ON PAGE 6!

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

Charleston WV — negotiations with the governor's office and legislature failed to produce an agreement on a pay package. Teachers in 47 of the 55 counties were involved in the 11-day strike. March 7, 1856: Tucker County was formed from Randolph County and named for Henry St. George Tucker Sr., a Virginia soldier, statesman and jurist. March 7, 1929: The legislature adopted the official state flag. The state's coat of arms is emblazoned in color in the center. Above the seal is a red ribbon lettered "State of West Virginia," and a wreath of rhododendron surrounds the lower part of the seal. The white field of the flag is bordered on four sides by a strip of blue. March 7, 1990: West Virginia teachers went on strike after

168 games for the Los Angeles Rams (1975-87), was a six-time All Pro, and played in one Super Bowl. March 9, 1965: President Lyndon Johnson signed the act establishing the Appalachian Regional Commission. March 10, 1915: West Virginia's first Rotary International club was established in Wheeling. March 10, 1920: West Virginia became the 34th state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guaranteed the right of women to vote. March 11, 1847: Boone County was formed from parts of Logan, Kanawha and Cabell counties and named for Daniel Boone. March 11, 1848: Putnam County was formed from portions of Kanawha, Mason and Cabell counties. It was named in honor of Gen. Israel Putnam, a leading commander at the Battle of Bunker Hill during the Revolutionary War. March 11, 1856: Roane County was created from parts of Kanawha, Jackson and Gilmer counties. It was named for Judge Spencer Roane, a son-in-law of Patrick Henry. March 12, 1835: Marshall County was created from part of Ohio County. It was named for John Marshall, chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. March 12, 1850: Wheeling Hospital was chartered. During the Civil War, the institution was used as a general military hospital. The Sisters of Saint Joseph were hired as army nurses, treating wounded Union and Confederate soldiers side by side. March 13, 2002: Herbalist and folk doctor Catfish Gray died in Huntington. Gray was known for his vast knowledge of traditional plant lore and for his quaint and engaging personality. At the height of the folklore revival of the 1970s, Gray was a frequent newspaper and television interview subject.

Newspaper advertisement for The News & Journal, including contact information, subscription rates, and a 'How To Let Us Know' section.

“Hunt” From Pg 1.

they had taken a wrong turn. It turns out that Clarksburg, Maryland is a city in Maryland with over 25,000 residents.

I was also impressed with the diverse group of mayors that I met at the conference. I struck up a conversation with Mayor Larry Hushour of Mount Airy, Maryland and he casually mentioned that he worked at the airport and when I asked him what he did at the airport, he said that he is a pilot for Southwest Airlines. He was a native of Texas

but attended the Naval Academy in Annapolis and met his wife Mary in Annapolis, so they made their home in the town of Mount Airy. Larry was elected to serve out the remaining term, after longtime Mayor Patrick Rockinberg passed away after battling cancer. After our session on Friday, I had the opportunity to meet Larry’s wife Mary and their daughter, who were spending some time seeing the sights in Annapolis.

We were guests of Governor Wes Moore

for a reception at the Governor’s Mansion and I spent some time speaking with Cambridge, Maryland’s Mayor, Steve Rideout and his wife Bobbie. Steve served for many years as a Virginia District Court Judge, dealing with juvenile and domestic relations, before moving to Maryland. We had a great conversation and realized that we had a lot in common, including the fact that Steve writes a column about local government

and we both recently got a new puppy. Also, during the Governor’s Reception, I spoke with Mayor Gavin Buckley of Annapolis who was born in South Africa and raised in Perth, Australia, before moving to Annapolis in 1992 to own and operate numerous bars and restaurants, before becoming mayor in 2017. He is quite the colorful character and told me that there are many former Australians in Annapolis. The Maryland Municipal League is an

impressive operation, led by Theresa Kuhns and her capable staff. They put on one of the largest annual conferences in the country, held annually in Ocean City that draws over 1,800 attendees each year. During my tenure as President of the National League of Cities, I spoke at the Maryland Conference and have always had fond memories of the event. A notable thing that they do is called the “Parade of Cities” and hundreds of cities march through the meeting hall

with flags from their communities. It is truly impressive! At the end of the conference, we had dozens of great conversations about the Bearing Advisors Preventative Care Management Program and were touched by the emotional stories related to us from Maryland mayors. It was also great to see so many old friends and make many more on this trip to our West Virginia neighboring state of Maryland.

“Region” From Pg 1.

to distribute the funds awarded to the state in the opioid agreement. Drug companies paid out to states afflicted by the overselling of addictive prescription medication.

Late last January, Region Four created a committee of 26 representatives that shall “facilitate project submissions to the West Virginia First Foundation.” The

Monongalia County Commission requested that the representatives’ names be submitted prior to March 1.

Those on the Region Four committee approved a motion from

Agnes Queen, Lewis County Commissioner, to request that a representative from each county and each municipality be sent to form the new committee. Harrison County

representatives named to the already established local governments committee include Mark Rogers, Bridgeport interim city manager, Lexie Mayfield, recorder for Lumberport, David

Hinkle, Harrison County Commission, Laura Pysz-Laulis, Harrison County administrator, Annette Wright, City of Clarksburg, and Tiffany Fell, Clarksburg city manager.

“Movie” From Pg 1.

community in and around Fairmont. Its cast includes Hollywood star Joe Pantoliano, star of the hit Bad Boys series of films, as well as The Sopranos.

Feast of the Seven Fishes continues to enjoy tremendous popularity as a top rated film on Netflix.

North Central West Virginia offers significant assets to filmmakers looking for both a unique and enjoyable work environment. Tinnell stated that “there’s a unique architectural style and a look that has not been utilized a lot.” The combination offers “a small town feel.”

Tinnell reserved special praise for the people. Attracting talent and productions for a time meant overcoming the age-old Appalachian stereotypes often created and imposed by outsiders. He said that “one of the big things . . . is trying to change perception.” Area people accomplished much of that on their own.

“Minorities feel comfortable and welcome here,” Tinnell said, adding that the actors and actresses who come to work in the area become “your best ambassadors.” He said of Shinnston “it’s a very cool town. People

are friendly. They want us to be here.”

Tinnell also seeks to create a win-win situation for the business and the communities in which they work. “We like being good neighbors,” Tinnell said, explaining that the cast and crew help to bring an impact to the local economy. “We want people to be excited and proud of their community.”

West Virginia has worked to make the state an industry-friendly location for filmmaking through a state tax incentive credit. “I applaud the Governor’s office, the Statehouse, and the Department of Economic Development” for making filmmaking a priority in West Virginia.

Dave Lavender, from the West Virginia Film Office, part of the Department of Economic Development, also credited the tax incentive, which returned on July 1, 2022.

He said that “the tax incentive helps production companies cut costs in production.”

Without the tax incentive, which is comparable to other states, such as Georgia, that have it, filmmaking would not be a

competitive business in West Virginia. “The climate in the world of filmmaking,” Lavender explained, “if you don’t have a tax incentive, you don’t get the business.”

The incentive gives production companies back between 27 and 31 percent, depending on how many West Virginia residents are hired on the project.

And the incentive has motivated production. Last year, despite the writers and Screen Actors’ Guild strike, which had not happened simultaneously since Ronald Reagan presided over SAG, 47 productions took place in the Mountain State. “That made everybody take a look,” he noted.

That includes television shows, such as American Pickers, HDTV’s House Hunters, and a Discovery Channel program currently being filmed in Lewis County.

Communities also enjoy a substantial ripple effect, especially with larger productions. They often require rental cars, lodging, catering, location rental, and more. “Productions are putting a lot of money into the economy,” Lavender said.

Tinnell explained that North Central West Virginia’s proximity to the thriving community

of skilled film crew in Pittsburgh serves as a draw. Lavender and the state film office, however, envision creating such a pool in West Virginia.

A report presented to the West Virginia State Legislature this session shared that the office “has prioritized building and fostering a film industry workforce for projects filmed in West Virginia.” The State forged partnerships with West Virginia Filmmakers Guild and Film Futures Foundation to develop workforce training programs in screenwriting, special effects, makeup, animation, and cinematography.

Such efforts could utilize the workforce training infrastructure in place in the state’s community and technical college system, whose programs are available at no cost to state residents who can pass a drug screen.

Productions made in West Virginia also showcase West Virginia. Lavender explained that they are “a great way . . . to amplify small town charm, what West Virginia does best.”

The state film office and the tax incentive laid the groundwork for continued growth. Allegheny Image Factory has a plan in place “to continue to grow this, to bring five to six major productions to West Virginia per year.”

Furthermore, Tinnell wants “to get folks excited to have this business here” while continuing to infuse needed capital into towns that could use the boost.

Successful productions, supported by incentives “helps us, but gives us the ability to help with communities too.”

“We’re just excited about it,” Tinnell shared.

N&J Briefs

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

The Lincoln High School Band Boosters are holding a fundraising elimination dinner at the Shinnston American Legion Hall. Social hour starts at 6 and Dinner at 7. \$25 per person to benefit the LHS Band Boosters General Fund. There will be a \$1,000 grand prize and four \$50 prizes

On March 1 - 31, 2024, Bridgeport Public Library will hold a book sale
Books \$3.00 a bag. Single books \$.25 each, Audio Books \$.75 each, and Music CD’s \$.50 each. Book Nook hours open M-F 11 am – 6:30 pm, Sat. 11 am – 1:30 pm
(304) 842-8248 for additional information

April 11 (Registration deadline: March 20) Bonnie’s Bus sponsored by Immaculate Conception Parish Nurse Ministry. Located at 150 South Maple Ave, Clarksburg. Registration is required and screening guidelines are enforced. Call 304-669-6063 to make an appointment.

The Region VI Workforce Development Full Board will meet Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 10:30 am at the Marion County Convention & Visitors Bureau located in Pleasant Valley, WV. For more information about the meeting, contact Maria Larry at 304-368-9530.

Region VI is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. If you have a hearing impairment and need assistance, please call WV Relay 7-1-1.

Saturday, March 9: 8:00am-12:00pm Pancake breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at the First Baptist Church of Shinnston. All You can Eat pancakes and sausage with a drink for \$7.00 to benefit the Lincoln Middle School Track Team. Take-outs available.
304-592-0232

Shinnston Memorial Cemetery and Mausoleum
304-592-0101

We are pleased to announce the upcoming
VETERANS HONOR ROLL MEMORIAL

The monument will be placed beside the flagpole located in front of our mausoleum. To place your loved ones name please call 304-592-0101 or stop by the office for more information.

1359 S. Pike St.,
Shinnston, WV 26431
304-592-0101



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Cougars Claim Sectional Title In Throwback Game

Very rarely is it a good thing to show your age. Getting old is not for the faint of heart, and neither was the play on the hardwood this past Thursday when Lincoln traveled to Clarksburg to battle Robert C. Byrd. It wasn't just any normal regular season lock-up like the two previous battles between the two talent laden squads.

Each team protected its home court in the regular season, which left this contest as the rubber match that would provide the winner of the sectional championship and home court advantage in the regionals as the cherry on top!

The stakes were high and so were the emotions of the players, coaches, and fans. The intensity was present from the time the players made their way onto the floor for the warm-ups until the final buzzer. When the horn sounded, the fourth seeded Cougars had claimed a 48 to 42 win in an epic battle at One Eagle Way.

Lincoln was ranked last in the four team section, and that appeared to provide



The Bottom Line
By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

additional motivation for the experienced group. Every Cougar that saw the floor was an upperclassman and, going into the postseason, six major contributors knew this would be their last go-round. They felt that they were better than their last place seeding and they set out this past week to prove it.

It might have been a shock to hoops fans around the Mountain State when Lincoln went to Liberty and upended the top-ranked Mountaineers.

In Shinnston, however, it was just business as usual.

The victory over the second seeded Flying Eagles was a second consecutive upset win on paper, but it was not an upset in the minds of those around the program. On Feb 7, the Cougars defeated Liberty 46 to 30, and on Feb 16, they took down Robert C. Byrd 56 to 40. The pair of 16

point wins gave them confidence heading into postseason play.

Lincoln was riding a four game win streak into Clarksburg and they had won seven of their eight last tilts. They found themselves, however, trailing 35 to 32 heading into the final period of play. The old saying is that defense wins championships and that was the case in this affair. The Cougars would allow just three field goals in the final eight minutes of play and would go on to outscore the Flying Eagles 16 to seven en route to the triumph.

It was a highly contested outing that didn't provide easy buckets or rebounds. Both teams were forced to claw and scratch for everything that they received. They left it all on the court, and in the end, the average basketball fan could say that you hated to see either team lose, and in reality, that was the

case.

Both teams, via wins on Tuesday, were guaranteed a right to compete for a trip to the state tournament in Charleston. In many cases, such as this, the level of play will somewhat diminish because the players know that the next game, the regional, is the one that holds the "Big Dance" future. But these teams have been coached way better than that and they hold themselves to a different standard. The end result is a throwback game that will be remembered for years to come.

Not only was the play and effort impressive, the pregame preparation by the coaching staffs for both teams was spectacular, and the officiating in the second half was as good as you could ask for. The players were allowed to properly dictate the outcome of the game, which wasn't an easy task because of the physicality on the floor. A job well done by everyone involved, which helped this game become a true instant classic!



Harrison County EMS
HARRISON COUNTY
EMERGENCY SQUAD
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.

Harrison County Athlete Spotlight

By Bill Nestor

The Harrison County athletes in the spotlight this week are Lincoln's Aiden Rice and South Harrison's Cam Evans.

Cougar basketball player Aiden Rice helped his team to a pair of wins and a sectional championship this past week. Rice scored 12 points on Tuesday in a victory at Liberty. He followed with a 14 point effort in the

sectional clincher over Robert C. Byrd.

Hawk hoopster Cam Evans netted 22 points in his last game in a South Harrison uniform. The Hawks fell to Braxton in sectional play.

Congratulations to Lincoln's Aiden Rice and South Harrison's Cam Evans for shining bright in the SN and HCJ spotlight!

Cougars Claw Their Way To Sectional Final



Lincoln High School wrapped up a sectional title last week, winning 48 to 42 over Robert C. Byrd.

Cougar Wrestlers Spar At States



In a history making moment, Lincoln High School grapplers Hannah Westfall and Gerald Parado, brother and sister athletes, are on the same mat. Parado earned sixth place. Cade Heflin was eliminated in the first round. Mallory Skinner lost in the second round. Westfall battled to a fourth round elimination to the eventual champion from East Hardy

Shinnston Youth Wrestlers Shine At State Tournament

By Nickitta Glaspell

The WVYWA states were held at the Charleston Civic Center on February 24 and 25..

Shinnston had

eight wrestlers that participated.

All eight were part of the Clarksburg Panthers youth team. The team had two Champions, Jace Poe 12u 65 who is a 6th grader at Lincoln Middle school

and is now a two time state champion. Nick Glaspell MS 123, an 8th grader at Lincoln Middle School earned his third state title.

Others who placed include Bearett Miker 6u 50 placed 4th and is

a 1st grader at Big Elm Elementary school, River Miker 10u 80 and is a fourth grader at Big Elm Elementary school placed 3rd, Silas Raines 12u 95 is a 7th grader at Lincoln Middle School and placed 6th and

Cade Mooney MS 128 is a eighth grader at Lincoln Middle School and placed 7th.

Those who attended but did not place are Cameron Glaspell 10u 80 who is a 5th grader at Big Elm Elementary

school and Ranger Poe MS 145 and is a 8th grader at Lincoln Middle School.

This was the last year that the eighth graders can wrestle for this state title.

"Bus" From Pg 1.

mammogram; or live outside of West Virginia and are age 40 or older with a payment source for the mammogram. Uninsured patients

living in West Virginia and over the age of 40 will not be turned away. Grant funding and donations will be used to cover the cost.

Please call 304-669-6063 to schedule an appointment. Registration deadline is March 20, 2024. Calendar of Events

(With the registration deadline, the actual event must be posted earlier)

April 11 (Registration deadline: March 20)

Bonnie's Bus sponsored by Immaculate Conception Parish Nurse Ministry. Located at 150 South Maple Ave, Clarksburg.

Registration is required and screening guidelines are enforced. Call 304-669-6063 to make an appointment.

BUSINESS MATTERS

“To Visit the Sick, Relieve the Distressed, Educate the Orphan, Bury the Dead”

Shinnston IOOF Rebekah Lodge No. 47 is the Business/Organization of the Month

By Stephen Smoot

Over the years, the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal has highlighted businesses of the month, and for good reason. The best businesses in and around Shinnston add much to not only the economy, but also the growing optimism surrounding the community. They build each other up, rather than tear each other down. They form the heart and the foundation of the community.

Without business and a healthy free market to support it, there is no city.

That all said, this also is an appropriate opportunity to honor the hardworking non-profits and service organizations in Shinnston. Over the past several months, the paper has put a spotlight on many organizations with wonderful people who make the community and the people its priority.

Shinnston is blessed to have a plethora of such organizations, from dedicated churches with active congregations to veterans' groups, to organizations devoted to community - like the Independent Order of Odd Fellows anywhere it operates worldwide, but especially Rebekah Lodge No. 47 in Shinnston.

The Odd Fellows keep their focus squarely on the present with plans for the future. Their “History and Manual” states that “this age of enlightenment has emancipated us from the gross credulity of the past.” It also read that “Odd fellowship does not seek a veiled origin in the misty shades of the past to surround it with . . . false glamour.”

Rebekah Lodge No. 47's most recent of many examples of its contribution to community came last fall during their sock drive. Wanda Ashcraft, organizational secretary, described the effort as “a teamwork



IOOF volunteers come together to aid the less fortunate in the area.

motif” with Shinnston churches, businesses, clubs and organizations, individuals, and #47 members.

The Lodge issued “letters of appeal to ‘partner,’ as Ashcraft described. She wrote 47 letters and got a tremendous response. A donation box at Lowe Public Library and the Shinnston Moose responded with 338 pair. Monetary donations of \$1,900 went entirely to purchasing socks.

Volunteers received donations through 11 different businesses and service organizations in and around the city.

In total, the sock drive for veterans obtained 2,878 total pair. Just over 100 went to the Clarksburg Mission while the rest were donated to the Louis A. Johnson veterans hospital. The drive served as part of a larger statewide effort by the I.O.O.F. that the Rebekah Lodge won.

Ashcraft, as well as in her professional career, which includes a stint as Shinnston mayor,

understands that team efforts work best when credit is properly given.

Churches that provided support included the Charles Street Christian Church, First Baptist Church, and United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church. Shinnston area businesses chipping in were McDonalds of Shinnston, owned by John Ebert, S and B Gaming, owned by Jimmy Scudere, and Mike Ross Inc. of Buckhannon.

A long list of clubs and organizations also helped. These included the Shinnston American Legion Auxiliary #31, Shinnston Lions Club, W. W. State Moose Association. District 2, the Shinnston Garden Club, and the Shinnston Loyal Order of Moose.

The Garden Club's \$500 represented the largest donation.

Individuals who contributed in some fashion included Mary Ann Ferris, Margaret Perri, Donna Bart, Debra Herndon, Donna

Post, Robert P. Bice III, Viviane Spagnuolo, Lavanda Hayhurst, Patricia Fisher, Deborah Starkey, Chad Edwards, Wanda Ashcraft, Marjorie Jackson, Peggy Martin, Barbara Carder, Charlotte Ross, S. Sue Rowan, Melissa Rowan, Dortha Parsons, Maxine Weser, Paula Harrison, Thelma Martin, Helen Ashcraft, Kim Strait, Barbara Heldreth, Bonnie Paxton, and employees at the Harrison County Courthouse.

Despite the admonition to look ahead, the origins of the Odd Fellows trace back centuries. According to their own history, they may extend back to the time of the trade guilds that dominated commerce in the Middle Ages. The first solid mention of them that still exists comes from the 1700s when records indicate the existence of many Odd Fellow groups.

“It is known that Lodges were originally formed by workingmen for social purposes” and

“for giving the brethren aid and assisting them to obtain employment when out of work.”

Today, the I.O.O.F. has orders in 30 nations and five continents. It officially appeared in North America in 1819 with a mission based on the “three links,” friendship, love, and truth.

Recent projects on the national and international stage include endowing a chair for visual research at Johns Hopkins, laying a special wreath the first weekend in May at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, providing over \$230,000 in aid to Ukrainian Relief, a number of scholarships, and an Odd Fellows and Rebekah pilgrimage for youth.

The 76th pilgrimage in June and July will begin and end in Philadelphia. In 2023, 75 delegates from 23 jurisdictions took part. They awarded three scholarships. Students from Shinnston who took part in the pilgrimage over the years included

Jay Harmer, Timothy Southern, Ada Summerfield, Gina Ashcraft, and Lareta J. Ashcraft.

West Virginia figures well among orders in North America. Several from the Mountain State have risen to international positions of leadership in the order. Charleston will also host the international sovereign grand lodge session in August of 2025, the second time this has come to West Virginia.

One of the great victims of the digital age, then COVID, has been the decline of participation in service organizations. These groups support the community in many ways.

Shinnston is fortunate, not only with Rebekah Lodge, but also with a spectrum of other organizations, to have active, caring, and cooperative groups of people willing to support each others' efforts to better the community and serve the less fortunate within.

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Harrison County Schools Starting 'Reality Check' Program

LOST CREEK noon. This program is similar to the Get Schools will be a Life simulation the middle schools have piloting the Reality Check personal finance simulation, sponsored by Truist Bank, to all the 11th grade students at South Harrison High School Tuesday, March 5, 2024, from 8 a.m. to approximately 12

bill that may pass that will require students to take a full credit course in Personal Finance. Harrison County Schools is working with their principals for staffing and their teachers to prepare them with resources they will need. The Reality Check

simulation is an in-person, fun, interactive game where students are given a real-life scenario, career, family, salary, credit score and they visit stations to purchase items they need to live and shop for things they want to accommodate their living. Students

enjoy this activity, it is their first experience in "adulting". They are engaged throughout the entire session. Harrison County Schools and the WVU Extension Service are providing local business volunteers to act as vendors for selling the things to

students that they need and the things they want. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Dr. Geraldine Beckett, CTE Liaison Specialist, Harrison County Schools, at 304-326-7387, or at geraldine.beckett@k12.wv.us

"Smoot" From Pg 2.

rules, expectations, and routines makes things predictable."

Adults, especially those who never raised children, may not intuitively understand the logic behind this device. It is not a straightforward or adult way of thinking, but children do this every day. Breaking rules reminds children where boundaries lie. Unlike adults who may chafe under limits, children need them because "they reduce confusion and

uncertainty, which in turn decreases anxiety."

The job of a parent lies in giving children areas of life to explore and face challenges within limits that prevent these explorations from producing serious problems.

The Center for Parent and Teen Communication encourages parents to set boundaries especially during the trials, tribulations, and troubles of adolescence. "Part of your teen's

job," they say "is to test boundaries and push for you to expand them." They go on to say that "having a parent/guardian set safe boundaries in the first place gives an important sense of stability. It helps teens control the rate at which they're changing. It gives clear, safe borders to push against."

Many children caught in the transition trap likely started out merely feeling for boundaries. Their confused

parents, just as likely, misunderstood the psychology behind that process.

Kids love to play. They love to pretend. They love to experiment with the world. This does not mean that a passing fancy or idea should be considered as deterministic, even if it has become popular in certain social and political circles.

Children also suffer from depression and other mental illnesses. Many have short term,

or even years long issues, that manifest a desire to escape their life in any way possible. Adults need to explain in no uncertain terms that merely changing one's exterior does nothing to solve problems felt so keenly on the inside.

The desire to escape a difficult, or seemingly difficult, childhood is understandable. The same motivation pushes children toward addictive and deadly drugs. The disappointment in those

who did undergo the mental and physical pain of transformation, only to realize that they are still depressed and still hurting must be overwhelming.

It's okay for a child to metaphorically stub their toes as they grow up. It's not okay to encourage or allow them to slice their foot off to avoid the pain of toe-stubbing. The wishes of greedy hospitals and radical activists should not even enter consideration here.

Rural Development State Director Thorn to Address Needs at White House

Looks to advocate for continued investment in rural infrastructure and housing

MORGANTOWN, Appalachia. Feb. 28, 2024 – U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development West Virginia State Director Ryan Thorn will join a select group of rural leaders from West Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee at the White House tomorrow, February 29, to discuss ongoing infrastructure investments and critical needs of rural

governments that make up these communities," Thorn said. "The \$1.1 billion USDA Rural Development invested in West Virginia over the last three years is a testament of that commitment and President Biden's focus of strengthening infrastructure and community capacity in underserved rural communities across America."

Thorn's talking points tomorrow will highlight Rural Development's investments in basic infrastructure, community facilities, single-family home ownership, supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs, and the success of Rural Partners Network in West Virginia.

Thorn's talking points tomorrow will highlight Rural Development's investments in basic infrastructure, community facilities, single-family home ownership, supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs, and the success of Rural Partners Network in West Virginia.



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OBITUARIES



Mountaineers.

Friends will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 from 2:00PM-8:00PM. A funeral service will be held on Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 11:00AM. Per his wishes, Bear will be cremated.

Kim "Bear" Andrick

Kim "Bear" Andrick, 67, of Shinnston, passed away at his residence on March 4, 2024. He was born in Clarksburg, on November 20, 1956, a son to the late Victor Andrick and Patricia Smith Andrick.

Bear is survived by his son, Jeremy Andrick; granddaughter Madilyn Andrick; stepson Tyson Quinones; brother Randall Andrick and wife Hope; and sisters Dawn McClain, and Beth Bice and husband Bob, and several nieces and nephews.

He was the former owner of Andrick's Body Shop, a member of the Sons of American Legion, and was the former Spartan for Shinnston High School in 1975. He loved to hunt, fish, and enjoyed watching the



Ralph Leggett

Ralph Leggett, 63, of Wallace, entered his Heavenly home surrounded by his loving family on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at the United Hospital Center in Bridgeport. He was born in Fairmont, February 25, 1961, a son of Patsy B. Price Leggett, of Wallace, and the late Edward Eugene Leggett. On March 11, 1983, Ralph married Rometta Lynn Carson

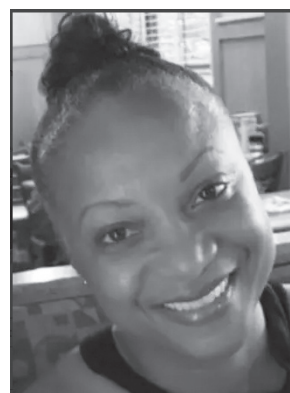
Leggett who survives.

Also surviving are his sons and daughters: Ralph Leggett and his wife Jennifer, Clarksburg, William Leggett, and his wife Nichole, Haywood, and Shondra Leggett; his grandchildren: Rilynn, Paislee, Gunnar, Maxon, Macie, Myle, Haleigh, and Mackenzie Leggett; his brother, Ronald E. Leggett, Wallace; three sisters: Shelia K. Napier and her husband John, Lumberport, Pamela M. Holley and her husband Timothy, Lumberport, and Jennifer Leggett and Joe Sendling, Wallace; his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Rick Marks, Mike Groves, Janet and John Husted, Martha and Dave Maxwell, Roger Carson, Rick and Tammy Carson, Beverly Boyles, Linda and Steve Harris, and Charlie and Brenda Carson; and several special nieces and nephews. In addition to his father, Ralph was preceded in death by a son, Marcus Edward Leggett, and a sister, Deborah Ann Marks.

Ralph was formerly employed as a bread delivery driver for D'Annunzio's Bakery and Home Industry Bakery. He was a faithful Christian and attended church services throughout the area. He loved to play the guitar, sing, and praise and worship the Lord. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, and spending time with his family and friends. He will be deeply missed.

The family will receive friends at the Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St., Shinnston, from 2-8pm, Friday where funeral services will be held at 11am, Saturday, March 2, with Pastors Shelia and John Napier

officiating. Interment will be in the Robinson Cemetery in Wallace. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Leggett family.



Claire C. Pinder

Claire C. Pinder, 53, of Bridgeport, WV passed away on Monday, February 26, 2024, at her home in Bridgeport surrounded by those who loved her. She graduated from Florida Atlantic University and Liberty University, attained a Masters Degree in Education and was member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Claire was employed by the State of West Virginia, first at the WV Veterans Nursing Facility in Clarksburg then at WV Department of Highways in Bridgeport, attended the FBI Citizens Academy and became a member of the FBI Citizens Alumni Association. She was also an Associate Member of the Fraternal Order of Police, Mountaineer Lodge #78. Claire loved studying her bible and talking to everyone she met, she didn't know a stranger. Claire is survived by her mother and father, Talmadge and Alice Pinder, and her two brothers, Almeric and Damian. Honoring her wishes, she will be cremated and a celebration of her

life and a service will be conducted, details will be announced at a later date. Claire will be forever in our hearts



Sheila Diane Tichenor

Sheila Diane Tichenor, 71, of Shinnston, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at United Hospital Center. She was born September 18, 1952 in Clarksburg, a daughter of the late Billie Lee and Betty Jean Fleming Mullenax. She is survived by the love of her life, William Harry "Bill" Tichenor, whom she married on August 29, 1970.

Sheila is also survived by her children, Billy Tichenor and his wife Keely of Bridgeport; and Christie Tichenor Cantwell and her husband Brad of Bridgeport; her seven beloved grandchildren, Ryan, Peyton, and Gavin Tichenor; Bria, Maddox, Harper and Landree Cantwell; her sisters, Shelly Davisson and her husband Billy of Lumberport; Missy Arnold and her husband John of Owings; her brother, Jeff Mullenax of Owings; her sister-in-law, Brenda Wolfe and her husband Richard of Enterprise; her brother-in-law, Fred Elbon of Elkins; her dog, Maggie; and her grandpuppies, Enzo, Pearl and Opal; as well as several nieces, nephews, and close cousins and friends.

In addition to her parents, Sheila was preceded in death by her grandparents, Henry and Annie Mullenax; her father and mother-in-law, Harry and Hazel Tichenor; her brother-in-law, Rusty Tichenor and his wife Joyce; and her sister-in-law, Joyce Elbon; as well as her nephews, Kenny Jackson and Little Rusty Tichenor.

Sheila graduated from Shinnston High School in 1970. She later retired from Huntington Bank. She loved to spend time with her family, laughing and always wearing a smile on her face. She was a loving and caring person, devoted wife, mom and mammaw, always thinking of others first. "To know her was to love her". Sheila enjoyed spending time with her grandkids and loved to cook and bake all of their favorites. During her quiet time, she enjoyed reading a good book on her back porch swing. She also enjoyed taking road trips with her friends to places like Charlotte and the Amish Country.

Friends will be received at Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St. Shinnston, on Sunday from 12 - 8 pm. A funeral service will be held at Jewel City Church, 511 Jewel City Blvd. Meadowbrook, on Monday, March 4, at 11:00 am with Pastor Robert Shingleton officiating. Interment will follow at the Enterprise I.O.O.F. Cemetery. Online memories and condolences can be shared with the family at www.perinefunerals.com

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

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Out of the Past
Memorable photographs from around Harrison County



Richard Brown, a native of Shinnston, played baseball for Florida State. He also played for four Major League Baseball teams. He threw and batted right-handed and was listed as 6 feet 2 inches (1.88 m) tall and 176 pounds (80 kg). His brother Larry Brown had a 12-year MLB career (1963-74) as an infielder with four American League teams.

Mooney's Statement on Biden's Border Visit

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, President Joe Biden is chasing President Donald Trump to the Southern Border. After years of radical Biden open border policies that have created a flood of illegal crossings, drugs, and crime. Since President Biden took office, there have been 8.7 million

illegal crossings. Which is greater than the population of 36 states. President Biden said it was "not rational" to deport illegal immigrants back to Venezuela. Instead, the President offered them protective status and gave them work permits to remain in the United States. 22-year-old Laken Riley, a Georgia

nursing student, was brutally murdered by an illegal immigrant from Venezuela who had previously been arrested in New York. Under President Trump, Laken's murderer would have had to remain in Mexico. President Biden ended Remain in Mexico and reinstated catch-and-release.

"The Biden border crisis is impacting all of us. No community in West Virginia is safe from the scourge of deadly fentanyl pouring across our Southern Border, or the violence brought by illegal immigrants. Across America there have been stories of illegal immigrants assaulting police and

committing sexual violence against minors. College student Laken Riley was murdered as a direct result of Joe Biden's policies," said Congressman Alex X. Mooney. Mooney added, "President Biden can shut down the border, but instead he intentionally

opened the gates and releases thousands of dangerous criminal illegal immigrants every day. The House has acted to restore President Trump's successful border policies. The Senate must pass the Secure our Border Act to shut down the border and restore order."

Warner says that Primary Election will include a total of 1,789 federal, state, and county candidates

Charleston, W. Va. – WV Secretary of State Mac Warner has confirmed that a total of 1,789 candidates registered with his office and the county clerks' offices throughout the state to participate in West Virginia's Primary Election scheduled to take place on Tuesday, May 14th.

in the Primary Election with their local county clerk. Those positions include the offices of county commission, sheriff, assessor, magistrate, board of education, and surveyor. In addition, some municipal elections will be also held concurrently with the statewide elections administered by the counties. Lists of those candidates are maintained by each county clerk.

state, county, and local positions," said Secretary of State Mac Warner. "I congratulate all of the candidates seeking to serve the public and I thank them for their personal and professional commitments to participate in our election process."

Second WVU Nursing Bridgeport Campus cohort participates in Pledge Ceremony

The West Virginia University School of Nursing Bridgeport Campus hosted a pledge ceremony on Feb. 29, officially welcoming the second cohort of 14 students into the study of nursing. Located at WVU Medicine United Hospital Center, the Bridgeport Campus offers Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, which is an 18-month accelerated pathway into nursing for current degree holders.

further her education to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. "My experience has been immeasurable," Petitto said. "The professors truly care about you as a student and as a future nurse. The facility is wonderful. United Hospital Center has been wonderful to us. Anything we need, any help we need, there is definitely somebody willing to help you and steer you in the right direction."

time than now to chase my dreams. Why wait?" While balancing life and school can be challenging, Goodson said the Bridgeport faculty have been incredible mentors as she navigates her academics and clinicals. After graduation, she hopes to work at UHC in the ICU.

January 27 was the last day for an individual to file as a candidate for the Republican and Democratic Party nominations. February 13 was the last day to withdraw and for executive committees to appoint candidates for the Primary to positions where no candidate filed. February 28 was the last day for executive committees to appoint candidates for the General Election due to no candidate filing.

Board of education and judicial candidates run in non-partisan elections. Except for a circuit judge who does not receive at least 30 percent of the vote, non-partisan candidates will be elected in the Primary Election. Following an amendment to the law last year, and for the first time in West Virginia history, circuit judge candidates who do not receive at least 30 percent of the vote will run in a runoff election in the General Election. That runoff will be between the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes in the Primary Election.

Warner said that his office works with all 55 county clerks to ensure that the election process is fair, safe, and transparent. Warner said that his office has and will continue to aggressively pursue and investigate claims of fraud. Voter confidence in the integrity of West Virginia's election process is critical to ensuring an effective government.

The nursing pledge is a formal commitment to demonstrate and respect the moral principles of the nursing profession. Specifically, the WVU School of Nursing Pledge speaks to integrity, compassion, ethics, patient advocacy and lifelong learning. For Maggie Petitto, of West Milford, the Pledge Ceremony makes her nursing journey real.

She also noted the convenience of clinical experiences at the hospital where the program is housed, as well as scholarship opportunities for a work commitment at WVU Medicine. For Brenna Goodson, of Bridgeport, the Pledge Ceremony is a major step in her nursing career.

The Bridgeport Class of 2025 includes: McKinley Clark of Hepzibah, WV; Kane (Charles) Dempsey-Mottern of Virginia Beach, VA; Brenna Goodson of Bridgeport, WV; Cassidy Guire (Price) of Barricksville, WV; Lauren Harmison of Charleston, WV; Lauren Huggins of Morgantown, WV; Courtney Keeney of Jesse, WV; Aidan Kuriger of Sicklerville, NJ; Patrick Mirandy of Morgantown, WV; Blakelyn Mote of St. Marys, WV; Ann Parish of Stamford, CT; Taylor Payne of Berkeley Springs, WV; Maggie Petitto of Clarksburg, WV; and Riley Snider of Fairmont, WV.

A total of 504 national, congressional, statewide, and judicial candidates (other than magistrate), and the Greater Huntington Parks and Recreation Board filed with the WV Secretary of State's Office. That list of candidates can be found HERE. In addition, a total of 1,285 county-level candidates filed to run

"Candidates for public office offer themselves to the voters to fill very important federal,

Candidates and political action committees have been provided with the updated 2024 Running for Office Guide that outlines the roles and responsibilities of candidates, committees, county clerks, and the Secretary of State's Office. The Guide is not a replacement for the West Virginia Code but provides a convenient summary of the provisions. West Virginia offers registered voters more ways to cast a ballot than any other state in the Nation, including through technology available to deployed military, overseas citizens, voters living with certain disabilities, and first responders called away for emergency services on the eve of an election.

She received her Bachelor of Science in Biology and has worked as a scribe at UHC's emergency department. After obtaining her BSN, she hopes to work as an ICU nurse, then

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To learn more about the upcoming May 14 Primary Election, including voter registration and other deadlines, visit the WV Secretary of State's secure elections landing page at GoVoteWV.com.

The Clarksburg History Museum Starting Spring Tours from April - June

The success of last fall's Stonewall Jackson Civil War Tour prompted us to expand on new tours for this Spring with the Historical Marker, Heritage Craft Co-op, CCC Museum Tour and the 4-Cemetery, Oak

Mound Site Tour. The 16 Historical Marker, Heritage Craft Co-op, and CCC Museum Tour consist of historical markers that are located around Clarksburg such as Kelly Miller School, John W. Davis, and Nathan Goff Jr. homesite, Empire, Community, and Union Bank building sites to name a few.

11 and June 8. The 4 -Cemetery and Oak Mound Site Tour will consist of touring and historical information about Daniel Davisson, Former Odd Fellows, Jackson, and Elkview Cemeteries along with interesting history of the people buried there. A stop at the famous Oak Mound and its history. Dates for this tour are April 20, May 18, and June 15. The Stonewall Jackson Civil War Tour will continue with

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A visit to the Heritage Craft Co-op and CCC Museum in Quiet Dell where they will be serving a lunch. Dates for these tours are May

See "Museum" on Pg 9

LEGAL

LEGAL

(2021-S-00000128 - Harrison County - APPCOM, LLC C/O KARR LAW OFFICE)

To: DALE W. STEAGER, COMMISSIONER WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT. CITY OF CLARKSBURG, OCCUPANT, DARLENE J. AIELLO, TONY NELSON, TONY NELSON, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, 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 CLARK CLARKSBURG CORP MAP 25 PARCEL 0315 0000

You will take notice that APPCOM, LLC C/O KARR LAW OFFICE, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2021-S-00000128, 1 LOT 36 ALTA VISTA, located in CLARK CLARKSBURG CORP, which was returned delinquent in the name of AIELLO DARLENE J, 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 April 28, 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, April 27, 2024, will be as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description of tax and charges, Amount. Includes items like 'Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to April 27, 2024.' and '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.'

You may redeem any time before April 27, 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

(2021-S-00000101 - Harrison County - DANNY COCHRAN)

To: JOHN J NUTTER, IAN NUTTER, 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 UNION OUTSIDE DISTRICT MAP 9999 PARCEL 0667 3156

You will take notice that DANNY COCHRAN, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000101, .0167 INT 55.25 AC O&G KINCHELOE CK (EMAX/API#3227), located in UNION OUTSIDE DISTRICT, which was returned delinquent in the name of NUTTER IAN, 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 April 15, 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, April 14, 2024, will be as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description of tax and charges, Amount. Includes items like 'Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to April 14, 2024.' and '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.'

You may redeem any time before April 14, 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

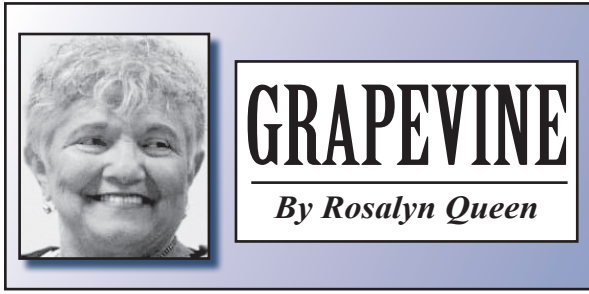
Chamber of Commerce Hosts Artificial Intelligence Information Session

by Rosalyn Queen

The Harrison County Chamber of Commerce once again presented "Business Breakfast" at the Hilton Gardens. The breakfast was hosted by the Hilton. Approximately 50 members and guests were present.

Kathy Wagner, HCC president welcomed all present and introduced Chris May MS, CISS from Advantage Technologies as the speaker. The subject was AI or Artificial Intelligence.

May spoke about the Founders and the



original goal of friendly use and interaction with the computer. He explained the Robot interest with programming.

He stated that the mission of AI is to benefit humanity. Following his presentation a question and answer session was held. A very interested audience submitted questions to May for

very intelligent answers. AI is the way of the future and individuals need to understand the functions of this program.

May is the Security Solutions Director for Advantage Technologies and can be reached at 304 342 0796.

Marla Feree with the HCC thanked those



Seated is Chris May standing left to right is Kathy Wagoner, Harrison County Chamber President, and Rosalyn Queen.

in attendance and announced that these breakfasts will continue to keep Chamber members advised of projects of interest in our area.

On Sunday, April

7, the Progressive Women's Association will present a program to honor the Young Progressive Women's Association members who will be leaving the organization and

become members of the PWA. The ceremony will be held at the Uptown Event Center. For more information call 304 624 6881. This program is being sponsored by Rhonda Holyfield Mangieri.

The Clarksburg Farmers Market will be opening soon and is planning a special Mothers Day event on the Saturday before Mother's Day. Contact Betty Waddy, President for more information.

Stay healthy, take care and until next week "Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine."

New Funding Window to Open in March for USDA Broadband Program

Program webinar will take place on March 6 for interested applicants

MORGANTOWN, Feb. 28, 2024 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development is inviting loan and grant applications from organizations to provide funds for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service in eligible rural areas in West Virginia.

Rural Development will begin accepting applications on March 22, 2024, for its fifth round of funding for the ReConnect Program to connect millions of people in rural America to affordable high-speed internet.

To continue connecting rural families, business owners and agricultural producers to reliable, affordable high-speed internet, Rural Development is making several program improvements under Round 5. This will further increase the availability of

funding in rural areas where residents and businesses lack access to affordable, high-speed internet.

Rural Development's Rural Utilities Service will hold a webinar on March 6 at 1 p.m. to provide information about the ReConnect Program, cover the recently published Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), and answer any questions. Register for the free webinar here: tinyurl.com/ReConnectRd5.

For a full list of program improvements, and program and application requirements, visit www.usda.gov/reconnect or see page 13036 of the Feb. 21, 2024, Federal Register.

To subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates in West Virginia, visit our GovDelivery subscriber page.

STATE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING PUBLIC MEETINGS

Charleston, WV - The West Virginia Statewide Independent Living Council (WVSILC) along with the West Virginia Independence Network (WIN) will hold multiple public meetings virtually to receive public input on the draft State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL).

The SPIL governs how Federal funds received by the State and State Independent Living Funds will be spent, what services will be provided, how the statewide network of Centers for Independent Living (CILs)

will be developed, how the SPIL will be monitored, and how the SILC will collaborate with other councils and agencies to improve IL services.

If you are a resident of WV and have a disability or are a family member or a caregiver of a person with a disability, we want to hear from you. Join us virtually and let us know how you believe Independent Living Funds should be used, what services should be provided, and where services should be provided.

You may attend the Public

Meetings on Zoom at the following link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84632221104?pwd=K3dkQ3ZsOWwzOGtHUjkvWlpXY2d4dz09 or call 301-715-8592 to join by phone.

Meeting ID: 846 3222 1104 Passcode: 673961

Complete the public survey to provide input on the State Plan for Independent Living at https://wvsilc.org/state-plan

Public Meeting Schedule March 8, 2024 - 1:30 PM March 15, 2024 - 1:30 PM March 21, 2024 - 1:30 PM March 26, 2024 - 1:30 PM

DoHS Co-Hosts SAMHSA Regional Summit on Medications for Opioid Use Disorder in Charleston

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) co-hosted the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Region 3 Summit on "Overcoming Barriers to Pharmacy Dispensing of Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)" in Charleston on February 28, 2024,

and February 29, 2024. The two-day summit consisted of meetings throughout each day to focus on increasing access to MOUD across the region in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.

"Caring for those struggling with opioid use disorder requires collaborative efforts and innovative solutions," said Christina Mullins,

DoHS Deputy Secretary of Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders. "This summit underscores our commitment to breaking down barriers and expanding access to life-saving medications."

The goals of the summit were to expand pharmacy access to MOUD by identifying state-customized solutions and developing policy change

recommendations for state, federal, academic, and philanthropic consideration. Attendees reviewed research, data, and anecdotal evidence about the concerns of individuals in need of MOUD as part of their treatment plan. Participants included providers, pharmacists, peers, government officials, academic partners, experts, mentors, and advocates.

"Museum" From Pg 8.

visits to the Civil War Trenches on Lowndes Hill with stops at the Waldomore, Jackson Birthplace, Harrison County Court House, and more sites of interest.

All tours start at the History Museum followed by bus rides to all the local places of interest. The cost is \$25.00 for the Jackson and 4 Cemetery Tours. We have lunch at a

local restaurant in Clarksburg and lunch is on your own. The Historical Marker Tour has lunch at the Heritage Craft Co-op and the cost is \$35.00. For more information

on booking a tour call 304 641-4549 or stop by the Clarksburg History Museum Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 4 pm.

God's 'math' which is the logic of love

From L'Osservatore Romano

At the weekly General Audience, on Wednesday morning, 28 February, Pope Francis continues his catechesis series on virtues and vices, this week focusing on the sins of envy and vainglory, suggesting there are remedies to each, both of which involve making ourselves less self-centred, embracing weakness, and letting God operate in our lives. Given the Pope's recent flu-like symptoms, the Holy Father opted for an official of the Vatican Secretariat of State, Monsignor Filippo Ciampanelli, to read the catechesis on his behalf, as he has done for the Holy Father on other occasions. The following is the translation from the Italian.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Good morning!
Today we examine two deadly vices that we find in the great lists that the spiritual tradition has left us: envy and vainglory.

Let us start with envy. If we read Holy Scripture (cf. Gen 4), it appears to us as one of the oldest vices: Cain's hatred of Abel is unleashed when he

realizes that his brother's sacrifices are pleasing to God. Cain was the firstborn of Adam and Eve, he had taken the largest share of his father's inheritance; yet, it is enough for Abel, the younger brother, to succeed in a small feat, for Cain to become enraged. The face of the envious man is always sad: he's always looking down, he seems to be continually investigating the ground; but in reality, he sees nothing, because his mind is wrapped up in thoughts full of wickedness. Envy, if unchecked, leads to hatred of the other. Abel would be killed at the hands of Cain, who could not bear his brother's happiness.

Envy is an evil that has been investigated not only in the Christian sphere: it has attracted the attention of philosophers and wise men of every culture. At its core is a relationship of hate and love: one desires the evil for the other, but secretly desires to be like him. The other is the epiphany of what we would like to be, and what we actually are not. Their good fortune seems to us an injustice: surely, we think to ourselves, we would be much more deserving of their successes or good

fortune!

At the root of this vice is a false idea of God: we do not accept that God has his own "math", different from ours. For example, in Jesus' parable about the workers called by the master to go into the vineyard at different times of the day, those in the first hour believe they are entitled to a higher wage than those who arrived last; but the master gives everyone the same pay, and says, "Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" (Mt 20:15). We would like to impose our own selfish logic on God; instead, the logic of God is love. The good things he gives us are meant to be shared. This is why Saint Paul exhorts Christians, "Love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor" (Rm 12:10). Here is the remedy for envy!

And now we come to the second vice we are examining today: vainglory. It goes hand-in-hand with the demon of envy, and together these two vices are characteristic of a person who aspires to be the centre of the world, free to exploit everything and everyone, the

object of all praise and love. Vainglory is an inflated and baseless self-esteem. The vainglorious person possesses an unwieldy "I": they have no empathy and take no notice of the fact that there are other people in the world besides them. Their relationships are always a means to an end, characterized by dominating the other. Their person, their accomplishments, their achievements must be put on display for everyone: they are perpetual beggars for attention. And if at times their qualities are not recognized, they become fiercely angry. Others are unfair, they do not understand, they are not up to it. In his writings, Evagrius Ponticus describes the bitter story of a certain monk struck by vainglory. It happened that, after his first successes in the spiritual life, he already felt that he had made it, so he rushed into the world to receive its praise. But he did not realize that he was only at the beginning of the spiritual path, and that a temptation was lurking that would soon bring him down.

To heal the vainglorious, spiritual teachers do not suggest many remedies. For

in the end, the evil of vanity has its remedy in itself: the praise the vainglorious person hoped to reap from the world will soon turn against him or her. And how many people, deluded by a false self-image, have then fallen into sins of which they would soon be ashamed!

The finest instruction for overcoming vainglory can be found in Saint Paul's testimony. The Apostle always reckoned with a defect that he could never overcome. Three times he asked the Lord to deliver him from that torment, but finally Jesus answered him, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness". From that day Paul was set free. And his conclusion should also become ours: "I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me" (2 Cor 12:9).

SPECIAL GREETINGS

March 1 will mark the 25th anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines, which continue to target innocent civilians, particularly children, even many years after the end of hostilities. I

express my closeness to the many victims of these insidious devices that remind us of the dramatic cruelty of wars, and the price civilian populations are forced to bear. In this regard, I thank all those who offer their contributions to assist the victims and clean up the contaminated areas. Their work is a concrete response to the universal call to be peacemakers, taking care of our brothers and sisters.

Lastly, my thoughts go out to the sick, to the elderly, to newlyweds and to young people, especially the students from the Falcone e Borsellino Institute of Rome and the young people from the Giovanni Pascoli School of Fucecchio. May the Lenten journey be an opportunity to enter into ourselves and be renewed in the spirit.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us not forget the peoples suffering because of war: Ukraine, Palestine, Israel and so many others. And let us pray for the victims of the recent attacks on places of worship in Burkina Faso; as well as for the people of Haiti, where crimes and kidnappings by armed gangs continue.

I give my blessing to all of you!

WV spring fire season, burning restrictions return March 1

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The start of West Virginia's annual spring fire season on Friday, March 1 marks the return of burning restrictions.

The West Virginia Division of Forestry (WV DOF) reminds residents to confine their outdoor burning to the hours of 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. according to the West Virginia State Code Chapter 20-3-5. Fires set during that

time must be put out before 7 a.m.

"Since January 1 we have responded to 95 fires that have burned approximately 389.1 acres," said State Forester Jeremy Jones, WV DOF.

Statewide burning restrictions will remain in effect until the close of the spring fire season on May 31. The Division of Forestry has issued burning guidelines on its website at wvforestry.com/fire-laws.

Regulations include:

All fires must have a safety strip.

The safety strip itself must be cleared of burnable material and be at least 10 feet wide.

Fire must be attended until completely extinguished.

Only vegetative materials such as leaves, brush and yard clippings are permitted to be burnt.

Spark-throwing

machinery such as power shovels or sawmills operating on land subject to fire must contain an adequate spark arrestor.

Inflammable waste disposal areas must annually remove all grass, brush, debris, and other inflammable material adjacent to disposal areas to provide adequate protection, preventing the escape of fire to adjacent lands.

"Our fire laws protect one of West Virginia's most valuable resources: our forests," Jones said. "We urge everyone who decides to burn anything outside to be completely familiar with the guidelines available on

our website. During the spring months it doesn't take long for our fuels to dry out and fires to escape easily."

Commercial burning during prohibited periods requires a permit, which are issued by local WVD OF offices. A permit is required for each commercial burning site.

Any person or company who causes a fire on any grass or forest land must reimburse the state for costs to suppress the fire. Fines for forest fires caused by negligence range from \$100 to \$1,000 with an additional civil penalty of \$200.

Wisdom From "The Federalist Papers"

By James Madison

"Liberty is to faction, what air is to fire, an aliment, without which it instantly expires. But it could not be a less folly to abolish liberty, which is essential to political life, because it nourish faction, than it would be to wish the annihilation of air, which is essential to animal life, because it imparts to fire its destructive agency."

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