



Danna Poole's Pro Start class from Liberty High School professionally prepared and served the CTE Advisory Council before their meeting last week.

LHS Hosts Countywide Career and Technical Education Advisory Council Meeting

By Stephen Smoot

Even before the members of the Harrison County Career and Technical Education Advisory Council

entered the Liberty High School library to conduct their meeting, they could smell the good results of their work wafting down the hall.

Well before the council arrived and took their seats Danna Poole, the Pro Start Restaurant Management program

See "LHS" on Pg 6

The Magic Passport



By Jim Hunt for the News and Journal

Each time I get ready for an overseas trip, I remember back to my youth and accompanying my

parents to the Benedum Airport. We would often drive out to see the planes taking off and I would crane my neck to see the door to a plane open and the passengers walk down the steps to the tarmac. And when the plane was loading the passengers for the next flight, I would look at each one and wonder what adventure they were undertaking. Some would wear business suits and others would be in t-shirts and

See "Hunt" on Pg 3

Shinnston to See Nearly 95 Percent Occlusion In April 8 Eclipse Event, Viewers Urged to Take Precautions

By Stephen Smoot

Those enthralled with all things astronomy will get a real treat next Monday as a total eclipse of the Sun will make its way from Texas in the southwest to the Great Lakes. This gives Americans a rare opportunity to witness the spectacular event.

A solar eclipse occurs when the path of the Moon's revolution around the Earth puts it in the path of the light of the daytime sun. While the total eclipse field will follow a narrow band across North America, West Virginians will still get to view a dramatic level of coverage.

According to an interactive map on TimeandDate.com, Shinnston will start seeing a diminution of light starting at precisely 1:59 PM on Monday April 8. From then until 3:16, visible sunlight will fade. At that minute, 94.29 percent of the visible light of the Sun will be blocked by the Moon.

In areas of total eclipse, the Sun's light will disappear entirely for approximately seven minutes.

Sunlight will return to normal in Shinnston at 4:29 PM.

Most understand that looking at the Sun's intensely bright visible light can cause blindness. Attempting to look at the Sun with the naked eye during an eclipse can do far worse damage. Radiation and intense light outside

of the visible spectrum from the Sun's corona, or outer atmosphere, can do intense damage. West Virginians will see an eclipse with a sliver of visible crescent. Ralph Chou, professor emeritus at the School of Optometry & Vision Science at the University of Waterloo in Canada, told Space.com that "I have seen instances where the patient has eventually shown up with crescents burned into the back of the eye, and you can almost tell exactly when they looked."

According to Scientific American, "sunlight damages the eyes by triggering a series of chemical reactions in the retina, the light-sensitive part at the back of the eye. Retinas contain two types of photoreceptors: rods that help you see in the dark and cones that produce color vision. When intense solar radiation hits the retinas, it can damage and even destroy those cells."

Experts at NASA urge those wanting to view the eclipse to obtain special equipment to view the eclipse safely. These can include special eclipse glasses or a handheld solar viewer that complies with the ISO 12312-2 international standard

Never use cameras, binoculars, or telescopes that do not have special solar filters to block the harmful light and radiation. Regular sunglasses cannot protect a viewer's eyes from these harmful rays, either.

Shinnston Women's Club Garners Statewide Accolades

By Mary Ann Ferris

Four members of the G.F.W.C Woman's Club of Shinnston recently attended the 180 th Annual State Woman's Club Convention held at the Greenbrier Resort on March 15, 16 and 17.

Those attending from the Shinnston Club were Mary Ann Spadafore, North Central District President, Donna Mick, State Legislative Chair, Mary Ann Ferris, Shinnston Co-President and Connie Leuliette.

At the convention, the Shinnston Club was recognized in several areas for its members work throughout the 2023 club year. Our member Barbara Boyd's poem was first place in the poetry category of the State writing contest; her poem has now been submitted to the National poetry contest for judging.

The Shinnston Club was recognized as both

See "Accolades" on Pg 6



The Shinnston Women's Club was honored for their superior work in the community over the past year at The Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs.

United Hospital Center Celebrates National Donate Life Month

Activities to Raise Awareness and Register More Organ, Tissue, and Cornea Donors

Bridgeport, WV — Nationally, more than 100,000 people are waiting for an organ transplant, including 2,500 people in western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. At least 20 will die each day without receiving the transplant

they so desperately need.

Someone is added to the transplant waiting list every 10 minutes.

United Hospital Center (UHC) is pleased to join the Center for Organ Recovery & Education (CORE) to



UHC was the first hospital in the state to host the 2024 flag raising ceremony to recognize the tremendous impact of organ donation.

raise awareness about organ, tissue, and cornea donation, and to inspire everyone during Donate Life Month to register to be an organ donor. On Thursday, March 28, UHC held its

See "UHC" on Pg 3



Each week copies of the News & Journal are distributed in each hospital to patients compliments of these community-minded sponsors listed:

UNITED HOSPITAL CENTER, LOUIS JOHNSON V.A. HOSPITAL, HIGHLAND CLARKSBURG HOSPITAL & WV VETERANS NURSING FACILITY

OPINION

Is a Simpler Culture a Better Culture?

By Stephen Smoot

A study from Austria's University of Innsbruck examined music over the last half a century and came to a conclusion that most older individuals will not take issue with.

Music has gotten "dumber."

In an article published by Scientific American, Eva Zangerlie, computer scientist at Innsbruck said of modern music, "There's more rhyming lines and also more chorus." She explained also that "We basically found that lyrics [have gotten] easier to comprehend." This trend, observed across five of the most popular English-language music genres (pop, rock, rap, R&B and country) since 1970, hints at how shifts in music listening habits, platforms and production may be shaping pop culture."

Through machine learning, they analyzed more than 350,000 tunes made since 1970, finding a gradual "dumbing down" of especially lyrics in the time frame. That includes the fact that the popular music of the 1970s saw a rise of less complicated themes in the aftermath of the turbulent 60s.

This trend extends back even farther.

The most enduring hit from the 1920s, Hoagy Carmichael's "Stardust," featured lyrics such as "Sometimes I wonder, how I spend/The lonely nights/Dreaming of a song/The melody/Haunts my reverie/And I am once again with you."

Four decades later, Frank Sinatra made "Summer Wind," oft considered the best American popular music tune, a smash hit with lyrics like "The autumn wind and the winter winds, they have come and gone/And still the days, those lonely days, they go on and on/ And guess who sighs his lullabies through nights that never end/My fickle friend, the summer wind."

Even the era of rock music saw examples of tremendous lyric production, such as from Led Zeppelin and Metallica.

Hollywood has also allowed the bar to descend toward the lowest common denominator.

Willem Dafoe recently told Variety that streaming has created a market dynamic that skews movies away from the more challenging.

"The kind of attention that people give at home isn't the same," Dafoe was quoted as saying.

See "Smoot" on Pg 3

Super Crossword

PUTTING ON A GOOD FACE

- ACROSS 1 Very little bit 5 Large Indian city 10 Discover by chance 15 Elegant 19 Liposuction target 20 Take out (borrow cash) 21 Journalist - Rogers St. Johns 22 Actor Cronyn 23 Initial impression 25 Printer cartridge contents 27 Still in the future 28 Harsh review 30 Admit defeat 31 Wonder 32 Like bedroom communities 35 Partners of 84-Down 36 Metal sleeve in an engine's piston 40 Slide down a slope 41 Cuts of pork 42 Disney who drew 43 Toot one's own horn 46 Gaius' garb 50 Rand of objectivism 51 "Viva - Vegas" 52 Base coat on a wall, maybe 54 Is a little too fond of 57 Rest on top of 59 Writer Nin 60 Prefix with conscious 61 Dock 62 Honey liquor 64 Cpl., e.g. 65 Big grant-giving group 72 Totally 73 Granny 74 Dog food brand 75 Places with lots of IVs 76 Mental picture 78 Dictators 81 Row of PC-screen buttons 85 Cabaret where the cancan originated 87 Kilmer of "Tombstone" 88 Kitchen utensil brand 89 "Little" actress Rae 90 Decorative tattoo dye 91 Very little 93 Garden pest 95 Mem. of the family 97 Annotation in the text of Christian scripture 100 Server overseer, informally 103 Convention speeches 105 "... flaw - feature?" 106 Mixed with cognac, e.g. 108 Flip (out) 109 Clip out 113 Something cast at sunset 116 What you have passed when you figure out this puzzle's theme? 118 Hydroxyl compound 119 Cooling, as champagne 120 French gal pals 121 To be, to Livy 122 Really resist 123 Former quarterback Rodney 124 French governing body 125 Letters after pis 38 Dryer fluff 39 Actor McGregor 40 Fuel additive brand 44 Strong ill will 45 Dutch artist Jan 47 Certain Arab 48 State Farm alternative 49 Fiery crime 51 Spa sponge 52 Actress Valerie of "Lenny" 53 Storm-finding systems 55 Cartoon cry 56 Act starter 57 Qatar export 58 Letter #22 61 Take selfish advantage of 63 "It's -!" ("You're on!") 65 "Darkman" director Sam 66 Actor Edward James - 67 Santa - 68 - nous 69 Liposuction target 70 Mantra words 71 "For shame!" 77 In a harshly bright way 79 Pass quickly on foot 80 "To repeat ..." 81 Unveiling cry 82 - -chic 83 Pivot point 84 Fishing sticks 86 Devils' org. 87 Dirt Devils, e.g., in brief 91 Nissan car models 92 Reason for extra innings 93 Get - on reality 94 Ceiling coat 96 Terminates 98 Arrow shooter 99 Short-horned grasshopper 100 Differently (other-skilled) 101 Pilotless craft 102 Lead-in to "the cloth" or "the hour" 103 Cartoonist Bil 104 Comic and actor Murphy 107 Breakfast chain, in brief 109 "I - bad moon rising" 110 Meeting period, slangily 111 - buco (veal dish) 112 Map nos. 114 Tenth mo. 115 Very little 117 Cousins, e.g.

Grid for Super Crossword with numbers 1-125 indicating starting positions 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.

April 4, 1948: Renowned gospel singer Squire Parsons was born in Newton, Roane County. A graduate of Spencer High School and West Virginia Tech, he is best known for his song "Sweet Beulah Land."

April 4, 1980: Musician Red Sovine died in Nashville. Sovine, born Woodrow Wilson Sovine in Charleston, gained country music fame for his recitations, especially those incorporating sentimental truck-driver themes.

April 5, 1856: Booker T. Washington was born

enslaved in Virginia. In 1865, he moved with his family to Malden, in Kanawha County, to join his stepfather, who had escaped from slavery during the Civil War. He became one of the most influential educators in U.S. history.

April 5, 1920: Gifted hand weaver Dorothy Thompson was born. She taught generations of people about fiber arts. For her dedication to preserving folklife traditions, she was named a National Heritage Fellow in 2000. She died in Tucker County in 2008.

April 5, 2010: An explosion at the Upper Big Branch Mine in Raleigh County killed 29 workers. Only two men escaped from the mine alive. It was the state's worst coal mining disaster since 1968, when the Consol No. 9 Mine at

Farmington exploded, killing 78 workers.

April 6, 1938: The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) established Camp Kanawha in Kanawha State Forest. The CCC removed all the abandoned houses, coal tipples, and other structures no longer in use, and constructed roads, the forest superintendent's residence, office, maintenance building, and picnic shelters.

April 6, 1944: Guitarist and singer David Morris was born in Ivydale, Clay County. With his brother John on fiddle, the Morris Brothers founded music festivals, supported union and environmental causes and promoted West Virginia traditional music nationwide. He died in 2016.

April 7, 1927: A. James Manchin was born in Farmington. In 1984, the longtime secretary of state was elected state treasurer but soon fell into trouble. With a stock

market downturn in 1987, Manchin bore much of the blame when the state lost nearly \$300 million in investments. He died in 2003.

April 7, 1947: Medal of Honor recipient Thomas W. Bennett was born in Morgantown. Believing it was wrong to evade the draft while others had to serve in Vietnam, he volunteered as a noncombatant medic. He was killed by gunfire while dragging a wounded soldier to safety.

April 7, 2004: Gov. Bob Wise signed legislation that transformed four colleges into universities: West Virginia State, Shepherd, Fairmont State and Concord.

April 8, 1891: The town of Paw Paw was incorporated.

Strategically located on the Potomac River, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and the C&O Canal, Paw Paw was named for the banana-like pawpaw fruit that grows in the area.

Newspaper masthead for The News & Journal, including contact information, subscription rates, and publisher details.

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“UHC” From Pg 1.

flag raising event to recognize the impact of organ donation.

During National Donate Life Month, we celebrate the power of organ, tissue, and cornea donation to save and heal lives. We recognize the successful collaborations between CORE and the hospitals in western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, that have resulted in more than 900 life-saving organ transplants in 2023,” said Susan Stuart, President & CEO of CORE. But, above all, this month is a tribute to the selfless donors and their families whose generous decision to give the gift of life has brought hope and

healing to those close to home and far away.”

“As a health system, we stand in a unique position to



Pictured from left: Kara Elko, BSN, RN, director of Critical Care at UHC Center; donor family members and UHC employees Richard and Tammy Jeffries; Maura Mullen, RN, CCRN, clinical supervisor of Critical Care at UHC; and David F. Hess, president and CEO of UHC.

not just attend to the health of our patients but to ignite a powerful inspiration within our community, urging them to embrace wellness

in every dimension of life,” said David F. Hess, MD, CEO and president of UHC. “The greater number of individuals

we can motivate to become organ donors, the more profoundly we fulfill our mission as passionate advocates for the holistic well-

being of our entire community.”

Some important facts about organ, tissue, and cornea donation:

Anyone can be

a potential donor regardless of age, race or medical history.

With more than 90,000 people across the nation awaiting a kidney, it is the organ in greatest demand, followed by liver, heart and lungs.

Because conditions such as diabetes and hypertension are often more prevalent in the multicultural community, these individuals make up more than 50 percent of those on the national organ transplant list.

Individuals are encouraged to talk with family members and friends about registering as a donor.

One organ donor can save up to eight lives and a tissue donor can improve the lives of more than 100 others. To sign up, visit core.org/register.

“Smoot” From Pg 2.

“More difficult movies, more challenging movies can not do as well when you don’t have an audience that’s really paying attention. That’s a big thing. I miss the social thing of where movies fit in the world.

You go see a movie, you go out to dinner, you talk about it later, and that spreads out. People now go home, they say, ‘Hey, honey, let’s watch something stupid tonight,’ and they flip through and they

watch five minutes of 10 movies, and they say, ‘Forget it, let’s go to bed.’ Where’s that discourse found?”

Last year, Martin Scorsese bemoaned Hollywood’s increasing reliance on superhero and “franchise” films that often regurgitate the same plots, characters, and themes endlessly.

He also told the Los Angeles Times that he fears for the future of Turner Classic Movies, the flagship source of great cinema.

One of the problems lies in the erasure of the distinction between “high” and “low” culture. “High” culture refers to art, music,

film, or writing that aspires to excellence in every way. It showcases the best of the artists’s mind and his desire to connect with the audience in challenging and stimulating ways.

This often runs against what entertainment companies think will sell. As Billy Joel sang in “The Entertainer,” “it took me years to write it/they were the best years of my life/ If you’re gonna make a hit/you’ve got to make it fit/So they cut it down to 3:05.”

That said, the time busting song “American Pie” runs nearly three times that long and relies on sophisticated lyrics to

drive the tune.

Music’s problems also stem from the decline of traditional influences. Great writers, of literature, non-fiction, and also music, are also great readers. Jimmy Page and Robert Plant took heavily from Tolkien, as well as English history and folklore, for their music. The impact and influence of growing up in the church influenced the music of countless artists every generation.

With reading and church membership in decline, so is their powerful and positive influence.

High culture has its place, but so does low.

There is nothing wrong with culture that doesn’t require much thought or complex analysis to enjoy. Sometimes you just want to laugh at a “Caddyshack,” or sing along to catchy bubblegum pop.

But there is a line between the two, and trying to pretend there should not be does a disservice to both.

At the end of the day, however, culture is a free market. Companies will encourage artists to create what the market wants to consume. If the market wants better, it must not only demand better, but also consume better.

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

West Virginia University will host a community solar eclipse viewing event, offering an opportunity for people of all ages to experience the rare partial eclipse alongside astronomers. April 8, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Mountainlair Green, 1550 University Ave., Morgantown This is a free event open to the public. No registration is required for participants. Eclipse glasses will be provided while supplies last.

Passport Fair
Friday, April 5 | 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Saturday, April 6 | 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
All Ages | 1st Floor Reading Area

Passport processing is available with no appointment necessary. Please bring your passport picture with you. For all ages in the first floor reading room. Sponsored by the Friends of Clarksburg-Harrison Public Librar

The Farm club of Jones Run Community is sponsoring their annual ramp dinner on Saturday, April 20th from 11:00am to 3:00pm at the Lumberport Community Center on George St in Lumberport. Eat-in or carry out meals include: beans with ham, seasoned wilted ramps, fried potatoes with ramps, cornbread muffins, fresh ramps and dessert for \$12.00. Questions, call 304-783-4868

Thank you

“Hunt” From Pg 1.

shorts, but each one would get a once over from me as I wondered if I would ever be on one of those flights.

Fast forward sixty years and I have spent a considerable amount of time flying throughout the country and the world on various business trips and other adventures.

When someone will see me out, they frequently mention my travels and say how they envy my adventurous lifestyle. Sometimes they say that they always wanted to travel

but things got in the way. I owe a lot to my parents, who instilled in me the desire to see the world and not let things get in the way.

When I talk to high school classes about some of my trips, I encourage them to apply and get a passport. They will sometimes look at me quizzically and say they aren’t planning any trips, so why would you invest in a passport. I tell them that a passport is a magical document and that when you get one, the opportunities to

travel will magically appear and the next thing you know, you are walking down the jetway, headed for distant shores. It happened for me, when I applied for a passport, within six months I

had an opportunity to travel to Minsk in Belorussia for a youth conference with ninety-nine other Americans. The trip was for three weeks, and it only cost around three-hundred dollars. My magic passport worked!

After that initial trip, opportunities seemed to pop up out of nowhere. A trip to the Ukraine, attending the 1980 Olympics in Moscow to working on Habitat builds in Poland and Hungary. They were not always in first-class hotels, and I was sometimes crammed

into the rear seats of an aging airliner, chugging over the ocean. When I was an officer with the National League of Cities, I attended meetings in South Korea, China, Turkey, Morocco, South Africa and several other countries. I once asked the director of the National League of

Cities, why he kept sending me on these trips. He said that when I represented the National League of Cities at these meetings, I never complained when things went wrong or when I had to adjust my schedule at the last minute.

Travel can be difficult and often things don’t go as planned, but with a magic passport in

hand, you can see things that others only read about. And often the “mistakes” are opportunities for adventure. The education you receive through travel cannot be duplicated at the finest colleges or universities. As division and political unrest affect many areas of the world, seeing the land and meeting the people can give you insight beyond any library or YouTube video.

I’m heading out soon for a trip to London, England and as I tuck my magic passport into my pocket, I recognize how lucky I have been to see a world and meet people of different races, religions, cultures, and lifestyles. A magic passport, indeed!

MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024
7:30 AM TO 4:00 PM
OPEN TO ALL MILITARY RETIREES, IMMEDIATE FAMILY & SURVIVING SPOUSES FROM ALL BRANCHES AND COMPONENTS
GLEN JEAN ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER
409 WOOD MOUNTAIN ROAD; GLEN JEAN, WV 25846
RETIREE SERVICES AVAILABLE WILL INCLUDE:
POWER OF ATTORNEYS AND WILLS | MILITARY RECORDS | ID CARDS
VETERAN FRIENDLY VENDORS | FAMILY SUPPORT | RETIRED PAY & BENEFITS
MYPAY ASSISTANCE | TRICARE | VETERANS AFFAIRS | STATIC DISPLAYS | & MORE
PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED
HTTPS://SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/WVRAD2024
(304) 561-6355

SHINNSTON MCDONALD'S
BOGO Filet of Fish Sandwich
WITH THIS COUPON
Expires April 10, 2024
One per customer per visit, not to be used with any other offer, discount or within an EVM purchase. Valid at the Shinnston McDonald's only. Cash value 1/20 of 1 cent LwC. Must present this coupon prior to ordering.

Kellogg Leads Mountaineers Into NCAA Tourney

West Virginia University's women's basketball team had an unbelievable season that was just a couple of plays away from moving into the "epic" category.



The Bottom Line
By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

The Mountaineers rolled through the regular season, breaking records and turning heads while garnering an eight seed for the NCAA Tournament.

WVU head coach Mark Kellogg had a remarkable first year at the helm of the program. Kellogg seemed to push all of the right buttons at the correct time with his players and they responded throughout the year with inspired play.

When a coach gets his players to play as hard as his did this regular season, fans always want to know what he used to motivate his troops. They caught a glimpse of Kellogg's tactics on Selection Sunday during the team's watch party. He said that if they meet up with Iowa in the second round of the tournament, they were looking to send Caitlyn Clark packing. Clark is the NCAA Division I

all-time leading scorer and is considered by many to be one of the best players in women's college hoops history.

After the Mountaineers upended Princeton in the opening round of the tourney, Kellogg backed off his comments. No coach wants to provide blackboard material for the upcoming opposition. Kellogg said that someone else at the watch party used the "packing" term at the party first and then blamed social media for the confusion.

Kellogg wanted to keep his comments in-house and when they got out, he had to defuse the issue. He did not want the bomb going off on his team after he inadvertently tripped the verbal wire.

Unfortunately, the damage had already been done and West Virginia was forced to head into a hornets nest

for its second round lock-up.

The biggest issue the NCAA has with its women's tourney is that there is a lack of neutral courts throughout and Iowa was allowed to host the matchup at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City.

The vast majority of the 14,324 fans in attendance were rooting for the home team, providing a huge advantage. WVU started slow, shooting only 27 percent from the field in the second quarter, and had a hangover effect early in the third segment. The halftime break gave way to a 12 to two run from Iowa to provide a 12-point Hawkeye lead five minutes into the second half. The Mountaineers trailed by double-digits heading into the final frame, but a frantic comeback bid led to a 10 to nothing run and a tie game.

Fouls, however, mounted up on the Mountaineers. They would lose their top player J. J. Quinerly and Jordan Harrison to fouls, which resulted in a severe loss of momentum. Iowa made 14 of 17 free throws in the fourth quarter alone to gain the win. The hawkeyes would only manage one field goal in the entire fourth period of play. Iowa show 30 foul shots in the affair while WVU just attempted five free throws.

Clark led all scorers with 32 points, 11 of those coming from the charity stripe. Quinerly paced the Mountaineers with 15 points and a game high three steals.

West Virginia ended the campaign with a 25 and eight record. Kellogg has established himself as one of the top coaches in the Big 12 Conference. Now, Mountaineer fans are just waiting for the next chapter in hopes of even bigger and brighter days ahead for the program.

That will be it for now! Until next week . . . take care and God Bless!

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 Alexis Williams and Angelina Wright.

The Cougar softball squad picked up its second win of the campaign in an inning shortened win over South Harrison this past week.

Williams earned the win, scattering five hits and allowing just one run. She helped her own cause by going two for two from the plate, including a home run with four runs batted in while scoring three runs.

Wright was a perfect four for four from the disk in the victory. Wright also drove in a pair of runs in the process.

Congratulations to Lincoln's Alexis Williams and Angelina Wright for shining bright in the SN and HCJ spotlight!

Lincoln Track Places Second



The Cougars took second place on the road at Doddridge last last month.

BUSINESS MATTERS

Business of the Month

Liberty High School Showcases Workplace, Entrepreneurship, and Skills Classes On Campus

By Stephen Smoot

Not long ago, schools mainly focused on trying to put as many students on the college bound track as possible. This impetus came from both a sincere desire to see students do as well as possible, but also the fact that schools were often judged by how many students went on to college after they graduated.

By 2024, however, the dynamics have radically changed. The workplace now sees a glut of four year degrees, leading to the unexpected result of associates degrees, masters degrees, and trade school certifications all leading to better earning potential than the traditional four year program.

Harrison County Schools has adapted to both the needs of students and also local industry. Last week, the Harrison County Schools Community and Technical Education Advisory Committee toured Liberty High School to get a sampling of what that school currently offers.

This story is not merely about the classes, opportunities, and accomplishments, but also about the scholastic environment that fosters such excellence.

First, the tour went to the Fundamentals of Human Service, which concentrates on developing business and customer service skills. Kaylee White, a student in the class, explained the process of taking orders for production. Then, students run machines that put both standard and personalized images on different products.

White shared, while other students ran the machine that puts images on objects, that “we made T shirts, we’ve made coasters, glass jars, and ornaments.”

The second stop on the tour was with Danna Poole, the Pro Start instructor. Her class, decked out in red polos and black slacks, had presented a professional



Liberty’s Human Services class demonstrates the basics of business.



Brookelynn Evans and Khynzli Randolph show off a recent broadcast of their high school news program.

brunch buffet during the meeting earlier. Poole first described a grant from King Arthur Flour that paid for students to have bread making supplies right down to the ingredients.

The only stipulation lay in a mandate to bake at least two loaves of bread, one to keep and one to give away to anyone else.

Poole then took the group into the kitchen instruction area. As the group walked in, she explained that “this has come a long way.” Poole added that “when I got the program, I got a grant” that helped pay for improved equipment and a new floor. Many of the upgrades took place during COVID shutdowns, which avoided taking up instructional time.

Approximately \$45,000 in state grants funded the improvements.

“We’re not completely commercial standard,” she shared, but went on to say that much of the equipment is.

The latest assignment centered on “green recipes” for Saint Patrick’s Day. Students got excited about making guacamole, so they also decided to try and grow avocados. Poole explained “I’ve had 48 Broadcast media featured next on the agenda, with students



Rayme Gray, Tyler Finster, and Nathan Triplett explain rabbit and chicken production performed at Liberty.



Morgan Turner and Savannah Payez explain greenhouse and gardening projects.

completers,” and would have had more if COVID had not interfered. Also, Liberty takes students from other schools to go through the Pro Start program. While some students mainly take the class because they get to eat, increasing numbers treat it as an opportunity. “We’re starting to get kids who understand what it’s all about,” she explained, adding that in recent years, she has seen “the best test scores that I’ve ever had.”

Broadcast media featured next on the agenda, with students

Brookelynn Evans and Khynzli Randolph hosting. Evans and Randolph serve as anchors for the “Mountaineer Mania” daily news broadcast covering news and fun at Liberty High School.

Evans explained how the class uses a professional style story board, sharing that “we let them come up with their own ideas.” Randolph added that “we put everybody’s name and their stories and what they are actually doing.”

As she and Randolph showed a sample

broadcast, the group saw that it included anchor segments, as well as interviews and features. They included a balance of “hard” news on school events, as well as fun segments. The class crafted a program professional in appearance that informed as well as entertained. One explained how to do Dutch style hair braiding.

Evans said “Mr (Tim) Bode (broadcast media teacher) gives us our freedom.”

Savannah Payez and Morgan Turner greeted the group next in the

agriculture department. They first showed the ag mechanics class hard at work making hand-crafted wooden flower boxes, then pointed out a box of soil samples collected for analysis.

They then showed the group the greenhouse, already filled with a broad and beautiful spectrum of flowers and other plants. Through April, the class grows and prepares the plants for sale, with proceeds benefiting both scholarships and trips taken by the Future Farmers of America.

“We take care of everything until then,” explained Payez.

They also showed a set of outdoor gardens flanking the greenhouse. Students had just started digging out the old dead plants to replace them with new.

Finally, Rayme Gray, Nathan Triplett, and Tyler Finster showed off the animal production area. First, the group got to meet a number of rabbits in various stages of development. The newest had arrived only two weeks before and had already started playing and wandering about.

Next, the tour went outside to see the portable chicken coop system. Triplett showed one set of chickens, saying “these are our egg layers. They were originally for meat, but we repurposed them.” He then showed how the class could move the coop around to make sure the chickens stayed on optimal ground.

When asked about egg production, Gray said “we usually get five a day, depending on how cold or hot it is. If it’s cold, they don’t lay as much.”

Of course a silent undercurrent gave context to the day and how fiercely proud the students and faculty were to show off their accomplishments. Liberty High School remains under threat to close and merge with Robert C. Byrd.

None of those present were content to see their beloved school go gentle into that good night, so they endeavored to show off their school and all it had to offer.

During the tour, each member of the group received a mug from the Human Services class.

On a stylized Liberty L, each mug read “Fight on. Once a Mountaineer, always a Mountaineer.”

Mike Ross
 Producer & Supporter
 of Natural Resources

Coalton, WV 26257
 Phone: (304) 472-4289

“LHS” From Pg 1.

the students cooked and served a delicious buffet style brunch for attendees in the library.

Those who came enjoyed a sausage and also a pepper and cheese egg casserole, a hash brown casserole, sliced fruit, fresh baked muffins, and more.

The program, now in its fifth year, at first struggled due to COVID restrictions. Now, as Ms. Poole explained, “we’re seeing more students that want to go into hospitality.” For those who do not plan to make a career of food, she adds, “I always tell my students that you may not think you’re going into food service,” but most older teenagers and young adults find themselves in jobs related to it.

At 10:30, council members filed in, got their food, and then commenced the meeting.

Scott Davis, Harrison County Schools CTE Director, presented first. After recapping the previous meeting in November at United High School, he discussed the mission

of the group. “We see an evolution of the committee’s role as students and schools change,” he explained.

Davis also noted that he graduated from Liberty High School and said he was “very proud of this area.”

Then he discussed the current state of CTE, previously called “vo-tech,” emphasizing “where it’s going” and capital projects.

Davis opened with an update of select programs, starting with the “GED Back Again” plan that is “a saving grace for a lot of these kids.” The program allows a student who completes their CTE curriculum and also earns a General Education Development test (GED) to also receive a high school diploma without qualification. Davis shared that “they graduate from high school like any other student.”

Also an option for those looking to enter the workforce as soon as possible, Harrison County offers the CIEL program to train

students in the “soft” and other basic skills needed to obtain and keep a job.

Next, Davis discussed highlights from specific programs at different county high schools. He shared how Lincoln High School initiated a turf management training program run by Jeremy Cochran, formerly of the Pete Dye Golf Club. Davis also praised Julie Yearego and her hospitality program, which “is just killing it.” Davis described the EPIC grant awarded to Yearego’s students and how they created recreational programs for the Rail Trail in Shinnston.

United High School has seen tremendous program expansion over the years. Recently, the greenhouse expansion project ran into challenges because “a lot was not installed correctly,” but the students still can work with live chickens. Davis described the “swamp cooler” in the greenhouse that has a self-perpetuating and fully contained water

cycle. At Robert C. Byrd High School, the school system invested in a number of portable convection ovens that can follow teachers and students almost anywhere on campus. Davis considered portable options due to the changes that could come if Liberty merges into RCB.

The agriculture program at Bridgeport High School acquired an ultrasound machine that students already use to check the progress of pregnant goats and chickens. He envisioned that this could possibly partner with thermal imaging drone training held by the aerospace engineering program.

Aerospace engineering at Bridgeport has a new teacher, Andrew Powell, who brings military experience to the classroom. Davis explained that the drones could fly over farmland, for instance, and identify optimal grazing areas.

South Harrison High School underwent a “state of the art

massive kitchen upgrade” to help the educational area meet commercial standards

Davis also shared with the group that “we are now moving CTE into the middle schools.” That change, however, involves answering questions such as “are students ready?” Concerns over the ability of students to follow safety guidelines and getting sufficient skills training in a nine week format will guide development of the programs in middle schools.

Some of the offerings may include pre-engineering, flight and space, and training to use a glow gorge machine. Lincoln Middle School already has a 3D printer for education and skills development.

“We have been able to touch every school,” Davis noted, adding that “I wanted to diversify our programs.”

Next, Dr. Geraldine Beckett presented on the county’s effort to bring effective life skills education to the schools. This year, with the help of

the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce and the West Virginia Treasurer’s Office, middle schoolers experienced the “Get a Life” personal finance simulation that teaches students both how to make decisions about their own lives while also developing an appreciation for the effort of their parents or caregivers.

Beckett noted she overheard one female student say “now I know what my Mom means when she’s (complaining) about things.”

She then updated the group on the new personal finance credit requirement in high school and how partnerships would lead to developing an effective program.

Finally, Beckett praised the partnership with Pierpont. She described the excitement and enthusiasm of the community and technical college’s president, Dr. Brad Gilbert, as he traveled to schools and hosted field trips.

The day ended with

“Accolades” From Pg 1.

an Honor and Superior Club. We received the Rhododendron award for maintaining our membership and a second place award for our efforts to keep our members informed through the phone tree, yearbook and news articles about our meetings and activities.

We were honored with first place overall in the State for the greatest percentage increase in membership.

The Shinnston Club was awarded First Place in the Medium Club Legislative and Public

Policy category for our members’ lobbying efforts concerning women’s and senior issues. Our major project in this area was having County Assessor Rocky Romano speak to our members in September about the proposed changes in the tax law that will give Seniors a tax credit on their personal income tax for the personal property tax they have paid their counties.

We received another First Place award in the G.F.W.C. Support Fund category for Medium

Size Clubs for our activities and donations to the following causes / organizations: the American Cancer Society, the Pearl S. Buck Foundation, Little Troopers (support for children of veterans in need or crisis), Pennies for Arts, the Woody Williams Foundation (Veteran’s Home) and the State Scholarship Fund. Shinnston also awards a \$500 scholarship to a

Lincoln Senior. Lastly, the Shinnston Club received an Honorable Mention in the Medium Category Communication and Public Relations for our annual yearbook, our newspaper articles and our phone tree. The fact that we made our Clubhouse available to the public for rental for a nominal fee, to the Lowe Public Library for

its Summer Reading Program free of charge, and to various civic organizations also helped us win this award.

As you can see, even though the Woman’s Club of Shinnston is relatively small, our members manage to complete activities and projects that benefit our community. We could do much more if we had more active members, so

please consider joining us.

We meet the third Monday of each month from April through December at 6:00 pm.

Our November and December meetings are at 1:00 pm so no one has to drive home in the dark. If you are interested in joining us in our future efforts, please contact either co-president, Debra Herndon at 304-677-6650 or Mary Ann

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OBITUARIES



Michael Dennison

Michael Dennison, 42 of Clarksburg, passed away on Friday, March 29, 2024 at United Hospital Center. He was born May 31, 1981 in Clarksburg, a son of Katherine Jane Jones and Kenneth R. Jones, of Isaac Creek, and the late Farren Dennison.

He is also survived by his daughter, Meadow Aray Dennison of Gypsy Hill; his sister, Crystal Cottrill and her husband William of Lumberport; his brothers, Farren Dennison II of Clarksburg; and Terry Williams of Clarksburg; nieces and nephews, Sean Blair; Becca (Josh) Harbert; Katie Blair, all of Shinnston; and Zachary Cottrill of Lumberport; as well as several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

In addition to his father, Mike was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Henry and Barbara Sue Theller; and his paternal grandparents, Kenneth and Lucy Dennison.

Mike lived his life carefree. He was a huge momma's boy and would have walked to the ends of the earth for her. He was giving and caring and would do anything to see someone smile. Mike was genuine and compassionate to everyone. He loved his family, especially the light of his life, his daughter, Meadow.

Mike loved tinkering with everything that he could find. He was the best person to go to when advice was needed or when you just needed someone to listen. Mike never knew a stranger and was always willing to help and go the extra mile. His stepfather Kenneth has grown to love Mike as his own son. He will be missed by so many.

Friends will be received at Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St. Shinnston, on Tuesday, April 2nd, from 11:00am until the time of the funeral service at 1:00pm. Craig Ferrell will officiate the service. Interment will follow at the Copelin Cemetery, Jarvisville Rd., Salem. Online memories and condolences can be shared with the family at www.perinefunerals.com

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made at Perine Funeral Home.

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



Toy Lynn Hardman

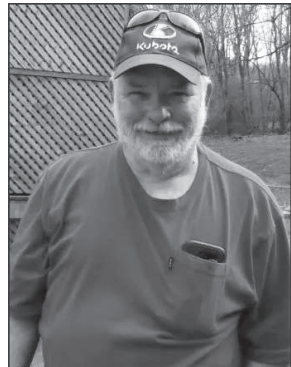
Toy Lynn Hardman, 62, of Bridgeport, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, March 24, 2024, at the United Hospital Center in Bridgeport. She was born in Clarksburg, March 18, 1962, a daughter of Ralph Edward and the

late Carol Ann Bullough Hardman.

In addition to her father, Toy is survived by one daughter, Sabra "Nikki" Hardman, her grandchildren: Justyce Corley, Peyton "Gianna" Mazza, and Samuel Mazza; her brother, Ralph E. Hardman, II; niece, Amber Hardman; nephew, Austin Rece Hardman and his wife Leah; great nieces, Amaya and Frejya Hardman; and several other nieces and nephews. Toy was also preceded in death by her uncle, Mike Bullough.

Toy was a former hair dresser and a Christian by faith. She loved to spend time with her family and friends.

The family will receive friends at the Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St., Shinnston, from 4pm until the time of the funeral service at 7pm, Thursday, March 28. Cremation will follow the service. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hardman family.



Ronnie Lycans

Ronnie Lycans, 69, of Pine Bluff, passed away on March 22, 2024. He was born in Clarksburg on September 24, 1954, a son to the Golden Lycans and JoAn Harbert Lycans. Along with his parents, he is preceded in death by

two sons, Heath Lycans and Steve Lycans; and brother Jeff Lycans.

He is survived by his companion of over 48 years, Peggy Moyers; son Kenny (Laura) of Jackson Springs, NC; brother Buck (Andi) Lycans of Gregory's Run Road; sisters Martha Logsdon and Amy Lycans, both of Lumberport; brother Terry (Linda) Lycans of Lumberport; grandchildren Jessica Young of Ellerby, NC, Mya Lycans and Mayson Escobar of Carthage, NC; and several nieces and nephews.

Ronnie was self-employed as a mechanic and autobody technician, he was licensed in HVAC, and did carpentry and electrical work. He enjoyed working on vehicles with his buddy Donnie Anderson, body work, and painting.

Friends will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 from 4:00PM-8:00PM. Cremation will follow.

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

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.

Larry Joseph Spence

Larry Joseph Spence, 77, of Clarksburg, passed away on March 23, 2024. He was born on May 8, 1946, a son to the late Joseph Spence and Francis (Knight) Spence. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Tammy Spence.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Darlene Spence of Clarksburg, whom he married on March 15, 1974. He is also survived by his daughter, Laurie Spence



of Clarksburg; sister Jackie Rogers of Sardis; nephews Mike Rogers (Amy) of Sardis, and Zachary Norman of Clarksburg; great-nieces Nicole Rogers of Sardis, and Katrina Jackson and companion Justin Wiles, and their daughter Kimber Wiles; special friends Davey (Melissa) and sons Brandon and Ryan Davis of Sardis; and several close friends.

Larry graduated from Victory High School in 1964. He was the owner and operator of Larry's Body Shop. In his younger years, he was a

member of The Deacons Motorcycle Club. He enjoyed painting cars and motorcycles, car shows, swap meets, and collecting gas station memorabilia.

Friends will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Thursday, March 28, 2024 from 10:00AM-2:00PM. A funeral service will immediately follow at 2:00PM with Pastor Todd Syruws officiating. Interment will follow at Spence Family Cemetery.

The family would like to thank WVU Medicine Hospice, Michelle Sylva and Marla Cockrell, Dr. Paul Davis, and the wonderful staff at UHC on 7 North and ICU.

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

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Out of the Past

Memorable photographs from around Harrison County



Undated photograph of old covered bridge over Robinson Run near Shinnston

Clarksburg History Museum Spring Tours Commence

The Clarksburg History Museum is 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.

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 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 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.

Gov. Justice announces FY 2024 revenue collections

CHARLESTON, WV — Gov. Jim Justice announced today that West Virginia's General Revenue collections for March 2024, the ninth month of Fiscal Year 2024, came in at \$487.4 million, which is \$94.8 million above the official estimate. Cumulative collections for Fiscal Year 2024 of more than \$4.068 billion stand at \$522.9 million ahead of the cumulative estimate.

“West Virginia’s fiscal resilience

continues to shine with March’s incredible revenue surplus,” Gov. Justice said. “With our cumulative collections now standing at \$522 million ahead of estimates with three months remaining in the fiscal year, West Virginia is well-positioned for a strong finish despite the small monthly downtick in February.

“My commitment to responsible financial management and wise use of our surplus

dollars remains unwavering, because we’ve shown time and time again that when we put West Virginians first, and prioritize their needs and wants, it propels our rocket ship higher and farther. As we continue to climb, I will keep steering the ship with care, ensuring that every move boosts us towards a future where all West Virginians can reach for the stars.”

March Personal Income Tax collections

totaled \$198.3 million and year-to-date collections totaled nearly \$1.635 billion. Year-to-date Personal Income Tax collections were \$184 million above estimate and just 9.4% below prior year receipts even after the historic 21.25% personal income tax cut.

March Corporation Net Income Tax collections of \$15.4 million were \$6.9 million above

estimate. Year-to-date collections of nearly \$259.5 million were \$131.4 million above estimate and 11.2% ahead of last year.

March Consumer Sales Tax collections totaled nearly \$147.2 million. Monthly collections were \$5.6 million above estimate and 5.3% ahead of last year. Year-to-date collections of more than \$1.315 billion were \$23.7 million above estimate and 3.7% ahead of last

year. March Severance Tax collections of \$48.2 million were \$26.1 million above estimate. Cumulative collections of nearly \$247.5 million were \$25.2 million above the cumulative estimate.

Year-to-date interest income collections of more than \$170.1 million were \$137.2 million above the official estimate and nearly 117% ahead of last year.

1,317 New WV Business Registrations reported for March

Charleston, W. Va. – The WV Secretary of State’s Office registered 1,317 new businesses statewide during the month of March according to Secretary of State Mac Warner.

Wayne County led the state in the percentage of new business growth with a total of 30 new

business registrations, a 2.62% increase. The Secretary of State’s Business Division reported that Calhoun, Boone, Morgan and Lewis County also experienced notable growth during the month.

Top five counties in new business growth:

1. Wayne County - 2.62% growth.
2. Calhoun County - 2.09% growth.
3. Boone County - 1.87% growth.
4. Morgan County - 1.84% growth.
5. Lewis County - 1.77% growth.

Counties that lead the state in total businesses

registered in March include Kanawha, Berkeley, Monongalia, Cabell and Jefferson.

Top five counties in total businesses registered:

1. Kanawha County - 149 new registrations.
2. Berkeley County - 107 new registrations.
3. Monongalia

County - 100 new registrations.

4. Cabell County - 77 new registrations.

5. Jefferson County - 76 new registrations.

Statewide, West Virginia registered 13,834 new businesses in the previous 12-month period, from April 1, 2023, to March

31, 2024. Summers County led all 55 counties with a 19.63% growth rate during the one-year timespan.

To review county-by-county growth, visit our Business Statistics Database.

Mac Warner advises as absentee ballots are mailed to voters

Charleston, W. Va. – According to WV Secretary of State Mac Warner, voting for the May 14 Primary Election officially starts on Friday, March 29th.

Qualified voters who have applied for an absentee-by-mail ballot will start seeing

those arrive at the address provided on the application as early as Friday.

For active duty military on deployment, voters living overseas, and those who are stateside living with a physical disability that prevents them

from in-person voting and absentee voting without assistance, Friday is also the first day county clerks will begin providing them the means to participate via electronic means prescribed by law. To date, nearly 1,200 voters have applied for

an absentee ballot.

“West Virginia law permits absentee-by-mail voting for voters who are not able to vote in person during early voting or on Election Day,” said Secretary of State Mac Warner. “The excuse-based alternative to in-person voting is

available to registered voters for causes such as illness, disability, hospitalization, military deployment, and work-related or personal travel.”

“In West Virginia, we have more options for participating than any state in the country,”

Warner said. “We want voters to vote!”

To learn more about absentee ballot voting in West Virginia, registered voters can visit GoVoteWV.com - a secure website hosted by the WV Secretary of State’s Office.

ARC Launches New Funding Opportunity for Appalachian Regional Energy Hub

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 26, 2024— Today, the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) launched the Appalachian Regional Energy Hub Initiative, a funding opportunity that makes available up to \$5 million for eligible

applicants to: Conduct research on natural gas and natural gas liquid supply and demand opportunities; Support the implementation of an energy hub for hydrogen produced from natural

gas using carbon capture technology.

“From the beginning, Appalachia has kept the lights on in this country—and now, our region is well positioned to continue to strengthen regional economies by investing

in its energy resilience,” said ARC Federal Co-Chair Gayle Manchin. “The Appalachian Regional Energy Hub Initiative’s research and community partnership approach opens the door for our region to be a national

model for innovation in energy production, while also maximizing our country’s energy independence.”

Congress directed ARC to create this initiative in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021.

Applications are due Wednesday, July 24, 2024. Eligible applicants are encouraged review the notice of solicitation of applications and submit questions about the opportunity to energyhub@arc.gov.

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Wisdom From “The Federalist”

By James Madison

“An elective despotism was not the government we fought for; but one in which the powers of government should be so divided

and balanced among the several bodies of magistracy so that no one could transcend their legal limits without being effectually checked and restrained by the others.” (Madison, #58)

LEGAL

(2021-S-0000070 - Harrison County - JSS PROPERTIES LLC)

To: AGNES HAMBRICK, ROBERT ALLEN HAMBRICK, 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 OUTSIDE DISTRICT MAP 9999 PARCEL 0670 1704

You will take notice that JSS PROPERTIES LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-0000070, .0104 INT 64 AC O&G TENMILE (TRIO/G SWIGER-API#232, located in EAGLE OUTSIDE DISTRICT, which was returned delinquent in the name of HAMBRICK RUSSELL R, 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 May 13, 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, May 12, 2024, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to May 12, 2024.	\$ 110.50
Amount of subsequent year's taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to May 12, 2024.	\$ 6.02
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2022, following the sheriff's sale to May 12, 2024.	\$ 1,098.62
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to May 12, 2024.	\$ 216.91
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.	\$ 1,432.05
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 May 12, 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

LEGAL

(2021-S-00000106 - Harrison County - APPCOM, LLC C/O KARR LAW OFFICE)

To: DALE W. STEAGER, COMMISSIONER WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, CITY OF CLARKSBURG, OCCUPANT, ESTATE OF CHARLES H AKERS C/O CHARLES D AKERS, CHARLES D AKERS, CHARLES D AKERS, ESTATE OF CHARLES H AKERS, BRIAN S AKERS, 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 1 PARCEL 0116 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-00000106, 1 LOT 178 HARTLAND, located in CLARK CLARKSBURG CORP, which was returned delinquent in the name of AKERS CHARLES H ESTATE, 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 May 1, 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 30, 2024, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to April 30, 2024.	\$ 2,297.83
Amount of subsequent year's taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to April 30, 2024.	\$ 2,046.24
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2022, following the sheriff's sale to April 30, 2024.	\$ 1,444.59
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to April 30, 2024.	\$ 653.49
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.	\$ 6,442.15
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 April 30, 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

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WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Division of Highways NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until May 07, 2024 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
008 2024890001	R089-GRDRL-24 00		GUARDRAIL D9 2025 REM GUARDRAIL District Wide Guardrail and Fence Installation and Repair COUNTY:

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

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

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

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Call Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
009 2023990067	S399-081/00 0 00	HSIP-0081(047)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS 2024 RPM STATEWIDE COUNTY: STATEWIDE

DBE GOAL: 10 % OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

REMARKS:

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Gov. Justice, WV DCR celebrate recruitment and staffing milestones

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Governor Jim Justice and the West Virginia Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation (WV DCR) announced a series of significant hiring milestones today. Over the past 100 days, WV DCR has successfully recruited and onboarded more than 300 new employees, significantly bolstering the workforce. This milestone follows successful recruitment efforts and increased pay scales that have

significantly reduced staff vacancies across the state. The recruiting efforts, including increased pay scales for correctional officers, are paying dividends. Staff vacancies are continuing to decrease, with 12 facilities reporting single-digit vacancies. In 2022, Gov. Justice issued a State of Emergency to address critical staffing shortages at correctional facilities in West Virginia and called

for National Guard personnel to alleviate shortages at adult and juvenile correctional and detention facilities. Now, 232 guard members are no longer relied upon, marking a pivotal moment in the operational efficiency of the WV DCR. The National Guard support is currently reduced by 56%, from 413 to 181 members. "Reducing the need of the National Guard to fill public safety roles in our West Virginia facilities is a big deal. It

shows that we're making strides in ensuring that our communities are safe and well-protected without having to rely on temporary measures," said Gov. Justice. "This shift not only boosts morale but also highlights the dedication and preparedness of our correctional facilities. It's a true testament to the hard work and commitment of everyone involved in keeping our state secure." Looking ahead, the

WV DCR is committed to further enhancing its operational effectiveness, with a target of completely removing National Guard presence from all facilities by summer 2024. "We are thrilled to welcome so many new employees," said WV DCR Commissioner William Marshall. "This is a testament to the hard work of our recruiting team and every one of our dedicated employees. We thank Governor Justice and

the legislature for their continued leadership and commitment to prioritizing public safety across our state." The WV DCR oversees West Virginia's 11 prisons, 10 regional jails, 10 juvenile centers, 13 Parole Services Offices, 22 Youth Reporting Centers and three work-release sites. For more information about employment opportunities with the WV DCR, go to dcr.wv.gov/careers.

Aprender los conceptos básicos de la escuela en Virginia Occidental

By Jenny Santilli

In response to the growing population of Spanish speakers in the Harrison County region, the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal occasionally offers a Spanish language column for their benefit. ¡Bienvenidos a nuestra columna! Nuestro intento es informarles de cosas en que les interesan. Por favor, díganos sus ideas o lo que quieren saber más para columnas futuras. Mejor, es posible que algunas de ustedes puedan contribuir una columna futura. Esta primera es sobre la escuela. Es importante que sus hijos se acostumbren en la cultura estadounidense y la cultura de la

Virginia de Oeste. De misma importancia es que ellos continúen hablar español y aprendan de su propia cultura. A veces es difícil vivir en dos mundos, pero vale la pena. Aquí hay dos sugerencias: Animen a sus hijos a participar en clubes, deportes, grupos musicales, etc. Ellos pueden hacer nuevas amistades y practicar inglés. Si tienen un servicio de transmisión en directo (Netflix, Prime), pueden mirar una película/serie en inglés con subtítulos en español primero y después con subtítulos en inglés. Escuchar y leer en inglés a la misma vez mejoran las habilidades en comunicación. ¿Cuáles son las

diferencias entre las escuelas hispanicas y estadounidenses? Primero, como resultado de COVID 19, todos los estudiantes en Condado Harrison tienen iPads. Son usados en clase y para las tareas en casa. Es una manera fácil para que los maestros les puedan mandar a sus estudiantes información importante y ellos estudiantes ausentes puedan saber lo que hizo la clase. En las escuelas secundarias (6-8) y preparatorias (9-12), los estudiantes mueven de aula a aula, no los maestros. En las escuelas primarias (K-5), a veces los estudiantes mueven, por ejemplo, para la educación física, arte o música. Usualmente, no se permite que ellos lleven sus mochilas a sus clases y necesitan usar

casilleros. Las reglas de cuando ellos pueden ir a sus casilleros varían en las escuelas. Ellos estudiantes primarios no pueden escoger sus clases. Ellos estudiantes secundarios tienen algunas opciones: música (coro), banda, instrumentos de cuerda, una lengua mundial o álgebra. Ellos estudiantes preparatorios tienen más opciones cada año, pero hay ritmos de preparación que dependen de sus metas: ir a una universidad (grados de 4 años) o instituto comunitario (certificaciones o grados de 2 años), ir a una escuela de oficios o trabajo manual, ir al servicio militar o entrar el mundo del trabajo. En Condado Harrison, los estudiantes que empiezan a estudiar los oficios pueden asistir un año más después

de su graduación para terminar su programa y ganar su certificación. En las escuelas públicas en este estado, los uniformes no son obligatorios, pero hay un código de vestir. El condado provee gratis el uso de autobuses escolares, libros escolares y iPads y cada día que hay clases, sirve el desayuno y el almuerzo y las familias pueden pagar mensualmente. Hay mucha información en el sitio <https://harcoboe.net>. Si Uds. prefieren español, hagan clic en <https://harcoboe.net/page/el-families>. En la carpeta español, hay mucha información diferente. Una sección importante es Política y procedimientos. Después de abrirla, hagan clic en Parents Right to Know (El

derecho de padres para saber). Es un documento en español que explica sus derechos y los derechos de sus hijos. Otro sitio es Family Resources (Recursos familiares) <https://harcoboe.net/page/family-resources>. Es escrito en inglés pero hay listas para ayuda de emergencia, servicios de vivienda, comida/nutrición, lista de lugares/días para distribución de comida gratis, centros de crisis, servicios familiares, sin hogarismo, servicios de discapacidad y parques/recreación. Y, recuerden que el condado tiene un servicio que puede traducir cuando sea necesario durante una reunión.

An 'essential vitamin' in a frenzied culture

From *L'Osservatore Romano*

At the General Audience on Wednesday morning, 27 March, Pope Francis continued his series of catecheses on virtues and vices, turning his attention to the virtue of patience. "There is no better witness to Jesus' love than encountering a patient Christian", he highlighted. The following is a translation of the Holy Father's words which he shared in Italian with the faithful gathered in the Paul VI Hall.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Good morning!

The audience was scheduled to take place in the Square today, but because of the rain, it was moved here, inside. It is true that you will be rather crowded, but at least we will not get wet. Thank you for your patience.

Last Sunday we listened to the account of the Passion of the Lord. Jesus responds to the suffering he endures with a virtue that, although not included among the traditional ones, is so important: the virtue of patience. It has to do with the forbearance of what one suffers. It is not a coincidence that patience has the same root as passion. And it is precisely in the Passion that Christ's patience emerges, as he accepts being arrested, beaten and unjustly condemned, with meekness and

mildness. He does not complain before Pilate. He bears being insulted, spat upon and flogged by the soldiers. He carries the weight of the cross. He forgives those who nail him to the wood, and while on the cross, he does not respond to provocation, but rather offers mercy. This is Jesus' patience. All this tells us that Jesus' patience does not consist in a stoic resistance to suffering, but rather, is the fruit of a greater love.

In the so-called "Hymn to Charity" (cf. 1 Cor 13:4-7), the Apostle Paul closely links love and patience. Indeed, in describing the first quality of charity, he uses a word that is translated as "magnanimous" or "patient". Charity is magnanimous, it is patient. It expresses a surprising concept, which frequently appears in the Bible: faced with our infidelity, God shows himself to be "slow to anger" (cf. Ex 34:6; cf. Nm 14:18); instead of venting his distaste for man's evil and sin, he reveals himself to be greater, always ready to start afresh with infinite patience. For Paul, this is the first feature of God's love, which proposes forgiveness in the face of sin. But not only that: it is the first trait of every great love, which knows how to respond to evil with good, and does not withdraw in anger and despondency, but rather perseveres and tries

again. The patience that starts over. Thus love is at the root of patience, as Saint Augustine says: "Each one of the just is in that measure for endurance of any ills more brave, in what measure in him the love of God is mightier" (De patientia, xvii).

One might say, then, that there is no better witness to Jesus' love than encountering a patient Christian. But let us also think of the many mothers and fathers, workers, doctors and nurses, the sick, who grace the world with saintly patience, every day, in hiddenness! As the Scripture affirms, "He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty" (Pr 16:32). However, we have to be honest: we often lack patience. In everyday life we are impatient, all of us. We need it as an "essential vitamin" in order to get by, but it is instinctive for us to lose our patience and respond to evil with evil. It is difficult to stay calm, to control our instincts, to refrain from bad responses, to defuse quarrels and conflicts in the family, at work, or in the Christian community. The response is immediate; we are not capable of being patient.

However, let us remember that patience is not only a need, it is a calling. If Christ is patient, then Christians are called to be patient. And this demands that we go against the tide with respect to today's widespread

mentality, dominated by rushing and by [wanting] "everything straight away", in which, rather than waiting for situations to mature, people are put under pressure, in the expectation that they will change immediately. Let us not forget that rushing and impatience are enemies of spiritual life. Why? God is love, and those who love do not tire, they are not irascible; they do not give ultimatums. God is patient, God knows how to wait. Think about the account of the merciful Father, who awaits his son who has left home. He suffers patiently, impatient only to embrace him as soon as he sees him return (cf. Lk 15:21). Or think of the parable of the wheat and the weeds, in which the Lord is not in a hurry to uproot evil before its time, so that nothing is lost (cf. Mt 13:29-30). Patience lets us save everything.

But brothers and sisters, how can one grow in patience? Since, as Saint Paul teaches us, it is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22), one must ask for it from the Spirit of Christ. He gives us the meek strength of patience — patience is a meek strength — because "Christian virtue is not only a matter of doing good, but of tolerating evil as well" (Augustine, Sermons, 46, 13). In these days especially, it will do us good to contemplate the Crucified One, to

assimilate his patience. Another good exercise is to take to him the most bothersome people, asking for the grace to put into practice towards them that work of mercy so well known, yet so disregarded: patiently enduring troublesome people. And it is not easy. Let us think about whether we do this: patiently tolerate troublesome people. It begins by asking to look at them with compassion, with God's gaze, knowing how to distinguish their faces from their faults. We have the habit of cataloguing people according to the mistakes they make. No, this is not good. Let us seek people by their faces, their heart, and not their mistakes.

Lastly, in order to cultivate patience, a virtue which gives breath to life, it is good to broaden one's outlook. For example, by not restricting the field of the world to our own troubles, as the Imitation of Christ invites us to do: "Well may you remember the very painful woes of others, that you may bear your own little ones the more easily", recalling that "with God nothing that is suffered for His sake, no matter how small, can pass without reward" (iii, 19). And again, when we feel we are in the grip of adversity, as Job teaches us, it is good to open ourselves with hope to the newness of God, in the unwavering

confidence that he does not disappoint our expectations. Patience, and knowing how to bear troubles.

And here today, at this audience, there are two people, two fathers: one Israeli and the other, Arab. Both of them lost their daughters in the war, and they are friends. They do not look at the wickedness of war, but rather they look at the friendship between two men who care about each other and have experienced the same crucifixion. Let us think of the beautiful witness of these two people who have suffered the war in the Holy Land in the loss of their daughters. Dear brothers, thank you for your witness.

Special Greetings

I extend a warm welcome to the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors participating in today's Audience, especially the groups from the Philippines, Pakistan, Canada and the United States of America. As we prepare for the Sacred Triduum, I invoke upon all of you the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you!

Brothers and sisters, let us pray for peace. May the Lord grant us peace in tormented Ukraine, which is suffering greatly from the bombings, as well as in Israel and Palestine. May there be peace in the Holy Land. May the Lord grant us all peace, as a gift of his Easter.

I offer my blessing to all of you.

Social Security to Remove Barriers to Accessing SSI Payments

Today, the Social Security Administration published a final rule, "Omitting Food from In-Kind Support and Maintenance (ISM) Calculations." The final rule announces the first of several updates to the agency's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) regulations that will help people receiving and applying for SSI.

"A vital part of our mission is helping people access crucial benefits, including SSI," said Martin O'Malley,

Commissioner of Social Security. "Simplifying our policies is a common-sense solution that reduces the burden on the public and agency staff and helps promote equity by removing barriers to accessing payments."

SSI provides monthly payments to adults and children with a disability or blindness, and to adults aged 65 and older, who have limited income and resources. SSI benefits help pay for basic

needs like rent, food, clothing, and medicine. People applying for and receiving SSI must meet eligibility requirements, including income and resource limits. Under our old rules, ISM includes food, shelter, or both a person receives - the agency counts ISM as unearned income, which may affect a person's eligibility or reduce their payment amount.

Under the final rule, beginning September 30, 2024, the agency will

no longer include food in ISM calculations. The new policy removes a critical barrier for SSI eligibility due to an applicant's or recipient's receipt of informal food assistance from friends, family, and community networks of support. The new policy further helps in several important ways: the change is easier to understand and use by applicants, recipients, and agency employees; applicants and recipients have less information to report

about food assistance received from family and friends, removing a significant source of burden; reducing month-to-month variability in payment amounts will improve payment accuracy; and the agency will see administrative savings because less time will be spent administering food ISM.

The agency continuously examines programmatic policy and makes regulatory and sub-regulatory changes as appropriate.

Look for more SSI announcements in the coming weeks.

For more information on the SSI program, including who is eligible and how to apply, visit Supplemental Security Income (SSI) | SSA.

To read the final rule "Omitting Food from In-Kind Support and Maintenance Calculations," visit Federal Register :: Omitting Food From In-Kind Support and Maintenance Calculations.



April is Safety Dig Month

To prevent damaging underground infrastructure this spring be sure to call **811** before digging for any of your outdoor projects.