

Top Lincoln Scholars Recognized Students of the Month



Representatives from each class received a Top Scholar Award from Lincoln High School this year. From left to right are the 9th grade winner Payge Freeman, 10th grade Avery Cumberledge, 11th grade Ashton Fulton, and 12th grade Aleisa Hayhurst.

Aliyah Elder spent countless hours volunteering in her community to local businesses and programs. Some of these include: Feed-a-Family, Angel Luv, Clarksburg Veterans Nursing Facilities, Big Elm Field Day, Shinnston Women's Club, and Harrison County Challenger League.



Christine Elder is the daughter of Christopher and Whitney Elder, and the granddaughter of Cecil and Nora Elder, and Elizabeth Daugherty and the late William Daugherty. Throughout her four years at Lincoln, Aliyah has earned a spot on the perfect honor roll due to her exceptional grades. She is ranked #11 in her entire class, maintains a 4.1 gpa, and has been the recipient of several Top Scholar awards. Aliyah was inducted into the National Honor Society her junior year, and is also very active in Student Council.

As Key Club Treasurer, she has

See "Students" on Pg 3

Sun About to Set On the Shinnston High School Reunion

By Stephen Smoot

For nearly five decades, starting in the year of America's bicentennial, the Shinnston High School Alumni Association has held one of Shinnston's most popular parties. Every four years, except in the year of COVID, the city would enjoy a weekend-long celebration of the former Shinnston High School, its students, and the traditions they carried forward even

after the closing of the school itself. Now, those who have provided blood, sweat, and tears needed to put on the extravaganza say that age has caught up with those most involved. According to Debbie Malone, president, the end has come because of "aging board members and not enough participate to plan an all-weekend celebration."

After this year, they

will not be able to put together any more reunions.

At one time, the Shinnston High School reunion better resembled a festival. Alumni, friends, family, and other community members enjoyed a three day celebration. It included a Friday night dinner, a downtown parade, and a Saturday night dance for those who attended the school, which operated

See "Reunion" on Pg 3



The last Spartans graduated from Shinnston High School in 1978. Ever since, the alumni association has planned city reunion extravaganzas every four years.

EPIC Results From LHS Club a Sign of Things to Come



Lincoln High School EPIC Tourism Grant committee joined with the City of Shinnston to erect signs directing users to the West Fork River and Water Trails. Pictured from left to right are Olivia Hayes, Trinity Eldridge, Cameron Patton, Kasey Ketterman, Sierra Menendez, joined by Ms. Julie Yearego and Ms. Savannah Hoffman

Stonehenge: A Must-See Experience



By Jim Hunt for the News and Journal

One of England's quintessential landmarks is Stonehenge, a prehistoric circle of towering stones that has captivated the imaginations of people for centuries. When planning our trip, my wife inquired about my

must-see destinations. Stonehenge immediately came to mind. Despite not knowing its exact distance from London, I insisted we prioritize it. With a week at our disposal in London, we settled on a Wednesday for our excursion into the English countryside.

Our chosen tour promised a packed day including visits to Stonehenge, the town of Bath, and Shakespeare's birthplace, Stratford-Upon-Avon. It required us to be at Victoria Coach Station by 7:30 AM, and we would return around 8:30 PM. We rose early, enjoyed

See "Hunt" on Pg 3



OPINION

The Grinding Path to Success

By Stephen Smoot

The concept of success almost gets killed by its own press. All too often sanitized stories of how a person makes their way to the top focuses on the glitz and glamor, with a few obstacles tossed in just to make it believable. They make finding one's dreams look easy.

People need the real hard edges of a story to understand what is possible with hard work, determination, and sheer tenacity.

In the real world, away from television screens and glamorous publications, the road to success is paved not with golden bricks, but hard work sacrifice, personal privation, and sometimes even despair.

Take the story of a young man born in 1936, during the worst days of the Great Depression in the (then) impoverished state of Arkansas. This son of a sharecropper was the seventh born of 11 brothers and sisters and joined them regularly in the fields to pick cotton to support the family.

But almost all of the children grew up loving to listen to and create music.

The seventh son showed special promise in that art before most children even learn to read, which inspired his father to save the hefty sum of \$5 to provide his four year old son a Sears and Roebuck guitar.

The seventh son never took to school and dropped out at the age of 14, but he had by that point several years under his belt as a paid performer for concerts and even radio broadcasts. He first joined his Uncle Dick and played bars and other country hot spots, then formed his own band the Western Wranglers, which did not last long.

Searching for success took the seventh son from the deserts and mountains of his musical stomping grounds between Wyoming and New Mexico. He went to where almost all looked first for entertainment success after World War II, the then gleaming and new environs of Los Angeles.

While the young man worked hard to build his reputation in a competitive field, the music itself came easy. He could usually learn a song after hearing it once, no more than twice. As an employee of American Music Company, then Capitol Records, he developed into an in-demand session player.

The seventh son found his way into a loose group of session artists that called themselves "The Wrecking Crew." Most of the hottest acts of the 60s went to this group for the best performers. He played behind everyone from Merle Haggard to The Byrds, appearing in 586 cuts in 1963 alone.

The most memorable work came when he played behind one of his biggest heroes. Old Blue Eyes, Frank Sinatra's manager called on him to perform in the song "Strangers In the Night."

Despite working with the biggest rock and

See "Smoot" on Pg 3

Super Crossword

STEEP STAIRWAY

- ACROSS**
- 1 Offer hush money to
 - 6 Strip of gear, as a ship
 - 11 Weight unit for a druggist
 - 15 "I am at your — and call"
 - 19 "Elementary" actor Quinn
 - 20 Sonata, often
 - 22 Many a cruise stopover
 - 23 Unconcealed
 - 24 Customized for
 - 25 Lee of Marvel Comics
 - 26 Like a swine
 - 28 Also-rans
 - 29 Like a diluted drink
 - 31 Parceled out
 - 33 "Haven't — before?"
 - 34 Shout of discovery
 - 35 Having two hues
 - 37 "It could go either way"
 - 39 Rival of Delta or United
 - 41 Urgent
 - 42 Fire residue
 - 46 Taxpayer's ID
 - 48 Dedicates
 - 50 Fender guitar, for short
 - 52 Ltd. cousin
 - 53 Pot toppers
 - 55 Edits for publication
 - 57 Conflict
 - 59 Sad paper notices
 - 61 Say a different way
 - 63 Michael who co-hosted "Live" with Kelly Ripa
 - 64 Gets broader
 - 66 "No outlet" street
 - 68 Always, in music scores
 - 69 Keyboard instrument
 - 71 One of three womb-sharers
 - 73 Florida's Key —
 - 74 Charges for not paying on time
 - 76 Decongestant brand
 - 78 Legal claim on property
 - 79 Broke a fast
 - 80 Flimflam
 - 82 Non-PC person?
 - 84 Suffix with Taiwan
 - 85 Bothersome types
 - 87 Boring type
 - 89 Relax after working hard
 - 91 Red-tinged jewelry alloy
 - 94 Removes hair from
 - 97 Second-to-last king of Egypt
 - 100 Greeting sent online
 - 102 Emily Dickinson's "Much Madness is — Sense"
 - 103 Tropical rabbit lookalike
 - 104 Shrink back
 - 106 Brings about
 - 107 Finger-paint
 - 108 The Northwest's "City of Trees"
 - 111 Like many allergy sprays
 - 112 Robbie Knievel's father
 - 113 Remark from the sharp-eared
 - 114 1950s-'70s baseballer Boyer
 - 115 Actress Russo
 - 116 Deck crew officer, in brief
 - 117 Puts in order
 - 118 City on the Ruhr
 - 16 Lauder of fragrances
 - 17 Lois' partner
 - 18 Its capital is Nairobi
 - 21 Aspiring doc's major
 - 27 Person stashing stuff
 - 30 In the buff
 - 32 Cracked, as a cryptogram
 - 36 Info group to be input
 - 38 "Dagnabbit!"
 - 40 Bee-luring fluids
 - 43 Chief female officers in sacred rites
 - 44 Gets bigger
 - 45 First division of a 13-Down
 - 46 Sparse start of some rounds of applause
 - 47 Utter with a hissing sound
 - 49 Arena relative
 - 51 Crafts' counterparts
 - 54 Apple's Jobs
 - 56 Pop in a blended family
 - 58 Egypt's Nasser
 - 60 Detects like a dog
 - 62 Intertwined
 - 65 Crystal ball gazer, e.g.
 - 67 Neutralized, as a bomb
 - 70 "The Cloister and the Hearth" novelist Charles
 - 72 Planes' first fliers, often
 - 75 Operations
 - 77 Infer (from)
 - 81 Like a district bishop's jurisdiction
 - 83 Faith
 - 86 Difficulty
 - 88 Finisher just under the winner
 - 90 Beach footwear
 - 92 Overalls for hitting the slopes
 - 93 Sci-fi automatons
 - 95 Grand home
 - 96 Purloined
 - 97 Soundboard control knob
 - 98 Mojave plant
 - 99 Northern French city
 - 101 Inflicted upon
 - 105 Actor Bert
 - 109 "Well well!"
 - 110 Fedora, e.g.

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FIND THE SUPER CROSSWORD ANSWERS ON PAGE 6!

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

Charleston WV – Flatwoods Monster.

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.

May 2, 1900: State founder Waitman Willey died in Morgantown. He is remembered for the Willey Amendment, which provided for the gradual emancipation of slaves as a precondition for the creation of West Virginia.

May 2, 1925: Flying saucer investigator Gray Barker was born in Riffle, Braxton County.

Barker became interested in unidentified flying objects in the 1950s after investigating sightings of the

government test pilots to die in the line of duty. Six weeks earlier, he had become only the fourth person to break the sound barrier.

May 4, 1896: The Children's Home Society of West Virginia was formed by a group of Charleston ministers. Their goal was to place orphaned and neglected children with caring families rather than crowd them into county poorhouses.

May 5, 1923: A fire started by welders working on a new swimming pool destroyed most of Luna Park, an amusement park in Charleston. Although Luna's owners announced they would rebuild, the park never reopened.

May 5, 1923: Golfer Bill Campbell was born in Huntington. He won more than 30 championships over a seven-decade career and is considered one of the best amateur players in history.

May 6, 1812: Activist and physician Martin Robison Delany was born in Charles Town.

In February 1865, he was commissioned as a major in the U.S. Colored Troops. He was the only Black Civil War officer to be given a field command.

May 6, 1968: A continuous miner machine at the Gauley Coal & Coke Saxsewell No. 8 mine at Hominy Falls, Nicholas County, cut into an adjacent mine, which was filled with water.

The resulting flood drowned four miners and trapped 21 others.

May 6, 1968: Newspaper publisher and Bluefield native John S. Knight received the Pulitzer Prize for his long record of service and his series of columns opposing the Vietnam War.

May 7, 1824: Logan County was created by the Virginia General Assembly from parts of Giles, Tazewell, Cabell and Kanawha counties. The county seat was first known as Lawnsville, then Aracoma, and finally Logan.

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Shinnston Harrison County
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“Smoot” From Pg 2.

country acts of the 60s, playing for Sinatra brought out the fan in the seventh son. Sinatra was so unnerved by the young man’s constant staring that he asked “who’s that (expletive) guitar player looking at

me?” Though the exact quote varies from story to story, the unflattering comment could have devastated the young man. But the seventh son had worked too hard for too long. He later

said “I’ll never forget that. I didn’t take it for granted.”

By 1967 the seventh son broke into his own as a hit singer, generally working in the Nashville sound style. Although he produced hit after

hit, the mantle of fame never set well on him.

Eight years after he made it big, the seventh son sang his signature song, a work that paralleled both the hustle, work, and sacrifice to get to the

top, and also told how success doesn’t provide all the happiness it seems to promise.

Although he followed the road to his horizon, and ended up where the lights were shining on him, the “Rhinestone

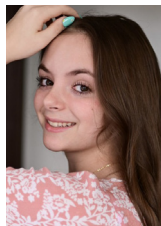
Cowboy” Glen Campbell struggled and fought his way to the top. To this day, he serves as an example for every other musician who came from the middle of nowhere and earned his success.

“Students” From Pg 1.

and currently serves as captain.

Outside of school, Aliyah enjoys spending time with her family and boyfriend, and volunteering with special needs children. Aliyah has plans to attend Pierpont Community and Technical College for Radiologic Technology.

Kaylee Rose Hyre



Kaylee Rose Hyre is the daughter of Philip and Penny Hyre, and the granddaughter of David and Polly Hyre, and Gary Prince, Sr. and Pamela Prince.

entire class, has been the recipient of several Top Scholar awards, and has taken multiple dual enrollment classes through Fairmont State. Kaylee was inducted into the National Honor Society her junior year, and holds membership in the Key Club and National English Honor Society where she was elected Treasurer.

Also noteworthy is the fact that Kaylee has been a member of the varsity volleyball team for the past two years.

Outside of school, Kaylee enjoys reading, hunting, and fishing.

Kaylee plans to attend Liberty University online and focus on Business.

Zackary Drake Mills

Zackary Drake Mills is the son of James and Kelly Mills, and the grandson of Brian and Sandy Mills, Robin and Michael Ash,

and Chuck and Tammy Feathers.

Throughout his four years at Lincoln, Zack has earned a 4.06 GPA. He is ranked in the Top 25 of his class. Zack was inducted into the National Honor Society during his junior year. Zack also participated in the American Legion Mountaineer Boys State.

Zack currently holds the highest ACT score among boys at Lincoln High. He also has taken multiple dual-credit college courses during his senior year.

Zack has been a member of the Key Club and Current Events Club. Zack has spent many hours volunteering with local groups, most notably the Lords Pantry in



Zackary Drake Mills

Shinnston. Other programs Zack has been involved in include Angel Luv, Feed-A-Family, Field Day with Friends, Trunk or Treat, and Big Elm Field Day.

In his spare time, Zack enjoys hunting, hiking, and cooking.

Zack has been accepted by the West Virginia University School of Medicine to study Exercise Physiology. Zack aspires to enter the Physician Assistant program for a career in medicine.

Ashlyn Riley

Ashlyn Riley is the daughter of Chad and Shelley Riley, and the granddaughter of Rick and Donna Lambert, and Ann Riley and the late Bob Riley.

Throughout her four years at Lincoln, Ashlyn has earned a spot on the honor roll due to her

exceptional grades. She maintains a 4.03 GPA, is in the top 25 of her class, and has been the recipient of several Top Scholar awards. Ashlyn was inducted into the National Honor Society her junior year, and has been enrolled in dual credit, Advanced Placement, and honors classes.

Also noteworthy is the fact that Ashlyn was elected Class Historian for three years. Ashlyn also excels athletically. A four-year member of the basketball team, Ashlyn has earned All-County, Big 10, and All-State awards, and was chosen as a captain the last two years. She was also a five-time selection for WV News



Ashlyn Riley

Athlete of the Week and was chosen to play in the Scott Brown All Star game. She was also a four-year member of the soccer team where she was selected as WV News Athlete of the Week.

Ashlyn has been a member of the Student Council and Key Club. She has spent countless hours volunteering in her community to local businesses and programs.

Some of these include: Angel Luv, Feed-a-Family, WVU Hospitals, Special Olympics, and the Challenger League.

Outside of school, Ashlyn enjoys spending time with her family, working out, and spending time outdoors.

Ashlyn signed her letter of intent to attend Glenville State University to continue her academic and athletic careers.

“Hunt” From Pg 1.

breakfast at our hotel, and took an Uber to the station. The tour operators were efficient; they promptly had us on the bus, and we departed on time. During the two-hour drive, our guide entertained us with countless fascinating

facts and stories about his homeland, as we left London’s hustle and bustle for quaint villages and pastoral scenes.

Upon nearing Stonehenge, I expected an immediate view of the historic stones but saw only a large

parking lot and a modern visitor center. The iconic site, set amidst vast fields, felt surprisingly isolated. We were offered the option to walk or take a shuttle bus to the stones. Choosing the latter due to the brisk wind, we soon arrived at the site. It’s difficult to articulate the surreal experience of seeing Stonehenge in person after years of seeing it in media. My initial thought was its modest size amid

the sprawling fields, yet its presence was undeniably profound.

Stonehenge’s history underscores its resilience. As recent as 1915, it was auctioned and acquired by Cecil Chubb for £6,600 (equivalent to £562,700 in 2024). By 1928, after some surrounding construction, the site was secured by the National Trust through public donations and preserved for posterity. The land was reclaimed for agriculture,

and buildings were demolished. Up until 1977, visitors could freely wander among the stones, a practice halted to prevent erosion.

Despite the intermittent rain and wind, we explored the site for about thirty minutes before returning to the visitor center. The visitor’s center contains a gift shop, snack bar, rest rooms and a 360-degree exhibit that gives the history

of Stonehenge from the vantage point of standing in the middle of the circle of stones. The center was opened to the public in December of 2013 and is the only structure of note on the grounds.

The visit was unforgettable, and I was thrilled that my wife and granddaughter could experience this pivotal piece of history with me. We then set off for the Town of Bath, the focus of next week’s column.

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

On Saturday, May 4 the PWA will have an Eat Meet and Greet spaghetti Dinner from eleven to five at the Uptown Event center. We have invited the individuals who are running for office to come, sit down at their table and have the opportunity to talk to individuals interested in meeting the candidates and find out about the candidates.

Have you had the opportunity to speak with the candidates? Please join us and take advantage of this time to get to know individuals who will be serving us. This is the time to thank these people who are willing to seek office to serve us.

Please come by. Cal. 624 6881:for more information.

“Reunion” From Pg 1.

from 1910 to 1978.

Malone remembered when alumni led by Pauline Reed would make sure that every downtown business had a reunion related decoration for their storefront windows.

This year, the festivities start on Friday evening, July 19, with a parking lot party held from 6 PM until midnight. Attendees are urged to bring a pop up canopy and chairs “so you will be comfortable.” Also, those who come may “buy your dinner from the food trucks that will be on hand.” The Alumni Association will provide water.

Alumni can enjoy an entire day packed full of events the next day. The fun starts early on Saturday morning with a free breakfast at the Moose Lodge from 8 to 10:30 AM. The Alumni

Association asks that those planning to come make their reservations by July 1.

From 10 AM to 3 PM, except during a noon concert by the Shinnston Community Band at the Shinnston Fire Department, the Alumni Room at the Bice-Fergusson Memorial Museum will open. On display will be artifacts, photographs, and memories from the schools decades of service to the community.

Malone shared that “we do accept donations of anything but newspaper clippings” for the Alumni Room. Also, “there will be local artists displaying art during Alumni Weekend.”

Local historian Bobby Bice will provide free trolley

history tours between 1 and 2 PM. Those who wish to join should gather at St. Ann’s parking lot and must also make a reservation by July 1.

The main event Saturday is the dinner and dance at the Best Western on Bridgeport Hill that lasts from 5 PM to midnight. The same establishment reserved blocks of rooms at a special discount for alumni attending the weekend reunion.

The dinner costs \$30 per person, but the Alumni Association will collect no dues since no further reunions are planned. Malone said “we have for sale poster sized class pictures for \$10 a piece” for the classes of 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 60, 61, 62, 63, 65, 68, 70, 71, and 74.

Photographs of the classes in each decade present will be taken and sold for \$15. They will be available to take home by the end of the night.

The Alumni Association will continue to maintain the database of students who graduated from Shinnston High School. At one time, the list boasted over 2,500 active alumni, but in recent years that number has dipped to between 1,500 and 1,800.

Board officers currently working on the event are Debbie Malone president, Alice Bowman vice president, Paula Barron secretary and Mickie Arco treasurer. Those with questions may call Malone at (304) 203-1374 or Bowman and (304) 669-6180.

SHINNSTON

MCDONALD’S



Purchase any Combo / Extra Value Meal - Receive a cheeseburger and small fry for FREE

Expires May 8, 2024

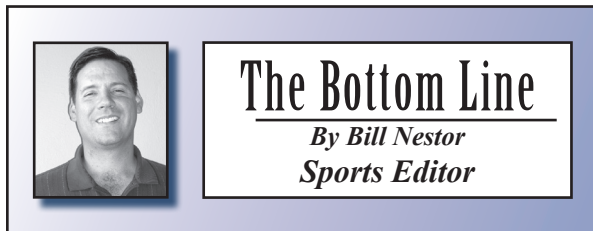
One per customer per visit, not to be used with any other offer, discount or within an EVM purchase. Valid at the Shinnston McDonald's only. Cash value 1/20 of 1 cent LwC. Must present this coupon prior to ordering.

Are You Ready For Some Football?

The 2024 Gold and Blue Spring Game is in the books and from all indications, it was as successful as possible. The event brought back more big names, brought in big numbers, and, most importantly, those that matter the most were present and accounted for this past Saturday.

The weather was perfect in Morgantown, tempting students that were trying to prepare for upcoming finals. ESPN + televised the event, which is always great for national exposure, but can sometimes slow the attendance. However, the combination of last year's strong campaign, the impressive returning nucleus, the infusion of yet-to-be-seen young talent, and the returning alumni brought the fans in droves. An outstanding 18,540 fans were in attendance, showing the success of the day's event and the excitement for the impending season.

Morgantown native Huey Mack (the 32 year old rapper) started the festivities with a free concert in the morning. It's nothing like John Denver's version, but Mack has one of his own. There is nothing like a little "Country



The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

Roads" in the early hours to get a day going properly. Once Huey got the fan base properly lubed up, the gates to Milan Puskar Stadium opened at 11 AM and football related events began.

The controlled scrimmage brought back a pair of Mountaineer legends to serve as honorary coaches. The two most recognizable "Pats" to ever don pads at West Virginia University were back together again, but this time on opposing sidelines. Pat White and Pat McAfee played together at WVU from 2005 to 2008 (White also played in Morgantown in 2004.) During their time together, White and McAfee won 42 games, including bowl victories in the Sugar, Fiesta, and Meineke.

White is currently an offensive assistant coach for the Los Angeles Chargers. White and Major Harris are considered to be the top two quarterbacks in Mountaineer history. McAfee was a punter

and kicker at West Virginia. He scored 384 points (210 of 212 on career extra point attempts) making him the all-time leading scorer in program history. He is currently one of the biggest names in sports and in Oct 2023, McAfee signed a five-year \$85 million contract with ESPN.

Don't worry, the Pats didn't have to work too hard as the event included more drills, competitions, and fan involvement than actual game play. As a matter of fact, a controlled scrimmage was utilized to minimize the opportunity for injury. The signal callers were dressed in white (different colors to signify hands-off to teammates) for protective purposes. This allowed fans to catch a free glimpse of Garrett Greene and Nicco Marchiol.

Hall of Fame coach Don Nehlen was in attendance and was acknowledged, receiving a big round of rightful applause. Nehlen has been a

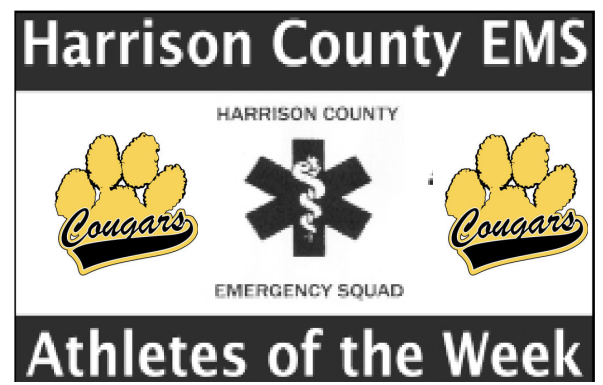
consistent presence for this program ever since his coaching days that ranged from 1980 to 2000. His 202 wins ranks him 17th on the all time list for victories in collegiate football.

Mountaineer Nation caught a peek of the new uniforms that were unveiled after the first period of play. New fans can fantasize in detail about their favorite players making big plays with the appropriate uniforms. Halftime brought several award winners to the forefront. Avery Wilcox was named the Tom Nickolich Award Winner, given to the top walk-on player. The Iron Mountaineers (top weight room performers) were Austin Brinkman, Preston Fox, Garrett Greene, Sean Martin, and Wyatt Milum.

The best news of the day was brought by WVU head coach Neal Brown. Brown indicated that there were no losses to the transfer portal and that there could be some additions to the roster in May.

All is good in Morgantown this spring!

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



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 Dillon Shaw and Robert C. Byrd's Salverio Destito.

Cougar baseball player Dillon Shaw was a major factor in his team's win over RCB last week. Shaw was three of four from the plate in the 23 to four win. Shaw belted a pair of grand slams, helping him to drive in an impressive total of nine

runs. Shaw also scored twice in the affair.

Flying Eagle Salverio Destito helped his squad break a six game losing skid with a 14 to four triumph over Elkins last week. Destito was four of five at the dish, including a double. He also drove in seven runs in the lock-up.

Congratulations to Lincoln's Dillon Shae and Robert C. Byrd's Salverio Destito for shining bright in the SN and HCJ Athlete's Spotlight.

The Crush Cousins Help Lincoln Power Past East Fairmont



The Elder cousins, Aliyah and Adrianna, belted a grand slam and two run shot respectively in an 18 to three triumph.

Sheriff Credits Tax Division for Recent Accomplishment

Harrison County Sheriff Robert G. Matheny praised Tax Deputies for exceeding \$10 million in delinquent personal property tax collections. Matheny implemented an aggressive collection program soon after taking office in 2017.

"It was pointed out to me while seeking office during the 2016 campaign, that enormous amounts of tax monies were delinquent and after 5 years it was falling off the books, per West Virginia State Tax Code. "I remember seeing the report from the first month after implementing the program, and it indicated just under six thousand dollars collected, and we were happy with that since we had nothing to compare it to".

"I've really enjoyed observing the process," the Sheriff said. The amounts range from as little as \$20 and go as high as \$210,000.00. The thing that most impresses me is the fact that it's all been so civil, the taxpayers have responded respectfully and complied without legal action. In most cases it's been an oversight by the taxpayer, many times they actually thanked us. Truly it's not the amount collected but what it says. Sometimes folks struggle to pay what they owe, and with efforts on our part we can help them become current. We can't stop here, much more needs done, we will continue this pursuit going forward.

Where does this extra income go? The

bulk goes directly to our schools (over 60%) which allows the Board of Education to fund our PRO program that places Law Enforcement Officers & Deputies in our schools, with our students, staff and teachers.

Former Superintendent of schools, Dr. Mark Manchin acknowledged Sheriff Matheny and his staff in 2019 stating that the true winners were the students. Matheny has issued Sheriff citation awards to the Tax Deputies for their exceptional effort on this initiative. Local Cities and towns have seen increases in their monthly municipal current and levy incomes, additionally the County Commission also shares in the additional income.

Earth Day Cleanup For the West Fork Held Last Week

The Guardians of the West Fork River Watershed hosted an Earth Day West Fork Riverside clean-up at Shinnston's rail-trail and riverbank Sunday, April 21st. Students and staff from Lincoln High School's DECA Club, AmeriCorps and the Guardians of the West Fork River worked to pick up several bags of trash and tires with supplies and support of WV DEP REAP.

If you would like to join the

effort to improve the quality and use of our local watershed, please reach out to the Guardians of the West Fork on Facebook or their site: <https://guardiansofthewestfork.org/>. Guardians meet monthly on 3rd Wednesdays at 7pm typically at the Clarksburg City Water Board office. All are welcome to join and work toward future improvement and recreational use of the West Fork River.

BUSINESS MATTERS

Faith in the Lord and a Faithful Supporter For Downtown, Pops and Gigi's Is Business of the Month

By Stephen Smoot

Two years ago, Emory and Stephanie Oldaker were looking for a new locale to settle down and start a business. When they finally decided to start over again in Shinnston after running businesses in Bridgeport for years, they found it a true blessing.

Since then, they have sold approximately 14,000 of their in-house made scented candles, in addition to specialized cups and other merchandise centered around themes of faith and patriotism.

"It humbles me that Pops and Gigi's was not part of our plan," Emory explained, adding that he and his wife have full time careers in health care.

The Oldakers named their business after their grandchildren's nicknames for them. From the start, the focus has remained on faith, family, and service to the community, as well as producing high quality products.

"We didn't really have an expectation, not knowing the city well" at first. In some ways, "the biggest obstacle is the foot traffic," Emory shared. To compensate for the lack of walk-in business, Pops and Gigi's expanded their business online. Additionally, the business "is not our livelihood, so we have a lot of flexibility."

Most sales take place online, some to customers as far away as California. One customer happened onto the site and tried out an item. Since then that single customer has purchased about \$1,000 in products. "We have customers from all over the country," Emory said, "who have allowed us to remain open."

"It's one of those little blessings. You don't realize



Faith, family, fellowship, and community have been keys to Emory and Stephanie Oldaker finding success in Shinnston

the power of online sales." He added that he cannot see how a retail outlet can stay open without the support of online sales.

That said, the Oldakers also enjoy having fellowship and friendship with their many in person customers who frequent their Pike Street shop.

Remaining open and earning money are not the entire motivation. "We have a Christian family," Emory

explained, also saying "we have a heart to share." While the family has always given back to the community, it is through the store that they can have an impact "on a larger scale."

Pops and Gigi's merchandise have become area fundraiser favorites. Emory shared that their store "offers one of the best percentages of profit" for items used for fundraisers from there. They give 50

percent. The Oldakers also praise and appreciate the business community of Downtown. Although some businesses have closed recently and all struggled through COVID, Emory explains that each business in the center of Shinnston supports the others.

He goes on to explain that the sense of, and pride in, community among small businesses serve as one of the

biggest distinctions between Shinnston and Bridgeport. Emory explains that, for example, when customers search for an item in his store that he cannot provide, that they happily refer them to other businesses in town that can better serve their needs.

And other businesses send customers to him as well.

"We don't compete with each other," he explained, "we support each other."

Capito Cuts Ribbon on Aurora Flight Sciences Expansion

BRIDGEPORT, W.Va. – Today, U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) traveled to Bridgeport, W.Va. where she participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the expansion of Aurora Flight Sciences at the Mid-Atlantic Aerospace Complex

near the North Central West Virginia Airport. Aurora Flight Sciences, a Boeing Company, advances the future of flight by developing and applying innovations across the aerospace industry. This expansion will add nearly 50,000 square feet of space and grow their personnel

by over 100 in the next five years. Aurora first opened in Bridgeport in 1999.

"Aurora Flight Sciences is once again showing their confidence in the West Virginia workforce with this investment and expansion. Our state has such a proud history

of involvement in the aerospace industry, and today's announcement will help continue that tradition. America's position as the world leader in economic and military power depends on a robust aerospace industry, and by working together, we are making sure

that our state remains a key contributor in that mission," Senator Capito said.

"Aurora first came to West Virginia nearly 30 years ago, and we are proud to continue growing and investing in this community," Mike Caimona, President and CEO of Aurora Flight

Sciences, said. "The people here are key to our businesses. The hard work of Aurora team members and the support from local partners made this expansion possible. Customers are choosing to grow their business with us and to bring exciting new programs to West Virginia."

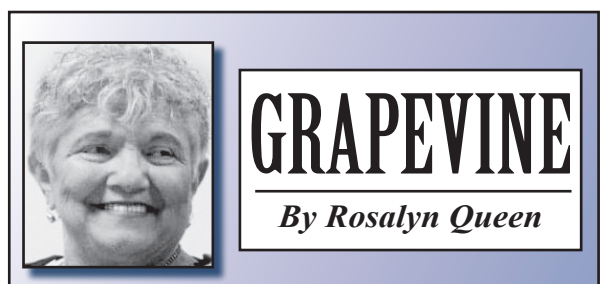
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GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen

What are you doing the first Saturday of May? Traditionally this is the Saturday that the Kentucky Derby will be held. This year will be no different as the 150th race will be held in Louisville, Kentucky at Churchill Downs on Saturday, May 4th.

The race this year will feature approximately 16 horses. Give or take a few as the time comes up. Today the favorite horse is Angel of Empire, but traditionally this may change several times before the actual race. The horse winning the Derby will bring home a purse of approximately 1.5 million dollars.

The day of the race will find the women in their beautiful hats and most men will keep tradition by having a mint julep. Those attending will have paid from \$65.00 to \$10,000 for a ticket. The most expensive tickets will find these individuals sitting in Millionaires Row. Individuals will start gathering around noon to find their seats and to enjoy about five other races that will be held prior to the Derby. The traditional My Old Kentucky Home will be sung and the fun will

begin, ending with the placing the wreath of red roses around the neck of the winner and hearing from the jockey and the owner.

The most fun of the day will be those individuals placing bets on the races. If you are lucky you may go home with a few more bucks than you came with, but placing a bet really assures your interest in that race.

About twenty years ago I had the privilege of attending the Derby. I was a member of the Fairs and Festivals Association and that year the Derby was the chosen event for Festival associates to observe and to learn from the success of the event to incorporate their successes into our event.

We purchased a three day event package. This included our hotel, tickets to the Derby and entry to other events leading up to the Derby. Part of the package included a concert by Tim McGraw who played to a full house the night before the Run for the Roses. The highlight of the concert was as McGraw sang his closing song he was joined on stage by



The Kentucky Derby attracts tens of thousands of visitors and millions of television viewers each spring. Photo courtesy of Kentucky Tourism.

his wife FAITH Hill who sang with him and then announced they were expecting their first child. Most importantly we met with Derby officials who gave us tips about putting together sponsor packages.

If you cannot make the trip to Louisville, plan a Derby party here at home. Do a little research about placing bets online, require that all ladies wear hats and perfect a recipe for mint juleps. A tip, just remember that the big race only takes about 2 1/2 minutes. Happy race day.

How about this saying "To plant a garden is to believe in

tomorrow." So true. When we plant those vegetables we believe that tomorrow will bring us a bumper crop. Keep believing it is our only salvation. The Clarksburg Farmers Market will open soon. Be sure to support our local farmers.

Mark your calendar to attend the PWA spaghetti dinner on Saturday, May 4. Some delicious pasta prepared by our famous chef, Randall Linch. Call 304 624 6881 for tickets. Help support their food pantry.

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



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GENERAC

Wisdom From "The Federalist Papers"

By James Madison

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so incoherent that they cannot be understood.

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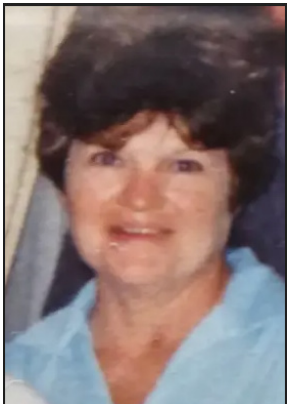



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OBITUARIES



Virginia Sue "Susie" Briggs

Virginia Sue "Susie" Briggs, 74, of Lumberport, passed away on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at her residence. She was born in Clarksburg, December 7, 1949, a daughter of the late Lloyd and Lois Gallaher Keener. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jerald "Jerry" Briggs; one son, Johnny Ray Briggs; her brother, Tom Gallaher; aunt, Betty Bennett; a nephew, Jeff Gallaher; her adopted grandparents, Archie and Agnes Gallaher; and her cousin, Naomi Bartlett.

Surviving are her brother, Archie "Sandy" Gallaher and his wife Paula, of Ohio; her half-sister, Mary Frances, half-brother, Mike Keener; nephews and nieces: Hunter McGary, Jessica Gallaher, J.C. Westfall, Lance Gallaher, Carrie Gallager, Brian Gallaher, Kara Gallaher, Erica Gallaher, and Bobbi Jo Cole; her cousins, Diane Martin and Dottie Jones, and her church friends, Valerie Ellis and Regina Payne.

Susie was a devoted wife, mother, and sister. She enjoyed watching the Dallas Cowboys with her brothers. She loved her family and friends and was a member of the Lumberport Baptist Church.

A private interment was held at the WV National Cemetery in Pruntytown and in keeping with her wishes, no public services will be held. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Briggs family.



Claude (Sonny) Harris

Claude (Sonny) Harris, 88, of Clarksburg, passed away on April 21, 2024. He was born on March 27, 1936, in Clarksburg, a son to the late Claude Harris and Dorothy Athey Harris. Along with his parents, he is preceded in death by his in-laws Frank and Hazel Russell; brother Russell Harris; grandson Doug Peterman; and great-grandson Devin Peterman.

He is survived by his wife of over 67 years, Loretta Harris, whom he married January 5, 1957; children Robert Harris, Kim Register (Ronnie), Carrie Hamrick, and Michelle Kramer (Jeff), all of Clarksburg; grandchildren Meghan Johnson, Aaron Register (Katie), Cady Crawford (Mike), all of Clarksburg, Rebecca Duarte (Kris) of Grafton, and Cara Arbogast (Andrew) of Clarksburg; great-grandchildren Isabella Riley of Morgantown,

Cooper Peterman of Shinnston, Arlo Register of Salem, Emma Crawford of Clarksburg, Ripley Duarte of Grafton, and Tyssen Duarte of Grafton; brother Randy Harris (Beth); and sister Jennifer Wright (Ron), both of Shinnston; and long-term friends George Beezel and Jerry Rexroad.

Claude served in the Navy. He worked for Pittsburgh Plate Glass, White Electric, and retired from Kroger in 1999 after 38 years. He was Baptist by faith and enjoyed gardening and working out at the gym.

Friends will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Friday, April 26, 2024 from 3-8. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 11:00AM. Interment will be at Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at Harmerfuneralhome.com.



Barbara Jo Heldreth

Barbara Jo Heldreth, 85, of Shinnston, passed away at United Hospital Center on Monday, April 22, 2024, following a brief illness.

Barbara was born on February 6, 1939, in Harrison County. She was the daughter of the late Paul D. and Emma Zinn Tennant, who where originally from Shinnston.

On August 8, 1958, she married James A. Heldreth, and the couple were married for 58 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim, in 2017; a brother, Richard P. Tennant of Michigan; and nephew Timothy Tennant.

She is survived by her daughter, Kimberly Heldreth Strait and son-in-law Rodney K. Strait of Shinnston; and sister-in-law Carol Tennant of Michigan. Barbara is also survived by nieces, Debbie, Diana and Michelle; great-nieces, great-nephews; and several cousins.

She graduated from Shinnston High School in 1956, and immediately the family moved to Pontiac, Michigan, where her father became an electrician for Pontiac Motors.

Barbara was a graduate of Wayne State University and Harper Hospital School of Nursing in Detroit, Michigan. She and Jim were married during this time. Upon graduation, Barbara returned to Shinnston and began private duty as a registered nurse.

Barbara was a faithful member of First United Methodist Church, Shinnston, for over 60 years, where she was a member of the choir, served as Sunday School teacher, United Methodist Women's President, and many other church committees over the years. She and Jim were in charge of rummage sales for the church for many years.

Barbara was also a member and Past Matron of Shinnston Chapter No. 103, Order of the Eastern Star and transferred membership to Queen Esther Chapter No. 11 when Shinnston

Chapter closed. Barbara received her 50 year membership pin from Queen Esther Chapter.

Barbara was also the first Mother Advisor of Shinnston Assembly No. 65, Order of Rainbow for Girls, which was active in the late 1970's and 1980's.

Friends will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Thursday, April 25, 2024, from 4:00PM-8:00PM. A funeral service will be held at First United Methodist Church, Rebecca Street, Shinnston, on Friday, April 26, 2024 at 11:00AM with Rev. Michael Burge officiating. Interment will follow at Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First United Methodist Church, 64 Rebecca Street, Shinnston, WV 26431 or The Lord's Pantry, PO Box 64, Shinnston, WV 26431.

The family would like to extend their sincere thanks to the nurses in United Hospital's Critical Care Unit for their compassionate and exceptional care of Barbara while a patient.

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

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.

Wanna "Gay" McDonald

Wanna "Gay" McDonald, 89, of Koons Run, passed away on Monday, April 22, 2024, at her residence. She was born on Warriors Fork in Mannington, October 23, 1934, a daughter of the late Forrest Elijah



and Helena Margherita Rogers Snider. On May 3, 1949, she married Charles Fleming McDonald, Jr., who preceded her in death on January 29, 1968.

Surviving are five children: David McDonald and his wife Robin, Tampa, FL, Suzi Talbott and her husband Dan, Rachel, Dee Wolfe and her husband Richard, Fairmont, Donna McDonald, Ft. Pierce, FL, Jamie Boyce and her husband Stephen, Fairmont; seven grandchildren: Amie Kay Mentink and her husband Scott, Missi Stephenson and her husband Troy, Amy Hopkins and her husband Jonathan, Ashley McDonald, Wes Talbott, Brittany McDonald and her companion Dustin Miles, and Alexis Boyce and her companion Seth Rebrook; nine great grandchildren; two sisters-in-law, Carol and Ressie Snider; several nieces and nephews; and her two dogs, Coal and Max.

Gay was also preceded in death by five siblings: Eugene Starkey, Jack Snider, Bill Snider, Robert Snider, and Nova Sheets; and her stepfather, Gene Perine.

Gay was formerly employed by the Fairmont Box factory and was a custodian at Monongah Elementary School from which she retired in 1995. She was

See "Obituaries" on Pg 9

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Out of the Past

Memorable photographs from around Harrison County



Captain Timothy Roane of the 3rd West Virginia Cavalry was born in Loudon County, Virginia, moved to Harrison County to work as a farmer and carpenter, then served in the Union Army. He was buried in Shinn Cemetery in 1880.

Committed to life

From L'Osservatore Romano

Next February will mark 30 years since the Institute of the Ursuline Sisters of the Immaculate Virgin Mary of Gandino first arrived in Poland. Founded by the Servant of God, Father Francesco della Madonna, the community began its ministry in the Diocese of Drohiczyn in 1995, later expanding to Legionowo. Sister Laura Boschi, plenipotentiary of the Institute of the Ursuline Sisters of the Immaculate Virgin Mary of Gandino in Poland, told Vatican News about the Institute's history and activity on Polish

territory. As Sister Laura noted, the most important project is the John Paul II Centre for the promotion of life in Legionowo, which opened in 2006. A home for young mothers and their children operates within this centre. "We welcome all women who are struggling into the home, even those who are still pregnant, because a child is a child from conception. We also welcome young girls who have lived in orphanages or with foster families but want to become independent", Sister Laura highlighted. There are rules in the home, but the most

important thing is the family environment that comes from the Ursulines' charism. "We focus above all on the person", affirmed Sister Boschi. The sisters, with the help of lay staff, organize a series of art, music, sewing and decoupage workshops three times a year. They offer women the opportunity to learn and broaden their skill-set. "The participants were very happy. They want to take part in these activities", added the sister. In the interview with Vatican News, the sister highlighted the significance of outside help. "The hearts of the Polish people are very

open. The women of the home for young mothers receive many donations from foundations and private benefactors, and donations are also made to women who have already left the home. We have many friends in Poland and Italy who help us help", explained the sister. A baby box, blessed by Archbishop Henryk Hosier, has been functional in Legionowo for 11 years. The baby box once made it possible to save a little girl who had been left there. She was given the name Marysia. The sisters of Legionowo also run a Catholic nursery and a psychology clinic. In addition, they organize

Lectio Divina prayer meetings. "I thank God that I am in Poland. I have learned a lot from the people. When one gives much, one receives much. Divine Providence watches over us; I am sure that God wanted me to be here", Sister Laura stressed. The primary purpose of the Institute of the Ursuline Sisters of the Immaculate Virgin Mary of Gandino is to serve people through pedagogy and love. In particular, it is about educating children, young people and women in the light of the Marian spirituality of Sister Angela Merici. Sisters Maria and

Katarzyna carry out their service in Nurek-Stacia. In Legionowo, there are four sisters: Sister Dominika, Sister Edyta, Sister Marzena and Sister Laura. The Ursuline Sisters of the Immaculate Virgin Mary of Gandino are not only active in Poland and Italy. They are also present in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Brazil, Argentina and Kenya. In 2018 they celebrated the 200th anniversary of their Institute's founding. #sistersproject FATHER PAWEŁ RYTEL-ANDRIANIK and TOMASZ ZIELENKIEWICZ

UHC Announces New Partnership with Bridgeport Country Club

Bridgeport, WV— The 6th Annual UHC Pro-Am, hosted by WVU Medicine United Hospital Center (UHC) and the title sponsor Blaine Turner Advertising, Inc., (BTA), returns this September to a new location— Bridgeport Country Club. "UHC, along with other key partners, is proud to support the

UHC Pro-Am," said David F. Hess, MD, president and CEO of UHC. "We look forward to another successful event this year, as we begin preparations for an exciting change of venue." The UHC Pro-Am is one of the largest and most successful annual charity fundraisers supporting patient care

and services at UHC. Since the tournament's inception, the UHC Pro-Am has helped to bring the total amount of money raised to more than \$748,000. "The UHC Pro-Am has a long history of associating with local clubs in Harrison County. Partnering with Bridgeport Country Club is a continuation

of the support the hospital receives from community partners," Sarah Rogers, CEO & President, Blaine Turner Advertising, Inc. "UHC will no doubt continue to raise the level of the Pro-Am again this year." "Bridgeport Country Club is very excited about this partnership

with United Hospital Center and the opportunity to host the UHC Pro-Am Golf Tournament! I look forward to welcoming my fellow golf professionals, amateurs, staff, and sponsors to our club at the end of September," Michael Gervais, PGA Head Golf Professional, Bridgeport Country Club.

The 2024 UHC Pro-Am is scheduled for Monday, September 30. The event has drawn amateur and professional golfers from across the country and Canada. We hope you will join us and come out to meet the golf pros at the Bridgeport Country Club. For more information, visit www.uhcproam.com.

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Next Week at the Palette

By Bethany Nuzum

The Palette at 225 Pike St, in Shinnston is offering: Kids Paint, Tuesday, May 7,

6-7:30pm, \$10 for an 8x10 canvas. We will be painting a Happy Daisy! Watercolor II, "Catch-Up and Saving Lost. Paintings"

Saturday, May 4, 10:30am-12:30pm, \$30. Supplies provided or bring your own. Join us upstairs at the Palette! Check thepalettewv on Facebook/Instagram

for more upcoming classes and events. Email Bethany Nuzum at thepalettewv@gmail.com to register and or more information.

Jenna L. Robey Officially Registers Circuit Judge, 19th Judicial Circuit, Division III

Jenna L. Robey, Harrison County Attorney, has announced her formal campaign for Judge of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, Division 3, for the May 2024, Election. A cum laude graduate from Marshall University with a B.A. in Political Science; Jenna obtained her Juris Doctor Degree from West Virginia University College of Law. Robey began her career employed by a local law firm where she was involved in both Criminal and Civil Litigation. Upon the inception of J. Robey Law PLLC, she has practiced a variety of legal issues including Property, Estate, Abuse and Neglect, Adoption, and Guardianship. She has consecutively been awarded the Rising Star designation by Thompson Reuter's Super Lawyers Program.



Robey

Jenna believes in the importance of community and being involved. In addition to volunteering in her children's public school,

Virginia Italian Heritage Festival Board of Directors, and serves her local Building Commission. In 2018, Jenna was named as one of the Progressive Women's Association's Italian Woman of the Year. Robey is also a member of the Leadership Harrison Class of 2015. As a dedicated, lifelong resident of Harrison County, "I choose to live, work and raise my children here! For this reason, I have decided to place my hat in the ring and ask for your Support to be the Choice for Change in the Harrison County Judicial arena to work on issues that affect all of us." Robey is a graduate of Bridgeport High School and resides with her husband Matt, and their two children. For further information, Robey can be reached at (304)641-2260.

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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 June 11, 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
009	2024840003	R084-REM/GR-25 00		GUARDRAIL D4 2025 REM GUARDRAIL D4 2025 REM GUARDRAIL COUNTY:

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

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

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

“Obituaries” From Pg 7

a member of the Dent's Run Baptist Church and most recently attended New Life Ministries in Fairmont where she volunteered at the food bank. She enjoyed quilting and crocheting and loved dancing and spending time with her family and many friends. She will be deeply missed.

The family will receive friends at the Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St., Shinnston, from 2-8pm, Sunday and from 11am until the time of the service at 1pm, Monday at New Life Ministries, 617 Manley Chapel Road, Fairmont, with Pastor Charles Chipps officiating. Interment will be in the Grandview Memorial Gardens in Fairmont. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the McDonald family.

Mary A. Scarcella

Mary A. Scarcella, 74, of Clarksburg, passed away April 22, 2024. She was born on April 11, 1950, a daughter to the late Joseph Scarcella and Lena Ann (Saunders) Scarcella. Along with her parents, Mary is preceded in death by her sister, Rose. She is survived by several cousins, and special friend Patricia Broderick.

Per her wishes, Mary was cremated.

Online memories and condolences

may be shared at harmerfuneralhome.com



Andrew Joseph “BoBo” Sorine

Andrew Joseph “BoBo” Sorine completed his life's journey on April 24, 2024 at his home in Morgantown, WV. He was born February 22, 1943, in Brownton, WV to the late Rose Marie Lopez and Andrew Sorine.

BoBo was passionate about education his entire life, attending Fairmont State where he received his BS degree in Physical Education in 1965, and went on to obtain his MS in Industrial Safety in 1968 and Doctorate degree in Safety Management in 1975 from West Virginia University. BoBo then became a professor at West Virginia University Department of Industrial and Management System Engineering. During his tenure, he authored numerous safety-related publications and was a faculty advisor to many students at WVU.

BoBo was known to have a heart of gold, always going out of his way to help others. He

was passionate about coaching, teaching and influencing his players and students to always be their best and would support them along their path through life. He loved the West Virginia Mountaineers and playing golf with his friends and TBI fraternity brothers. He took immense pride in both helping and witnessing others succeed in life. Go Yankees!

Those left behind to cherish his memory include his children Andrew Sorine Jr. of Shinnston, Kimberly Snyder and her husband Ross of Parkersburg, WV and Mark Sorine and wife Kristin of Phoenix, AZ. He also leaves behind 11 grandkids, Haleigh, Ella, Sophia, Ava, Kayla, Kelsey, Kameron, Karson, Christopher, Ali and Nick and four great grandkids Olivia, Fallon, Abram and Dior. Additionally, BoBo will be deeply missed by his dog Daisy, who was his constant companion and source of joy later in life.

Friends and family gathering will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 12-4PM

Online memories and condolences may be shared at Harmerfuneralhome.com

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.

Sheriff Credits Tax Division for Recent Accomplishment

Harrison County Sheriff Robert G. Matheny praised Tax Deputies for exceeding \$10 million in delinquent personal property tax collections. Matheny implemented an aggressive collection program soon after taking office in 2017.

“It was pointed out to me while seeking office during the 2016 campaign, that enormous amounts of tax monies were delinquent and after 5 years it was falling off the books, per West

Virginia State Tax Code. “I remember seeing the report from the first month after implementing the program, and it indicated just under six thousand dollars collected, and we were happy with that since we had nothing to compare it to”.

“I’ve really enjoyed observing the process,” the Sheriff said. The amounts range from as little as \$20 and go as high as \$210,000.00. The thing that most impresses me is the fact that it’s all been so

civil, the taxpayers have responded respectfully and complied without legal action. In most cases it’s been an oversight by the taxpayer, many times they actually thanked us. Truly it’s not the amount collected but what it says. Sometimes folks struggle to pay what they owe, and with efforts on our part we can help them become current. We can’t stop here, much more needs done, we will continue this pursuit going forward.

Stonewood CEOS Discuss Inspiring Younger Generations to a Life of Service

By Estella Farnsworth

On April 15, 2024 the Stonewood CEOS club met at the Congregational Missionary Church Annex. Members were welcomed by president Ladonna Tucker and a candle lit in memory of our deceased members.

Present today were Ladonna Tucker, Deloris Wilson, Estella Farnsworth, Jan Johnson, Lesita Snider, Barbara Graham, Willa Jean Green, Darlene Francis and April Stout. Devotions read by April Stout entitled “Trust God’s Timetable.” We should trust God’s timetable, not ours because he has a perfect plan for us and is always on time.

Minutes of last meeting were read by secretary Estella Farnsworth and the Treasurers report given by Jan Johnson; both were accepted as reported. April led the members in reciting the pledge to the American and West Virginia flags.

The lesson today by April Stout was entitled “Bridging the Gap: Involving younger Generations in Service.” Generation X, those born to Baby Boomers in years (1965-1981) is participating in volunteerism at a higher rate than other generations, while Baby Boomers rate 2nd in participating in

volunteerism.

In committee reports, April reported that in conjunction with the church, we donated 44 suitcases and totes to the Genesis youth center to be used when children are discharged from the center, they will have nice bags to take their belongings in.

Also April reported that she and Estella will soon be doing crafts (building model cars) with the male residents at River Oaks Nursing home. Health Motivator Willa Jean Green led the group in several arm mobility exercises. Book report... Darlene passed along interesting proven information regarding how putting your feet(aka grounding) in grass 15 minutes each

day will help with stress, inflammation and anxiety; or simply walking barefoot in grass is helpful as well.

The club received a wonderful thank you card from the Nutter Fort Pre-school students for snacks that we donated. Each student signed the card, which was very special. May 19-24 is CEOS week, our club will receive a proclamation from the city of Stonewood at the City council meeting in commemoration of our community service.

In new business, our club will make a donation to Nutter Fort Library to buy books

and at the time of presentation, Darlene will read one of her children’s books that she has written to the students. A motion was made by Jan and 2nd by Deloris to give a monetary donation to Friends feeding Friends and also if anyone wants to volunteer their services to do so. The club will be making a quilt again this year for the Stonewood Fire Department Festival to be raffled off.

On March 30, the family of Willa Jean Green had a beautiful open house birthday party celebration for her 90th birthday! Literally hundreds of guests attended throughout the Afternoon.

Attending from our club were Ladonna, Deloris, Estella, Darlene and husband Bill, Lesita, Betty, April, Barbara and Jan. It was an amazing party for an amazing lady!

Heritage brought today was an original 1930’s Zaner Bloser handwriting tablet brought by Barbara Graham and a 1930s Rain Revival song book by R.E. Winsett brought by Darlene Francis. CVH 660 Books read 19

The meeting was adjourned; members will be going to lunch after today’s meeting. Next meeting will be on May 20 2024.

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