



Pictured 2024-2026 Council: Max Palmer, Bill Thearson, Vance Sosinski, Mary Ann Ferris, Patrick Kovalck, and Julia Currey.
 Out-going Councilperson/Mayor Rodney Strait between Vance Sosinski and Mary Ann Ferris.

City of Shinnston Commences New Council

The Shinnston City Council met at Noon, July 1, 2024 as required by the City Charter with Mayor Rodney Strait opening the meeting. This meeting is to swear in the new Council and elect the Mayor for the next 2 years.
 Councilperson Patrick Kovalck is as elected Mayor and Councilperson Amanda Sayers was elected Vice-Mayor.

Decades Later, the Trauma of the Shinnston Tornado Still Resonates

By Stephen Smoot

Natural disasters do not simply leave an impression on a community or a region. When devastation in lives and property occurs, the event sears itself into the consciousness. From then on, the impact and memory affects what comes after. It enters into how the area defines itself, how it thinks about the future and how it prepares for trouble.

Buffalo Creek, West Virginia remembers its dam failure. Franklin, West Virginia remembers the Fire of '24. The South Branch of the Potomac watershed remembers the Flood of '85. And Shinnston remembers the tornado of 1944.

June 23, 1944 was a typical summer evening until 8:30 PM. At that point, violent storms birthed a powerful F 4 tornado near the town of Wyatt - the type of event that most believe cannot occur in the rugged, eroded Appalachian plateau and adjoining Allegheny ridges and valleys to the east.

But it did.

The tornado commenced its macabre march through Harrison, Barbour, a short sliver of Taylor, and then Randolph until dissolving near Alta. The same storm brought severe damage to towns in Maryland and Pennsylvania as well. It

See "Trauma" on Pg 3

Ocean City, Maryland



By Jim Hunt for the News and Journal

While I have never been a "beach" person, my work often lands me in an oceanfront room overlooking an ocean and I usually take an evening stroll on the beach before heading home. I was recently in Ocean City for the Maryland Municipal League's Annual Conference, and it turned into a wonderful visit that I thoroughly enjoyed.

The city has a population of only around 7,000 residents but on summer weekends, hosts between 320,000 and 345,000 vacationers and up to eight million visitors annually. It is remarkably clean and well-maintained, with amenities that include public parks and a boardwalk. I was surprised, that well into the summer season, the streets did not feel overly crowded, and the restaurants had short waits or none at all.

The drive to Ocean City is pleasant and I did not encounter any traffic jams. Many people told me to be ready for an extended wait at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, but traffic was flowing nicely. The Bay Bridge is quite a structure, and it seems to reach the clouds as you drive over the water. There are many stories about drivers panicking as they approach the bridge, and the bridge authority even provides a group of drivers who will drive the car of reluctant drivers.

While it didn't bother me, I could imagine fog or rain being a white-knuckle experience. I drove about four hours to Columbia, Maryland, and stayed at the home of my work colleague overnight before finishing the trip with a nice two-and-a-half-hour drive the next day.

Our day did not begin at the conference till about ten o'clock in the morning which gave us time for a nice breakfast at our hotel each day. The Princess Royale Beach Hotel is located between 91 st and 92 nd Street and has been extensively remodeled since I stayed there twenty years ago.

The palm trees swaying in the breeze and the sunrise coming through the window give you a lift that carries through the day. After breakfast, we would

See "Hunt" on Pg 8

Commission Approves Deal With City of Shinnston On Rail Trail Improvements

By Stephen Smoot

Last week, the Harrison County Commission opened its proceedings with an invocation in which Commissioner Patsy Trecost prayed for "a productive day, a safe day, a joyful day." Commissioned and attendees alike then recited the Pledge of Allegiance before the meeting turned to business at hand.

One of the first items for consideration lay in a funding request from the Harrison County Humane Society. Frankie Dennison, executive director, came to ask for \$30,000 to help fund vouchers for spay and neuter services for low income individuals.

The organization asked for \$25,000 in 2022, \$20,000 in 2019, and the same amount six years prior. In submitted documents, the Harrison County Humane Society stated that "this grant allows HSHC to distribute low income vouchers to residents of Harrison County to afford spaying and neutering of their pets." Applicants must meet guidelines to receive the assistance. If approved, pet owners would have \$75 of their local veterinarian bill taken care of by the voucher.

Dennison explained that "the last time, funding lasted us a year and a half" but that local animal issues remained "in crisis from COVID."

Commissioners first year we had it," their representative at the meeting explained, adding "which you so graciously funded." The Commission provided \$2,500 last year. Proceeds exceeding \$28,000 from last year's event helped the department to purchase new "jaws of life" equipment, which fire fighters will demonstrate this year.

The festival will include a carnival and inflatable games, a craft fair, train rides, performances

See "Trail" on Pg 4

Next Week At the Palette

By Bethany Nuzum

July 11, 1-3:00pm, \$20.

Urban Sketching, Saturday, July 13, 10:30am-12:30pm, \$25.

Supplies provided or bring your own. Join us upstairs at the Palette!

The Palette is open Tuesdays 5-7:00, Thursdays 1-3:00, and Saturdays 10:30-2:00.

Check thepalettewv on Facebook/Instagram for more upcoming classes and events.

Email BethanyNuzum at thepalettewv@gmail.com to register and or more information.

The Palette at 225 Pike St, in Shinnston is offering:

Calming Art, Tuesday, July 9, 6-7:30pm, \$20.

The Palette will be open during Wind Down Wednesday in the green space downtown Shinnston offering craft activities and face painting for kids from 6-9:00pm.

Throwback Thursday, Open studio help on unfinished projects you may be stuck on.

Harmony Valley
 Carefree, Comfortable & Independent Living for Seniors 55+
 (304) 622-6711 or (304) 677-6800
 Located on Sun Valley Rd. (Off Rt. 50 W. of Clarksburg)

McDonald's
 of Harrison County



OPINION

Founding Farmers and Fighters

By Stephen Smoot

The assemblage of men who gathered first to create a nation, then to give it a resilient structure, America calls its Founding Fathers.

It often gets lost in the memory of their greatness that the majority of the Founding Fathers gained much of their worldview as farmers, fighters, or both.

John Adams and John Marshall, for example, were two of the greatest legal minds from anywhere in their time and certainly the top two in American history.

Farmers and soldiers share an important aspect in their worldview. Practicality and problem-solving must always remain their guide stars.

Farmers cannot debate the weather. Soldiers cannot argue against ammunition fired at them by the enemy. They must take an Aristotlean mindset to confront the sometimes ugly, sometimes unfair, sometimes difficult world and find solutions to their problems.

Success means that they get to continue. Failure means ruin or even death.

Problem solvers in this vein prepare for the worst during the times that seem the best. They know that lean years always follow the fat and act accordingly.

When the august body that comprised the Philadelphia Convention formed to create the Constitution, they did not gather to form an ideal society. They did not desire to improve mankind, but were instead driven by a realistic view of human nature.

Aristotle defined three types of good government, See "Smoot" on Pg 3

Super Crossword TV REPLACEMENT

- ACROSS 1 Small order of greens 10 Weighing devices 16 Hostility halter 20 Preach from place to place, perhaps 21 Arm bones before 22 Nights before 23 People who yearn to take part in a lunar landing? 25 "Tall" story 26 Wd. division 27 Scratch, e.g. 28 Give help to 29 Divvy up 30 An award-winning new device? 38 With little space in between 40 Crosswalk user, in brief 41 "Hear, hear!" 42 "I refuse to repeatedly forgo this rule for you?" 48 Scratch (out) 49 Cartoon "Explorer" 50 Ruby-colored 51 Notes after sol 55 Boxing weapons 58 Wild, irrational talk of the highest quality? 64 Be a suitor of 66 Great delight 67 New Delhi-based flag carrier 68 Greek city near Athens 72 Traffic tangle 74 Symbolize 75 Plan to pay later, as for bar drinks 77 Go very fast 79 Gaming cube 80 Vacillate about building a hydroelectric structure? 83 Spandex brand 87 Polar vehicle 88 Age 89 Couples 91 "Inferno" director Howard 92 Venue for a large conference? 99 1987 Hoffman-Beatty film 103 Mex. matron 104 Gofers' tasks 105 Football passer who hasn't eaten all day? 111 Swing's Shaw 112 Liquid in un lac 113 Wee bit 114 4G — (cellphone standard) 117 Wee bit 118 Booking to stay at a humble hut? 125 Sacked out 126 Tot's bodysuit 127 Entered surreptitiously 128 That gal's 129 Letter-shaped metalworking grooves 130 Alienates 1 "Unleashes (on) 2 "That's my goal" 3 Telephone sounds 4 Stamped thing: Abbr. 5 Look at 6 Part of ETA: Abbr. 7 "Leaving — Vegas" 8 Wee particles 9 Make lean, as meat 10 "Quiet down!" 11 Actor's nudge 12 Jordan's capital 13 Pope before Benedict III 14 Eat away at 15 Ungodliness 16 Oinker kept at home 17 "Elena of —" (Disney series) 18 Pop diva Dion 19 Fearsome fly 24 Common motif 29 Antlered male 31 Pres. after FDR 32 Comics cry 33 Ran, as colors 34 "Beauty is in the — the beholder" 35 Not many 36 Lupino of old Hollywood 37 Writer Anaïs 38 B-G linkup 39 Trickster god 43 Stiffly formal 44 R&B singer Staples 45 Writer Levin 46 Aloe — 47 Actor Elba 51 Actress Laura 52 Me, myself — 53 9-to-5er's cry of relief 54 "Oho, old chap!" 56 Interwoven 57 Sub tracker 59 Painter Max 60 Pathogenic bacterium, for short 61 Factor of nine 62 Rainless 63 Night watch 65 Filmmaker Reminger 68 Dairy animals 69 Iridescent gemstone 70 Dream, in French 71 "— got a deal for you!" 73 Caused 76 Swiss capital 78 Sunup 81 Maze-running rodent 82 U-Haul renter 84 Sounding like a potato chip bag 85 Big crucifix 86 Writers Rule and Radcliffe 90 Belgrade native 92 Cover with tar "— quit!" (threat ender) 94 Columbus sch. 95 Monkly title 96 — blanche 97 Gun rights org. 98 Tic-toe linkup 99 Book before Jeremiah 100 Disco flasher 101 "Mad" man of Wonderland 102 Basic chords 106 Some garish lights 107 Judicial mallet 108 Spanish for "cheese" 109 French for "cup" 110 Paradises 115 Carry along 116 Baseball Hall of Famer Slaughter 118 Peppery 119 Eng. course 120 Apt., e.g. 121 Road furrow 122 Outmoded RCA product 123 Alias lead-in 124 Element #50

Grid for Super Crossword with numbered squares and blacked-out areas.

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. July 4, 1882: The steamboats Scioto and John Lomas collided on the Ohio River as they were returning from holiday excursions. The Scioto sank almost instantly, and 70 people drowned. July 4, 1918: Poet Muriel Miller Dressler was born in Kanawha County. Her poem "Appalachia," published in 1970, was her signature piece. July 4, 1928: West Virginia dedicated Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park. Droop Mountain was one of the most important Civil War battles fought on West Virginia soil.

Charleston Gazette 59, 1875-77), as U.S. minister to France, and as an aide to "Stonewall" Jackson during the Civil War. July 6, 1848: Historian Virgil A. Lewis was born in Mason County. In 1905, Governor Dawson appointed Lewis as the first director of the Bureau of Archives and History. July 6, 1883: Judge "R. D." Bailey was born at Baileysville, Wyoming County. Bailey came into wide prominence as the judge of the Matewan Massacre trial in 1921. July 7, 1928: The Madonna of the Trail monument was dedicated in Wheeling. It is one of 12 such statues erected along the National Road to honor America's pioneering women. July 8, 1894: Walter Aegerter was born in Helvetia. An amateur photographer, Aegerter built both a studio and darkroom on his farm and photographed portraits, families, celebrations

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

Happy Birthday, America!

As I prepared this column, I fondly remember reading that the most important thing to emerge from the historical period known as the Age of Enlightenment was the United States.

I'm not sure how historians measure such things. However, I certainly endorse the concept that these United States, a diverse mixture of people from all over the globe, was the best thing produced from a period known for logic and reason, rationality, and the

search for truth. Ours is a nation in which the common person could, and often did, triumph over those who were in positions of privilege. And that possibility remains one of the foremost motivating powers in this nation today.

I believe the governing body of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia exemplifies that idea. The three of us sit as a tribunal over utility ratemaking issues, and none of us is the product of privilege.



We're your neighbors and your colleagues. What we have accomplished, we have done mostly through our own hard work.

I grew up on a farm along the Ohio River. My family wasn't wealthy. Winning the Golden Horseshoe in the 8th grade inspired

me into politics. And while I have won elective offices, I've also been humbled by losing races.

Commissioner Bill Raney began his career as an inspector for the Division of Natural Resources, wearing the green uniform. He was born and raised in

Mercer County and, like me, went to WVU. He served many years as a reserve officer in the National Guard. By hard work and effort, he earned an important leadership position with the coal association. Bill is also an elder in his church.

Commissioner Renee Larrick is from Beckley, and went to the University of Kentucky. She has taught in high school and college. Renee was the business manager of a law office when she was tapped to serve on

our Commission. She knows what hard work is all about.

So, this is what I think of every time our great national birthday rolls around. In this country, if you work hard enough at it, you can be anything you want. I like to think we commissioners exemplify that idea.

So, as I close, let me wish you - on behalf of us here at the Commission - a very happy and prosperous Fourth of July.

"Trauma" From Pg 1.

traveled 153 miles with a path varying between 500 and 1,000 feet in length.

At "8:30 in the evening," according to a work written in 1958 by Kyle McCormick, "from the northwest a great black funnel-shaped cloud appeared, traveling at about 40 miles per hour." At first, the image better resembled a black plume of smoke from a massive fire "until they noticed a heavy mass of debris, timbers, trees, etc., traveling before the cloud. Then they knew the worst."

Tornadoes do occur in West Virginia, just more rarely than in flatter areas. The first to hit the Mountain State after statehood occurred in Ritchie County in 1875. The most active year for tornadoes has been 2024 with a total of 18 with Kanawha County alone experiencing five. The next highest total is

14 from 1998. In fact, at the exact time of this writing, a tornado watch currently covers Marion and Monongahela counties.

Most of the tornadoes that reach West Virginia rank low on the scale of intensity, between F - 0 and F - 2. None, however, reached the power and violence of the F - 4 that struck Shinnston. Witnesses reported automobiles pushed 100 feet and a cow impaled completely on a board. Personal papers and mail swept up in Shinnston and carried by atmospheric winds were deposited as far away as Moorefield.

Devastation hit the neighborhoods of Pleasant Hill and Lucas Mills. McCormick wrote of Pleasant Hill that "this group of houses just disappeared." Debra Herndon, director of the Bice-Ferguson Museum in Shinnston said that parts of the

neighborhood were "wiped off the map." The speed of the storm gave residents little time to escape as it roared through. Over 70 died in Harrison County alone from the tornado, 103 in West Virginia overall. It took more than 400 homes as well.

Herndon said that Shinnston lost two percent of its total population in the event and that "almost everyone knew someone who died."

Residents banded together, as they do in similar crises throughout the history of the Mountain State. "I think it's fair to say that nearly everyone offered help," explained local historian Bobby Bice. The American Red Cross and Junior Red Cross, trained "for possible war disasters," assisted residents in the days and weeks after the storm. Bice also shared that "the local and state police, as well as the National Guard, were brought in to not only help with clean up, but to block roadways." This included retired troopers and officers volunteering to contribute their skilled efforts.

The tornado ripped down the State Police radio tower at their Shinnston barracks, requiring them to set up headquarters in the local telephone office, Bice recounts, saying "restoring service was an immediate need for communications."

Vulture-like "out of

town snoops wanting to come in and see what the disaster looked like and also to steal items that were laying in fields" warranted an official response as most pitched in to help the people and the city.

Clean up efforts required many to sift through dangerous piles of rubble to tend to those lost in the storm. "I know my great-grandfather used his flower panel delivery truck to help to haul bodies to the local hospitals." This civilian volunteer was one of several businesses that helped in this fashion, including the three funeral homes in Shinnston. "Their hearses, which doubled as ambulances at that time period . . . (helped) to haul injured to the hospitals," Bice added.

They even pressed doors ripped from their hinges by the winds as gurneys to carry the injured.

Also in 1944, many of Shinnston's young men had joined the service to fight for freedom in Europe, Asia, and on the high seas. The media, unfortunately, chose to amplify the horror of the event. As Bice stated, a common headline was "Shinnston, WV was wiped off the map by a tornado." While what happened was horrific and bad enough, the tornado skirted past the town proper.

Herndon compared the impact on that generation of Shinnston residents to that of the terror attacks on New York City and

the Pentagon in 2001. She said "much like people of my generation remember what they were doing when they heard about the twin towers, I'm sure everyone at that time remembered what they were doing when the tornado hit, or, for the men away at war, when they found out about it."

The impact of trauma from natural disasters leaves profound and long-lasting impressions. Survivors of such disasters report that the approach of potentially violent storms have a trigger effect. As Herndon states, "as far as individual families and people, I hear a lot of stories, like mine, where the kids would be bundled down to the basement whenever there was a storm. The Shinnston Tornado made many people more aware, if not fearful, of storms."

Many, unfortunately, lacked insurance to replace their homes and possessions, prolonging the misery for many even as the community stepped up to help the victims.

Similar stories come from other areas impacted by deadly and destructive flooding events, such as happened along the South Branch river system in 1985. Many scrambled up hillsides seconds before the rising waters ripped their homes and all of their possessions from them. Never again would they feel peace during hard rains.

These triggers, however, can also bring a positive effect. Herndon reports that the "Shinnston Tornado made the community more aware of the need for emergency preparedness. This community has always been very supportive of the EMS and Fire Department."

Additionally, even as other departments across the state struggle to fill volunteer emergency responder rosters, Herndon says that Shinnston rarely has problems finding men and women ready and willing to serve. She added that "maybe that's part of seeing how badly we need those people when something horrendous happens."

Communities that suffer through such tragedies and their aftermath also find comfort in sharing their stories. In 1946, John Finlayson published a book of stories that he collected from survivors and others. Many who had not contributed to that work shared theirs later on through the Shinnston Historical Association.

In Appalachia, experiences of tragedies, destruction, and loss always evolve into remembrances of resilience. The City of Shinnston, and other communities struck by the storm, continued on and regularly remembers not only the sadness of loss, but also the pride of perseverance.

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

Clarksburg's "First Friday"

Downtown Clarksburg, 4:30-8PM; Bicycle Parade begins at lower Jackson Square at 6PM (all ages); Spray Zone hosted by the Clarksburg Fire Dept. at lower Jackson Square; Craft and Food Vendors at Jackson Square; Art Gallery located at the Merchants Bank building; Live Music at Orpheum Park featuring Charlie Green and Friends; Antique Bicycle Display at the Clarksburg History Museum; Model Railroad Club open on Main Street; Lawn Games at Jackson Square; Downtown Restaurants and Businesses open late. Contact the Clarksburg Visitors Bureau (304-622-2157) or visit First Fridays Downtown Clarksburg Facebook Page.

"Smoot" From Pg 2.

each of which inevitably evolved from good to evil.. Monarchy was rule by one, which Aristotle said inevitably becomes tyranny. Aristocracy was the government of the best, which degenerates into oligarchy. Polity was his word for rule by the people. It always, he said, turned into the evil of what he called "democracy," but what Americans would today call "mob rule."

Britain by the 1700s felt they had found a proper balance of the three through its monarchy, its hereditary nobility in the House of Lords, and the people, whose interests were

represented in the House of Commons. The Founding Fathers did not dispute that balance was a necessity, but found it in a careful balance of power and authority between the federal government, the state governments, and the people.

By the 20th century that balance came undone, chiefly through the Constitutional amendment that moved selection of United States Senators from state legislatures to election by the people. The removal of the restraining voice of the states has helped to lead to more international

conflict, more national debt, and a barely restrained federal government.

Much of the undoing of the vision of the Founding Fathers took place under a President, Woodrow Wilson, whose pre political job was college professor.

The genius of the Founding Fathers lay in their ability to look beyond emotion, fear, and political posturing to create the best system of government ever conceived - "a Republic, if you can keep it," advised the French and Indian War veteran officer Benjamin Franklin.

The farther America gets from that vision, the more disruption and struggle it faces from within. Returning to a government based on practicality and good sense would necessitate choosing leaders whose worldview avoids emotions, obsessions with historical legacy, academic theory, kowtowing to hysterical special interests, and worse.

In other words, the best way to restore the nation that once was may be to elect more farmers and military veterans and bring the different centers of power back into balance.

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(Not to be used with a combo meal purchase)
Expires July 10, 2024

*BOGO - Buy One Get One Free
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.

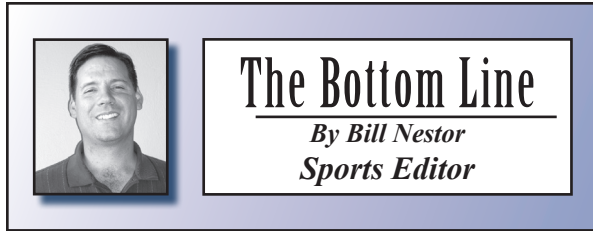
Basketball From Baylor to Charleston to Phoenix Tee It Up

By Bill Nestor

Former Fairmont Senior standout basketball player Jalen Bridges put an end to his college career last week when he signed a two-way deal with the Phoenix Suns. Bridges helped make the Polar Bears a Class AA power during his high school playing days, at the same time garnering offers from several top schools around the country.

Bridges chose to stay close to home and spent two seasons with Bob Huggins in Morgantown. He would not only become a starter at WVU, but would also become a major contributor and showed signs of brilliance. After redshirting his first year in Morgantown, Bridges averaged 18 minutes per game and then nearly 27 minutes an outing over the next two seasons.

He would transfer to Baylor for the 2022-23 season where his playing time rose above 27 minutes a contest and he averaged double-digits (10.3 per game) for the first time in his college



career. Bridges would save his best for last, averaging personal highs in minutes (31.8) and points (12.2.)

Bridges was on the cusp of being selected in the NBA Draft and was considered one of the best free agents not taken in the two day event. He announced his signing almost immediately after the conclusion of the Draft. He is not only a gifted player, but he has a great attitude and a terrific work ethic. I was fortunate to broadcast several of his games while he was at Fairmont Senior and his maturity level was also high back then. Bridges has always been ahead of the curve mentally and physically and now has the opportunity of a lifetime

Hopefully, we will see him hitting big three-pointers in the big leagues before long.

Speaking of the NBA

Draft, the Los Angeles Lakers drafted Bronny James with the 55th pick. He is the son of current Lakers' star Le Bron James. Dad is considered by many to be the best to ever play the game and the Lakers wanted to keep the star in town. Le Bron has mentioned on several occasions that he wanted to play with Bronny. Los Angeles increased their chances of keeping the modern day goat by taking his son. It will be the first time in NBA history that there will be a father-son tandem playing together.

The high school basketball season is officially in the books with the boys and girls North-South games that were played recently in South Charleston.

On the boys' side, the South Cardinals upended the North Bears 86 to 79. A pair of local standouts played well in defeat

for the North squad. Grafton's Jacob Maier was the team's second leading scorer with 15 points and was their MVP. Lincoln's Brayden Edgell chipped in with seven points. The Cardinals were paced by Shady Springs' Ammar Maxwell. Maxwell pumped in a game high 32 points.

In the girls' lock up, the South edged the Bears 57 to 55. In a nail-biter. Ripley's Sophie Nichols led her team with 21 points. The North had several major contributors in the affair. Cameron's Ashlynn Van Tessell recorded a double-double with 29 points and 15 rebounds. Lincoln's Ashlyn Riley netted seven points while Doddridge County's Tenley Paugh (daughter of former RW standout Jamie Paugh) chipped in three points.

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

By Bill Nestor

This week's edition of "tee It Up" is a focus on Alpine Lake Resort. Located in the mountains just outside of Terra Alta, this golfer's paradise provides an exceptional course and a break from the extreme heat, allowing for a day of maximum enjoyment. Gentle continuous breezes coupled with cool mountain air make you want to play another 18 holes after your round is over.

This hidden gem has the built-in attributes that make it an unbeatable golf tract. The mountains provide the backdrop, the layout utilizes the contour of the land to its fullest, and the 150 acre lake for which it is named is simply breathtaking. This would be enough to put Alpine Lake in the top tier of places to play in the Mountain State.

What pushes them to another level, however, is the hard-working staff that makes the difference.

Head Golf professional, Caleb Hagelburger provides the leadership for the hard-working and knowledgeable staff. Hagelburger took time out of his day to share the improvements made, such as the expansion

of the pro shop and his vision for the future. His passion for his Alpine Lake was evident, not only in his words, but his actions as well.

Between working in the pro shop, serving as the starter, and monitoring the course, Hagelburger did not stop the entire time I was there.

The rest of the staff took their cues from their leader, resulting in a tract in pristine condition. The greens stood out and were in the best shape that I have ever seen. The rough was fair, but provided a true penalty. The bunkers were in solid shape, which unfortunately I found out on several occasions!

The 19th hole is a main attraction here with a large deck overlooking the lake. Stay and play packages offer more bang for your buck and once you get here, you will have a hard time leaving. Once you stand on t0th tee and look out at the lake, there will be some questions to ask yourself, such as "Have you ever seen a more spectacular view on a golf course in your life?"

If you have played Alpine Lake before, isn't it time to go back? If you have never played Alpine Lake before, the question is, when are you going to?



Thundering Heard

Legendary Marshall football coach Bob Pruitt, whose teams featured NFL greats like Randy Moss, Chad Pennington, Troy Brown, and Byron Leftwich, gave advice and inspiration to Lincoln High School football players recently.

"Trail" From Pg 1.

by local musicians, a chili cook off, military appreciation, a "community ecumenical service and potluck," and much more. Sponsors helped to provide much of the money used to make the festival a great community event.

Doug Comer, director of Clarksburg City Parks, brought to the Commission a request fro \$1,500 to help fund the city's Independence Day fireworks with musical accompaniment by the Wheeling Symphony. Comer said "it's a collaboration with the Wheeling Symphony . . . we might be the only game in the county as far as fireworks are concerned."

The city and private donors contributed \$7,500 and Comer

requested the remainder from the Commission, which was approved.

Commissioners then reviewed proposed budget revisions for the Harrison County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. The office wished to take 10 budget items and move \$58,250 from them into funding categories for travel, materials and supplies, and new equipment. Approximately \$34,000 from the original 10 items came from the employee salary budget and \$905 from overtime.

Susan Thomas, Harrison County Commission President, and David Hinkle, Harrison County Commissioner, posed questions about the proposed salary budget transfer. They worried that the Prosecuting Attorney's office did not

follow proper procedure in keeping salary overage funds.

Hinkle pointed out that salary overages by policy must be returned to the county and Thomas concurred.

Commissioners also returned to the oft-discussed subject of rail trails. First, Harrison County Administrator Laura Pysz-Laulis introduced a discussion on "creating a Harrison County Recreation Map which will include Mountain Biking Trails, Canoe/Kayak Launching Areas, and Rail Trails." She stated that one of the goals lay in creating a rail trail map that could be easily adapted to include future rail trail routes and features.

The entire recreation map would cost approximately \$7,500 to

produce. Hinkle asked why it was not a full agenda item, to which Pysz-Laulis replied that it was simply to get the thoughts of the Commissioners on the potential project. Thomas stated "I think it's a great idea."

Shortly afterward, the Commission took up a proposed agreement between the City of Shinnston and the Harrison County Commission. Shinnston obtained a grant to pay for paving and other improvements on an area of the rail trail owned by the county.

Trecost made a motion to approve, but Hinkle questioned the agreement, saying "so they're going to take over what we own and grade it and ditch it, and run back and forth on it." He asked

if Shinnston would take over maintenance of that stretch going forward, the answer being no.

Hinkle then asked if the county could "deed it over" to the City of Shinnston permanently, which would give to the City the obligation of maintenance. Thomas replied "I'm not saying that's a bad idea," but "we need to get this work done." The vote approving the agreement was unanimous.

Commissioners also discussed two other Shinnston related issues. First, Pysz-Laulis recommended that the Commission approve Tori Drainer, City of Shinnston City Manager, as the replacement for former Shinnston City Manager Chad Edwards

on the Harrison County Economic Development Authority Board. After questions from Hinkle, the Commission approved Drainer's appointment by two to one.

The county also set the City of Shinnston's reimbursement costs for the joint election in May at \$2,771.92. Both Shinnston and Clarksburg synced their municipal elections with the state and county primaries this year.

Hinkle congratulated the Harrison County Sheriff's Department on hiring two new deputies, Kaleigh Wetzel and Roger King. He called Wetzel "a very special hire" and added "I'm excited to welcome her on board."

Thomas echoed Hinkle, saying "I concur."

BUSINESS MATTERS



Recently, 4H members of all ages gathered at Older and Younger Camp for learning, fun, and fellowship.

Harrison County WVU Extension Service Is Business or Organization of the Month

By Stephen Smoot

The future and present of agriculture in West Virginia relies heavily on a vital local institution often mentioned, but with a mission not always fully understood or appreciated. West Virginia University Extension offices provide vital support for farmers and their operations, as well as organizing youth programs to teach and encourage the next generation of farmers. Last March, for example, Harrison County's extension service, like most throughout the state, put on a series of informational dinners. At the West Milford Community Center,

Extension Agent Jennifer Friend welcomed area farmers to a presentation from Greg Halich, University of Kentucky Agricultural Economist. These dinners offer practical information about specific challenges and opportunities related to farming. As described in a WBOY report, Halich discussed the merits of the practice of bale grazing, explaining what amounts to use and showing how to rotate them. As Friend told the attendees, "it is a way that they don't have to get the tractor out every day" while saving valuable time and fuel costs. Extension agents remain available year

round to assist farmers needing advice and facing challenges in the field. Recently hired Pendleton County WVU Extension agent Jessica Hoover stated that most questions in her area tend to focus on invasive species and livestock diseases. Harrison County's Extension Service Office also works on informing those in its area about biological threats, such as the boxwood blight that "affects one of West Virginia's most popular landscape shrubs." Its website also explains how herbicide contaminated compost "can do lots of harm" to the plant family that includes tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants. Extension agents

specializing in agriculture and natural resources also support gardeners. This includes master gardener classes that teach advanced techniques in growing food or other useful plants. The master gardener program also partners with Lost Creek Public Library in offering "a seed catalog with seeds that residents can use to shop for plants." The service also supports the 4H program, described on the website as "a free educational program for West Virginia youths in all 55 counties." It focuses on the development of "head, heart, hands, and health" in youths mostly between the age of nine and when

children enter high school. Participants in 4H can stay in the organization until the age of 21, but many gravitate toward Future Farmers of America in high school. Though based in farming, "4H programs are more diverse, exposing kids to concepts in science, engineering, technology, citizenship, and healthy lifestyles" through projects and programs. Those in 4H often report that it boosted confidence, public speaking skills, life skills, and overall knowledge. For Harrison County, Friend has served as agriculture and natural resources agent. Her background, according to a WVU Extension Service release, includes

a bachelors from WVU in agricultural and extension education and a masters degree in extension education from Colorado State University. The Braxton County native grew up in 4H and FFA, then advised FFA when a teacher for Nicholas County Schools. She said in the release that "I've been preparing to become and Extension agent for a long time" and shared that her passion lay in developing and growing "youth agriculture offerings." Those seeking to reach the Harrison County office can call (304) 624-8650 or search online for extension. wvu.edu/harrison

Warner urges businesses to file Annual Report before deadline next Monday

Charleston, W.Va. – WV Secretary of State Mac Warner is issuing a final notice to business owners reminding them to file their Annual Report by the statutory deadline of June 30th. Businesses that miss the June 30th deadline will be flagged in the

state's database as out of compliance. Late filers will be assessed a \$50 late fee as required by state law. Almost 99% of all Annual Reports are filed online. Online filings can take less than five minutes at the WV One Stop Business Portal

found at Business4.wv.gov. Guest filing is available for business owners who prefer not to establish an online account. The fee to file an Annual Report is \$25. Warner encourages business owners to be wary of third-party

solicitations that charge as much as \$375 to file the Annual Report on behalf of the business. A third party is not required to file. For assistance, call the WV Secretary of State's Office during regular business hours at 304-558-8000 to

speak to a WVSOS Business specialist, or use SOLO, our new virtual assistant, accessible from the bottom right corner of sos.wv.gov. Additionally, the WV One Stop Business Center in Charleston, as well as

our remote business hubs in Clarksburg and Martinsburg are available for walk-in customers. You can find the address to each of our three offices at the bottom of the WVSOS homepage at sos.wv.gov.

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Shinnston Buries Her Beloved Dead

Tornado Reaps Heavy Toll Of Death in Community

Reprint from Shinnston News in June 1944

While the search continues for missing persons following the disaster of Friday evening, Shinnston has gone about the sad task of burying its dead, and the people are just beginning to realize the enormity of the calamity that has befallen the community.

Many funerals have already been held and others are being arranged just as fast as possible because of the large number to be taken care of. Services have been held in some instances for whole families - five hearses having been required in one instance to carry the caskets of those who met death in one house. The victims were the Carlin family with three members of the Bean family who were at their home.

A monster of the elements, gathering from everywhere its particles of fury and might, and ridding the black clouds of destruction has rained death and disaster on a large part of Shinnston and numerous other peaceful communities of West Virginia.

The worst calamity of its kind ever to strike West Virginia, the death toll in Shinnston and the surrounding communities has reached 66 and the search is continuing for other bodies in the wreckage of homes and the territory for miles around.

The tornado struck Shinnston about 8:30 Friday evening, and while the people in the path of the storm

had brief seconds of warning in the unnatural noises immediately preceding the blow and in the appearance of the awful cone-shaped cloud on the horizon, few of the victims had time to seek shelter, even in the basements of their homes. And as panic seized everybody the crash of death was heard, the havoc was wrought, and the devastating [sic] force moved on to spread its rage and destruction for many miles.

After the force of the tornado had passed, high winds prevailed and menacing clouds hovered over throughout the forepart of the night, but as if by providence there was no downpour of rain to add to the distress of wounded trapped in the wreckage of their homes or to hamper the work of the numerous people engaged in rescue work.

Immediately after the tornado had struck calls were sent to Clarksburg and Fairmont for help and amid the screams of ambulance sirens and general panic and confusion of the people, the rescue work quickly took form.

The Coffindafter Clinic, the only hospital in the city, was soon crowded with the wounded and stricken, and an emergency ward was opened at the First Methodist Church for the less seriously wounded, while Clarksburg and Fairmont Hospitals received the many critical cases.

Not more than ten houses were left standing in the Pleasant Hill addition to Shinnston, while South Shinnston

was entirely wiped out and the four houses at Lucas Mill, just across the river from Pleasant Hill were blown into the river together with their occupants, some of whom have not been found.

The Solon row of houses was also reduced to wreckage, and some of the occupants of those houses have not been found. The top of the aerial at the State Police headquarters was broken off. Continuing its path of destruction, the tornado moved to Shinn's Run, leveling homes and buildings, killing live stock and completely destroying the large compressor gas station on Booths Creek, together with two dwelling houses adjacent thereto.

The town was plunged into darkness by the breaking of power lines and the telephone facilities were such as were possible by auxiliary means. It was sufficient, however, to meet the situation of the emergency until a few hours later when normal service was resumed and the lights were on again as usual. Red Cross headquarters [sic] were opened in the office of the News, and the State Guards and Army units from the Elkins district were on duty everywhere throughout the area.

All service organizations in the city, including the Fire Department and the officials of the city were quickly mobilized to co-operate with the Red Cross and the military personnel, and everything possible was done to alleviate the suffering of the wounded and those suffering from shock.

The tornado approached from the direction of Mannington, although

that city was not in its direct path. The Glad Fork community, near Joetown, was the first to suffer the deadly blows of the storm. There were several fatalities there, while the villages of Grangeville and Oakdale, landmarks of the pioneers of that section, were entirely destroyed. At Grangeville the only building left standing was a small tile block garage. The church, store and all residences were reduced to wreckage.

Proceeding down the valley, the home of William Griffin, only a few hundred feet below the destroyed home of Mrs. Sena Mason was practically undamaged, although several trees were laid down around it.

A little further down the home of Herbert Moore was obliterated, not a trace of it left, while the home of his father, Ross Moore, a few hundred feet away, was undamaged. The village of Oakdale was next in the path of the storm and the only building left here is the home of D. D. Robinson. The store and home of Dallie Ashcraft, the homes of Carson Griffin, Ralph Robinson, the Loomans and the church were all completely destroyed.

Further down, the dormer windows of the homes of Okey Hess and his son in law, James Arnett were blown out, and the roots damaged, while the home of Mrs. Inez Robinson and her father Jack Garrett were destroyed. The Bragg home, also near the Robinson home, was swept away together with the barn and other outbuildings.

Ira Hawker lost two outbuildings and damage was done to the roof of his home. Throughout the valley trees fell in all

directions, blocking the highway in many places. The home of Clark Anderson, a short distance from Hawker's was damaged, and his barn blown down.

Cutting a swath through the woods and crossing the hill, the tornado moved to Cunningham's Run, where several outbuildings were leveled, and many trees uprooted. The barn of Wayne Cunningham was laid low but his home was untouched. Walter Robinson lost some outbuildings, while the E. M. Hess houses seems to have had a narrow escape, as huge trees fell all around it.

Coming over the Peora hill the home of Charles William David Carlin was swept away and his family killed. Mrs. Carl Bean and two daughters who lived nearby were at the Carlin home and were also killed. Their home was moved from its foundation but was not completely destroyed.

The storm moved on toward Shinnston, scattering the large barn of Joseph Lucas, and uprooting many large trees there as well as across the road at the Lee Boggess house, now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. James Haislip.

Then the Lucas Mill homes were taken and the storm began its wholesale destruction in Pleasant Hill and other sections mentioned.

Many people report having seen the tornado approaching. Their descriptions are all about the same. It was the most terrifying sight of their lives, a monstrous mixture of fire and sulphur and blackness, forming its deadly funnel shape, and carrying tops of trees, large pieces of timber and debris.

Its fury and might was unequaled by anything produced by the devilish mechanizations of man or war. It seemed bent on total destruction, like unto some unearthly giant sweeping above the earth, blasting homes and intermittently scorching hillsides and denuding them of the trees by the mad swing of its club.

Results of its visitation are in many instances too horrible to describe. In its might, it performed such terrifying acts as sweeping the feathers of chickens clean and leaving them standing, stark dead, peeling the bark clean of trees and leaving them upright, carrying huge timbers which in some instances struck human beings to break their bones and disfigure them - and all the while in brief seconds killing and leveling homes.

Many miraculous escapes from death have been reported and numerous freakish incidents are told as the results of the tornado are surveyed.

The family of William Kendall in South Shinnston, with some neighbors who were in the house, making ten persons, were left standing unharmed on the floor of their home after it had been blown away. Their household goods, includnig [sic] a refrigerator, were scattered far and wide.

The storm seemed to have a special liking for refrigerators, iron stoves and the like, as they could be seen lying in many places, far from the site of the houses from where they came.

Automobiles were also moved nearly a hundred feet in some instances after the garage had been destroyed. At the farm of Ira Hawker, a large chicken house was blown over an

See "Tornado" on Pg 8

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OBITUARIES



Eric Justin Campbell

Eric Justin Campbell, 40, of Haywood, passed away on Friday, June 21, 2024 at United Hospital Center. He was born in Clarksburg on July 24, 1983 to Thomas Campbell and Corbie Lynn (Skidmore) Lockett of Haywood.

Eric is survived by his wife, Jessica Rose (Smith) Campbell; two sons: Eric Campbell, II and fiancée Hailey Meadows of Haywood and Malachi Campbell of Shinnston; three daughters: Olivia Campbell of Bridgeport, Corbie Campbell of Haywood; one granddaughter, Zaelynn Campbell of Bridgeport; two brothers: Kevin Ray Skidmore and wife Shana of Owings and Thomas Campbell of Oak Hill as well as several aunts, uncles, cousins and nieces.

Eric loved hunting and fishing. He was truly an outdoorsman and will be greatly missed.

Donations can be made to his Care Fund on his memorial page to assist the family with funeral costs.

Family and friends will be received on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston, from 11:00am until time of service, 2:00pm with Pastor Tim Sandy officiating. Interment to follow at Wallace Lions Cemetery.



David Johnson

David Johnson, 68, of Shinnston, passed away at his home on June 21, 2024. He was born on August 11, 1955, in Clarksburg, a son to the late Walter Johnson and Juanita (McDaniel) Johnson. Along with his parents, he is preceded in death by his brother, Walter Johnson II.

He is survived by his siblings, Debra Ashcraft and Gary of Shinnston, Charles Johnson of Shinnston, Linda Andrews and Doug of Enterprise, Cynthia Fortney and Samuel of Worthington, Rodney Johnson of Shinnston, and Lisa Hansen and Adam of Bridgeport, WV. He is also survived by his nieces Melissa Johnson, Chasity Rogers, Crystal Ashcraft, Chelsey Fortney, Samantha Riley, and Aleeyah Johnson; and nephews Jeremy Fortney, Ryan Ashcraft, Adam and Eric Johnson, Dylan Riley, and Zander Hixenbaugh.

David worked in construction as a drywall installer most of his life. He worked for Shaver Nursery, construction for Fred Sandy, and the last 35 years for Simmons Construction. He belonged to American Legion Post 31 and was Baptist by faith. David enjoyed spending quality time with his family and friends, watching

Nascar, hunting, fishing, and camping. He loved watching the NFL and was an avid Philadelphia Eagles fan.

David was always the life of the party, cracking jokes and making everyone laugh. He had a heart of gold and would give all he had to anyone in need. His smile and crazy sense of humor will be missed by family, friends, and all who knew him. Rest in Peace, David Matthew Johnson. Your memory will live in our hearts forever.

Per his request, he will be cremated at Phoenix Crematory in Jane Lew. A private ceremony will be held at Mt. Zion Cemetery in Fairmont, WV where his ashes will be spread next to his parents and sibling.

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

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.



Martha M. Tucker Johnson

Martha M. Tucker Johnson, 96, of Lumberport, passed away on June 24, 2024. She was born on March 12, 1928, in Adamsville, WV, a daughter to the late John Jay Tucker and Macel Bell Marrow Tucker. Along with her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, James A. Johnson; stepmother Lela Tucker;

sisters Joan Bush and Arah Belle Fulton; and brothers Paul, Samuel, Kyle, and Jack.

She is survived by her children, son James Johnson and wife Macel Ann; and daughter Brenda Fluharty; grandchildren Jeff Johnson and wife KC, Michelle Curtis, and Richard Todd Fluharty and companion Crystal Monohan; and great-grandchildren Cali, Jaden, and Caleb Johnson, and Katelyn and Rawyn Fluharty.

Martha retired from G.C. Murphy, and WesBanco. She was a member of Otterbein United Methodist Church for over 70 years. She enjoyed doing crafts and taking pictures. She was a wonderful and loving mother and grandmother.

Friends will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Thursday, June 27, 2024 from 2:00PM-8:00PM. A funeral service will be held Friday, June 28, 2024 at 12:30PM with Rev. Sam Cale officiating. Interment will follow at WV National Cemetery.



Mr. Shannon Braid McIntire

Mr. Shannon Braid McIntire, also known as Dale S. McIntire II, 52, of Monongah, walked into the arms of his Savior on Thursday, June 27, 2024 following an extended illness.

Shannon loved his

family, bowling with his son, animals, playing guitar, fishing, camping and almost any other outdoor activity. He was previously involved with Pre-Civil War Longhunter reenactments and was a Cub Scout Leader. Shannon had a great sense of humor. Spending time with him always resulted in wonderful memories.

Shannon's favorite book in the Bible was James. Which is how his son, Braiden James, was named.

He is survived by his mother, Betty Jo McIntire; his children, Braiden James McIntire; Linday J. Marsh; and Cody R. Gooden; his three sisters, Kathy R. McIntire; L. Lynn Maditz and her husband Dana; and Crystal G. Stutler and her husband Randi; as well as several cousins, nieces, nephews; friends and co-workers from Superior Industrial Laundries.

Shannon was preceded in death by his father, Dale S. McIntire I.

Friends will be received at Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St. Shinnston, on Friday from 5-8pm and on Saturday from 10am-12pm. A funeral service will be held at the funeral home on Saturday, June 29, at 12:00pm with Pastor Chad Raines, a good friend of Shannon's, officiating. Interment will follow at the Shinnston Memorial Cemetery. Online memories and condolences can be shared with the family at www.perinefunerals.com

Michael Eugene Mackey

Michael Eugene Mackey, 74, of Four States, passed away on Thursday, June 27,



2024 at the Pierpont Center in Fairmont. He was born April 6, 1950 in Clarksburg, a son of the late Scott and Edith Leiving Mackey.

Michael was preceded in death by his wife, Brenda Joyce Long Mackey, whom he married in 1994.

He is survived by his daughter, Sheila R. Riggs of Philippi; his son, Chris Mackey and his wife Amber of Salem; his stepson, Bobby Shuman of Fairmont; his grandsons, Avery, Haden, and Dylan Atkins; his sister, Patty Bell; his brothers, Charles, Dennis, and John Mackey; as well as several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to his parents, Michael was preceded in death by his sister, Loretta Hall; and his brothers, Scotty, Tom, Edgar, and Paul Mackey.

Michael was an outdoorsman. He loved to hunt, fish, camp, and go four-wheeler riding. He especially enjoyed his time at the family's hunting camp.

Friends will be received at Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St. Shinnston, on Monday from 11:00am until the time of the funeral service at 1:00pm. Interment will follow at the Enterprise I.O.O.F. Cemetery. Online memories and condolences can be shared with the family at www.perinefunerals.com

See "Obits" on Pg 9

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Out of the Past

Memorable photographs from around Harrison County



Storm swept debris marks the path of one of the state's worst natural disasters, the Shinnston Tornado of 1944.

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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 August 13, 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
007	2023170033	S317-24/34-0.01	00 HW1-2434(003)D	STRUCTURE RENOVATION DISTRICT FOUR BRIDGE 0.01 MILES SOUTH OF HARRISON CO. 24 COUNTY: HARRISON

BRIDGE: 6689.1 CONCRETE SLAB ON FABRICATED STEEL GIRDER
SPAN(S): 1 STRUCTURE STEEL:

DBE GOAL: 8% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

REMARKS:

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a 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
013	2023840011	U384-50-0.00	00 HSIP-0050(485)D	GUARDRAIL 2024 D4 GUARDRAIL PROJECT PRESTON WV 72 MP 15.234 COUNTY: PRESTON, TAYLOR

DBE GOAL: 8 % OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

REMARKS:

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a 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.

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"Tornado" From Pg 6.

embankment, landing on a hay rake. A few feet away a large wagon shed was knocked over the same bank, landing on a hay tedder.

Chalfant house, occupied by Robt Atkinson, partly destroyed.

It would be hard to estimate the number of people who have come to Shinnston to view the wreckage. Literally thousands of cars have clogged the highways, making it difficult for the State Police and the Army to handle the traffic.

Making death by the storm all the more sad and disheartening, several of the victims were hurled into the river, and some of them are yet unrecovered.

The bodies of Mrs. Emma Yost, 58, wife of Calvin Yost, and her daughter, Mrs. Loretta Metz, 31, wife of Edward Metz, were found Monday afternoon lying close together on the bank of the river at Viropa. There were four deaths in the family, the husband and a son Kenneth Lee, 12, having been killed in the storm.

Lola King, 62, and Neil Eckard, 65, both died at a Clarksburg hospital Monday. They

were victims of the tronado [sic] here.

Bodies of Loretta Sharp, 10, and Mrs. Ora O'Connor, both of Lucas Mill, and Blaine Carder, Jr., 14, of the Shinnston area were found by searchers in the West Fork river.

The body of John Cavalier, 18-months old son of Joseph Cavalier was found on the river bank at Ehlen.

The bodies of the following persons who were listed as missing, were recovered Tuesday from the West Fork river: Josephine Capillo, 19, of Ehlen, near Big Elm north of Shinnston; Mrs. Thomas West, of Lucas Mill, who was found near the new bridge; Amos Lindsay, of Ehlen, found near the Country Club stop, near Fairmont; and Margaret Cavalier, 3, of Ehlen, who was found near Watson.

Still missing are Betty Lundell, 9, Shinnston, and Geneva Lindsey, 22, also of Shinnston.

Among the homes destroyed were those of the following in Pleasant Hill: Louie Seamon, Sam Book, Angeline Marino, Santa Rotunda, Tony Larry, Louie Marra, John Marra,

Steve Fooks, Lillian Malone, Wm. Bart's home and store, Roy Moore, James Mike, Frank Verdigone, Mrs. Barron, Tony Oliverio, Golden Heldreth, Henry Heldreth, Mr. Flowers, James Bart, Eugene Cox.

Homes badly damaged in Pleasant Hill included those of Mrs. Sefro Martinez, the Shilley brick home, Joe Felosa, John Pillo, John Hacks, H. R. Andrich, Tony Storage, Emma Morgan, Andy Galayda, Rocco Romeo, Sam Scalis, Sam Were, Mary Somody, John Rease, Mrs. Ray Ashcraft, Joe Saporita, W. J. Stuck, Harvey Miller, Ned Zecco, Thomas Gregory.

At Solon homes of the following were destroyed: Mr. Lindsey, John Durante, Joe Allowatt, Okey Miller and Paul Palosak.

South Shinnston homes of Ben McFoy, the St. Clair home, Mrs. Irene Laughlin, Wm. Kendall, Peg. Wilson, Ralph Mahana and the Halpenny home.

In Howard place homes of Clarence Anderson, James Mcle, Mrs. Robert Kann, Abe Hudkins, B. N. Moore, Mrs. Rose Toth, Carson Stemple, Mrs. Mary Senchina, Harry Linville and Doyle Loudin were almost completely wrecked.

Among the homes destroyed in the Shinn's Run area were those of Arthur Riley a house belonging to Mrs. Esther Hoffman and occupied by a Gillis family, Ezra Wright, Pete Cutlip, Harper's, Hubert Harrison and E. E. Righter.

Museum Hosts Presentation on Shinnston Tornado

An event remembering the 80th anniversary of the Shinnston Tornado was held on Sunday, June 23 rd .

Museum Director Debra Herndon opened the event with a brief synopsis of the time – WWII was on everyone's mind, the Katherine Mine Disaster had occurred a few weeks earlier and everyone was doing

their best amid rationing and shortages. Herndon read from Finlayson's book, "The Shinnston Tornado" as well as several newspapers of the time. The group then watched the video, "When the Wind Stole the River: the Shinnston Tornado," created by Shannon Colaianni Tinnell.

Among those attending the event was a contingency of

staff and volunteers from the Clarksburg History Museum. Mike Spatafore of the CHM was especially interested in weather-related events and found the event most interesting. Former Mayor Wanda F. Ashcraft was among those attending and had first hand knowledge of the day the tornado came to town. "I was ten when it happened.

Stonewood CEOS Honor Fathers on Their Special Day

By Estella Farnsworth

On June 17 2024, the Stonewood CEOS club met at the Congregational Missionary Church Fellowship Hall.

Members present were Deloris Wilson, Ladonna Tucker, Lesita Snider, Eva Summers, Sherry Blue, Darlene Francis, Jan Johnson, and April Stout. A candle was lit in memory of our deceased members.

Devotions were read by Darlene Francis entitled "Faith of our Fathers" in honor of Fathers Day. Members recited the pledge to the American and West Virginia flags. Minutes of last meeting were read by April in the absence of Secretary Estella Farnsworth. Treasures report given by treasurer Jan Johnson. it was accepted as given and filed.

"Hunt" From Pg 1.

head to the Ocean City Conference Center and visit with city officials from

Darlene Francis taught the lesson, entitled Teaching Appalachian Heritage Cooking to Children, Pt 2. One of the best ways to learn about Appalachian cooking is to attend local Appalachian festivals which are plentiful in our state this time of year.

Committee reports: Family; April reported that it has been ok'd by the River Oaks Nursing home to volunteer for having Bingo with the residents; which we will start very soon.

Membership and marketing: Ladonna announced that Sherry Blue has officially joined our club.

Welcome Sherry, we are happy to have you as our new member.

Announcements: deadline for entering photos in the photo contest is June 28! so get those photos in! The county picnic will

be held at the Harrison County Rec Center(4 H) on July 8, members should bring cleaning supplies for donation. A monetary donation for Friends feeding Friends was collected. 153 packages of Ramen noodles were collected for donation to the Mustard seed.

Members discussed having a visiting club this year, it will be discussed further and decided. At last County Council meeting our club got the banner for most attendees.

Plans were made for lunch at the Parkette Restaurant for June 18 at noon.

Meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be July 15 at the FOP. Members should bring blue book with CVH hours.

CVH this month 525.5 Books read 16; (4 from preferred list)

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throughout the state. While it was a long day of standing on concrete floors and talking till my voice wore out, I always enjoy these conferences and the people I meet.

We sampled several great restaurants, including the Sunset Grille and Sello's Italian

Oven and Bar, and enjoyed the sunsets over the bay as we dined on Maryland crab and Italian favorites. The service was also excellent, and it made the evening relaxing as we prepared for the next day.

Ocean City has a lot of activities for families and the young kids on the beach seemed to be having a great time. My son and daughter-in-law are heading to Ocean City in a few weeks with our granddaughter and I'm sure they will create some fun memories that will last a lifetime.

If you want to get away for a fun weekend or a long vacation, Ocean City is a safe, clean destination that should meet your needs. Maybe I am becoming a "Beach" person!

UHC Receives Environmental Excellence Award

Bridgeport, WV. leadership in by \$10,963. “Stryker is pleased to honor United hospital Centers’s continued dedication to achieving both environmental and financial sustainability,” said Natalie Ward, Vice President/General Manager of Stryker’s Sustainability Solutions. “With a heightened focus on improving value in today’s healthcare environment, United Hospital Center leads by example with their commitment to sustainability initiatives that reduce costs and optimize resources in order to support quality care.”

– June. 25, 2024 – United Hospital Center is proud to announce it has received the Environmental Excellence Award from Stryker’s Sustainability Solutions. This designation is reserved for select hospitals that demonstrate outstanding

healthcare sustainability and overall hospital quality through single-use device (SUD) reprocessing. In 2023, United Hospital Center reprocessing program successfully diverted 234 pounds of medical waste from landfills and reduced its supply costs

capital investment. United Hospital Center is in the distinguished company of other leading hospitals that are implementing reprocessing programs. In fact, reprocessing programs are currently employed by nearly all the U.S. News & World Report “Honor Roll” hospitals.

value in today’s healthcare environment, United Hospital Center leads by example with their commitment to sustainability initiatives that reduce costs and optimize resources in order to support quality care.” Leading hospitals across the nation are continuing to pursue

initiatives to reduce the environmental footprint of healthcare delivery. Among these initiatives, SUD reprocessing stands out as an environmental practice that not only dramatically reduces the amount of medical waste, but at the same time frees significant resources for the hospital – all without

capital investment. United Hospital Center is in the distinguished company of other leading hospitals that are implementing reprocessing programs. In fact, reprocessing programs are currently employed by nearly all the U.S. News & World Report “Honor Roll” hospitals.

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American Red Cross Launches Blood Drive In Theaters

MORGANTOWN, WV, June 24, 2024 — As the busy Fourth of July holiday week gets closer, the American Red Cross asks donors to be a powerful force for good by giving blood now and in the weeks to come. You can be the difference between someone’s storm and their sunshine. Donors are critically needed right now after a sharp decrease in donations since late spring. All blood types are needed, especially donors giving type O blood and those giving platelets.

Full summer calendars and holiday plans may prevent regular donors from being able to give. Additionally, significant summer weather threats such as hurricanes, flooding and tornadoes can result in travel hazards and blood drive cancellations that could

impact the blood supply. Help keep lifesaving blood products stocked on hospital shelves and book a time to give blood by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

The Red Cross has teamed up with Universal Pictures for the theatrical release of TWISTERS to help avoid a summer blood shortage. All who come to give blood or platelets July 1-31 will get a Fandango Movie Ticket* by email. Plus, those who come to give July 1-14 will also receive a one-of-a-kind TWISTERS and Red Cross umbrella, while supplies last. BONUS: Those who come to give blood in July will also automatically be entered for a chance to win a 2025 Ram 1500 Big Horn®. See RedCrossBlood.org/

Twisters for full details. Swarms of tornadoes and extreme flooding in recent months have tragically taken lives and destroyed entire communities. Most recently, millions of people have endured one of the longest lasting and strongest heat waves in years, including large portions of the Midwest. Unfortunately, in states like Arkansas, Ohio and Nebraska, many communities are still picking up the pieces and recovering from the second most active tornado season on record, according to the National Weather Service’s Storm Prediction Center.

“The Red Cross is grateful to have partners like Universal Pictures who are not only lending this support to encourage blood donations during this critical time of year but have also generously donated to help support disaster relief,” said Jennifer Pipa, vice president of Disaster Programs for the Red Cross. “Because of the climate crisis, the Red Cross is now launching twice as many relief operations for major disasters than we did a decade ago. And disasters are not only straining our relief operations but also our ability to collect lifesaving blood donations. So far this year we have collected 20,000 fewer blood donations due to severe weather.”

In just the first five months of the year, the Red Cross has responded to 20 tornado related disasters across 13 states. Unfortunately, meteorologists expect more powerful and destructive storms to continue in the months to

come as the effects of the climate crisis continue. This year’s outlook is part of a years-long trend of more frequent and intense climate disasters, such as hurricanes, wildfires, severe storms and floods. Dare to be a force of nature this summer. Give blood or make a financial donation to the Red Cross by visiting RedCross.org. **How to donate blood** Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other

forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements. Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

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“Obits” From Pg 7.



Richard Keith Minnix

Richard Keith Minnix, passed away at the age of 53, at Tampa General Hospital on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. He was born September 14,

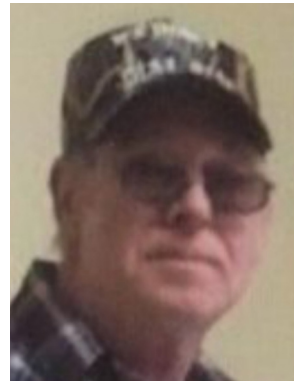
1970 and is survived by his parents, Bobby and Linda Minnix, who are former school teachers.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 32 years, Mavour, on June 23, 2023.

He was a 1989 graduate of Lincoln High School. Richard and his parents moved to Zephyrhills, Florida in 1991. Both Richard and his wife were employed in the health care field.

No public services are scheduled at this time. The Perine Funeral

Home is honored to serve the Minnix family.



Richard Lane Wilson

Richard Lane Wilson, 64, of Fairmont, passed away peacefully at his residence on June 23, 2024. He was born in Fairmont on April 27, 1960 to the late Clarence Edward Wilson, Sr. and Ina Della (Day) Wilson.

Richard proudly served his country with United States Army National Guard. He worked at Hyde’s Meat Packing as a butcher. He loved fishing, watching Westerns, bird watching and he loved his dog “Brisco” and cat “Midnight.”

He is survived by his wife, Cynthia Fay (Jones) Wilson; one daughter, Misty Dawn Wilson of California, PA; one granddaughter, Kara Alexis Long; five brothers: Bill Wilson and wife Brenda of Zanesville, OH, Claude Wilson of Margaret, Otto Wilson and wife Lillian of Fairmont, Bernard Wilson and wife Rhonda of Worthington and Joe Wilson and wife

Debbie of Zanesville, OH; nine sisters: Aretta Barker and husband Terry of TN, Edna Kropp of Worthington, Audrey White of MD, Martha Jean Green of Zanesville, OH, Judy Holcomb and husband Eddie of Worthington, Bernice Rota and husband Larry of Zanesville, OH, Connie Rota of Lumberport, Wanda Barnes and companion Donnie Pomeroy of Worthington and Iva Eakle of Morgantown as well as several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Richard is preceded in death by his first wife, Kim Wilson; one brother, Clarence Edward Wilson; two sisters: Deloris Whitecotton and Shirley Wilkins; seven brothers in law and one sister in law.

Donations can be made to his Care Fund on his memorial page to assist the family with funeral costs.

Family and friends will be received at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston, for visitation on Thursday, June 27, 2024 from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. Funeral service will be held on Friday, June 28, 2024 at 11:00am with Pastor Mike Hamrick officiating. Interment to follow to Enterprise IOOF Cemetery. Full military honors will be provided by United States Army

and Harrison County Honor Guard.



Helen Josephine (McKinney) (Cozad) Wiles

Helen Josephine (McKinney) (Cozad) Wiles, 85, of Hepzibah, passed away on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at her residence. She was born in Rosemont, WV on April 19, 1939 to the late Lemual D. McKinney and Alma Elizabeth (Layman) McKinney.

Helen is survived by two daughters: Pamela D. Craig and husband Paul A. of Lumberport and Helena Bunnell and husband Adam of Hepzibah; one son, Robert F. Cozad of Morgantown; one daughter in law, Ralanda Wiles of Hepzibah; six brothers: Richard F. Cozad and wife Regina of TN, David Cozad of Sardis; Alfred Cozad of Gypsy, Bernie Cozad and wife Lida of Hepzibah, John Cozad and wife Barb of Philippi and Chester Cozad and wife Bonnie of Philippi; two sisters: Sue Gorby of

Philippi and Cherrie Williston and Ernie Simons of Philippi as well as several grandchildren, great grandchildren, great great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Helen is preceded in death by her husband, Lovel Wiles; her companion, Julie “Smitty” E. Smith; her step father, Charles W. Cozad; two sons: Robert W. Wiles and Darrell “Buster” Wiles; three brothers: Charles “Chuck” Cozad, Robert “Bob” Cozad and Franklin Cozad; two sisters: Della Lantz and Linda Pinkham; four sisters in law: Lovie Cozad, Tish Cozad, Brenda Cozad and Marge Cozad and one grandson, Paul Lovel Craig.

She was a member of Bi-County Nutrition Center. Helen played the role of “Granny” from The Beverly Hillbillies in parades around West Virginia. She loved to play music, card games and her roses.

Family and friends will be received at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston, on Monday, July 1, 2024 from 11:00am until time of service, 1:00pm with Pastor Tim Sandy officiating. Interment to follow at Lumberport Lions Cemetery.

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Fireworks Prohibited on Monongahela National Forest

ELKINS, W.Va., June 28, 2024 – The Fourth of July holiday is a wonderful time to get outdoors and have fun with friends and family on Monongahela National Forest. Remember to bring your camera, but

please leave fireworks at home. Possessing, igniting, discharging or using any kind of fireworks is prohibited on National Forest System lands. “Setting off fireworks in the Forest is not only illegal, but it is also

a hazardous activity that can lead to injury and wildfires,” said Aaron Kendall, Fire Management Officer for Monongahela National Forest. “Although we received rain in some areas, the ground is still

incredibly dry. With recent fires in and around the Forest, signs are trending closer to years when we had extensive fires.” The public should call 911 for all emergencies; fire-related incidents on

the Forest can also be reported via the Mid-Atlantic Coordination Center 24-hour dispatch line at (717) 980-3230. Law enforcement personnel will be watchful again this year. The use or possession of

fireworks on public lands is subject to confiscation and fines of up to \$5,000 and/or up to six months imprisonment. In addition, anyone found responsible for starting a wildfire can be held civilly and/or criminally liable.

Asking for Truth, Dialogue Amid Unfair Homeschool Scrutiny

By the Honorable Kathie Hess Crouse (R-Putnam)

Recent reports have brought homeschooling in West Virginia under a critical spotlight. State School Superintendent Michele Blatt has claimed only 37% of homeschoolers submit the required assessment results for grades 3, 5, 8 and 11. However, this accusation raises more questions than it answers and puts the homeschooling community in a defensive position based on potentially flawed data.

Homeschoolers were not given a chance to discuss these statistics with Superintendent Blatt before they were presented to the public. This public revelation has influenced opinions, not only among the public but also within the homeschooling community. It has forced homeschoolers to defend themselves against statistics that even Blatt admits may be inaccurate.

This brings me to several concerns about

the West Virginia Department of Education’s (WVDE) findings.

First, the data spans the 2020-2021 through 2023-2024 school years. Including the chaotic years of 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 is misleading. During this time, public schools were effectively shut down by Gov. Jim Justice, leading thousands of parents to turn to homeschooling temporarily. Our homeschooling groups grew more than tenfold, and many parents were either unaware of homeschool laws or chose to ignore them. Most of these students have since returned to public schools.

Public schools themselves struggled to track and oversee their students during this period. Including these years in the study skews the data, as confusion was widespread for all West Virginia parents.

Second, including the 2023-2024 school year in the statistics is fundamentally flawed. The deadline for assessment results

submission (June 30) has not yet even. Thus, the WVDE can only reasonably draw data from the 2022-2023 school year. That year also saw significant disruptions, especially in Kanawha County — the county with the largest homeschool population in the state — where all the records were misplaced, and parents were asked to resubmit them.

Were these missing records reported as non-compliance? It’s a known issue that county school boards frequently lose assessment results and Blatt acknowledged in a recent email that managing these exemptions is extremely taxing for attendance directors. Reports from across the state describe lost paperwork, uncollected mail, false information given to homeschoolers and instances of harassment and bullying to force children back into public schools.

How can we trust statistics from a system that loses funding with

each child removed? Superintendent Blatt asserts that the 37% submission rate is unacceptable, despite schools not being required to follow up on unsubmitted assessments. This is a choice, not a mandate.

Public school systems have opted not to utilize the law already in place and follow up, even though state homeschool organizations have long noted that county superintendents can choose to do so.

Additionally, WVDE data showing 70% of students who left public schools were chronically absent begs the question: why did they leave? Reports indicate rising bullying, increased suicides and dangerous conditions in public schools. Berkeley County, for instance, recently faced scrutiny over significant safety issues, prompting many parents to withdraw their children for their well-being.

Blatt also mentioned the 6,000 children in the foster care system,

suggesting a need to reevaluate homeschool laws. However, since the state typically denies homeschooling for foster children, this point seems irrelevant and aimed at garnering public sympathy. Furthermore, from a recent Wood County Board of Education meeting, board member Rick Olcott was quoted as saying, “The first thing we need to do is attack homeschoolers and get them back in the school system.”

How can a system with such animosity toward homeschoolers be trusted with their statistics?

This overt hostility only deepens the distrust between the homeschool community and the public education system. There has been a public outcry from those who believe the homeschool community should face further regulation (despite West Virginia being one of the more heavily regulated states) to prevent child abuse.

But where is the

outray for public school students who have been abused in the classroom or sexually groomed by school personnel outside the classroom? Why has there not been a push for further regulation of school personnel?

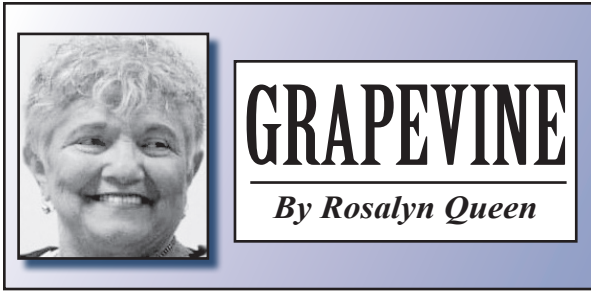
The homeschool community has not been included in these discussions. Consequently, incomplete data presented out of context paints an inaccurate picture, shocking the public and legislators with claims of a lack of accountability. It is vital to bring all the facts to light and engage with legislators to counter misinformation with logical and factual arguments.

Delegate Kathie Hess Crouse, R-Putnam, represents House District 19, which is made up entirely of Putnam County. She has served in the House since December 2021 and is the Vice Chairman of the House Workforce Development Committee.

Progressive Women’s Association Honors Women Making a Difference

Stephanie Iaquina, Grants Coordinator for the Antero Foundation was the Keynote Speaker for the Women of Distinction Awards Luncheon presented by the Progressive Women’s Association held Friday at the Uptown Event Center. The luncheon recognizes women in our community who make a difference by their volunteer involvement.

Iaquina said of the honorees. “I am grateful for all you do to make this region a better place to live, work and raise our families. Volunteerism and charitable work does not always get a round of applause or a standing ovation, but it should in this community where it is so desperately needed. We take care of one another..... This is a shared sentiment of Antero’s as we pride



ourselves in the ability to affect positive change in Northcentral WV as well as across the Appalachian region.”

Iaquina concluded her presentation by announcing Antero’s

partnership with the Progressive Women’s Association. “Over the next five years, Antero is honored and excited to present the Antero Women of Distinction Award through a \$5,000

gift to the Progressive Women’s Association.”

Queen thanked Iaquina and Antero for their generous gift and outlined the difference it would make in honoring Harrison County Women volunteers. She stated “The PWA looks forward to working with Antero and is most appreciative of this generous gift. It is our desire that the good deeds of these honorees and future honorees will

inspire others to come forward and act. By this generous gift Antero is helping forward our work.”

The next WOD awards ceremony will be held in October honoring Italian Heritage and Culture month.

For more information call 304 624 6881 and until next week “Now You Have Heard It Through the Grapevine.”

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