

## Shinnston Loses Revered Businessman, Musician, Teacher, and Coach

**Anthony John Ellis**, 86, of Shinnston, WV, born August 29, 1937, passed away on June 29, 2024 from an extended illness. He is preceded in death by his parents, John and Jean Ellis; and sister-in-law Norma Ellis. He leaves behind his wife, Carolyn Sue Hardesty Ellis, of 55 years; his two daughters, Melissa Minigh and husband Scott of Fairmont, WV, and children Karlie and Stephen Minigh; his youngest daughter Antoinette Ellis-Casto of Shinnston, WV with her two daughters, Claire and Anna Casto. He is also survived by his brother John Ellis of Haywood, WV.

Anthony was a well-respected businessman and was well-loved throughout the community making many friends throughout the years. During his early years, Anthony attended school at St. Mary's in Clarksburg, WV and his love of music led him to learn to play the clarinet with lessons from his Uncle Sam and joined the School Boy Patrol Band at ten years old. Soon after, he became a member of the

*See "Ellis" on Pg 3*



Ellis dedicated much of his life to serving the young people of Harrison County.

## Nothing

When thinking about this week's column I was struggling for a title and suddenly, I thought, "Why not write a column about nothing?" Just some random thoughts about the mundane things that happen around this time each year. We have reached the halfway point in the year and the resolutions that we made at the beginning of the year are a faint memory and the pounds that we pledged to lose, have either disappeared or are still around, with maybe a few more added to the mix.

Also, around this time of year, the weather

*See "Hunt" on Pg 3*



By Jim Hunt for the News and Journal

For fans of the Seinfeld television series, few scenes were funnier than when Jerry and George were pitching their idea for a television show to the NBC executives and when asked what it was about, they simply said "Nothing".

## Banding Together to Celebrate America's Independence



Hundreds were entertained by tje Shinnston Community Band's performance during City Independence Day celebrations.

## Council Member Ferris Describes City Priorities For New Term

By Stephen Smoot

Bill Watson earned reelection.

Last May, Shinston held its municipal elections. Last week, the new council was sworn in and started getting to work.

The elections brought some changes to City government. Pat Kovalck will serve as mayor and Amanda Sayers as vice mayor. Vance Sosinsky won election to council as a first time member while Mary Ann Ferris and

Ferris had served as vice mayor. She also serves in leadership positions with the state and county Association of Retired Teachers, co-president of the Women's Club, secretary of the St. Ann's Parish Council, as well as Eucharistic Minister and confirmation teacher.

She explained that the City Council had laid out a number of

*See "Council" on Pg 6*

## Shinnston Resident, James S. Jarrett Receives "Home Town Hero" Designation

Steve Strait, Representative of Modern Woodman of America, recently presented James S. Jarrett, of Shinnston, WV the coveted "Home Town Hero" designation. This award is given to a few citizens around the United States for outstanding service to their community or region.

The award recognizes life long service to the communities that they represent. A proclamation award was presented to Jim, along with a check which will be presented in his honor to a charity of his choice. Shinnston Mayor Rodney Strait joined in the presentation.

Jim Jarrett truly reflects the values that are set for this



James Jarrett received a certificate honoring his selection as a hometown hero. It read: "We recognize your accomplishments and appreciate your contributions to the community"

designation. Jim and his wife, Nancy, relocated to Shinnston in the late 1960's from Charleston, WV, and the area has been blessed with his commitment to Public Service from that time. He has had a decorated

*See "Hero" on Pg 3*

## "Million Dollar Ideas" Wanted In Harrison County Chamber "Shark Tank" Style Competition

By Stephen Smoot

the vision of efficiency meeting quality that became McDonalds.

Everyone gets them. Sometimes they come on a long road trip while others wake people up in the middle of the night.

Still others come to them by observation and analysis, as when Ray Kroc, traveling salesman, stopped for lunch at a burger bar and walked away with

For those in Harrison County who have conjured ideas of improving a process, creating a new product, or offering a service and need help making them reality, the Chamber of Commerce offers a tremendous

*See "Ideas" on Pg 3*

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of  
Harrison County

OPINION

A Detour  
From “The  
Road to  
Serfdom”

By Stephen Smoot

Friedrich A. Hayek was born in the same empire (Austria-Hungary) and in the same generation as Adolf Hitler. Both spent years of their young adult lives in the Hapsburg capital of Vienna. The Austria-Hungary of the time had important features that shaped the worldview of the two men. Its suffocating bureaucracy and endless slate of laws and regulations hampered innovation, choked economic growth, and kept the formerly prosperous and powerful empire moving toward poverty and decline. Austria-Hungary also evolved to be defined by its ethnic diversity. Emperor Franz Josef famously knew each of the 15 major languages spoken in his realm. Both men drew lessons learned from the plight of the Empire that stumbled into World War I and faced Imperial death at the hands of the Allies. Hayek saw a state and people tied down by too much government while Hitler blamed the Empire’s decline and his own poverty on its cosmopolitan diversity - especially its Jewish

population. Both served in World War I, Hayek in the field artillery of the Austro-Hungarian armed forces, Hitler as a corporal and dispatch runner for the army of the German Empire. Hitler served as a teacher to Hayek in a way. After World War II, Hayek wrote down his conclusions in “Road to Serfdom.” “Road to Serfdom” outlines the highway to dictatorship. Hayek explains that wartime planning that organizes the economy inspires leaders in peace to seek the same level of organization. Over time, society grows accustomed to ever-expanding planning. The process, however, grows cumbersome when competing groups advocate for competing plans. Farmers and urbanites, for example, often have conflicting viewpoints and conflicting worldviews. Both clamor for strong leadership to implement their favored plan over another. This leads to increasing calls for authoritarian, then totalitarian government while the rights and freedoms of individuals and the people collectively diminish. As government power grows, it attracts

*See “Smoot” on Pg 3*

POSTPRANDIAL

ACROSS

1 Male cats

5 “Unto the Sons” author Gay

11 Perp’s place

15 Overwhelm, as with humor

19 Getting the task done

20 Region next to Catalonia

21 Minnesota ex-governor Carlson

22 Something to belt out

23 “Save As,” “Print” or “Select All”

25 Name as a source

26 Liturgical act

27 “Alas, it wasn’t to be”

28 Africa’s Amin

29 Destitute

30 Sponsorship

31 Small telescope

34 Diner classic

37 Ancient Celtic priest

39 Join together in a labor group

40 Message on a protective book cover

45 Breastbone

49 Holds fast (to)

50 Makes sure the task gets done

54 Kong or Koko

55 6/6/1944

56 Extracts via udders

58 Small gift for shindig guests

61 Purported psychic skill

62 — job on (messed up)

63 They propel paramecia

65 Actress Dunne

66 Spot in a hotel to book a room

70 Happen next

73 South African grassland

74 — -edged pages

75 Positive vote

78 Certain fruit bar

81 Sheriff’s aides

83 U.S. fort holding gold

84 Scarfed down

85 More restless

87 Miserly sort

89 Stationery store product

92 Ping-Pong

94 Sweet snacks on sticks

98 Cry to an attack dog

99 Source of music to accompany silent films

103 Big name in concert pianos

108 Drizzles or sprinkles

109 Dog botherer

110 Cereal grain

112 Guileless

113 Verdi opera heroine

114 Fish’s respiratory structure

115 Where the starts of eight answers in this puzzle might appear

118 Street — (rep in the city)

119 War god

120 Senator Sanders

121 Low- — diet

122 Model Banks

123 Heredity unit

124 See 95-Down

125 Kett of old comics

DOWN

1 Burial sites

2 Barely ahead

3 Like many toothpastes

4 Attacked like a bee

5 Confucian “way”

6 Upper limb

7 Antifungal brand

8 “Good grief!”

9 Part of SST

10 Put a stop to

11 British actor Derek

12 Melodic passage

13 While being shipped

14 Filmdom’s Spike or Ang

15 Person scattering seeds, say

16 Brother of Nintendo’s Mario

17 Shenanigan

18 “Good grief!”

24 More chilly

29 Play on words

30 Wood-dressing tool

32 Twin of Apollo

33 Diminish

35 Engine oil, for short

36 — -gritty

38 Twilight time

40 Precious green stone

41 Tosses in

42 British fellow

43 Lock unlocker

44 Alters in size, as a photo

46 Church area with pews

47 Resting atop

48 Nothing more than

51 Cut and dried soup veggie

52 “Dynamite” singer Cruz

53 Chimps’ cousins

57 Future pupae

59 Clenched hand

60 Genesis boat

62 Low grades

64 “— be a shame if ...”

66 Really regret

67 Wang of dress design

68 Examine minutely

69 Person voted in to a seat

70 Cheese from Holland

71 Statistics expert Silver

72 Goblet part

75 Auth. unknown

76 Bear or Berra

77 Past partners

79 Seismic occurrence

80 Being harshly criticized

82 Balls

83 “— -Tiki”

86 “— deal!”

88 Actress Leah

90 Quebecois’ national anthem

91 Butter bits

93 Takes heed

95 With 124-Across, dreaded time of the year for many allergy sufferers

96 Last words of a threat

97 Links org.

99 Land parcel

100 Fur-covered

101 Duck variety

102 Charge-free

104 “Twin Peaks” actor Jack

105 Be the champion of

106 Ward off

107 — Buena Island

111 Gillette razor

114 Choke

115 Crunchable muscles

116 — de Janeiro

117 Lion locale

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FIND THE SUPER CROSSWORD ANSWERS ON PAGE 6!

THIS WEEK IN  
West Virginia History

Charleston WV – July 12, 2003: 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](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org). July 11, 1861: The Battle of Rich Mountain was fought in Randolph County. Union troops under Gen. George McClellan defeated Confederate forces, helping to secure northwestern Virginia (now West Virginia) for the North. July 11, 1867: John Jacob Cornwell was born on a farm in Ritchie County. He served as the 15th governor of West Virginia. July 11, 1976: Gov. Arch Moore dedicated the West Virginia Culture Center. The facility was built to showcase the Mountain State’s artistic, cultural and historic heritage.

July 12, 2003: The Clay Center for the Arts & Sciences in downtown Charleston opened to the public. It combines a modern performing arts center with a visual arts museum and an interactive science center. July 13, 1861: The Battle of Corricks Ford took place in Tucker County. During the fight, Confederate Gen. Robert S. Garnett became the first Confederate general killed in battle during the Civil War. July 14, 1861: Union troops under Gen. Jacob Cox drove Confederate militia and cavalry out of town during the Battle of Barboursville. Union forces remained in control of Barboursville for the remainder of the war. July 14, 1900: Gangster William “Big Bill” Lias was



**The Benedum Foundation supports projects aimed at improving the quality of life throughout West Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania**

born in Wheeling, or completed when the final Greece. For much of the mid-1900s, he was considered the leader of bootlegging, organized crime, and gambling in the Wheeling area. July 15, 1886: Congressman Cleveland Monroe “Cleve” Bailey was born on a farm in Pleasants County. He represented West Virginia’s third congressional district for eight terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, 1945–47 and 1949–63. July 15, 1988: Interstate 64 was

section between Sam Black Church and the West Virginia Turnpike was opened to traffic. July 16, 1791: General Adam Stephen died. He fought in the French and Indian War and Revolutionary War, receiving a commendation after the Battle of Trenton and concluding his military career after the American loss at Brandywine. He played pivotal roles in the founding of both Berkeley County and Martinsburg.

“A Newspaper The Whole Family Can Read”

Shinnston Harrison County

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“Hero” From Pg 1.

career as a Certified Medical Representative for Pfizer Labs and has dedicated numerous hours and days as a volunteer to make Shinnston, Harrison County and West Virginia a better place to live.

During those years of service, Jim has provided the leadership to create one of the finest Emergency Service systems, Fire Service and 911 Communications systems in the United States.

Service providers from around the United States and Canada have emulated the systems of Harrison County, WV. to modernize their respective systems. The current 9LL Communication Headquarters for

Harrison County has been named in his honor. He has given numerous hours as a Volunteer Firefighter with Shinnston Fire Department and as a training instructor for West Virginia University and a “volunteer WV

State Fire Marshal, in charge of Hazardous Materials Incidents for Northern WV. He has created many of the fire service programs that are being taught today. Modern Woodman of America, along with the citizens of this area,

congratulate James S. Jarrett with a, well deserved, “Home Town Hero” designation as his accomplishments and dedication to the community which he served. He is truly a “Home Town Hero”.

“Hunt” From Pg 1.

reaches its pinnacle with hot, muggy days and no motivation to get outside and complete the many “summer” projects that we planned. We await the weekends and instead of sweating out eighteen holes on the golf course, we find ourselves planted in our recliners, watching professional golf and drinking beer. There are the occasional thunderstorms that

pound away and rip the limbs from the trees and the blinds from the decks. And while we welcome the rain, it only increases the humidity and destroys any remaining motivation to pick up the limbs from the yard. Even driving is a challenge, with construction delays and orange cones lining the highways. The long-awaited trip to the

beach is slowed to a crawl causing hour-long delays with the kids in the backseat, asking the ubiquitous question, “Are we there yet?” About the time you are just a few miles from the overpriced beach house, the breaking news announces that sharks have been sighted along the coast and all swimming has been banned for the week.

Finally, after a week of mini-golf, sunburn, and overeating, you load the car for the trip home and run into even longer traffic jams. The kids are slowly realizing that what seemed like a never-ending adventure, is quickly more than half over with the ringing of school bells soon to be heard. The parents are also surprised at how fast the summer seems to fly by and if they are

ready for the drama and hectic schedules that await them. While it seems mundane and repetitive, the “dog days of summer” are also a time of ice cream cones and summer romances, a concert in the park, and fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup>. First jobs and new friendships, mixed with baseball and picnics. Some things will not have meaning

for many years and some people will only be remembered when we open the file, marked “The Summer of 2024”. What seemed like nothing at the time will be etched into our brains as some of the most significant events in our lives. Have fun, enjoy life, take time to reflect, and remember that even nothing can be Amazing!

“Ideas” From Pg 1.

opportunity. For the second year in a row, the organization and a team of sponsors and judges have put together “The Tank Entrepreneurial Contest.”

The Harrison County Chamber of Commerce bases the competition on the long-running television series “Shark Tank.” On this program, entrepreneurs who have

taken the first steps in establishing a business offering a unique product or service can make their pitch to a panel of potential investors. One or more investors may choose to back the entrepreneur with investment and mentoring help. The investors also obtain some sort of consideration for their money, most often purchasing a percentage of the business. Some ideas and pitches earn both praise and support, with investors battling to join the business. Others receive encouragement to work on the idea and bring it back. More than a few get encouraged to

“take this idea behind the barn and shoot it.” Harrison County’s version has a slightly different format. A panel of judges will hear the pitches and select a winner. The winner receives \$10,000, plus significant mentoring assistance in building their business, mainly in legal, accounting, marketing, and human resources areas. Judges for this year’s event include LaReta J. Lowther - Senior Vice President & Director - Community Development / CRA WesBanco Bank Inc., Scott Werdebaugh Owner - Integrity Financial Planning, and Co-owner and Managing

Partner - Vast Holdings, LLC, April Kaull - Executive Director of Communications for University Relations - West Virginia University, Mitch Carmichael - Cabinet Secretary for the West Virginia Department of Economic Development, and Ben Queen Owner - Ben Queen Photography and West Virginia State Senator. Serving as Master of Ceremonies will be Mike Queen, who currently serves as Deputy, Chief of Staff and Director of Communications for the Office of West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner. Applicants have until July 31 to

register, which can be done on the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce website. The competition will take place on Oct 2 from 6 to 8 PM in front of a live audience at the Robinson Grand Theater. Judges look for feasibility, profitability, and entrepreneur ability, but also the intangibles. As “Shark Tank’s” Kevin “Mr. Wonderful” O’Leary states. “When you’re an investor, you can look at the quantitative and qualitative elements of an investment, but there’s a third aspect: What you feel in your gut.”

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](mailto:newsandjournal@yahoo.com)*

Lincoln High School Class of 1994 will be hosting their 30 year class reunion.  
Friday, July 12 @ 6:30pm @ lincoln high school for a throw back walk through  
Saturday July 13 @ 6:00pm Class reunion @ the Women’s Club in Shinnston WV. Cost is \$20 per person at the door.  
Find our group Class of 1994 Lincoln High School on facebook to stay up to date.

Thursday, July 18, 2024

American Legion Auxiliary 31 monthly meeting. Covered dish dinner 6:00 pm honoring scholarship recipients and new officers. Meeting, 7:00 pm. American Legion Post 31.  
Notice of a Regular Meeting for United Technical Center Council, which is scheduled for Wednesday July 10, 2024 at 9:30 am.  
If you are a pastor, commissioned ruling elder, leader of a 1001 New Worshiping Community or member of a stewardship team, the Presbyterian Foundation has Church Financial Leadership Grants available for you. The grants will enable you to institute best practices for church financial leadership, introduce you to new models of giving and stewardship, and offer you new ways to talk about money and form generous disciples within your church. Each grant helps cover half the cost of registration, transportation, lodging, meals or other expenses to church financial leadership events, particularly Stewardship Kaleidoscope or the Lake Institute’s Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising. (Your church or another source will need to provide the other half.)

“Smoot” From Pg 2.

individuals who favor wielding that authority in their own hands. Hayek quotes “a distinguished American economist, Professor Frank H. Knight” who states “the probability of the people in power being individuals who would dislike the possession and exercise of power is on a level with the probability that an extremely tender-hearted person would get the job of whipping master in a slave plantation.” Hayek also asserts that the more power a government holds, the more apt it is to create its own truth. He says bluntly that “collectivism is the end of truth.” Vaclav Havel, a dissident against the Czechoslovakian Communist government in the 1980s and post Communist president of Czechoslovakia, then the post Velvet Revolution Czech Republic, in his essay “The Power of the Powerless” also cites the inability of those living under totalitarianism to “live within the truth” without social or governmental applied consequences. Or as George Orwell wrote in “Nineteen Eighty-Four” “In the

end the Party would announce that two and two made five, and you would have to believe it. It was inevitable that they should make that claim sooner or later: the logic of their position demanded it.” As deference to “experts” becomes part and parcel of the system, important decisions are taken out of the hands of elected officials and made more often by bureaucratic “experts” who often have little direct connection to the scenarios inspiring their choices. Until last week, the planners reigned supreme in the United States Government, until the Supreme Court held up its hand, standing “athwart history, yelling Stop, at a time when no one is inclined to do so, or to have much patience with those who so urge it,” as William F. Buckley once stated as a description of conservatism itself. In 1984, the United States Supreme Court ruled in Chevron U.S.A. Inc vs. Natural Resources Defense Council Inc that judges should defer to federal agencies’ rules when they were reasonable and also when Congress

had provided only ambiguous enabling legislation. Except for the people, businesses, and freedom itself, this served as a win-win. Federal agencies could manufacture interpretations within the law on a very broad spectrum. The United States Congress could intentionally write ambiguous enabling legislation and avoid the blame when federal agencies put teeth in the rules that bit down on the interests of the people and violated rights and freedoms. Through this precedent, the Environmental Protection Agency tried to impose \$30,000 per day fines on a farm in Hardy County for having excessive dirt. The United States Supreme Court, however, ruled that this regulation application was unreasonable. The logical end of delivering power and authority from the hands of elected officials into those of appointed bureaucrats who do not answer to the people is clear. America’s democratic-republic system over time degenerates into a fig leaf for an imperious

bureaucracy that only answers to the President if it answers to anyone. Eliminating what is called the Chevron Deference has thrown federal agencies and those who support expert planning as a primary source of rules and regulations into a panic. What the ruling last week actually accomplished, however, was rolling back the federal government’s ability to arbitrarily ruin individuals and industries with capricious and unnecessary regulations while also forcing elected officials to become accountable for the results and impacts of the laws that they pass. It also restores both the letter and spirit of Article 1 Section 1 of the United States Constitution that reads “All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.” Not federal agencies. Not the President. Only the Congress of the United States.

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# And They Say That Seven Is a Lucky Number

The countdown has officially begun for diehard West Virginia University football fans. There are just seven weeks until old nemesis Penn State rolls into town to get the season underway.

Last season was a successful season for the Mountaineers and Head Coach Neal Brown. It was a pivotal year for Brown because of the pressure from all sides to produce a winner. After a one and two start, WVU went eight and two the rest of the way, including a 30 to 10 win over the University of North Carolina in the Duke’s Mayo Bowl. The Mountaineers won four of their last five and momentum was with Brown and Company heading into the off-season

Mountaineer Nation had to show a great deal of patience through the winter, spring, and summer. During that wait, there were a few distractions to draw interest. These include a roller coaster ride that was the men’s basketball season, Mark Kellogg’s impressive first year



### The Bottom Line

*By Bill Nestor  
Sports Editor*

run at the helm of the women’s basketball program, the record-setting baseball season in Randy Mazey’s last year as the head coach, and the pursuit and hiring of Darian DeVries (we will talk more about him in the weeks to come) as the new leader of the men’s basketball team.

The Gold and Blue Spring Game has been the highlight since that 20 point drubbing of the Tar Heels, but that was way back on April 27. Sure, it was a nice touch to bring back Pat White and Pat McAfee as coaches, but fans are in need of a football fix to get them to Aug 31.

This past week they received their present, and once again it wasn’t what they were looking for. The Big 12 Football Preseason Poll came out last Tuesday and the Mountaineers were in the middle of the pack. A year ago, West

Virginia was picked 14, which didn’t do Brown any favors around the Mountain State heading into the campaign.

Brown used the less than lofty preseason ranking as a motivational tool and it galvanized his squad.

Similar to kids on Christmas Day, Mountaineer fans eagerly await the moment where they discover what they are going to get. WVU fans were even more excited this year because of the departure of Oklahoma and Texas. The big bad Sooners and Longhorns have long been national powers and are always at the top of every list. With them out of the picture, a loftier ranking would surely be in store.

The Eagles warned us about the new kids in town in 1976 and in 2024 it’s Utah in its first year in the Big 12 that has been chosen as the

top dog. Kansas State is second, followed by Oklahoma State, Kansas, and fellow newcomer Arizona is fifth. Iowa State comes in at sixth, West Virginia made the list at seven, followed by the University of Central Florida, Texas Tech, and Texas Christian University to round out the top 10.

The remainder of the rankings are as follows 11) Colorado 12) Baylor 13) Brigham Young University 14) Cincinnati 15) Houston and 16) Arizona State.

Utah received 906 points compared to WVU’s total of 581. That is a substantial gap that won’t set well with those around the program. It’s not only the numerical ranking that counts, but also the perception of the closeness of the quality of the programs and where they currently stand. Brown will tell everyone in the media to “take it easy” but behind closed doors the poll will once again serve as motivational material.

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



**Stonewall’s Palmer Course was designed by Arnold Palmer who, along with Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods, is considered one of the greatest golfers in the sport’s history.**

## Tee It Up

*By Bill Nestor*

This week’s edition of Tee It Up is a focus on the Palmer Course at Stonewall Resort. Named after the King of Golf, Arnold Palmer, this tract layout is truly exceptional. The views here are breathtaking from the top notch practice facility through the 18th hole.

The staff is a difference maker at Stonewall Resort, led by the Director of Golf, Mike Rogers. His experience, leadership, and vision are key components in the leadership of a friendly and knowledgeable staff. They run the award winning golf shop that is stocked full of modern high end men’s and women’s apparel, merchandise, and equipment. Everything that you need for your round can be had in this pro shop.

The practice facility provides a driving ranger, chipping area, and a putting green. It is also where I was fortunate enough to ask Arnold Palmer himself

a question when he was in town to dedicate the course several years ago.

Lightburn’s Restaurant is located right above the golf shop and it provides an excellent venue for a 19th hole. You can relax, unwind, and recap your round while overlooking the entire resort from a bird’s eye view.

Stay and play packages are available at Stonewall resort and there is something here for everyone. The marina offers boating and fishing. Bike rentals, pool and hot tubs, a fire pit, recreation center, and sporting clay shooting are just some of the activities. As for food goes, with Joe Corcoglioniti as the Director of Food and Beverage, you better come hungry and prepare to be happy.

Stonewall Resort is a great place to spend time this summer.

## Salem Women’s Water Polo Lands 14 on WHPA All-Academic List

SALEM, West Virginia - With the final contest of Salem women’s water polo season in the rearview, the Tigers still have some hardware to add to their 2024 spring campaign. However, this time, it is for their efforts

in the classroom, not in the pool. The Tigers have placed 14 on the WHPA All-Academic List for their strong showing in the classroom this year. Each honoree is as follows:

Keri Brooks, Jojo

DeSalvo, Emma Donnelly, Taeghen Hack, Mackenzie Hamilton, Abigail Hopkins, Ivani Kamidoi, Alexis Kilgroe, Emily Low, Iris Oudshoorn, Courtney Repinz, Morgan Riordan, Faith Stewart,

Lorelai Weaver

The Salem Athletic Department would like to congratulate our Tigers for this accomplishment, and all their hard work in the classroom as they prepare for their 2025 spring campaign.

## Hitting the Links



**The Lincoln High School golf squad took time for a group photo as they started flex practices late last month**



# HCSCC SPOTLIGHT

Featuring news from the Harrison County Senior Citizen Center



The HCSCC Board of Directors met on Thursday, June 27, 2024 in the ballroom in hybrid fashion, in-person and via Zoom. At the meeting, the Board:

Elected Board Officers for 2024-2025 term – President: Ryan Kennedy; Vice President: Bill O’Field; Secretary: Franklin Hairston; and Treasurer: Betty Waddy.

Approved three yearly Board appointments – Ryan Kennedy, Bill Phillips, and Betty Waddy.

Approved committee reports and safety walk through review.

Adopted changes to the Bylaws brought forth by the Ad Hoc By-

Laws Committee.

Recognized the HCSC 2024 Senior Olympic Team.

The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom.

Remaining Meetings for this year are September 26 and October 24, 2024.

2024 – 2025 Board Officers & Members

E. Ryan Kennedy, President, Bill O’Field, Vice President, Franklin

Hairston, Secretary, Betty Waddy, Treasurer, Carol E. Brown, Don Burton, Janet Dotson, Will Hyman, Harley Jeffries, Bill Phillips, Donna Stuart, and Susan Thomas.

### 2024 Income Guidelines

To be eligible to receive Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program benefits, you must be at least 60 years old, and your income may not exceed:

Household Size	Monthly	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	Twice Monthly	Annual
1	\$2,322	\$536	\$1,072	\$1,161	\$26,861
2	\$3,152	\$728	\$1,455	\$1,576	\$37,814
3	\$3,981	\$919	\$1,838	\$1,991	\$47,767
4	\$4,810	\$1,110	\$2,220	\$2,405	\$57,720
5	\$5,640	\$1,302	\$2,603	\$2,820	\$67,673

GROSS INCOME – before taxes  
(The income limit is 185 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines, as adjusted).

## West Virginia Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

On Saturday, June 29, 2024, HCSC staff and volunteers set up at the Clarksburg Farmers Market to distribute WV Senior Farmers Market produce coupon booklets. These are also known as senior produce vouchers. The program was designed to benefit the WV produce farmer and senior citizens age 60+ that qualify under the income guidelines shown. Qualifying seniors may receive one booklet per year.



West Virginia Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

During the week, booklets are distributed at the Harrison County Senior Center M-F, while supplies last, from 8:30 am to 11:15 am, and 12:45 pm to 3:15 pm. Due to lunchtime staffing issues, no booklets are distributed during 11:15 am to 12:45 pm. Call 304.623.6795 for more information.



2024 HCSC competitors were (L-R): Virginia Harding, Donna Burr, Eddie Burr, Don Nestor, Linda Maul, Margaret Davis, Diana Christafore, Jane Underwood, and Cliff Marshall, winner of the Clyde Ackley Sportsmanship Award. The picture was taken directly after the team arrived home. The HCSC county banner won the trophy for most creative. Pictures of senior center activities and events were artfully displayed by Donna Stuart, Board Member, and Beth Fitzgerald, Executive Director. The Olympians were recognized and honored at the June 27, 2024 HCSC Board Meeting.

## HCSC Senior Olympians Bring Home 42 Medals and 2 Trophies

HCSC has sent senior Olympians to the WV Senior Games held in Mineral County in 2018, 2019, 2023, and 2024. During the pandemic break and some games were (3 years), the games were suspended. This year, HCSC sent 9 competitors to the 4 day event held June 11-14, 2024. Lodging held at Potomac State College. Other venues for competitions were Keyser Senior Center and Rainbow Lanes Bowling Alley.



## HCSC Hosts Tai Chi Instructor Training Workshop

HCSC hosted a two day workshop for Tai Chi Instructor Training on June 22-23, 2024.

Gilmer County Senior Center Director Sallie Mathess sent one of her special cakes decorated with a Tai Chi



Tai Chi Instructor Training Workshop.

image with Instructor and the workshop Sarah West who was participants enjoying recertifying. Pictured are the cake their cake break.

## HCSC Upcoming Closure Schedule

HCSC will be closed on Wednesday, August 14, 2024 for our annual Mandatory Staff Training Day.

## Assessor & Sheriff Mobile Tax Office Summer Schedule

The Harrison County Assessor and Sheriff Mobile Tax Office will be at the Harrison County Senior Center on Friday, July 19, 2024 from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Other dates, times and locations are as follows:	Time Location	Tuesday, July 30 10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Building	15 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	27 9:30 am – 12:30 pm
	Monday, July 15 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Friday, August 9 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	Spelter Fire Department	pm Summit Park Fire
	Benedum Civic Center	Meadowbrook Mall (center court)	Lumberport United Methodist	Tuesday, August 20 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Department
	Tuesday, July 23 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	Friday, August 2 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	Wednesday, August 14 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	Stonewood Fire Department	Wednesday, August 28 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
	United Hospital Center	East View Community Building	West Milford Community Building	Thursday, August 22 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	Assessor’s and Tax Office
	Friday, July 26 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	Wednesday, August 7 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	Thursday, August	Salem City Building	Harrison County General Services Building
	American Legion	Lost Creek Community		Tuesday, August	

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# Federal Court Halts Biden’s LNG Export Ban

CHARLESTON — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey, along with a collation of 16 states, has won a stay of the Biden administration’s ban on new liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports.

The U.S. District Court Western District of Louisiana Lake Charles Division granted the coalition’s motion for preliminary injunction and ordered

the LNG export ban “be stayed in its entirety, effective immediately.”

“This is a big win for the country’s energy industry and the millions of jobs it supports against the attacks from the Biden administration to further its radical climate change agenda at the expense of our economy,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “This administration’s Energy Department

has no such authority to justify this ban—authority on matters like this lies with Congress and Congress alone.”

The Attorney General also co-led a 22-state letter in February urging the administration to end its pause on LNG exports.

On Jan. 26, Biden halted all new approvals of LNG exports to non-Free-Trade Agreement countries effective

immediately. That decision ignores the Natural Gas Act’s presumption in favor of exports, decades of Department of Energy policy and state and private reliance on exports.

West Virginia is the country’s fourth largest producer of natural gas. As the coalition’s motion explained, the LNG ban threatens the tens of millions of dollars of severance

taxes that West Virginia derives from natural gas and the thousands of jobs supported by the industry in the state.

The court’s order noted that the states had shown “evidence of harm” from the ban “specifically to Louisiana, Texas, and West Virginia in the loss of revenues, market share, and deprivation of a procedural right.”

International trade in LNG has spiked in part because of the abundant natural gas resources in the U.S.

The U.S. is the world leader in natural gas production and became the top exporter of LNG in 2023—exporting an unprecedented 86 million metric tons. There are also nearly 187 million Americans using natural gas, supporting more than four million jobs.

## WVDA Urging Landowners to Sign up for Invasive Insect Suppression Program

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) is urging landowners to sign up for the Cooperative State-County-Landowner (CSCL) Lymantria dispar (spongy moth) Suppression Program. The program is focused on protecting the landowners’ forested acreage from devastating effects caused by the invasive Lymantria dispar. The sign-up period runs from July 1 until August 31, 2024.

“West Virginia’s forests are one of our state’s most important

resources. From tourism to our timber industry, our forests are an important economic driver,” said Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt. “As we face more invasive species, such as the spotted lanternfly, we hope people will take advantage of programs like these.”

The CSCL Lymantria dispar program will start accepting egg mass survey applications from landowners statewide on July 1. Application forms and brochures are available at <https://agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/plant->

industries/forest-health-protection/. Landowners may also obtain applications at local WVU Extension offices and WVDA field offices in Charleston (304-558-2212) or New Creek (304-788-1066). A non-refundable survey deposit of five dollars (\$5.00) per acre, not to exceed \$2000.00, must be submitted with the application. This deposit will be applied toward payment for treatment if the landowner qualifies.

Homeowners Associations (HOA) must provide a complete listing of all property owners who want to opt in or opt out of the

treatment program, and the HOA must also include this information on the map submitted. The WVDA will determine if the property owners who do not want to participate can be logistically removed from the proposed treatment area. This may potentially disqualify the HOA from the program. All lot owners objecting to treatment will be buffered an additional 150 feet outside their property boundaries. The HOA coordinator for the block should contact property owners to discuss treatment material, as the entire block will need to be

treated with either BTK or Mimic.

“The Lymantria dispar (recently known as gypsy moth) is a non-native, invasive insect that feeds on hundreds of species of trees and shrubs, including West Virginia hardwoods,” said WVDA Plant Industries Assistant Director Butch Sayers. “Defoliation by Lymantria dispar caterpillars can weaken trees, making them more susceptible to other pests and diseases. This treatment program helps safeguard our forests from further damage.”

The minimum acreage

required to participate in the program is 50 contiguous acres of wooded land. Adjoining landowners may combine their properties to meet the acreage requirement. Once applications and deposits are received, a forest health protection specialist will visit the landowner’s property to determine if the level of Lymantria dispar infestation meets program guidelines. A final decision to participate in the program must be confirmed by signing a contract with the WVDA by early December 2024.

### “Council” From Pg 1.

priorities to work on as the term commenced.

First and foremost, the City will focus on completing audits for 2021-22 and 2022-23. Completing this work is crucial to allow the City to move forward with plans and efforts to start Phase Three of the water project.

Ferris next explained that the City needed to continue to maintain its paving schedule. Key to this is funding from the levy. “We’d like our levy renewed because

that’s what gives us funding to do that,” she said.

The City has also already started looking at constructing a pickleball court in Ferguson Memorial Park. Though its popularity has exploded in recent years, the game dates back to 1965 on Bainbridge Island, Washington. It combines elements of tennis, ping-pong, and bad minton.

According to USA Pickleball, the sport got

its name in reference to “thrown-together non-starters in the ‘pickle boat’ of crew races.”

Ferris said that Julia Curry knew of a contractor who installed one in California and could help the City of Shinnston. She added that “we’ll meet about proceeding with that.”

Approval was also given in the first meeting to upgrade lighting.

The City will also continue to work with the Lincoln High School organization that secured the EPIC grant and has focused its attention on improving the West Fork River

Rail-Trail.

One area that Ferris did not identify as a high priority is looking into annexation. She stressed that the City is not looking at expanding their boundaries, but to gain jurisdiction over streets and areas within town limits, but not officially part of the City of Shinnston. “We want to see if people there are willing to come in,” she explained.

In those areas, the West Virginia Department of Highways has authority over the streets. Also the Harrison County Sheriff’s Department has primary

responsibility for law enforcement, although City of Shinnston police will respond to addresses in these areas if not on other calls. Residents there do not pay city fees that cover police protection from Shinnston law enforcement either.

Ferris admits that “we may not be successful” in that endeavor.

The new City Council assumes administrative authority during a period when Shinnston’s profile has grown, especially in arts and musical options. Ferris said, however, that the goal remains

of “continuing to draw people in and answering the question of some people in town of ‘what’s there for me?’”

Finally, she shared her experience Monday night at the Independence Day celebration, remarking that “I sat with friends from Clarksburg and they were in awe.” They specifically stated that “the fireworks were the best they’d ever been.”

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OBITUARIES



Nellie Jane Seamon Hamrick

Nellie Jane Seamon Hamrick, 88, of Shinnston, passed away on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, at the United Hospital Center in Bridgeport following a brief illness. She was born in Shinnston, December 22, 1935, a daughter of the late Louie and Amelia Felosa Seamon. On September 7, 1957, she married her husband of 66 years, Franklin D. Hamrick, whom she leaves

behind. Also surviving are one son, Stephen Anthony Hamrick and his wife Lesa, of Shinnston; a daughter-in-law, Julie Hamrick; her grandchildren, Dusty (Theresa) Hamrick, Clarksburg, Aleta (Tom) Brosius, Clarksburg, Tony (Brittney) Hamrick, GA, and Curtis (Cierra) Hamrick, Shinnston; great-grandchildren, Jordan, Alyssa, Morgan, Conor, Anna, and Kylie; and several nieces and nephews.

Nellie was also preceded in death by one son, Franklin Daniel Hamrick; five brothers, Frank Seamon and his wife Mary, Rolland Seamon and his wife Florine, Levio Seamon and his wife Mary, Dominick Seamon and his wife Sara, Carl Seamon and his wife Barbara; four sisters, Janie Marra and

her husband John, Mary Marra and her husband Bill, Lona Oliverio and her husband Bob, and Stella Nardelli and her husband Joe. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

Nellie was a member of the Ivy Rebekah Lodge #112 and the Independent Order of the Oddfellows #263, Adamston, and was very active in her membership. She was an avid bingo player and made many friends throughout the years there. She was famous for “Nunny’s Meatballs” and made them for many people in the community over the years. Nellie also enjoyed dirt track racing. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She will be deeply missed. The family will

receive friends at the Perine Funeral Home, 1348 S. Pike St., Shinnston, from 2-8pm, Monday where funeral services will be held at 11am, Tuesday, July 9th with Rev. Fr. Deepu Joseph M.C.B.S. as Celebrant. Interment will be in the Shinnston Memorial Cemetery. Condolences may be extended to the family at [www.perinefunerals.com](http://www.perinefunerals.com). The Perine Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hamrick family.

Debra “Deb” Ann Waybright

Debra “Deb” Ann Waybright, born on April 10, 1965, in Fairmont, WV passed away on June 29, 2024, in Salem, WV, due to complications arising from her battle with diabetes. Debra was a cherished resident of

Enterprise, WV, which she considered her hometown.

She was the beloved daughter of the late Glen and Eleanor Waybright.

Debra is survived by her siblings, Bob (Melody) Waybright, Ron (Lois) Waybright, and Sandy (Tom) Spavone, who will deeply miss her presence in their lives.

Debra graduated from Calvary Christian School and went on to further

her education at WV Business College. Her expert skills in sewing and needlepoint, which she enjoyed doing alongside her mother, were admired by all who knew her. Debbie was also well-known for her kindness and compassion, always taking in stray cats and extending her love for cooking to her family and friends. She held

a special place in her heart for her nieces and nephews, whom she adored.

Debra Ann Waybright’s gentle spirit and thoughtful nature will be remembered and missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

As per her wishes she has been cremated. A celebration of life will be held at Faith Baptist Church, 25 Downbridge Rd. Enterprise, WV on July 20, 2024 from 2-4 pm. In lieu of flowers please make donations to the Harrison County Humane Society at 2450 Saltwell Rd. Shinnston, WV 26431. Online memories and condolences can be shared with the family at [www.perinefunerals.com](http://www.perinefunerals.com)

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

“Ellis” From Pg 1.

Musician’s Union and played tenor saxophone in a dance band. During his school years when time allowed, Anthony worked at “Jean’s Place”, Strand Lunch Counter, Ellis Drive-In Theatre & Restaurant in Bridgeport, and lastly owning Sunset-Ellis Restaurant and Drive-In on Rt 19 near Meadowbrook. After graduating in 1955 from St. Mary’s High School, he attended Wheeling College, now Wheeling Jesuit University, and graduated in 1959

earning his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He later attended Fairmont State College to pick up some classes for teaching eligibility and was hired in 1962 to teach at Notre Dame High School in Clarksburg, WV. Anthony taught Biology, General Science, Religion, and Senior Business Math. In addition, he coached football, basketball, and tennis, and even drove the school bus to transport the teams to games all over central

West Virginia. He was still referred to as “Coach” by many.

In 1967, his father became ill, and Anthony left teaching to become a full-time restaurateur at the Sunset-Ellis Restaurant. From that day forward, he worked tirelessly with his loyal staff at the restaurant and enjoyed visiting with every customer who walked through the door. Anthony was a member of the Clarksburg Columbian Club and enjoyed being the Academic

Excellence presenter at the annual Frank Loria Banquet. Anthony had the honor of being featured in the State’s “Golden Seal” magazine...twice! First in 1995 and again in this year’s 50th Anniversary edition.

His love of music landed him a two-year stint occasionally playing his saxophone with Dr. Mike Hess’s band, “Albuterol & The Inhalers” whose proceeds went to charity. With his passion for music in

mind, in lieu of flowers, Anthony’s request for donations is to be sent to Chirp-Child Instrument Recycle Program at PO Box 1345 Bridgeport, WV 26330 @chirpwv.com. He would love nothing more than to give children the opportunity to learn to play music that will bring entertainment and joy for a lifetime.

Friends will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Friday, July 5, 2024 from 12:00PM-8:00PM. Holy Rosary will be

recited at 7:30PM. A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Ann Catholic Church in Shinnston, WV on Saturday, July 6, 2024 at 11:00AM with Rev. Akila Rodrigo T.O.R. and Rev. Deepu Joseph officiating. Interment will follow at Shinnston Memorial Cemetery. After the committal, there will be a meal at the Parrish Hall prepared by the St Ann Alter Society.

Wisdom From “The Federalist Papers”

By James Madison

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

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Out of the Past

Memorable photographs from around Harrison County



The “Big Elm” that once greeted US 19 travelers between Shinnston and Enterprise is a perfect example of the size of trees in old growth “virgin” Appalachian forests. West Virginia’s Cathedral State Park in Preston County and North Carolina’s Biltmore Estate are two of the last preserves of old growth timber in the Appalachian region.

# LEGAL

# West Virginia Department of Human Services Accepting School Clothing Allowance Applications

# WV DCR announces new pay rates in effect July 1

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation (WV DCR) announced an increase in special hiring rates will go into effect today, July 1.

The State Personnel Board (SPB) approved the implementation of a special hiring rate for Correctional Officer 1 through Correctional Officer 7 positions at WV DCR facilities across the state. Additionally, Correctional Officer 1 and Correctional Officer 2 positions will receive an increase after the first six months.

The new rates signify a significant increase, raising the starting salary for a correctional officer from \$40,000 to \$42,900. By the end of their second year of service, the salary will be \$49,400.

“The West Virginia Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation is dedicated to fostering a resilient and skilled workforce,” said WV DCR Commissioner William Marshall. “These pay raises are a testament to our commitment to attracting and retaining qualified professionals who are passionate

about ensuring public safety and upholding the standards of our correctional facilities. These enhancements recognize the hard work of our current employees and position us to draw in top talent, further fortifying our mission to protect and serve the Mountain State with integrity and excellence.”

The WVDCR oversees West Virginia's 11 prisons, 10 regional jails, 10 juvenile centers, 13 Parole Services Offices, 22 Youth Reporting Centers and three work-release sites.

# Gov. Justice, WVDNR introduce new Law Enforcement Dive Team

HINTON, WV  
— Gov. Jim Justice announced today the formation of a Natural Resources Police dive team within West Virginia's Division of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Section.

This team will assist the agency's law enforcement efforts in boating incidents, cases of missing persons, and evidence recovery. During the ceremony at Bluestone State Park, the team demonstrated their expertise by diving to the bottom of Bluestone Lake to retrieve a dog bone, which they then presented to Babydog.

"I'm beyond proud to see this new dive team in action, helping keep our state's beautiful natural resources and people safe," Gov. Justice said. "These dedicated officers are truly top-notch and ready to dive in and tackle any challenge that comes their way. Thanks to the Natural Resources Police and everyone involved in making this team happen. Your hard work is another

shining example of  
our commitment to  
protecting our people  
and preserving our great  
state's natural beauty."

The WVDNR Law Enforcement Section's dive team consists of 10 officers stationed throughout the state to ensure rapid response time and assist local and state agencies with their investigations. Members underwent two weeks of intensive open-water training with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division's Aquatic Investigations and Recovery Team. In addition to receiving initial certification, dive team members have completed over 100 hours of training on various methods, skills, and equipment.

“On behalf of our Law Enforcement Section, I would like to thank Colonel Chisholm Frampton and his staff at the South Carolina DNR for their assistance and guidance in training our dive team,” WVDNR Director Brett

McMillion said. "We are thrilled to announce the addition of this new special unit to our already incredible Natural Resources Police force and look forward with confidence that this professional dive team will provide an additional law enforcement investigative service that will help fulfill our agency's mission and better serve the citizens of West Virginia."

Members of the dive team include J.B. Smith (Dive Instructor), Z.T. France and J.R. Hieronimus from District 1, Captain M.S. Lott from District 2, Officer S.C. Rader from District 3, officers J.D. Gills and Z.F. Mills from District 4 and officers C.L. Cronin, J.N. Holcomb and I.R. Sweet from District 6.

Operation Dry Water  
The announcement of the new dive team kicks off the WVDNR's Law Enforcement Section's participation in Operation Dry Water, a nationwide campaign to promote safe and sober boating. During the July 4 weekend, Natural Resources Police officers will be on heightened alert for violations of boating under the influence during Operation Dry Water's enhanced enforcement initiative.

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS), Bureau for Family Assistance (BFA) has begun accepting school clothing allowance applications on July 1, 2024, for eligible children enrolled in West Virginia schools.

Each eligible student will receive a \$200 benefit that may be used toward the purchase of appropriate school clothing or piece goods for families who sew clothing for their children.

School clothing allowance recipients will receive an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card in place of the traditional paper voucher. This system change allows for both online transactions and increased choice of vendors when purchasing school clothing or piece goods.

The EBT card will operate like a debit card and can be used at any retailer who accepts EBT cash transactions. Parents or guardians of children in foster care will receive the school clothing allowance benefit as a check.

The following parties automatically received school clothing allowance benefits for each school-aged child in the home by the end of June:

Families with school-aged children who currently receive WV WORKS assistance;

Parents of guardians  
of children in foster  
care; and/or

Children between the ages of four to 18 who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, are enrolled in school, and whose household income is under 130% of the Federal Poverty Level.

Families who

received school clothing allowance in 2023 and currently have Medicaid coverage should have received a school clothing allowance program application by mail in late June.

Others may be eligible for school clothing allowance benefits, but the monthly income for a family of four may not exceed \$3,250. Verification of income for July 2024 must be submitted with the application. The chart below shows the income limits for the 2024 school clothing allowance program.

Families may apply online at [wvpath.wv.gov](https://wvpath.wv.gov). To request a paper application via mail, families may contact their local DoHS county office or the Office of Constituent Services' Customer Service Center at 1-877-716-1212. Applications must be received by July 31, 2024.

# UHC Receives Blanket Donation from Jenkins

*Subaru and Leukemia  
and Lymphoma Society*

Bridgeport, WV—  
June marked Subaru  
Loves to Care month,  
Jenkins Subaru in

Bridgeport has partnered with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) to bring warmth to cancer survivors being treated at the Cecil B. Highland Jr. & Barbara B. Highland Cancer Center at United Hospital Center (UHC). Through their generosity, more than 150 blankets were donated.

“It is during the most trying of times that a donation of kindness can warm the heart of a patient and bring out

a smile,” said Meredith Williams, MPH, RN, OCN, Director of Cancer Services at the Cecil B. Highland, Jr. & Barbara B. Highland Cancer Center at UHC. “Jenkins Subaru and LLS have been graciously donating blankets to UHC since 2016.”

Every three minutes in the U.S., a new patient is diagnosed with leukemia, lymphoma, or myeloma. As the treatment and rehabilitation process can often be long and arduous, blood cancer patients can be left feeling cold, confined, and in a weakened state.

Thousands of Subaru owners and employees have contributed messages of hope

throughout the Subaru Loves to Care initiative and are proudly continuing the tradition in 2024 to show support for their community members during an emotionally and physically challenging time in their lives.

“UHC and its staff are highly valued assets to the community and state, and we have enjoyed working with them once again to spread our message of care and love to cancer survivors in the region,” said Matt Jenkins, general manager at Jenkins Subaru.

"Jenkins Subaru and Subaru of America are once again happy to have made this possible."



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# Schools mourn the passing of Dr. Abnash Jain

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. – Faculty and staff at the WVU Heart and Vascular Institute and WVU School of Medicine are mourning the loss of Abnash C. Jain, M.D., longtime cardiologist and professor, who passed away on Monday (July 1). He was 88.

“Dr. Abnash Jain was a giant for West Virginia medicine and cardiology. I feel privileged to have known and worked beside Dr. Jain and witness firsthand how his legacy of education came through the passion and dedication of his countless trainees over the years, many of whom are leading cardiologists around our state and country,” Vinay Badhwar, M.D., executive chair of the WVU Heart and Vascular Institute, said.

“The WVU Heart and Vascular Institute was built upon the founding principles of Dr. Jain, and we all celebrate his legacy with unity and purpose as we dedicate ourselves to his same mission – to always provide the highest level of care to the citizens of West Virginia.”

Dr. Jain faculty of the WVU School of Medicine in 1973 and served as professor of Medicine and chief of Cardiology from 1979 to 2006. He received his medical degree from Panjab University in India and completed an internal medicine residency and cardiovascular disease fellowship at Albany Medical Center in New York. He then joined the faculty at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

Jain was board certified in internal medicine and cardiovascular disease by the American Board of Internal Medicine. He was also a fellow of the College of Physicians, the American College of Cardiology, the American Heart Association, and the Society of Cardiac Interventions and Coronary Angioplasty. He was a member of the West Virginia Medical Association and the American Federation of Clinical Research and served as governor of the American College of Cardiology for West Virginia and president of the West Virginia Heart Association.

A dedicated teacher of medical students, residents, and fellows, Jain was honored as the Best Attending Physician in Medicine, Clinician of the Year, and Distinguished Teacher at the WVU School of Medicine and was president with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001. He also received the Laureate Award from the West Virginia chapter of the American College of Physicians and a Certificate of Excellence from the Coal Energy Coalition.

Prior to his retirement, Jain established two funds at the WVU School of Medicine: the Prem and Abnash Jain Fund for Educational Excellence and the Abnash Jain Chair in Cardiology.

“Dr. Jain’s impact extends far beyond the classroom and clinic,” Clay B. Marsh, M.D., chancellor and executive dean of WVU Health Sciences, said. “The compassion and kindness in which he lived his life and served his students and patients set the tone for care and a sense of community across so many generations of Mountaineers.”

Jain is survived by his wife, Prem, two sons, and five grandchildren. The family requests donations in his memory be made to the Hindu Religious and Cultural Center of Morgantown.

## Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs Launches Listening Tour

CHARLESTON, WV – The Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs (HHOMA) announced today a listening tour will be held across the state running July to October with stops in Montgomery, Mount Hope, Parkersburg and Welch.

The primary objective of this tour is to actively engage with community members and gather valuable feedback to address their needs. Through this listening tour, HHOMA provides a forum for discussing issues that affect the state’s minority populations. The issues raised at these forums are addressed by partner agencies, and policy recommendations are made to the legislature based on the discussions and feedback gathered across the state.

“As we embark on this listening tour, our goal is to engage directly with communities to better understand their needs and priorities,” said Jill Upson, executive director of HHOMA. “We are committed to fostering meaningful dialogue and collaboration as we work together to build a more equitable and resilient future for all.”

The scheduled stops include:

- 0 7 / 1 0 / 2 0 2 4 : Montgomery Listening Tour
- 0 8 / 0 6 / 2 0 2 4 : Mount Hope Listening Tour
- 0 9 / 1 6 / 2 0 2 4 : Parkersburg Listening Tour
- 1 0 / 1 0 / 2 0 2 4 : Welch Listening Tour

The HHOMA team will travel with partner state agency representatives at each stop where the public will be invited to receive information and share their ideas.

Upcoming event dates and locations will be announced throughout the listening tour and can be found online at [www.minorityaffairs.wv.gov](http://www.minorityaffairs.wv.gov). Details will also be shared on HHOMA’s social media pages.

## Johnson Elementary Project Uses FSU Grant For Citizen Science Project

Fairmont State University received \$4,980 in grant funding from the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program, an international science and education program focused on teaching and learning Earth System Science.

The grant supports Going Global in WV with GLOBE, a project led by the Katherine Johnson NASA Independent Verification and Validation Education Resource Center (NASA IV&V ERC) in partnership with Fairmont State. The project’s purpose is to initiate a GLOBE: Atmosphere Focus Group (AFG) to provide West Virginia science educators with training on GLOBE’s Atmosphere protocols and access to loanable classroom kits to implement with their schools’ science fairs.

NASA’s IV&V ERC established the AFG and began training West Virginia STEM educators, who each submitted two student projects to both their local science fairs and the GLOBE International Virtual Science Symposium.

The “Clouds and Ground Temps” project conducted by Johnson Elementary in Bridgeport, W.VA earned the Problem Solver, Collaborator, and Impact Badges. In addition to their research using Infrared thermometers and the GLOBE Clouds Observer App, the school will expand its efforts in citizen science and atmospheric research by maintaining an automated weather station at sites in their county. Data on air temperature, precipitation, barometric pressure, and relative humidity will be available both statewide and globally by citizen scientists and students interested in accessing the information for science fair projects.


Parkersburg High School in Parkersburg, W.VA investigated soils in West Virginia and analyzed them against soil data from Florida, Utah, and New Jersey. Their project is titled, “The Dirty Facts of Soil”. In addition to presenting at GLOBE’s international fair, the team advanced to the state level of the science fair. As a collaborating school, the team will also house an automated weather station for schools across the state to use their weather data for future science fair projects.


“We’d like to thank Jami Moss (Parkersburg) and Taya Cline (Bridgeport) for not only completing training at Fairmont State University but also partnering with the NASA IV&V Education Resource Center and the West Virginia Space Grant Consortium to continue to operate fixed, automated weather stations in their communities,” said Josh Revels. “This enables additional teachers to be trained at Fairmont State University this summer and borrow a portable, automated weather station from NASA to compare their collected data with the atmospheric study sites in both central and western West Virginia. Not only will the GLOBE database contain this additional data from West Virginia, but all West Virginia students may access this data to use for science fair projects in future years.”



Johnson Elementary partnered with NASA to create a meteorology learning project

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# Bible Sharing as a path to faith formation

From L'Osservatore Romano

In North India, the state of Madhya Pradesh, in the Diocese of Indore, faith in families is very much alive. Sr Rita George Thykootam phjc, shares the story of starting the project of Bible sharing in the families and how it affected the diocese. Before starting the project of Bible sharing in the families, faithful families of Dhar Parish, diocese of Indore in Madhya Pradesh used to gather and pray in the parish together with the religious sisters of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (phjc). The prayer would usually end by someone reading aloud a passage from the Bible. However, our community felt it was not enough and that the prayer sessions left the Word of God inactive. Therefore, the religious

sisters invited families to read the Bible, and do it together, in small groups, in their homes. The Diocese of Indore encourages Bible sharing as a path to faith formation in the families in every parish, thus the entire parish is divided geographically into groups called “SCC-s”, meaning Small Christian Communities. Every community consists of few families. They gather in the house of one of the member families every two weeks and pray together. The 7 steps of Bible sharing As set up by the sisters, Bible sharing in the families consists of a few simple steps. The prayer begins with the leader of the group invoking the presence of the Holy Spirit, then announcing the passage from the Bible and reading it slowly. Gathered members

are invited to share inspiring words and their reflections. After reflecting on the Word of God, every family talks about the resolutions that they have made and obtained, based on the previous Bible sharing. The last step is making a new resolution based on the Bible passage shared by the group. The review of Bible sharing is also regularly published in the news bulletin of Indore Diocese. The Bible transforming families After the families started with this kind of prayer, our community was more than surprised with the fruits. We noted that the parents and elders in the family become responsible in nurturing the seeds of faith sown in the baptismal grace. They live the Word of God and invite the young to tread the same

path. Faith becomes a lived experience, not just read or preached. The spiritual journey of God’s people in Indore has become an inclusive reality that builds up the bonds with father and mother, brother and sister, friend and neighbour. We feel that it is inevitable that the double-edged sword keeps cutting the barriers of caste, colour, creed and religion. At the same time, the experience of Bible sharing helps families cope with difficulties, making it easier for them to experience God’s presence in any painstaking situations of life. This kind of faith formation acts as the fuel that moves our families forward to be what God is calling them to be, having confidence to incorporate the Bible’s life-giving reality into everyday life.

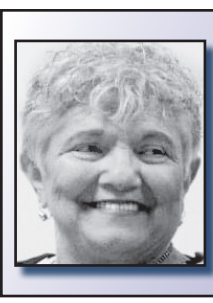
Challenges for Christians in India The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ also invite the families to carry along the lived experiences of the Word of God to challenge the unforgiving world, the indifferent neighbor and the uncaring society. Families who pray together are challenged to stretch the tent of their faith and become closer to others, which is especially important in a multi-religious country like India. The religious sisters feel that the country faces a tense situation, where praying together in common groups has sometimes been labeled threatening behavior as a “Christian conversion activity.” Faith makes common life easier Despite the situation, our community has realized that the most valuable lesson we

have learned from Bible sharing in the families was the realization that faith goes beyond the surface. It’s not about how you want to appear to others; it is in believing even when no one is watching. It is also how you choose not only to live, but to spread the light to everyone around you. For this reason, Christian families of Indore share the essence of their belief by inviting neighbours of other beliefs to celebrate Christian festivities with them. At the same time, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ also participate in festivals of other religions like Eid and Diwali. In all places of work, education and socializing, the families stand for the values they profess through their Christian faith. #sistersproject By Sr Rita George Thykootam, phjc

# Sensational Summering In the Smoky Mountains

Now that we are in the woes of a hot summer, everyone is thinking of a nice vacation get away. This past week I found just the place to go. My granddaughter, Holli got married last week and she chose to get married at Pigeon Forge, Tennessee? IT IS LOCATED IN THE Smoky Mountains and is adjacent to Gatlinburg and Sevierville. As we drove there I thought this is the place for couples with children to go, close to home and affordable. You know I always encourage you to travel in West Virginia, especially for weekends

but if you have done that and want to get away then here is a suggestion. First let’s talk about rooms. We stayed at Pigeon River Inn in Pigeon Forge. The cost was about \$150 a night for a room with two beds and included a hot breakfast. It was very clean, had a balcony and a pool. It was within walking distance of many attractions. There is a trolley for getting around so you can leave the car at the motel. Dollywood is very close and a trip there is suggested. There are many museums and sporting



## GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen

activities such as rafting, golfing, hiking and touring the Smoky Mountains, where our family cited two bears in their front yard prior to our arrival. Between the three cities, you will never be able to partake of all the activities in one week. You know I have been all over the world and my childhood returns when I see a merry

Clarksburg it is a six and one half hour drive. On our trip gas was about twenty cents cheaper than here. If I figure correctly this trip would cost less than half for a family of four than going to the Florida theme parks. You could enjoy a beautiful drive and not have to fight an airport. Believe me the kids will have a great time By the way, call your local AAA for maps and brochures. Just a post note. The wedding was beautiful. It was outdoors with the beautiful Smokies as a backdrop to the

ceremony. Our Appalachian Forests are beautiful. But the Smokies have a beauty of their own and I can just imagine how they look covered in snow. A reminder that the Clarksburg Farmers Market has great vendors with wonderful produce. I just cannot get enough of those tomatoes. They are located in Tractor Supply parking lot every Saturday morning. Take care, stay healthy and cool and until next week “Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine.”

## Moore announces Hope Scholarship to expand to all West Virginia School Children

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – State Treasurer Riley Moore, who serves as Chairman of the Hope Scholarship Board, today announced that the Hope Scholarship Program has met state law requirements for opening up to all school-age children residing in West Virginia beginning in the 2026-2027 academic year. “I’m thrilled to announce that Hope Scholarship Program enrollment numbers have met the threshold established by the Legislature to expand this program to all West Virginia school children beginning in the fall of 2026,” Treasurer Moore said. “This will be a monumental leap forward for school choice, allowing tens of thousands of additional West Virginia families to access this program.” Passed by the Legislature in 2021, the Hope Scholarship Act initially made the program available only to West Virginia children

who were either entering kindergarten or enrolled in public school for a qualifying period of time. However, the Act expands eligibility for the program beginning in the 2026-2027 school year to all school-age children residing in West Virginia if certain enrollment figures are met as of July 1, 2024. Under the law, if the total number of Hope Scholarship students and applicants is less than 5 percent of net public school enrollment for the previous school year as of July 1, 2024, the program will be open to all existing school age children in the state beginning on July 1, 2026. Based upon data provided to Hope Scholarship Board staff by the West Virginia Department of Education this week, the total number of Hope Scholarship students and applicants (9,980 as of Monday, July 1) is well below 5 percent of the net public school

enrollment threshold for the previous school year (12,416). “We believe, based on Department of Education estimates, that this will open up Hope Scholarship eligibility to an additional 30,000 to 40,000 West Virginia students in 2026,” Treasurer Moore said. “This expansion will allow all West Virginia families to use this program as they pursue the educational opportunities they believe work best for their children.” Treasurer Moore has sent letters to legislative leaders and Gov. Jim Justice notifying them that the statutory criteria have been achieved. While the expanded eligibility is set to begin in the 2026-2027 school year, applicants must still meet the current eligibility criteria established by state code to receive the Hope Scholarship for the upcoming 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years.

Under the current criteria, to qualify for the Hope Scholarship, a student must be a West Virginia resident and be either: Eligible to be enrolled in a kindergarten program. Enrolled full-time in a public elementary or secondary school program in this state for the entire instructional term during the current academic year (2023-2024 for the upcoming school year) immediately preceding the academic year for which the student is applying to participate in the Hope Scholarship Program. Or, enrolled full-time and attending a public elementary or secondary school program in this state for at least 45 calendar days during an instructional term at the time of application and remain enrolled and attending public school until a decision is reached on the student’s Hope Scholarship application.

## Department of Human Services Accepting School Clothing Allowance Applications

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS), Bureau for Family Assistance (BFA) has begun accepting school clothing allowance applications on July 1, 2024, for eligible children enrolled in West Virginia schools. Each eligible student will receive a \$200 benefit that may be used toward the purchase of appropriate school clothing or piece goods for families who sew clothing for their children. School clothing allowance program recipients will receive an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card in place of the traditional paper voucher. This system change allows for both online transactions and increased choice of vendors when purchasing school clothing or piece

goods. The EBT card will operate like a debit card and can be used at any retailer who accepts EBT cash transactions. Parents or guardians of children in foster care will receive the school clothing allowance benefit as a check. The following parties automatically received school clothing allowance benefits for each school-aged child in the home by the end of June: Families with school-aged children who currently receive WV WORKS assistance; Parents of guardians of children in foster care; and/or Children between the ages of four to 18 who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, are enrolled in school, and whose household income is under 130% of the Federal Poverty Level.