

Organization of the Month Part II: Lincoln Cougars Tune Up Before States in Huntington



Cougars are off and running into states.

By Stephen Smoot

“We had a great season,” said Lincoln head baseball coach Greg Smith, who went on to add “we had a really hard schedule, lots of Class AAA and Class AAAA schools.”

“They’re a fun group, a great group,” he said of his gritty and hard driving Cougars.

The team going into Huntington next week sports a solid 21 and 14 record that includes impressive wins over Philip Barbour, Robert C. Byrd, reigning Class A state champion East Hardy, and others.

With the seventh seeded Cougars awaiting the second seeded Frankfort Falcons, the team added a tune up match against Class A qualifier Pendleton County, also from the Potomac Highlands region.

Both teams appeared near mirror images, even beyond their same seeding in states. Both have a mixture of tough players, some in all three sports, others focusing solely on baseball. Cougars and Wildcats alike sacrificed gaudy season win totals to contend with bigger schools to make for better

preparation. Both got hot going into regionals.

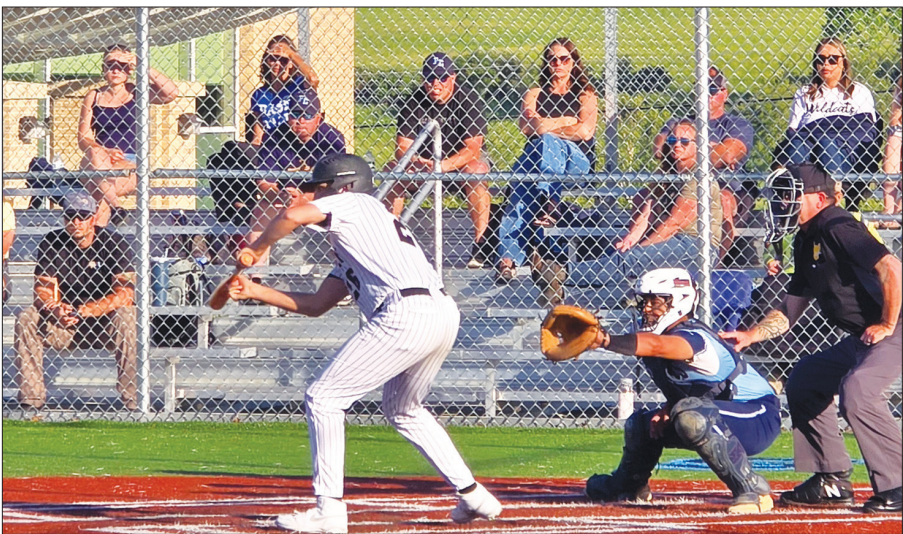
And both teams don’t quit easily. Coach Smith pointed to an early April game against Phillip Barbour that showed him and his players how good they could be when it counts.

“We were down seven to one,” said Smith. The Colts raced out to a five to nothing lead in that game after two, adding one for security in the fourth. Lincoln had no answer for Colt pitching - until they did.

Going into the last out of the last inning, Lincoln learned the meaning of “gut check.” They had scored a run in the sixth, then with two outs in the seventh “they kept battling, kept passing the bat along” and walked away with a seven to six win.

Starting with a huge seven to nothing win over University on May 11, the team rattled off five straight through the conclusion of the season and advancing through sectionals.

A.J. Bart took the mound for the Cougars. He posted a seven and three record and a 3.22 earned run average on the year, walking 30 and striking out



A.J. Bart lays down a bunt to try and push runners along into better scoring position

40. He got a battle from the leadoff batter Travis Owens, who also qualified and competed in the WVSSAC state track meet. He continued guarding the plate for nine pitches before flying out to left. The next batter, Jaxon Simon, earned a walk, but a ground ball out and a baserunner caught between bases closed the first half of the first.

Pendleton County opened with Mason Miller, a freshman with a four and four record and a 5.09 ERA. He walked 26 and struck out 38 on the season. Colton Edwards led off with a line drive single on the second pitch to him. Anthony Belcastro drove a single past second into shallow right center and Lincoln seemed to have momentum early.

Max Abruzzino, who hits .323 , grounded to second. Travis Owens fielded it, tossed it to Chase Owens at second, who relayed it to first, but could not quite secure the out there. The first inning concluded when Edwards was picked at third and the batter flew out to left.

In the top of the second, the Wildcats got Cashton

See “Lincoln” Pg 6

Harrison County Commission Returns to Summit Park Issue



Commissioners heard an update on improvements to the southern section of the rail trail. Photo courtesy of West Virginia Rails to Trails.

By Stephen Smoot

The first official meeting of the Harrison County Commission opened with the customary invocation shared by Commissioner Patsy Trecost. He prayed “Heavenly Father, we just thank You for this day, this opportunity to serve You. Help us follow Your example and to love one another, be kind to one another, and show graciousness towards all. In Jesus’ name, we pray, Amen.”

After the invocation, attendees rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance, then the meeting came to order. After a discussion on the fate of the drive-in movie screen at the former Sunset Ellis property, as well as approving two Shinnston-related funding requests, Commissioners moved on to consider a special funding request related to golf.

The American Junior Golf Association, based in Braselton, Georgia, holds competitive events

nationwide that raise funds to support both the promotion of golf for young people, but also worthy community organizations. On July 13, it will hold the Junior-Am WVU Medicine United Hospital Center Junior Championship

Funds raised will support the Greatest Needs Fund of the United Health Foundation, First Tee West Virginia, and the AJGA Foundation. The Greatest Needs Fund assists West Virginians

to gain access to critical health care. First Tee West Virginia works in “seamlessly integrating the game of golf with a life skills curriculum” to “create learning experiences that build inner strength.”

The AJGA representative stated that he expected between \$50 and \$60,000 could go toward the charities supported.. That is up from approximately \$40,000 raised and donated from last year’s event.

Commissioners approved the request.

Later in the meeting, Commissioners returned to the subject of the West Virginia Girls’ Softball League’s use of Summit Park. Last month, Commissioners debated the terms of use the League agreed to when granted use of the park. Commissioner David Hinkle raised concerns that the League had not registered properly with the West Virginia Secretary of State’s office, had constructed batting cages without permission, and in other ways had deviated from the agreement.

The Commission

See “Summit” Pg 3



All-America Cities and a Full-Circle Journey



By JIM HUNT

Building Amazing Cities

For the Harrison County Journal

Later this month, I will travel to Denver, Colorado, for an experience I never imagined when I was a young boy growing up in Clarksburg. I have been asked to serve as a juror for the prestigious All-America City Award program, sponsored by the National Civic League. It is an honor that has caused me to reflect on both the history of the program and my own journey in public service.

The All-America City Award began in 1949 and is now one of the oldest and most respected civic recognition programs in the United States. Founded with the encouragement of pollster George Gallup and other civic leaders, the award was created to recognize communities that demonstrate exceptional civic engagement, collaboration, and problem-solving. Since its inception, more than 500 communities have earned the designation, with ten winners selected each year.

Clarksburg joined that distinguished list in 1957. At the time, I was seven years old and had little understanding of what the award meant. What I do remember is the pride it generated throughout the community. For years afterward, visitors entering our city were greeted by the familiar red, white, and blue sign proudly proclaiming Clarksburg as

See “Hunt” Pg 3



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

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



7 93573 18062 9

OBITUARIES

Dorsey

Funeral Home

LOUIE MALE, Owner/Licensee-In Charge

701 South Pike Street, Shinnston, WV 26431

Office: 304-592-2500 ~ Fax: 304-592-2571

www.dorseyfuneralhomewv.com



Harmer Funeral Home

Shinnston, WV · 592-2500

www.harmerfuneralhome.com

Jay D. Harmer, LLC,

Jacob A. Harmer, Licensed Funeral Director



Perine Funeral Home

Call 592-5925 • 1348 S. Pike St. Shinnston

Timothy E. Perine - L.I.C./Owner

Adam T. Perine - Funeral Director/General Manager

Patrick A. Kovalck - Licensed Director

Vivian Irene Stark



Vivian Irene Stark, 88, of Haywood, passed away on Friday, June 5, 2026 at her residence. She was born in Shinnston on October 30, 1937, beloved daughter of the late Orval and Nellie (Duncan) Fisher. Vivian loved gardening, crossword puzzles and time with her family. She was a member of Church of Lord Jesus Christ.

She is survived by her son, James Stark and wife Renee of Haywood; daughter in law, Rhonda Stark of Haywood; grandchildren: Bobby (Haley) Stark of Gypsy, Chris (Tessa) Stark of Haywood, Jimmy (Cambre) Stark of Haywood, Cole (Emily) Davisson of Lumberport; Mikayla (Jaron) Morgan of Lumberport, Joseph (Darcie) Stark of Wyatt and Carly (Hale) Duckworth; great grandchildren: Beau, Lindsay, Caitlyn, Lane, Cade, Arya, Jensen, Magnolia, Melody, Stella, Remington, Wrenlee and Cooper; siblings: Doris (Lee) Miller of Shinnston, John (Anita) Fisher of Shinnston and Mitchell (Susan) Fisher of Shinnston as well as many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Vivian is preceded in death by her husband, Earl Stark; daughter, Nancy Stark; son, Bob Stark; two sisters: Virginia Bonnell and Ester Morgan and one brother, Orval Fisher.

Family and friends will be received at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 from 11:00AM until time of service, 1:00PM with Pastor Jeff Stire officiating. Interment to Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

Dorsey Funeral Home is honored to be handling the arrangements for the Stark family.



“Hunt”

an “All-America City.”

Like many children, I simply accepted that sign as part of the landscape. I certainly never imagined that sixty-eight years later I would be serving on the jury that helps select the next generation of All-America Cities. Nor could I have foreseen a career that would include becoming the longest-serving city council member in Clarksburg’s history and later serving as president of the National League of Cities.

That is one of the reasons this assignment feels especially meaningful. It reminds me how local government can shape lives and how civic engagement can create opportunities that stretch far beyond what we can envision when we are young.

The selection process is far more rigorous than many people realize. Jurors begin by reviewing extensive written applications submitted by communities from across the country. These applications highlight local efforts

to address important challenges through partnerships among residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations, schools, and government agencies.

After the initial review, twenty finalist communities are invited to Denver. During a three-day event, each delegation presents its story to the jury. Teams often include elected officials, business leaders, nonprofit representatives, students, and neighborhood volunteers. Their presentations showcase how citizens have worked together to improve their communities and address pressing local issues.

The jury’s responsibility is both rewarding and difficult. We will listen to twenty presentations, ask questions, deliberate extensively, and ultimately narrow the field to ten winners. Every finalist arrives with a compelling story, making the final decisions challenging. The process is less about finding perfect communities and more about recognizing

cont. from p. 1

“Summit”

tabled the issue to provide time for the League to rectify those concerns, then revisited it last week.

Commissioner Patsy Trecost made a motion for the League to have the opportunity to lease ballfields at the park for their use. That led to one of the questions that brought disagreement prior, whether one of the fields was a true softball field or not. It was decided that all three fields would be included in the motion for the lease.

Additionally the League had come into compliance with the legal requirements of the Secretary of State’s office.

Commissioner Hinkle objected to the motion, stating that his intent weeks ago lay in making the League responsible for the costs of park use, including utilities and garbage pickup. He questioned whether the motion referred to a lease or a memorandum of understanding.

A bit later in the discussion, a representative of the League stated that they used only one electric line and their own portable toilets instead of those of the park. She added that they could also contract to have garbage removed.

Commissioner Hinkle and Commission President Susan Thomas then briefly discussed the terms under which other leagues used public parks. The Commission President stated that in some situations, leagues did use the parks “for free.” He then engaged with the League representative who laid out what they had done and could do to fulfill an agreement.

Commission President Thomas directed at Commissioner Hinkle “I don’t know . . . I don’t know if you’re trying to push them out. He replied in the negative, saying “I’m not trying to push them out at all Susan. If they sign an agreement, they should honor the agreement.”

He next inquired into their insurance status, to which County Administrator Laura Pysz-Laulis stated she did not have from them.

Commissioner Trecost returned the discussion to the motion that he made, with Commissioner Hinkle answering by saying “So I think at this point, Patsy, from my original motion of where we’re at now, we are so far off from it. You can make a motion for whatever you want, and I’ll vote for it.”

The motion was then amended to include all three fields, take care of utilities, garbage, and grass maintenance, and work with the County Administrator and staff to delineate areas of responsibility precisely. The vote was two to one with Commissioner Hinkle dissenting.

Next came a special funding request from Suibukan of West Virginia. This karate school traces the lineage of the style taught there to Peichin Takahara, the 1700s era “father of Okinawan karate” who combined that island’s traditions with the Chinese martial art of ch’uan fa. That birthed a style that remains one of the oldest from the Okinawan tradition.

Brian and Jenica Greynolds represented the club for a special funding request. They stated that “all six of us were actually selected to be part of the team USA that will represent The United States in Romania this year. It is a four day competition.”

Cost for all six to go totaled approximately \$11,000. They asked for \$5,000 and the Commission approved \$5,500.

Next up came Rail Trail related discussions, starting with details over work to be done towards a crossing near Lost Creek.

After those details were hammered out came a discussion with Kim Malejko,

communities that demonstrate the power of collaboration and civic leadership.

What has always impressed me about the All-America City program is that it celebrates something often overlooked in today’s headlines: ordinary citizens working together to solve problems. The award recognizes the belief that progress occurs when people of different backgrounds and viewpoints come together around a common purpose.

As I prepare for Denver, I find myself thinking again about that sign that stood at the entrance to Clarksburg so many years ago. It represented more than an award. It symbolized community pride, civic involvement, and confidence in the future.

Those values remain as important today as they were in 1957. And as I take my place among this year’s jurors, I will carry with me the lessons I learned growing up in an All-America City and the gratitude I feel for the opportunities that civic service has provided throughout my life.

cont. from p. 1

director of Harrison County Parks and Recreation. She engaged the Commission on the idea of creating an advisory group to research trail policies and procedures in other counties to see what could work to help related efforts in Harrison.

Commissioner Hinkle made the motion to do so, explaining that he wished “for them to get with Marion, Mon, Preston, all of them that already have some sort of support.”

County Administrator Pysz-Laulis explained that “they could get together and serve as a board to give input and feedback to the commission of maybe some thoughts.” That includes “people who use the trail a good bit” such as “Spellman who owns the bike shop in Shinnston.”

Sam Rich from Thrasher then provided a Rail Trail update to the Commission. He opened by providing Commissioners with maps illustrating future work on a segment that will run between Lost Creek to the Mount Clare Volunteer Fire Department. Between now and the start of work may have to be permitting with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, improving some lighting, and doing stabilization in some areas.

The section connecting Clarksburg to the North Bend Rail Trail will be put out to bid with the goal of “creating that bike user friendliness and the ability to get to the rail trail safely from Clarksburg city limits. Currently the section is officially abandoned, but in use by the public. Rich shared that the section would need stone and other work to improve it from “very poor condition.”

Commissioners then discussed with Rich certain details until they clarified their questions. They then voted unanimously to put the project described out to bid.

Attorney General McCuskey urges Department of Energy to delay and rescind furnace and water heater rules that threaten West Virginia families

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — West Virginia Attorney General JB McCuskey submitted a formal comment letter to U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Chris Wright urging the Department to amend the compliance dates for two Biden-era rules that will harm households and businesses. The rules govern commercial water heating equipment and consumer furnaces.

The comment letter supports the Department’s proposed amendment delaying compliance to January 1, 2030, while calling on DOE to go further and revoke the rules to permanently protect consumers from avoidable hardship.

“West Virginians should have a choice when it comes to the appliances

for their homes. However, these Biden-era rules take away that choice,” Attorney General JB McCuskey said. “Households will be forced to take on costly and unneeded renovations to comply. They could even be faced with abandoning the natural gas appliances that they rely on and can afford. That is why we are urging DOE to act now to protect consumers.”

If left in place on their original schedule, the rules would make it illegal to manufacture popular non-condensing natural gas commercial water heaters as early as October 2026 and residential furnaces by December 2028.

More than 335,000 West Virginia households use natural gas for heating.

It’s a practical and affordable option. However, a requirement to retrofit a home’s heating system or purchase an expensive alternative appliance would create a substantial economic burden that many households in West Virginia, and the rest of the nation, simply cannot afford.

Attorney General McCuskey has been at the forefront of this issue, leading a 21-state coalition in the Supreme Court case challenging the D.C. Circuit’s November ruling that upheld the restrictions. The coalition argues that regulators exceed their statutory authority when they impose standards that eliminate products with distinct performance characteristics.

West Virginia University Burning Up the Bases in Morgantown



Mounraineer baseballer celebrate a grand slam home run in game one against Cal Poly.



The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

There were a few firsts in Morgantown this past weekend with the best definitely being saved for last. West Virginia University’s baseball team hosted a Super regional for the first time in school history.

Mountaineer fans are known to travel well to big games and when it comes to making the short trip to Touchdown City to support their teams, they undoubtedly show up and show out. A record-breaking crowd of 4,675 fans was in attendance to see the series clinching game two, a victory over Cal Poly.

WVU received a gift when top seeded UCLA took a tumble in the first round. The Bruins had the most wins (51) and the lowest amount of losses (six) of any team to make the NCAA Tournament. So when Cal Poly put on the cape and flew to Morgantown, it provided a big break for Mountaineer Head Coach Steve Sabins and his troops. The next obstacle for Sabins to overcome was the “projection problem.” Many times when a team is facing a lesser talented opponent, they will tend to overlook them and focus on future endeavors.

If you are not from the Mountain State, this West Virginia team may not be on your radar. It isn’t a baseball blueblood and as a matter of fact there has never been a trip to Nebraska until now, which meant that the match-up with the Mustangs was a battle of underdogs in the national eye.

A great deal of credit must be given to Sabins, a coach that is wise beyond his years. The 39-year old in his second year at the helm of the program

realized the opportunity that was in front of him and his team and he would not allow his players to take Cal Poly for granted.

Sabins went with sophomore Chanson Cole on the mound in the opening game of the three game series instead of Big 12 Pitcher of the Year Max Yehl. Yehl was coming off a dominating performance against Kentucky that propelled West Virginia into the Super Regional. The move by Sabins paid off as Cole struck out a season-high 11 batters and his team provided plenty of run support. Twelve runs on 14 hits led to the 12 to two lopsided win.

The 10 run beatdown made Sabins’ job even more difficult. How do you motivate your squad after such a walk in the park?

Yehl benefited from the extra day of rest while the WVU hitters treated Mustang pitchers like pinatas. Yehl went five innings, allowing just one run and striking out four batters. Bridgeport native Ben McDougal closed out the game, getting the final three outs of the inning to continue his impressive postseason play. Meanwhile, the offensive attack saved its best for last, setting season highs in home runs (five) and hits 919) in the 17 to one drubbing.

West Virginia outscored Cal Poly 29 to three in the two games, scoring runs in 12 of the 17 innings that were played. The total domination should give this team all the motivation it needs heading into its first ever College World Series.

Even the celebration that immediately followed the final out was calculated. The players were smart enough not to pile on McDougal or any other teammates, which would have been risking injury for the games ahead.

It looks like Sabins and his players have thought about just about everything. Now all that is left is to head to Omaha and finish the job.

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

Harrison County EMS



HARRISON COUNTY



EMERGENCY SQUAD



Athletes of the Week

It's that time once again to acknowledge the efforts of Harrison County's student-athletes. Each week we review the performances of the athletes from the six schools (Bridgeport, Liberty, Lincoln, Notre Dame, Robert C. Byrd, and South Harrison) in our county.

The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal's Athlete of the Week award is an avenue to promote the youth of our county while bringing attention to their athletic accomplishments.



By Bill Nestor

The Harrison County athletes in the spotlight this week are Lincoln’s Raley Cochran and Kaylin Sipher

The Cougars had a strong showing recently at the WVSSAC state track and field championship in Charleston. Both Raley Cochran and Kaylin Sipher took home titles in the event. Cochran won the 800 m while Sipher was tops in the long jump.

Congratulations to Lincoln’s Raley Cochran and Kaylin Sipher for shining bright in the SN and HCY spotlight!

THE SHINNSTON NEWS & HARRISON COUNTY JOURNAL IS NOW ONLINE!

WWW.SHINNSTONNEWS.COM

Protection your loved ones deserve ...

GUARANTEED Life Insurance up to \$30,000.00

Modified Whole Life Insurance from Physicians Life Insurance Company

- Guaranteed acceptance for ages 45 to 85*
- No medical exam, no health questions
- Lock in your rate for life

Call for your FREE Information Kit

1-888-217-5559

Life55plus.info/WV

► Plus – you'll also get a FREE Final Wishes Planner just for calling!

*Ages may vary by state. Guaranteed for one of these life insurance policies. Benefits reduced first two years. Insurance Policy L770 (ID: L770ID; OK: L770OK; TN: L770TN). 6236-0625

Super Crossword

Answers

G	A	G	R	E	E	L		O	A	K	S		H	A	I		F	R	O	S	
E	T	I	E	N	N	E		O	R	E	O		O	A	R		R	A	P	T	
W	H	A	T	D	I	D	T	H	E	G	U	Y	W	H	O		A	S	T	O	
G	E	N		O	D	O	R			P	O	L		C	H	I	P	I	N		
A	N	T	S		F	I	L	E	S	S	U	I	T		A	D	I	M	E		
W	A	S	N	T	A	F	O	O	D	C	O	N	N	O	I	S	E	U	R		
			L	E	S		O	D	I	N	G		T	S	T	O	R	M	S		
U	R	B		S	P	O	T	S					B	E	S	O					
S	A	Y	W	H	E	N	H	E	T	A	S	T	E	D	A	B	I	T	O	F	
E	C	H	O		C	O	W		O	M	A	R	R		E	L	I	D	E		
D	E	A	N		T	R	A	M	P	O	L	I	N	E	S		I	D	E		
A	T	L	A	S		T	R	A	O	U	L	I	C	U		K	I	S	S		
S	O	F	T	W	H	I	T	E	F	R	E	N	C	H	E	E	S	E			
					I	O	N	S					B	E	T	H	E		D	A	D
S	C	H	I	S	M	S		P	A	M	P	A		A	R	A					
T	H	A	T	H	E	T	H	O	U	G	H	T	W	A	S	A	W	F	U	L	
R	O	U	S	E		S	A	L	T	R	I	V	E	R		S	A	G	A		
E	R	N	E	S	T		R	K	O				E	M	I	T		E	L	K	
T	A	T	E		W	H	O	A	M	I	T	O	D	I	S	A	B	R	I	E	
C	L	E	M		O	I	L		A	V	I	D		E	A	R	L	I	E	R	
H	E	R	S		S	T	D		T	Y	P	E		S	K	A	T	E	R	S	

West Virginia Statewide Classified Network

Featured in WVPA Newspapers Across West Virginia

HEALTH/MEDICAL

AUDIEN HEARING. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-866-327-9323

DONT LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call Ameri-Glide today! 1-844-592-5113

PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 833-274-3943

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-405-3412 www.dental50plus.com/press #6258

INTERNET/TV

GET DISH SATELLITE TV + INTERNET! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-855-736-4350

CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS HOME INTERNET WITH EARTHLINK. Enjoy speeds from 5G and 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation,

and data plans up to 300 GB. Call 844-230-3640

MISCELLANEOUS

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK, BOAT, RV AND MORE TO SUPPORT OUR VETERANS! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-964-4167 today

REPAIRING OR REPLACING APPLIANCES AND HOME SYSTEMS LIKE HEATING AND COOLING CAN BE COSTLY. A home warranty plan can help. Start saving and get 30% off any plan today. Workmanship Guarantee included. Terms apply. Call Cinch Home Services 1-855-968-0741

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/27/26.)

CONSUMER CELLULAR - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-855-615-6411

WE BUY 8,000 CARS A WEEK. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-844-640-0583

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES TODAY with a Generac Home Standby

Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-901-2301 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

UP TO \$15,000.00 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 888-217-5559 or visit www.Life55plus.info/wv

SAFE STEP. NORTH AMERICAS #1 WALK-IN TUB. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-803-1282

NO MORE CLEANING OUT GUTTERS. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferable warranty. Call today 1-844-295-2840 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

TRAVEL

YMT VACATIONS. Over 50 guided tours available. Affordable, social and stress-free travel designed for mature travelers. Our tours include accommodations, transportation, baggage handling, sight-seeing, entrance fees, a professional Tour Director and select meals. For a limited time SAVE \$250 on all tours. Call YMT today. 1-833-649-1532

Place YOUR statewide ad today
Call the WV Press at (304) 342-1011



WEST VIRGINIA
Press
ASSOCIATION • SERVICES • FOUNDATION

HCSCC SPOTLIGHT

Featuring news from the Harrison County Senior Citizen Center

HCSC Board of Directors News

The HCSCC Board of Directors met on Thursday, April 9, 2026, in a hybrid fashion in person in the boardroom and via Zoom. At the meeting, the Board:

- Adopted the Hours for Activities in the Building Policy
- Members present signed the Board Member Code of Ethics

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in person in the boardroom and via Zoom.

2026 Board Officers & Members

Bill O’Field, President, Bill Phillips, Vice President, Donna Stuart, Secretary, Don Burton, Treasurer, Carol E. Brown, Franklin Hairston, Will Hyman, E. Ryan Kennedy, Susan Thomas, and Betty Waddy.

Holiday Schedule

The senior center will be closed on Friday, June 19, 2026, for the observance of Juneteenth and WV Day (June 20 th), and Friday, July 3, 2026, in observance of Independence Day.

HCSC Membership

HCSC Membership Term is October 1 to September 30 each year. HCSC Membership is \$10 yearly and open to those age 50+ (prorated for new members). Activities and services available include fitness room, exercise group, Tai Chi classes, Bingocize classes, Drums Alive classes, Line Dance group, Ceramics classes, Bingo Fun Club, Senior Olympics Practice class, daily cards and game playing in the café, puzzle & TV room, computer lab, transportation, food box programs, in home caregiving programs, socialization, and Kinley Café food service. The center is open M – F, 8 AM – 4 PM.



April 26th “That 70’s Murder Mystery” Dinner Fundraiser Appreciated by All

Fundraiser dinner attendees pictured, many in 70’s costumes, enjoyed the performance and interaction with the actors from Vintage Theatre Company (VTC). Winners of the costume contest were selected by the audience. VTC director Jason Young determined the winning table that determined who committed the crime.

Local winery, Haunting Hill owners, Anthony and Dawn Ovies, provided wine tasting and sales for the fundraiser and were also audience members. HCSC appreciates their support of and donation to the fundraiser. Special thanks to the volunteers and staff who helped make the event a success.



World Tai Chi Day Celebrated April 25, 2026

Despite the cloudy skies and drizzly weather at the Harrison County Parks and Recreation Gazebo, members of the HCSC Tai Chi class participated in the World Tai Chi Day celebration with an hour of Tai Chi followed by a potluck lunch.



HCSC Seniors attend WV Senior Summit at Cedar Lakes on May 20th

Six HCSC seniors attended one day of the WV Senior Summit at Cedar Lakes. In addition to lunch, attendees could choose to attend a variety of classes and activities coordinated by the WV Bureau of Senior Services.

HCSC Instructor Debbie Gaskins provided one of the classes on Drums Alive/Golden Beats. This annual event provides seniors with education and socialization opportunities over a three day period.

THANK YOU FOR READING
THE SHINNSTONS NEWS
AND JOURNAL



M - F 8am - 4pm
www.hscswv.org
500 W. Main St.
Clarksburg, WV
26301
304.623.6795

Kinley Café, Food Box Programs,
Transportation, In-Home Services, Tai
Chi, Drums Alive, Bingocize, Exercise
Group, Line Dancing, Fitness Room,
Computer Lab, Ceramics, Puzzle/TV
Room, Card & Game Playing Groups.



Harmony Valley

Community for Seniors

An Independent Living Community for
Seniors 55+ in a beautiful country
setting located on Sun Valley Road off
Rt. 50 West of Clarksburg. One & Two
Bedroom Apartments Available. All
Utilities Including Cable TV Provided.
Major Appliances Furnished.

Call (304) 622-6711
or (304) 677-6800





304-623-6002

208 North 4th St.,
Clarksburg, WV 26301

Safe, dependable transit

\$.50 fares with transportation to local
shopping centers, UHC & VA hospitals.

All buses ADA service accessible.
Reduced Passes Available!

WWW.SHINNSTONNEWS.COM

LEGAL

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 July 21, 2026 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
014 2024170010	S317-50-13.59 00	NHPP-0050(487)D	RESURFACING Clarksburg - I-79 Clarksburg - I-79 Clarksburg - I-79 COUNTY: HARRISON

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.

SERVICES

ALL STATE PAVING Driveways, parking lots, basketball courts, resurfacing old asphalt, patchwork, seal coating – Machine laid and rolled – All Work guaranteed – Over 40 years experience – Licensed and insured- Competitive prices and discounts – Free Estimates – 304-472-8097. WV014137.

Thank You
For Reading

“Lincoln”

Kisamore on with a single and Cole Harper on via a base on balls, but the infield defense of Lincoln helped them to escape without damage. Lincoln similarly put two on base in their half of the second, only to see Pendleton County’s infield in turn use defense to get their pitcher out of potential problems.

Wildcat bats came alive in the top of the third. Christopher Mazzei took the mound in this inning. The exhibition aspect of the game saw each coach using his pitchers for limited innings to get arms ready, but not too used up, for the coming week.

N&J Briefs

FROM AROUND HARRISON COUNTY

This 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.

Thursday, June 18, 2026

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31 monthly meeting. 7 pm, Post 31, Bridge Street, Shinnston.

SHINNSTON

MCDONALD'S

BOGO*

ORDER OF
HOT CAKES

(Not to be used with a combo meal purchase)
Expires June 17, 2026

*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.

Breakdowns happen.
We'll take it from there.

cinch
HOME SERVICES

Let Cinch Home Services
help you save on costly repair bills.

Our home warranty covers:

Furnace/Heating Systems
Air Conditioning Systems
Electrical System
Pumping System & Stoppages
Toilets

Refrigerators
Water Heaters
Microwaves (Built-in)
Clothes Washers
Clothes Dryers

Cooktops/Ranges
Garbage Disposals
Garage Door Openers
Dishwashers (Built-in)
Wall Ovens
And Much More!

\$5,965
Replacement

\$400
Water Heater
Repair

\$1,340
Electrical
Substitution

\$500
Pumping
Repair

\$315
Heating
Repair

\$2,000
Refrigerator
Replacement

\$1,000
Refrigerator
Repair

\$275
Refrigerator
Repair

\$1,200
Dishwasher
Replacement

National coverages based on actual project costs as reported by unaffiliated third-party home project websites.

Why trust a warranty from Cinch Home Services?

With nearly 50 years of experience, we are passionate about protecting our customers and their homes from the expensive costs that come with a home appliance or system breakdown. In fact, we've handled 1 MILLION+ service jobs in the last 5 years.

All covered repairs are backed by our
industry leading 180-day Workmanship Guarantee!

30%
OFF*

PER MONTH

Get 30% off your home warranty plan
Don't wait! Call now for our best offer.
(855) 968-0741

*Discount applies to the first year of a new Repair. Only Plan, Repair + Replace Plan or Repair + Replace Premier Plan. Excludes optional coverage and add-ons.
Coverage not combined with any other offer. Not available in all states.

Mazzei had a two and one record on the year with a 4.24 ERA and a team leading three saves.

Noah Lockard led off for the Wildcats and got plunked in the helmet by the first pitch tossed to him. Wyatt Haynes stepped in to pinch run for him. Travis Owens came next. The first and third pitches came high and inside, but the second was a foul hit straight back. He singled on a ground ball, putting runners at first and second.

Jaxon Simon stepped to the plate and doubled over third base on a line drive into left field, sending Haynes home, Travis Owens to third, and putting the Wildcats up one to nothing.

Chase Owens sent a drive between the right and center fielders to the wall, reaching third and sending in two runs for a three to nothing advantage.

Mason Miller stepped in and went down one ball and two strikes, but Chase Owens stole home on a passed ball during the at bat. Miller on the fourth pitch to hit walked into second. Mazzei then gathered himself and got the next three Wildcats in turn to close out that half of the inning.

Lincoln fired back in their half of the third with Edwards doubling to left to lead off. Anthony Belcastro worked the pitcher to two balls and no strikes, then grounded to second. Travis Owens saw the ball bounce out of his glove, but reached back, snagged the ball from the air, and tossed Belcastro out. The sacrifice put Edwards at third with a single out.

Abruzzino followed by lofting a fly ball to center, deep enough for the runner to tag and put Lincoln on the board.

Cohen Hiatt then entered the game in relief of Miller. Brycen Moore faced him first, bringing a .298 average with him. He drove his pitch to the opposite field wall, but the Wildcat defense recovered quickly enough to keep the hard-charging runner at third.

Hiatt picked up the third out on the next at bat to get his team back to the plate.

Mazzei looked at five batters with his infielders picking up two outs and striking out Chase Owens to conclude the top of the fourth.

Lincoln came to the bottom of the fourth with work to do. With one out, Jacob Holt earned a walk, having 17 on the year. Chasen Sipher came to the plate later with two outs. During his at bat, Holt swiped second to get into scoring position. Sipher took advantage, singling to shallow second, bringing in Holt and setting the score at four to two in favor of the Wildcats.

Jacob Bart came to pitch for Lincoln in the top of the fifth. He posted a six and five record on the season with a 4.84 ERA. Mason Miller sent a two balls and two strikes pitch up the middle for a base hit. Cashton Kisamore, a .346 hitter on the season, directed a bunt down the third base side. Mazzei at third made a tremendous effort to secure the out, but the batter reached safely with Miller halting at second.

Mason Harper earned a walk on six pitches to load the bases with no outs. Jacob Bart dug in

Donate Your Vehicle

Call (888) 964-4167 to donate
your car, truck, boat, RV,
and more today!

How it Works:

1. Contact Us
Call (888) 964-4167

2. Schedule Pickup
We'll pick up your vehicle
for FREE - at a time and
place convenient for you.

3. Receive Top
Tax Deduction
You may qualify for
a tax deduction.

Support Veteran Nonprofits.
Free Pickup & Towing.
Top Tax Deduction.

Donate Your Vehicle Today
888-964-4167
www.veterancardonations.org/dnt36

Veteran Car Donations

While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (888) 964-4167.

cont. from p. 1

against the left hander Cole Harper and struck him out swinging. Hiatt then drove the first pitch to him to left field, scoring one, the bases remaining loaded with Wildcats.

Lockard then hit a ground ball to third that got Mason Harper out, but scoring Kisamore on the fielder’s choice. Travis Owens took a base on balls on four straight pitches with Haynes running for Lockard and Barrett Cook stepping in to run for Hiatt. Simon went down no balls and two strikes, watched a ball, then launched the next pitch over the left fielder’s head to the wall. Three runs came in, breaking the game open for Pendleton County nine to two.

Pendleton County sent Caydan Boone to pitch in the bottom of the fifth and retired the side in order.

Alex Greene, with a three and one record, went on to pitch for Lincoln in the top of the sixth. He struck out Mason Miller on four pitches, but then hit the next batter. Mason Harper grounded out, but moved the lead runner to scoring position on the sacrifice. Cole Harper’s ground ball helped to bring the run in and put the batter on third base for a 10 to two mark. Greene then struck out the last batter of the inning.

Travis Owens appeared on the mound in the bottom of the sixth, but Greene reached second on an error to get the Cougars going in the inning. A. J. Bart pushed a seeing eye single into left to put runners on the corners with no outs. Holt sent a fly ball to deep right, allowing the runner on third to tag and score the Cougars’ third run.

Two batters later and with two outs, Sipher came to the plate. He patiently waited through the first three pitches, all balls, as A. J. Bart made his way via steals to second, then third. Bart scored when Sipher lined to right, making the score 10 to four.

For the top of the seventh, Colton Edwards assumed the mound. In nine appearances he has one win and no losses with a 4.50 ERA. With maximum efficiency, he went through the Wildcats in order using only five pitches to get to the bottom of the seventh.

With the score not out of reach, but still presenting a mountain to climb, Belcastro and Abruzzino got on with no outs. On the next at bat, Moore grounded to Chase Owens, who kicked off a double play and sent Belcastro to scoring position at third.

Travis Owens then earned the last out with a ground ball rolled back to himself. He ran, applied the tag, and closed out the game.

Coach Smith talked about lessons to learn after the matchup against Pendleton County, but the game was about getting ready for the significant matchups to come more than the contest that night.

Importantly, as Coach Smith explained “It’s a great group of kids (who) love the game of baseball. They show up and give it their all.”

And when the Cougars go hunting for the Frankfort Falcons, that determination, experience, and desire will come right along with them to Huntington.

2-Year TV Price Guarantee

dish
Authorized Retailer

Get the
Lowest Price
in Satellite TV.

As low as
\$89.99/mo

Free Premium Movie
channels for 3 Months

Hopper 3 DVR Included

Free Professional
Installation – \$199 Value

CALL US
NOW!
1-855-736-4350

dish \$300
GIVE BACK YOUR MONEY
WITH A DISH GIFT CARD

LIMITED TIME OFFER
Receive up to a
\$300 Gift Card!

Visit Planetdish.com or call for full offer details.

PWA Celebrates America 250 With Women Veterans of Distinction



GRAPEVINE

By Rosalyn Queen

The Board of Directors of the Progressive Women’s Association has announced that it will be presenting a special program to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States. On Friday, June 26 a luncheon will be held at the

Uptown Event Center to kickoff the celebration. The celebration will invite citizens to have a renewed love of American history. Over 250 years ago, our fathers beat off the greatest Army in the world. Now we celebrate 250 years of our military’s valor, strength and discipline.we want to call attention to the part women have and do now play in our military. Today there are 227,000 women in the military, approximately 18% of total active duty individuals. In no small part we come to honor women in our area who served and who now allow today’s military women to stand strong and thanks to them for paving the way.

The luncheon will contain an ALL AMERICAN MENU AND WILL CLOSE WITH A BIRTHDAY CAKE. SPECIAL PATRIOTIC MUSIC WILL BE presented during lunch. Due to limited seating, it is requested that reservations be made. The women who will be honored are. Nancy Price Valentine, United States Army, 2002 to 2007. Sherri Rasavier, United States Air Force, 1976 to 1987. Carol Saunders, United States Air Force and National Guard, 1987 to 1996. Maria Saunders, United States Army, 2008 to 2023. Carol Thorpe, United States Air Force, 1983 to 2016. And Louise McGriff, United States Air Force, 1972 to 1996.

72-hour roadcheck



Guest Column

By Charlotte Lane
Chair, WV Public Service Commission

Officers from the Public Service Commission’s Transportation Division showed their expertise during a recent nationwide check on commercial vehicles on the roadways of the United States, Canada and Mexico. Thirty-three of our officers, along with five state troopers, participated in the 72-hour International Roadcheck inspection period in West Virginia. Those officers performed 402 inspections and identified 422 safety violations. Of those, 92 violations resulted in either the driver or vehicle being placed out of service.

Enforcement officers in West Virginia were stationed at weight stations on the east and westbound lanes of Interstate-64, as well as the westbound lanes of Interstate-68 near Coopers Rock, outside Morgantown. Additional officers conducted inspections of commercial motor vehicles and their drivers along several other highways throughout the state. Our officers primarily conduct a thorough, 37-step inspection procedure that reviews each vehicle’s roadworthiness and the driver’s record of duty status, including compliance with hours-of-service regulations. This year, the focus areas were accurate recordkeeping on the drivers’ electronic logging devices and ensuring that cargo was secured properly. The 72-hour inspection program is under the sponsorship of the National Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance. Nationwide, 4,021 inspections were undertaken

in the program this year. Of that total, 574 vehicles – 14.3 percent – were restricted because of brake-related issues. More than 90 percent of the inspections followed the 37-step procedure used in West Virginia. Furthermore, this fine division recently received several law enforcement excellence awards this year from the Governor’s Highway Safety Program. The Commission placed second in the categories of speed enforcement and electronic citation usage. We were fifth in seat-belt enforcement. We were ably represented at the awards ceremony by Captain A.W. Ryan; paralegal Robin Lassak, and Major/Manager Keith Jeffrey. I am extremely proud of the record this fine division of the Public Service Commission produces each year. This is truly outstanding work by a group of dedicated individuals. The Transportation Division inspects commercial motor vehicles and ensures the safety of our roads, and that means your safety.

“Smoot”

a topic, in general dwells on the nature of benefits that transpire or are transacted between different people. In chapter three, he discusses at length the ideas of benefits that flow between fathers and children. He asked the question of whether “children can ever bestow upon their parents greater benefits than those which they have received from them.” First, he articulated the philosophy behind the ancient idea of complete paternal sovereignty, which has been repeated by parents through the centuries, fundamentally, as “I gave you life.” Under that ideal, “Therefore the father can never be surpassed in the bestowal of benefits, because the benefit which surpasses his own is really his.” Seneca discusses this using the metaphor of a river and argues that, using West Virginia geography as a guide, the springs feeding the headwaters of the various forks of the South Branch of the Potomac River are the foundation of the mighty stream that flows past Washington DC and that one cannot acknowledge the latter without honor to the former. He then turns the concept on its head and cites occasions in Roman history and mythology where sons have saved the life of the father. Seneca cited “Scipio, while under seventeen years of age, rode among the enemy in battle, and saved his father’s life.” From where do benefits and gratitude for them flow then? But Seneca argues that giving birth alone does not make a man a father. He wrote, “Consider what the fact of my birth is in itself; you will see that it is a small matter, the outcome of which is dubious, and that it may lead equally to good or to evil; no doubt it is the first step to everything, but because it is the first, it is not on that account more important than all the others.” Additionally, a fatherly role can be a benefit even outside of a biological relationship. Stepfathers are valuable when they can step in and either add to the richness of a child’s paternal resources, or assume the father’s role when their biological parent is not available.Many families and their sets of close friends gravitate toward a male figure of respect, whose experience and wisdom is valued and whose opinions are sought for their proven worth. Other men serve as mentors, often as teachers or athletic coaches, teaching time-honored virtues within the act of educating or developing skills. While not fathers, these men still occupy an important place in the lives that they affect, usually far in excess of

what the father-figure even grasps. These men all need to understand that the child learns as many, if not more lessons, from quietly watching and absorbing from their example as opposed to direct instruction of life lessons. In other words, a biological act alone does not permit a man the honor of being called “father.” It must involve something more. “A father gives life to his son;” writes Seneca, who adds that “there is something better than life; therefore a father may be outdone, because there is something better than the benefit which he has bestowed.” Additionally, others may “give life” to another, especially a physician. To Seneca the most important role of the father lay in the instillment of self-discipline and honor through developing a virtuous soul. Mothers have different roles in developing the emotional well-being in balance to the father’s teachings. Marcus Aurelius received “from my mother: piety and bountifulness, to keep myself not only from doing evil, but from dwelling on evil thought, simplicity too in diet and to be far removed from the ways of the rich.” Bountifulness refers to having a generous spirit in all manners of the term, but discipline restrains that trait to its proper proportion. As Cicero said, never be hesitant to share from your fire, but only as long as the giving does not dim your own. Seneca related multiple instances from Greek and Roman history and mythology of sons’ virtue leading to loyalty, even when said sons had strong conflicts with their fathers. In these examples, the sons achieved historic victories and accomplishments, then turned and honored their fathers or even handed over the benefits of those. Others rose to their father’s side in defense against the accusations of the powerful or even killed on their behalf. Furthermore, it is right for children as they learn self-discipline and other virtues from their father to start to apply them in times of conflict with their parents and that a father should take pride, not shame, in situations where their children prevail. Furthermore, a father may take pride in, without taking all the credit, when their children rise to greater heights than they could have achieved, or even imagined. But that all starts with a father doing his duty in raising his children with those values of honor, discipline, virtue, and correct learning.

cont. from p. 2

A father must sacrifice to fulfill this role. He cannot simply be a friend to his children, because a friend cannot adequately teach the necessary bounds of behavior and also punish violations of those limits. Fatherhood means that a man must create the distance of authority, but balance it with the engagement of teaching based on love of ones child and concern for preparing them as best as possible to live and work in a world that embraces no individual’s personal whims and wants. “Said Seneca “By no force of words, by no power of genius, can one rightly express how desirable, how admirable, how never to be erased from human memory it is to be able to say, ‘I obeyed my parents, I gave way to them, I was submissive to their authority whether it was just, or unjust and harsh; the only point in which I resisted them was, not to be conquered by them in benefits.’” In parenting, “Happy are they who conquer, happy they who are conquered. What can be more glorious than the youth who can say to himself—it would not be right to say it to another—I have conquered my father with benefits”? What is more fortunate than that old man who declares everywhere to everyone that he has been conquered in benefits by his son?” “What, again, is more blissful than to be overcome in such a contest?”

Bice-Ferguson Museum Features “Historic People, Places, People, or Things” in Photography

By Deb Herndon

For several years. The Bice-Ferguson Memorial Museum has been holding an Art Show in August and a quilt Show in September. This year two new month-long shows will be added – a themed photography show in July and a fiber arts show in October. July’s photography show’s theme is Historic Places, People or things of North Central West Virginia. The photos should be recent (taken within the last 2 years) and ready to hang. A paragraph of 50 words or less explaining the historical significance of the photo and / or why the photo was taken must accompany the picture. Drop off for the show is Thursday July 2 nd from 9 to 1, or by appointment. The show will run during regular Museum hours from July 3 rd through July 31 st , 2026. A small cash prize will be given for People’s Choice, first, second and third and will be awarded at a photographer’s reception Saturday, August 1 st at 1:00 pm. Questions can be directed to Debra Herndon at 304-677-6650. The Museum is open from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Thursday through Saturday from May through the end of October.



Don’t forget to follow us on Facebook to get the latest in updates

Congressman Riley M. Moore Secures Nearly \$10 Million in Water Infrastructure Wins for West Virginians

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Riley M. Moore announced that all nine of the Community Project Funding requests he is championing for West Virginia’s Second Congressional District passed out of the House Appropriations Committee last night as part of the Fiscal Year 2027 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill.

The legislation was approved by the Appropriations Committee yesterday and will now move to the full House of Representatives for consideration.

Rep. Moore’s slate of Community Project Funding supports critical water and wastewater infrastructure projects across West Virginia’s Second Congressional district, helping ensure West Virginians have access to safe, clean, and reliable water while strengthening public health, supporting economic development, and modernizing aging infrastructure.

The projects represent a significant investment in communities throughout the district and reflect Congressman Moore’s commitment to delivering tangible results for constituents of the Second Congressional District through the appropriations process.

Congressman Riley M. Moore released the following statement:

“Access to safe, clean, and reliable water is one of the most basic responsibilities of the government, and I’m proud to have secured committee approval for these critical investments in communities across West Virginia’s Second District. These projects will help modernize aging water systems, improve public health, support economic growth, and ensure families have dependable infrastructure they can count on. While there is still work to do before these projects become law, this is an important step forward for our state, and I will continue fighting to deliver these resources for the people of West Virginia.”

Major Water Infrastructure Investments Advancing for West Virginia:

The House Appropriations Committee’s approval of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill advances several Community Project Funding requests championed by Congressman Riley M. Moore, including:

- \$1,400,000 for Moundsville Water Systems Improvements. Moundsville supports 4,250 customers with a distribution system that has significant water loss. This funding would replace deteriorating water lines and add a new water storage tank to ensure reliable

service for current customers. Currently, the system is below the minimum storage capacity of a system of this size. The additional water tank will get them over that threshold so that disruptions in plant operations do not result in water outages for customers.

- \$1,150,000 for Buckhannon Water Treatment Plant & Distribution. Buckhannon’s existing plant suffers several major deficiencies and violations including potential flooding at the raw water pump station, inadequate waste water and sludge disposal, and risk of inadvertent and excessive chemical release from the 1-ton chlorine cylinders. This funding is part of a \$47M project to construct a new facility and place distribution lines.
- \$1,000,000 for Union Williams PSD Water System. Union Williams PSD serves 3,272 customers and utilizes four source water wells. These groundwater supply wells have consistently elevated levels of PFAS. This funding will allow the PSD to upgrade its water treatment plant and distribution system, including the installation of a new pretreatment system to remove PFAS.
- \$1,000,000 for Town of Bath / Berkeley Springs Water Works. The Berkeley Springs Water Works currently services 1,526 customers and is approaching facility run times of 20 hours per day. As Morgan County begins to absorb growth like the rest of the Eastern Panhandle, updates to the aging infrastructure are necessary to maintain reliable operations and support a reasonable amount of population growth.
- \$1,000,000 for Greater Marion PSD Sanitary Sewer. Greater Marion PSD has updated all of its sewer system to a gravity system except a two-mile vacuum system portion that ties into the Worthington vacuum sewer system. Residents along this system experience chronic sewage overflows and have even been forced to utilize portable restrooms provided by the PSD. It also places an additional burden on Worthington’s failing system. This funding would eliminate all GMPSD vacuum sewer infrastructure and fully remove their dependence on Worthington’s system.
- \$1,000,000 for Baker / Hardy County PSD Secondary Water Source. Hardy County PSD serves 2,177 customers in Hardy County and operates a water treatment plant. Hardy County’s current water source is susceptible to algae blooms, some of which are toxic anabaena algae containing cyanotoxins. If

one of these blooms occurs in the area of the water intake, PSD customers would not have access to a safe water supply. This project develops a secondary groundwater source adjacent to the Baker water treatment plant. This funding would pay for drilling up to three test wells, conversion of one or more wells to a production well, and the installation of the raw water line necessary for a complete and operable system.

- \$1,000,000 for Worthington Sanitary Sewer. Worthington is seeking to replace its failing vacuum sewer infrastructure with a modern gravity collection system. Worthington’s 290 customers have unreliable sewer service which has resulted in backups into homes, discharges onto the ground, and operational strain. This project focuses on the neighborhoods with the most widespread failures that cannot be addressed with piecemeal repairs.
- \$1,000,000 for Aerotech Park / City of Bridgeport Wastewater Extension. The project proposes to extend drinking water and wastewater facilities to the Aerotech Park located near CKB Airport. Installation of these facilities will provide commercial and industrial businesses access to clean drinking water and reliable sewer service provided by the City of Bridgeport. The needs and goals of the City of Bridgeport are to provide service to existing and new customers to allow for growth and development of the area, and this project accomplishes that.
- \$1,040,000 for Grandview-Doolin / Wetzel County Interconnection. Hundred-Littleton PSD has significant challenges maintaining an adequate and reliable water supply for its residents. This funding will interconnect Hundred-Littleton PSD to the Grandview-Doolin PSD, enabling Grandview to provide water service. Grandview-Doolin PSD operates a reliable, relatively new water treatment plant that currently operates with excess production capacity beyond its existing customer base.

These projects will help improve water quality, increase system reliability, replace aging infrastructure, expand service capacity, and strengthen public health protections for communities throughout West Virginia.

The Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill will now be considered by the full House of Representatives as part of the Fiscal Year 2027 appropriations process.

Shinnston Funding Requests Approved and Sunset Ellis Theater Screen Discussed By Harrison County Commission

By Stephen Smoot

Last week’s Harrison County Commission meeting touched in a couple of ways on the present and potential future of arts, culture, and tourism in the Shinnston area.

After the conclusion of some general business came a discussion on the fate of the drive-in movie screen at the former Sunset Ellis property. The former drive-in theater and restaurant property was sold to Harrison County after fire damage forced the closure of the business. It currently serves as a seasonal flea market and potentially also the future animal control center and other possible developments.

Commissioner Patsy Trecost made the motion to demolish the screen, citing its structural weakness and cost of repair. Commissioners voted two to one, Commissioner David Hinkle dissenting. The dissenting Commissioner then made a motion to “consider saving the movie screen at the Sunset Ellis with expanded engineering study done to determine if it is truly possible to save.”

“But don’t we already have that, David,” asked Commissioner Trecost.

“They’ve done a drive by Patsy. No one has actually been in the building,” replied Commissioner Hinkle. By agreement, a resident remains in the apartment contained within the screen structure. He further elaborated that And if we can save it without affecting animal control, I just I’m willing to give it a shot as long as it comes from private funds or public or, grants. I

don’t want to use any of the county’s money to rehabilitate it.”

Commissioner Trecost responded by saying “the three of us know that if we go that route, that screen’s going to be there forever.” He added “we do know that it is structurally damaged and it is alongside Route 19 where it could collapse into the road where there’s traffic.”

Commissioner Hinkle asked Commission President Susan Thomas to recommend a timeline to put into the motion to prevent the outcome feared by Commissioner Trecost. She suggested 30 to 60 days. Commissioner Hinkle shared that his deadline was two years, but that he was open to one, explaining that “I just think it needs the opportunity for the community if they wanna come up with the funds to fix it, and I think we give them the opportunity.”

He restated the proposal as a motion “to review the structural condition for this theater screen and to allow for a two-year window for the community and grants to be involved” but pledged “no county funds to save the theater.” Commissioner Hinkle added that if the engineering study “says that it’s totally not feasible to save it at all, then it comes down.”

A similar opportunity not brought forth in the meeting was tried in Pendleton County where a nonprofit arts committee formed to purchase the drive-in theater near Franklin. In the past four years, the Warners’ Drive In and Cultural Resource Center renovated and upgraded the facility, showing a mixture of Hollywood blockbusters,

family friendly and animated movies, and special Hallowe’en classics during that season. For this year, they unveiled a new concert and live theater stage to broaden the types of events they offer.

Commissioner Hinkle suggested that the community could find a number of potential creative uses for the screen building, if not for showing films. His motion carried two to one.

The resident will vacate the premises by the end of the month, but permission may be asked for engineers to access the interior prior to that.

Brendan Gallagher, representing the Shinnston Development Authority, came to the County Commission for two funding requests benefiting upcoming city events.

He first requested \$1,500 to defer some of the costs of Shinnston’s Independence Day celebration at Ferguson Park, citing a larger-than-expected crowd due to the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States.

Next, Gallagher requested the same amount to assist with the Shindy Music Festival, also coming later in the summer. He expressed appreciation for the Commission’s support for the event last year, saying “we really appreciated that and it was a really great event.” Gallagher then explained that the event drew acts “from all over the country and we’re really excited to be able to keep doing this, so we’d like your help to make it even bigger.”

Commissioners without hesitation unanimously supported both requests from Gallagher on behalf of Shinnston.

Check us out online at
WWW.SHINNSTONNEWS.COM