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EMS again dominates Commission discussion

By Hannah Heishman

The Hardy County Commission met for their regular meeting Tuesday morning, Oct. 1 with Commissioners David Workman, Steven Schetrom, and David "Jay" Fansler all present.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer, Commission president Workman called the meeting to order.

The first scheduled topics of every Commission meeting are the Office of Emergency Management update from director Paul Lewis, followed by Hardy County Emergency Ambulance Authority (HCEAA) director, Derek Alt's, update. Sheriff Steve Dawson and Bill Ours, from the Health Department, are next.

The meeting opens with emergency and first response.

A major topic at several recent meetings has been Emergency Medical Service for the county, with a levy on November's ballot. The levy would replace the "Ambulance" fee, and is based on the assessed value of personal and real property taxes.

For many Hardy Counties, the levy, once applied, would be less than they pay for the fee.

The ambulance fee has remained the same since it began in 2016, while costs for everything else have increased.

EMS requires expensive equipment, expensive, well-maintained vehicles, and well-trained personnel, particularly in rural areas with extended distances to get to a patient, and then to get the patient to a hospital.

Even in cases where helicopter medical evacuation is best, it often requires a 30-40 minute wait, causing EMS providers to decide if the patient is best served by ground transport to the nearest hospital, or air transport to a potentially better, but more distant facility.

Commissioners have scheduled a number of Town Hall sessions to educate the public on EMS costs, ensuring voters have the most information possible to make the best decisions in November. The Commissioners are legally restricted from advocating for the levy, but they are allowed to educate the public on why the levy is necessary.

If the levy is voted down, the Ambulance fee will increase, likely by 125% in order to try to maintain current EMS needs.

Hampshire County just increased theirs by 100% to \$200. Fansler observed that other counties are contacting Hardy County for information on establishing their own fees.

All three Commissioners recognized how hard a fee increase, especially one of that amount, will be for those on fixed incomes. "Do I buy food or medicine, or pay the ambulance fee?" Workman said. "(The Commissioners) recognize these concerns. But something has to happen, we have to do more."

The Commission has also approached the Legislature regarding conducting a state-wide survey to consolidate counties' data. If the public votes down the levy and refuses to pay the fee, EMS capabilities will drop around the county as the HCEAA, West Hardy Emergency Medical Service, and Wardsville Volunteer Rescue Squad are forced to operate with reduced funding.

The Town Halls will be held across the county, and are all at 6:30 p.m. The first is Tuesday, Oct. 15 at the Bingo Hall, 225 Jefferson Street in Moorefield. The next are Oct. 16 in the Wardsville

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PANHANDLE POLITICS

BY PATRICK HURSTON

This is the second in a series of Q&As with candidates of both competing parties seeking elected office. We asked them to respond in writing to a series of questions.

Today we bring you current State Senator for the 14th District, Republican Randy Smith and his Mountain Party challenger, Wardsville Mayor Betsy Orndoff-Sayers. Over the next couple of weeks, we'll also feature candidates for Prosecuting Attorney, and U.S. Congress.

Meet your candidates: State Senate

Moorefield Examiner:

Please provide a brief personal statement about your candidacy, experience/qualifications, priorities and vision for the future of Hardy County.

Randy Smith:

I entered politics in 2012 when I was elected to the WV House of Delegates. After serving in the House for four years, I was elected to the Senate and have served there since 2016. While in both the House and Senate, I've been Chair of the Committee on Energy, Industry, and Mining. I believe having served on both sides of the Legislative branch and as Chair of a major committee in both houses, I understand how the legislative process works and what needs to be done to pass legislation.

I spend a lot of time in my district attending events where I meet people and listen to their concerns. I am familiar with what people in my district want and need from their representatives. My priorities include passing legislation that will benefit all West Virginians. My vision for the future is to create a West Virginia where people desire to raise their families, and where generations will remain because they can provide for a prosperous and happy life.

Betsy Orndoff-Sayers:

I'm a retired family and consumer sciences teacher, and I helped young people solve life problems, big and small. I use that background every day as Mayor of Wardsville. There, I've seen first-hand the big issues we face all over West Virginia: water and sewer infrastructure, affordable housing, improving our public schools by supporting the teachers who work there and the students they teach, access to

child care, health care and addiction treatment, adequate funding for fire and emergency services, and making everyone welcome in our state regardless of race, religion, or sexual orientation.

Our State Legislature has been ignoring these problems. Instead, they've been stifling local groups like towns, county commissions, and volunteer agencies by passing bad laws without listening to the folks in their districts. They've been taking loads of out-of-state money and drumming up solutions to problems that don't need fixing. I want to help change that. I want the Legislature to focus on the real problems of all West Virginians, not just a select few.

Examiner:

Staying with that theme, if elected, what piece of legislation would you introduce as lead sponsor and champion? A bill to do/provide what?

Orndoff-Sayers:

I will champion legislation to address the problems of clean water as well as the lack of air quality monitoring throughout the state. We have local water utilities that are struggling to provide clean water to customers, and customers that don't have a reliable water source that is free from industrial contaminants. In addition, lax permitting standards allow dangerous chemicals to go into our air unmonitored and unchecked. These are critical public health concerns, and I want to help get them fixed.

Smith:

If elected, I would like to see legislation passed to work on issues within Child Protective Services and the foster care system. Shortages of workers, lack of accountability, and finding ways to recruit more people willing to

provide foster homes are issues that we can address. Whether it's helping to locate additional resources, ensuring that agencies collaborate, or providing better training for workers, we need to determine how the legislature can be of assistance. Children are the most vulnerable citizens, and it's crucial to protect them.

Examiner:

Looking at the last two years - in your elected capacity - what do you see as your greatest achievement(s) on behalf of your constituents?

Smith:

Legislation that I helped pass and I believe benefited my constituents includes the reduction of regulations to promote economic development for state growth. Economic development is vital for the state's sustainability. By attracting businesses to WV, we gain more job opportunities and tax-paying entities. Additionally, we eliminated income tax on Social Security and reduced personal income tax for workers, benefiting both working individuals and retirees.

Orndoff-Sayers:

I was proud to be a part of a Town Council that secured a Congressional appropriation to renovate Wardsville's old school cafeteria building into a mixed-use center that will house our fitness center, childcare center, and provide senior meeting space. We received state and federal funding to improve our J. Allen Hawkins Community Park - renovating the tennis and basketball courts and adding two pickleball courts, a disc golf course, and enhanced accessible walking and hiking paths - with more to come. We also secured federal funding for a small solar array that will provide energy to operate our wastewater treatment plant. We are a tiny

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Hardy County Schools Face Unique Challenges In Serving Students and Community

By Stephen Smoot

The 21st century has increasingly evolved into the data century. Everything from baseball team formation to school success gets judged increasingly by the numbers. While numbers do reflect some truths, they also may hide others. Numbers do not allow for explanations of complex issues that can create stiff challenges for any organization - especially a public school system.

For the 2023-24 school year, as officials explain, the numbers for Hardy County Schools in many ways create a false perception.

Two main sources provide statistical information and surface analysis of Hardy County Schools' performance in the past school year.

The West Virginia Department of Education provides every year what they call the "balanced scorecard." It measures a number of metrics in academics, attendance, graduation, post-graduation, and more. The balanced scorecard has four categories, does not meet standard, partially meets standard, meets standard, and exceeds standard.

Different metrics are shown on a continuum that shows exactly where the school performs in each category. For the elementary schools and Moorefield Middle School, the categories of mathematics achievement and mathematics progress illustrate that the school test results currently do not meet standards, but come very close. English learning,

however, meets standards while behavior exceeds them.

The combined scores of the two county high schools show that the County barely misses achieving the "partially meets standard" metrics in English/Language Arts and Mathematics.

Another popular school system assessment website is SchoolDigger. This online site has no connection with the state or local school system, but ranks both systems and individual schools based on results-based statistics. They ranked Hardy County 49th of 55 state districts and criticized the system for the low performance of what they referred to as "Hispanic" students.

This leads into one of the

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West Virginia's fall turkey season opens Oct. 12

Hunters reminded to purchase a license and stamps before season starts

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Gov. Jim Justice and the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) today announced that turkey hunting will return to West Virginia when the fall season's first segment opens in all 55 counties on Oct. 12.

"West Virginia has some of the best hunting opportunities in the world, and our fall turkey season is no exception," Gov. Justice said. "Whether you're a seasoned turkey hunter or you typically hunt deer or other game, I encourage you to get out there this fall and take part in this incredible season."

The first segment of the fall turkey season is open Oct. 12-20 in all 55 counties. The second segment will be open Oct. 28-Nov. 3 and provides an additional week of hunting opportunities in 15 counties. A third and final segment will be open Oct. 28-Nov. 17 and provides three additional weeks of hunting in 14 counties.

Wildlife biologists analyze harvest data from the spring gobbler season to determine what counties will be open for the final split of the fall turkey season. During the 2024 spring gobbler season, hunters harvested 11,650 beard-

ed turkeys, which was 6 percent higher than the state's five-year and 10-year average harvest.

"Our wildlife management efforts continue to pay off with strong turkey populations across the state," said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion. "By carefully evaluating harvest data and maintaining sustainable practices, we're ensuring that current turkey hunters and future generations alike will continue to enjoy successful seasons here in West Virginia."

During the fall turkey season, only one bird of either sex can be



harvested using a bow, crossbow or gun, including air rifles that are .22 caliber or larger. Hunting hours range from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset. The use of electronic calls and bait is prohibited. For more information about the fall turkey season, check page 44.

Hardy Tel, Capon Valley Bank to pay Hardy Bowl student admissions

All Hardy County K-12 students will receive free admission to the 2024 Hardy Bowl high school football game between East Hardy and Moorefield, thanks to Hardy Telecommunications and Capon Valley Bank.

Continuing a sponsorship that dates back many years, Hardy Telecommunications and Capon Valley Bank are teaming up to pay for student tickets for the October 18 game at Moorefield. All Hardy County students in grades K-12 will receive free admission at the gate. Kick-off is slated for 7 p.m.

"This gift to our students stemmed from Capon Valley

Bank," Hardy Assistant General Manager Derek Barr said. "They approached us proposing a partnership, and we thought it was a fantastic way to honor both high schools' teams and students. We appreciate the cooperation of the Moorefield and East Hardy athletic departments and administrators in helping us to do this for students."

Capon Valley Bank Assistant Vice President for Loans Kris Kerr said the bank originated the idea of sponsoring the Hardy Bowl as a way to support the game and all Hardy County students.

"High school football is a tradition," Kerr said. "We're excited to support the game and all Hardy County students."

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Permits Issued for 2024 Limited Antlerless Deer Hunts in West Virginia

Hunters who receive a permit must have a valid West Virginia hunting license and Class N stamp

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) today announced that permits for limited antlerless deer firearms seasons have been mailed to successful applicants. Hunters may also see if they were selected for a permit by logging into the agency's electronic licensing system at WVhunt.com.

"These special hunts are an important tool for managing our deer population and ensuring healthy habitats. On behalf of the WVDNR, I want to congratulate the hunters who secured a permit for this year's limited antlerless deer seasons," said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion. "As we look ahead to the upcoming fall seasons, we encourage all hunters to get ready to enjoy the in-

credible hunting opportunities that West Virginia has to offer."

Hunters who received a permit are reminded that they must still have a valid West Virginia hunting license and purchase a Class N stamp to participate in the limited antlerless deer seasons. Licenses and stamps can be purchased online at WVhunt.com or from any licensed agent.

These limited permits provide hunting opportunities for antlerless deer in counties or areas of the state where wildlife biologists have determined they are necessary to meet management objectives. Hunters who receive a permit may hunt antlerless deer on private and public land on Oct. 24-27, Nov. 25 to Dec. 8, Dec. 12-15 or Dec. 28-31 in the following locations:

Camp Creek State Forest
Greenbrier State Forest
Hillcrest WMA
National Forest Land (Pocahontas County)
Public Land (Randolph County)
Boone County
Clay County (South Portion)
Greenbrier County (North Portion)



Town to help fund track repairs

Fall Cleanup week of Oct. 21

By Hannah Heishman

The Moorefield Town Council committed \$60,000 to help cover extensive work required to renovate and resurface the school running track at Moorefield Middle School.

The track is used by all Moorefield schools, including the Moorefield High School varsity track team, all local law enforcement agencies and the Army National Guard for training and fit-

ness testing, and the public. The Town's commitment triggers the County matching the \$60,000, which should cover the rest of the required work.

The discussion and decision occurred at the Council's regular meeting on Oct. 1.

Logan Moyers, Moorefield Athletic Boosters president, requested the financial aid after track issues were found to run much deeper than just resurfacing.

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Attorney General Morrissey Warns Consumers of Charity and Disaster Scams in Wake of Hurricane Helene

CHARLESTON — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey is urging consumers to be on guard against impostors calling to solicit monetary donations to aid those affected by the deadly floods, mudslides and wind following Hurricane Helene.

The death toll as of Tuesday morning was at least 130, and more than 600 remain missing; the wind and floods destroyed much in the path the hurricane

followed, essentially wiping towns in North Carolina and Tennessee off the map, not to mention the devastating effects in Florida and Georgia. In North Carolina and Tennessee, destroyed roadways and mudslides have made reaching those affected incredibly difficult. Closer to home, residents in Mercer, McDowell and Wyoming counties are dealing with damage and power outages caused by heavy winds and flooding.

Scammers will be working to seize the opportunity to prey on people's generosity and giving hearts, taking advantage of the organizations that have been set up to provide relief to victims.

"The people who have been affected by this historic and catastrophic event are in my thoughts and prayers," Attorney General Morrissey said. "Many people will give generously but unfortunately, there are those who would take

advantage of people's willingness to help."

"I encourage those who wish to give to the relief and recovery efforts to do so but do research and give wisely so that your kindness and generosity actually helps those in need."

According to the FBI, charity/disaster fraud schemes seek donations that do little or no work—

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WEDNESDAY
SUNNY
High
66



THURSDAY
SUNNY
HIGH
62



FRIDAY
SUNNY
HIGH
68



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EDITORIAL

During Heritage Weekend, re-enactors brought their banners, uniforms, and replica period pieces to give spectators an enjoyable taste of a deadly serious event – the Battle of Moorefield. Men in gray and butternut uniforms under the battle standard of the Confederate States of America marched against their opponents in blue, represented by Old Glory.

In a bitter cold January, just over a century and six decades ago, Lieutenant General Jubal Early marched his forces over Branch Mountain on the approach to Moorefield. His Peach State troops, who lacked basic provisions, including tents, exclaimed in frustration “what can General Early mean by bringing us into a country such as this in the middle of winter?”

As General Early later wrote, “but when they came suddenly into view of the beautiful valley of Moorefield . . . they burst into wild enthusiasm at the unexpected scene, so beautiful and inviting, even in the midst of winter and with the tread of an invading enemy upon it.”

A Convention and Visitors’ Bureau guide to the area could hardly pen a description in more lovely terms. Certainly, over the generations since the war, as schoolchildren learned these words, they created a swell of pride in their hearts that the famous Jubal Early and his battle-hardened troops from hundreds of miles away could have fallen so quickly in love with the Hardy County seat and its surroundings.

In this description, one also sees the convergence between two often confused and misunderstood topics – history and heritage.

History properly written and taught rests on two main pillars. The first is the objective set of facts that happen in the passage of time. These mainly come from nouns – people, places, things, and ideas. Historians then use these nouns as pieces of evidence. If done right, the historian builds a dispassionate case based on the evidence at hand to create an interpretation.

An interpretation often follows the journalist’s guidelines of answering the 5 Ws and 1 H questions of who, what, when, where, why, and how. The difference between the two fields comes from history’s need to also explain how events in one time affected those later on.

No space in properly crafted history makes room for the emotions of the historian or the feelings of those who take in their interpretations. History is about a search for truth, not the assuaging of emotions. History frustrates many because it insists that all interpretations properly based on evidence are valid.

There is no single “correct” interpretation of any historical event. Interpretations can widely differ and cause

debate, but that is the point. Through such debate, those involved learn more.

Heritage involves something different altogether, but also rests on two pillars. Heritage comes from the cultural memory of history and historical events, as well as the emotions stirred by both those events and expressions of their memory.

Heritage, simply put, comes from the adjectives people apply to elements of history.

Hardy County favored the Confederate States of America. The descendants of those who lived in the area handed down from generation to generation the traditions of valor and the travails of sacrifice, leaving a generally positive outlook on the Confederacy.

Go just a little ways west and travel through, as General Early described, “a narrow defile . . . just wide enough for a wagon way, with the river on one side and a very high precipice of vertical rock on the other side” and one will find a very different tradition of heritage. To what is now Grant County, General Early was an invader, not a liberator. He had come to attack the new state they helped to create and were in the process of defending.

Until this century, the long shadows cast by the Civil War and the resulting notions of heritage created resonated in the party registrations of Democratic Hardy County and Republican Grant. The latter county name itself serves as a part of both the history and the heritage of the conflict in the area.

History requires a dispassionate viewpoint that seeks to understand all sides of an issue. Heritage demands that one choose whether General Early was better remembered as a liberator, an invader, or something else – to some a traitor, to others a misguided fool in service of a doomed cause. Others remember him as a hero, a gentleman, and a historical role model.

History, however, has its own demands. It expects that one views him as none of those things and focus on what he did, why he did it, and what the impacts of his choices became.

The teaching and study of the history of the United States Civil War has devolved into endless debates over the heritage, with proper history almost completely ignored.

America’s academic establishment has chosen to ignore the proper application of the historical discipline and embrace a single simplistic heritage style interpretation – that the Confederate States was conceived in sin and born in corruption and merits no investigations into any motivations for its existence save one.

Their dominant explanation for the conflict and attack

on any deviation from it pull students of history away from looking into such important questions as why the Southern states sought to emulate their Revolutionary forefathers or why individuals signed up to give up their youth, often their lives, in the service of the Confederate cause.

It also requires a gilding over of tough conversations about the Union conduct of the war. Under Generals Ulysses S. Grant, William Tecumseh Sherman, and “Little” Phil Sheridan, United States forces engaged in war with few limits. That meant wiping entire cities off the face of the earth, razing countless millions of acres of farmland, and eliminating the basic infrastructure that fed the people because, frankly, by 1864, according to General Sherman and others, the focus of the Union war effort was the Southern people.

They will also overlook what many might define as war crimes under the Union flag. One might explain away the execution of a Pendleton County minister on a lonely mountain farm by Union General Robert Milroy’s troops for possibly concealing the whereabouts of telegraph saboteurs as the wrong-headed zeal of men pushed too hard for too long. The unfortunate minister had, in actuality, supported the Union cause.

It takes more to justify the self-admitted practice of General George Crook in executing every Confederate prisoner who came into his hands as his forces battled in central West Virginia. He also described in his memoirs how he falsified reports to avoid scrutiny from superiors inhabiting offices in vastly safer environs.

Stepping back, however, it is not the job of history to look at the morality of the decisions made, but to note and explain them. To history, neither the Union nor the Confederate States – nor, for that matter, General Crook – were “good” or “evil.” They were governments and peoples who opposed each other over issues and interests that they could not resolve peaceably.

Heritage must take over where history leaves off as people conceive of the actions and people of the past in terms favorable, unfavorable, or neutral. It is there that debates over morality and emotion should take place, not history.

People have the right to their heritage so long as they don’t weaponize it against others who have a different experience. Academics who know better, however, ignore the ethics of their profession when they conflate the two and condemn honest efforts to craft interpretations about a historical event, regardless of how that affects an approved narrative.

MY UNBASED OPINION Unbased Revisited

By DAVID O. HEISHMAN



One of Mom’s two favorite Fall trees turned last week. Almost dead square in front of Big House, a maple. Bright orange red, almost garish, between two other maples less inclined to decorate. It’s center of three maples out front. There used to be two massive maples out front. A “hard maple” and a “soft maple.” Folks used to argue over which varieties they were. Though I studied tree and wood identification in surveying school, made good grades in it, I still hedged on answering the variety question for both. Three trees standing there now are their children, I think Hard Maple stood in front

of Big House kitchen. It split and half fell during a thunder storm in 1980 or 81. Master bedroom is second story over kitchen. Pap used to say one day “Big Tree” would fall, crushing Big House and him as he lay asleep, thus all the oldsters would be gone in one fell swoop. As it turned out, he was across Route 259 sheltering from the storm in our old dairy barn and found Mom excitedly surveying damage when he came back across. Main part of Big House wasn’t crushed. Several non-leaking dents in top ridge line of old crimped metal roof remain today to attest Big House’s stout log construction.

Pap would have been safe in his bed. Old summer kitchen and well porch area was, however pretty well flattened. Subsequent rebuilding of this area gave Pap the home veterinary office he’d never had and ended causing four roof levels in Big House instead of original three. At any rate, I think three maples out there now are offspring of Hard Maple and Mom’s favorite is the center. It leans slightly North, toward former Big Tree’s location. Next maple South leans toward my garden. Second big Maple, the “Soft Maple” stood between them and forced both outward seeking sunlight. Those young-

sters were more the future of Big House, one major fork of Soft Maple was overhanging South end of Big House, so I took the whole tree down a couple years ago. A grand old tree, but it needed to make way for younger generation. Soft Maple’s stump remains as it’s tombstone. West leaning half of storm split Big Tree still stood when Pap died in July 1984. Three important things stood in the path of it’s eventual fall. A bird feeder, copy of one which stood outside dining room window of Mom’s home in Chillicothe, Ohio. Pap had found construction plans for it and had built one for her here

in Wardensville. A French Lilac bush, always sort of bedraggled, but occasionally beautiful with light blue blossoms and wonderful fragrance. I’m not sure of it’s origins. A Maple, possible offspring of Big Tree, though not exactly a match, nicely shaped, a keeper. One night rest of Big Tree fell Mom surveyed the damage and called me in Moorefield. “Come see.” A major fork had split the difference on bird feeder. Not a scratch. Lilac’s damage was so slight we couldn’t really tell it had been hit and Maple’s single broken small limb was more nuisance to pick up than disaster. I still think Pap guided that last

half of Big Tree to ground from whatever old well porch he’d found to sit and smoke on in the sky. At any rate, as I write, front yard’s carpet is turning from dried green to dried reds and brown from center Maple’s falling leaves. It’s two nearest neighbors have barely begun to turn. I’ll wait on leaf removal until all are down. Mom’s second favorite Fall tree stands at far end of Big House lane, out next to the highway. Half turned and it’s leaves are safe where they fall except for those the wind will scatter over alfalfa in the fields beside it.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

The Town of Wardensville invites men and women, age 13 and up, to come out to Open Gym Basketball every Tues. and Thurs. from 6-9 PM. The location is the town community center (old high school gym) on Main Street (Hwy 48/55). There is now a fee to play

(suggested) of \$5.00 per player each evening.

Does your cat or dog need spay or neutering? Spay Today is our area’s non-profit, reduced-priced spay and neuter program. (Office: Charles Town, WV) CHOOSE

from MANY vets over a WIDE area!

At the time of surgery, initial shots and tests can also be obtained at lower rates.

Spay Today: <https://spay-today.org>

org or call 304.728.8330

Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College is hosting an event on Oct 19 from 10 to 3 PM with live music, food trucks, a farmers market, kids’ activities, and more

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It is important to perform monthly self exams whether you are male or female. Women should have regular mammograms after the age of 40 and all need to eat healthy and maintain proper weight to reduce the risk

Grant County Family Support Center will have classes in sign language on Oct 10, Spanish on Oct 21, Play group on Oct 23 and 30, Hallowe’en karaoke on Oct 25, and Trunk or Treat on Oct 31

MOOREFIELD EXAMINER

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter to the Editor:

I’ll try to be as apolitical as possible with this. In response to the “Performance Politics” editorial in your Oct. 2nd edition, there’s something important to be noted about the misconcep-

tion that former president and candidate Donald Trump killed a very good piece of bipartisan immigration legislation. This has been repeated ad nauseum by Democrats during this campaign season. There were 3 (of 49) Republican senators who

worked on, then withdrew their support for this, when they realized the law would have permanently allowed for the continuation of about 90% of what’s been going on at our southern border since January 2021. This included allowing up to 5,000 illegals

to cross daily (1,825,000 annually). Hardly bipartisan, hardly Trump’s doing, and surely not good for our country.

Keith Jones
Wardensville

A Psalm For October 2024

46 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be

carried into the midst of the sea;

3 Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.

4 There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.

5 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall

help her, and that right early.

6 The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.

7 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

8 Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolations he hath made in the earth.

9 He maketh wars to cease

unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

10 Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

11 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

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NEWS

Scams

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instead, the money goes to the fake charity's creator. While these scams can happen at any time, they are especially prevalent after high-profile disasters.

Those who want to give to a charity or organization should confirm it is registered with the proper state government agency. If an organization is registered in West Virginia, people can access that information through the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office.

Consumers also can research charities online via www.charitynavigator.org or www.guidestar.org.

Additional tips to keep in mind when giving to disaster relief organizations:

Only give to established charities or groups whose work you know and trust.

Never feel pressured to donate immediately.

Be suspicious of charities that ask for donations in cash, gift cards or via wire transfer.

Consider paying by credit card, which is the safest option for security and tax purposes.

Ask how much of an individual donation directly supports the relief effort.

Never rely on a group's sympathetic sounding name or its similarity to a well-known, reputable entity.

Be wary of unsolicited calls that thank you for donations that you do not recall making.

Verify any local chapter is authorized to solicit funds on behalf of its parent organization.

Go directly to a charity or organization's website instead of clicking on a link to the desired group.

Any online contribution website should start with <https://>. The "s" verifies a secure connection, making it less likely for personal information to be stolen.

Be wary of any charity refusing to detail its mission, use of donations or proof of tax deductibility.

Keep records, including a letter confirming the charitable status of the organization, for contributions in excess of \$250.

Any West Virginian solicited to donate to a charity they think may be fraudulent can contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at 800-368-8808 or file a complaint online at www.ago.wv.gov.

A Rational Look at Renewables

The Public Service Commission of West Virginia welcomes all forms of energy production. The idea of electricity powered by alternative fuels is popular across the United States and resonates across the globe. These fuels include gas, solar, wind, coal, and even nuclear energy.

In line with that, the Commission is seeing an increased number of applications to approve alternative fuel developments in the Mountain State. Our record shows we have welcomed every alternative fuel application we have received.

A quick review of what has

happened recently will give you an idea of the diversity of these applications. We have approved gas-fired, wind-driven, and solar-energized projects.

We have not gotten an application for nuclear power ... but if we do ... we will give that due consideration, too.

Here's what we have done in just the last year. In April, we approved the siting in Doddridge County of one of the largest gas-fired electric production plants in the nation. This truly incredible project will provide enough power for 1.8 million homes annually. Furthermore, the \$3.3 billion

development will not affect any of your rates.

Also last April, we approved a major solar power plant and accompanying battery storage unit in Mineral County. Last December, we endorsed one wind and seven solar projects in conjunction with the state of Virginia. We authorized a major solar project in Mason County last October.

What we do is take each application we receive and give it a fair hearing. I am pleased to say we have approved every alternative energy source petition we have received. Our website has a link called Re-

newable Energy Projects that lists all the renewables we have approved, and it provides details of those cases. Please take a look.

Coal remains the primary source in West Virginia for electricity production because it is reliable. Maintenance of reliability is one of our top goals. Coal produces electricity at night or when the wind is not blowing.

And while we continue to burn coal, we welcome all forms of energy. I can assure you we will continue to give every application a fair hearing and decide on the merits.

WV Dept. Of Arts, Culture and History Seeks Scholarly Essay Submissions on History of West Virginia

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - The West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is soliciting bids for the completion of scholarly essays for inclusion in a special publication. This publication is being produced in conjunction with the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History's (WVDACH) efforts to commemorate the nation's

semiquincentennial, the 250th anniversary of the United States. The publication will cover topics related to western Virginia's (West Virginia) history prior to 1815. The full request is available by contacting Claire Tryon, either by emailing claire.e.tryon@wv.gov or calling (304) 558-0240.

These essays are intended for

a public audience; therefore, they should expand an individual's knowledge of the subject while being an engaging narrative, written in accessible language. The finished publication will consist of an introduction from WV SHPO, a maximum of ten essays, and a list of important historic resources in both print and digital formats.

All Expressions of Interest must be received no later than 4 p.m. on Nov. 8, 2024. Submissions will be accepted that are delivered via the mail or received via email.

The Department of Arts, Culture and History is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Fall Cleanup

continued from page 1

ing. Initially the track, already only six lanes instead of eight, became problematic when the outer lane became unusable from disintegration; the track is almost 30 years old, with minimal upkeep and frequent use, and is worn to the dirt beneath it in spots. When other counties refused to attend meets due to the track's condition, public outcry resulted in the Boosters' effort to fund repairs.

Hardy County Schools committed \$100,000 after Pendleton Community Bank agreed to a 0% loan, and the Boosters agreed to match, dollar for dollar, any amount donated by the public.

Moyers said the public's donations came in smaller amounts of \$20 to \$50, and many were in memory of Moorefield High student and track athlete Gary Foster, who died last spring in a car accident after a track meet. The public donated \$50,000; so did the Boosters, exhausting their funds.

State senators Randy Smith and Jay Taylor helped, and rep-

resentative Bryan Ward has requested funding.

Once work started, the situation proved to be worse than expected when milling equipment, used to grind up the existing track, immediately sank into deep mud. The subsurface failed because the drainage system failed, causing water to back up under the track, even in a drought, and creating an unstable foundation.

Full-depth reclamation, a process that mixes cement with the milled track and creates a solid, 8-10-inch thick foundation, increases the price to \$330,000. That meant the Boosters were \$120,000 short of their goal.

Moyers approached the County Commission Tuesday morning. They offered \$50,000, but said they'd increase their donation to \$60,000 if the Town would match it.

The project cannot move forward until it is fully funded.

The goal is to get the track milled down, foundation complete, and track repaved before Thanksgiving, which is typically when paving operations stop until spring. Hardy County Schools has already bid out rubberizing and painting the track,

with the goal of completing it before track season.

Moorefield Mayor Carol Zuber expressed some hesitation, although she was quick to also support school sports. She pointed out the Town, through the Town Park, already provides both the tennis courts and softball fields for Moorefield teams, has just finished the same process of full-depth reclamation and paving for the Park parking lot, and is completely rebuilding the tennis courts.

"And the Boosters are completely appreciative of that," Moyers said.

Zuber added she wanted to ensure the public is aware of that, "because the (softball and tennis) teams can't charge entry, like other sports do," as there is no gate at the Park.

Moyers noted the same is true for the track team, as there is no fence or gate around the track.

Moyers responded to concerns about track maintenance and upkeep, telling the Council that Hardy County Schools already has a plan in place that includes redoing the rubberization every 10 years, and that the Boosters have purchased rubber mats for the two places football

teams cross the track.

Track cleats do not damage the track's surface, but football cleats do. The mats will protect the track, extending its life.

Moyers also said a surveyor is rechecking measurements both for the track's surface, and drainage purposes.

The Town's discussion later in the meeting included their interest in furthering former, late track coach Bill Hunt's legacy, as well as concerns about the precedent set by donating such a large amount. They also noted that Moorefield track, the largest sports team in Hardy County, helps keep youth out of trouble and that the track helps the public.

"We can make it work," Rick Freeman, city clerk, said.

The Council voted unanimously to support the track with a \$60,000 donation using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, also known colloquially as COVID funds.

In other business, the Council approved the minutes from the last meeting. Zoning Officer Amy Greenwalt announced that Fall Cleanup is the week of Oct. 21, with dates for specific parts of Town listed online and in the

Moorefield Examiner.

Public Works director Lucas Gagnon said the Town will continue to water the hanging baskets until the first freeze, and noted the flowers have been changed in the Town's raised beds. He also said the ice skating rink at the Park should open on schedule in November.

Gagnon and Park director Juwana Bridger Titus sought Council guidance on the Town Pool's future. The pool never actually earns money; despite every day this past summer being sponsored, including Wednesday night swims, paying staff, maintenance and chemicals still cost more.

They talked about Wednesday nights starting slow, but as word traveled they became more popular for families, because generally teens typically didn't attend. Titus plans to continue those next summer, if approved.

Payroll is the ultimate expense: Sponsoring a day is \$400; paying the lifeguards is \$560. Titus is hesitant to hire one less guard, because that's ultimately fewer eyes on swimmers.

She's also thought about only paying one Snack Shack employee, but that's a job younger teens

can hold. They also keep an eye on children, and make sure they get water and a snack if they don't seem to have money.

She said she's debated closing the Snack Shack entirely and switching to snack machines, but contents are often more expensive. Zuber recalled when \$.50 could buy a Pepsi and a bag of peanuts from snack machines in the pool area.

Council members decided to keep the pool going, but "we've still got work to do," said council member Luke Kesner.

Council members voted to donate \$1500 to Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College, which is partnering with the Celebrate Moorefield committee for a family day Oct. 19.

They paid invoices, and following an executive session, hired five employees for the ice skating rink.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. in the Council's chambers. The public is encouraged to attend.

Hardy Bowl

continued from page 1

dition in Hardy County, and no game brings out the fans more than an old-fashioned rivalry. We want to recognize both schools and all Hardy County students, and we hope students attend to support their teams, bands, cheerleaders, and everyone else who works to provide the Hardy

Bowl to our community.

"We're happy that Hardy Telecommunications joined us in this effort, and we wish good luck to both teams and their fans," Kerr said.

Hardy Telecommunications and Capon Valley Bank are both business partners with East Hardy High School, but Barr said the free admission is available for all K-12 students in Hardy County.

Hardy Telecommunications, Inc., a member of NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association, is a non-profit cooperative dedicated to bringing affordable broadband internet service to the citizens of Hardy County and surrounding areas. The company offers services through OneNet, Hardy County's first fiber-to-the-home

network. It is recognized nationally as a Smart Rural Community Provider.

Capon Valley Bank, a subsidiary of Highlands Bankshares, is a community-oriented neighborhood bank dedicated to serving local customers since July 1918. It has branches in Wardensville, Moorefield, and Baker in West Virginia and in Gore and Stephens City in Virginia.

AGE IN ACTION

Age In Action

October 14 - October 18, 2024,

Nutrition
Mon 10/14/24 - Office is CLOSED in observation of Columbus Day!

Tue 10/15/24 - Tilapia, French Fries, Green Beans, Bread, & Peaches

Wed 10/16/24- BINGO Sweet and Sour Meatballs, Rice, Beets, Peas and Carrots, & Banana

Thu 10/17/24- Chicken Tenders, Tomatoes and Macaroni, California Blend, & Applesauce
Fri 10/18/24 - FREE MEAL FRIDAY! Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Tossed Salad with Dressing & Peaches. Sponsored by Grant Memorial Hospital

Due to the availability of delivered food, substitutions are sometimes necessary.

There are 3 ways to participate in the nutrition program

1. Congregate (Dine-In Meal) meals are served Monday through Friday at 12 p.m. This is for seniors that are able to make it to the center. These meals are served Monday - Friday at noon at Hardy County Senior Center. You do not need to call the center to eat this meal. Just come into the center by 12 p.m. Monday - Friday. We encourage all seniors to come have lunch because this is a great social opportunity for everyone.

2. Grab & Go, this is for seniors that would like a meal and are still able to drive. These meals are available for anyone

that can drive but might not want to come to eat. How to get one is to call the office by 9:30 on the day you wish to pick up a meal. Lunch is available for pick up between 12:00-12:30.

3. Home Delivered is for home bound seniors. This meal is available for anyone who has trouble leaving their home. Meals are delivered 3 days a week depending on the route. If changes have to be made to your delivery, we ask that you call the office by 9:30 on the day of your scheduled delivery.

- Anyone under 60 is welcome to come to enjoy a lunch at the center at the cost of \$7.00 per meal.

If you have any questions about the difference between Congregate (eat at the center), Grab & Go, or Home Delivered Meals please stop in at 409 Spring Ave. Moorefield WV 26852 or call at 304-530-2256. We are here and help to help answer any questions.

The Programs Purpose

The purpose of the nutrition program is to reduce hunger and food insecurity while promoting socialization still maintaining a level of independence in the senior community in Hardy County. This program supports and encourages healthy nutrition. Promoting overall well-being for the aging citizens that participate.

Activities

- It is that time of the month! Bingo will be held after lunch on Wednesday 10/18/24! If you wish to participate in Bingo, we ask that you eat lunch here at

the center the day of this scheduled activity.

-We offer a craft once a month. There is no set day for this activity due to volunteer availability. Please check our Facebook page for more information on this activity. We do try to post about this activity the week of. Like all other activities we ask that anyone wishing to participate eat lunch here at the center the day of and if you have any questions, please contact the office during business hours. Mon-Fri 8-4.

Services

-Open enrollment for Medicare is October 15th - December 7th, 2024. If you are eligible to sign up, change your plan, or have questions about an existing plan please call 304-530-2256 option 4 to make an appointment.

-If anyone 60 years of age or older has any questions about what benefits options they have please call our office Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. If we do not have the answer we can help point you in the right direction.

-HCCOA offers In-Home Service programs. The programs that are available through our agency include FAIR, Light-house, Personal Care, Title III, and Aged & Disabled Waiver. If you would like to know more about these programs, contact our office Monday - Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm by calling 304-530-2256 option 3.

ATTENTION!!!

-With the Holiday season approaching I would like to wel-

come anyone who wished to preform for the seniors. If you are a church group who would like to sing carols. Youth group with a Christmas program. We would love to brighten up the holiday season with community programs here for the seniors.

If you are interested in coming to the center, please call Ceneth Bierkamp at 304-530-2256 option 1.

-While the center does have a piano, we offer anyone who has a musical instrument to come to the center and play for seniors Monday - Friday 11:00am-1:00pm. We would love to hear from anyone who is willing to come and play for the seniors.

- Follow Hardy County Committee on Aging on Facebook to find out the daily menu and all other information. Also, if you have any questions, please contact the office at 304-530-2256. We are here to help!

Items to Lend

-The center has a supply of limited walkers, wheelchairs, shower benches, and potty chairs.

-We also have incontinent supplies for anyone that needs them.

-Anyone who has any of the supplies listed above that is no longer in need of them, feel free to contact the center about donating the unused items so we can help others.

Special Thank You

We would like to thank WV Poultry Association, EA Hawse Healthcare Center, Church of God, Pilgrims/Mac House, and Daughters of American Revolu-



tion for their donations to the center.

We would also like to thank Pilgrims Fresh Plant CCP Team, Grant County Hospital, and Baker Insurance for being sponsors in our sponsorship programs in the nutrition program.

We also have 2 sponsorship programs to help with our nutrition program. Free Meal Friday and Sponsor a Senior. If you are interested in one of these or just want to donate, please contact Ceneth Bierkamp at 304-530-2256 option 1.

"Old age ain't no place for sissies." - Bette Davis

Suggested Donation Guidelines

Monthly Income	Suggested Donation Amount
Congregate	
Home Delivered	
\$0-1,000	\$2.50 \$3.00
\$1,001 - \$2,000	\$3.50 \$4.00
\$2,001 - \$3,000	\$4.50 \$5.00
\$3,000 \$4,000	\$5.50 \$6.00
Guests and under 60	\$7.00

If you have any questions about any of the information listed above, please contact our office Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm at 304-530-2256. Thank you

Suggested Donation Prices

With the new update of the suggested donation please understand that these prices are a suggestion, NOT a requirement. Participants 60 years and older that are registered under the nutrition program are not required to pay but are encouraged to donate. With the aging population growing every day it is extremely important that we

are able to feed the aging population. The nutrition programs rely heavily on donations from participating seniors as well as everyone in the community.

Our Goal

Hardy County Committee on Aging's goal is to feed every senior in the Hardy County area with the intention of everyone maintaining a level of independence so that they are able to stay and live in their homes for as long as possible. We strive to promote not only good nutrition through meals and education tools, but also a level of socialization. To make sure that everyone who comes here for a meal is fed and understands that we will help as much as we can.

Our Mission

Our mission is to assist elderly persons of Hardy County in identifying and effectively developing their skills, potential abilities and personal resources so they may continue to live an independent, purposeful, safe and healthy lifestyle in their own home. This has been our goal since 1973, and we do not plan on stopping anytime soon. In order for our programs to continue we rely not only on state funding and donations in our community. We strive to ensure that the aging population maintains a level of independence, so they are able to stay in their own homes. One way that we are able to achieve this goal is by providing hot nutritious meals to seniors in Hardy County.

Panhandle Politics

continued from page 1

town of 258 people, so if we can do this, I believe other communities can do it, too!

Examiner:

The Governor has called a special session of the legislature to enact further income tax cuts. Do you support further tax cuts, and what will you do to ensure this isn't a short-term political win at the expense of long-term financial stability for the state?

Smith:

Most elected officials aim to support lower taxes for their constituents. Personally, I believe we need more time to evaluate whether these tax reductions are feasible without straining our state's economy in the long run. I agree that the long-term financial stability of the state should be top priority, and more time is needed to analyze all potential outcomes of a tax cut. We could explore ways to offset the lost revenue, possibly through tourism or decreasing industry subsidies. It's essential to review government spending to identify areas where funds are wasted so that savings can be directed to WV citizens. A task force comprising members from the Senate and House Finance Committees should be established to thoroughly examine all aspects of the proposed tax cut and make informed decisions.

Orndoff-Sayers:

West Virginia has some of the lowest income and property taxes in our region. So once again our Legislature wants to fix a problem that isn't there—but sounds great to the voters to get some election-year love. This "tax cut," just like their "flat budget approach" is just a game of smoke and mirrors to

bleed essential state-provided services and line the pockets of out-of-state corporate interests. Our taxes go to pay for those essential services. They benefit every West Virginian, and all of us—including corporations doing business here—are responsible for a share of the cost through individual and corporate taxes. All our critical problems—failing infrastructure, deteriorating roads, education, childcare, health services—are never going to get fixed if we allow select folks to evade paying their fair share and then enacting bogus tax "cuts" that end up wrecking essential services and putting the state further into the hole.

Examiner:

Everyone's experienced the effects of inflation, yet West Virginia's minimum wage has remained at \$8.75 since 2016. Meanwhile, Maryland has increased its to \$15.00 and Virginia to \$12.00, resulting in workers leaving Hardy County to seek better pay across state borders. Do you support increasing the minimum wage? Why or why not?

Orndoff-Sayers:

You've hit the nail on the head. With states bordering West Virginia luring good workers out of state with living wages, it only makes it harder to maintain our workforce and keep good people here. I ran a restaurant in Wardsville for many years, and I know how hard it is to make ends meet and pay people a decent wage for good work. But I think if we don't all bite the bullet and match our neighbors, we're going to continue to lose workers, people and businesses.

That said, minimum wage is one thing, a living wage is another. Studies show that a living

wage in WV is around \$18.74 an hour, reflecting the overall cost of living. It's almost impossible to find decent affordable housing or childcare in our region. By enacting a package of living wage legislation—addressing not only the hourly wage but these other cost-of-living problems, from

housing to childcare to health services—the Legislature can make the state more friendly to business and a more affordable place to live, keeping our young people and attracting new residents.

Smith:

Raising the minimum wage in WV needs to be considered, although the cost of living in WV is significantly lower than neighboring states such as MD and VA. Maryland's cost of living is approximately 29.2% higher than ours, while Virginia's is around 12.8% higher. Direct comparisons with these states may not be appropriate. While raising the minimum wage could be beneficial in some areas, it may strain small businesses in other regions, potentially leading to closures. Given the current labor shortages, businesses are offering wages higher than the minimum to retain workers. Further investigation on the actual earnings in the state could help identify areas where raising the minimum wage might negatively impact businesses. A bill was previously passed to provide West Virginia residents with a no-cost path to obtaining a two-year degree through West Virginia Invests, covering tuition at any state Community and Technical College (CTC) for certificates or associate degrees in high-demand, well-paying fields.

Examiner:

Balancing growth and the de-

mands it puts on local infrastructure and natural resources is an ongoing challenge. Hardy County is fortunate to have a robust planning commission that balances protection of public and environmental health with economic and business expansion. Recent legislative sessions have seen bills passed, including SB 171 this past January, that override county planning and local land use ordinances. Would you vote for/vote again for that, or similar bills, and why or why not?

Smith:

The following are key facts about SB171:

- It does not restrict zoning 7-1-3 or Chapter 8A.

- It does not pertain to issues under the Natural Floodplain Insurance Act 7-1-3 V.

- It does not apply to Commercial Forestry as identified in tax code 11-1A-3f.

- It only pertains to agricultural operations as defined in 19-19-2.

- It does not pertain to windmills or solar farms.

- It safeguards against 55 different county rules.

- The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and not county governments are responsible for enforcing environmental regulations.

- Agriculture has met environmental/TMDL nutrient goals through voluntary actions, making WV the only state in the Chesapeake Bay region to achieve these goals.

SB242, passed in the 2022 session:

- Limits county action with respect to agricultural operations.

- Authorizes full utilization of agricultural property, regardless of tract size.

Orndoff-Sayers:

Branson requested policies

and guidance regarding the dog pound. She reported September was "crazy busy," with seven dogs dropped off. The facility averages 12 dogs at any given time. She said the dogs are not "cute, cuddly puppies," and that smaller ones are easier to rehome. Chestina Merriner helps by getting some of the dogs accepted into Northern Virginia rescues, but there are still dogs in the pound. There is no current policy determining how to proceed, outside a State policy that pounds are authorized to euthanize an unclaimed dog after five days, but may extend that period. Currently, two dogs are scheduled for euthanasia due to behavioral concerns and bite history.

Examiner:

The pound received a \$24,000 grant, and requires a committee to manage it. The Commission appointed Branson, Merriner, Bill Ours, Jim Shupe, and Steve Pendleton; Branson will chair the committee. Budgeting will be a topic for an upcoming special meeting. Currently, the pound has no budget beyond funding as needed for foods and vet bills, but will require more money for equipment and construction or renovation. Budget discussions are also needed for jail costs, because per

Smith:

I am a firm supporter of the 2nd Amendment of the U.S. Constitution in which this country was founded upon. The realization that tyranny and oppression by governments and rulers exist is the very foundation for this amendment. Citizens must be allowed to have the right and the means to defend themselves. Most law-abiding gun owners are not the reason we have school and other mass shootings. The

more important issue to address is the mental health crises among our school aged children that are not being talked about after the mass shooting events. Almost every recent shooting, or threats, have had mental health warning signs that have been ignored and then brushed to the side after the events, or attempted to be covered up. Mass medication is way more dangerous than any firearm.

Orndoff-Sayers:

I am a gun owner. We live in an area where hunting is an important tradition and firearms are respected by responsible gun owners. But do responsible gun owners need bump stocks and semi-automatic rifles? Do we hunt deer and rabbits with high-powered weapons? The only thing we hunt with these guns are people. Why can't we require a license for these, like we do to drive? And as a former teacher, I think it would be crazy to arm teachers so that they can be ready to fend off attacks from shooters in the classroom. Should preachers be armed to shoot on a parishioner who decides to open fire in church? Like public schools, college campuses need to be sacred places like churches, where guns have no place. But legislators have permitted concealed-carry at colleges and universities – then banned firearms from the State Capitol and courthouses. More hypocrisy. I think we need stronger red-flag laws to prevent domestic violence, we need to regulate weapons of slaughter, and we need to find ways to bring us all back to a place where firearms are respected and used for law enforcement, recreation and sensible personal security, and not as tools to settle disagreements or inflict damage on innocent people.

County Commission

continued from page 1

ville Visitor's Center, Oct. 23 in the Mathias Fire Station on Route 259, and Oct. 24 at the HCEAA building in Baker. Another is tentatively scheduled for the Rig Civic Center Oct. 29.

The special legislative session, called by Governor Jim Justice, will consider EMS across the state for additional funding.

Public Health Director Bill Ours asked if consolidating the County's EMS under one organization is a possibility.

Schetrom said that the county already has one county system, via a memorandum of understanding.

HCEAA was formed to cover the Baker-Mathias area when the former organization dissolved. The fee was intended to assist EMS across the county. A single county system would be an "astronomical" cost to the county, Workman said. The current agencies are able to provide the EMS support required, with savings for the county, and are worth it despite being difficult to manage.

"People don't think about the distances," Fansler said.

HCEAA, because they have crews at their station 24/7, are able to respond quickly, but average 18 minutes to get on-scene due to distance. West Hardy may take a few minutes longer to go enroute during pay-per-call shifts, but they often have shorter distances to travel, and they cover a much larger population.

"We hope you never need an ambulance," Workman said, "But we need to ensure if you do, we can provide it as required by Chapter 7 (of the state code)."

Alt briefed the Commission on a topic Schetrom raised at a previous meeting, regarding staff-

ing and business model. HCEAA uses a paid shift model, while West Hardy uses a combination paid shift and paid-per-call model.

The Commission discussed a \$10,000 per month allocation West Hardy requested to help cover payroll. The Commission had granted the request. Alt proposed incorporating that amount into HCEAA's allocation, from which he would distribute the funds to West Hardy.

The motion was quickly moved and seconded. Workman, who is an at-large member of the West Hardy board of directors, abstained from the vote, but said he hoped that, "If it goes forward, the intent will be honored into the coming year."

Schetrom, who is Commission's representative on the HCEAA board of directors, said there are "no plans to change... The HCEAA recognizes the intent." Lewis, Office of Emergency Management director and HCEAA board president said, "I have no problem seeing that go forward."

The HCEAA board must discuss the topic at their next meeting. The Commission voted with two supporting and Workman's abstention, to send the \$10,000 per month to HCEAA for distribution to West Hardy.

The final topic under EMS and readiness involved a recent exercise in which Workman participated as a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member.

"A county coroner would've been good in the mix," he said.

County coroner is an unpaid, appointed position that provides the County with a go-to for planning purposes. The Grant County Commission recommended Hardy County use Tabitha Hitt, who is also a medical examiner. The

Commission quickly approved appointing Hitt as the County Coroner.

Moorefield Athletic Booster president Logan Moyers approached the Commission requesting money to help rebuild the running track in Moorefield. For more information, refer to the Moorefield Town Council story. The Commission agreed to donate \$50,000, but would add an additional \$10,000 if the Moorefield Council would match the \$60,000.

The \$120,000 donation, between the two, would cover the total amount needed to fund the track.

The Community Education Group, based in Lost River, requested a letter of support from the Commission to aid them in getting grants. The CEG is a nonprofit that supports education and efforts around hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, addiction, and recovery. The Commission quickly approved the letter of support, noting concerns in and around Hardy County involving addiction and recovery, in particular. "Intervention is critical," Workman said.

The rabies clinic held in September was very successful, with more than 50 animals vaccinated. County Coordinator Wendy Branson said she plans to have another in Spring 2025.

Branson is trying to get a Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) grant to help pay for another School Resource Officer. The County has two, one at East Hardy and one in Moorefield. One is paid by Hardy County Schools, the other is funded partly with a JAG grant and partly by Hardy County Schools. The SRO in Moorefield covers four schools at different locations; having a second officer would be more efficient in case of an event such as an active shooter.

Schools Superintendent Sheena Van Meter. While a recent count set the number at 135, Van Meter explained that the number has since expanded to 171. Elsewhere in the Potomac Highlands counties, Hampshire has six, Mineral nine, Grant 19, Tucker two, and Pendleton zero.

In terms of sheer numbers, Kanawha (154), Monongalia (298), Berkeley (650), and Jeffer-

son (359) have more than Hardy, but also boast significantly higher student populations and county school budgets. Hardy County also lacks a school levy, which leaves the system reliant on less resources.

"We value these kids," emphasizes Van Meter, who also added "it's a blessing that we have that kind of diversity."

Greensburg Bed & Biscuit, Baker Building & Remodeling, R Thomas CPA & Associates, Food Lion and South Branch Animal Hospital. Volta Services also sponsored four bowling balls. Raffle items were donated by Hardman's Hardware, Central Tie & Lumber, AutoZone, Valley View Golf Club, Skard Prints, Davy's Pro Shop, Pilgrim's Fresh Complex and private donors.

Hardy County Schools

continued from page 1

strongest challenges faced by Hardy County Schools. Approximately 10 percent of students in the system learned English as a second language – or not at all.

"We have the highest percentage of EL kids in the State of West Virginia," shared Hardy County

Schools Superintendent Sheena Van Meter. While a recent count set the number at 135, Van Meter explained that the number has since expanded to 171. Elsewhere in the Potomac Highlands counties, Hampshire has six, Mineral nine, Grant 19, Tucker two, and Pendleton zero.

In terms of sheer numbers, Kanawha (154), Monongalia (298), Berkeley (650), and Jeffer-

The Bob Hammons Memorial Youth Fund Awards Scholarships

The Bob Hammons Memorial Youth Fund has awarded scholarships of \$2,000 each to two seniors, Nathaniel Wachter from Moorefield High School and Wade Hershberger from East Hardy High School.

The Memorial Youth Fund has been established in the memory of Bob Hammons, who was an avid bowler, loved the youth and wanted to instill a love of bowling in youth. Bob worked at South Branch Potomac Lanes in Moorefield for many years and coached the youth every Saturday morning. He worked eagerly and tirelessly in

the bowling community, serving as the Tri-County Bowling Association President for many years.

To raise funding for the BHM Youth Fund the 3rd Annual Memorial Bowling Tournament was held, hosted by South Branch Potomac Lanes. Tournament Co-champions were Robert Hulmes and Max Costa.

The event was co-sponsored by Stealth Tech and Pilgrim's CCP Team. Lanes were sponsored by Moorefield Collision, Summit Community Bank, Pendleton Community Bank, Volta Services,

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2/\$5

Doritos, 8-10 oz.
2/\$6

Little Debbie Snack Cakes, Assorted Variety, 13.1-16.2 oz.
2/\$4

UtZ Chips, 7-8 oz.
2/\$4

EE Pure Granulated Sugar, 4 lb.
2/\$6

Hudson Cream Flour, 5 lb.
2/\$6

Stone Ridge Ice Cream, 48 oz.
2/\$6

Full Service Meat Department
Monday-Saturday: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sunday: 8 a.m. - Noon

Baby Back Pork Ribs
\$2.58 per lb.

80% Lean Ground Beef
\$3.48 per lb.

Bone-in Whole Pork Butt
\$1.88 per lb.

Dutch Farms Chicken Tenders or Patties, 28-48 oz.
\$4.99

Armour Meatballs, 14 oz.
\$1.98

Perdue Fresh Whole Young Chicken Roasters
\$1.19 per lb.

Dairy

Untied Dairy Milk: 1%, 2%, Whole or Skim, 1 gal.
\$2.99

Deli/Bakery

Bar S Chipped Chopped Ham
\$2.99 per lb.

Jumbo Glazed Donuts 12 Ct. Pack
\$3.99

Dutch Farm Bagels, 5 Ct.
2/\$3

Produce

Russet Potatoes, 8 lb.
\$2.99

Dole Premium Bananas
49¢ per lb.

Red or Golden Delicious Apples
69¢ per lb.

OBITUARIES

Barbara Smith



Barbara Ann Smith, age 75, of Moorefield, WV, passed away Friday evening, October 4, 2024, at

the Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center in Petersburg, WV. Born on September 1, 1949, in Moorefield, WV, she was the daughter of the late Paul Brant Smith and Elizabeth Ollie Smith Smith. She was also preceded in death by her siblings, Vance Smith, Ray Smith, Peggy Mathias, Bobby Smith and Bill Smith.

Barbara resided with her mother until she passed away in 1983. From there, she went to live with her sister Peggy until 2016 when Peggy had to enter a nursing home. At that time, she went to live with her other sister Linda until 2019 and her health began to decline. At this point, she en-

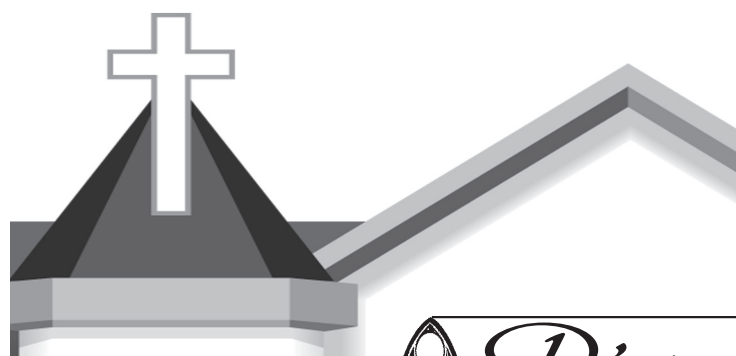
tered the Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center and became part of their family. She enjoyed being there, especially her daily interaction with the staff. The social worker was met every morning by Barbara with her smiling face. Her time there was spent coloring, working puzzle books, listening to music and singing. She will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her.

Surviving are two sisters, Linda (Roger) Moyers of Moorefield, WV and Betty Hartman of Maysville, WV; a brother, Jack (Sharon) Smith of Burlington, WV and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services will be conducted 1:00 PM Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at the Fraley Funeral Home Chapel, 107 Washington Street with Pastor D. J. Taylor officiant. Interment will follow in the Olivet Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 6 – 8 PM Monday at the funeral home.

To offer condolences, share memories, or upload photos in honor of Barbara's extraordinary life, visit her Tribute Wall at www.fraleyfuneralhome.com and celebrate the impact she made on all those around her.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Fraley Funeral Home.



Church Services

Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church

2029 St. Road 55, Moorefield, WV (304)434-2547

Fr. Arul Anthony
Fr. Jose Manuel Escalante

Mass Times: Saturday @ 5:00 p.m.
Sunday @ 8:00 a.m.
Sunday (Spanish Mass) @ 12:00 p.m.

Rig
Assembly of God Church
Rev. Brad Taylor

- Sunday Morning Service at 10 a.m.
- Sunday Night Service at 6 p.m.
- Wednesday Night Service at 7:00 p.m.

10 Queens Drive
Rig, WV 26836
(304) 434-2073
www.rigassemblyofgod.org

Shawn Simon



Shawn Glenn Simon, age 60 of Dale City, VA, passed away Thursday, September 19, 2024, at Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center in Woodbridge, VA af-

ter a battle with cancer. Born on May 15, 1964, in Winchester VA, he was a son of Elva June Bensenhaver and Glen "Buck" Simon. Shawn retired from the U.S. Air Force after serving 22 years.

Surviving is his wife, Pamela Jo Simon; a son Jeremy (Morgan) Simon; four stepchildren; Laura, Sean (Leigh), Terrie, Jessica (David), 19 Step-grandchildren and 3 step-great-grandchildren. A brother, Randy Crites of Rig and a sister, Robin Crites of Moorefield.

Throughout his military career, Shawn has been deployed to numerous locations, including Texas, Illinois, Germany, Maryland, Lorea, Oklahoma, and culminated as the Air Force manager for Petroleum vehicles and equipment at the Air Force Petro-

leum Office in Fort Belvoir, Virginia, with additional temporary assignments in Spain, Belgium, Saudi Arabia, Amapo, and various sites within the Continental United States.

His distinguished military career is marked by numerous decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Award with seven oak leaf clusters, Air Force Organization Excellence Award, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with six oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Upon his retirement, Shawn received a congratulatory letter from Former President George Bush, the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, a commemorative shadow box, and the White House flag, honoring his extensive and dedicated service to the Nation.

A Celebration of Life will be held beginning at 11:00 Am on Friday, October 4, 2024, at the Moorefield Presbyterian Church for family and friends. A Service was held on October 1, 2024, at Quantico, VA.

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WALNUT GROVE Church of the Brethren

Rt. 55 East, Moorefield just before Corridor H exit

Pastor DJ Taylor

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Church Service 11 a.m.

Moorefield Assembly of God

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SUNDAY MORNING - 10:00AM

CHRIST DISCIPLES
SUNDAY EVENING
RADIO PROGRAM:

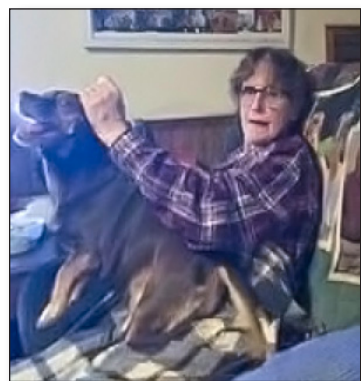
103.7 FM 7:30 - 9:00PM
FACEBOOK:

@MOOREFIELDASSEMBLYOFGOD

FAITH HOPE LOVE

Wade Armentrout, Pastor
EVERYONE WELCOME

Linda Hanson



Linda Hanson, 77, of Baker,

WV passed away on Saturday, September 21, 2024 at her home.

Born on November 28, 1946, she was the daughter of Charles Hawse and Jarlene Armentrout. She was raised by her grandparents, Harvey and Ada Parker.

She is survived by her son, Gary Hanson of Baker, WV, brother David Armentrout (Chris) of IL, brother-in-law, Paul Foster of Maryland, two step-children Darlene Blackwell (Billy) of NJ,

Charles Hanson (Kathy) of NJ, 6 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, numerous other family members and her beloved dog, Penny.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Chuck Hanson, a son, Robert Hanson and a grandson, Cory Hanson.

She worked for Life Care Market for 20 years. She was a homemaker and loved to make her homemade candy for the East

Hardy Athletic auction.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 12, 2024 at 3:00 P.M. at Pine Grove Church, Baker, WV with Rev. David May officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family.

All arrangements are being handled by McKee Funeral Home, Baker, WV

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...Really!



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Sharing God's love and mercy with the world

Sunday school @ 10 a.m. • Worship @ 11 a.m.
Tannery & Oak Dale Chapel worship @ 9 a.m.

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mfldpresbych@hardynet.com • www.moorefieldchurch.org

William Wade Haviland



William Wade Haviland, 74, of Brandywine, WV died October 3, 2024 at his residence.

He was born January 26, 1950 in Bergton, VA to the late Merritt and Bertha Turner Haviland.

Bill was a farmer, and had worked at Hardy Telecommunications for 40+ years before retiring. He was a U.S. Army Veteran during the Vietnam War. He was an avid bear hunter.

Surviving are two sons, Jere-

my Haviland and wife Jennifer of Criders, Andy Haviland and wife Kathryn of Bergton; grandchildren, Julia Haviland, Rachel Haviland, John Haviland, Adam Haviland; four sisters, Thelma Tusing of Timberville, Anna Lehman of PA, Jean Mongold of Bergton, Merritta Kaplinger of Broadway.

His grandson, Jesse W. Haviland, preceded him in death.

The family will receive friends from 5 PM - 7 PM Thursday at

Grandle Funeral Home in Broadway. A guestbook will be available to sign all day on Thursday.

At Bill's request, his body was cremated.

Memorial contributions may be made to Grandle Funeral Home, P.O. Box 114, Broadway, VA 22815 to help offset expenses.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.grandlefuneralhome.com

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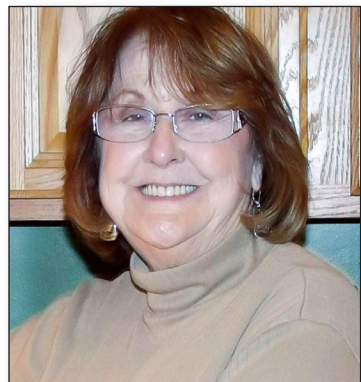
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802

BRANCH: E. Market St. Charlottesville, VA 22902 • 434-293-2570

Hardy County Health & Wellness Center

411 Spring Ave., Moorefield • 304-538-7380
Open Monday-Friday 6 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 8-noon

Greta C. Lehman



Greta Catherine Lehman, age 84 of Moorefield, WV, passed away Sunday morning, August 4, 2024, at her residence. Born on January 19, 1940, in Moorefield, WV, she was the daughter of the late Curtis Leroy Hepner and Ina Rhea "Rea" Cleaver Hepner. She was preceded in death by a son, Gregory Sloan Branson; sisters, Judith "Judy" Judy and Wilda "Woodie" Hogbin. Greta was a member of Baker's Chapel Church near Moorefield and the

dedication to her family, love for genealogy, and passion for sports were beacons of light in her life. Greta was known for her impeccable penmanship, a skill that earned her the regional penmanship award during her high school years in the county.

Greta cherished her family above all else, finding immense joy in the moments spent with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her love for the Yankees and her family's sporting events showcased her unwavering support and dedication. A retiree of American Woodmark where she devoted 33 years, she exemplified perseverance and commitment in all aspects of her life. She loved those annual trips to the bay, again with her family. She and Lee would travel through West Virginia every fall to revel in the beauty of their state.

Those left to cherish her mem-

ory is her husband, Lee Edmund Lehman; daughters, Wendy (Chuck) Adkins & Gina (John) Livengood of Moorefield, WV; a son, John David Branson, II of Moorefield, WV; brothers, Curtis "Buck" Hepner Jr. of Enfield, CT, and John M. "Mike" (Becky) Hepner of Ooltewah, TN; grandchildren, Chelsi (Jared) Wratchford, Joshua Branson, Marcus (Jordan) Weese, McKenzie Weese, Morgan Branson, Logan (Mary) Branson, Rylee Branson and great-grandchildren, Julia & Jace Wratchford, Roosevelt & Holder Weese, Bray Branson and Carter Joy.

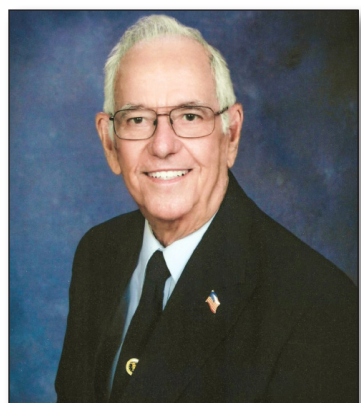
A Celebration of Life will be held 2:00 PM Saturday, October 12, 2024, at the Fraley Funeral Home Chapel, 107 Washington Street with Chris Whetzel officiant. This will give family, friends, and community members the opportunity to pay their respects and share fond memories of a

remarkable woman who touched many hearts.

Greta's compassion, warmth, and love will live on in the hearts of all who had the privilege of knowing her. In her memory, the family requests donations be made to Baker's Chapel United Methodist Church, c/o Elen Harper, 6573 US HWY 220 S, Moorefield, WV 26836; Pink Ladies (Breast Cancer Survivors), 507 Evening Sun Drive, Moorefield, WV 26836; The Joy Coby Foundation, 1508 Hutter Rd, Fisher, WV 26818 or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741.

To offer condolences, share memories, or upload photos in honor of Greta's extraordinary life, visit her Tribute Wall at www.fraleyfuneralhome.com and celebrate the impact she made on all those around her.

Robert R. Johnson



Robert Ray Johnson, 93, of Titusville, Florida and formerly of Broadway, VA died Sept. 24, 2024 at Camden Clark Medical Center in Parkersburg. He was born March 4, 1931 at

home in Clifton (Mason County), WV, and was a son to the late Fred and Lucy VanMeter Johnson.

Robert started his career with WV State parks and recreation in 1965 as an assistant superintendent at Tygart Lake State Park in Grafton. He then served as superintendent of Lost River State Park in Mathias, where he created a nature trail for the blind. He served as a superintendent at Watoga State Park in Marlinton, assistant chief of parks in Charleston, and retired as superintendent from Black Water Falls State Park in 1989 after creating the handicap accessible overlook.

Robert graduated from Parkersburg High School in 1949, where he

was the first state wrestling champion for P.H.S. He graduated with a BS from Marietta College in 1963.

After graduating from Marietta, he taught Biology for a year at P.H.S. He served in the U.S. Air Force, participating in the Korean War and Operation Just Cause, and retired as MSGT after 22 years of service. During his military career, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, WV Meritorious Service Medal, WV Meritorious Medal and WV Achievement Medal. He was a member of American Legion Post #359 in Port St. John, FL, and a past member/president of Mathias Ruritan Club.

On Dec. 14, 1975 he married the former Mamie Sager, who preceded him in death on Jan. 25, 2007.

Surviving him are two sons, Dr. Robert R. Johnson, II and wife Sandy, of MI and Timothy Lee Johnson and wife Carlotta, of MO; two daughters, Adrienne "Addie" Celeste Henderson and husband Bob, of Parkersburg, and Sylvia Lynn Meadows and husband Bob, of Parkersburg; two stepdaughters, Carolyn S. Burrough, of Broadway and Sandra S. Stewart, of Mathias; two nieces, Joyce Johnson Cline of FL and Sue Johnson Hilliard of WV; two nephews, Larry Johnson of WV and David Johnson of VA; numerous grandchildren; great grandchildren; and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his

brother, Harry Martin Johnson; a step-daughter, Sharon S. "Beeb" Shumate; two stepsons, Douglas Sager and Arlen "Stooge" Sager; one nephew, Speedy Johnson; and sons-in-law Les Stewart, David Burrough, and Ralph Mathias.

Rev. Ed Pruitt conducted a funeral service Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024 at the Grandle Funeral Home Chapel in Broadway, VA. Burial with military honors followed at Zion Mennonite Cemetery near Broadway.

A viewing was held at the funeral home prior to the service at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Amedysis Hospice, 17 Grand Park Dr Ste 206, Parkersburg, WV 26105.

Thank you to WVU Camden Clark

With Great Thanks

There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt gratitude for the sympathy, love and support so many have extended to our family during our time of loss. Your support during this difficult time will always be remembered.

Dennis, Morgan (Hill-See) and David Hill



SPORTS

Cougars pounced for 54 unanswered points in rout over Warriors

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

East Hardy made the long haul to Dunmore and battled through a beleaguered first quarter trailing Pocahontas County 6-0 before the Cougars awakened and pounced ferociously for 54 unanswered points in commanding a 54-6 win against the Warriors on Friday night.

"[Slow start] That's attributed to a lack of attention to detail and that's where it is going to get you. That's where we had our little talk like [Shawn] Bodkin said. You can't underestimate anybody and you have to execute. I don't care what they are doing and the different looks they are giving us, we have given these guys the tools to be successful against whatever they've seen. We've seen just about everything you can see this year facing a different defense almost every single week. There's really no excuses. There is no more time for excuses. I don't care if you slipped in the mud and gave up a big play and that's what we did. I don't want excuses anymore, we just have to be better. They were very receptive to that," East Hardy coach Devon Orndorff commented.

"This group is a very hard-nosed group. We are struggling at times, but you saw what we are capable of in the third quarter and that's our expectations going forward. We have to play every quarter like we started the second half tonight. We are going to need that, because we are going to face some tough opponents coming up. I'm very happy with how our guys responded, but

we need to stop giving that up. We have given up a touchdown in every game and that's our starters, too. Once we give up a touchdown, we seem to settle down. A win is a win, but we are shooting ourselves in the foot with opening drives every game. This isn't East Hardy Football and that's where our focus is going to be defensively. Offensively, we have some things going well with [Price] Strawderman running his tail off and [Brayden] Gregory slinging the ball to multiple receivers. We have weapons in place, but we need to focus on our defense. We played some very good teams in the beginning and could have won two of them. We weren't ready for Wahama and we need to be ready for Wahama, because we could face them again in the playoffs. We want the best and they have proved to be the best in single A, in my opinion. Dropped some games we shouldn't have dropped and that grabbed their attention and we have had their full focus for a while. I am proud of them for doing what they are capable of doing. Talent doesn't equate wins. We have to show up to practice with focus and pay attention to every single little detail and keep playing East Hardy Football."

The Cougars got into Pocahontas County territory on the opening drive prior to a setback of a penalty and two sacks resulted in a punt.

Pocahontas County began on its own 20 yard line after a touchback and Haydon Moore rushed for nine yards and added another five yards for a first down with tackles by East Hardy's Eli Mathias and Trevor Roof.

A Cougars defender slipped to

the ground in the mud allowing Morgan Beverage to make a catch for 33 yards for the Warriors and moving the chains at the East Hardy 3-yard line.

Three plays later, Pocahontas County's Devon Burgess made a 21-yard diving touchdown catch and the kick was blocked by Nick Roomsburg and Eli Mathias for a 6-0 edge at 2:07.

East Hardy faced fourth down and short from the 43-yard line to start the second quarter, but a fumble on the snap gave the Warriors possession on the 32-yard line.

The first pass went awry, then East Hardy's Shawn Bodkin and Sean O'Callaghan made a tackle on a screen pass to Beverage netting just two yards.

Pocahontas County's Logan Keatley made a catch for no gain with at tackle by Bodkin at the 30-yard line.

The Warriors went for it on fourth down and the pass went too far with East Hardy taking over on downs.

On second down, East Hardy's Price Strawderman made a spin move and gained eight yards.

East Hardy quarterback Brayden Gregory eluded danger in the backfield and dashed down the sidelines, but there was a block in the back penalty and the ball was placed at the 48-yard line which was enough for a first down.

Strawderman powered through a group of Warriors for a first down rushing 11 yards to the 41.

Strawderman escaped the clutches of the Warriors and rattled off 41 yards for a game-tying touchdown and the extra point kick by Levi

Price put the Cougars ahead 7-6 at 7:20.

A couple of penalties on the kickoff moved Pocahontas County back to its nine yard line.

The ensuing snap was fumbled and East Hardy's Maddox Richard garnered a sack, but a personal foul was called on the play creating a first down at the 23.

Pocahontas County's Austin Price rushed for ten yards to move the chains, then Richard made a tackle on a one yard carry for the Warriors.

A pass went too wide and the Warriors punted with a return by East Hardy's Chase Rexrode to the 39.

Strawderman's huge carry into the red zone was negated on a holding call.

East Hardy's Khristian Bauserman made a leaping catch en route to a first down on a 39 yard play to the Warriors 32.

Gregory launched the ball to the end zone with four players converging in the air on it for a deflection which was nearly caught by the Cougars falling to the ground.

The Cougars went to the air again with Strawderman making a catch for six yards, then added ten yards for a first down in the red zone at the 16.

Strawderman moved the chains at the four yard line.

East Hardy's Garrett Van Meter punched the ball up the gut for a four yard touchdown with help from the linemen for a 13-6 lead with 1:49 left in the first half.

Pocahontas County made two plays totaling four yards to its own 24 yard line with the Cougars



East Hardy's Dayton Dove and Khristian Bauserman battled for the ball against Pocahontas County's Morgan Beverage and Anthony Bennett in the end zone during last Friday's game in Dunmore.

quickly calling timeouts in hope of getting the ball back on offense before halftime.

However, the East Hardy defense made magic of its own as Shawn Bodkin stripped the ball away and returned it 25 yards for a touchdown with 1:17 to go and Levi Price's kick put the Cougars up 20-6.

"We really needed it [strip fumble TD] and I'm glad we got it. It was a rough first quarter, but I think we picked up our stuff and played how we should. [Focus] First quarter we were definitely off. I don't know if we underestimated them, but after that the coaches had a talk with us and we played the way we are supposed to play," East Hardy senior Shawn Bodkin noted.

Richard made a sack on the next Warriors drive and O'Callaghan got

a tackle at the 20 yard line sending the game into halftime.

Pocahontas County made a short second half opening kickoff which deflected off of East Hardy's Nehemiah Graham, who quickly pounced on the ball at the 36-yard line.

The Cougars pounced for a touchdown as Strawderman broke loose from a defender and bolted 64 yards for the score with Price adding the kick for a 27-6 advantage at 11:41.

East Hardy's defense forced a three and out punt for the Warriors with a tackle by Roomsburg and pass deflection by Dayton Dove.

Rexrode returned the punt to the Pocahontas County 41-yard line.

Bodkin made a diving catch along the sidelines spanning 37 yards

continued on page 10

Act Two: Moorefield Volleyball secures five set win over Vikings

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

During the previous meeting in the Hive it was the Vikings emerging victorious in five sets, but the second act featured the Yellow Jackets buzzing to a five set win on the road in Petersburg last Thursday: 10-25, 25-23, 25-19, 21-25 and 17-15.

Moorefield Volleyball shook off a rocky start and rallied to take the next two sets with more focus, then tripped up in the fourth set before sealing the win in the decisive fifth set to even the season series.

"Me and the coach commented that we must like playing each other. I like those types of games and he does, too. It's good competition. We've seen each other twice now and it was just last week. I didn't recognize Moorefield Yellow Jackets in the first set. It was tough watching, honestly. We made some changes and had a freshman in there and a couple sophomores in there and they stepped up. I think the girls that had to come out and sit on the bench and watch, they were supportive. What a game. It was a good game," Moorefield Volleyball coach Kellan Snyder remarked.

The Vikings took a 4-0 lead in the first set with the help of errors during attacks made by Miley Tingler.

After a wide serve by Petersburg, Moorefield responded with an ace served by CiCi Kump and Elektra Sions tapped over a point off a set from Sydney Rumer to slice the deficit to 4-3.

The Vikings regained momentum with points from Addy Day, Teila Thorne and Ayden Mayfield on attacks, plus two con-



Moorefield's Elektra Sions leapt for a block along with Sydney Rumer on a push attack from Petersburg's Ayden Mayfield.

secutive aces by Tingler in building a 12-5 edge.

Moorefield's Raleigh Kuykendall blocked a volley, then Petersburg answered with a kill from Addy Kitzmiller.

The Yellow Jackets had six hits go awry as Petersburg took a 19-7 lead.

Petersburg's Claire Kaposy delivered three aces for a 24-9 lead.

After an error, Moorefield's CiCi Kump served an ace.

The Vikings closed the first set with a spike by Tingler for a 25-10 win.

There was a lengthy time to confirm the rotation order, then the second set commenced.

Moorefield's Sydney Rumer blocked a volley and it was saved by the Vikings with a return shot by Miley Tingler landing just out of reach of a dive from Aubrey Kidwell.

The Yellow Jackets responded with a spike by Elektra Sions.

Moorefield's Seanna Heavner served and a block by Annie Barr landed out on an attack by Tingler.

Kuykendall blocked a shot

for a point and another volley from the Vikings went askew as Moorefield took a 4-3 edge.

Petersburg stormed back for an 11-5 lead on attacks by Day and Mayfield and a block from Thorne.

A few Vikings errors enabled Moorefield to shift the momentum and Heavner served up an ace, then Rumer slammed a volley to cut the deficit to 14-13.

The Vikings were able to grab a 20-15 lead, but the Yellow Jackets refused to fold.

A couple errors and two aces served by Kidwell, plus a block by Sions closed the gap to 20-19.

After point by Mayfield, the Vikings served into the net.

Kump sandwiched two aces around a serve returned out of play as Moorefield commanded a 23-21 lead.

Petersburg tied the set on kills by Mayfield and Kitzmiller and regained the lead on a block from Day.

However, during that time the service personnel was out of order negating the points earned and Moorefield was back ahead

Cougars Cross Country made solid trek in Keyser

East Hardy Cross Country made solid strides in the inaugural Charlie Kuh Cross Country Invitational held in Keyser last Saturday.

Kuh coached Keyser Cross Country in the 1980's and 1990's with a second time at the helm during the 2003 and 2004 seasons, in addition to being a history teacher for 40 years.

Kuh was recognized by former alumni under his guidance and handed out the awards to the cross country runners which included Washington Girls team champions and Keyser Boys team champions.

Musselman Girls Cross Country's Sadie Yates won the individual crown with a time of 19:31.83.

Paw Paw Boys Cross Country's Donovan Tanouye won the individual title with a time of 16:38.89.

The top ten individual run-

ners for the girls and boys were honored with medals.

East Hardy Girls Cross Country's Gracie Heishman was consistent with another Top-25 finish with a 21st place time of 24:39.06 at the Charlie Kuh Invitational.

Brianna Hamilton took 43rd overall with a time of 27:56.64 for the Cougars.

East Hardy Boys Cross Country's Jonathan Montgomery finished in 27th place with a time of 20:08.96 in Keyser.

The Charlie Kuh Invitational course began next to the high school in the discuss field, then went along the third base side of the baseball field and around the outfield down on a trail entering the woods with mulch helping to assuage the mud and back up a hill behind the baseball field and around the football field complex on a gravel road back down

behind the high school and wrapping back around to the football field finishing on the tack.

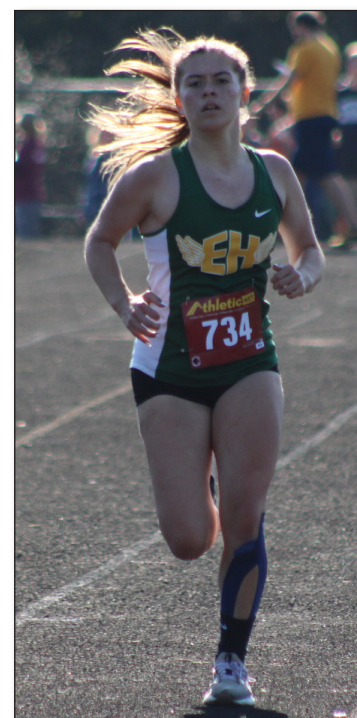
There was a giant circle of prayer by the boys cross country competitors prior to the race.

There were numerous spectators lining the course to show support of the runners during this inaugural Charlie Kuh Invitational.

East Hardy Cross Country coach Devin Hamilton noted the need for motivation to improve on each mile during a race and was pleased with the consistency this year.

The next cross country meet for the Cougars was in Parsons at the Camp Kidd 4-H Camp yesterday.

East Hardy will compete in the Potomac Valley Conference Cross Country Championship in Parsons on October 15.



East Hardy Cross Country competed in the inaugural Charlie Kuh Invitational in Keyser: Brianna Hamilton - 27:56.64, Gracie Heishman - 24:39.06 and Jonathan Montgomery - 20:08.96

continued on page 12



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FRIDAY NIGHT FRENZY



East Hardy Player of the Week



Shawn Bodkin

Crowd Shot of the Week



Moorefield Player of the Week



Aiden Jones

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PICKS

Week 7	MATT NELSON	SAM WILLIAMS	JUDY BALL	DRAKE BAKER	NATHAN WALTERS	BRANDON BARB	TJ DAWSON	MATT MARTIN	ANGEL BERGDALL
Record:	16/9	15/10	14/11	12/13	14/11	14/11	16/9	17/8	9/6
Moorefield VS Tucker County	Tucker County	Moorefield	Tucker County	Tucker County	Tucker County	Tucker County	Tucker County	Tucker County	Moorefield
East Hardy VS Hampshire	East Hardy	East Hardy	East Hardy	Hampshire	East Hardy	Hampshire	East Hardy	East Hardy	Hampshire
Petersburg Bye Week	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Keyser VS John Marshall	Keyser	Keyser	Keyser	John Marshall	John Marshall	Keyser	Keyser	John Marshall	John Marshall

WEEK 6 SCORES East Hardy 54 Pocahontas 6, Petersburg 6 Doddridge 40, Keyser 55 Weir 12, Hampshire 37 Northern Garrett 15

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NOTICE
 The Green Hill Cemetery, Purgettsville is getting low on funds for mowing Anyone with lots please send dues of 25\$ c/o Norma Markwood 1112 JC Markwood RD Purgettsville WV 26852

YARD SALE
 Rain or Shine
 Porch sale Oct. 11& 12 from 9:00 AM to 5 PM at walnut bottom RD Fisher, WV Christmas items, pots and pans pig figurines & alot more 434-2077 Pyrex, Vision ware pots, Home Interior Angels

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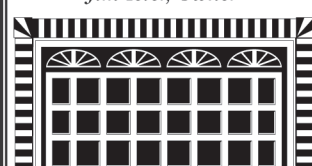
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NOW HIRING

Hardy County Committee on Aging
 is accepting applications for the following full-time position:

Administrative Assistant/Financial Manager

The Administrative Assistant/Financial Manager will be responsible for administrative responsibilities assigned by the Executive Director, overseeing the recording, classifying and reporting of all funds received and disbursed during the fiscal year, including the responsibility to insure and monitor compliance with Federal, State and Upper Potomac Area Agency conditions and requirements, especially deadlines, and perform general human resources support and bookkeeping activities related to payroll, accounts receivable and accounts payable in coordination with professional accounting firm.

A college degree in a related field preferred for this position but not required and experience in an administrative role, preferably in a bookkeeping/HR role will be considered. The salary range is commensurate with education and experience, with a benefit package including health insurance and participation in a retirement program.

This position begins January 1, 2025.

Interested individuals should send a letter of interest, 2 letters of recommendation (not from relatives) and resume to Judy Patterson HCCOA, 317 Winchester Ave., Moorefield, WV 26836. This packet must be received by 3 p.m. on November 8, 2024.
 HCCOA is an equal opportunity employer.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR HARDY COUNTY LEPC

The Hardy County LEPC is required to give public notice to the citizens of Hardy County once annually for the public to be able to review the Hardy County Emergency Response Plan.

The purpose of the LEPC is spelled out in the Emergency planning and Community Right-to-know Act (EPCRAP). These laws establish LEPCs as a forum at the local level for action in matters pertaining to Hazardous Materials planning. The general public may review the plan at the Office of Emergency Service, 157 Freedom Way, Moorefield, WV, between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. on October 22, 2024.

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Coins: Benjamin, Half dollars, Ike Dollars, Kennedy Halves, and more.

Auctioneers: Owner: Private
 Dexter Armentrout, 1420
 Josh Nesselrodt, 2279

Auctioneers note: Will be adding numerous items day of sale. Check auctionzip.com for updated listing.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S REAL ESTATE DELINQUENT LIST

Notice is hereby given that the following described tracts or lots of land or undivided interests therein in the County of Hardy and the tax liens that encumber the same which are delinquent for the nonpayment of taxes for the year (or years) 2023, will be certified to the Auditor for disposition pursuant to West Virginia Code §11A-3-44 on the 31st day of October, 2024.

Table with columns: Name of Person Charged with Taxes, Property, Amount Due. Lists numerous property owners and their delinquent tax amounts.

Table with columns: MYERS ANNA L & RENICK E, HELMICK BY WILL, etc. Lists various individuals and their associated legal notices or property details.

SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the authority vested in the undersigned Special Commissioners, namely, Duke A. McDaniel and Nathan H. Walters, by virtue of that certain Initial Hearing Order, entered within Grant County, West Virginia Civil Action No. 24-C-3, by the Honorable James W. Carrier Jr., Grant County Circuit Court Judge, and styled as Naomi Jean Kimble, Plaintiff v. Grant Edward Kimble & New Creek Wind, LLC, Defendants. Your undersigned Special Commissioners will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder(s) at the backdoor of the Grant County Courthouse, located at 5 Highland Avenue, Petersburg, West Virginia 26847, on

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2024 AT NOON—12:00 PM.

the following described tract or parcel of real estate: All that certain tract or parcel of real estate containing 313.09 acres, more or less, lying and being situate in Union District, of Grant County, West Virginia, and designated as Parcel 21 on Tax Map 208 of the Union District of Grant County, West Virginia Assessment records.

The aforesaid 313.09-acre tract or parcel of real estate is more particularly described as follows: "All that certain tract or parcel of real estate containing 315.09 acres, more or less, by calculation of the Grant County, West Virginia Assessment records, together with any and all rights, rights-of-way, structures, minerals, easements, improvements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying and being situate in Union District, Grant County, West Virginia, and being considered as the residue of an original tract containing 370 acres, with said 370 acre tract being more particularly described by metes and bounds in that certain Deed from Delphia M. Hanlin unto Vauda H. Kimble, with said Deed dated August 2, 1972, of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Hardy County, West Virginia in Deed Book 101, at Page 265. LESS HOWEVER, an 11.00 acre out-conveyance unto the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, by that certain Deed from Grant E. Kimble, Naomi J. Kimble, and Loyd W. Kimble, with said Deed dated September 28, 2007, and of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 238, at Page 77. LESS HOWEVER, a 40.08 acre out-conveyance unto the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, by that certain Deed from Grant E. Kimble, Naomi J. Kimble, and Loyd W. Kimble, with said Deed dated October 17, 2007, and of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 238, at Page 83. LESS HOWEVER, a 0.01 acre out-conveyance unto the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways by that certain Deed from Grant Edward Kimble, Naomi Jean Kimble, and Loyd W. Kimble, with said Deed dated February 11, 2009, and of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 248, at Page 678. LESS HOWEVER, a 0.85 acre out-conveyance unto Blomdell M. Arbogast by that certain Deed from Grant E. Kimble and Naomi Jean Kimble, with said Deed dated June 9, 2016, and of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 274, at Page 643." LESS HOWEVER, a 2.00 acre out-conveyance to Naomi J. Kimble, by that certain Deed from Duke A. McDaniel and Nathan H. Walters, in their capacity as Special Commissioners, relative to Grant County Civil Action 24-C-3, with said Deed dated September 3, 2024, and of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 315, at page 103. Reference is also made to the Last Will & Testament of Vauda H. Kimble, also of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Will Book 10, at page 472.

This is a sale in gross and is sold in an "as is" condition. Said tract or parcel of real estate will be conveyed subject to any and all restrictions, reservations, covenants, conditions, easements, or rights-of-way granted, reserved, or provided for in any and all prior instruments in the chain of title.

The real estate taxes associated with the aforementioned tract or parcel of real estate will be prorated as of the closing date and will be therefor paid by the purchaser(s) of the above referenced tract or parcel of real estate. The highest bidder(s) shall also be responsible for the excise tax on the transfer of the subject real estate and for the cost of the preparation of the Deed conveying the aforementioned real estate to the highest bidder(s). The sale of the real estate is subject to the confirmation of the Circuit Court of Grant County, West Virginia.

The above tract or parcel of real estate offered for sale herein will be conveyed unto the highest bidder(s) by Special Warranty Deed from your undersigned Special Commissioners. TERMS: A one hundred-thousand-dollar (\$100,000.00) deposit in cash, cashier's check, or certified check on the above referenced day of sale will be required with regard to the tract or parcel of real estate offered for sale herein, with the balance thereof to be paid in full upon the delivery of the Special Warranty Deed, which said delivery shall take place not more than thirty (30) days subsequent to confirmation of the sale by the Circuit Court of Grant County, West Virginia. Failure to close within the applicable time frame will cause a forfeiture of the deposit paid.

Prospective bidders are invited to contact Auctioneer, Bruce "Icky" Hyre Jr., (WV#494) (304) 257-3134, Special Commissioner, Duke A. McDaniel, (304) 257-4377, or Special Commissioner, Nathan H. Walters, (304) 530-6618 to view and/or inspect the real estate and to make any inquiries related thereto. Please also visit auctionzip.com for additional information and pictures depicting the real estate offered for sale.

Duke A. McDaniel, Esq. Special Commissioner 304 Virginia Avenue Petersburg, WV 26847 (304) 257-4377 Nathan H. Walters, Esq. Special Commissioner Walters & Heishman, PLLC PO Box 119 Moorefield, WV 26836 (304) 530-6618 I, Melanie Biggs, do hereby certify that bond with approved surety, as provided by said Court, has been executed before me by the said Special Commissioners.

Melanie Biggs, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Grant County, West Virginia

Notice of Ancillary Filing without any Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees. Notice is hereby given that the following foreign will or affidavit of heirs has been filed in the Hardy County Clerk's Office at 204 Washington Street, Room 111 Moorefield, WV 26836-0200, and no appointment or administration is being made pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code 41-5-13.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE. Under authority of that certain Deed of Trust dated July 24, 2023, from Bryant Alexander Ketterman to Marc B. Lazenby, Trustee, of record in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Hardy County, West Virginia in Trust Deed Book No. 347, at page 263, securing a promissory note in the principal amount of \$104,882.11, payable to Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc., and default having been made under the promissory note secured by the aforesaid Deed of Trust and sale requested by Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc., the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale at the front door of the Hardy County Courthouse in Moorefield, West Virginia, on October 24, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., subject to all reservations, exceptions, easements and other matters which appear of record, and subject to all unpaid taxes, if any, all that certain lot, tract or parcel of real estate containing 2.10 acres, more or less, together with any and all rights, rights of way, structures, minerals, easements, improvements and appurtenances thereunto belonging lying and being situate in the South Fork District, Hardy County, West Virginia, and being designated as Lot 2, of the Whipplow Hill Subdivision, and being more particularly described by that certain Plat of Survey by Kennis F. Snyder, Licensed Land Surveyor. Reference is made to that certain master plat of survey of Whipplow Hill Subdivision as prepared by Kennis L. Snyder, L.L.S., which is of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Hardy County, West Virginia, in Map Book 5 Page 53. Being the same real estate conveyed to Bryant Alexander Ketterman from Bobbi Jo Wilkins by deed dated March 16, 2021, recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Hardy County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 358 at page 104. This conveyance is subject to any and all reservations, restrictions, covenants, conditions, easements, or rights-of-way granted, reserved, or provided for in any and all instruments in the chain of title. Specific mention is made of that Dedication of Whipplow Hill Subdivision Restrictions, Conditions, and Reservations, of record in the above Clerk's Office at Deed Book 238 Page 95 to which reference is made for all pertinent purposes.

Notice of Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees. Notice is hereby given that the following estate(s) has been opened for probate in the Hardy County Clerk's Office at 204 Washington Street, Moorefield, WV 26836-0200. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provisions of West Virginia Code 41-5-11 through 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court, shall file notice of an objection with the County Commission within 60 days after the date of the first publication or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred. Any person interested in filing claims against an estate must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-2 and 44-3 and/or 44-1-14A(10).

Settlement of the estate(s) of the following named decedent(s) will proceed without reference to a fiduciary commissioner unless within 60 days from the first publication of this notice a reference is requested by a party of interest or an unpaid creditor files a claim and good cause is shown to support reference to a fiduciary commissioner. If no reference to a fiduciary commissioner is listed herein, claims against the estate(s) will be filed in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-1-14A(10).

The Hardy County Commission is inviting sealed bids for police vehicles. The vehicles are described as follows: - Current model year Dodge Durango Pursuit All Wheel Drive - 5.7-liter HEMI engine, 8-speed automatic transmission - Black clear coat, cloth bucket seats with rear vinyl seat - Front and rear wiring harness - Skid plate group Additional specifications can be obtained by contacting JI Miller at the Hardy County Sheriff's Office at 204 Washington Street, Moorefield, WV 26836 or by calling 304-530-0222. The Hardy County Commission will open and publicly read the bids at a public meeting on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, in the Hardy County Commission Meeting at 9 a.m. Please mail or deliver bids by Wednesday, October 23, 2024, to the following address: Hardy County Commission ATTN: Police Vehicles 204 Washington Street Moorefield, WV 26836 10/9/10/16

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF HARDY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA. Kristina Dawn Skipper serve upon Bradley Scott Skipper (Circuit Clerk's Office, whose address is 204 Washington Street room 237 Moorefield D-59) an Answer, including any related counterclaim or defense you may have to the Petition For Divorce filed in this action on or before November 15, 2024. If you fail to answer the Petition, a judgment may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition. A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk's Office. Entered by the Clerk of said Court Family/Circuit J. J. Shockey 10/9/10/16

Vikings won region golf title & East Hardy's Jordan Teets is state bound as low medalist champion

Petersburg claimed the Class A Region II Golf championship at Canaan Valley Resort among a 13-team field and East Hardy senior Jordan Teets was the overall low-medalist earning a state bid in Wheeling.

The Vikings collected the Class A Region crown with a team score of 244 and will be joined in Wheeling by runner-up Gilmer County finishing four strokes behind at 248.

Teets notched the lowest individual score of 78 to earn a third consecutive trip to Oglebay Resort with the last two times as a member of the entire Cougars team including last season's regional title.

Tygarts Valley's Avery Row-Sponaugle garnered the second lowest individual score with 79 strokes to accompany Teets as a state bound low-medalist.

Teets recently injured his hand, but was able to make the grip in Tucker County to swing for a state bid.

"Pretty excited considering Thursday I was working in the butcher shop and I cut my hand and a couple nerves. Two days ago I couldn't even pick up a golf club because my hand was hurting so much and now it healed enough. There were a couple times out there today where I chucked it or hit it thin and my finger was hurting through the shaft. But for being my senior, qualifying for the state tournament is great and going out on the high side. Somebody would have told me I was the low medalist today, I would have told them they are full of crap considering I hurt my finger. It feels great. When you finish in the first group and you don't know what the other scores it makes you feel stressed waiting until the other groups finish to know where you placed. Once they finished, it was a relief. [Rain] Greens were soaked. Some putts were fast and some putts were slow. It was get-

ting hard getting the right pace on every green. You had to walk up there and find out if it was a sponge or firm before you even putted. I had a birdie on hole seven and that was my only birdie all day, so I guess that was my favorite hole today," East Hardy Golf senior Jordan Teets commented.

Doddridge County placed third overall with 257 points, followed by Tygarts Valley 265, Moorefield 266, Tucker County 292, East Hardy 300, Braxton County 323, Pendleton County 334, Trinity Christian 334, Union 367, Calhoun County 385 and Notre Dame 469.

It was a slick day at the golf course with overnight rain and spots of rain coming down in the second half of the match which created fast greens and sloppy strokes with muddy sections along the pathway.

East Hardy junior Shayne Sisler exclaimed his feet were wet and was glad to have remembered to bring an extra pair of socks to change at the end of the match.

Moorefield's streak of sending either an individual or team representative to the state tournament since 2007 came to an end as the Yellow Jackets finished fifth place overall and the low medalist on the team didn't make

the cut.

Moorefield junior Drake Kimble came the closest to qualifying with a score of 83 and was just four strokes shy of the second place individual state bid mark.

Moorefield seniors kept their score below 100 strokes as Dylan Colasessano shot a 92 and Tyler Miller recorded a 99, while freshman Austin Arbaugh rounded out the scoring for the Yellow Jackets at 105.

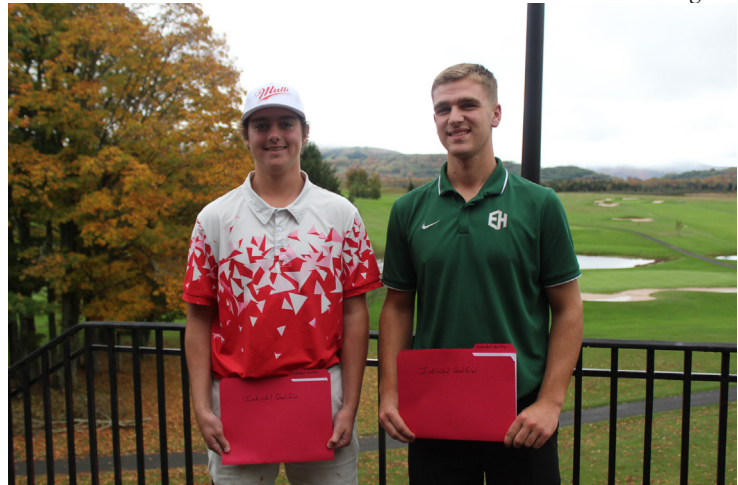
Teets paced the Cougars with a state qualifying score of 78, followed by juniors Shayne Sisler with 98 points, Patrick Mills 124 and Eli Combs completed the team score at 147.

Teets had a lone birdie on hole number seven for the entire regional competition.

Class A Region II team champion Petersburg was guided by Payton Berg and Lucas Riggleman with 79 points apiece, followed by Colton Taylor at 86 and John William Minnich at 87.

Class A Region II team runner-up Gilmer County was paced by Braylon Mercer with a score of 81.

Teets and Row-Sponaugle will accompany Petersburg and Gilmer County this Tuesday and Wednesday at the WVSSAC State Golf Tournament in Wheeling.



State Golf Bound: Class A Region II Tournament individual low medalists Tygarts Valley's Avery Row-Sponaugle and East Hardy's Jordan Teets will join regional team champion Petersburg (below) and runner-up team Gilmer County (not pictured) in Wheeling.



Yellow Jackets shutout Pendleton County Middle School in shortened game

The Yellow Jackets buzzed out to a 48-nil halftime advantage over Pendleton County Middle School at Yellow Jacket Field last Wednesday, then the Wildcats decided to forfeit the second half as the game officially concluded.

Moorefield Middle School is credited with the victory and remains undefeated this season.

"I have never seen a game end this way in all the years I have been coaching. It is unfortunate for our second string players not having the opportunity for more playing time. We will take the win and prepare for our next game," Moorefield Middle School Football coach Eric Linville stated.

The Yellow Jackets got the scoring started as Bill Ware dashed 63 yards for a touchdown at the 7:18 mark of the first quarter and Zakk Keolinger added the two-point conversion for an 8-0 edge.

After a huge pass play by the Wildcats into Moorefield Middle School territory, Pendleton County Middle School committed a fumble with Keplinger making the recovery for the Yellow

Jackets at the 31-yard line.

On the first play from scrimmage on the ensuing possession, Moorefield Middle School's Matthew Iman rushed 69 yards for a touchdown and the extra point kick went awry, 14-0.

The Wildcats punted on the next series with Moorefield Middle School taking over on the 33-yard line.

Ware broke free from a tackle attempt and cruised 67 yards for a touchdown with Iman adding the extra point kick giving Moorefield Middle School a 21-0 lead with 3:09 left in the first quarter.

Ware hasn't been tackled in any game this season.

Pendleton County Middle School was forced to punt without gaining a first down as Iman made a big sack.

Iman eluded a diving tackle and sped off 55 yards for a Moorefield Middle School touchdown and added the kick for a 28-0 lead.

Keplinger created an interception for the Yellow Jackets and returned the ball to the six yard line with only 31 seconds re-



Moorefield Middle's Bill Ware denied a potential tackle by the Wildcats en route for a 63-yard touchdown run.

maining in the opening stanza.

Moorefield Middle School's Thomas Simmons garnered the final six yards for a touchdown and the kick was blocked as the Yellow Jackets carried a 34-nil advantage entering the second quarter over the Wildcats.

Pendleton County Middle School punted to start the second quarter.

The Yellow Jackets recorded a 24-yard touchdown run by Hector Luna-Davy and Keplinger executed a two-point conversion for a 42-0 lead.

2024 Hardy County Health and Wellness Center Youth Volleyball Teams

photos by Sweet Lemon Photography



**Capon Valley Bank (East Hardy Team)
Coach: Natalie Riggleman**

**Riley Riggleman
Celini Dunithan
Ashlynn Robison
Brooklyn Robison
Huntley Hose
Phynlee Rexrode
Zada Tusing**



**Old Dominion Realty
Coaches: Morgan See and Kellan Cumberland**

**Margo See
Darah See
Kate Cumberland
Grace Kimble
Hadley Weese
Reagan Funk
Chloe Sites
Chloe Mongold**



**Pendleton Community Bank
Coach: Alicia Crites and Ashley Fitzwater**

**Tatum Crites
Addison Fitzwater
Sofia Sevilla
Kinsley Vetter
Norah Williams
Emery Hearn
Skylar Williams**



**Enviroco (East Hardy Team)
Coach: Alicia Sanders**

**Calliope Sanders
Nataleigh Lafollette
Eva Wilkinn
Kyndall Gregory
Brelynn Brown
Lydia Rexrode**



**Summit Community Bank
Coaches: Serena Redman and Tara George**

**Laila Redman
Lacey George
Bianca Cleaver
Danica Mongold
Jacey Medler
Sophia Snyder
Jocalynn George
Lucca Dean**

Cougars pounced

continued from page 6
reaching the four yard line for the Cougars.

Strawderman capped off the two-play drive with a four yard touchdown run and Price's kick made it a 34-6 lead at 9:18.

Richard made a tackle for loss on second down, then a pass interference call on an overthrown pass out of bounds created a first down for the Warriors at the 30-yard line.

Pocahontas County failed to get another first down and punted away.

East Hardy started inside midfield with Strawderman collecting nine yard, then a pass went too deep beyond a dive from Bauserman.

Strawderman made spin move escaping at tackle for 12 yards and a first down at the 28.

A holding call's yardage was erased on a 15-yard run by Strawderman down to the 23.

Gregory connected with Levi Price on a diving touchdown pass covering 23 yard and Price added the kick for a 41-6 advantage with 4:01 remaining in the third quarter.

East Hardy's defense made a

strong showing which included a sack by Richard forcing a punt.

Gregory eluded trouble for a 21-yard run as East Hardy picked up a first down at the Warriors 32-yard line.

The chains were moved again on a ten yard carry by Strawderman to close out the third frame.

Rexrode rushed 14 yard for a first down deep in the red zone at the eight.

Strawderman pounded the ball twice to reach the one yard line, then Van Meter capped off the drive with a touchdown up the middle and Price's kick put East Hardy up 48-6 with 9:12 left in the fourth quarter.

East Hardy's Mason Wilkins recovered a fumble at the Warriors 33-yard line with 4:17 to go.

Mical Ludwig was flipped to the ground inches from the marker, then Graham collected the first down at the 22-yard line.

Wilkins caught. 22-yard touchdown pass from Trevor Roof as the Cougars took a 54-6 lead at 1:24.

East Hardy improved to 3-3 on the season with the 54-6 victory in Dunmore.

Strawderman rushed for a game-high 225 yards on 18 carries with three touchdowns.

Gregory connected on 7-of-11 passes for 139 yards with one touchdown.

The Cougars host Hampshire (3-3) this Friday.

East Hardy Cross Country Results

39. Jonathan Montgomery - 21:36.70

September 28
Paul Clovis Cross Country Invitational
Hampshire High School
Sunrise Summit, WV

26. Gracie Heishman - 27:04.90

September 24
10th Annual Progressive Physical Therapy Cross Country
Invitational
Allegany Community College
Cumberland, MD

21. Jonathan Montgomery - 19:26
24. Gracie Heishman - 24:20
36. Brianna Hamilton - 26:49
Heishman and Montgomery received medals for Top-25 finishes

2024 Hardy County Health and Wellness Center Youth Flag Football Teams

photos by Sweet Lemon Photography



M&M Transportation
Coaches: Seth Snyder and Justin Dunn
 Bryer Hunt
 Justin Dunn Jr.
 Bronson Shobe
 Harper Gano
 Blake Mathias
 Dallas Welton
 Jackson See
 Lane Altobello
 Kysen Crites
 Avery Bailey
 Wyatt Martin



Pilgrims Pride CCP
Coaches: Philip Weese and John Weese
 Jude Weese
 Remi Weese
 Beckett Ritchie
 Hagen Medler
 Joseph Gilmer
 Cannon Malcolm
 Oakley Malcolm
 Garret Dyer
 Rhone Williams
 Jordy Keplinger
 Jonah George



South Branch Animal Hospital
Coaches: Tom Parisi and Andy Cumberland
 Chase Cumberland
 Matthew Parisi
 Tucker Constable
 Tyler Flynn
 Azalyn Baldwin
 Brantley Lindale
 Slade Plum
 Kamden Humphries
 Nash Markwood
 Joseph Dolan

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This position requires a bachelor's or master's degree in social work, social services, business administration, health services or 5 years' experience in a management role working with the elderly. The Executive Director is responsible for administering all activities of the HCCOA as well as evaluating programs and personnel. The salary range is commensurate with education and experience, with a benefit package including health insurance and participation in a retirement program.

This position begins January 1, 2025.

Interested individuals should send a letter of interest, 2 letters of recommendation (not from relatives) and resume to Judy Patterson HCCOA, 317 Winchester Ave., Moorefield, WV 26836.

This packet must be received by 3 p.m. on November 1, 2024.
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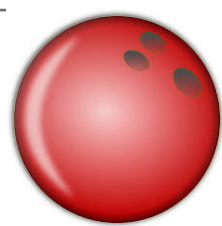
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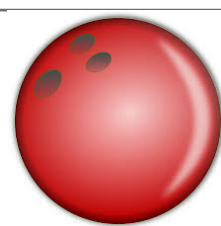
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Bowling news



ODD COUPLES MIXED LEAGUE 09/17/2024

TEAM STANDINGS: Terminators 19 - 1, Vetter's Guns & Ammo 15 - 5, Empire Strikes 14 - 6, WELD 11 - 9, Split Happens 10 - 10, Country Cars & Trucks 10 - 10, MMATFB 8 - 12, Family Traditions I 7 - 13, Family Traditions II 4 - 16, Happy Bowlers 2 - 18;
HIGH GAME MEN (SCRATCH): Cohan Kesner 279, Roger Earle 267, Jon Hedrick 245, Troy McGreevy 242;
(HANDICAP): Roger Earle 287, Kesner 279, Eric Whetzel 260, Mike Bennett 256;
HIGH SERIES MEN (SCRATCH): Jon Hedrick 684, Cohan Kesner 652, Phil Crews 650, Troy McGreevy 644;
(HANDICAP): Jon Hedrick 708, Phil Crews 698, Mike Bennett 681, Troy McGreevy 677;
HIGH AVERAGE (MEN): Cohan Kesner 232.00, Jon Hedrick 205.67, Troy McGreevy 200.13, Ed Wompler 198.87;
HIGH GAME WOMEN (SCRATCH): Ashley Wratchford 213, Carissa Michael 203, Sarah Earle 197, Emily Stark 195;
(HANDICAP): Paula Bergdoll 258, Ashley Wratchford 249, Jordan Ketterman 239, Emily Stark 239;
HIGH SERIES WOMEN (SCRATCH): Carissa Michael 579, Rachel Stark 542, Ashley Wratchford 542, Sarah Earle 528;
(HANDICAP): Rachel Stark 680, Paula

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HIGH SERIES WOMEN (SCRATCH): Carissa Michael 579, Rachel Stark 542, Ashley Wratchford 542, Sarah Earle 528;
(HANDICAP): Rachel Stark 680, Paula

Bergdoll 663, Ashley Wratchford 650, Emily Stark 645;
HIGH AVERAGE (WOMEN): Carissa Michael 199.53, Sarah Earle 177.20, Dee Anna McDonald 169.53, Ashley Wratchford 168.42;

THURSDAY NIGHT MENS LEAGUE 09/19/2024

TEAM STANDINGS: Golden Lanes 13 - 7, Balls Deep 13 - 7, Srikeforce 12 - 8, Vetter's Mini Mart 12 - 8, Chillmers 10 - 10, Vetter's Guns & Ammo 9 - 11, Petersburg Oil Company 9 - 11;
HIGH GAME (SCRATCH): Michael Hedrick 268, Cohan Kesner 267, Gary Leatherman 255, Don Himelright 227, Tyler Halterman 226;
(HANDICAP): Michael Hedrick 295, Nathan Timbrook 286, Gary Leatherman 284, Harry Timbrook 283, Cohan Kesner 277;
HIGH SERIES (SCRATCH): Cohan Kesner 749, Michael Hedrick 673, Tyler Halterman 641, Don Himelright 638, Jaxson Vetter 625;
(HANDICAP): Harry Timbrook 789, Cohan Kesner 779, Jaxson Vetter 760, Nathna Timbrook 755, Michael Hedrick 754;
HIGH AVERAGE: Cohan Kesner 224.60, Don Himelright 215.87, Tyler Halterman 208.67, Michael Hedrick 206.08, Evan Kesner 201.27, Zachary Arbaugh 198.78;

Bergdoll 663, Ashley Wratchford 650, Emily Stark 645;
HIGH AVERAGE (WOMEN): Carissa Michael 199.53, Sarah Earle 177.20, Dee Anna McDonald 169.53, Ashley Wratchford 168.42;

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Petersburg Golf set school record on senior night

Petersburg Golf celebrated senior night by setting a new school record for overall team score winning the final match at Valley View this season, while the Yellow Jackets took second place and the Cougars finished in third place.

The Vikings made program history with a team score of 147 points, followed by Moorefield with 165 points, East Hardy with 206 points, Petersburg B team with 209 points and Union completed the match with 210 points.

"I am very pleased with it. The guys have really fought hard the past two weeks. This is the third time we hit the school record in the past three weeks. It has been an amazing journey and hopefully we can keep this going the way we are. Lucas went out there and played a great round which tied the school record with Cameron Oates, who was a former golfer here. It is a great accomplishment for Lucas," Petersburg Golf coach Todd Heare stated.

All of the seniors for Hardy County and Grant County were recognized with family members walking the final hole with them and a special dinner was served at the conclusion of the match.

Vikings junior Lucas Riggleman tied a school record with an overall low medalist score of 33.

Petersburg senior Payton Berg notched a card of 36 and fellow senior John William Minnich shot a 39.

Colton Taylor rounded out the scoring for the Vikings with a 39.

Berg and Minnich have been three-time All-Potomac Valley Conference Golf champions and made appearances at the state tournament last season.

The team score of 165 was the best round for the Yellow Jackets this season.

The Yellow Jackets were paced by junior Drake Kimble with a second place low medalist card of 36.

Moorefield Golf senior duo of Dylan Colasessano and Tyler Miller both garnered 40 strokes apiece.

The Yellow Jackets team score was rounded out by sophomore Kail Greenwalt with 48 points.

"[MHS Golf] I think it means leadership and teamwork. If we have teamwork, then we will do well at regionals and might even make it to state. [Senior night] It felt pretty good. It was nice playing here for one more final match. I did play, but could have done a little better. You can always do better. Everybody has been improving as we've gone through the season. I think we will do pretty well at regionals," Moorefield senior Dylan Colasessano noted.

Colasessano and Miller competed at the state golf tournament two seasons ago as the regional champions and were alternates on the team appearance during their freshman year.

"[MHS Golf] It is great being a part of Moorefield Golf. We have so much energy together and have really gotten close. It brings us all together out here on the golf course and we continue to play together after practice. It is really fun. [Coach] Kevin makes it really fun for us. It was really special. I have enjoyed every minute of it. Every teammate has shown so much love. I started off kind of bad, but made some good holes in between and finished with a good hole and I am glad I did that. It was a good ender for my senior year. [Goals] So far they have been accomplished, but our next goal is to win at regionals and go to state," Moorefield senior Tyler Miller stated.

The rest of the Moorefield totals were: Austin Arbaugh and Trevor Baldwin 49, Tommy Parisi 51, Veronica Carr 52 and Marcus Creamann 54.

East Hardy Golf was guided by senior Jordan Teets with a card of 38, followed by Shayne Sisler with 52, Patrick Mills 53 and Eli Combs 63.

Petersburg's Lucas Riggleman was the caddie for Teets on the final hole during senior night.

Teets has been to the state golf tournament twice and looking for



Hardy County Golf Senior Night: East Hardy's Jordan Teets, Moorefield's Dylan Colasessano and Tyler Miller.

another opportunity to finish his career.

"Me and my brothers started the East Hardy Golf team three years ago. I started as a sophomore and went to the state tournament and now as a senior I hope I can go back. I can't believe it is already over. I hope they keep it going in the future with some more golfers. I know we only have three others this year and we will need one more to keep it going as a team next year. Hopefully, I can finish the dream of going to the state tournament and it will be sad when I have to leave. It was a nice ceremony. I tied for third, so it was good to finish senior night on a high note. Me and Lucas have known each other since sophomore year and we have played as number ones and got to know each other. We have always joked about him being my caddie and it was cool that it actually happened on senior night. I birdied the last hole with him as the caddie, so I might just have to hire him," East Hardy senior Jordan Teets remarked.

Union was led by senior Jacob Haynes with a card of 46, while fellow seniors Jacob Wolfe shot a 56 and Chanelee Sutton notched a 68.

Braylon Ward collected 52 points for the Tigers and Nicholas Palmer made a 56.

Petersburg B team was paced

by Ayden Gossard with a 44.

This was the final tune-up for the Class A Region II Golf Championship held at Canaan Valley on Monday with an opportunity to punch tickets to the state tournament in Wheeling on Oglebay Resort on October 8-9.

"We've gotten better. Tyler and Dylan have been good senior leaders for us. Even though Petersburg shot a phenomenal round, that might have been the best we've shot all year. Hopefully, we are heading in the right direction going into regionals. We have a tough task handling them. If we play as we are capable of doing, we have a chance of going to state. We have some tough competition and we know that. It is nice to end the regular season on a positive note with good scores. We had six people in the 40's which is good. I am going to miss Dylan and Tyler, because we had a lot of fun together and pick on each other all the time. I am more laid back than most coaches. I am just an overgrown kid myself. We have had a lot of fun and the older kids have done well. I plan to be back next year, but would like to have someone else step in who is better at golf to help with their swing. We are going out for a practice round at Canaan Valley to lay out the course for regionals on Monday," Moorefield Golf coach Kevin Reed concluded.



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Act Two:

continued from page 6

Another violation awarded a point to the Yellow Jackets, then a serve by Heavner was returned near the back line by Tingler and Moorefield started celebrating thinking it landed out for the final point and headed towards the bench only to hear a whistle with an indication a point was given to Petersburg.

The Yellow Jackets ended the second set with a kill from Rumer, 25-23.

Moorefield grabbed a 2-0 edge in the third set as Sions notched a kill and Kump served an ace.

Tingler recorded a spike, then the ensuing serve landed in the net.

Tingler's shot was blocked by Rumer with a save by Thorne and return point by Tingler.

Kitzmilller delivered two aces before hitting the net as the game was now tied at 4-all.

Moorefield's Carlee Haines created the lead serving an ace, but the next serve sailed out.

Keplinger garnered two kills for an 8-6 edge.

Petersburg tied the set at 9-all as Mayfield served an ace after making a spike.

Petersburg hit the net, then attacks by Rumer and Kump were returned out for a 12-9 lead.

The Yellow Jackets buzzed

ahead 20-13 due in part by blocks from Kuykendall and ace by Haines.

Petersburg started a rally as Makenah Shriver made two aces to cut the deficit to 20-17.

After a serve into the net, Kuykendall delivered an ace and another serve was returned away for a 23-17 score.

Thorne pushed a point through a block by Sions, then Sions responded with a spike.

Petersburg's Millie Kimble and Kitzmilller made saves and the Yellow Jackets returned the ball out.

Moorefield took the third set 25-19 as a serve landed into the net by the Vikings.

The Yellow Jackets corralled a

3-0 lead in the fourth set as Barr made a kill and Rumer notched a dink before a serve from Kump was returned out.

Barr gave the Yellow Jackets a 5-3 lead with a spike, then the Vikings got a couple points on attacks by Day.

Petersburg snatched a 12-9 lead with a kill by Kaposy, despite a block by Moorefield's Sions.

Kidwell slammed down a volley and delivered three aces as the Yellow Jackets rallied for a 14-13 lead.

The Vikings answered as Thorne scored three straight points on two kills and a block with the momentum carrying for an 18-14 lead as Mayfield served an ace.

Moorefield's Korbin Keplinger made a kill, then the Vikings committed two errors before an ace from Heavner sliced the deficit to 23-20.

Tingler notched a point off a block, then the ensuing serve hit the net.

Haines made a save, then a dig from Shriver was redirected back away to lift the Vikings to a 25-21 fourth set win forcing a tiebreaker.

The Vikings served into the

net to start the fifth set, then Heavner made a dig and Kump set Keplinger up for a spike.

Moorefield took a 2-1 lead on an ace from Kump, then Petersburg grabbed the lead on an error and kill by Thorne.

Keplinger slammed a volley to tie the set, then the Yellow Jackets regained the lead as Kidwell hammered a shot.

A few errors and kill by Day lifted Petersburg back up 8-5.

Moorefield responded with a spike by Kuykendall and Haines had a serve redirected off the ceiling and into the net.

A diving save by Keplinger going back over for a point was waved off and a jump ball was called making the score 9-8 for the Vikings.

Kuykendall created a spike and blocked a volley as Moorefield took the lead.

Kidwell served up an ace and Ana attack by Kuykendall was returned into the net for a 12-9 edge.

Kump made a save and Haines garnered a dig, then a shot from Day was returned into the net.

Petersburg's Kailee Armentrout served and the ball was sent back into the net, then a volley by Moorefield landed just

on the outside edge of the back line considered out of play as Petersburg locked up the set.

A kill from Kitzmilller and an error lifted the Vikings up 14-12.

Kuykendall made a save, then an attack was deflected into the net.

Keplinger smashed the ball to tie the fifth set at 14-all.

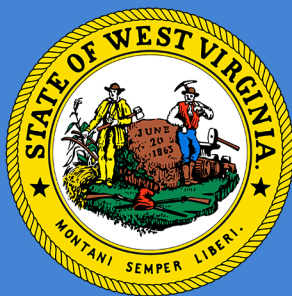
Crites and Kump made digs for the Yellow Jackets, then Petersburg's next attack went awry, 15-14.

Petersburg responded with a spike by Kaposy, then the ensuing serve went out.

Kump delivered sensational spin on the final serve which was deflected on a dig and couldn't be saved by the Vikings for the match winning point as the Yellow Jackets won 17-15 and 3-2 overall.

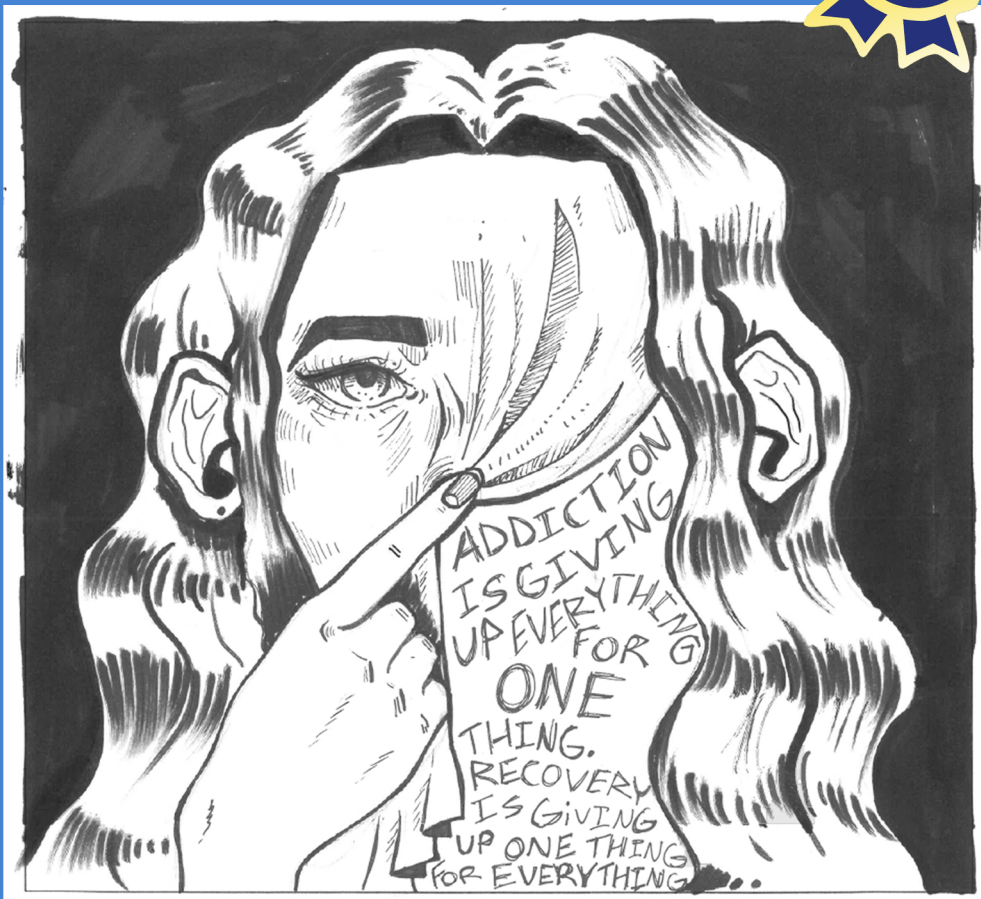
Moorefield JV Volleyball edged the Vikings 25-20 and 25-22 to get back on track after the loss to East Hardy.

"It was about like the last time. Two teams playing hard and it seemed like it was hard to get the ball to fall to the floor on either side. The girls were hustling for both teams and that's all you can ask. Play hard and do your best. Down there the ball went our way, but in the end the ball went their way here this time. We're pretty even. I guess we will play in the PVC and section, so we will see them again," Petersburg coach Shannon Earle concluded.



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Meals will be available for local pickup on
Saturday, October 26, 2024