

A photograph of two brown donkeys looking over a barbed wire fence. The donkey on the right is closer to the camera and has a blue halter. The donkey on the left is further back and has a tan halter. The background is a lush green field with trees.

Greene Scene

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Fairs &
FESTIVALS
Edition

July 2022 Issue

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As you might have guessed by now, I love having a stash of Greene County roadmaps in the glove compartment to browse when I'm looking for a forgotten town to check out or happen to run across a big rig making a first time delivery to a well site only to find GPS has failed and a map would be a mighty handy thing to have. On this trusty map, amid the little symbols for planes, fire houses and trail shelters on the Warrior Trail I've found the DCNR symbol for the bicycle trail that starts at Presque Isle State Park, Erie County and, keeping mostly to US Rt. 19, wanders south to Greene County then ends half a mile past Mt. Morris at the West Virginia line. It is a drive worth taking as the greenery of early summer turns every road into a shady lane.

Local bicyclists enjoy many of the back roads across the county and are a wonderful sight to see, taking the easy route for a few country miles before pedaling home. But shade or no shade, US Rt. 19 is for the intrepid biker, according to p-highways.com.

Bicycle PA users are expected to be licensed drivers or at least 16 years old with several years of experience and able to take responsibility for personal safety and welfare.

Anyone who has taken this scenic trek from Washington to Waynesburg by way of Ruff Creek, then through town and rolling farmland south to Kirby and Mt. Morris knows what great sights those intrepid bikers will see as they navigate the ragged edges and patched stretches of one of the earliest paved roads in Pennsylvania.

When the Commonwealth set aside \$50 million in 1918 to link every county seat with decent roads, United States Route 19 was already in the works. G. Wayne Smith tells us the project would take years to finish, along with other ongoing state byway projects that would link Waynesburg west to Rogersville, then south to Smith Creek and east from Morrisville to Jefferson and Dry Tavern.

The automobile age had arrived, and the rush was on to pave the rutted, sometimes impassible dirt roads that connected every town and village in the county. For a muddy, landlocked county it was a very big deal. When State Rt. 21 from Waynesburg to Carmichaels was finished in fall 1921, a Columbus Day auto parade left Waynesburg at 2 p.m., stopped in Jefferson for speeches at 3 p.m. and honked and hollered its way to Carmichaels. In Carmichaels, automobiles from every direction joined the thousand car parade back to Waynesburg for lunch at the Armory, a multiple bands concert and free movies at the Opera House and Eclipse theaters.



Jera Meighen and her niece stop to pet a curious horse as it pops its head out of the barn window.

US Rt. 19 continued to be a bustling link to the outside world until Interstate 79 was finished in the 1970s. Now it is a shady, winding ride through Americana from Washington County to the Mason Dixon Line. The miles roll past quaint old farms and ancient remains of the Appalachian Mountains, once the highest in the world, now tree covered ridges that drop down to creeks like Calvin Run that follows the road to Mt. Morris.

Coming into Greene County from the north gives bikers a chance to catch their breath and grab something to drink at Rinky Dinks Roadhouse, the quintessential honky-tonk of the mid 20th century when US Rt. 19 was a main artery especially on a Saturday night. Then it's up the hill to Dividing Ridge and into Greene County then down the road to Ruff Creek then up another winding hill to a left hand turn onto Apple

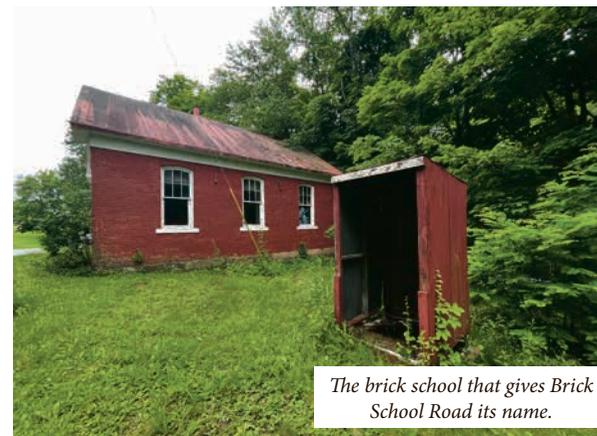
Hill Road. This very scenic secondary road rides the ridges past working farms and stretches of old growth forest that wraps around Waynesburg before dropping down into the valley, past more old farms and fancy hillside estates until the road becomes Porter Street, crosses High and Greene streets, crosses the railroad tracks to Orchard Street where it catches up with US Rt. 19.

Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church sits at the crest of the hill where Whitley Township begins and fine old farms keep much of the pastureland still cleared. Then the road drops down to a long stretch of bottomland punctuated with side roads, construction sites and buildings, picturesque barns, farmhouses and miles of fenced fields and steel gates.

On the map the word Cummins is written between Woodside and Pitcock roads.



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The brick school that gives Brick School Road its name.



If you're looking for a scenic ride, follow the bike signs!

Driving by, there is no visible indication that neighbors in the 1880s came here for their mail and whatever else they might need at the post office store that once stood by the “main highway six miles south of Waynesburg, three miles north of Kirby near Dyers Fork of Whitley Creek.”

The *Cummins Family In America* book at Cornerstone Genealogical Society traces a branch of the family tree to this spot on the map “where some of the family had a country store.” Another branch of the Cummins went on to settle in Cumberland Township. A.B. Cummins (1850-1926) was born on a farm near Carmichaels, graduated Waynesburg College, went west as a young man to become a lawyer involved in the business of railroads and ended up serving as governor of Iowa, 1902-08 then as a US Senator 1908-1925.

The bike trail follows the creek until it reaches Lemley Road then turns left for a few miles of farms and woodlands until it intersects Kirby Road, makes a right and returns to US Rt. 19 to the now forgotten town of Kirby. Then it's a left to Mt. Morris, where Rising Creek Bakery and Cafe with its signature salt rising bread sandwiches and take home loaves waiting for a hungry rider or footloose traveller.

I've driven there many times on my scenic way to Morgantown to grab a loaf but today I don't take the last seven miles past Polecat Road, across the tracks that go to Cumberland Mine, then a few miles where Interstate 79 runs parallel to US Rt.19 before it slips past the Firehouse and into Mt Morris. Today I double back to Waynesburg to explore another side road I caught sight of just past Mt. Pleasant Church.

Brick School Road has a cheerfully maintained red brick schoolhouse with paper skeletons peeking out the back window and a red school bus shed beside it. The road rolls and rambles past houses and farms then drops down to come out

back on US Rt. 19. It is here I finally run into some local bicyclists enjoying a perfect afternoon ride.

Jera Meighen and her niece stop to talk. A horse pops its head out of the barn window for a pet.

It's another beautiful day in the neighborhood of Greene County.



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GreeneScene of the Past

By Colleen Nelson

I found this moment in time captured on page 892 of the *History of Greene County* by G. Wayne Smith. It offers a crisp glimpse of road maintenance, 1920s style. George W. Gordon is perched on a fender of an imposing steel-wheeled tractor and Bill Cummins leans a hand on the other. Behind them is the blade that flattens the ruts on dirt roads in preparation for a coating of chipped limestone, rock dust and a sticky binding agent generally known since the early 1800s as macadam. All that is missing from the name macadam is the capital A of John McAdam of Scotland who invented the process in 1822. Layers of crushed granite or limestone built the bed of the road, topped off with a layer of rock dust to shed water and sometimes bound with tars or oils for stability. When the push was on after World War I to make way for motorized vehicles, macadam roads became the specialty of township road supervisors, elected from the farm families who lived there and traveled the roads they maintained.

Mr. Smith doesn't say what road George and Bill were working on when this shot was taken, but it's a good guess that both of them lived nearby and most likely lived in the same township.

Were they township supervisors striking a happy pose beside a newly purchased piece of equipment?

Hard to tell, but the photo is dated as being taken sometime in the 1920s, a time when roadbeds were being strengthened and new rules of driving were being written in every municipality. Cars and trucks were vying for road space with horseback riders and buggy drivers and it was another culture shock moment in time.

Some of these culture shock moments made the local news.

When the road from Waynesburg to Carmichaels was opened in 1921, an ordinance in Jefferson required drivers to honk at all intersections. Officer Albert Hyatt chose a Sunday afternoon that October to station himself at the corner of Main and Pine streets and arrest more than 60 motorists for failing to obey. The fine was a whopping \$5 but civic outrage saved the day. By Monday Burgess Samuel J Fulton had returned the fines and overturned convictions on the grounds it was a first offense and unintentional. "Hyatt was later removed as a policeman for his overzealous enforcement..." the *Waynesburg Republican* gleefully reported.

Thanks to Dr. Smith's microfilm snooping through old



newspaper clippings, the folks who lived in the transformative 1920s come to life. Women now had the right to vote for the very first time in the local primaries of September 20, 1921 and vote they did. Voters had to be registered by July 20 and all taxes paid by Election Day. In the November general election Hester Frye won a seat on the Waynesburg School Board and Bertha Hanna was a duly elected county auditor.

Farming was still a mainstay of life for 80 percent of the families of Greene County and sheep were still the biggest agricultural crop. Wool produced in 1926 weighed in at 654,000 pounds and close to a million pounds by 1930.

By now most farmers had vehicles but only a few had tractors, so the gnarly tractor-pulled road grader in this photograph would have been a welcome sight after weeks of wet weather as farmers brought in their crops and got ready to drive them to market.

A quick study of the Caldwell's Atlas maps of 1876 shows the family names of Gordon and Cummins marking farms in Whiteley Township so a good guess

is George W. Gordon and Bill Cummins were working on one of the roads that linked their farms to the markets in Waynesburg, six or seven miles away.

It appears to be a sunny day, the road is well dressed and Gordon and Bill look pretty pleased with themselves. Is it early spring or late fall? Hard to tell, but the road sure looks good. You get the feeling that by July this country road will be well tended to as farmers spend long days in the field getting in the hay before the next bout of June into July rain comes thundering in. As every farmer knew then and still knows now - it most always rains on Rain Day, July 29.

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SHINING THE LIGHT

By Colleen Nelson

What's in a name?

When US Rt. 19 heads south out of Waynesburg it becomes Mt. Morris Road as it meanders towards that old frontier town on the state line. The first steep slope Mt. Morris Road climbs in Franklin Township is called Gordon Hill, a shout out to the Gordons who left Scotland to farm



these fertile hills and valleys in the late 1700s. At the Franklin Township side of Gordon Hill is Laurel Run, where a school that doubled as a church was built in 1832 as an "appointment on the original Monongahela Circuit of the Reformers" that believed education and spiritual contemplation could share the same space. For the next 40 years, families from neighboring farms gathered on Laurel Run to pray, heed the reformist Protestant Methodist message of John Wesley (1703-1791) and sing the many hymns his brother James was inspired to compose.

With churches a scarcity in rural America of the 1800s, neighbors of differing faiths often worshiped together. By 1872, families in and around Whiteley Township had outgrown their schoolhouse church and were ready to build something closer to Heaven on the ridge above Laurel Run.

Mrs. Edward Wood and her family deeded land at the crest of the hill because "Having four boys she wanted them in church, so she joined herself, but being a Quaker she didn't believe in music."

For the music loving Methodists this wasn't a deal breaker. They put their talents and purse strings to work and within the year the foundation was done, Zeke Guthrie had the building framed and a man named Lundy not only laid the brick but made the bricks "on the adjoining ridge of the Bayard Farm." It was an impressive \$3000 project with a God's country view and four hitching posts by the door but what to name this dream-come-true? Laurel Hill? Bald Hill? Pleasant Hill? Mt. Pleasant?

Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church on a rocky ridge on the way to Mt. Morris won by a country mile.

The first sermon was preached on No-

vember 1, 1873; the hat was passed and the remaining debt of \$1,061 was tithed that day.

Mrs. Wood's great grandson Gordon Wood who was a member of the church when it celebrated its centennial in 1973, presented this nicely detailed family history of "Mt Pleasant M P Church" that I've been quoting from. Copies of the Centennial program and newspaper clippings that preserved this history through the years are on file in the church records at Cornerstone Genealogical Society in Waynesburg.

When Mrs. Edward Wood was laid to rest in 1888, church history notes that the first church organ was purchased and the congregation commenced to sing once more. Relics of those early days were put on display for the 1973 Centennial - the bench the pastor knelt on, the coal stove, the gas lights with this side note - "free gas was furnished from the Bayard no. 1 well but for six months until it was properly capped, the well made so much noise you could hardly hear the preacher."

Mt. Pleasant finally got its bell in 1958 thanks to parishioner Ida White Smith and you can see it hanging in the churchyard when you drive by.

Electricity arrived in 1946 and coal was swapped out for electric heat in 1962, making Mt. Pleasant the first church in the county to "use this new heating system."

In the beginning the pastors would ride horseback from the parsonage at Fordyce to preach every other Sunday at Mt. Pleasant on a circuit that included Spraggs, Greensboro, Taylorstown, Coallick (the church is now a private home at the intersection of Rolling Meadows and Garards Fort roads) and Pleasant Valley Church in Fordyce. Preachers were paid in provisions but by 1908 the yearly salary was \$150.

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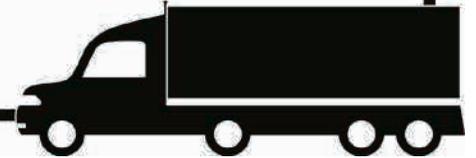
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STOP IN AND CHECK IT OUT

These days, Pastor Phil Yost, who lives above Cumberland Mine on the Warrior Trail near Claughton Chapel, ministers to the last two churches on his circuit - Mt. Pleasant and Pleasant Valley. He was raised on a farm near Fairall Church and felt the calling as a teenager, he tells me when I catch up with him by phone. After graduating CGHS and attending seminary school, his ministry took him to many churches, both old school and progressive congregations growing with the times. Now at age 61, he reflects on his three years as pastor of Mt. Pleasant, which is now part of the United Methodist Washington District that includes Fairall, Spraggs, Carmichaels, Rogersville and Taylorstown, tucked

away in the hills near Mt. Morris in Dunkard Township.

"Covid was hard on all of us but we're still here. Our congregation is small but faithful." Pastor Phil and his wife look in on those whose health issues keep them home when Sunday services begin at 9 a.m.

With the 150th anniversary coming up in 2023, Pastor Phil is excited about the possibility of having a celebration to honor the dedication and perseverance of those first Methodist Protestants who settled here and never gave up hope that they would someday work together to build their church on a hill. Stay tuned.

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Cool at School

By Michelle Church

The chorus program at Bobtown Elementary has been bringing music to students and audiences more than twenty years! April Baily, the elementary school's music teacher, expanded upon the program during her first year of teaching at Bobtown Elementary in 2002. Other than April, there's no one still working at Bobtown Elementary that was there when the program started.

"The chorus program at Bobtown is an optional choral ensemble that students sign up for in addition to their regular schedule," April says. To participate, the students miss forty minutes of instruction time during the week but are still responsible for their regular class work. Students sign a behavioral contract that lays out the requirements and expectations for being in the choral ensemble.

The program started as an extra activity for students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades who love performing and singing. Most of the students in grades four through six participate in the choir. There are currently 67 members – close to sixty percent of the students in this grade range. "Anyone willing to join is welcome as I believe music is for everyone to perform and experience at some level," April shares.

A wonderful quote from the singer Bill

SOUTHEASTERN GREENE SCHOOL DISTRICT



Staines agrees with this thought: "All God's creatures got [sic] a place in the choir, some sing low and some singer higher, some sing out loud on a telephone wire, some just clap their hands, or paws..."

In addition to singing, students also learn other musical skills. Students can learn to play instruments, public speaking, and acting. Student learn musical skills such as singing, diction and blending and also life skills. Choir helps build confidence, encourages collaboration, strengthens social skills and "most importantly, it is an outlet for their creativity," April says.

One of the most amazing aspects of the choir program is that it encourages students to rely on each other. This is not a competi-

tive program; students are an ensemble. It is the blending of many voices that creates the beautiful sound of the choir. This helps students learn the value of working cohesively with others.

It is no surprise that COVID-19 had a temporary negative impact on the choral program. Until very recently, the choir had not been able to perform a normal concert since Christmas 2019. "Our concert last week was the first time in three years that we were able to stand close together on the risers and have our entire audience at one performance all together. It was a good feeling."

She mentioned that unfortunately the number of students participating in the choir was lower than usual, the number is usually around 75-80 students.

Everyone is very excited for what next year's school year will bring and are confident their numbers will return to normal soon. One final thought from April: "Even though Bobtown Elementary is a small school, we have some amazing children that are eager to learn and to participate in a variety of activities. They are very resilient, hard workers and it is my pleasure to work with them each and every day. Go Bulldogs!"



*Elementary school music teacher
April Baily.*

Public Service Profile

By Morgan Marisa

PITTSBURGH SOARING ASSOCIATION

With the recent release of the second Top Gun film, aviation has soared back up in the ranks of media attention and public interest. Thankfully for residents of Greene County, getting involved with aviation has become easier than ever with the arrival of the Pittsburgh Soaring Association to the Greene County Airport last fall.

In 1964, the Pittsburgh Soaring Association began when a bunch of glider enthusiasts decided to get together and practice soaring out of the Bandel airport. Today, the organization still serves as a home for glider enthusiasts to practice their beloved craft and teach the sport of soaring.

"The idea is to stay up in the air as long as possible," said Bill Heilmann, president of the association. "Anybody can be towed up to an altitude and just glide back down, but staying up for extended periods of time is what you try to achieve."

Heilmann has been a member of the association for six or seven years. He now heads the organization of about forty members with varying experience in gliding. The association proudly welcomes beginners and encourages anyone interested in aviation to show up for an orientation ride and join them at events. They often team up with other aviation organizations in the area such as Support Our Aviation Resources (SOAR) and the Greene County Flying Club, which all share Greene County's airport. The association varies from the other local aviation organizations in their focus on gliders instead of powered flight, but they all advocate for overall aviation education.

"The county welcomed them with open arms," said Mike Belding, Chairman of the Greene County Commissioners. "I think our airport is underutilized for the availability of time and space so it was a good fit. It was also different aviation wise, drawing new spectators and other enthusiasts that want to glide instead of being in a powered aircraft."

After primarily

operating out of Bandel airport for most of its lifetime, the association decided to move to less congested airspace. Gliding in the same busy airspace as powered flight can be particularly dangerous since gliding involves up-and-down movements, differing from the straight-level flights of power aircraft. Now, the gliders enjoy the significantly less air traffic from their season's start in April to its conclusion in October on Saturdays and Sundays. Currently, the association sports three gliders and one tow-plane: a L23 Super Blanik, an AC-4C Russia, a Grob 102, and a Piper Pawnee. Some members also use their own gliders.

"We're enthusiastic about the opportunity the airport presents to Greene County students, residents, aviation hobbyists, or people looking for a potential career path in civilian or military aviation," added Belding, a previous U.S. Marine helicopter pilot himself. "Aviation is one of the career paths where you can live somewhere and work anywhere else."

Since there is a predicted future shortage of thousands of pilots, now is the perfect time to learn the craft. Those interested in taking their first step toward aviation should check out pghsoar.org or come talk to members of the organization at the airport's free aviation days on August 20 and 21 this year where vintage World War II aircrafts will also be on display. The Greene County Flying Club also usually puts on a ground school once a year where students learn all about the ground educational aspect of aviation such as the planes, aerodynamics, physics, gravity, how to talk on the radio, and related skills. SOAR meetings also occur once a month and welcome anyone who simply wants to talk about aviation.



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★ TRIBUTE TO HEROES ★ ARRIVING ★ FALL 2022

In honor of those who give to our country and community, Greene County will be hosting Tribute to Heroes on October 12-16, 2022 at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Waynesburg, PA. The event will highlight active military personnel, veterans and first responders over five days.

The centerpiece of Tribute to Heroes will be the Cost of Freedom Tribute by American Veterans Traveling Tribute (AVTT). The traveling tribute features exhibits from World War I to present day, including a 9/11 Tribute. The tribute includes an 80% replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

“The opportunity to unite our community by recognizing first responders alongside our active military personnel and veterans is an important message to convey,” said Don Martin, veteran and committee member.

The original concept for the Tribute to Heroes originated with former Waynesburg resident, Rick Black. As a Vietnam War veteran, Black spearheaded the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall project in 2017. When the memorial arrived in Greene County for the first time, the five-day event turned into one of the County’s largest,

attracting attendance of over 10,000. The success and support of the united community led to the construction of the Greene County Veterans Memorial Park which has hosted ceremonies of commemoration and honor since its dedication in May 2021. He also co-organized the Korean Traveling Memorial in 2019 and collaborated with local school districts for Veterans Day Programs to assist in teaching and inspiring children.

Prior to the pandemic, Black had started working towards an event and traveling tribute that would include first responders with active military personnel and veterans. After his death on September 23, 2021, several individuals alongside his family decided to complete his vision and see the Cost of Freedom Tribute arrive in Greene County with the Tribute to Heroes.

“Rick’s love for our country and dedication to Greene County and Veterans was admirable and contagious,” said Stacey Marshall, daughter of Rick Black. “Although he is not with us, his spirit continues to unite our community.”

Plans in development for the event in October include an arrival escort, opening and closing ceremonies, recognition

opportunities, and a community day to honor our active military personnel, veterans and first responders.

In addition to the October event, the committee is asking for assistance in designing our volunteer t-shirt that represents your vision of “Tribute to Heroes” with a T-shirt contest. The contest is open to residents of all ages living in Greene County and entries are due July 31, 2022. The winner will receive a \$250 prize and their design printed on volunteer T-shirts. Entries may be emailed to the committee at greencountytribute@gmail.com or mailed to Greene County Department of Emergency Services, 55 W Greene St, Waynesburg, PA 15370.

Financial support from First Federal Savings & Loan Association of Greene County helped secure the dates for the traveling tribute with support from the Waynesburg VFW Post 4793, the Auxiliary and the Cooties. Additional sponsors include Fox Ford of Waynesburg, EQT Corporation, WVU Medicine and Community Bank.

The Greene County Tribute to Heroes committee consists of volunteers representing veterans, first responders and community members organized under the Waynesburg VFW Post 4793. The committee was first organized in the fall of 2021 to continue bringing Rick Black’s event to Greene County and southwestern Pennsylvania. Those interested in volunteering with the committee or sponsoring the event are welcome to contact us through Facebook @ GreeneCountyTribute or email the committee at greencountytribute@gmail.com.



Greene Artifacts

By Matthew Cumberledge, GCHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A RECEIPT FROM THE B&O RAILROAD

The Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad is the oldest railroad in the United States, with its first line opening in 1830. By 1852, a line was built connecting Grafton, WV to Wheeling, WV, and the B&O would eventually play an important role in the Civil War.

Prior to the Waynesburg and Washington Railroad, the B&O was the primary rail that would service the southern portions of Greene County, Pennsylvania – although at that time the B&O did not venture into Pennsylvania. Stations along the line from Grafton to Wheeling, specifically Littleton, Burton, Hundred and Cameron, would be extremely important to the supply chain in Greene County, especially the remote southern and western portions.

Many general store owners and merchants received their goods off the B&O. These merchants would travel the distance from their business to the nearest station. The trip was so important that, in 1862, Jesse F. Carpenter was born in Burton, WV on a trip

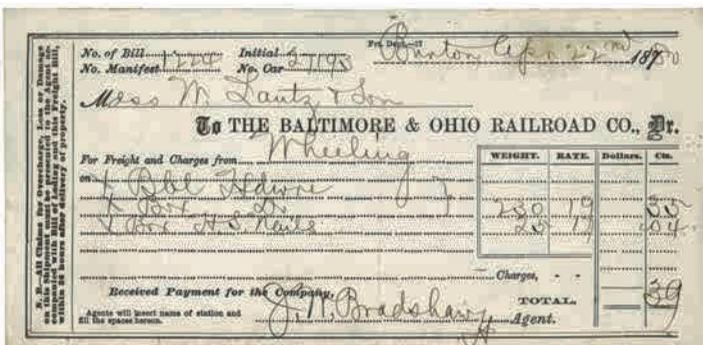
his parents were

making to receive a shipment of goods for their store in Pine Bank, in Gilmore Township, from the Burton Station.

William Lantz and son Remembrance Lance owned a store in Blacksville, just across the line in WV, and one of their shipping receipts survives. On April 22, 1880, William Lantz and son paid freight charges for a shipment of hardware, nails and other items having been shipped to them from Wheeling. The shipping charges totaled 39 cents.

This receipt was found in Bruceton Mills, WV recently, and has since been archived for the collection at the Greene County Historical Society Museum.

Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for upcoming presentations and events and be sure to stop by the museum for a visit to see our collection from the Waynesburg and Washington Railroad, including Locomotive #4, and to check in on the progress on Coach #6.

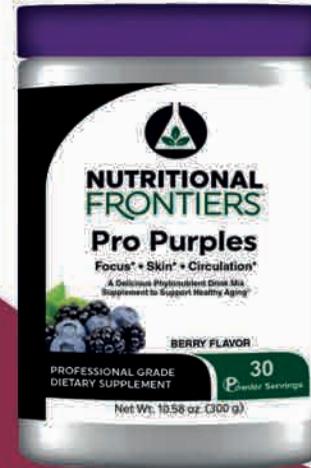


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OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES SUMMER READING QUEST

With schools out for the summer, Greene County public libraries are preparing for another season of summer reading. Both Flenniken and Bowlby libraries will be featuring a summer of Oceans of Possibilities – and offering in-person classes, events, and story times.

Summer programming at Flenniken kicked off on June 11 at 11am with a Tiny Tim Tomatoes class and got into full swing on the Friday, June 17 Summer Quest kick-off party. The kick-off party is also the beginning of Flenniken's Friday Fun Days. Each Friday at 3pm, the library will host a fun activity, such as an Under the Sea day, a luau, an Encanto day, an Alice in Wonderland tea party, paint n Snack, and a Harry Potter birthday party. Other special events include a Town & Country Garden Club Flower Show on June 25 at 10am, and a visit from The Good Zoo on July 23 on 11am. The program ends on August 13.

Mondays are for Movie Mondays, featuring an children's movie, and Middle School Mondays, with crafts and activities for older kids. On Tuesdays, there are Pre-K and Kindergarten sessions with Miss Norma, and during the evening, Teen Tuesdays provides activities and pizza for older children. Two classes on Wednesdays, one for grades

3-5 and one for grades 1-2, will keep our children's brains working with story time activities, crafts, and experiments; the Lunch Bunch also meets on Wednesdays for grades 3-5. On Thursday afternoons, there are Crafts with Grace. And each Friday has a fun event, as well as Toddler Time with Miss Norma, in the morning. Free lunches will be served during the week.

If your doing you summer reading through Flenniken, make sure to keep track of the non-fiction books you read. Five Lego sets will be awarded to the reader with the most nonfiction in each school-age category.

Summer reading at Bowlby began on June 20 and runs through August 12. Transition to kindergarten classes will be held on Mondays for 4- to 6-year-olds to learn skills essential for their kindergarten transition; STREAM class will also be held on Mondays for elementary aged children. Preschool and toddler story classes will be held during the morning and the afternoon on Tuesdays. On Wednesdays, school age children (age 6-8) can enjoy fun projects and activities from 10am to 3pm, and that evening there are Stories Under the Moon. On Thursdays, 9- to 12-year-olds can enjoy projects and activities, and the Teen & Tween

Lounge meets at 5pm.

Both libraries will once again utilize Beanstack as part of their summer reading program. They introduced the app in 2020 during the pandemic to provide an online summer reading program to patrons. Beanstack (beanstack.com) is used by more than 1,000 school district and libraries. It allows readers to register in just seconds and begin earning virtual badges, tickets for drawings, and real-world prizes by tracking their reading. Readers can also post book reviews and keep track of activities. The one-of-a-kind mobile app lets patrons time reading sessions, logbooks by scanning their ISBN numbers, keep a log of current and past reading, and track reading stats, all while completing their summer reading program for Flenniken or Bowlby.

To start your summer reading

challenge, visit beanstack.com and search for your local library to sign up. FMI on each program, contact Flenniken Library at 724-966-5263 or flenniken.org and Bowlby Library at 724-627-9776 or evakbowlby.org.

Research has shown that reading improve memory and empathy, and it also makes you feel better by reducing stress and helping with depression. So, start the summer off with a good book – or a few!



THE CIVIL WAR AT THE EDGES OF GREENE COUNTY

Greene County Pennsylvania hosts an abundance of historic and prehistoric sites, from Adena burial mounds dotted throughout the landscape, to historic structures from every era. These sites have left a lasting impact on the culture and industry of the region. One thing, however, Greene County is lacking are sites that have a direct connection to the conflict fought between 1861 and 1865 that we call the Civil War.

Many men from Greene County gave the last full measure of devotion during that war to preserve the union, and our cemeteries are graced by many monuments and memorials to those who bravely fought to keep this country whole. The Jesse Taylor Monument in Jollytown and Dreamer Memorial Park in Richhill Township are solemn reminders of the human cost of such a conflict.

But, just how close did the actual war come to Greene County? Pretty close! It involved a small town just south of the state line, Burton, West Virginia, and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad which would play a significant role in the war between the states.

Burton, situated along Route 250 in Wetzel County, WV, just east of Hundred, and about two miles directly south of the West Virginia/Pennsylvania line, is a small community with a very rich and largely unknown history. George Bartrug settled in that vicinity sometime around 1812, and it is thought that a mispronunciation of his name is how the town became known as Burton. Burton would be a small settlement until the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad would go through the area in 1852 with a line connecting Grafton to Wheeling.

Once the railroad came through, the town expanded. Hotels, stores, and other businesses would grow up around the railroad, and a very profitable business felling timbers to make railroad ties for the growing B&O would also be established in the area.

Burton was an important freight hub along the B&O. Many businesses in Greene County would receive shipments that ended up at the Burton Depot. Jesse Carpenter's store in Pine Bank frequently received shipments of goods at the Burton Depot, as well as William Lantz and Son in Blacksville.

In 1861 when the Civil War broke out, the B&O Railroad would get caught up in the action. Both sides during the Civil War claimed the B&O as their own, though the company attempted to remain neutral. Throughout the course of the war, 143 raids, skirmishes and battles would directly involve the B&O Railroad, beginning with Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's raid on portions of the railroad that led into the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia.

When the Virginia legislature resolved to leave the union, the western counties in Virginia began organizing themselves under the "Reorganized Government of Virginia" based in Wheeling, WV. The western counties would largely remain on the side of the Union during the war, eventually becoming a new state in 1863, and replacing the Reorganized Government.

In April and May 1863, Confederate Generals William E. Jones and John D. Imboden would conduct a series of raids on the B&O Railroad to disrupt supplies and communications to the burgeoning capitol in Wheeling in an attempt to get the western counties back under Confederate control.

Beginning in Oakland, Maryland, General Jones would bring forces west towards Morgantown and Fairmont, disrupting service and burning railroad bridges, cutting lines to Wheeling. Morgantown in Monongalia County would show little resistance, but in Fairmont, a full-on battle ensued.

The Wheeling Intelligencer would report on that on April 29, 1863 that "morning dawned wet and foggy; our scouts came dashing in and reported the enemy approaching only two or three miles off. One company of militia and most of the armed citizens went out on the hills to meet him. About eight o'clock picket firing commenced and was kept up briskly for half an hour."

"The enemy finding we were posted on the hills prepared to rake him severely as he came down the pike along Coal Run, sent a heavy force on the hills to drive us off. In this they succeeded after several of them had been summarily unhorsed. The men from the hills retreated, some to the main force, near the railroad bridge, a mile above town, and some to the Palatine end of the Suspension Bridge. The latter made a gallant stand and resisted the crossing for nearly an hour."

"They took shelter in a Foundry and fired from the windows upon the rebel sharpshooters, who dismounted and took positions in vacant houses, behind fences, stables and whatever else would conceal their cowardly carcass from our unerring aim. Thus was the unequal contest continued until one man, named Coffman, from Bingamon, was fatally wounded, and all but five or six had straggled off."

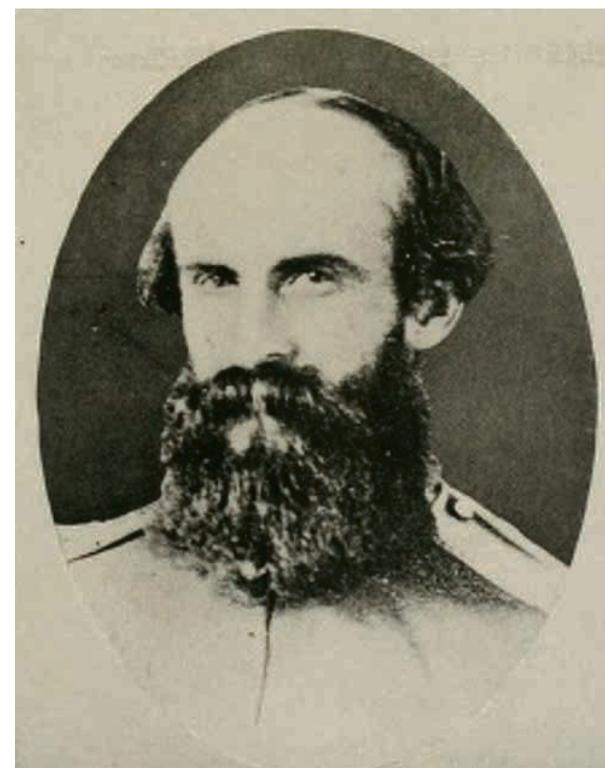
"The remainder ceased firing and each one took care of himself as best he could. When the firing ceased the rebels sent over a flag of truce to demand a surrender, but to their astonishment they found no one to receive it. They then hastily replaced the plank which had been removed from the bridge, and crossed over to the number of nearly a thousand, and pushed on up to get in the rear of our men at the Railroad Bridge."

The battle would rage on across the suspension bridge in Fairmont, and artillery would be opened on the Confederates. Ultimately, the confederates would prevail and continue with raids along the B&O.

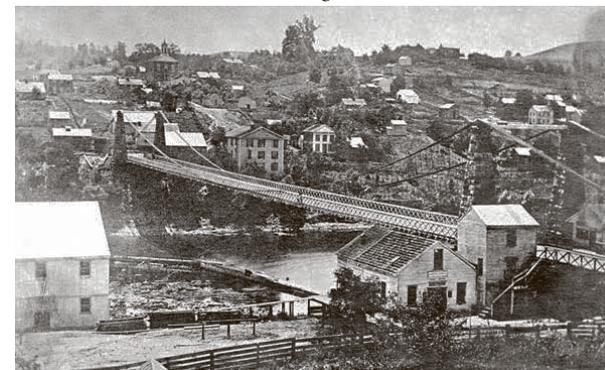
A couple days earlier, on the night of April 27, 1863, Hannah Church, who lived on a farm just outside of Burton WV, would witness five men lighting fires under two bridges that spanned Fish Creek on the B&O railroad. Hannah's farm was situated between the two bridges. Hannah's parents had both died in 1860; her father Henry Church died at the age of 109 and was known as "Old Hundred." Henry Church, and his name "Old Hundred" is how the town of Hundred received its name.

The area around Burton had been occupied by Union troops from the 6th West Virginia Volunteer Infantry. The troops had been patrolling the area's tunnels, bridges and the important Burton Station on the B&O, keeping them secure from Confederate raiders. As the Jones Imboden Raid came into motion, the 6th West Virginia had been called into service to combat the raiders, leaving Burton unsecured.

The fires at the bridges in Burton caused alarm. It is unknown if the arsons were detached raiders from General Jones party or individuals acting on their own. The following day, the burning of the bridges had reached Wheeling, and a con-



TOP: General William E. Jones. BOTTOM: The Fairmont suspension bridge.



tingent of troops were sent to defend the town and provide security for engineers from the B&O Railroad repairing the important bridges.

Many men from Greene County, Pennsylvania were mustered into service to defend the region from Jones and Imboden on their raid against the B&O Railroad, and it is doubtless that the sometimes successful actions of the Confederate generals, and the burning of the bridges in Burton, WV had a negative impact on supply chains and commerce in our county.

Next time you are out for a drive, enjoying the scenery and the natural beauty that abounds in our region, take a drive west on Route 7 from Blacksville WV, and turn north on Route 250, through Burton, Hundred, and on to Cameron. Not only will you be following the path of the historic B&O Railroad, but you'll also pass the site of the nearest action in the Civil War to Greene County.

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Good NEWS

In Greene County

West Greene Lions Club Scholarships

At a recent West Greene Academic Banquet held at Waynesburg University, the West Greene Area Lions Club presented \$1000 scholarships to Brooke Barner, Anna Durbin and Kiley Meek. Brooke is the daughter of Joe and Angela Barner of Holbrook. She will attend Saint Francis University and major in Exercise Physiology and Cancer Care. Anna is the daughter of Dave and Lisa Durbin of Graysville. Anna will further her education at the University of Pitt-Greensburg and major in Math. Kiley is the daughter of John and Tanya Meek of Pine Bank. She will be attending Saint Vincent University and major in Elementary Education. Pictured left to



right is Lion Club Member Becci Watson, Brooke Barner, Anna Durbin, Kiley Meek and Lions Club Member and West Greene teacher Jeff Polander.

Wbg Lions Club Students of the Year

The WCHS Lions Club Students of the Year are Alexis Mason and Ethan Maxwell. They were selected by the faculty of WCHS and will receive a \$1000 scholarship from the Waynesburg Lions Club.

Alexis Mason is the daughter of David and Joy Mason of Waynesburg. Alexis has carried a 4.0 GPA into her senior year. At WCHS she has participated as a member of National Honor Society, the Spanish Club, the Art Club, Student Council, and the Drama Club. She has played the lead role in several of the Drama Club's stage productions. She has earned classroom awards in math, science, English and history.

Outside of school Ms. Mason attends the Mount Morris Gospel Tabernacle and works at Sorella's Pizza. Alexis loves music. She is a member of the marching band where she plays the saxophone. She also plays in the pep band and the PMEA band. She has represented WCHS as a member of the PMEA All-State band and the 2021 WVU Honor Jazz Band. Her plans are to study music education at WVU and participate in the band.



Ethan Maxwell is the son of Kevin and Sally Maxwell of Waynesburg. He has earned a 4.0 GPA throughout high school. While at WCHS Ethan has participated as a member of NHS, the Spanish Club, the creative writing club, student council, and the drama club.

Ethan is active in student government. He was elected the president of the senior class.

Mr. Maxwell also loves music. He is a member of the marching band, concert band, jazz ensemble, brass ensemble and founded the WCHS pep band. He has taken piano lessons for over 10 years. He is a world-class kazooist.

Outside of school Ethan attends the First Presbyterian Church and their Crossroads youth group. As a member of the youth group, he has led service projects to the Johnstown area. He also works with the Greene County United Way. Ethan also has an affinity for video creation. He has taken several public speaking and video editing courses from Penn State. Ethan is the creator of a successful Youtube channel. Ethan's future plans are to attend college and major in communication.

2022 Pennsylvania Envirothon State Competition Results

The 38th Pennsylvania Envirothon state competition was held in-person on May 25, 2022 at Camp Mount Luthor in Mifflinburg, PA. High school students from 63 Pennsylvania counties participated in this year's event. Delaware County's Penncrest High School will represent Pennsylvania at the 2022 NCF-Envirothon international competition in Ohio during July.

The Greene County team from Carmichaels Area High School placed seventh overall in the 2022 State Envirothon competition. The team had the second highest score of all teams in the state in the Wildlife station with a 94, third highest Forestry score of 84, fourth highest Oral Presentation score with a 93.7, and fifth highest Soils score with an 80, for a total score of 486.7 points for the competition - only 20.3 points away from third place. The team was awarded a wooden plaque made from Pennsylvania hardwoods and each team member received a \$150 scholarship. Team members include Brooke Watters, Sophia Zalar, Spencer Conard, Faith Willis and Alex Lawrence.

This year marks the

sixteenth year in a row that the team has placed in the top 10 at the State Envirothon. The team placed first in the state in 2018 and 2019, and in 2019 the team placed third in the world at the NCF-International Envirothon. The team placed second in 2006 and 2010, third in 2014, 2016, and 2017, and fourth in 2011 and 2015. In 2012 and 2013 the team placed fifth in the state. In 2009, the team placed seventh, in 2008 the team placed eighth, and in 2007 and 2021 the team placed tenth in the State. The 2020 Envirothon competitions were canceled.

The Carmichaels Envirothon team would like to thank everyone who invested in them throughout their preparation for the Envirothon, both with funding and expertise.



Cornerstone Care Welcomes New Nurse Practitioner

A new face is ready to greet patients at CornerstoneCare Community Health Centers. Kate Zetler, a certified nurse practitioner with over 13 years of nursing experience, is joining the staff at the Cornerstone Care Pediatric Center of Waynesburg. "As a child, I had a nurse practitioner who was easy to talk to and just wonderful," says Zetler. "She influenced me to follow this career and it has been so rewarding."

Zetler earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and her Family Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate from Duquesne University. Over her career, she has worked in critical care, organ donation, and pediatrics - which she says is her passion. "As a provider, I love working with kids because you get to guide choices and influence their life. You have a long-standing effect and get to grow with the patient," says Zetler.

Zetler says she's excited to be part of an organization making a difference. "When I first talked to Chief Executive Officer Rich Rinehart, we spoke about the vision of what

health care and primary care should be," recalls Zetler. "As I spoke to more people within the Cornerstone Care organization, they all shared the same vision. We all get into this profession to make a difference, to guide families and kids. It was refreshing to hear how patient-focused Cornerstone Care is."

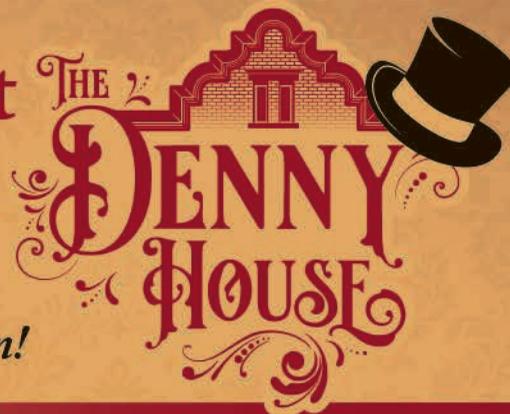
The Centers' convenient, integrated services also allow Zetler to better serve her patients, she says. "Pediatrics, family medicine, dental, vision - all of the integrated services are in-house and convenient," she says. "This keeps patients in the same provider network and allows them to get the care they need."

Outside of the office, Zetler loves hiking with her husband and daughter and spending time with their two dogs.



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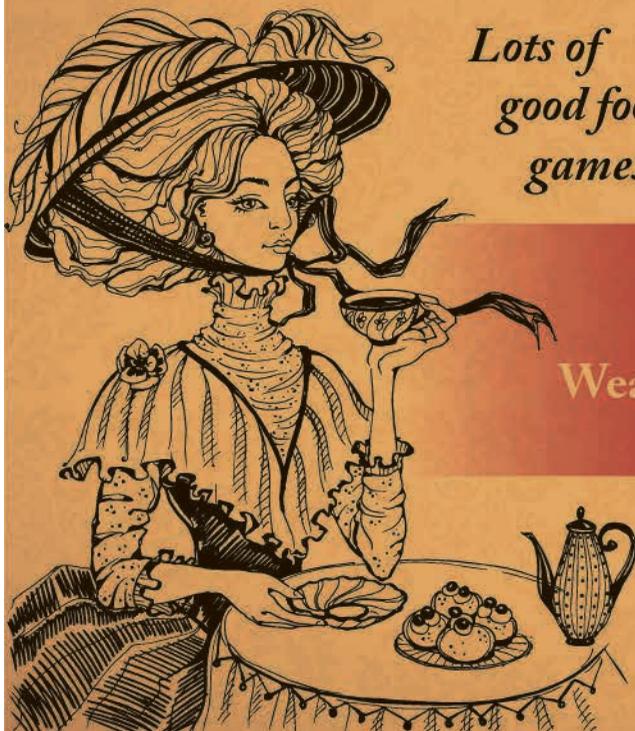
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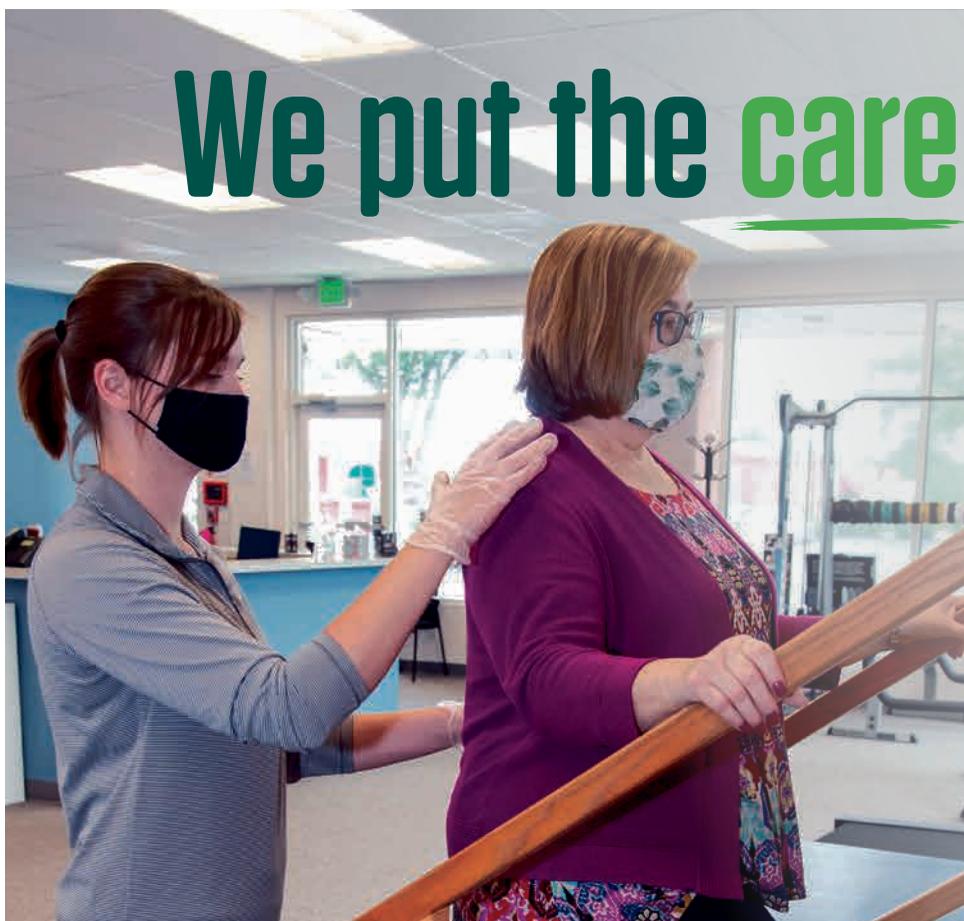
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WHS Unveils Quilts Made of Cloth Masks

In observance and recognition of the dedication of their team over the last two years, Washington Health System (WHS) held events at both hospitals located in Washington and Greene counties to reveal some new artwork.



On Friday, May 13, the first quilt ceremony was held at WHS Greene in Waynesburg. The second ceremony held inside the lobby of WHS Washington Hospital occurred on Tuesday, May 17th.

Both quilts are framed and hung in the lobby area of each hospital with a commemorative plaque. The plaque reads:

This beautiful piece of artwork was stitched together by the Martha Washington Quilters Guild to represent the abrupt change in our lives as the COVID-19 pandemic swept through our region beginning in March of 2020. These masks were worn by Washington Health System Team Members who selflessly served the local communities by caring for our family, our friends, and our neighbors. Let us never forget the months that turned into years of sacrifice by us all. And may we continue spotlighting the dedication of our very own "Healthcare Heroes".

On behalf of the administration and the Board of Directors, WHS would like to thank their team members, the Martha Washington Quilters Guild as well as the community for their continued support throughout the pandemic.

"This year marks the 125th anniversary of the Washington Health System and also the second year battling through the COVID-19 pandemic," said Brook Ward, president and CEO of Washington Health System. "There have been many symbolic representations of the pandemic, but nothing seems more prominent than the masks that we all wore as residents in the community and continue to wear as healthcare workers inside our facilities. To recognize the sacrifice, challenges and deep sense of pride our WHS team members have for our communities, we asked the Martha Washington Quilters Guild to partner with us to create a piece of artwork that will remind us of this journey."

These framed works of art, created by the local guild, are quilts made of cloth face masks. "During the process, we asked our team members to donate their previously worn and washed cloth masks to be used in this special project. They eagerly contributed to honor their hard work and to reflect on the struggles we all went through together," said Ward.

2022 Hunting Hills Hawkeyes Fundraiser Shoot Results

The annual fundraiser shoot hosted by the Scholastic Clay Target Program team, the Hunting Hills Hawkeyes Association, was held on Sunday, May 22, 2022. The event took place at the team training facility and sponsor home, Hunting Hills Shooting Preserve in Dilliner, PA.

A total of 241 participants, 33 of which were Hawkeyes, took part in the annual fundraiser. Those participating in the 100-clay target shoot could compete individually as well as in teams of four. Awards were presented for youths, females, males, and team. The following awards were presented:

- High Overall Female: Maureen Zang
- High Overall Male: Robert Dillon III
- 1st Place Team : Dave Cole, Brendan Cole (Hawkeye), Tristan Cole, Clint Dicks
- 2nd Place Team: Robert Dillon, Robert Dillon III (Hawkeye), Randy Dillon, Chuck Burgess
- Rookie 1st Place: AJ Diamond
- Rookie 2nd Place: Parker Bland
- Intermediate Entry 1st Place: Samuel Fowler
- Intermediate Entry 2nd Place: McKenzie Bowlen
- Intermediate Advance 1st Place: William Boden
- Intermediate Advance 2nd Place: Brendan Cole
- Junior Varsity 1st Place: Hunter Bowlen
- Junior Varsity 2nd Place: Wyatt Mooney
- Senior Varsity 1st Place: Robert Dillon III
- Senior Varsity 2nd Place: Owen Hughes
- Collegiate 1st Place: DJ Jones
- Collegiate 2nd Place: Noah Haines

The benefit shoot was organized by the Hawkeyes Fundraising Committee, board members, coaches and parents. Valued sponsors included Hayden Excavating, Washington Chevrolet, Iron Senergy, Western Mountain Inc, Bob & Gloria Bishop, KSW Oilfield Rental, Bland's Hilltop Farm, Lola Energy, Fox Ford, G&H Sporting Goods, NRA, Hunting Hills, and Roy & Sally Sisler.

FMI regarding sponsoring the Hunting Hills Hawkeyes Association, please email Huntinghillshawkeyes@gmail.com.



Ft. Jackson Plaque Cleaned & Remounted After Accident

During late 2021, an early morning accident on East Greene Street left the plaque there broken. The plaque - marking the original site of Fort Jackson - had been mounted on the stone via two pegs.

The pegs were broken during the accident, and the plaque was unable to be remounted without some assistance. Shelvajeane Baysinger, Regent of John Corbly Chapter, DAR, reached out to longtime friend

George 'Bly' Blystone for help. Bly took the plaque, cleaned it up, and with the help of his friend Steve, fixed the pegs and remounted the plaque. *Pictured l-R: Trich Leary, Charlene Shuckhart, George 'Bly' Blystone, Shelvajeane Baysinger (Regent of the John Corbly Chapter, DAR) and Louise Gape.*



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Waynesburg U. Remembers Chancellor Thyreen

With great sadness, Waynesburg University announces the loss of its Chancellor, Timothy R. Thyreen, 78, who passed away peacefully at home last night, surrounded by members of his loving family.

Chancellor Thyreen served as President from 1990 until 2013 and as Chancellor from 2013 until the present time. A lifetime educator, he taught kindergarten all the way to students at the doctorate level and coached high school football in Northeast Ohio and Southwestern Pennsylvania before coming to Waynesburg University.

“He was a visionary national educational leader whose steady dedication to glorifying God through Waynesburg University’s mission is an exemplar of how one person can creatively and ethically shape the world and advance Christ’s kingdom,” said Waynesburg University President Douglas G. Lee.

Thyreen’s presidency was a time of unparalleled growth in the long history of the University. He restored the University’s Christian mission of 1849 and created an institutional commitment that educates students to make connections between faith, learning and serving so they might faithfully transform their communities and the world.

Under his leadership, Waynesburg College became Waynesburg University, master’s and doctoral programs were added, enrollment doubled and the University’s endowment grew by 900 percent.

The University also became the first college in Pennsylvania to be awarded the prestigious Bonner Scholar Program, and in 2004, was awarded an endowed scholarship for students interested in community service. Since its inception in 1990, Waynesburg students have contributed more than 750,000 hours of service in local communities and throughout the world.

In collaboration with Waynesburg alumnus W. Robert Stover ‘42, Chancellor Thyreen established “The Stover Center for Constitutional Studies and Moral Leadership.” This interdisciplinary scholarly center is dedicated to bringing insights from the U.S. Constitution’s Founding Era and from Christianity to bear in the contemporary public square, with the goal of creatively transforming the ethical state of the polis.

Under Thyreen’s presidency, 12 new buildings were constructed and 10 others were renovated. Many of these buildings are constructed around a beautiful quadrangle, Johnson Commons, named after distinguished master planner and architect, Dr. Carl D. Johnson. Johnson said of Thyreen’s

dynamic leadership, which tripled the size of the campus, “Having participated in the authorship of scores of master plans for small colleges up to large mega-system universities during 50 years of professional planning, I can honestly say I have never experienced a renaissance equal to that of Waynesburg College.”

Chancellor Thyreen’s transformational accomplishments were widely recognized. In an American Council of Education study of more than 700 college and university presidents, Social Scientists James L. Fisher and James V. Koch characterized him as one of only 17 “entrepreneurial” presidents. The authors wrote, “Few presidents have had more impact on their institutions than Timothy R. Thyreen. Thyreen has been a relentless, inexhaustible, passionate, intensely competitive force who has brought Waynesburg [University] regional and national recognition.”

Dr. David R. Black, Chair of the site visit for accreditation and President of Eastern University, said of Chancellor Thyreen, “He has more resolve and passion for a university vision than any president I have known. As a result, he has shown the rest of us how to master the presidential craft.”

The Educational Record wrote of President Thyreen’s leadership in 1994, “The President has provided vision, undeniable vigor, and infectious enthusiasm to the [University]. The President unquestionably has been the catalyst for beneficent developments, and it is he who has been the key to the [University’s] resurgence.”

His efforts at returning the University to its founding Christian mission gained national recognition in 1995, when the Religious Heritage of America awarded him the “Outstanding Educator of the Year.”

Dr. Jerry L. Beasley, President Emeritus of Concord University, observed that Chancellor Thyreen “is one of the best examples I’ve ever seen of what the great Presbyterian preacher Bryant Kirkland called ‘holy boldness.’”

Chancellor Thyreen’s service was not limited to Waynesburg University. He also held leadership roles in several state and international organizations, including his Chairmanship of the Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Pennsylvania; Chairmanship of the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges & Universities and the American Universities in Russia, Ukraine, and the Newly Independent States. In 1990, he was appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to the

Pennsylvania Lawyers Client Security Fund Board.

Since 2003, he served on the Board of Directors of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Prompted by a deep sense of stewardship and respect for all of God’s creation, his work helped advance the mission of Conservancy to protect and restore our region’s natural areas.

During his time as President and Chancellor, he served on the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) Board of Directors. In this role, he was recognized for his stewardship of a program that provides access and choice to qualified Pennsylvania students.

“Tim Thyreen spent the better part of a decade as the chief advocate for students with financial need as the Chair of the Needs Assessment Committee on the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency Board of Directors,” said Tom Foley, President of the Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Pennsylvania. “He was the person everyone else looked to when it came to figuring out what is the best course of action to help these students get through college. He knew his numbers – so important when charged with making critical state budget decisions – but he knew his heart too, and it was that combination that assured everyone was listening when he delivered his views. He will be greatly missed by his PHEAA colleagues, by all his legion of friends in the higher education community, and especially by me.”

In 2019, Chancellor Thyreen was



honored with the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania’s (AICUP) Francis J. Micheline Award for Outstanding Service to Higher Education. The award, named for Dr. Francis “Mike” Micheline, past president of the Commission for Independent Colleges & Universities, is reserved for individuals whose work has significantly contributed to the quality of private higher education in Pennsylvania.

“As Chancellor, his continued advocacy for Waynesburg University in higher education, government, and the nation can never be overstated,” said President Lee “Both he and Dr. Carolyn Thyreen have provided Mrs. Lee and me with continued support, advice, and friendship throughout these many years. Chancellor Thyreen’s singular personality, his commitment to God, his family, and Waynesburg University exemplify a life of purpose lived for the glory of God.”

Waynesburg University extends its deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Dr. Carolyn Thyreen, their daughters, grandchildren, and extended family.

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Brave Brats Get Together

The get together will be held on July 16 from 1pm to 6pm at the Brave Fire Hall. The event is open to anyone who went to school, lived in, or had/have friends or family in Brave. All are welcome!

The cost is \$5 a person, plus a covered dish. Proceeds will be donated to the Wayne Township Fire Department. FMI, visit "A Place Named Brave" on Facebook. No alcohol is permitted.

MBM Middle School Says Goodbye

On June 2, former and current teachers and staff gathered in the cafeteria at Margaret Bell Miller Middle School to celebrate the end of another school year, as well as the end of an era. The 2021-22 school year will be the last complete school year at MBM, as next fall it will close its doors and the remaining seventh- and eighth-grade students will attend school at the newly renovated high school at the main Central Greene campus.

Although a somber occasion, the crowd was anything but that, as the gathered shared stories and anecdotes from their time at the school. There was plenty of laughter and smiles all around as people enjoyed the lunch catered by Back Bay Catering. In addition to the stories shared, special recognition was made for two staff members that are retiring. The Luncheon was hosted by Iron Synergy, Higgins Hauling and J.D Enterprises.

To handle the additional incoming junior high students, the high school will start a \$6 million renovation this summer that is expected to be completed this fall. Once finished, the high school will have room for the incoming junior high students, as well as an new auxiliary gym space. The sixth grade MBM students have already moved to Central Greene's elementary school.

The Margaret Bell Miller middle school is named after Margaret Kerr Bell Miller, a local teacher and forerunner for women's rights and education. Mrs. Miller began her career as a teacher and later became a principal at Waynesburg College. In 1855, she married Alfred B. Miller, president of Waynesburg College.

In September 1928,
Mrs. Miller
was

honored posthumously when a new high school was built in Waynesburg when the new school was named Margaret Bell Miller High School. In 1969, a new high school was built, and Margaret Bell Miller High School became an elementary and middle School. After extensive renovations, Margaret Bell Miller Middle School was officially dedicated in 1979.



Recognize Your Veteran at Greene County Veterans Memorial Park

Greene County Salute to Veterans Committee is encouraging anyone that would like to honor a veteran with a brick at the Greene County Veterans Memorial Park to submit their orders as soon as possible.

Greene County Salute to Veterans committee is dedicated to honoring our veterans and preserving their military contributions. Developed from the idea of the late Rick Black, veteran of the Vietnam War, a permanent monument has been erected on county property at 900 Rolling Meadows Road. Thus far, more than 600 veterans are recognized on four granite tablets at the Memorial Park. The committee is inviting additional veterans to be recognized to fill out the fifth and six granite tablets.

Perfectly situated near the Greene County Historical Society Museum and within sight of the World War I Memorial, the Veterans Memorial consists of a black granite centerpiece with all branches of

service recognized. Arranged outward from the main memorial are large, gray granite tablets bearing veterans' names engraved on both sides. Each monument holds 150 names. The fifth and sixth tablets will be the last opportunity to recognize a veteran for the foreseeable future. There are approximately 170 bricks available.

The park is not just for Greene County Veterans, but for all veterans; alive or deceased. If you would like to remember and honor a veteran, now is the time to order your brick. Special requests for grouping family names or friends together are accepted as space permits. Bricks cost \$200 for the interior and \$150 for the exterior of the gray granite memorials. Memorial benches are no longer available.

Order forms are available through Facebook @GreeneCountyVeteransMemorialPark or email: cmhart@windstream.net. For more information, please call Connie at (724) 852-1252.

Town & Country Garden Club Presents: Hummingbird Feeder Cleaning & Care

While feeding our hummingbirds brings us much enjoyment, there also comes some responsibility when providing their food. It's very important we keep their feeders clean at all times, to keep the little birds healthy and free from injury. Mold and mildew, growing in the nectar and within feeder parts is deadly to hummingbirds. According to the International Hummingbird Society, Feeders should be cleaned with a bleach solution of 1 Tbsp to a quart of water, at least every 4-5 days, and more often, 2-3 days, when weather is 90 degrees or more. Feeders should be dismantled of all removable parts and cleaned with a toothbrush and q-tips, to also reach inside the parts. Be sure to rinse very well. Nectar can be made at home with spring water, or boiled tap water. It's not necessary to buy expensive pre-made, nectar and it's not recommended to add dyes or purchase nectar containing dyes. The formula for making nectar is 4 cups water to 1 cup white cane sugar (WHITE CANE SUGAR

ONLY). Any other sugars can cause death to the bird. Hang feeders where somewhat protected such as overhangs, and keep at least 5 feet from ground. It is not recommended to place feeders on hanging plants or in trees or bushes, since they are more easily ambushed by predators on branches sitting in wait. Hopefully these tips will help you and your little hummers enjoy your summer together!

Presented by member Terri Laird.



This Message Board Is For You!

If you'd like to comment on a picture, send in a GreeneScene of your own, ask questions or share an interesting tidbit about the local area, send it to: GreeneScene Magazine Message Board, 185 Wade Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370 or email to: info@GreeneSceneMagazine.com.

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Community Foundation of Greene County 2022 Scholarships

Congratulations to our 2022 Scholarship Award Recipients! Many thanks to the donors and their families and friends who have made these awards possible!

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\$2,000 to Grace Murin from Mapletown High School



American Legion and Sons of the American Legion Mt. Morris Post 992 Scholarship
\$2,000 to Ethan Maxwell from Waynesburg Central High School



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\$2,000 to Taylor Burnfield from Jefferson-Morgan High School



Carl I. and Joyce Johnston Memorial Scholarship
\$2,000 to Kiley Meek from West Greene High School



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Darlene Phillips Memorial Scholarship
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Dove Award
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Enstrom Family Scholarship
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Enstrom Family Scholarship
\$1,000 to Taryn Schmolke from Jefferson-Morgan High School



Evelyn Minor Scholarship
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Evelyn Minor Scholarship
\$675 to Amber Donley from Mapletown High School



Evelyn Minor Scholarship
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George L. Misher and Anne Misher Memorial Scholarship
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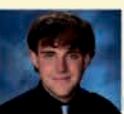
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Rocky Doman Memorial Scholarship
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Thelma S. Hoge Memorial Scholarship
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Thelma J. Szarell Scholarship
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Victor and Anna Mae Beghini Scholarship
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Victor and Anna Mae Beghini Scholarship
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William H. Davis, Jr Memorial Scholarship
\$1,000 to Daniel Bradmon from Home School

Little Miss Firecracker & July Fourth Celebration

The Waynesburg Lions Club July 4th celebration returns to the Waynesburg fairgrounds and Lions Club Park. The event will feature a pancake breakfast, car show, Little Miss Firecracker competition, live music, and – of course – fireworks!

In the morning stop over at the fairgrounds for pancakes and sausage. Breakfast lasts from 7am to 11am and is \$6/person. Children under 6 eat free.

Head on over to the Waynesburg Lions Club Park after breakfast for more fun Fourth of July festivities. The car show's registration is from 10am to 12pm, and the show lasts from 12pm to 3pm. The Lions Club food stand will have plenty of delicious food for sale and will be open from 11 am to 3pm and from 5pm to the end of the festivities.

The July 4th celebrations start at 6:30pm. The Little Miss Firecracker competition will be held at 6:45pm at the Lions Club stage. The pageant is a noncompetitive event for girls ages 5-8 (as of July 4, 2022). The girls appear in patriotic attire while being interviewed on stage. Little Miss Firecracker is determined when each contestant draws a wrapped flower from a basket, with the winner being the one drawing the dif-

ferent colored flower. The winner receives a crown, trophy and bouquet. Each contestant receives a participation medal and gifts.

The 2021 Little Miss Firecracker, Skylar King daughter of Lauren and Danny Wright of Carmichaels, will crown the new queen.

This year's contestants are: Aubrey Ann Czako, daughter of Doug and Lauren Czako of Mount Morris; Ashley Lynn Miklos, daughter of John and Heather Milkos of Carmichaels; Hailey Isabella Policz, daughter of Shawn and Savannah Policz of Waynesburg; Huntlynn King, daughter of Lauren and Danny Wright of New Freeport; Oakleigh King, daughter of Lauren and Danny Wright of New Freeport; and Allison Jane Yerkovich, daughter of Andrew and Julie Yerkovich of Dilliner.

After the competition, live music starts at 7:30pm and ends at 9:30pm. Stay after the music to enjoy the fireworks, starting at dusk. Make sure to bring a blanket or chair to enjoy the music and fireworks!



Huntlynn King



Aubrey Czako



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GREENE COUNTY BROADBAND INITIATIVE ADVANCES WITH \$1M DONATION FROM CNX FOUNDATION

CNX Foundation, a nonprofit organization powered by CNX Resources Corporation which invests tangibly, impactfully, and locally in rural and urban communities across the Appalachian Basin, presented Greene County Commissioners with a \$1 million donation to fuel efforts in optimizing broadband internet access across Greene County. CNX Foundation leadership and Greene County Commissioners launched their partnership with a check presentation outside the Greene County Courthouse on Thursday, May 26, 2022. The donation marks the largest industry contribution Greene County received to-date. CNX Foundation's support is the third major investment since the initiative's inception.

CNX Foundation's donation supports Greene County's goal to provide complete internet availability and access to more than 36,000 residents. Aside from advancing the broadband initiative into phase three, the partnership also progresses Greene County's efforts to become the first 'gig-capable' rural county in Pennsylvania. The \$1 million grant is expected to begin deployment within six to nine months.

"Greene County has been left behind before, but CNX Foundation has stepped up for our community," said Mike Belding, Greene County Commissioner. "To accept a monumental donation such as this one solidifies the partnership altogether and allows us to stay connected with our neighbors."

The broadband expansion in Greene County will benefit local residents, businesses, industries and people across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. With increased internet access for all, the county's efforts bring opportunities for students to learn virtually, professionals to work from anywhere and residents to obtain higher quality entertainment options. County commissioners encourage local businesses and industries to support and get involved with broadband development in Greene County. Increased availability of broadband is not only improving the lives of residents, but also the economic development in the county and provides increasing employment opportunities for county residents.

"CNX Foundation's generous donation expedites this process and is allowing us to

get the technology needed to the people in Greene County," said Greene County Commissioner Betsy McClure. "Since presenting the broadband technology initiative in 2020, we've deployed \$9 million in grants, and we're not slowing down."

This is the third major investment in broadband in Greene County in the past two years. Following a comprehensive feasibility study, the Commissioners successfully invested more than \$3 million in broadband service improvements to serve more than 8,300 underserved and unserved households with a combination of CARES Act Funding and industry capital investments. Following that



success, the Commissioners received \$2.5 million in Appalachian Regional Commission Grant funding matched with \$2.7 million from industry capital investments which will be invested in all or parts of Aleppo, Freeport, Gilmore, Perry, Springhill and Wayne Townships. The CNX broadband expansion initiative in Greene County kicks off in July with an estimated completion by early 2024.

GREENE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HOST STATE USDA DIRECTOR OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

On May 18, the Greene County Commissioners and a number of their staff had an opportunity to host Bob Morgan, State Director, Rural Development of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). USDA Rural Development is the lead federal agency helping rural communities grow and prosper by increasing economic development and improving the quality of life in rural places and small towns.

USDA Rural Development has a portfolio of diverse programs that the commissioners explored as opportunities to solve some lingering issues in the county. The top priority discussed was the East Dunkard

Water Authority initiative to improve water quality, service, and efficiency throughout that water system. In addition to other funding opportunities being explored, USDA water and environmental programs may be applied toward safe drinking water and improving wastewater management systems.

In addition to water and wastewater treatment facilities, USDA Rural Development has loan and grant programs that include telecommunications, community facilities, single and multi-family housing programs and business and cooperative programs.

The recently announced \$1.4 million grant received through the signing of the

federal spending package released in March 2022 will be administered through the USDA under the business and cooperative program. This funding will renovate the county owned Silveus building into a business incubator. In collaboration with Waynesburg University, the incubator will provide workspace, services, access to industry experts and mentors to foster development of early-stage companies and create new jobs in Greene County.

Greene County commissioners and staff will continue to explore all avenues of funding available, particularly state and federal funds, to make Greene County a better



place to live, learn, work, and play. Additional information can be obtained on the Greene County Commissioners' Facebook page or by calling (724) 852-5210.

GREENE COUNTY RECEIVES \$800,000 FOR HOUSING REPAIR PROGRAMS

Greene County Commissioners are proud to announce an award of \$800,000 through the Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Program. This grant will fund the Greene County Rehabilitating Existing Properties and Accessibility Improvements for Residents (REPAIR) Program. REPAIR is an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program. REPAIR will provide deferred loans to low to moderate income homeowners living in Greene County. Upon compliance, this loan will convert to a grant. Funds will be used to repair owner occupied homes

and the Warm Nights House (a temporary shelter located at the Fairgrounds) to bring these properties into code compliance. It will also facilitate accessibility modifications and provide up to two replacement modular homes for homes which cannot be reasonably rehabilitated due to extensive structural defects.

There are currently 13 rehabilitation projects underway through the Greene County HOME Program, another owner occupied housing rehabilitation program. REPAIR will expand services to residents that would not meet the lowest income guidelines which are

required under HOME.

These projects will be completed by the end of this year and REPAIR will continue to assist in Greene County's efforts to improve housing for residents. The current rehabilitation is not only improving housing conditions in the county, but is also providing jobs to local contractors and utilize local material suppliers.

Only owner-occupied homes located in Greene County are eligible for these programs. The programs are available on a first come first serve basis until funds are depleted. The intent is to provide no interest,

forgivable loans to assist with roof issues, safety and health issues, updates to major systems such as furnaces, outdated electric or plumbing systems, and other repairs to preserve, improve, and stabilize the current housing stock in Greene County.

If you have questions or are interested in applying for the HOME Program or REPAIR Program for housing rehabilitation or work with us as a contractor, inspector or Lead and Radon Specialist, please contact: Crystal Simmons at csimmons@co.greene.pa.us or Nikki Mickens at nmickens@co.greene.pa.us or Phone (724) 852-5260.



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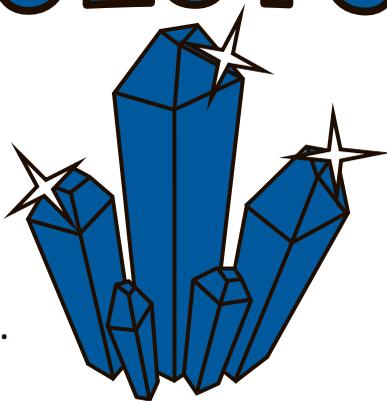
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Additional details will be provided upon winning the trip.

Name: _____
 Email: _____ Phone: _____

Mail to: Splash Lagoon Contest, 185 Wade Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370. Winner will be selected at random from correct entries. **One Entry Per Person, Drawing on 07/11/22.** Winner must respond within 24 hours of notification to receive prize.

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Intentional Walks

By Bret Moore

Men's Fastpitch Softball

When I was a boy in the 1960s and early 1970s, fast-pitch softball was extremely popular in the area. There was a series of local tournaments that drew large crowds in Blacksville, Brave, Waynesburg and Hundred. The Waynesburg Lions Club even hosted the KASA State Tournament in 1969. Teams from Waynesburg, Brave and Brownsville made up a fourth of the 12-team field that included five-time champion Allentown and that year's winner Sal's Lunch of Philadelphia.

In the early 60s, Brave had the best team in the area. Their pitcher Bob Burgman was nationally known. He commanded local mounds from 1950-91. In 1961, he pitched for Philadelphia at the Softball World Series. In 1961, Huck Tennent pitched the Brave team to the West Virginia State Finals. The annual Brave softball tournament drew large crowds to watch teams from around the region. That tournament was the oldest (started 1949) and largest in the area until the Waynesburg Lions Club tournament (started 1964) surpassed it in size and reputation by the late 60s. Burgman was the pitcher for the winning squad the first three years of the Lions tournament. He accomplished the feat for three different teams – Brave, Curry's of McKeesport, and Zane's Bar.

In the early 60s, there was also an adult church fastpitch league in the county. In 1960 at the annual league banquet, Spraggs received the championship trophy after upsetting the heavily favored Baptists, who had gone 24-2 in the regular season. However, the season ended in controversy when not a single Baptist player made the league's all-star team. That included Pete Walker, who had a 12-1 pitching record, a .603 batting average, 16 homeruns and 16 doubles. Walker was one of the area's premier players for the two

decades of fast pitch softball's popularity. By 1961, there was an Independent League. Waynesburg's Wonder Bar defeated Mather in the championship series. The series featured two of the area's dominant pitchers – Wonder Bar's Walker and Mather's Muscles McNeely. Other members of the Wonder Bar team were Gary Cole, Jim Stephenson, Bill Higgins, John Summersgill, Bud Milliken and Gordo McCracken.

There was also a Big 4 League that included: Rich's Mobile Homes, GI Town, Gigi's Shoemakers (Carmichaels), and the Dilliner Miners. Rich's won the 1962 title with a 45-5 overall record after going undefeated in the league regular season. They competed within the league as well as against other independent teams such as Brave. At the 1965 Waynesburg Lions Club Tournament, Brave tied the King and his Court 2-2 in an exhibition game. The famous four-man touring team was led by the legendary pitcher Eddie "The King" Feigner.

In 1968, the Waynesburg Guthrie Truckers finished third at the state tournament after dropping a pair of 2-1 games to perennial power and eventual champion Sal's Lunch of Philadelphia. In 1969, the Truckers defeated Burgman and Zane's Bar in the finals of the Lion's Club tournament. As a result, they earned another birth to the state tournament along with the team from Brave. That tournament was held in Waynesburg at three local fields. College Field, Emerald Field, and Meadowlark Park all hosted games. Neither local team placed, and the tournament was won again by Sal's Lunch, who then went on to win the national title.

However, the following year the Truckers did what no area team had done. They



won the KASA State Championship and went on to the World Tournament in Fresno, California. That summer, the Truckers even scheduled a tour around Niagara Falls against teams from that area. Pete Walker was injured just before the state tournament and required season-ending surgery. The team picked up Kenny "Geech" Cross from Monroeville and Brave's John Edgar to hurl in Altoona. Victories over Elkland (2-0) and Bethlehem (8-1) (2-0) gave the Truckers the state title. Before the team could attend the World Tournament, funds would need to be raised. Local businesses sponsored each player and manager. The business would get a big write-up in the Democrat-Messenger for its sponsorship with the player's picture. The trip cost \$273 (\$219 for the flight and \$54 for the motel room). The Truckers lost a close 2-1 contest to eventual champion Houston, Texas and an elimination game against Hawthorn, California. This would mark the high point for men's fastpitch in the area.

The following year, that team became the Triangle Truckers and finished the season 23-7. However, they were 16-1 when Walker pitched. They once again qualified for the State Tournament; however, they finished second after falling to Nazareth 2-1 in the finals. Walker had pitched a perfect game in the semi-finals and was named the tournament MVP. Members of the team during their runs

included: Dave Cosgray, Ron Shimek, Marty Doney, Gary "Shade" Cole, Dave Sowden, Jeff Criss, John Summersgill, Gary Vukmanic, Bob Watts, Myron McMinn, Larry Wilson, Dana Filer, Bob Iams, Paul Ankney, John Edgar, Ernie Chadderton, Keith Haney, Dave Pritchard and Bob Iams. Jim Moore and Bob Rohanna both served as managers during various years. Rohanna was also an occasional pitcher for the squad. In every tournament that season, the team won the Best Dressed Award.

From 1964 to 1979, the Lion's Club Tournament drew huge crowds to College Field and later the Fairgrounds. The evening would begin with a slo-pitch contest and be followed by two fast pitch games under the lights. Two-time World Champion Sol-Mintz of Washington was dominant in the slo-pitch division. The fast-pitch division was a highly competitive affair that saw the area's best athletes compete for the title. Burns' Esso, Red Star and Jefferson Hotel were other highly competitive local teams. In 1974, the tournament format changed to include a women's slo-pitch division. Fewer fast pitch teams and the rebirth of women's athletics in the decade led to the change. Penn Plastics of Washington won the first women's trophy. However, by the middle of the next decade, the fast-pitch game had all but disappeared from the area.



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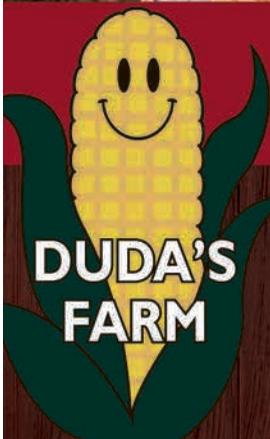
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CARMICHAELS AREA

BOY OF THE MONTH



Jacob Fordyce is the son of Cliff and Tammy Fordyce of Carmichaels. Jacob is the catcher for the Mikes' baseball team. In school, he maintains a 4.12 GPA and is a member of the National Honor Society, the Academic League, Student Council, Spanish Club, Junior Standing Committee, and Big Brothers Big Sisters. In addition to being an alter server at St. Matthias Parish, he volunteers at the local food bank, tutors at the high school and is a member of SOAR at the Greene County Airport. Jacob has his private pi-

lot's license and is a volunteer with Vintage Wings,

GIRL OF THE MONTH



Kendall Ellsworth is the daughter of Brent and Chasity Ellsworth. She just completed her junior year and plays volleyball and softball for the Mikes. She is a member of the National Honor Society, student council, and the Junior Standing Committee. Kendall was named First Team All-Section and All-County for volleyball and All-County for softball. She also plays for the Morgantown Volleyball Club.

JEFFERSON MORGAN

BOY OF THE MONTH



Patrick Holaren is the son of Sara Shaffer of Rices Landing and Andrew Holaren of Rochester. He plays baseball and golf. Patrick lettered this year in baseball and last year in golf. He has played travel baseball for the Greene County Rangers, Joe Leonard's

Baseball Academy and is currently playing for the Mon Valley Vipers. Patrick has played baseball since the age of four and is in his third year of golf. In his free time, he enjoys fishing, hunting, golfing, and other outdoor activities.

GIRL OF THE MONTH



Leighana Gooden is the daughter of Rodney and Lacey Gooden of Waynesburg. As a freshman, she played basketball, volleyball and softball for the Rockets. She is also a member of the JM rifle team. Leighana has been on the honor roll for all grading periods and is a member of student council, Spanish Club and yearbook. Outside of school, Leighana also plays for Elite Youth Basketball and the Morgantown Volleyball Club. In addition, she volunteers at Social Service League events.

SPORTS SHORTS

SPORTS TIDBITS FROM AROUND THE COUNTY

After winning the U20 79kg U.S. Open Wrestling Championship in Las Vegas, former Waynesburg Raider Luca Augustine competed in the Challenge Tournament to qualify for the National Team. The Pitt sophomore narrowly missed out on a chance to compete at the World Tournament in Bulgaria. He lost a close match to Oklahoma State recruit Brayden Thompson in the Challenge finals.

Clay-Battelle alum and Waynesburg University freshman Sydney Wilson was named the 2022 Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Year. She was also named to the NCAA Division III All-Region Team, First Team All-Presidents' Athletic Conference, and PAC Newcomer of the Year. She led the conference in wins (18), shutouts (6), complete games (21) and opponents batting average (.200).

Joining Wilson on the All-ECAC softball team were Jacket sophomores Ella Brookman (Chartiers-Houston) and Sydney Senay (Canon-Mac).

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"MAKE READY"

With Dave Bates of Alpha Omega Shooting Solutions, LLC

Number Two & the Second Amendment

This month I am going to cut right to the chase... Most of my columns are relegated to weapons handling, safety training, tactics, and all things concealed carry. Sorry to disappoint, but this installment is not nearly as sexy! In the July issue, we will discuss the use of the bathroom while carrying a firearm.

We all use the restroom and, while it is not a subject we feel comfortable discussing openly, there are concerns with using the restroom (oftentimes a public facility) where we need to rethink our weapons handling protocol. What do I do with my weapon when going potty? Let it sink in for a minute or two... Consider your surroundings. Who is in the stall next to you? Do you know them? Do you want others to see you carrying a gun? Could someone reach over and take your weapon? What happens when you sit your weapon on the TP holder and walk out of the restroom, completely forgetting about your firearm until it is too late? Think it can't or won't happen? You haven't carried a firearm much if you are still that naive! Fallout from doing your business with a firearm can be serious business.

I would mention that many schools of thought preach that one's weapon should never leave the holster as a matter of safety. I disagree. While it is true that a holstered weapon is inherently safer than an unholstered one, there are other factors to consider.

First off, the chances of leaving your weapon lying on top of the toilet tank or toilet paper holder are quite high. **DO NOT PLACE YOUR WEAPON ON ANY SURFACE OFF YOUR BODY!** Your attention comes off your gun for even a second and the distraction causes one to forget about the weapon entirely. Once your firearm is no longer under your care, liability skyrockets. I have found that the best way to keep this from happening is to place the weapon in the crotch of the undergarment, with the muzzle pointing back towards the toilet, in a safe direction. Your eyes are on your gun the entire time. Upon completion of doing one's business, return the gun to the holster and reverse the process. Great care must be given to safe holstering. Keep your finger off the trigger, stay aware that no obstruction gets near the trigger guard

as the weapon is inserted into the holster and seat the weapon into the holster with the webbing between thumb and forefinger in a widespread grip. Once the weapon is safely inside the holster, it should remain there as pants are zipped, buckle fastened, and then a quick check is made for full concealment of the weapon.

Additionally, keep in mind what the person in the stall to the right or left is seeing when you sit with your weapon holstered. Is it necessary or helpful for others to see your firearm? After all, it is concealed carry of which we are speaking, with an emphasis on concealed. How much effort does it take to reach under the stall and remove a weapon from another's holster? Don't believe it can happen? Think crime of opportunity. By making another person aware that you are carrying, you are giving them the opportunity to possess a weapon that would be otherwise unavailable to them. Would it not be more prudent to keep one's weapon concealed in the first place? I recommend turning one's holster inwards so that the empty holster is canted inside of one's pants, out of the sight of others. I prefer to wait until others have gone to ensure privacy, if possible, while reholstering. Call it tactical paranoia but I'd rather be safe than sorry.

So, while it seems like use of the restroom would be a no brainer, give some thought before introducing firearms to the mix. It might save you a lot of time and hassle along the way. In the spirit of preparedness, I might even suggest practicing this new skill at home, prior to going live in a public restroom.



Dave Bates is the owner of Alpha Omega Shooting Solutions, LLC in Khedive, PA. Bates is an NRA certified instructor, a teacher, coach and police officer with nearly 40 years of experience. If you have questions or are interested in learning more about firearms training, contact Dave by email: alphaomegashootingsolutions@gmail.com or by phone at 724-966-7011.

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CENTRAL GREENE



Two members of the Raider track team returned from the PIAA Tournament with medals. Dawson Fowler took fifth place in the Triple Jump and Drew Layton took second in the Pole Vault. Layton's height of 14'6" was tied for the highest, but he finished second due to a previous misses.

BOY OF THE MONTH

Dawson Fowler is the son of David and Stacy Fowler of Waynesburg. Dawson graduated in June and achieved high honors as a member of the National Honor Society. His senior year, he lettered in four sports-golf, soccer, basketball, and track and field. His golf and basketball teams made the WPIAL playoffs. Dawson was also selected to the All-



County First Team in basketball and chosen to play in the Round Ball Classic at Geneva College. In addition, Dawson experienced his greatest success in Track and Field. He was the Washington and Greene Field MVP during his junior year and also qualified for the WPIAL Individual Championship. During his senior year, he was the Baldwin Invitational and WPIAL Triple Jump Champion. Dawson finished his track season at the AA State Championship finals, where he placed fifth in the triple jump. He plans on attending college to obtain a degree in business and pursue a career in Real Estate Development.

GIRL OF THE MONTH



Jordan Dean is the daughter of Stan and Kelli Dean of Spraggs. On the track, she is a three-year letter winner, a two-time WPIAL qualifier and the current 800-meter Section 6AA champion. The junior also holds the school record in the 300-meter hurdles.

Jordan is also student council treasurer, president of the prom committee, a member of Alpha Beta, Leo Club, and National Honor Society. Her future plans are to attend college to earn a degree in physical therapy and continue her track career.

SMASH FASTPITCH TEAMS SUCCESSFUL AT THE BOPARC KICKOFF TO SUMMER TOURNAMENT

The Smash 10u team won the Silver bracket championship for their age division at the Kickoff to Summer tournament at BOPARC in Morgantown. Olivia Watson, Chloe Shaffer and Reese Six led the team from the circle. The leading hitters were Rylee Yeager, Lainey Beazell, Campbell McConnell and Watson. In addition, Watson, Yeager and Shaffer earned MVP ribbons.

The 12u team was seeded 4th after a full day of pool play. Lacey Braddock had 19 strikeouts in three games and helped her own cause with a pair of doubles and a triple. McKinlee Goodnight also assisted from the circle. Other big hitters were Kylin Oliveto, Tavan Ternitsky and Robi Finley, who collected two



Olivia Watson led the Smash 10u team to the Silver Bracket Championship at the BOPARC Kickoff to Summer Tournament.

game-changing RBI. MVP ribbons were earned by Brelynn Wood, Finley and Oliveto

Finally, the 14u squad defeated the PA Dirt Assassins and PA Rage. Kallyn Novak and Emilee Bazzoli shared the pitching duties. The leading hitters were Addy Teagarden, Lelia McCollum, Bre Kerr, Ava Wood and Aidan Snider. MVP ribbons were earned by Novak, McCollum and Bazzoli.

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WEST GREENE

BOY OF THE MONTH



Hayden Hamilton is the son of Jeff and Rhonda Hamilton of Holbrook. He competed in football and baseball as a freshman for the Pioneers. Hayden played running back and defensive back in the fall for the conference champions.

On the diamond, he was a pitcher and middle infielder and helped win the school's first-ever baseball section title. Hayden also participates for the Greene County Allies summer baseball travel team.

GIRL OF THE MONTH



Lexi Six is the daughter of Zach Six of New Freeport. She is a three-sport athlete, competing in cross country, basketball and softball for the Lady Pioneers. Lexi was a guard on the basketball team that won their sixth straight section title this winter. She is also a standout

third baseman for the Lady Pioneer softball team, who also won their sixth straight section title this spring. She just completed her junior year and participates in the Science Club at school. She is a member of the Thunder Fastpitch summer travel team. Lexi enjoys volunteering time to coach Little League basketball and softball in her spare time as well.

ANOTHER GREAT SEASON FOR WEST GREENE SOFTBALL PIONEERS MAKE EXTENDED PLAYOFF RUN

West Greene earned its 13th win of the season with a 7-0 win over section rival Mapletown in a WPIAL Class A quarterfinal game played at Waynesburg University. Kiley Meek picked up the win striking out 12 and issuing 3 walks. The Lady Maples effectively went back and forth with a combination of Macee Cree and Devan Clark. Devan Clark also pitched in 2 separate stints, striking out 1. Mapletown pitchers did not issue a walk. Katie Lampe was 2 for 4 and scored two runs. London Whipkey was 2 for 4, with two RBI and scored a run with her long solo home run in the fifth inning. Kiley Meek went 3 for 4 and she had four RBI. Payton Gilbert went 3 for 3 with a double and a run scored as the DP.

The team ran its win streak to 14 games with a 5-2 victory over Springdale in the Class A semis held at Upper St. Clair. Kiley Meek picked up the win striking out 12 and walking two. Lexi Six had a stolen base and a run scored for the Pioneers. Olivia Kiger scored two runs, had a sacrifice bunt, and connected on an outfield assist with London Whipkey to nail a runner at the plate in the fourth inning. BreAnn Jackson had a critical hit and RBI to tack on a run in the sixth. Payton Gilbert had an outstanding game, going 3 for 3 with a triple, two RBI, a stolen base, and a run scored. Taylor Karvan drew a walk and scored the eventual game-winning run for WG. Brianna Thompson went 3 for 3 with a run scored for Springdale.

The Pioneers had their 14-game win streak and run of five consecutive WPIAL Championships stopped with a 3-2 loss to Union in the Class A WPIAL Final at California University. London Whipkey had a hit and drew a walk. Marissa Sharp scored as a courtesy runner in the bottom of the first on Kiley Meek's RBI triple. BreAnn Jackson, and Taylor Karvan also had a hit apiece for West Greene. Anna Durbin reached on a bunt single, and scored in the fifth inning to tie the score 2-2. Kiley Meek took the loss striking out 3 and walking 3.

In the first round of the PIAA playoffs, West Greene held off a fierce Conemaugh Valley rally in the bottom of the seventh to secure a 9-8 win. The game was played at Conemaugh Valley, and Kiley Meek picked up the win striking out 5 and walking 4. Katie Lampe was 1 for 3 with an RBI and two runs scored for WG. Lexi Six was 2 for 4 and added a 2-RBI double. Taylor Karvan was 2 for 3 with an RBI and a run scored as well. London Whipkey had a big day at the plate, going 4 for 4 with two runs scored and two RBI, including a solo home run in the fifth inning.

The Pioneers' season came to end at Slippery Rock University with an 8-2 defeat in the PIAA Class Quarterfinals at the hands of traditional power Dubois Central Catholic. Katie Lampe went 2 for 4 and scored a run. London Whipkey went 2 for 4 with a double and an RBI. Kiley Meek also went 2 for 4 at the plate for West Greene. BreAnn Jackson had an RBI single, and Lexi Six added a double for the Lady Pioneers. West Greene finished at 15-5 on the season.

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CALLING ALL BAKERS!

Many families in Greene County look forward to the arrival of Jacktown and Greene County fairs for more reasons than you know. One treat is getting to be the test panel for the bakers in the family who are planning to compete in one or more of the baking contests that bring out the best cooks in the county. Here are four that offer the highest premiums and a chance to advance to state competition.

All four contests will be held at each fair, at Jacktown on July 18, and Greene County Fair on August 8. Entrants in each of these contests must be Pennsylvania residents and may not have won first place in the same contest at any other 2022 fair. Cash prizes will be awarded at all the local contests and the first-place winners in each will also advance to the state finals at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in January for a chance at \$500 cash prize for the winning recipe in each contest.

New last year, both the Jacktown Fair and the Greene County Fair will open the judging of the special baking contests to the public again this year. The judging will be held live for these competitions. The live judging for the Jacktown Fair will be held on July 18 and live judging for the Greene County Fair is August 8 at 6pm.

FMI on deadlines, entry forms, and full contest rules contact Karrie Burns for the Jacktown Fair at 724-833-0718 or visit jacktownfair.org, and for the Greene County Fair or contact Liz Marshall for the Greene County Fair at 724-852-2175 or visit greenecountyfair.org.

18th Annual INCREDIBLE Angel Food Cake Contest

Sponsored by Pennsylvania Egg Farmers and the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs. There are two main types of cakes, butter, and foam (egg-leavened). Angel food is the classic example of a foam cake. The cake is 100% fat free and, because of the eggs, is a good source of the highest

quality protein, as well as a source of choline, which is essential to memory and brain development. Prizes awarded will be first place: \$25; second place: \$15; and third place: \$10. When entering your cake, which must be made from scratch and should use eggs produced in Pennsylvania, you must also submit the recipe. Cakes will be judged on the following categories and percentages: 30% Flavor (smell, taste, flavoring); 25% Inside Characteristics (texture, lightness); 20% Overall Appearance (surface, size, color); 15% Creativity; 10% Topping, Icing or Decoration.

34th Annual Blue Ribbon Apple Pie Contest

Sponsored by The Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs, this is among the most popular contests and sought-after award. Over 100 fairs across Pennsylvania will offer cash prizes for the best pie.

Pies do not have to be traditional two crusted pies, and can have other ingredients in the filling, though it must be 60% apples. All ingredients and decorations must be edible. Judging will be based on total score up to 100 points according to these categories: Flavor - 30 points; Filling consistency, doneness, moistness & flavor - 25 points; Crust color, flavor, texture, doneness - 20 points; Overall Appearance - 15 points; Creativity - 10 points. The recipe for the pie must be submitted with the entry. So, dig out that favorite apple pie recipe and give it a try. You could end up being the Blue Ribbon Apple Pie winner.

Homemade Chocolate Cake Contest

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs (PSACF). A contest participant must be an individual amateur baker, and the entry must be a layered chocolate cake made from scratch. The entry must be frosted, and the frosting must also be made from scratch. The cake recipe must feature chocolate or cocoa as a main ingredient.



PA Preferred Junior Baking Cookies, Brownies and Bars

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's PA Preferred program and coordinated by the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs. The goal of this PA Preferred Junior Baking Contest is to encourage young people across the Commonwealth to participate in Pennsylvania's agricultural fairs by showcasing Pennsylvania grown and produced products in their contest entries.

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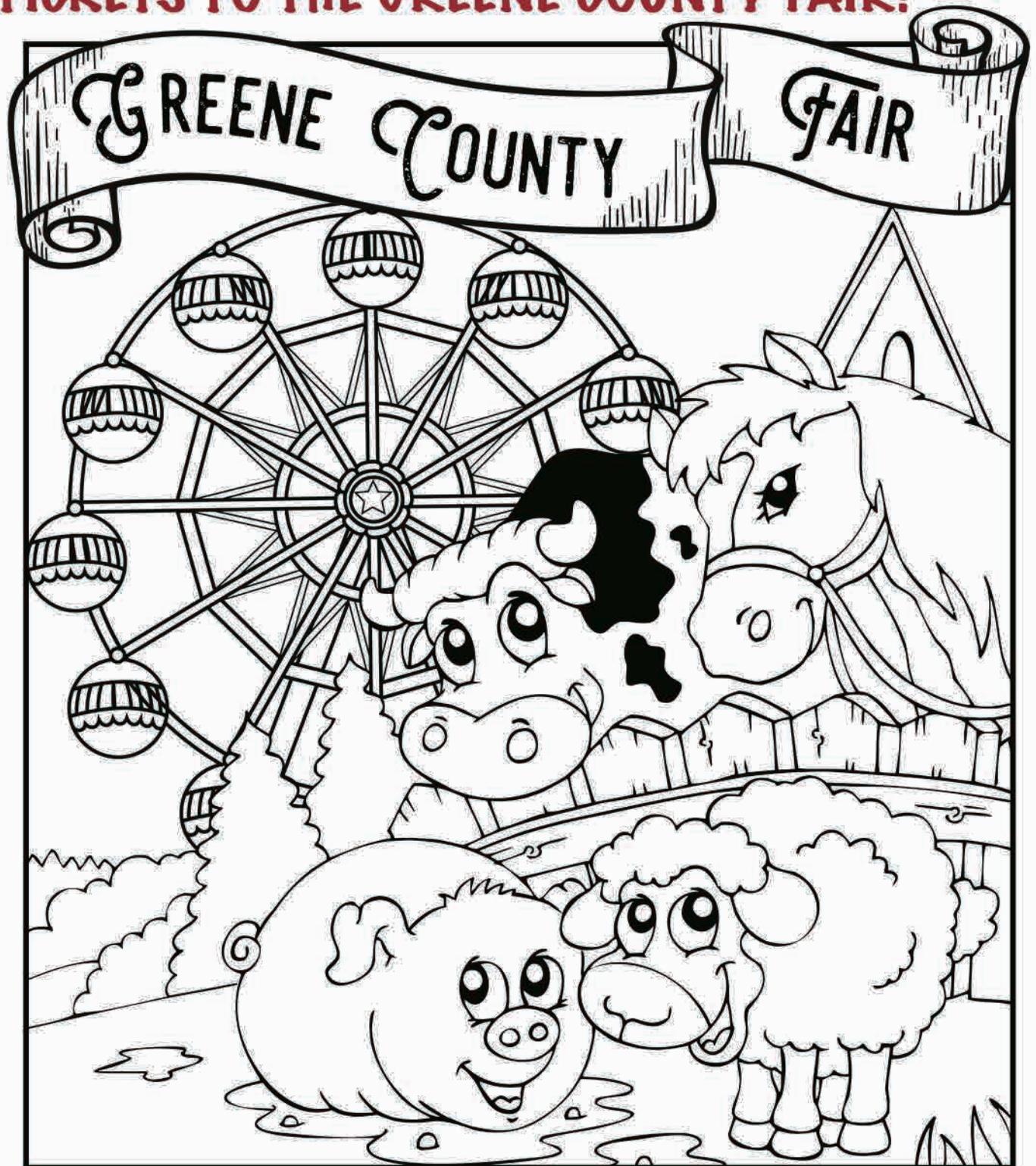
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Fill in your name, age category and daytime phone number, and send this entire page **no later than July 11, 2022** to:

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2022 • Greene County Fair • August 7th - 13th

SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 31st • (No Animals or Rides)

6PM Fair Queen Contest

Sunday, August 7th • (No Rides)

11AM Draft Horse Halter & Mules Show
1PM Draft Horse Hitch Show)
5:30PM..... Vesper Service (open to public), led by Rev. Don Wilson, followed by
4F Faith, Family, Friends, Freedom band.

Monday, August 8th • Kids Day

A child (12 & under) accompanied by a paid adult admission ticket admitted FREE

Sponsored by First Federal Savings & Loan

9AM Home & Garden Judging (closed to public)
9:30AM 4-H, FFA and Open Goat Show
4PM Bingo
4-6PM Queen Meet & Greet
5PM ATV Drag Racing Registration & Practice
6PM Live Judging: Special Baking Contests
7PM ATV Drag Racing by KOI Drag Racing
Rules available at koidracing.com
Sponsored by Waynesburg Yamaha-Suzuki-KTV-Husqvarna
7PM Leadline Contest

Tuesday, August 9th

9:30AM 4-H Rabbit Show
11:30AM 4-H, FFA Exhibition Live Carcass Class
12PM Harness Racing
Sponsored by Direct Results, home of the GreeneScene Magazine
4PM Bingo
6PM 4-H & FFA Market Steer Show & Showmanship
7PM Truck & Tractor Pulls Featuring:
1. Pro Stock 4x4 Trucks
2. 8,000 lb. Open Street Diesel 4x4
3. Hot Farm Tractors
4. Hot Street Semi Trucks
By Power Pulling Productions LLC/Rules at
www.powerpullingproductions.com
Sponsored by Fox Ford of Waynesburg

Wednesday, August 10th

9:30AM 4-H, FFA & Open Beef Cattle Show
12PM Harness Racing
Sponsored by Direct Results, home of the GreeneScene Magazine
4PM Bingo
6:30PM..... 4-H & FFA Market Lamb Show & Showmanship
8:30PM..... Live Music: Colt Ford

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Thursday, August 11th • Senior Citizen Day & Veterans Day

Seniors, ages 65 and older with proper ID, and Veterans admitted FREE

9:30AM 4-H, FFA & Open Sheep Show
4PM Bingo
5:15PM..... 4-H & FFA Livestock Showmanship Awards
6PM 4-H & FFA Market Steer and Lamb Sale
7PM Farm Stock Tractors
8:30PM..... Live Music: Buckwild
Sponsored by Old Station Bar & Grill

Friday, August 12th

10AM 4-H & FFA Tractor Driving Competition
followed by 4-H & FFA Stockmens Contest
4PM Bingo
6:30PM..... Kids Power Wheels Derby
7PM Chaos in Coal Country Demolition Derby Featuring
1. Hardcore Compacts
2. Hardcore Hobby Stock
Sponsored by Hinerman NAPA & Brady's Roadhouse

Saturday, August 13th

4PM Bingo
5PM Wood Carvings Auction
Auctioned by Joe Pyle Auction Service
7PM Truck & Tractor Pulls Featuring
1. Super Stock 4X4 Trucks
2. Limited Pro/Super Farm Tractors
3. Pro Modified 4WD Trucks
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www.powerpullingproductions.com
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Saturday, September 17th at 7PM The 23rd Annual Greene County Lucas Oil Mega Pull

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Sunday, August 7th no rides.

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ALL-WEEK ATTRACTIONS

Tuesday, August 9th - Saturday, August 13th

- Nate Howards Custom Wood Carvings,

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- Patriot Games Laser Tag (Tues., Wed., Thurs. 5PM-11PM, Sat. 3PM-11PM)
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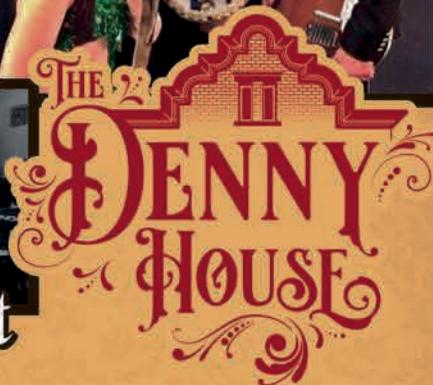
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ARE YOU READY TO BE ENTERTAINED?

Live at the Greene County fair in 2022 – Colt Ford! The show will take place on Wednesday, August 10 at 8:30pm. Colt Ford consistently blazes his own trail. By doing so, the Georgia singer, songwriter, rapper, musician, performer, and co-founder and co-owner of Average Joes Entertainment keeps up pace as country's preeminent independent maverick.

Selling over 3 million albums, attracting millions of followers on social media and hitting 1 billion-plus streams, the country rap pioneer's dynamic discography spans collaborations with everyone from Toby Keith, Brad Paisley, Keith Urban, and Jermaine Dupri to members of No Doubt, Lit, and Lady A. Additionally, he co-wrote Jason Aldean's #1 hit "Dirt Road Anthem" and Brantley Gilbert's #1 hit "Country Must Be Country Wide" as a behind-the-scenes force in the studio. Moreover, Ford's solo tradition of genre-blurring continued on Love Hope Faith in 2017 by way of cuts such as "Reload" [feat. Taylor Ray Holbrook].

Other musical entertainment at the 2022 Greene County Fair includes Buckwild on August 11 at 6pm. Buckwild is a rocking country cover band hailing from Pittsburgh, PA. With members from bands like Christian Beck Band, The Hillbilly Way, 1985, Chris Higbee Project, Stampede, and Whiskey High, Buckwild delivers a top-notch live show experience for all ages. Buckwild's song list is made up of today's best country hits from A to Z and few well known classic rock anthems. Buckwild's high energy show is sure to entertain all types of concert goers.

PULLS, DERBIES, AND RACES

If your more into action than music, The Greene County Fair has plenty of that to keep you entertained. On Monday, August 8 KOI Drag Racing starts at 7pm, with classes for kids (12 & under) and adults! Over 20 classes for ATVs, dirt bikes and side by sides. Class entry fee is \$10 with 100% payout. Registration is on August 8 at 5pm, followed by practice. KOI Drag Racing is a racing organization that brings dirt drag racing to you. Visit koidragracing.com to learn more about them.

Truck and tractor pulls will be held on Tuesday, August 9, Thursday, August 11, and Saturday, August 13 at 7pm. Tuesday's classes include Pro Stock 4x4 Trucks, 8000 Open Street Diesel, Hot Farm Tractors, and Hot Street Semi Trucks; Saturday's include Super Stock 4x4 Trucks, Limited Pro/Super Farm Tractors, and Pro Modified 4WD Trucks. The Field Farm and Open Farm Stock Tractor Pulls August 11 features Farm Stock Tractor classes in 5500 lb, 7500 lb, 9500 lb, 11500 lb, and 13500 lb. Thursday's registration is that day from 5 to 6:15pm.

The always popular demolition derby Chaos in Coal Country! by Hard Core Derby returns on Friday, August 12. It will feature hardcore compacts and hardcore Hobby Stock classes. Inspection starts that day at 12pm and goes until 3pm; the derby starts at 7pm. The derby will be preceded by the Kids Power Wheels Derby at 6:30pm.

Hard Core Derby is a team of knowledgeable and experienced individuals dedicated to promoting and preserving the sport of demolition derby. The team is comprised of current and former drivers with well over one hundred years of experience. Members of their team have built cars and ran at some of the biggest derbies in the country along with competing in every fair in our area. Visit <https://hardcorderbypromotions.com> for a list of rules.

Admission is \$10 at the gate and includes parking, animals, rides, and entertainment.

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ADMISSION \$10 AT THE GATE

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WHO WILL BE THE NEXT GREENE COUNTY FAIR QUEEN?

The Fair Queen Program of the Greene County Fair is now accepting applications for the 2022 Greene County Fair Queen Contest celebrating it's 36th year. The contest will take place on Sunday, July 31 at the Greene County Fair Grounds at 6pm. The contest is open to females aged 16 to 20 as of June 1, 2022, who must reside in Greene County, Pennsylvania.

The 2022 Greene County Fair Queen will compete in the State Fair Contest during the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs Convention, held at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in January 2023.

Contestants be judged on an essay on "What the Greene County Fair Means to my Community", a three-to-five-minute speech on "Why You Should Come to the Greene County Fair", a personal interview, impromptu question, and modeling in an evening gown.

At the conclusion of the contest, the 2022 Fair Queen will be crowned by the 2021 Greene County Fair Queen, Krysten DeBolt of New Freeport. In addition, a first alternate, most photogenic and Miss Congeniality will be named. Each participant will receive a goodie-bag with local items and title winners will receive additional prize packages. In addition to the queen's crown, sash and trophy, the 2022 queen will also receive a queen's bouquet compliments of the Randy Anderson family, a professional photo session, along



with a \$1,000 scholarship to be awarded at the end of her reign and a prize package of items representing Greene County. Her registration, travel and accommodations to participate in the state contest will also be awarded. The first alternate will also receive a crown and sash along with a prize package. Both the queen and first alternate will have duties during the Greene County Fair during the week of August 6th through August 13.

The 2022 Greene County Fair Queen will represent the fair at local parades, other fairs and queen contests in the region along with various local events and activities over the next year. Plus, she will have optional assistance with all aspects of preparing for the State Fair Queen Competition from a list of local individuals who specialize in the various skills needed to compete, interview training, modeling, public speaking, writing, wardrobe selection, hair, make-up, etc.

A Meet-n-Greet will be held on Thursday, July 7th at 6pm for the 2022 contestants to get

to know one another, meet the 2022 Greene County Fair Queen, Krysten DeBolt and to learn more about the contest and the activities surrounding the fair.

The application to participate can be found on the fair's website at <https://greencountyfair.org/fair-queen> and further information can be obtained by calling or texting 724-998-2386. The deadline to register to participate is Thursday, June 30.

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July 12 The Projects
July 26 Jenny Wilson Trio
August 2 The Shadowcats
August 16 The Straybirds
August 23 Outpost
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GET READY FOR THE COMPETITION!

There's no better place than our county's fairs to engage in a little friendly competition with your friends and neighbors. When most people think about county fair home and garden competitions, they think about prize vegetables, blue-ribbon canning, or award-winning baked goods, art, and photography. But the fairs have so much more to offer than that. And some of the contests are a little unusual – and fun!

Looking for something a little more fun and unusual? The wheelbarrow decorating contest or bucket of junk decorating contests might be right up your alley! For the wheelbarrow decorating contest you'll need to create a garden in a wheelbarrow with live plants only; decorations can be added. Take your bucket and make it a work of art by welding, bolting, gluing, wiring, sanding, painting, and/or attaching it to more buckets and enter it in the bucket of junk contest.

Other categories of competition include baking, canning, floral, honey, wine, maple syrup, vegetables, fruits, nuts, grains and plenty of arts and crafts. There are classes for

sewing, crocheting, knitting, cross-stitching, quilts, rugs, handcraft, dolls, leatherwork, jewelry, furniture – the list goes on and on! There are also art classes for including acrylic, charcoal, mixed media, oil, pastel, pencil, watercolor, crayon, pen & ink, digital and more. Check out the new and adjusted classes offering lots of new opportunities to create! Premiums range from \$35 to \$1, depending on category/class and place.

Interested in participating in some of the competitions? Jacktown Fair Home & Garden entries will be accepted July 17 from 1pm to 7pm and entries must be picked up on July 24. Greene County Fair Home & Garden entries post-marked by July 20 are \$0.25 per item and late entries after that date are \$1 per item. Entries will be accepted August 7 from 10am to 3pm and picked up August 14. FMI, visit greenecountyfair.org or jacktown-fair.org.



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WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE GREENE COUNTY FAIR

By Zack Zeigler

Every August, the Greene County Fair graces Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, bringing with it the fun and excitement of a year's worth of hard work and planning. For many, fond memories have been made walking the fairgrounds – whether it be participating in the Livestock auction, riding rides, or just hanging out with friends.

Secretary Treasurer of the Greene County Fair and Greene County Fair Board Treasurer Debbie Stephenson has many of those memories herself from when she was little.

“My dad would always bring me to the fair when I was little and it was always a great time,” Debbie says. “Most of my friends sold livestock and I liked just going to hang out with them and getting to see friends old and new at the fair.”

Debbie still attends the Greene County Fair to this day, but now she is one of the many women behind the scenes who help run the fair each year. The fair may only be open for a few days to the public, but it takes Debbie and the rest of her co-workers all year to plan and pull off such a successful event. The fair has been running for over 100 years and is one of only two county-owned fairs in the state of Pennsylvania. It is because of the year-round work of people like Debbie that the fair has been able to thrive as long as it has.

“As soon as the fair ends the job of planning next year's fair begins,” Debbie says. “It is a year-round job and I always say if you don't love it then you are in the wrong business. There is a lot more to the fair than just going to the fair. We deal with sponsorships, entries, sharings for livestock and it varies with everything you have to do day-to-day.”

As soon as the fair ends, Stephenson and the Greene County Fair Board hold a meeting to talk about the past year's fair. They discuss what worked, what didn't, and work on the schedule for the next year's fair as they try and continually improve the guest experience. Every fair is different, and the group works to try and improve the fair experience for everyone year in and year out.

Along with her duties at the Greene County Fair, Stephenson is also a State Fair Director, which gives her the opportunity to go around Pennsylvania to see how other fairs are run and bring those ideas back with her to these meetings.

“As soon as the fair is over, we hold a meeting to talk about things that worked well and things that didn't,” Debbie says. “I am also a State Fair Director, so I go to a lot of fairs and see how they run things and I can bring those ideas back with me. We start hunting for fill-ins and can work on changing up the schedule so it's fresher for the guests and gives us the opportunity to bring in new experiences for our fairgoers.”

As the fair gets closer, it is all about making sure everything is coming together and that there are no holes that have been missed. It is a stressful time for the board members, but they are not alone in their efforts to make the fair memorable. Debbie noted how the community has also played a big part in helping coordinate the fair.

“We have a wonderful group of people that we work with and get help from the community,” Debbie says. “It takes everyone with sponsors, advertisers, and everything else and we have people from the community asking us all the time what they can do to help.”

Along with Debbie, the fair board also



The women involved in the fair help with all aspects, including organizing and judging the Home & Garden exhibits.

has several other women working behind the scenes to make it run smoothly. Melody Longstreth is in charge of the Queen Contest, Carol Adamson runs the Livestock, Liz Marshall runs Home and Garden, and Betsy McClure helps support the fair as Greene County Commissioner along with several women and girls that help in the office. Without the work of all these women, the fair would not go off without a hitch as we see today.

“To have all these people come together to make the fair run is great,” Debbie says. “If something happens, we have people that can step up and fill the roles that we need to fill. There are so many components that go into the fair and I think people are beginning to realize that and are willing to do whatever it takes to make the fair run.”

At the end of the day, when the fair finally comes it is a chance for the workers and people involved to see their year-long work come to fruition. While there isn't time to relax during the fair it gives Debbie and the other fair board members great pride to see it all come together.

“There is never a time to breathe with the fair,” Debbie shares. “But it is always great to see the fair come in August, and you hate to see it go. That's what you worked for all year long and to see it come together is amazing.”

The 2022 Greene County Fair runs August 7 – 13 at the Greene County Fairgrounds located off E. Roy Furman Highway in Waynesburg.

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IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE JACKTOWN FAIR PARADE!

The legendary Jacktown Fair, held July 19-23, 2022, is celebrating 157 years this year. The celebration begins with a worship service at 10am on Sunday, July 14 and the Queen and Princess Competition & Crowning at 7pm that evening at the fairgrounds in Wind Ridge, Pa.

The Jacktown Fair is sponsored by the Richhill Agricultural Society, originally named The Richhill Agricultural, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Association in its charter formed July 6, 1866. The first Jackson-ville Fair (as it was initially named) occurred on October 3 and 4 of that same year. The 157th Annual Jacktown Fair will kick off with the Jacktown Fair Parade on Tuesday, July 19, beginning at 6:30pm.

In addition to the Grand Marshall (the Board of Directors of the Richhill Agricultural Society has not named the Grand Marshall as of this time), the parade will feature the reigning 2021 Jacktown Fair Queen Morgan Mooney, the 18-year-old daughter of Ryan and Greta Mooney of Graysville, the new 2022 Jacktown Fair Princess, and the contestants vying for this year's Fair Queen. State and local dignitaries will make an appearance in the parade, along with various community

groups and entries in the float contests.

The Jacktown Fair Parade offers prize money in two float contests. The mini float contest, with prizes of \$40, \$30, \$20, & \$10 features floats constructed on a child's wagon, a wheel barrow, garden cart, small cart, etc. It can be hand pulled or pulled by a lawn size tractor. In the regular float contest, winning entries receive \$100, \$75, \$50, and \$25. Both float contests will utilize this year's fair theme "Working Together to Keep the Tradition Alive!" Float entries will be judged on their attractiveness, design, workmanship, use of the theme, originality, and other elements. Groups, individuals - anyone wishing to enter a float corresponding to this year's theme is encouraged to do so.

The Jacktown Fair Board invites all interested bands, businesses, churches, fire companies, groups, organizations and individuals to participate in the parade. If you have an interesting, entertaining, showy or unusual item - your entry is welcomed. Antique and classic cars, clowns, horses, regional/ local queens, and princesses... everyone's invited to join the parade!

Contact parade chair Marcia Sonneborn as soon possible, so the parade's line can be



Jacktown Fair parade from the past.

constructed. Your date of entry will be taken into consideration when forming the parade line. For more information or to reserve your place, call 724-747-4631 or email marcia-

sonne@windstream.net.



2022 JACKTOWN FAIR SCHEDULE

SUNDAY - JULY 17

10:00 am - Worship Service
7:00 pm - Queen Competition & Princess Competition & Crowning

TUESDAY - JULY 19

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Bingo
6:00 pm - Float Contests
6:30 pm - Parade
7:00 pm - Guest Dignitaries & Crowning of Miss Jacktown Fair
8:00 pm - Music by Shortline Junction
9:30 pm - DNT Fireworks*

WEDNESDAY - JULY 20

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Bingo
6:00 pm - 11:00 pm - Youth Night (Ages 14 & under free rides sponsored by First Federal S & L of Greene Co.)
7:00 pm - ATV & UTV Dirt Drags
7:00 pm - Food Eating Contest
8:00 pm - Music by NOAA

THURSDAY - JULY 21

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Bingo
5:30 pm - Music by Tammy Jo & the Iron Horse Band
7:00 pm - Tractor Pull
7:00 pm - Music by Stray Birds
9:30 pm - DNT Fireworks*

FRIDAY - JULY 22

9:30 am - Tractor Driving Contest
11:00 am - Livestock Judging Contest
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Bingo
7:00 pm - Truck Pull
7:00 pm - 4-H Rabbit & Goat Sale
7:00 pm - Music by Country Sounds
9:00 pm - Music by Sandy Huffman

SATURDAY - JULY 23

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Bingo
2:00 pm - Check Demo Cars
5:00 pm - Pit Gate Opens
7:00 pm - Hardcore Demolition Derby
7:00 pm - Music by Cross Vision

*Fireworks Rain Date: 9:00 pm, Friday, July 22



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KEEPING THE SPIRIT OF THE JACKTOWN FAIR ALIVE

So now for this one week, Jacktown will make like a Big City and 'Never Sleep.' The Jacktown Fair's publication for its 100th anniversary in 1965 shred this quote and it has never been truer. The long running Jacktown Fair has been operating since 1866 and has been a popular event attended by thousands throughout the years. This will be the 157th year for the fair and the theme is "Working Together to Keep the Tradition Alive".

Working together is never more evident than with the women behind the scenes. These women, such as Mary Jane Kent, Trish Keller, and Marcia Sonneborn, are integral to keeping the events and activities running smoothly. In 1965, the Board of Directors placed a statement in the Centennial Fair book, part of what reads, "...wish to honor their helpers, some of whom have been with the Fair forty years or more. Without the cooperation of them and the Jacktowners the Fair could not have lasted long enough to celebrate this 100th anniversary."

The ladies behind the scenes have been some of the greatest unsung heroes for keeping the Jacktown Fair alive many years. They operate without titles and shuffle around behind the scenes making sure that the activities, events, and never-ending documents are operating and completed as intended. The ladies are all about getting things done. And they do. When asked how they managed the activities of the fair, Trish gave a big laugh and said, "We don't organize anything, the Fair Board tells us what they need done, and we get it done."

Many of the ladies of the fair were born into this tradition that helps keep the spirit of the fair alive. J.E. Dinsmore served as an officer on the Fair Board for many years and was also the Superintendent of Stock. Mary Jane Kent and Trish Keller are the granddaughter and great granddaughter of the late J.E. Dinsmore. When asking about the changes over the years that Mary has seen with the fair, she recalls fondly of having Trish with her at the fair as an infant and toddler while she worked. When the switch was made from pulling horses to mechanical pulls, Mary recalls how upset and fidgety Trish would get during the pulling contests. Mary eventually came to realize the noise of the big tractors was upsetting Trish.

Trish remembers being put to work at the fair at an early age. She takes a one week vacation every year from work to volunteer at the fair. She runs the tractor pulls that once upset her as a child, now with her son in tow. She's also active with setting up the stalls and areas in the livestock barn for the participants coming to show and auction their animals. It's no

surprise she's involved with this - her great grandfather was once the Superintendent of Stock.

Marcia Sonneborn has been a part of the fair "as long as I can remember!" Her earliest memories include preparing pigs for exhibit in the old barn, where they were the only exhibit of pigs at the time. Her father, Max McMillen helped with the first parade to celebrate Jacktown Fair's 100th year.

Each year, Marcia would get excited to participate in the home and garden competitions, as well as her 4-H exhibits for competition. Marcia and her brother Mark McMillen portrayed President John Adams and his wife Abigail in a presidential contest in the 1970s. That year, and many others during her youth, she was also involved in the parade.

The tradition of fair involvement was shared to her daughter. "I have many fond memories of my daughter entering flowers, photos, baked goods, art work, etc. in the Floral Hall. She would be so excited waiting for the results that she could not sleep the night before the hall opened."

Marcia's father-in-law and former employer, Dr. Meyer R. Sonneborn, was parade chairman prior to Marcia. She began working with him on the parade in the late 1970s and became the chairman after his death in 2001. Since then, Marcia has been dedicated to providing the best parade possible and has also been honored as Grand Marshall of the parade in the past.

"I believe it is a wonderful opportunity for young exhibitors and for the community to come together and enjoy a wholesome activity," Marcia says. "I find it incredible the volunteer hours that are spent by many people each year so this fair can continue and the community can enjoy. The Jacktown Fair has the distinction of being the longest continuous fair in the United States. The saying that 'You can not die happy until you have been to the Jacktown Fair' still prevails."

The women of this year's fair continue to carry on the

By Rochelle McCracken



Marcia Sonneborn has been one of the women behind the Jacktown Fair since 2001.

spirit and tradition of keeping the fair alive. You will find them running bingo twice a day. The bingo money goes into an annual agricultural scholarship. You'll find them creating forms for a new event the Fair Board has running, shuffling ribbons and prizes to the many activities' events, and playing piano for Sunday's church service, to name a few. You may not know them, or you may, but they come from a long line of tradition born into the spirit of the Jacktown Fair. To find out more about the Jacktown Fair log on to www.jacktownfair.org,

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RAIN DAY IN THE PARKS RETURNS FOR 2022

This year don't look to High Street for a day of fun in the sun (and rain!). You won't find Waynesburg's annual Rain Day celebration spread out on the main road of Waynesburg. Instead, you'll find the 149th annual Rain Day festivities spread throughout the downtown area's parks for Rain Day in the Parks.

The much-anticipated annual event moved to Fountain (College) and Monument parks last year. The new location offers plenty of new benefits. Now the festival can spread out over four plus acres with ample room for its entertainment and vendors. There's even plenty of room for individuals to relax and enjoy the cool shady parks. And of course, the festival still features its usual entertainment, including live local musicians, food, crafts, games, vendors, contests, prizes, trophies, and fireworks.

"We are looking forward to in holding the event once again in College & Monument Parks," says Athena Bowman, Special Events coordinator. "The atmosphere under the tree setting gives it more of a festival feel and is definitely shadier and cooler for all."

The year 2020 brought many challenges and disappointments to overcome. Among those were the many festivals and fairs that are held throughout the Greene County during the late spring to early fall months, now unable to be held. The Special Events Committee (SEC) rose to the challenge and created a Virtual Rain Day Festival. In 2021, the committee again faced the possibility that High Street would be unable to be closed for events and moved the annual event to the parks.

Musical performances for this year include 18 Strings, Smoke & Mirrors, No More Daisies, Buckwild, The Craigs, Trenton Antill, Lucien, Tyler Jeffries, Zachary Brewer, and Cassidy Paige. These performances will take place on either the main stage (near E. Wayne Street) or the second stage (Fountain Park).

Headlining is Buckwild, and their performance is from 6pm to 8:30pm on the main stage. Buckwild is a rocking country cover band hailing from Pittsburgh, PA. With members from bands like Christian Beck Band, The Hillbilly Way, 1985, Chris Higbee Project, Stampede, and Whiskey High, Buckwild delivers a top-notch live show experience for all ages. Buckwild's song list is made up of today's best country hits from A to Z and few well known classic rock anthems. Buckwild's high energy show is sure to entertain all types of concert goers.

Other entertainment includes Magic on the Run

performances at 12:30pm and 2pm. The Waynesburg First Assembly Church will be providing children's activities and games in Fountain Park from 12-7pm. There will be inflatable games provided by E.L.F Entertainment from 12-7pm, an American Judo Hapkido presentation at noon, a tumbling, cheer, and group exercise demos, and Jeff Harris will be creating caricatures from 12-7pm. There will also be strolling characters from 3-7pm.

The usual contests will be held, including Baby Rain Day, the Umbrella contest, window decorating, and more. Make sure to check out the downtown businesses with Rain Day specials while in town, and to see their decorated windows. Who will win the coveted golden watering can this year? FMI on Rain Day contests, see our other article or visit raindayfestival.com.

The event this year will also bring some new food vendors, along with recurring food vendors with traditional festival foods. Crafters, artists, and vendors will also be scattered throughout the parks, with homemade items. If you are interested in being a vendor at Rain Day, applications are available at raindayfestival.com; the deadline is July 13, 2022.

And don't forget to shop local businesses in the area! For your convenience, a shuttle from downtown to the event will be provided all day long. The shuttle will stop at three locations:

Near borough parking lot #2 at Morgan and Franklin Street, in front of First National Bank on High Street, and in borough parking lot #3 across from Don Patron's off High Street/Morris Street. The shuttle is sponsored by WVU Medicine and service provided by Fox Bus.

"We are hoping individuals will take advantage of this service to shop local businesses and make it easier for parking," Athena says.

Each year, Rain Day planning starts in January and ends around August. It is organized by the Special Events Committee. The SEC was created in 1979 "to organize and execute the Rain Day Festival." The committee's history reaches back to 1874, with the first recorded rainfall on July 29.

Have you ever wondered how a day is determined to be a rain day? The SEC works closely with local Boy Scouts and the Mayor of Waynesburg to determine rainfall on the day of July 29. The Waynesburg Troop Greene 1280 and 9280, the festivals official Rainwatchers, camp out on the courthouse lawn to monitor rain during the night, and the committee, mayor, and local police monitor the rain during the day of the

event. To count as a rainfall year, there only needs to be a few drops within borough limits.

When asked her opinion on rain for 2022, Athena shares, "Mr. Sebak may want to reconsider driving with his convertible roof down entering Waynesburg Borough as we are sure rain will be falling to make the rain record 117 of 149 years!"

If you'd like to be part of this annual tradition as a volunteer or join the Special Events Committee, reach out to the Borough Office, or submit a letter of interest to the Special Events Commission at 90 E. High Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370.

Contact the Special Events Commission for details on all the Rain Day events at 724-627-8111. FMI on Rain Day, including a schedule of events, entertainer biographies, and more, visit raindayfestival.com.





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RAIN DAY CONTESTS

Rain Day is always good for some fun and entertaining contests. In addition to the big Miss Rain Day Pageant, Rain Day offers a variety of contests, with something for everybody. While it may be too late to register for some of the Rain Day contests by the time that you read this, the contests are still fun to watch as a spectator. Take a look at some of these contests, and make sure to check them out the day of the event.

Window Decorating Contest

Downtown Waynesburg's businesses will compete in the annual Rain Day Window Decorating Contest. All businesses in downtown Waynesburg are invited to decorate their windows with a Rain Day theme. Take some time during the Rain Day Festival to walk the streets of downtown Waynesburg and see the awesomely decorated windows. First place receives \$100 AND the ownership of the coveted Golden Watering Can for the year. Second place receives \$50, and third place receives \$25. Pre-registration is required, and the entry deadline is July 18, 2022. Judging will be held on July 22 at 10am.

Miss Rain Drop

The Mini/Little/Jr. Miss Rain Drop pageant will be held on the Main Stage during the Rain Day Festival. Three age categories (Mini Miss 6 to 8, Little Miss 9 to 11, and Jr. Miss 12-13) will be introduced on stage and asked a question about Rain Day. The contestants will be judged on stage presence, general appearance, their answers, personality, style, and poise. The winner will receive \$100, a tiara, trophy, and title banner; special awards will be presented to Miss Personality and Miss Photogenic. Contestants must be Greene County residents. There is a \$5 entry fee and pre-registration is required. Entry deadline is July 13, 2022.

Baby Rain Day

Vote for your favorite baby contestants in Baby Rain Day by putting money (bills not coins) in the canisters at First Federal Savings & loan from July 20 to July 28; voting will continue July 29 at the Rain Day Special Events booth until 2pm. Contestants must clean and decorate an empty Pringles canister. The winners will receive \$100, crown/tiara, title banner, and the honor of representing the festival throughout the coming year. Contestants must be Greene County residents. Pre-registration is required, and entry deadline is July 13, 2022.

Diaper Derby

On your mark... get set... crawl! Area babies will com-

pete in the annual Rain Day Diaper Derby by crawling approximately 25 feet to the finish line and crossing it to win the race. The babies must crawl – if they stand up to walk, they will be disqualified. The top three winning babies will receive an official Rain Day onesie, and first place will receive the Golden Plaque. The Diaper Derby will take place at Fountain Park by the second stage. Pre-registration is required, and entry deadline is July 13, 2022.

Umbrella Decorating Contest

An annual favorite, the Rain Day Umbrella Contest calls for participants to decorate an umbrella with a Rain Day theme. The contest is for ages 3 to 12. First place receives \$100, second place \$50, and third place \$25. Trophies will also be awarded. Contestants will bring their decorated umbrella to the second stage (Fountain Park) are on July 29 at 9:45am for judging at 10am. Pre-registration is required and entry form must be received by July 18, 2022.

Coloring Contest

The Rain Day Coloring contest offers two categories for budding artists to show off their skills. The Rain Day in the Parks coloring page, for ages 5 to 8, can be printed and young artists can color the page and submit it. For those ages 9 to 12, the contest calls for them to draw their favorite part about Rain Day. Winners in both categories will receive a goody basket of Rain Day items. The contest entry deadline is July 23 by 4pm. Coloring page and drawings should be submitted to the Special Events Commission, 90 E. High St., Waynesburg, PA 15370. The coloring pages/forms can be found on www.rainday-festival.com or on Facebook. Entries must be received by July 22, 2022.

Pre-registration is required for all the Rain Day contests. Rules of entry and entry forms are available online at raindayfestival.com. If you have missed the deadline to pre-register for this year's events, feel free to spend this year as a spectator at all the Rain Day contests, and start your planning for next year!



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Miss Rain Day Pageant

It wouldn't be Rain Day without the Rain Day Pageant!

LACEY MORGAN ISABELLE ADYSAN



Lacey is the 16-year-old daughter of Christina and Kevin Sisler of Jefferson. This fall she will be a junior at Jefferson Morgan High School.



Morgan is the 16-year-old daughter of Kelly and Tom Ankrom of Waynesburg. This fall she will be a junior at Waynesburg Central High School.



Isabelle is the 18-year-old daughter of Tarisa and Ken Tedrow of Jefferson. This fall she will be a freshman at California University of PA/PennWest.



Adysan is the 16-year-old daughter of Marti and Jeremy Kern of Waynesburg. This fall she will be a junior at Jefferson Morgan High School.

BRYN

ADDISON

CROWN BEARER



Bryn is the 15-year-old daughter of Michell Shannon and Chay Lahew of Waynesburg. This fall she will be a sophomore at Waynesburg Central High School.



Addison is the 14-year-old daughter of Melissa and Tom Palko of Jefferson. She will be a freshman at Carmichaels Area High School.



Ariana Joy Bennett is the 8-year old daughter of Rev. Tim and Katie Bennett of Mount Morris, PA. One day, she wants to follow in her mom and big sisters' footsteps and be crowned Miss Rain Day. When she grows up, she wants to be a veterinarian.

2021 MISS RAIN DAY

Emily Bennett is the 18-year-old daughter of Rev. & Mrs. Tim & Katie Bennett of Mount Morris, PA. Emily graduated graduate Magna Cum Laude in June 2022 from Waynesburg Central High School.



Guess when the first raindrop will fall on Friday, July 29th, and you could win a downpour of cash!

Just guess the time (or be the one who comes closest to the official time) of the first raindrop, and First Federal Savings and Loan will award you \$500 and a complimentary umbrella.

Enter your guess on the forms provided at your nearest First Federal Branch Office in Waynesburg, Carmichaels or Mt. Morris, or fill out the entry form with this ad and bring it in starting Monday, July 11th.

Entry deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 28. So drop in and make a guess, and who knows...into your life a shower of Rain Day prize money may fall.



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(You must select A.M. or P.M., not both)

Deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 28, 2022. One entry per person - Thank You!

*If rain is continuous from the preceding night (July 28th) or no rain falls, the contest will be cancelled and the award will be carried over to the ensuing year.



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MEET WAYNE DROP!

If you've been attending Rain Day for the past six years, you've surely seen the larger-than-life blue rain drop making his way around town. Wayne Drop, Rain Day's official mascot, is always ready to celebrate his favorite day of the year.

After years of inviting and hosting other local mascots, the Special Events committee began discussing the idea of creating and incorporating their own mascot into their event in 2015. After extensive research and finding a reasonable costume, the bright blue rain drop mascot was born. But what to do about a name? "We tossed around quite a few names, like Wayne Dwp, Rain Drop, and Wayne Drop. We decided to reach out to the public through social media for their name ideas. The consensus was Wayne Drop."

Athena and Janice Blair Martin, a committee member at the time, added a red tongue and brought Wayne Drop to life. The committee has worked with many individuals and seamstress in adjusting the costume to make it easier for the individual under the costume to see and move, however "until this day we still have some issues due to the bulkiness and sight line of the costume."

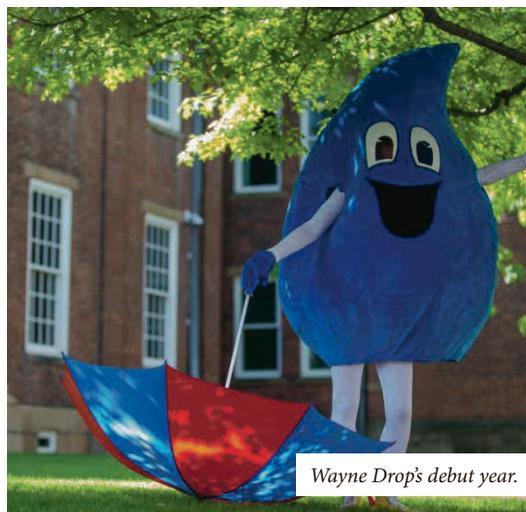
Wayne's first official outing was at the Food Truck Festival in Washington, PA. Since then, he's been seen at other local events such as Sheep & Fiber Fest, Riverfest, the Jacktown Fair parade, car shows, mascot races, and has even attended Wild Things games in Washington. "Wayne Drop is one of our biggest tools to promote the Rain Day Festival by attending Greene County, Washington, and Morgantown events. We try to include Wayne Drop in as many events as possible and if our candidate is available to do them. Most candidates have other jobs, and this is a part time position."

Jackie Tharp was the first candidate to fill Wayne's trademark yellow sneakers. She originally thought the position was volunteer and was thrilled when she received her first pay. Since Jackie, multiple other students have played the part of Wayne Drop, bringing cheer and a sense of fun to outings.

The opportunity to be Wayne Drop is open to individuals 14 years of age or older and requires candidates to attend events in work in summer conditions while wearing the costume. To help candidates

remain safe and comfortable, they are provided with an ice vest with back up packs to interchange throughout their events. Wayne Drop is paid for all events attended, and candidates – of course! – must be available the day of Rain Day.

"Wayne Drop is to enhance the fun atmosphere of the Rain Day festival and other local events by interacting with attendees, including both children and adults. He is meant to be a walking advertisement for Rain Day, encouraging folks to take selfies, dance, etc," Athena shares. "We want this to be a fun position for the individual under the mascot costume as well as others. My favorite line is 'Make sure you Smile Wayne Drop.'"



Wayne Drop's debut year.



Wayne Drop has evolved over the years with an addition of a red tongue and other minor changes.

RAIN DAY FESTIVAL JULY 29, 2022

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MAIN MOBILE STAGE: E. Wayne Street near Soldiers & Sailors Monument

SECOND STAGE: Fountain Park (College Park)

GRAY DANCE STAGE: E. Wayne Street near Main Mobile Stage

KIDZ ZONE: Fountain Park near Kids Activities

SPECIAL EVENTS BOOTH: Look for yellow & purple tent in Monument

Park! Stop by to purchase Rain Day merchandise or vote for Baby Rain Day until 2pm!

7:00am - 10:00am	Buckwheat Pancake Breakfast at St. Ann's Church
10:00am - Noon	18 Strings
10:00am	Umbrella Contest (Line up at 9:45am)
10:45am	Diaper Derby Contest (Line up at 10:30am)
11:00am	The Craigs
Noon	Miss Rain Drop Contest (Mini, Little, Jr. Miss)
Noon	American Judo Hapkido
12:30pm - 2:30pm	Smoke & Mirrors
1:00pm	Trenton Antill
2:30pm	Lucien
2:30pm	EQT REC Center Tumbling, Sheer & Group Exercise Demo
3:00pm - 5:00pm	No More Daisies
3:30pm	Tyler Jeffries
4:30pm	Zachary Brewer
5:00pm	Center for the Performing Arts Carmichaels
5:30pm	Miss Rain Day Contestants
6:00pm	Company K Moment of Silence
6:00pm	Award Presentations: Window Decorating, Baby Rain Day, Jack McCracken Award, Waynesburg Troop 1280 & 9280 "Official Rain Watchers" Donation
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Cassidy Paige
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Buckwild
8:30pm	EQT Traditional Fireworks presented by Starfire Corporation. Immediately following the final band performance.



Magic on the Run Magic Shows: 12:30pm & 2:00pm
 Jeff Harris Caricaturist: Noon - 6:00pm
 JMS Balloon Art: Noon - 2:30pm & 3:30pm - 5:30pm
 E.L.F. Entertainment Inflatable Games: Noon - 7:00pm
 Children's Games by Waynesburg First Assembly: Noon - 6:00pm

STROLLING CHARACTERS: 3:00pm - 7:00pm
 PJ Masks: 3:00pm | Chase & Marshall of Paw Patrol: 4:00pm | Buzz & Woody of Toy Story: 5:00pm | Poppy Troll & Spiderman: 6:00pm



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RAIN DAY HAT BET 2022 WITH RICK SEBAK

As Rain Day nears, it's time for celebrities to take a chance with their hats as part of the legendary annual Hat Bet. Mayor Leathers and the Special Events committee is honored to have made this year's Rain Day Hat Bet with Rick Sebak.

Mayor Leathers said, "I am very happy that he has accepted the bet. I'm looking forward to winning another hat this year!"

Rick Sebak has been a public TV producer at WQED in Pittsburgh since 1987. He's made dozens of documentaries about southwestern Pennsylvania's history and unexpected charms (including "Kennywood Memories," "Pennsylvania Diners," and "A Short History of Route 88") and he's created 15 national specials for PBS (including "A Hot Dog Program," "A Cemetery Special," and "A Few Good Pie Places.")

Although he's known a few weathermen over the years, he's never claimed to be a meteorologist until now! "I'm honored to join the parade of amazing folks who have wagered on Waynesburg weather since 1939! From Bing Crosby to Eleanor Shano, from the Three Stooges to Mister Rogers, it's an impressive list of people who have hoped to see sunshine (not rain!) on July

29 every year. My snazzy new Mini Cooper convertible will be 364 days old that day, and I plan to drive to Greene County with the roof down that morning, ready to celebrate clear skies, beautiful weather and this slightly wacky tradition that goes back to the 1800s! Bet on the sun!" Rick said.

The Rain Day Hat Bet's first recorded year was 1939, when sportswriter Al Abrams bet his hat that it wouldn't rain. He lost the bet, as did the bettors over the next six years, until the bet with boxing champion Jack Dempsey. Over the following years, television sports reporters, weathermen, writers, actors, television hosts, sports personalities and players, singers, and even Punxsutawney Phil and his club have wagered their hats against the rain. In 1992 and 1993, bets were placed against entire towns (Niceville, Florida and Mason City, Iowa). Interested in an entire listing of the Rain Day Hat Bets? Visit rainydayfestival.com/hat-bet/ to see everyone that took a chance with their hat, and whether they won or lost.



Rick has a lot of talent, but it might let him down this year when he has to hand over his hat to Mayor Leathers. Because everyone knows that it's going to rain in Waynesburg on July 29. That's what makes it Rain Day!

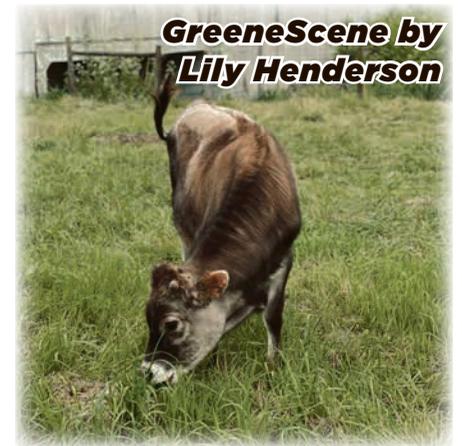


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