

GreeneScene

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

October 2023 Issue

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I Love this Community — CORNERSTONE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

By Colleen Nelson



CGS VP Zack Payton and son Luke, 10 point to the pepperoni rolls as a symbol of the lunch pail food miners would have taken with them into Mather Mine.



Carol Peters says sign in please when you visit CSG



Inside the restored courthouse with volunteer Marla Patton.



Family tree sleuthing starts with the extensive obituaries on file at CSG.

a quarter of the working age miners in town. "194 PARISH [sic] IN MATHER COLLIERIES" made the headlines of the *Waynesburg Republican* that was rushed to press that evening. It was a headline that

would travel around the world. For some who came to hear the program, their American family tree began with the second big immigration at the turn of the last century when bituminous coal became the driver of the industrial age and workers were recruited from Europe to work in the mines and mills of Western Pennsylvania.

Zack holds up a small, darkly bound book, *The Mather Mine Disaster*, written and self-published by Tony Bubka (1914-1982) some decades later. His obituary on file at Cornerstone notes he was "a graduate of Bethany College, did graduate work at UCLA, Southern Cal. and Columbia University. He was a journalism research worker and had also written a book on the Mather Mine explosion." It also notes that one of his four brothers, Benjamin, lived in Mather.

"This is very rare - I found it online and Cornerstone also has a copy. Anything I find online about the Jacktown Fair and the Mather mine disaster I buy! It has all the newspaper articles written about it, firsthand stories, the investigation later - it was front page news all over the world. I consider this the most famous event in Greene County history based on the media coverage it got. I think it's important that it's not forgotten."

There are people in the audience who have come to share their own family ties to the explosion and its aftermath. Longtime CGS member Jon Osso made his own copy of Tony Bubka's

History Month and this story is aimed at those of you who have yet to stop by to see what part of your family tree might be tucked away in the archives, or accessible online through the genealogy programs CGS subscribes to so you don't have to. For family history newbies, the history loving folks who volunteer here will get you started.

When Greene County was created by state decree in 1796, the town of Waynesburg was surveyed and a log cabin courthouse was "hastily erected" at the corner of Greene Street (tip of the hat to Mad Anthony) and Whiskey Alley (tip of the hat to the frontier's biggest cash crop). Visit that same old, beautifully restored courthouse today and you'll find the story of its rescue in the front room with its original log walls, reconstructed turkey breast fireplace and heirloom furnishings and artifacts. This is where judges, sheriffs, landowners and lawyers did business until a brick courthouse was built on High Street in 1800. This is where monthly CGS meetings featuring speakers sharing their favorite historical subjects happen, when field trips aren't on the agenda.

Step through the back door and you find yourself not in the old jail but in the reference room where family histories reach back to those frontier days, then forward into the everyday present that is added on as it happens. Some amazing tidbits of the past can be found in those countless books, albums, folders, microfilm rolls, newspaper clippings, obituary lists and faded photographs that have been donated and collected by your history loving neighbors.

Today, Marla is here to answer the phone when inquiries come in. "People call from all over the country looking for information on their families. You can start looking up one

thing on microfilm and something else catches your eye and you'll be lost for hours!"

She also fills me in on some of the genealogy of her son's love for baseball and for the past. "Zack loved collecting baseball cards and history. He wanted to teach history ever since he was little. He and his dad would go to cemeteries when we went on vacation and now he and his students clean cemeteries in West Greene."

His love for collecting everything Jacktown Fair can trace its roots back to the Burns family of Wind Ridge and their generational commitment to keeping America's longest running country fair alive. Zack met Kayla Burns when they were playing church league ball for Fairview Methodist Church, Marla tells me. What happened next is their family history, happily shared with their children who are growing up helping out at CGS outings and being part of the crew at the Jacktown Fair.

Today's other volunteer, Carol Peters got into local genealogy when researching the land she and husband Ken bought when they moved here from Michigan in 2012. Their historic log house, listed as White Cottage on the Caldwell map of 1876, was the residence of Peter Grimes, who lived there and managed a post office and store in his front yard by the road that ran west to the Ohio River.

"But it was you who got me to come to Cornerstone when you wrote about Valley Chapel Church!" Carol told me with a grin.

I'll admit to anyone who asks - this state of the art reference library, staffed by volunteers

who know where the past is stashed is a great place to sit with my laptop and notebook, getting the backstory to the stories I write about Greene County. If you love sleuthing history and you haven't stopped by CGS, do drop in.

CGS member Glenn Toothman, who filmed the Mather presentation for members who couldn't make it, wants to get the word out that CGS's upcoming 50th Anniversary fundraiser is all about digitizing the newspapers now saved on microfilm. This will allow for "optical character recognition, so plugging any name into the search engine will reveal all available references within the entire collection, something that would take years of research hours using old methods."

Cornerstone has already purchased the copyright and film negatives of the entire Waynesburg Republican (1870-1992). This \$7000 investment is the first step in making this collection "freely available to the research community."

Donations can be made to the 501c3 nonprofit by check to PO Box 547, Waynesburg, PA 1530 or online CornerstoneGenealogy.com using the donate button.

Or just stop by and say hello when you make your donation and stay to look around. Tell them Colleen sent you!

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GreeneScene of the Past By Colleen Nelson

Say cheese! Okay, I admit, the binky-chomping mouse with the cheese is my favorite. But for creativity, everyone's a winner in this collage of kids getting dressed up and taking it to the street – High Street, Waynesburg, that is, on Halloween.



When I called up club member Shelly Younken to see if the Waynesburg Lions Club had some photos to share from Halloween parades past, she said she would see what she could find. What she found was, as many old photos tend to be, a bit fuzzy around the edges but definitely worth a second look for creative inspiration if there's any moms and dads out there wanting to get into the act this year.

Waynesburg Lions Club has claimed October 31, never mind which day it falls on, to give kids of all ages a chance to show their prettiest, scariest, silliest, most creative selves and be rewarded by treats and maybe a prize. This 6:30 p.m. until dark party has been going on for decades now – no one I talked to can remember the year the first parade was held. Mary Pruss knows it's been happening for "at least 35 years, which is how long I have been a Lion and I worked with Chief Hawfield." Nor does anyone – except maybe the families who got these great costumes together – remember which parade these kids were in. Or what prizes they won.

Shelley, who works at Waynesburg University in the business office, was able to locate a story written by student Antonio Peluilo for the *Yellow Jacket* on November 1, 2018. "The article confirms it's been a parade for more than 45 years," Shelley noted in when she sent me the link.

Antonio was at the parade and must have stayed up late getting his story written in time for publication the next day. The quote he got from Bill Harding, who had attended 40 years of parades at that point and was now watching his grandkids show their stuff, captures the best rea-

son why this parade is a keeper: "Tradition is what keeps communities together. It gives me hope for the future, because a lot of the kids will want to stay here."

This Halloween, when Central Greene Marching Band leads the parade up the street beside the Long Building and onto High Street, the sidewalks will be filled with families and friends from across the county. The shops that stay open for the evening offer out-of-towners a chance to browse. Those who costume up and join the parade have officially become part of a hometown tradition that now spans generations of kids who played, marched and wore fantastic get-ups, and then, like Bill Harding, brought their own kids and grandkids back to High Street to strut their stuff.

Kids these days have local trick or treat days to go door to door, usually after school and during daylight hours, especially on Halloween, Shelley said. "That's why we start at 6:30 pm so they can trick or treat then be in the parade."



We're hoping this year will be the best one yet. Halloween is my favorite time of the year. As a matter of fact I got married on October 31. Uncle Kyle [Hallam] called me and asked if he could come as the bride of Godzilla. We had so much fun!"

For those who want to be in the parade: Be there at 6 p.m. on Tuesday October 31, in the parking lot between High St. and Franklin St be-

hind the Long Building. Prizes will be presented to the prettiest, scariest and most original costumes. Age groups are: Preschool, Kindergarten, and first through sixth grades. All participants will receive a treat bag at the end of the parade at the PNC parking lot, compliments of the Lions Club. And send your prize winning photos to info@greenscenemagazine.com – we can't wait to see them!

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Local. Library. Love.

Eva K. Bowlby Public Library had the ribbon cutting for their new StoryBook Stroll in West Park on August 30. In 2023 the Office of Commonwealth Libraries offered a competitive grant opportunity to PA libraries; forty-three PA libraries were awarded funds to create a StoryWalk exhibition in their community. Bowlby was one of the libraries granted funding to complete its StoryBook Stroll, which was started in 2021.

StoryWalk® projects are pages from picture books, laminated and placed in exhibit frames, so that the participants can walk (or run) to the next page. The project was created by Vermonter Anne Ferguson and has now become an international movement. It is meant to promote childhood literacy and exercise while enjoying nature and strengthening family bonding. The StoryWalks® are typically in parks, playgrounds, or public access places.

After permission from the Borough of Waynesburg was secured to install the StoryBook Stroll in West Park, the library received a grant from the Community Foundation of Greene County in 2021 to purchase the exhibit frames. Two picture books are purchased, deconstructed, and laminated for the frames. The library always makes sure to have a copy of the book that can be checked out as well.

A second competitive grant from the PA Office of Commonwealth Libraries was also received to purchase the materials necessary to display the books in their frames.

Four book titles were included in the grant, and Bowlby Library will be adding to those so that the books can be changed every two months. The current book is *Tidy* by Emily Gravett, and the next book, *The Belonging Tree* by Maryann Cocca-Leffler, will be displayed beginning the first week of October.

The library wanted the StoryBook Stroll to be interactive and engaging for kids and families, so an impromptu question was added to each display, and the last display (by the library steps on West Street) includes a QR code that links to a song and information relating to the book. The displays are numbered: the first begins at the park sidewalk at West Street, winds down the sidewalk and back again, to end at the library steps. This is a free, forever display for the kids and adults of Greene County that boosts childhood literacy, exercise, family time and laughter. The library staff hopes you visit soon.

This program is funded through the Family Engagement Project, a federal Library & Technology Act grant (LSTA) administered by the PA. Dept. of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries.

Flenniken Public Library
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Eva K. Bowlby Library
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SHINING THE LIGHT

By Colleen Nelson

This is an old card, but most of the telephone numbers on the back still work!" guitar man Dennis Tucker jokes, reaching in his wallet to give me the band business card with an iconic bible verse on it: "Know then we are Ambassadors for Christ, as through God did beseech you by us, we pray you in Christ stead; be ye reconciled to God." (II Corinthians 5:20)

Ambassadors for Christ has just closed out the first day of the Covered Bridge Festival, then stood with the rest of the festivalgoers as the 140th Civil War Union reenactment group retired the flag and marched off to their encampment in the field below the bridge.

Now it's time to tear down, and talk about what it takes to make this praise band praiseworthy.

It all goes back to the early 1970s, to Amity Methodist Church, and a bunch of kids involved in the youth group band Hands of Friendship.

"There were about 12 of us." While some went to college, and some moved away, Dennis, along with brothers Greg and Jeff Webster, regrouped in 1974 to become Ambassadors for Christ.

This band of buddies has been performing Southern Gospel with a touch of Rockabilly that gives you that Wheeling Feeling for 49 years and counting. Heard in full performance mode on an open stage, surrounded by pumpkins, cornstalks and an ocean of chrysanthemums, their playlist captures the down home vibes of an old time revival, from What a Happy Day through Jesus is Coming Soon to Turn Your Radio On to Old Glory.

And talk about harmonies – they have what it takes to make their enjoined voices sound like Amazing Grace. "Harmonizing, that's the key for me," Dennis admits.

In the beginning, Dennis sang and played lead guitar while Gary played rhythm. Little brother Jeff at age 14 was lead singer and John "Buck" Buchanan came onboard "when we played Dunbar Baptist Church. He heard us there and called and asked if we needed a bass player. We played lots of Baptist churches. I told Buck don't tell them I'm a Methodist they'll

throw me in the river!"

It took awhile to get a drummer, Dennis recalls. "We made a record in 1982 and had a drummer sit in, so it was after that. We've had three drummers." Dave Dague "found us when we sang at his church at the time – the Fairhill Manor Disciples of Christ Church on Thanksgiving for Notes of Thanks to take up collections for the needy. That was 2012 and Dave's been with us ever since."

In recent years, brother Gary has been sidelined from touring because of health issues but plays his guitar every day at home and hopes to make a comeback. Jeff adds, "His son Gary Jr. has played with us but his job keeps him pretty busy. When he's with us, he plays bass and Buck works the sound system." Thanks to his regular working hours in the *Observer Reporter* circulation department, Jeff is thankfully able to make the weekend gigs.

Today, Jason Wood from Core, WV whose band played earlier in the day, is working the sound. By happy coincidence, Dan Festog, sound engineer slash owner of Silent Wing Audio in Bobtown and sometime pastor at Greensboro First Baptist Church where Buck also attends, has stopped by to visit and stayed to help out. The sound is crisp and balanced and the applause is enthusiastic after every song. I meet Bertha Tucker who admits with a grin she's their head groupie and stands in with the band when the photo gets taken.

Now that most of the band is in their retirement years, Dennis has added another joke to his between-songs patter when playing area nursing homes. "When we finish playing they try to take us back to our rooms!"

All joking aside, Ambassadors for Christ has always gone where the music is most appreciated, whether at Child Fest when Buck was working for the county as a Child Care Information coordinator and Dennis was a tack welder, to these good old days, entertaining the lunch crowd at Waynesburg Senior Center. In 1975 the Ambassadors began their secular career playing the old Curry Home and have kept the Good News music coming through the years, as operations were moved to Rolling Meadows, now known as We Care. Weekend gigs are on a rotating schedule that includes Waynesburg Rehab and Evergreen, and facilities in Washington, Morgantown and McMurray.

Dennis notes "We do churches when we're asked," and adds the band is always ready to do benefits for others. "We don't take money for ourselves - what's offered is used for gas and guitar strings."

If you want to book the Ambassadors, give Dennis Tucker a call: 724-710-1904.

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L-R: Dennis and Bertha Tucker, Jeff Webster, Dave Dague, John "Buck" Buchanan.

VETERANS CORNER

By Tracy Horne

COFFEE WITH VETERANS & TOGETHER WITH VETERANS

Martin Luther King said, "In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

While some folks may not be moved by statistics, or even feel that they relate to them, after having conversation with Chris Clark, one of the volunteers with "Coffee with Veterans," it is important to understand that 16.8 veterans die via a suicide daily. The rate of suicide among veterans is 1.5 times greater than in any other population.

Coffee with Veterans is part of an initiative funded by the State of Pennsylvania. It operates with rural communities to work with former and active military personnel and their families by providing opportunities for these folks to come together and discuss the challenges they face in a non-intrusive environment. Greene County and two other counties (Cambria and Carbon) were selected based on data that supported the need in the communities of these counties.

Chris Clark, an employee of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a Commonwealth Veterans Services Department and Volunteer, emphasized that this program is greatly needed. These programs educate the population they are intended to serve, and provide a safe non-judgmental place for the veterans to come together and share. It allows these individuals to share their stories about war and even peace and how it has affected their everyday lives. Through this opportunity Chris's hope is that it also educates the population by removing the stigma that goes along with people who choose to commit suicide or even contemplate it. It's something that we all need to not be afraid to talk about.

Team Hope, a local suicide support group also participates and attends events to offer support for the people who come to the meetings. The community has embraced the initiative by offering places for the group to meet. They have teamed up with local businesses, coffee shops and the local VFW. Other collaborations include creating a blend of coffees to sell as fund raisers recently at the Greene County Fair. They are also supported by the Greene County Department of Veterans Affairs and Together with Veterans.

Chris also spoke of other volunteers as well, sharing that one gentleman that helps facilitate has had over twenty deployments. They use their personal experiences as retired military personnel to build relationships and develop a sense of trust that these folks need to have to open up. He said that it is two decades of shared experience, and it is very helpful.

The program offers information to all participants as well as veterans in the community that do not choose to participate, it is a valuable program.

Help is out there for everyone, if you or anyone in your family find themselves in a situation that they need suicide intervention by dialing 988 you will receive help.

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Public Service Profile

By Alex Hughes

SHELBY'S POLES FOR KIDS

There aren't many more joyous occasions than when children join a loved one for a fun activity they can enjoy together. There's a wide range of different activities that mean so much to them based off the time they get to spend with each other. For James Barnhart and his daughter Shelby, that memorable activity was fishing. Their shared love of fishing led her father to create an event held this year to honor her memory.

Over the summer, James organized the Poles for Kids event, held on September 2 at the Bobtown Municipal Park. It was a wonderful day of fishing with a meal, with roasted chicken for everyone to enjoy. Every child age 16 and under got a free fishing pole, and any child under age seven also got a new tackle box to enjoy along with the fishing pole. The event was open to everyone and allowed them to enjoy a day of fishing without needing a fishing license from 10 in the morning until six in the afternoon. Along with the fishing and food, they also had live music from Slim Pickens.

The leftover poles and other fishing items are being donated to the Pittsburgh Childrens Hospital. They will be given to the hospitalized children so that they, too, can enjoy a day of fishing. Many people donated to make the event possible, providing items for the event or contributing their time to help, or giving money – all in an effort to make the event a great success.

Prior to the event this year, James had gone fishing on September 2 every year since Shelby had passed away. He wanted to remember her by doing something that she loved to do.

Shelby passed away on September 2, 2018, at the young age of 13 after a five-year battle with cancer. She was diagnosed with Stage 4 WILMS cancer, one of the most common cancers in young children, at only eight years old. WILMS cancer is a type of cancer that occurs mostly in children, and it affects the kidneys of the diagnosed person. At stage four it typically has spread through more than just the kidneys, go-

ing through the blood and impacting other organs and body parts away from the kidneys. To combat the cancer, Shelby went through several different types of treatment. She went through several surgeries, many rounds of chemo and radiation, and a stem cell transplant. She battled for five years before she passed away from the cancer five years ago.

Although Shelby passed away, her memory lives on through all the lives that she touched, from her family and the friends that she made during her time in school at West Greene, as well as those touched by the contributions of Poles for Kids. Those children will now have memories of fishing with their loved ones that they can cherish forever.

The event will be every year on the Saturday before Labor Day and will be called "Shelby's Poles for Kids" in memory of all victims of childhood cancer.



Shelby's wish with Make A Wish was to meet John Cena, which she did in Newark NJ. She also went on a bear hunt in Jackman, ME with Hunt of a Lifetime.



L-R: Dennis and Bertha Tucker, Jeff Webster, Dave Dague, John "Buck" Buchanan.

Public Service Profile is presented by



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Cool at School:

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By Master Gardeners

The end of the school year brings many changes; this year Mapletown High School saw the installation of a native plant garden on its property. Penn State Extension Greene County Master Gardener trainee Tammy Jamieson, a graduate of Mapletown High School and Penn State University, designed and coordinated the installation as her Master Gardener graduation project with the assistance of her certified Master Gardener mentor Terri Laird.

The high school's maintenance faculty constructed the raised bed and the 2022-2023 Envirothon team and their advisor Amber Burkett carried out the heavy lifting of spreading seven tons of soil, laying out cardboard for weed control, spreading mulch, and planting the plants.

Native Pennsylvania plants were chosen for the garden. These plant species originally occurred naturally in this region without human introduction and have formed a symbiotic relationship with native wildlife, such as bees and butterflies. Specifically, plants such as golden Alexanders (*Zizia aurea*), scarlet beebalm (*Mondarda didyma*), purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), showy goldenrod (*Solidago speciosa*), and New England aster (*Symphotrichum novae-angliae*) were all chosen for their high value to local pollinators. The garden was designed to provide nectar sources for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators throughout the entire growing season. The earliest flowers begin blooming in April and the later blooms will last until frost. Clumps of three specimens each of twenty different perennial species were planted for a total of 60 plants in a 24' by 12' raised bed.

The idea for this garden was born from the hope that people in the community would learn of the plight of our disappearing pollinators and would want to incorporate some native plant species into their landscapes. Or better yet, plant a native garden of their own. Each garden that is created, no matter the size, increases nesting habitat and foraging areas for bees and butterflies. This project provides a creative way for students and community members to learn how to be part of a solution to help save and protect our native pollinators.

Most of the species in the garden, including three species of milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.), serve as host plants to butterfly or moth larva, meaning butterflies and moths can use these plants to reproduce. Endangered monarch butterflies can only lay eggs on plants in the milkweed family because they are the only plants on which the caterpillars can feed. According to a study by Chip Taylor, director of Monarch Watch, which was published in *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* (vol. eight, August 2020), one of the most significant drivers in the dramatic decrease in the population of monarchs was the disappearance of milkweed plants across the country due to herbicide use and urbanization.

Wild bee populations have also been declining over the years. A report by Kelsey Kopec and Lori Burd, published by the Center for Biological Diversity, studied population trends of 1,400 wild bee species in North America and Hawaii. According to this report, 52% of these 1,400 species have popula-



The garden at Mapletown High School, taken two months apart.



tions that declined by 40% or more, and almost one in four of the species studied was threatened with extinction. One of the leading causes of this decline was habitat loss.

Many ornamental plants commonly included in household landscaping are mainly from Asia, Europe, or even tropical areas. These plants have evolved separately from local insects, so they oftentimes are poisonous or inedible to our local insect fauna. Grass lawns, which according to a 2005 NASA-sponsored study cover 40 million acres of land in the United States, are devoid of biodiversity and require immense maintenance. Most of them are mowed before plants bloom or go to seed thereby offering little to no food or shelter to bees or butterflies. This makes our yards like deserts to our pollinators. Harmful chemicals such as fertilizers and pesticides are often used to perfect the aesthetics of lawns and these chemicals can be very harmful to all insects, including bees and butterflies.

Reducing the size of lawns by planting native plants is a great way to invite bees, butterflies, and even birds into a yard because these plants provide food, shelter, and nesting materials. Native plants also do not require the use of chemicals and are easier to grow in our native soils since they have evolved in these conditions over time. To support nature and help bridge the ever-widening gap of habitat loss and degradation, every household landscape needs to contain more native plants than non-native plants.

So, the next time you are in the neighborhood, stop by and visit the garden and admire the beauty of the plants and the insects that thrive there. For more information about the Mapletown High School pollinator habitat and for more photos, visit the student-created website at <https://sites.google.com/segisd.org/mapletown-pollinator-habitat/home>.

The installation was sponsored by Lewis Development Resources, R.G. Johnson, and the Southern Laurel Highlands Plant and Pest Management Group.

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Greene Artifacts

By Matthew Cumberledge, GCHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A LITTLE BIT OF CHAPEL HISTORY

The west wing of the Greene County Historical Society Museum is a virtual Main Street of county history. It gives a glimpse into various types of businesses, activities, and functions from within and without the county throughout its two and a half centuries of history.

Of the many rooms located in the west wing, the chapel is one worthy of special note. From the very beginning, churches and religious institutions were an integral part of the lifestyle and seasonal cycles here in Greene County. They played host to regular worship, weddings, funerals, and revivals, and they were a key ingredient in the unity of community.

Central to the GCHS Chapel is a wooden altar, dating to approximately 1906, that was purchased by the Meighen family to be installed in St. John's Roman Catholic Church in Jollytown. The furnishings on the altar also belonged to St. John's Church.

Across from the altar are a set of faux grained wooden pews dating to the first half of the 19th century that once graced the aisles of the Paw Paw Church, a log building dating to approximately 1805 near Davistown that stood in a grove of Paw Paw trees.

Perhaps the most notable feature though is a stained-glass window, made from beautiful vinyl graphics pro-

vided by Direct Results in Waynesburg. The window is a recreation of a stained-glass window in Bethlehem Baptist Church in Ruff Creek.

Among the other rooms in the GCHS west wing are a recreated W&W Railroad Train Station, a military bunker, an oil and gas room, a recreated school house and many others. And, prior to our Harvest Festival on October 7 and 8, a new room will be opened! The room is undergoing renovations currently and we'll be keeping it a bit of a surprise what the finished product will be, so do make sure to come out and join us Harvest Festival weekend!



WANT MORE? VISIT THE
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Going Greene: THE LOG CABINS OF GREENE

By Matthew Cumberledge

Hidden along the back roads and underneath the wood and vinyl siding of later generations, log cabins stand as sentinels guarding a time long ago, yet they are an eerily familiar friend from the not too distant past.

Common throughout the late 18th century, through the mid 1800s and up to as late as the 1870s, cabins were once a common feature in the landscape. Not only did they serve as homes, but they also functioned as barns, and churches. Even the first courthouse in Greene County was housed in a two-story log cabin built in 1797.

The first and earliest log homes were often very rough structures with dirt floors, rough walls and wooden shingle or lap board roofs with log chimneys lined with local clay. No known examples of these survive in the county, and there are few in the nation. These buildings often served as temporary structures erected to provide shelter in the first couple years of a family's settlement. As time allowed, these primitive homes were replaced with more refined cabins that sat on stone foundations, with stone chimneys and more substantial roofs. The primitive cabins, and

the early "refined" cabins often only had one room with a loft above that served as a sleeping area.

Later in the mid 1800s, cabins would get a bit bigger; some were two, even three stories high, with many rooms, occasionally had a separate building serving as a kitchen, and, in a few instances, lathing and plaster were installed on the inside for a more finished appearance, and siding was installed on the exterior to present the image of a more modern style of home.

On Six Run Road in Gilmore Township, at the site of the old Fairview Cemetery, was once a log church. The church dated to the 1870s, and it seems that it was a log building that, shortly after construction, was clad with siding and finished on the inside, obscuring its log cabin roots. In the mid 1990s, this church was dismantled and is now located in Meadowcroft Village as a recreated log church.

Perhaps the most interesting and best restored log building in the county is the original log courthouse that now serves as the home of Cornerstone Genealogical Society on Greene Street in Waynesburg. This

building served as the courthouse for over 40 years, likely had jail accommodations, and has been beautifully restored with the addition of a wing in the back to house a genealogical library.

Log cabins are a major part of the cultural history in southwestern Pennsylvania, and thankfully many old cabins have survived in various forms to remind us of where we come from.



This log cabin now houses the Cornerstone Genealogical Society in Waynesburg.

Recent Events in Greene & Nearby

Bituminous Coal Show "King Coal"



The 68th annual King Coal Show kicked off its week long celebration of our area's coal history with the 6th annual King Coal 5K Race at the fire hall fairgrounds

on Saturday, August 19. That was followed by the Coal Queen Pageant, where Haydn Chipps from Albert Gallatin was crowned Coal Queen.

The first parade of three – the Children's Pet Parade – was rescheduled due to weather and moved to Friday, but the Children's Bike Parade on Thursday went off without a problem, supported by the high school band. The main parade was held on Saturday, led by the classic cars from the King Coal Charles Workman Memorial Auto/Motorcycle Show.

Parade judging results include Senior High Marching Band (9-12): 1st - Albert Gallatin, 2nd - Waynesburg; Jr/Sr Marching Band (7-12): 1st - Jefferson-Morgan; 2nd - Cameron, 3rd - Clay-Battelle; Best Float: 1st - King Coal Youth Softball, 2nd - King Coal Youth Baseball; Fire Equipment: Heavy Pumper – Waynesburg, Medium Pumper – Morris, Light Pumper – Masontown, Tanker – Richeyville, Brush Truck - Point Marion, Squad - Tower Hill, Rescue – Adah, Ambulance – Southwest, Aerial/Ladder – Greensboro, Judges Choice - Adah River Rescue, Judges Choice - Perry Twp.

From Wednesday to Saturday, attendees could check out the vendors in the exhibit hall, and enjoy food, entertainment, and rides on the fire hall grounds. Fireworks on Saturday night capped the event until next year.

Fishing Frenzy



On Saturday, September 16, children up to age 12 gathered at the Waynesburg Water Park for a morning of fishing. You read that right – the children were fishing in the pool! After the pool closed for the season, the chemicals that keep the water clean and clear were stopped to make it suitable for the stocking of trout.

Some of the stocked trout were tagged, and those that caught them received a prize.

Rev'd Up for Recovery

The 2nd annual Rev's Up for Recovery Car Cruise was held at the Greene County Fairgrounds on Sunday, September 17. September is the nationwide month supporting alco-

hol and drug recovery, and this event – sponsored by Greene County Drug & Alcohol Prevention is part of Greene County's efforts to support those in recovery through a common connection.



In this case, it's a love of cars.

Speakers and informational tables rounded out the attendance of car enthusiasts, and the event brought awareness to those hoping to start recovery or those in progress. Events like this are a necessary part of the road to recovery.

9/11 Memorial at Jefferson Morgan

Jefferson Morgan currently has nine students who participate in the Albert Gallatin JROTC Program. These students travel daily and are involved with several events during the school year. The mission of the Army JROTC is "To Motivate Young People to be Better Citizens".



The American Legion-James Farrell Post 330 provided Jefferson Morgan Cadets with 40 flags that were placed around the school's flagpole on September 6, in remembrance of the 40 people who lost their lives on Flight 93 on September 11, 2001. They would like to thank Post 330 for their donation.

9/11 Service of Remembrance



On Monday, September 11 at 8:46am, the sound of the Carmichaels fire whistle carried throughout the town and over the people gathered at the town square.

The crowd, including police department and fire department members, active and retired service members, the American Legion Band, the Carmichaels Area High School band, and

other notables, was gathered for the annual Service of Remembrance.

Pastor Jeff Hathaway led the invocation, and Master of Ceremonies Bill Varesko (American Legion Post 400 Commander) introduced speakers Emma Bates (essay award winner), Retired President Judge H. Terry Grimes, Craig Bailey, Chief Bryan Smith, and Rev. Keith Larson led the final benediction. The Carmichaels Area High School Band played God Bless America and the American Legion Post 400 Band played the National Anthem and Nearer My God to Thee. The organizers would like to thank everyone for joining the ceremony Monday to mourn the lives that were lost, recognize the sacrifices that were made and celebrate the heroes of that day, along with the men and woman who continue to serve our community and county.

Clay-Battelle Health Services Assoc. Celebrates 50 Years

Clay-Battelle Health Services Association (CB-HSA) held an open house and ribbon cutting event on Monday, August 21 to celebrate the organization's 50th anniversary and the opening of their new Burton Health Center.



Rebecca Thomas, BSDH, CEO, said the open house and ribbon cutting ceremony in Burton was "an achievement that the entire organization is proud of" as CBHSA continues their efforts to improve health care for West Virginians in the local area.

The new facility allows expanded space for existing services, as well as a significant increase in medical and behavioral health services. Construction of the new Burton Health Center began in 2022.

Attendees had the opportunity to take guided tours through the new facility, as well as meet our organization's dedicated team of healthcare professionals. Refreshments and light snacks were provided.

"Our brand new facility is going to allow our devoted staff to continue to prioritize providing quality health care to our patients," said Thomas. "We are excited for the opportunity to provide our community with convenient access to the health care services that they need in order to live healthy and happy lifestyles."

The Clay-Battelle Burton location - Community Health Center of NE Wetzel County - is now accepting patients. Schedule your appointment for healthcare services at the new location.

Covered Bridge Festival

The third weekend of September brought people to Greene and Washington counties to celebrate the wonderful covered bridges found throughout the area. In Greene, celebrations

were held at the White and Carmichaels covered bridges. Each festival location had music, vendors, food, wagon rides, and more for festival goers to enjoy.



Flashlight Drags coloring contest, sponsored by R&V Towing and Titles, winners Emily Stickovich and Aiden Breit.



Thank you from the Waynesburg Lions Club for a Successful 2023 Sounds of Summer

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Mail to: GreeneScene Contest, 185 Wade Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370. One entry per person per category. Drawing on 10-09-23. Winner must respond within 24 hours of notification to receive prize.

Good NEWS

In Greene County

CFGC Awards \$23,500 in 2023 Summer Grants to Local Non-Profit Organizations

The Community Foundation of Greene County (CFGC) recently announced a distribution of seven grants totaling \$23,500 as a part of CFGC's 2023 Summer Community Grants.

"We are honored to partner with businesses and members of the community to help our non-profits address the needs of Greene County children, adults and families," said Thelma Szarell, chairperson of the Foundation Board of Directors. "These grants are made possible through the generosity of local residents and businesses who established funds at CFGC to support local programs."

The following grants were made:

- \$3,000 for Greene County Girl Scout Troop 80016 to host Girl Scouts Badge Day at
- Waynesburg University for scouts to earn Merit Badges, from the Good for Greene Fund, Cameron Children Youth and Families Fund, and the Kathy and Bill Davis Memorial Fund.
- \$3,500 for Greene County United Way for Stuff the Bus which allows Greene County K-12 children obtain school supplies, clothes, shoes, dental and eye appointments, and fun activities with lunch provided, from the Kathy and Bill Davis Memorial Fund.
- \$3,000 for Waynesburg University for the Waynesburg University Student Food Pantry to assist students with food insecurity concerns, from the Harvest and Forever Greene Funds.
- \$3,000 for UPMC Children's Hospital Foundation for Preventing Injuries for Children in Greene County-Helmet Safety Event to provide free bike helmets and bike safety education for youth in Greene County, from the Cameron Health and Human Services and the Good for Greene Funds.
- \$3,000 for S.O.A.R. (Support Our Aviation Resources) 2023 Aviation Days project held at the Greene County Airport to increase awareness of aviation through talking with pilots, mechanics, air traffic controllers, and more, from the Good for Greene Fund.
- \$5,000 for Blueprints (formerly Community Action SW) for upgrades to the relocated Carmichaels Senior Citizen Center at the former Carmichaels Moose Building, from the Forever Greene Fund.
- \$3,000 for Girl Scouts of Western PA for the Greene County Leadership Experience activities, from the Forever Greene Fund.

Since 2001, CFGC has been able to award more than \$4 million in grants and scholarships that have helped meet the needs and improve lives of Greene County residents.

The 2023 Fall Community Grants round is accepting new applications which are due by October 1st, including the L&M Medical Needs Fund.

For more information about CFGC and our grants, visit www.cfgcpa.org, or email cfgcpa@gmail.com.



WU Students Receive PA-NOSS Scholarships

Two Waynesburg University students were awarded Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Organization for Student Success (PA-NOSS) scholarships to be used to offset tuition.

Joe Rivera, a sophomore criminal justice administration major, and Sekye Miles, a sophomore psychology major, were presented the awards Tuesday, Aug. 29, on the University's main campus.

PA-NOSS is dedicated to equal educational opportunities for all persons containing the potential and desire to excel in post-secondary education. At the PA-NOSS Conference in April, Waynesburg University was selected to receive \$500 in scholarship funding for its students.

"It was a delightful surprise to receive this opportunity from PA-NOSS during their conference this spring," said Sarah Bell, director of the Pathways Center at Waynesburg, who attended the PA-NOSS Conference and accepted the scholarship on behalf of the University. "While it was challenging for our advisory board to narrow it down to two finalists, we know that this scholarship will be a great benefit to both Joe and Sekye."

"During the last academic year, they were both actively engaged on campus, frequently met with staff mentors, and demonstrated dedication to their studies and the Waynesburg mission. We are proud of them and honored to award them with this scholarship," Bell added.

Rivera, a non-traditional student, decided to begin his college journey at age 27. He chose to pursue a degree in criminal justice as a way to make an impact on his community. During his childhood, Rivera said he would regularly see people within his community getting into trouble with law enforcement. That sparked his desire to make a difference. After graduation, he hopes to work with juveniles or in parole, with an end-goal of securing employment with the ATF. As a student, Rivera has been actively involved in the University's Commuter Club and Act 101 Program. He is married with two children.

Miles is a member of Waynesburg University's Football Team and also participates in the University's Act 101 Program. He claims his passion for football and encouragement from his coaches are what helps motivate him to achieve academic success, so he can be successful both on and off the field. After obtaining his bachelor's degree in psychology, Miles plans to continue pursuing his football career.

CIC selects WU for Work-Based Learning Consortium

Waynesburg University was selected as one of 25 Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) member institutions to participate in a new CIC Work-Based Learning Consortium focused on easing student barriers to internship access and job market preparation, enhancing the University's ability to equip students with current, in-demand skills required by businesses.

This experiential learning platform, in partnership with Riipen, will integrate real-world, employer-designed projects into existing courses at Waynesburg to prepare students with skills, experiences and professional connections to support their future careers.

"This is an exciting opportunity for students to gain valuable hands-on experience through internships embedded in their courses. That these internships are available to all students regardless of where they are located levels the playing field for all students. We are grateful to our funders for making this possible," said Titi Ufomata, CIC senior vice president for academic programs.

Through the consortium, faculty representatives from Waynesburg University will participate in intensive training in integrating work-based learning into a liberal arts curriculum and engage in a virtual community of practice coordinated by CIC, beginning Spring 2024.

The Work-Based Learning Consortium Team at Waynesburg consists of:

- Dr. Kenneth Cairns, Chairperson for the Criminal Justice and Social Science Department, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice and University Counselor;
- Samuel Jones, Head Women's Basketball Coach;
- Dr. Marie Lechlitter-Krause, Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs & Institutional Effectiveness;
- Josh Sumpter, Assistant Professor of Biblical and Ministry Studies and University Chaplain; and
- Jill Sunday, Chairperson for the English and Foreign Languages Department, Writing Program Administrator and Assistant Professor of English.

"While many of our students complete at least one internship, practicum, or field placement before they graduate, some do not obtain work experience prior to completing their degree," said Dr. Lechlitter-Krause. "Our goal is to provide students with multiple opportunities to immerse themselves in real-world work projects and network with professionals in their fields of study. A successful work-based learning program at Waynesburg University will provide students with opportunities for career awareness, exploration, preparation, and training to increase their knowledge and ability to connect interest, skills, and goals with career possibilities."

This CIC initiative is made possible thanks to funding from Ascendium Education Group and Strada Education Foundation.

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Waynesburg U. to Host Saturday Info Sessions for Prospective Students

This fall, Waynesburg University will offer three Saturday Information Sessions for prospective students and their families, which will be held Oct. 7 and Dec. 9. These Information Sessions were designed to provide additional opportunities for students to experience group visits, outside of the Fall Open House dates.

"While our fall and spring open house events are the more ideal times to visit Waynesburg on the weekends, we understand schedules are busy and those times don't always work," said Robert Barnhart, director of undergraduate and graduate Admissions. "So, we've decided to add three fall and two spring Saturday Information Sessions to make weekend visits accessible for more families."

During these events, interested students and their families will have the opportunity to explore campus, learn about the admissions process and receive information on financial aid.

Spring semester dates are scheduled for Jan. 13 and March 9. For more information, please visit waynesburg.edu/group-visit or contact the Admissions Office at 800-225-7393.

8th Annual CGST Trivia Contest

Do you like trivia games? Are you just a plethora of useless information? Put those smarts to work for a non-profit organization that could use and would greatly appreciate some extra funds. Have a fun night out with friends and join the excitement at the 8th annual Trivia Contest on October 14 at 6pm at the EQT REC Center.

The top three teams will win \$1000, \$500, and \$250 for their favorite charities. All additional proceeds will be split between the Central Greene Scholarship Trust and the Greene County Chamber of Commerce scholarship fund.

There will be ten themed rounds with five questions per round. Questions are random point value (150 points possible).

Through the success of this event, the Central Greene Scholarship Trust has awarded scholarships to 60 local students and has provided \$15,000 in additional support for local charities. With your participation, they can continue to make scholarships available for students and help local charities.

Registration is due by October 1. A \$20 late fee will be charged to all late registrations. To register, contact CentralGreeneScholarshipTrust@gmail.com. Cost is \$30/player for four players, \$25/player for five or more players, and spectators are \$10. The team fee must be paid for by 5:30pm the day of the competition. You can also mail registration info to Central Greene Scholarship Trust, 333 Chartiers Rd., Clarksville, PA 15322.

If you are interested in sponsoring the event, sponsorship opportunities are available in the basket raffle, team sponsorship, round, and multiple levels from Bronze to Event Sponsor. Please contact Mike Camili (724-557-8201) or Melody Longstreth (724-627-5926).

Pink Out Worship Service

You're invited to a Pink Out Sunday Worship Service at the Masontown Brethren Church at 110 W. Church Avenue in Masontown, PA. The service will honor those who have been affected by any type of cancer. They will remember those that were lost, honor the survivors, support those who are in the fight and those taking care of them. The service will be held on Sunday, October 8 at 9:30am. Please wear pink.

Tickets for the Bingo Bash

Saturday, October 14, a \$6000 Bingo Bash will be held at Auction Building (at the Greene County Fairgrounds). The bash will benefit Teddy Bear Care in Carmichaels. Doors open at 12pm and early bird starts at 2:30pm.

The \$50 ticket donation includes four six-face packets, 16 games

at \$100 each, four games at \$250 each, 20 drawings at \$100 based on ticket number. One number per ticket; tickets are numbered 001-150. Sold separately are 4 early bird at \$100 each for \$5/pack or \$10/3 packs; 1/2 take for \$1/sheet; \$1000 coverall for \$1/sheet; and winner take all for \$1/sheet. Ticket amounts are subject to change and remaining tickets become property of Waynesburg Eagles Aerie 598. Everyone playing must have a ticket. Tip boards and pull tabs will be available for cash and various prizes. Food and refreshments will be available at additional cost. Children under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. FMI, reach out to the Waynesburg Eagles Aerie 598.

CLASSIFIEDS

13" Boy's Kent bicycle, like new, coaster brakes, \$25. 16" Boy's bicycle, like new, coaster brakes, \$30. 20" Boy's Huff bicycle, 10 speed hand brakes, \$50. Swagman 3 bike rack, 1 1/4" towbar hitch, \$70. 412-582-2544

Firestone WinterForce tires/rims 205/65R15/GM 6.5j x 15 ET 41/PCD5x110, \$150. 412-582-2544

Camper shell for 8' Ford F-150, alum., full glass windows, \$100, 724-883-3630
Whirlpool 220v stovetop range, Bisque/

Light Beige, \$400, New Oven Control Module, 3-post pigtail. Samsung Plasma Display 42inch HDMI, DVI, RCA, Coax, Works \$400bo. Noritake China Set #48, 8 Setting, various pieces, \$400bo. 412-582-2544

7-8 gal. wooden trash, drawer & garbage underneath, \$50. Purple mauve love seat & sofa, like new, \$200. 32" colored TV, LG, \$75. 2 wooden padded kitchen chairs, \$20. Wooden coffee table, \$25. Portable alltel telephone, #10. Gray Lounge rocking chair,

\$225. Plastic video cassette tape case, \$25. (2) 4-legg wooden end tables, 2'x2'; \$25. 2 drawer filing cabinet, \$20. No phone provided. Melinda Huffman, Jefferson.

Summit Climbing Tree Stand, Steel, Rubber-coated Cables, Safety Harness, \$175; 3 Quad Camp Chairs, adult, 2 child, alum. Frame, nylon, \$30; Camp cot/bed folding alum. Frame, 3 legs, \$15. 412-582-2544

Pro form Carbon T10 treadmill, like new, barely used, comes with manual and 1 yr subs to iFit, \$350. 724-426-4579.

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50+ bolts of fabric prints including, fleece, flannel, felt and tulle. Never used, not washed, smoke free household. May purchase singles or lot, \$10-20 each. 724-426-4579.

Electric hospital bed, side rails, head and foot boards w/spring but no mattress. \$5. 724-592-5931 LM.

Babysitting services, \$14.50/hour at your home. 304-871-0136.



At the Greene County 4-H and FFA steer show, Noah Pettit of Holbrook placed third in his first time ever showing his 1,130 pound Greene county born and bred steer for the West Greene FFA. This was a proud moment for this young man for his first time ever stepping into a show ring and walking out with third place.

WINNERS

SEPTEMBER'S BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT CONTEST: Linda Ziglear of Carmichaels
SEPTEMBER'S PUZZLE CONTEST: Mary Courtwright of Wind Ridge
AUGUST'S POP QUIZ CONTEST: Tom Balesga of Point Marion

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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Arts in the Community: Liz Kurincak

Some artists pursue art as a career or work for financial success. Other artists do it for the satisfaction it brings, the enjoyment of creation, and the relaxation of doing something that you truly enjoy. Liz Kurincak is one of the latter.

Liz and her husband, Bernie, were living in Cleveland when they both decided they wanted to come back to the area. They moved to Nemaconlin because, "It was a great place to raise our kids, with the pool and activities. It was safe." Bernie worked in a few body shops before opening and operating his own shop for 30 years, while Liz raised their four children: Angela, Bernie Jr., Debra, and Brenda.

Liz enjoyed creative pursuits from early on. While her four children were young, she dabbled in macrame and sewing. She often created doll clothes and clothing for her children. As the children got older and more independent, Liz expressed a desire to go to school. She'd had always wanted to attend college, and so she did in the 1980s, earning a degree in culinary arts.

She also took cake decorating classes, and eventually began making them for family and friends when she realized, "I can make money with this, instead of giving it away!" Her husband created a commercial kitchen for her at the location of his auto body shop, and she expanded. She began catering larger events, and when her husband retired and closed his shop, they converted the entire building into a restaurant and handled smaller catering jobs as The Chuck Wagon.

When the Chuck Wagon closed as both Liz and Bernie retired, Liz took up painting. Her favorite things to paint are landscapes. Mountains, trees, old barns, historical doors, especially those in the northwest and southwest. She's currently working on a seascape and learning how to do waves. "I really enjoy sitting and painting. I do it for the relaxation and enjoyment because now I can."

While Liz has no formal training, she is always working on improving her skills: "It's a lot of learning and challenging." She studies other artists and watches videos of other artists, such as , on YouTube. "I started with Bob Ross and used his oil painting system. It really helped me with blending and putting things together. I later watched artist Chuck Black and Painting by Kevin. Videos of their techniques helped me improve."



Artist Liz Kurincak and some of her favorite paintings.



Liz is currently working on this seascape.



The painting Liz made for her son was so large it needed two easels for support.

Her largest work is the piece that she created for her son of the place where he and his friends called "their place of rest" on their hunting trips, a scene of mountains and trees. The large 5-ft long by 30-in tall painting will be prominently displayed in her son's living room once framed. The enormous size presented a new challenge for Liz, and she tackled the project with determination. She started with a smaller practice piece and then moved on to the final piece. "At first, I was intimidated, but once I started, it was better. I had some problems, but I got them figured out and enjoyed it overall."

No matter what else she works on, painting landscapes and historical doors are her passions: "Every once in a while, I'll try an animal, but I go back to the landscapes. I keep trying to get it, but it's frustrating."

But frustration for artists is something that Liz understands as part of the growing process and should never stop you from doing the things that you enjoy. "You have to give it a try," she says. "It really is better to try and fail than to not try at all."

Her husband Bernie adds, "Don't be done learning, you've got to keep going."

Department of Fine Arts hosts exhibition featuring faculty's work

Waynesburg University's Department of Fine Arts will host an exhibition for artist Lisa Rasmussen's work starting Monday, Sept. 18. The exhibition will run through Friday, Nov. 10. The event is free and open to the public. An opening reception will be held Sept. 18 at 4:30 p.m.

Rasmussen recently became a full-time faculty member in both the Department of Fine Arts and the Department of Communication. "We decided to do this show to re-

welcome her to the University in her new position," Emily Wiedner, lecturer in art, said.

Rasmussen has been "compelled to create art" ever since she was young. "Since I was a little kid, I've wanted to be an artist," Rasmussen said. "I've been doing it for most of my life."

She works with several art forms, and each one has a focus on realism. "I mostly work in traditional media, graphite, watercolor, pen and ink, pastel, book arts and printmaking," Rasmussen said. "The work I

create is mostly realistic."

To Wiedner, a particular standout is Rasmussen's work with watercolor. "My favorite works are her nature watercolors," Wiedner said. "They are very calming to look at and look so effortlessly done."

The theme of nature is something that Rasmussen wants people to take away from her work. "My hope is that my work will help others see the beauty of the natural world and begin to notice things in nature and the world around them that they have not be-

fore," she said.

Consistently ranked a best value school, Waynesburg University's Strategy for the 21st Century affirms its commitment to developing an entrepreneurial mindset and ethical leadership skills for all students. Rooted in its mission of faith, learning and service, the private, Christian university is located on a traditional campus in the hills of southwestern Pennsylvania, with an additional site for graduate and professional programs in Southpointe.



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OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Join DVSSP this October for a month full of events and activities to engage our community, show our unwavering support for survivors, and say NO MORE to domestic violence in southwestern PA.

We know that one in three women and one in four men will experience domestic violence in their lifetime. With statistics like this, #Every1KnowsSome1 impacted by domestic violence, and everyone must be a part of the solution. When we talk about domestic violence and raise awareness, we let survivors know that they're not alone, and that help is available.

Everyone can join the movement this #DVAM - mark your calendars and get ready to GET INVOLVED! Here are a few ideas:

SHARE! Engage with DVSSP on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), and Instagram @peacefromdv and share their 31 days of social media posts using the hashtag #Every1KnowsSome1. They will be sharing information, stories, resources, and messages of hope all month long!

You can also raise awareness by putting up a DVAM yard sign or purple bows at your home or workplace. Consider setting an "Empty Place at the Table" at your business or event to represent the lives lost to domestic violence this year. Contact DVSSP at 724-223-5477 or edutrain@peacefromdv.org for signs, bows, or for help with your "Empty Place at the Table" display!

WEAR! Oct. 19 is Purple Thursday! Wear purple to show support for domestic violence survivors and your commitment to ending abuse in our communities. Take a selfie or group photo and share it on social media with the hashtags #PurpleThursday, #DVSSP, and #Every1KnowsSome1.

GIVE! Visit peacefromdv.org to make a gift anytime during October, or on the official #GiveForDV Day of Giving on Thursday, Oct. 26. Or create your own Facebook fundraiser to encourage friends and family to support survivors all month long! Every gift makes a difference for survivors as they rebuild their lives free from abuse.

For more #DVAM ideas or to download our materials, visit peacefromdv.org/dvam.

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IS YOUR CANINE A GOOD CITIZEN?

By Morgan Marisa

TOGETHER WITH VETERANS TO HOST FREE CANINE GOOD CITIZEN EVALUATIONS AND GROUP TRAINING FOR ALL DOGS ON OCTOBER 21ST AT THE WAYNESBURG VFW

Every proud dog owner can attest to the incredible comfort and impact an adoring canine companion can bring to life. They provide brightness and joy in their own special ways to hearts that are open to caring for them in return. To those wishing to have their dogs trained to warm even more hearts, mark your calendars and prepare your pooches for October 21, where they can be evaluated for free by a member of the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen program.

Dog trainer Milana Rice and Together With Veterans (TWV) coordinator Chris Clark, along with the rest of the TWV steering committee, are launching an initiative to start a therapy dog program aimed at having trained dogs visit veterans in veteran homes and spend time with the veterans and their families at outreach events. The TWV specifically works to provide outreach and resources to support veterans while educating the community about the national veteran suicide epidemic.

"We are all volunteers, and we want to help our community bring joy and happiness to veterans, especially our veterans that are in homes," said Rice, who has been training

dogs for over 20 years. "What better way than to bring dogs for them to love and pet, without the owners having to pay for dog training and direction to ensure their dogs pass and obtain therapy certifications."

One of the requirements of accredited Therapy Dog organizations is for dogs to pass the Canine Good Citizen (CGC), which Rice became an evaluator for in 2010. In order to be tested at the event, the dogs will need to pre-register by October 7 by calling 724-852-5275 or emailing rimhoff@co.greene.pa.us.

For any dog that does not pass the test or is having behavioral difficulties, Rice will be providing further instruction to owners after the event on how to work with their dogs and will have the necessary training equipment available on-site. There will be gift baskets raffled off as well.

Rice also furthers the cause on the side by connecting souls in need of rescue with her non-profit Red White & Blue Dog Training (RWBDOGTAGS), which contributes to multiple meaningful causes.

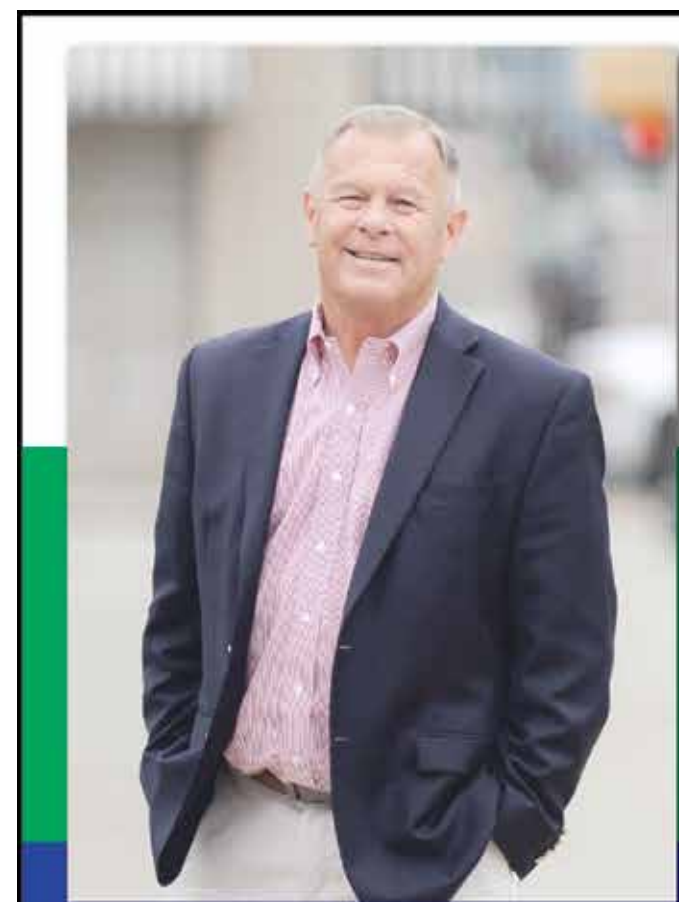
"Our Motto is Saving Two Lives at a Time," Rice adds. "Our mission is veteran suicide prevention and to save rescue dogs from euthanasia and rescue, train, certify them and

donate them to veterans. I then teach veterans how to use their dog."

Rice has rescued and donated over 90 dogs in 16 years and trained dogs that veterans already owned, a majority of which were rescues. She also takes her mission a step further by training and certifying veterans as dog trainers at her DOGTAGS school so they can pay the efforts forward to other veterans. It also opens up the option for them to earn income and find further purpose through starting their own dog training business.

"A strong community is vital for healing," Rice emphasized. "Our veteran community needs and deserves the support we are giving. We also want to promote how amazing rescues are and what they are capable of as therapy dogs and service dogs to help get them loving homes."

The TWV would love for the Greene County dog-owner community to come take advantage of their free services at this event starting at 9am. TWV additionally holds coffee with veterans every second Saturday at various small businesses and will have a veteran pancake breakfast in November. For more information on this upcoming event and more, visit their Facebook page: GREENE COUNTY VETERANS CLUB / VFW POST 4793 WAYNESBURG PA.



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We are looking for owners/dogs that may qualify to be certified as therapy dogs to visit veterans homes and qualifying veterans and dogs to receive free service dog training and certification.



As summer heat sunny days give way to autumnal temperatures and changing leaves, Greene County's fall festival season provides plenty of activities for the community. An annual staple of our fall festivals is the Greene County Historical Society Museum's Harvest Festival. This year marks the 52nd anniversary of the much-loved weekend of history, music, food, reenactments and more. It's the perfect October weekend activity for the whole family!

This year, the 2023 Harvest Festival will be held on October 7 and 8 from 10am to 5pm each day. The event features artisan vendors recreating homespun crafts such as woodworking, art, photography, crafts, jewelry, soap, candles and more. Live demonstrations will be held throughout the day are sure to entertain. A variety of food and refreshments will be available, some cooked right in the museum's own brick oven.

During the entire weekend, reenactment caps will be set up on the grounds, and reenactors will demonstrate the daily and military life of people during the Colonial and Civil War eras. And don't miss the skirmishes between the North and the South! Visit the Native American encampment and learn about Native American life from Ghost in the Head. The 52-room museum will also be open for tours.

"Each year we are ever more excited to bring our Annual Harvest Festival to the

Community, especially as we approach our 100th Anniversary as an organization in 2025," says GCHS Executive Director Matthew Cumberledge. "In addition to all the fun activities and exhibits that are always available at the Harvest Festival, this year we will be featuring several new rooms that have recently been opened up and significant renovations and repairs to our main building. The Harvest Festival is a staple in the community and one of our key events, and the proceeds raised each year help us to preserve and protect our historic collections and maintain our incredible home!"

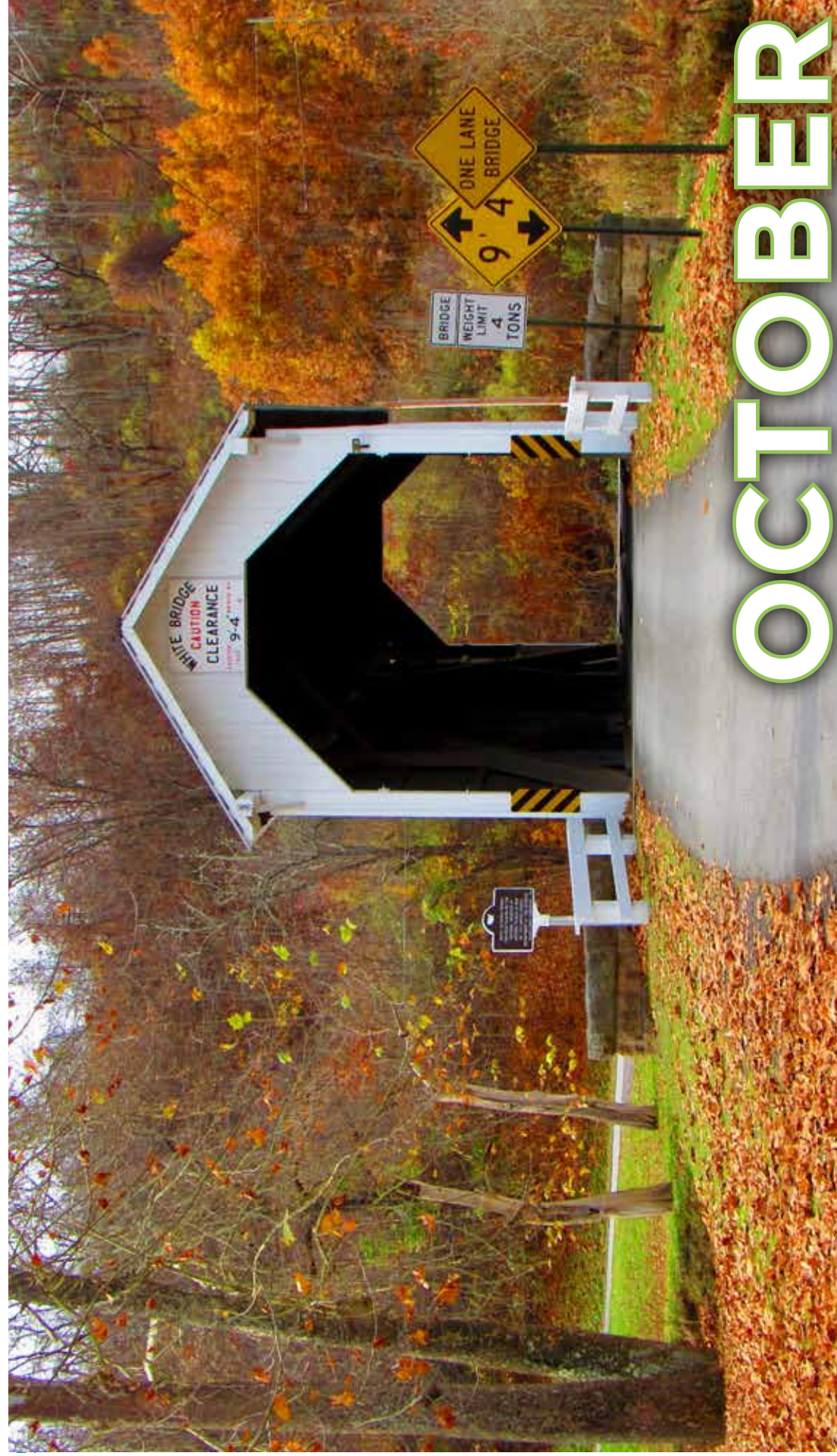
The Harvest Festival got its start in 1971, when the Greene County Historical Society received stewardship of the old county poor farm and created the GCHS museum. The festival began to raise funds that support the operation of the museum and preservation of area history. This is the 52nd annual Harvest Festival. The Greene County Historical Society itself was officially incorporated in November 1925. It was first housed in the basement of the Long Building, and it grew into additional rooms before its eventual move to the old poor farm.

There is no cost to enjoy the weekend's festivities, but donations are welcome to offset the costs of the event and assist the museum in its daily operations. FMI, visit greenecountyhistory.org or call 724-627-3204.

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OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Guided Machine Shop Tour, Calendar Party	2 Upland Bird Stocking, Family Place, Friends Sharing Grief, Divorce Support	3 Flea Market, SOAR Meeting, Carmichaels & Cumberland Twp VFC Bingo, White Covered Bridge Assoc. Meeting	4 Farmers Market, Tech Tutoring, Mahjong Club, Wine Down Wednesday	5 Tech Tutoring, Nifty Knitters, Happy Hour at the Denny House, Bingo	6 Trout Stocking	7 Flea Market, Greene County Marketplace, Mindful Movement, TOPS, FallFest, Dungeons & Dragons Session, Greene Cove Halloween Party, Roller Skating.
8 Guided Machine Shop Tour	9 Family Place, Divorce Support	10 Flea Market, Cornerstone Genealogical Society Meeting, Fleminken Book Club, Carmichaels & Cumberland Twp VFC Bingo	11 Farmers Market, Tech Tutoring, Mahjong Club, Wine Down Wednesday	12 Tech Tutoring, Bowly Book Club, Happy Hour at the Denny House, Bingo	13 Family Movie Night	14 Flea Market, Oh My Gourd Fall Festival, CPRI/AED Training, Greene County Marketplace, Bigfoot Seminar, Mindful Movement, TOPS, Dungeons & Dragons Session, 4-H & FFA Swine Show & Sale, Roller Skating
15 Guided Machine Shop Tour, Scratch Block Aluminum Casting	16 Family Place, Divorce Support	17 Flea Market	18 Farmers Market, Tech Tutoring, Mahjong Club, Wine Down Wednesday	19 Tech Tutoring, Nifty Knitters, Warrior Trail Meeting, Happy Hour at the Denny House, Bingo	20 Denny House Ghost Tours	21 Flea Market, Puzzle Competition, Mindful Movement, TOPS, Mystery Road Rally, Dungeons & Dragons Session, Roller Skating, Denny House Ghost Tours
22 Guided Machine Shop Tour	23 Family Place, Divorce Support	24 Flea Market	25 Farmers Market, Tech Tutoring, Mahjong Club, Wine Down Wednesday	26 Happy Hour at the Denny House, Bingo	27 Cosmic Bingo	28 Flea Market, Mindful Movement, Dungeons & Dragons Session, Roller Skating, Denny House Ghost Tours
29 Guided Machine Shop Tour	30 Family Place, Divorce Support	31 Flea Market	Find articles, photos, and more on greenescenemagazine.com or visit our Facebook page @greenescenecommunitymagazine			

- 1** **Guided Machine Shop Tours**
12-4pm @WA Young & Sons Foundry & Machine Shop. Tickets are \$10/each and can be purchased online at <https://niversofsteel.com/experiences/tours/machine-shop-tour/>.
- 2** **Calendar Party**
5-7pm @MasonTown Volunteer Fire Department. Doors open at 1p. Crafts, baskets, raffles, and dinner. Tickets: \$20.
- 3** **Upland Bird Stocking**
8am @Wild Acres Farm, Fishery, and Hunting Preserve.
- 4** **Family Place**
1:30pm @Bowly Library. Monday through December 4. Parent/child workshop class for 0 to 3 years.
- 5** **Friends Sharing Grief**
Support group for those that have suffered a loss. FMI: 724-627-9776.
- 6** **Divorce Support**
7pm @First Christian Church in Waynesburg
- 7** **Flea Market**
7am-2pm @Greene Co. Fairgrounds. Every Tuesday & Saturday.
- 8** **SOAR Meeting**
6:30pm @Greene Co. Airport. First Tuesday each month. FMI, visit soarofgreencounty.org.
- 9** **Carmichaels & Cumberland Twp VFC Bingo**
6:30pm @Carmichaels & Cumberland Twp VFC, every Tuesday.
- 10** **White Covered Bridge Assoc. Meeting**
7:30pm @Greene Twp. Community Building. First Tuesday each month. FMI, visit facebook.com/wc-bridge
- 11** **Farmers Market**
10am-2pm @High Street in downtown Waynesburg. Every Wednesday.
- 12** **Tech Tutoring**
1-3pm @Bowly Library. Wednesday & Thursday. Need help with your device? A tech-savvy librarian is ready to help! FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- 13** **Mahjong Club**
1-4pm @Bowly Library. FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- 14** **Wine Down Wednesday**
5pm @Greene Cove Vineyards. Glass and bottle specials, food, and a peaceful atmosphere.
- 15** **Nifty Knitters**
11am-1pm @Bowly Library. 1st & 3rd Thursday monthly.
- 16** **Happy Hour at the Denny House**
5-9pm @The Denny House. Drinks, food, music, every Thursday.
- 17** **Bingo**
6:30pm @Waynesburg VFW Post 4793. Doors open at 5:30pm Every Thursday.
- 18** **Trout Stocking**
3pm @Marianna Outdoorsmen Assoc.
- 19** **Greene County Marketplace**
9am-1pm @Greene Co. Fairgrounds. Every Saturday.
- 20** **White Covered Bridge Assoc. Meeting**
7:30pm @Greene Twp. Community Building. First Tuesday each month. FMI, visit facebook.com/wc-bridge
- 21** **Farmers Market**
10:15am @Bowly Library. Weight management support group meets every Saturday. FMI: 724-627-9776.
- 22** **Fall Fest**
12-4pm @Point Marion Park. Vendors, crafts, activities, food, music, and more!
- 23** **Dungeons & Dragons Session**
12:30pm-3:30pm @Bowly Library. Led by Dungeon Master Matthew.
- 24** **Greene Cove Halloween Party**
5pm @Greene Cove Yacht Club. Kids party 5-7p, adults 7p-close. Bar open but not kitchen.
- 25** **Roller Skating**
7pm @Mon View Roller Rink, Greensboro.
- 26** **Cornerstone Genealogical Society Meeting**
6pm @Cornerstone Genealogical Society.
- 27** **Fleminken Book Club**
6-7pm @Fleminken Library. Second Tuesday each month.
- 28** **Bowly Book Club**
4:30pm @Bowly Library. FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- 29** **Family Movie Night**
8pm @Bowly Library. 724-627-9776 FMI.
- 30** **Mindful Movement**
9:30am @Thisisthewaite Vineyards. \$12/each, mats provided. Every Saturday.
- 31** **TOPS**
10:15am @Bowly Library. Weight management support group meets every Saturday. FMI: 724-627-9776.
- 1** **Oh My Gourd Fall Festival**
9am-1pm @Greene River Trail. Visit Greene Co. Dept. of Recreation Facebook FMI.
- 2** **CPRI/AED Training**
10am-2pm @Bowly Library. Certification with 2-year certification and manual. Cost: \$88. Register at 724-984-5702.
- 3** **Bigfoot Seminar**
10am-5pm @Jefferson VFC. Free admission.
- 4** **4-H & FFA Swine Show & Sale**
1-9pm @Greene County Fairgrounds. FMI, 724-627-3745.
- 5** **Scratch Block Aluminum Casting**
3-5pm @VA Young & Sons Foundry and Machine Shop. Tickets \$15/person, available at niversofsteel.com.
- 6** **Warrior Trail Meeting**
6:30pm @Warrior Trail Headquarters, Garards Fort.
- 7** **Denny House Ghost Tours**
7:30-12am @Denny House. Must be 14 years or older. FMI, visit Facebook.
- 8** **Puzzle Competition**
9:30am-12:30pm @Bowly Library. 724-627-9776 FMI.
- 9** **Mystery Road Rally**
11am-3pm @Greene County United Way. Register online at greeneccounityunitedway.org.
- 10** **Cosmic Bingo**
7pm @Bowly Library. 724-627-9776 FMI.

Bridget Vernon of Waynesburg snapped this photo of the White Covered Bridge on a beautiful fall day.

52nd Annual HARVEST FESTIVAL

October 7 & 8, 2023 10am - 5pm

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OCT 07

Harvest Festival

OCT 17

Sark: A Sacred Island

NOV 25

Christmas Open House

NOV 26

Christmas Open House

DEC 02

Christmas Open House

DEC 03

Christmas Open House

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Intentional Walks

By Bret Moore

Blue Laws & Baseball

Many of us are old enough to remember when almost every business was closed on Sundays. The older you are the more things you remember being closed. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled Blue Laws were unconstitutional in 1978, and things gradually began to open during the Sabbath.

However, there was a time when everything, including athletic activities were banned on Sundays. The state's Blue Laws dated back to the 1600s and were taken very seriously by a majority of the public. However, by the second decade of the 20th century, a large segment of the population began to bridle at the ban on Sunday sports. Remember, at this time most merchants and miners worked six long days a week. These men and boys wanted to play or attend baseball games on their only day off.

Soon, the conflicts began in Greene County and around the state. Locally, the first open clash between the groups occurred in August of 1920 in Jollytown. The local minister brought charges against a group of young men whose Sunday games had "become a nuisance." The men were taken in front of Justice of the Peace John Goodwin and fined \$4 each (approximately \$75 today). The offenders then obtained attorney James J. Purman's services to appeal the case. Eventually, the case was dropped and none of the men were fined. According to sources of the day, the residents of Jollytown "turned bitter towards the minister," and he soon left town.

There was another case in 1928 when an irate group of people brought suit against Golden Oaks Park outside of Rogersville for allowing Sunday games. The suit was later dropped, but similar cases were filed around the state.

In 1931, the Philadelphia Athletics lost a case in the

Pennsylvania Supreme Court to play games on Sunday. Other cities such as New York, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, and Cincinnati had legalized Sunday games, which were much more lucrative since people didn't work that day. After the ruling, the A's announced plans to build a 50,000-seat stadium in Camden, New Jersey. However, the state legislature immediately took up the cause. A bill to allow Sunday games passed the House, but failed in the Senate. By 1933, increased public pressure forced both houses and the governor to sign a bill that left the decision up to local jurisdictions.

That fall, four of Waynesburg's five precincts voted narrowly to allow Sunday games. Only East End turned it down. Carmichaels, Nemaocolin, Jefferson, Mather, Rices Landing, Franklin Township and Mapletown also voted "yes." The rest of the County continued to ban Sunday games for many years.

One of the reasons professional football was slow to gain popularity was because it couldn't compete with college football on Saturdays, and they were not allowed to play on Sundays. I found a great story about the Steelers' founder Art Rooney during these times. Rooney's Pirates (as the Steelers were known their first two years) were scheduled to play the



New York Giants on a Sunday when the Chief got word a large crowd was scheduled to protest the game.

Always the savvy businessman, Rooney went down to city hall to "find some answers." He met with Harmar Denny, the Director of Public Safety. Denny told him there were only two people who had the authority to shut down the game - himself and Frank McQuaide, the chief of police. He added with a wink that he would be out of town that day. Then Mr. Rooney stopped by the police station and invited McQuaide to the game as his personal guest with tickets on the 50-yard-line. Needless to say, the game was played and eventually Pennsylvania caught up with the times.



With an overcast, possible stormy, day in the high 70s predicted, the 22nd Annual 50s Fest & Car Cruise was presented, as always, on the second Saturday of September in downtown Waynesburg. On September 9, around 70 classic and hot rod vehicles were registered, and, over the six-hour time-frame, hundreds of spectators turned out for the event coordinated by Waynesburg Prosperous & Beautiful, Inc. The rain held off, and everyone enjoyed a day of cool cars, classic music, dancing, hula hooping, bubblegum bubble blowing, and shopping downtown Waynesburg's small businesses.

Each year the committee honors the driver

of the vehicle that traveled the most miles to get to the cruise with a prize supplied by sponsors WANB Radio. Sue Fluharty won the furthest traveled award this year - traveling 80 miles from Rochester, PA in her 1969 Ford F-100.

The lucky winner of the 50/50 drawing was Donna Dolan, taking home over \$160.

"It was an excellent day for the event, even with the possibility of rain and thunderstorms" says Danielle Nyland, co-chairperson of WP&B's 50s Fest Committee. "We brought back the family activities this year, and everyone had a great time. Everyone is happy that we can continue the event on High Street. It was a great 22nd year!"

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GREENE COUNTY FOOTBALL STATS	RUSHING				RECEIVING				SCORING					
	Player	Yards	Carries	TDs	Player	Yards	Catches	TDs	Player	Total	TDs	2XP	1XP	FG
	C. Brady (WG)	611	65	9	J. Ricciuti (WC)	205	9	3	C. Brady (WG)	54	9	0	0	0
	B. Woods (WC)	475	47	4	P. Durbin (WG)	67	4	1	J. Stephenson (WC)	24	4	0	0	0
	J. Stephenson (WC)	277	42	4	W. Downs (M)	53	4	0	B. Woods (WC)	24	4	0	0	0
	E. Griffin (M)	245	32	3	S. Burns (WG)	50	3	1	E. Griffin (M)	20	3	1	0	0
	W. Murray (C)	197	29	1	C. Chambers (WG)	48	2	1	A.J. Vanata (M)	18	3	0	0	0
	B. Whitlach (WG)	170	13	3	J. Lampe (WG)	45	3	0	B. Whitlach (WG)	18	3	0	0	0
	A.J. Vanata (M)	155	27	3	B. Yekel (C)	43	11	0	J. Ricciuti (WC)	18	3	0	0	0
	L. Donaldson (C)	154	22	1	R. Gradek (M)	37	5	1	A. Adamson (C)	12	2	0	0	0
	B. Evans (M)	150	22	0	C. Bupka (C)	34	4	0	A. Adamson (C)	12	2	0	0	0
	J. Lampe (WG)	108	26	1	B. Woods (WC)	34	4	0	D. Taylor (WC)	9	0	0	9	0
	R. Gradek (M)	82	16	0	T. Zuper (WC)	28	2	0	B. Evans (M)	8	1	1	0	0
	G. Kundly (C)	44	9	0	J. Mick (M)	27	1	0	R. Gradek (M)	8	1	1	0	0
	A. Adamson (C)	41	10	2	C. Pauley (WC)	22	1	0	L. Donaldson (C)	8	1	1	0	0
	B. White (C)	29	10	0	B. Whitlach (WG)	20	2	0	C. Fox (WC)	6	1	0	0	0
	R. Tennant (WC)	27	2	0	P. Burns (WG)	19	2	0	J. Ricciuti (WC)	6	1	0	0	0
	P. Hewitt (C)	19	3	0	C. Fox (WC)	18	2	1	J. Lampe (WG)	6	1	0	0	0
	C. Hillsman (C)	12	2	0	A. Adamson (C)	16	1	0	P. Durbin (WG)	6	1	0	0	0
	P. Durbin (WG)	12	3	0	A. Adamson (C)	14	1	1	C. Chambers (WG)	6	1	0	0	0
	S. Burns (WG)	11	3	0	C. Whyte (WG)	10	1	0	S. Burns (WG)	6	1	0	0	0
	R. Wilson-Jones (C)	7	1	0	R. Tennant (WC)	9	1	0	W. Murray (C)	6	1	0	0	0
	D. Huffman (WC)	7	6	0	B. Evans (M)	7	2	0	J. Howard (M)	2	0	1	0	0
	A. Adamson (C)	5	3	1	C. Thomas (WG)	7	1	0	J. Mick (M)	1	0	0	1	0
	C. Vanata (M)	5	4	0	J. Howard (M)	3	1	0	B. White (C)	1	0	0	1	0
					E. Griffin (M)	1	1	0						

GREENE COUNTY FOOTBALL STATS	PASSING				PASSING					
	Player	Yards	Attempts	Comp	TDs	Player	Yards	Attempts	Comp	TDs
	J. Stephenson (WC)	302	30	20	4	S. Yeager (M)	41	9	3	0
	L. Allison (WG)	256	37	17	3	T. Crouse (WC)	21	3	2	0
	L. Donaldson (C)	106	24	16	1	B. Evans (M)	13	4	3	0
	A.J. Vanata (M)	79	12	8	2					



Nathan is the youngest son of Barry and Renee Bennett of Carmichaels. He is a senior member of the cross-country team and maintains a 4.5 GPA. In school, he is a member of the National Honor Society, Leo Club, and senior standing committee. Outside of school, he holds down a part-time job, enjoys playing with his four bulldogs, attending football games, and spending time with family and friends. After graduation, he plans to attend Waynesburg University, where he will major in business finance with a minor in accounting.



Chloe Mitchell is the daughter of Rich and Nicole Mitchell of Nemaoclin. She is the senior captain of the Mike's volleyball team. In 2022, she was named to WPIAL All-Conference 2nd Team, Greene County Messenger All County 2nd Team, and Herald Standard All-Area 3rd Team. Chloe has spent two years playing for Morgantown Volleyball Club. She is a member of the varsity cheer squad, debate team, academic league, High School HiQ team, yearbook editor, Mike's Nation Live Crew, and vice-president of the National Honor Society. She has maintained highest honors throughout her academic career. Chloe is a 2023 AP Scholar Award winner as well as 2023 Physics Student of the Year. She volunteers her time helping with the middle school volleyball team. Outside of school, she works at Fleniken Public Library and in the summer months she is a lifeguard for the Greene County pools. After high school, Chloe plans to attend college and pursue a Bachelor of Science in Journalism with an emphasis on Sports Media.



Nathan Fox is the son of Burl and Lori Fox of Waynesburg. He is a member of the cross country and track teams, where he has lettered both years. He is also a member of ski club. When he is not running, he enjoys hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family. Nathan plans to continue his academic and athletic career in college.



Brynn Kirby is the daughter of Travis and Chastity Kirby of Waynesburg. She is a two-year captain of the soccer team and a member of the track team. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, Alpha Beta, and Ski Club. Brynn plans to attend a four-year university after graduation.



Junior Johnny Vanata is the son of John and Brianna Vanata of Greensboro. He is a returning letterman in his third year with the Maples' football team. He is a member of the Academic League and maintains a 4.4 GPA. Johnny enjoys working and spending time with his family. In his free time, you can find him lifting weights, playing video games, and working on his car.



Bailey Rafferty is the daughter of Jeremy and Kelly Rafferty of Dilliner. The outstanding junior plays volleyball for the Maples and was named MaxPreps PA Athlete of the Week, and Second Team All-Section and All-County last season. She helped her team to a fourth-place finish in the WPIAL. She was recently named GreeneSports Athlete of the Week. She has also played club volleyball for five years and currently plays for Rise Volleyball Academy on their 17 National Team in Morgantown. Bailey maintains a 4.4 GPA and is a member of St. Matthias Catholic Parish.



Junior Clay Wilson is the son of Mike Wilson and Leigh Ann Faulk of Waynesburg. He is a three-time PIAA qualifier for the Rockets' golf team. He enjoys golfing at Greene County Country Club and fishing in his free time.



Lacey Ryan is the daughter of Kevin and Christina Sisler of Jefferson. She is an outside hitter/defensive specialist for the Rockets. She also cheers and plays basketball at the school. She is a member of the Leo Club and student council. Lacey plans to attend college next year and major in physical therapy.

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CARMICHAELS VOLLEYBALL RECAP

Class: 1A -Section: 2

Mapletown - 3 Carmichaels - 2
18-25 (C), 25-21 (M), 25-18 (M), 21-25 (C), 15-13 (M)

Blocks: Payton Plavi 3, Ani Cree 2

Carmichaels - 3 Geibel - 0
25-15, 25-6, 25-13

CARMICHAELS STATS
Assists: Camryn Anderson 15, Avery Voithofer 6
Aces: Ani Cree 4, Chloe Mitchell 2
Kills: Ani Cree 13, Pacey Pratt 9
Digs: Chloe Mitchell 21, Pacey Pratt 23
Service Points: Payton Plavi 19, Jovi Blaskinsky 13, Chloe Mitchell 13

Assists: Camryn Anderson 12
Aces: Chloe Mitchell 11, Pacey Pratt 5
Kills: Ani Cree 7, Pacey Pratt 3, Brenna Walker 3
Digs: Pacey Pratt 8, Ani Cree 4
Service Points: Chloe Mitchell 26, Pacey Pratt 14

Carmichaels Overall Record: 1-1

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10U Smash Softball. L-R: (Front) Brylea Walkos, Milan Saab, Campbell McConnell, Bella Rodriguez, Hanna Shea; (Back) Bexley Humble, Sadie Perry, Kaylee Walkos, Aubree Kimmel, Kylie Watts, Haylee Rishell (Not pictured: Sierra Sanner).



14U Smash Softball. L-R: Bella Mariner, Blair Long, Kallyn Novak, Eva Pester, Haylee Yeager, Ava Cheplic, Bria Stephenson, Sydney Miller, Malanna Hertig, Britney Finney



16U Smash Softball. L-R: Jules Reams, Bre Kerr, Treslee Weston, Ava Wood, Payton Plavi, Duski Staggers, Allie Mille, Kylie Watt, Kyleigh Glaze, Lilly Melodia, Alyssa Heath

Local Man Wins Seven World Shooting Titles

Mario Barchiesi of Clarksville won seven divisions at the 2023 Vintage Gunners Cup Side by Side World Championships in Wellsville, Pennsylvania.

It was the most world titles won by anyone in the event's history. Barchiesi also broke the overall scoring record by shooting perfect scores (50/50) in four of the events and missing only one shot in the other three he won.

His titles included American Class - 12 Gauge, 16 Gauge, 20 Gauge; Any Maker Class - 20 Gauge, 28 Gauge, and 410 Gauge. He also hit nine out of ten targets in the Long Bird competition using a 20 Gauge Parker.



HIT THE TRAIL FOR THIS 5K

Grab your running shoes and get ready to race at the Greene River Trail Run! On Saturday, October 14, runners and walkers will gather at the Rices Landing Trail Head of the Greene River Trail for the Greene River Trail 5K Run/Walk.

The race starts at the Rices Landing Trail Head and consists of going out and back to the trail head. (Trail head address is 125 Main Street, Rices Landing, PA 15357). Registration is from 7:30am to 8:30am, and the race begins at 9am. Registration the day of the race is \$20.

The top three male and female runners and walkers in each age will receive awards, as well as the top three overall male and female runners and walkers. 5K runner categories include 14 & under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-69, 70-79, and 80+. The walker categories include 19 & under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, and 80+.

There will be spotters along the course to ensure walkers are walking during the race. The 5K's timing service will be provided by SERJ Racing Services of Uniontown, PA (serjracing.com). For the safety of all participants, please do not bring strollers, dogs, roller blades, bicycles, etc. on the trail.

FMI or to register, contact the Greene County Department of Recreation at 724-852-5323 or visit their Facebook page. Registration forms can be mailed to Greene County Department of Recreation, 107 Fairgrounds Rd., Waynesburg, PA 15370. Stay tuned for the next issue to see race results.

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Free Spirited Journalism

By Jeremiah Hurd

Becoming a Free Spirit Alumni was something I thought I would never say a year ago. I was always hard on myself and never really gave myself gratification until this moment. Three years ago, I didn't even know if I would be alive for this opportunity.

During my junior year, I went through many trials and rough patches. I lost people I looked up to and became angry at the world. One of the teachers that got me out of these dark moments was Mrs. Berg; she quickly became my favorite teacher. We had an excellent student to teacher connection. I had journalism and mass communication classes with her. She knew of my interest in journalism, and she provided me with the huge opportunity to attend the Al Neuharth Free Spirit Journalism conference.

I would compete with people across the state, and I was very self-conscious about that. But something told me to go all in, and grasp life by the neck. So, after three months of hard work writing essays for my application, I sent them in with nervousness and excitement.

As the months went by, my self-doubt increased, but I learned to believe in the process. Then, I finally received an acceptance email to the conference. I was in so much shock I thought it was a spam email, but seeing the trademark made it official. I called my family and told Mrs. Berg with the news, all while on the verge of dropping tears.

One of the first friends I told was Jessica Perez, from Colorado, because we are chasing the same interests. She showed me it was okay to accept that I did something and be proud of it. But the social anxieties kicked in- "Will I fit in?" and "What if I'm the odd one out?" -as I was riding to Pittsburgh to catch my flight. My brother, Austin Atha, told me to just have fun and enjoy the experience.

Once I landed in Washington D.C., my social anxiety began anew, but I immediately felt like I was with another family. Meeting people across the country helped me accept people without having that social anxiety take control. My roommate, Tony, was from Nebraska, and we became friends the first day we realized we were roommates. Out of 51 people, I gained a family of 51 brothers and sisters. We experienced all the monuments and historic sites of the city, and we got to meet people from USA Today to photographers.

These meetings led to me getting close with Steve Berkowitz, a sports reporter, and talking about sports and how that influences journalists. On our last day, we wanted to make it our 'go big

or go home' moment. We met with people, talking about freedom of speech and how important it really is, and I shared about wanting to push for a newspaper back in my school.

Later, they announced the awards, and, as the Neuharth family said my name, tears were falling down my face. After photos with some of my best friends there, we went to some more touring the area. The best part of the trip was the Boat Dance Party. Everyone was dancing and having a blast, knowing it was the last day before leaving what we called home for five days. After hugging and crying to all our fellow alumni, we knew we would find a way back to each other somehow. I remember thanking Hannah Santos for accepting my application as a journalist with a lot of self-doubt. Al Neuharth might not have been there physically, but he was showing us it's possible to dare, dream, and do.

As I traveled home, I thought about the lessons I learned from this experience. One: It's okay to have an ego as a journalist, but not a cocky one. Two: Journalism has taught me to be the best version of myself as a man, a person, and a journalist. Three years ago, my first writing piece was writing a suicide letter telling everyone I loved them. Now I'm a stronger person because journalism helped me escape that negativity. For me, journalism has no set definition when you're the writer, because if you dream, dare and do, you can control your path and your work, both as a person and also as a family.

Jeremiah is the son of Edward Hurd and Ashley Atha and the grandson of Betty J. and the late Robert Hurd, a professor in the Foreign Language Department at Waynesburg College and later served as Registrar. Jeremiah attends the Jefferson Baptist Church and youth group, and he volunteers at the Jefferson Food Bank, the Cherry Door, and the Humane Society. He also works part time at Gabriel's in Fairmont, West Virginia. Jeremiah is a senior at East Fairmont High School and takes classes offered by Fairmont State College with a major in journalism and a minor in psychology.



Jeremiah Hurd (right) with colleagues Nadia Marie, Treiston Collins and Shane Kaneshiro claiming their medal with a photo with the late Al Neuharth.

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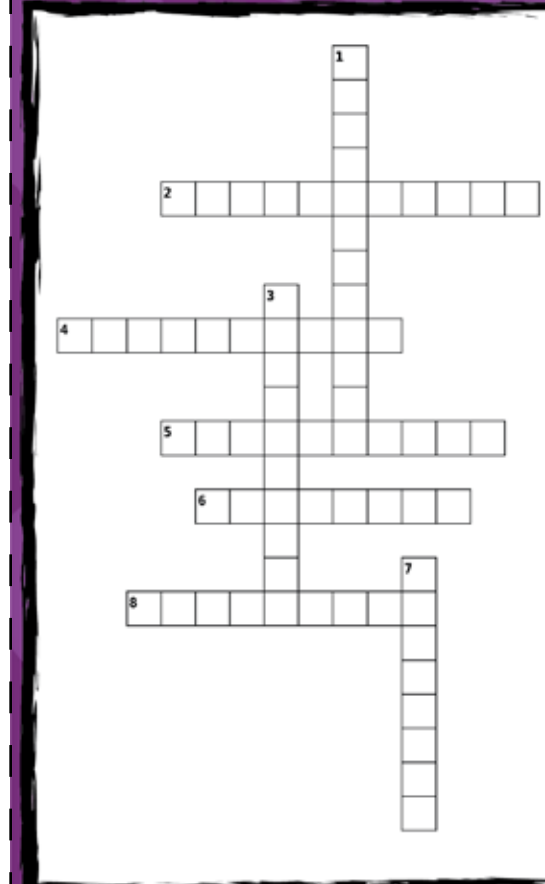
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 - This recently renovated home in Waynesburg will be hosting ghost tours this October.
 - This restaurant in Carmichaels is home to paranormal activities.
 - This haunted site was the scene of a 1791 massacre of a group of sisters.
 - A ghost that is said to haunt the Pumpkin Run area of Rices Landing.

- DOWN
- Located in Brownsville, this home is also referred to the Nemacolin Castle.
 - This judicial building is said to be one of the most haunted in Fayette County.
 - The lady in white haunts the area along this road in New Freeport.

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Why Bird watching?



There are many reasons that people take up bird watching. Some do it as a hobby, others for sport. Some make it a scientific endeavor, tracking birds for science. One thing is for sure—these fascinating animals entrance those that bird watch. And there are many benefits to bird watching.

It's a hobby that doesn't have to be expensive to start. You can start bird watching with nothing at all and increase your investment based on your level of commitment. Start with just your eyes, use free apps or the internet to help identify birds, and record them in your phone (notes or a picture) or a notebook if you choose to do so. If you're looking to go deeper, invest in binoculars or a spotting scope, and keep a few bird feeders stocked at home. Your level of financial obligation is up to you.

Bird watching is convenient. Birds are everywhere. You can't get away from them. You can do the hobby from any location you find yourself in. On a lunch break at work, waiting in line at an amusement park, ordering through a drive-through, you will see birds. You can choose to watch birds form the convenience of your own home, head to a local park or trail, or travel large distances to see exotic birds. It's all up to you.

Bird watching is healthy for your body. Getting outdoors and hitting the woods, fields, or trails in search of birds is a healthy exercise for your entire body. Your eyes get a workout as they stay alert and peer closely into the trees and sky in search of movement or color. Your reflexes must stay sharp. Even if you stay home to bird watch, you get exercise by changing your feeders and fresh water sources.

And the mental health benefits are weighty. The sound

of bird song has been proven to be calming for the mind, and both seeing and hearing birds can improve your mental wellbeing. Being in nature is relaxing. Your mind stays engaged during the time you spend bird watching. You stay alert, both eyes and ears, to catch sight or sound of the birds around you. Your memory is strengthened with researching, learning, and remembering bird species. Because you can't control the situation around you, bird watching helps with your patience—the birds come to you and there's not much you can do to change that.

Bird watching allows you to connect with other like minds. Most humans need community. People that share the same interests and passions are you help you grow, and bird watching is no different. Connecting with a group of other bird watchers can help you increase your knowledge, share your own experiences, and provide a sense of belonging.

Bird watching is also a great way to participate in citizen science. Those that bird watch are often more interested in conservation. You can help birds by keeping bird feeders or creating a space for birds on your own property. Help scien-

tists by participating in the various national and global bird watching events that happen throughout the year. The data you collect helps scientists understand what's going on with bird populations.



Citizen Science is for the Birds

Citizen Science: The “scientific work undertaken by members of the general public, often in collaboration with or under the direction of professional scientists and scientific institutions.” (Oxford English Dictionary). Anyone can take part in citizen science—it's science accessible to everyone. Citizen science encourages the public to take an interest in their surrounding communities through collaboration. Citizens voluntarily help conduct scientific research; this research is far more than scientists could hope to collect alone and assists them in future scientific endeavors.

Bird-related citizen science projects keeps scientists informed on the health of bird populations, guides future conservation strategies, and identifies environmental issues. FMI, visit audobon.org and ebirds.com.

Christmas Bird Count

Audubon's Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is the bird watching citizen science project that started them all. In 1900, ornithologist Frank Chapman and a group of other conservationists started the count as a way of promoting conservation through counting, not hunting. These ini-

tial counts ranged through northeastern North America. Before they started this count, hunters took part in the Christmas “Side Hunt”. During the hunt, the hunters chose sides and whoever returned with the most kills won.

The 124th Christmas Bird Count will be held from December 14, 2023, to January 5, 2024. You can sign up through the Audubon website to participate. The data collected by volunteers helps scientists assess the bird population health and inform future conservation decisions. If you are interested in participating, check out the map on audubon.org to find a count near you, arrange participation in new counts by contacting compilers (prior to count day), and sign up to hear about the CBC results. FMI, visit audobon.org and ebirds.com.

The Great Backyard Bird Count

Over four days each February, bird-watchers across the world watch and count as many birds as they can find. The work of volunteers helps scientists track changes in bird populations. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society launched the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) in 1998. It was the

first community science project to collect data on wild birds and display results in near real time. In 2009, Birds Canada joined the project and expanded participation and support in Canada, and in 2013, the project became global with the utilization of eBird.

The next GBBC takes place from Friday, February 15 to Monday, February 19, 2024. If you would like to take part, follow these easy steps: First, decide where you will bird watch, then watch the birds for at least 15 minutes or more, at least once over the four days; next, identify all the birds you see or hear, and record the number of birds into eBird (either the mobile app or the website). If you are a novice birdwatcher, use Merlin Bird ID to help identify the birds in your area. FMI, visit audobon.org and ebirds.com.

Global Big Day

On set days in May and October, the global birding community joins to report on species neat them. This past May, more than 59,700 people reported over 7,600 species of birds on nearly 150,000 eBird checklists. They also photographed and recorded many of these birds, with over

3.2 million bird sightings on that day. Much like the CBC and GBBC, bird-watchers' efforts are used for conservation and research worldwide. The next October Big Day is October 14, 2023. Watch birds whenever and wherever you can, even if for just a few minutes at home or work and report them on eBird. You can view real-time results on ebird.org. If you can't take part in the October event, they will hold the next May event on May 11, 2024.

Project FeederWatch

If you're looking for a more flexible way to participate in citizen science, consider taking part in Project FeederWatch. From November to April each year, bird-watchers watch birds anywhere that attracts birds. You don't even need a feeder, as long as the area has plantings, habitats, water, and food that supports birds. You can count birds on the days that you want, at the times you want, where you want. Project FeederWatch is supported by the participants. If you are interested in signing up, visit feederwatch.org.



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A Collection of Birds in Western Pennsylvania



Turkey Vulture

(Cathartes aura)

They are common during breeding season, but can be seen throughout the year in open country, woods, and farmland. Because they lack a vocal organ, they don't make typical bird sounds, but they can hiss or grunt.

Purple Martin

(Progne subis)

While considered a common bird during the summer, the population is on the decline and most house in birdhouses created especially for you. They migrate to South America for the winter, but can be seen in large groups in late summer. They have a liquid gurgling warble and a penetrating tee-tee-tee call.



Downy Woodpecker

(Picoides pubescens)

The smallest woodpecker in America, it is common all year in southwestern PA. It can be found in forests, orchards, parks, suburban yards and in river groves. They make a quiet pik and a descending rattle.



Barred Owl

(Strix varia)

Found year round in various forest habitats. Their loud calls, sounding like "Who cooks for you?" can be heard almost a half mile away have led to it being known as a hoot owl.



Bald Eagle

(Haliaeetus leucocephalus)

While not a common bird, the eagle population has increased over the past 40 years to include more than 300 nests. They can be found living around water sources, where they can find fish to eat.

Crow or Raven?

Find more PA birds at pa.audubon.org/birds

In honor of spooky season and our focus on bird watching, we're taking a look at two of everyone's favorite spooky birds: the crow and the raven. While these two birds look very similar and their names are often used interchangeably, they are two very distinct birds from the same family.

The larger of the two birds, the **common raven** (*Corvus corax*) has a 3-4-ft wingspan, is 24-27 inches head to tail, and weighs about 40 ounces. Ravens have triangular heads with big curved beaks with long, noticeable bristles at the base. Their feathers have more sheen than crows, and often shine green, blue, and purple. They also have shaggy throat fathers called hackles that differentiate them from the smaller, sleeker crow. They make a harsh, low croaking sound.

Ravens usually travel in pairs, and, while on the ground, strut with two footed hops. A group of ravens is called an unkindness, but are also referred to as a rave, treachery, conspiracy, or a flock. They prefer living in wooded areas. They are not as common in Pennsylvania as the crow.

Ravens ride the air thermals and soar more than crows, and their pointed wings have longer primaries (fingers) than crows. Their tails are wedge-shaped, thanks to its longer middle feathers.

The **American crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) is smaller than the common raven, with a 2.5-ft wingspan and approximately 17 inches long. They weight about 20 ounces—half the weight of a common raven. Crows have rounder heads and a smaller

beak with less noticeable bristles. Crows' vocals are less harsh than the ravens, and are known for their distinct cawing sound.

On the ground, crows usually travel in groups called murders. To get around while on the ground, crows walk like humans do; their strut has often been compared to supermodel walk. They prefer living in open areas.

In the air, crows flap more often than ravens while flying. Their silhouette from the ground features blunt wings with a splayed wing tip. Because their tail feathers are the same size, their tail is fan shaped.

Both birds are incredibly smart and are good problem solvers, but ravens are smarter. They pre-plan for tasks, like humans, and make tools to help them with their tasks. Crows have a sharp memory and can remember human faces.



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Ring-necked Pheasant
(*Phasianus colchicus*)
A year round resident of western PA, it is a popular game bird found in open country, often alongside the road.



Gray Catbird
(*Dumetella carolinensis*)
This plain summer visitor can be found in undergrowth, brush, and suburban gardens. Some of their calls are a cat-like mewing.



Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*)
Once on the decline but seeing a boost in population likely thanks to man made housing, they are found in southwestern PA during the summer in open and semi-open country.



American Woodcock
(*Scolopax minor*)
These summer visitors can be found in wooded areas. They are most active at dawn and dusk. They are also popular game birds.



Red-eyed Vireo
(*Vireo olivaceus*)
Found in large numbers during the summer, but not often seen because they hide in the leafy trees. They make a series of short, musical, robin-like phrases endlessly repeated.



American Kestrel
(*Falco sparverius*)
Also known as sparrow hawks, these birds are usually found in open country, hunting for small prey. Their numbers have decreased due to loss of habitat.



Indigo Bunting
(*Passerina cyanea*)
An abundant summer songbird found along brushy edges. The females are plain brown. They make a rapid, excited warble, each note or phrase given twice.



Northern Cardinal
(*Cardinalis cardinalis*)
Commonly found in southwestern PA in all seasons, in brushy and semi-open habitats, towns and cities, and almost anywhere with dense brush. Known for their Rich what-cheer-cheer-cheer, purty-purty-purty or sweet-sweet-sweet-sweet calls.



American Tree Sparrow
(*Spizelloides arborea*)
Wintering in PA, this bird prefers brushy roadsides, weedy edges, marshes, and suburban areas. They make 1 or 2 clear notes followed by a sweet, rapid warble.



Great Horned Owl
(*Bubo virginianus*)
The largest owls in PA can be found in mountains, forests, and many habitats. Their call is made up of five loud hoots.

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Great Blue Heron

(*Ardea herodias*)

Found all year near marshes, swamps, or trees/shrubs near water. They make a harsh squawk.

Cedar Waxwing

(*Bombycilla cedrorum*)

These nomadic birds are common near open woodlands, trees, towns, and fields. They make a thin lisp, tsee.



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

(*Poliophtila caerulea*)

Another summer visitor, they are found in open woods and winter in wooded or brushy areas. Their song is a thin, musical warble.

American Goldfinch

(*Spinus tristis*)

An all-season resident, they can be found along roadsides, in open woods and suburban areas.



House Sparrow

(*Passer domesticus*)

Found during all seasons in cities, towns, and on farms - almost always near man-made structures. They make a shrill, monotonous, noisy chirping.



Belted Kingfisher

(*Megasceryle alcyon*)

They are found waterside for ease of hunting. They plunge head first into water to capture fish. Their call is a loud, penetrating rattle.

Blue Jay

(*Cyanocitta cristata*)

One of the loudest birds, making a raucous jay-jay, harsh cries, and a rich variety of other calls. Can be found near oak and pine woods, gardens, towns, and parks.



Tree Swallow

(*Tachycineta bicolor*)

Commonly found here during the summer in open country near water sources. They migrate north early in the season, and migrate back south as early as July.



White-breasted Nuthatch

(*Sitta carolinensis*)

Commonly found all seasons in woodlands, forests, and edges. They make a nasal yank-yank, and their song is a series of low whistled notes.

Barn Swallow

(*Hirundo rustica*)

Often nesting near humans in barns or garages, they are found in semi-open country. They call southwestern PA home during their summer breeding season.



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American Robin

(*Turdus migratorius*)

One of the most commonly seen birds in PA, the robin's rich caroling is an early wake up call in cities, on farms, and throughout the forests. They prefer berry-bearing trees in the winter.



Mourning Dove

(*Zenaidura macroura*)

Found in almost any kind of open or semi-open habitat, they are common in southwestern PA in all seasons. They are named for their low, mournful cooing.

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Red-tailed Hawk

(*Buteo jamaicensis*)

Common in PA through all seasons, they are found in open country, often flying over fields near the roadside while hunting for mammals, reptiles, and other birds. They make a high-pitched, hoarse screaming call.



Wild Turkey

(*Meleagris gallopavo*)

A game hunter favorite, the wild turkey can be found in woods, swamps, and grasslands. They are often near oaks to enjoy a favorite food - acorns. They are omnivorous, and while they prefer walking/running, they can fly and will roost in trees.



European Starling

(*Sturnus vulgaris*)

An invasive species brought to North America over 130 years ago, it can be found in almost any habitat in PA. They can be found in large flocks and can imitate other birds.



Common Grackle

(*Quiscalus quiscula*)

Widespread in all seasons in southwestern PA, they can be found on farmlands, towns, and nesting in dense trees. They often forage in flocks.

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Birding Gear Essentials



You're ready to start your bird watching adventure, but you have no idea where to start. Here's some of the things you need to help you get on your way.

The clothes you wear while bird watching in the outdoors should be both comfortable and practical. You want it to be functional and appropriate for the environment, and weather, you will be in.

Be careful with new shoes and clothing to avoid the chance of blisters or chafing. Go for comfort. Wear shoes that are appropriate for the territory and you know are comfortable—good grip and support are important. Keep your feet extra happy with good quality socks. Wear fabrics that are lightweight and breathable, and dress in layers. Check the weather—bring waterproof clothing and shoes for rain, thermal items for cold weather/snow, and so on.

Matching the color of your clothing to your environment will help you blend in and be less likely to scare birds away. Muted shades and earth tones are great choices for blending into your environment. Darker shades are good for dense forests, and lighter shades may be better for open fields. While birding during hunting season, wear a bright orange hat or vest to make yourself more visible to area hunters. Many birders avoid wearing white because of how much light it reflects.

Avoid noisy clothing/materials, such as nylon and polyester, jangling metals, UV reflective or high-visibility items, and squeaky shoes. Birds have sensitive hearing and may be scared off by clothing sounds.

Remember to bring a backpack or satchel, or wear cargo pants or a birding vest, for carrying your gear. But what gear should you bring with you?

Depending on your photography needs, almost any camera will work to capture photos of the birds you see while bird watching. There are so many types of cameras, brands,

and more that a list of suggestions would be far-ranging. But odds are, you already have a powerful phone in your pocket—your phone. Phone cameras have gotten much better and are competitive with many digital cameras. Plus, their convenience makes it so you can grab photos even if you aren't prepared.

One way to take better photos with your phone is by digiscoping. Using an adaptor, such as those made by Phone Skope, combined with your phone creates a camera with a much better telescopic range. Adding a tripod stabilizes the scope and camera, allowing for sharp shots. You can also buy a binocular adapter to attach your phone to your binoculars.

To help with your bird identification, you'll need to get an excellent field guide. Field guides specific to Pennsylvania are *Birds of Pennsylvania Field Guide* by Stan Tekiela, *American Birding Association Field Guide to Birds of Pennsylvania* by George L. Armistead, and *The Birding Pro's Field Guides Birds of Pennsylvania* by Marc Parnell. Other guides by the National Audubon Society to North American birds and birds of the mid-Atlantic region can be helpful.

If you're looking for something even more convenient to have no matter where you go, consider trying the Merlin Bird ID app on your phone. Merlin, powered by eBird, offers quick identification help for all levels of birders. You just answer three questions regarding size, colors, and behaviors, and Merlin will do its best (based on the region you're in) to ID the bird. Snap a photo and their Photo ID will give you a list of potential matches (and works offline if you have no service). Their Sound ID feature listens to the birds around you and shows ID suggestions. You can also compare recordings to their library of bird calls.

Other gear you should bring with you includes insect repellent, first aid supplies, snacks, a pen and journal for recording the



birds you found (if you aren't using your phone to record), water, weather gear (such as a poncho), and binoculars or spotting scope. If you're using your phone as a camera, consider bringing backup batteries for emergency charging.

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Birdscape Your Backyard

Birdscape your backyard for a yard full of flying, colorful visitors. If you'd like to see more birds in your backyard or garden, take the time to create a welcoming environment that meets their needs and they will come.

One of the first steps you can take to make birds feel more welcome in your yard is to create a garden of native plants. Creating a native garden with a selection of trees, shrubs, flowers and other plants provides for many of the birds' needs. A natural environment, including leaf piles, dead trees, and the removal of invasive plants, will attract birds and make your yard a safe and welcoming haven. For more about what native plants you can use, visit <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/WildPlants/LandscapingwithNativePlants/Pages/default.aspx>.

Shelter is an essential need you can provide in multiple ways. Manmade shelters such as nesting boxes can fill in the gap caused by the loss of natural habitats. Different birds have different preferences for boxes, but each box should be created from untreated wood, have an entrance hole big enough for the birds but small enough to keep out unwanted visitors, room from the entrance for the nest, drainage and ventilation holes, rough interior walls, and a sloped roof. Some birds have more specialized needs. Birds like the purple martin are colony nesting species that prefer nesting boxes with multiple compartments.

Your native garden can also supply natural shelter for the birds. Trees and shrubs can provide shelter and protection, as well as nesting places. Dead trees provide places for birds to find insects, as well as possible nesting sites or protection from the weather.

Another essential need is a food supply, which also should be supplied in multiple ways. Different types of feeder styles will attract a variety of birds. Platform or tray feeders, tube feeders, hopper feeders, thistle or nyjer feeders, fruit feeders, ground feeders, peanut feeders, nectar feeders, and suet feeders each attract different species that prefer that style. You can also purchase squirrel proof feeders to deter your tailed friends from stealing all the bird feed. If you'd like to a closer view of your bird visitors, consider a window feeder that attaches to a window with suction cups.

As with feeders, different types of birds are attracted to different types of food. Sunflower seeds, safflower seeds, thistle or nyjer seeds, white millet, corn, peanuts, milo, golden millet, red millet, flax, suet varieties with nuts/fruits/insects, and more will bring different birds to your yard. Planting native seed-producing plants in your yard will also provide a natural food source for birds. Eliminate using insecticides in your garden and yard to encourage another natural food source; insects are the primary source of food for many birds.

Birds need a water source all year-round, both for drinking and bathing. Water sources can be as elaborate or as large as you want, or as simple as a shallow, sloped dish with a rough



surface that birds can grip. Multiple water sources at different levels (higher and ground-level) attracts different types of birds. Because birds are attracted to moving water, adding a dripping feature or waterfall will attract birds better; consider creating a bird-oriented pond with natural landscaping for something closer to their natural habitat. One thing that is the most important about your water source is that it be clean. You should empty and refill bird baths daily or add a pump and filtration. You will need to periodically clean the water source; avoid chemicals that are harmful to wildlife.

Welcoming Winter Birds

Fall is almost here, and that means that winter is just around the corner. While many don't think about activities like bird watching in the winter, there are many birds that call southwestern Pennsylvania home or travel here during the winter from climates further north. Winter weather can be very tough

on birds, but you can help our feathered friends survive a little easier during the cold winter weather.

Provide birds with the food they need. During the winter, birds use more energy to stay warm. That's why it's beneficial to provide high energy foods so that birds can regain their lost energy quickly.

Some of the best high-energy foods for birds in the winter are suet, peanuts (shelled and whole) and peanut butter, thistle seeds, dried fruit and berries, and black-oil sunflower seeds. An easy to provide winter food is to plant native plants with edible fruit, berries, and seeds such as native hollies, chokecherry, spicebush, asters, goldenrod, mountain mint, coneflowers, sunflowers, mulberry, eastern red cedar, American crab apples, and many other native trees, flowers, and grasses. Avoid raking leaf litter. Bird food sources, such as insects and insect eggs, are hidden under the leaf litter. If you remove the litter, you'll remove a source of food for the birds.

If you don't have a lot of native plants to feed the birds, it's very important to keep your bird feeders filled. Refill feeders daily to ensure a full supply. It's preferable to fill the feeders later in the day. This gives the birds a chance to get a boost before they roost for the night. If you can, provide multiple feeders in different styles and locations, with different food options to attract a variety of

birds. Place the feeders in a spot that is easily accessible, regardless of the weather. During and after storms, clean the feeders of any snow or ice buildup. If you still can't get to the feeders because of bad weather or want to attract ground-feeding birds, spread bird feed on your deck, yard, or sidewalk.

A fresh water source is even more important for birds in the winter. Natural water sources will freeze in the winter, so a non-frozen water source helps birds find water easily. If you already have a bird bath, you can add a heater, or you can purchase a heated birdbath.

It's also beneficial to provide birds shelter from the wind. At the end of summer, clean your birdhouses of old nesting materials, and then wipe them down with a sanitizing wash (such as a ten percent bleach solution). Trees and shrubs with thick growth also provide shelter.

Stay consistent with these winter essentials; after only a few days without food or water, the birds will look elsewhere for resources. Providing food, fresh water, and a shelter will bring many winter birds to your home for you to watch and enjoy.



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The Ralph K. Bell Bird Club



The club and the memorial bench along Greene River Trail.

Ralph K. Bell led a life for the birds. Born in 1915 at the Bell family Farm to Harold Kennedy Bell and Harriet Gaddis Luse, Ralph started studying birds at twelve and never stopped during his long life. He graduated Penn State University, where he studied poultry husbandry, in 1938, married his wife Mary Kern in 1939, and together they owned and operated Bell Farm, raising chickens, sheep, and Christmas trees.

Ralph received his Bird Banding Master Permit in 1954, and, over the years, mentored 15 others for their Bird Banding Permit. In 1958, Ralph founded the Allegheny Front Migration Observatory (AFMO). The AFMO, along the Allegheny Front in the Monongahela National Forest, near Red Creek Campground in Dolly Sods, West Virginia, is the oldest uninterrupted bird banding station in North America. The observatory sets up mist nets from late summer to early fall. The net safely catches birds, and they are gently removed from the net, identified, documented, banded, and released. Banding is used to identify and study individual birds – how long they live, how far it travels, and more. During his life, as of May 2013, Ralph handed more than 142,000 birds.

Sharing his knowledge was something that Ralph did often over the years. In addition to mentoring others for the banding permits, he published over 200 articles about birds and nature. His wrote for the EBBA News from 1956 to 1975, and his column "A Bird Bander's Diary" was published in the EBBA News from 1964 to 1973. He also wrote articles for The Redstart and The Mailbag for the Brooks Bird Club, the Nature Society News in Griggsville, IL, and many other publications. He also lectured various organizations for more than 65 years and was

interviewed on Pittsburgh radio. In 2002, the West Virginia Public Broadcasting System filmed a documentary of him regarding the founding of AFMO. He was also a member of nature-related organizations such as Greene County Soil Conservation, Eastern Bird Banding Association, Brooks Bird Club, Izaak Walton League, Three Rivers Birding Club, Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology, Purple Martin Conservation Society, as well as other local organizations both nature-related and not.

Recognition of Ralph's work came from all over, and he received multiple awards and certificates. Those include the John and Norah Lane Award from the North American Bluebird Society (1983), the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology Earl Pool Award (1998), EBBA Council Certificate of Appreciation (2000), US Department of Forest Service Volunteer of the Year (2003), the Purple Martin Preservation Alliance Award (2006), the Pennsylvania Game Commission Certificate of Appreciation (2006)

Ralph died in 2014 at age 99. His work lives on through the many organizations her served during his career. One organization that continues to spread a love of birding in Greene County is the Ralph K. Bell Bird Club. A group of dedicated birders founded the club in 2007 from an idea Marjorie Howard had in 2006.

The original mission of the Ralph K. Bell Bird Club was to encourage a better understanding of avian life and the environment. Ralph believed (and had it as a favorite saying), "One of the main reasons for living is to learn." The club has made this part of their mission statement and continues to spread a love of birding and avian knowledge.

The group still meets at Bell Farm for

Salute to Veterans



The November issue of the *GreeneScene Community Magazine* will pay tribute to all area veterans.

GreeneScene Magazine readers are encouraged to send the name, address & phone of a vet you know - family, friend or neighbor - it doesn't matter as long as they're veterans. All names will be included in our honor roll. **If you've previously submitted a name, you don't have to resubmit it; those names are automatically included yearly.**

We'll also feature select pictures & stories about some area veterans. So, if you have an interesting story or picture of a local vet you know, send it before Oct. 1, 2023 to:

GreeneScene Magazine/Veteran Tribute
185 Wade Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370
or info@greenescenemagazine.com

Remember, you can submit just a name to get your vet on the honor roll. However, if you decide to share a picture and brief story, be sure to include your own name & phone #, too. We can also scan original photos by appointment.



their meetings. Meetings are held on the third Monday of even months (February, April, June, August, October, and December) and locations vary. Some meetings are public group outings to locations, sometimes in search of a particular species. Throughout the year, the bird club participates in counts such as the Christmas Bird Count. Many of these bird counts are open to volunteers and welcome citizen scientists to participate – even if it's just from your own backyard. The club also continues Ralph's educational mission. They support two Greene County students through two memorial scholarships (one for \$1,000 and another for \$500).

A memorial bird walk is organized each year by the club and held at the Bell farm to celebrate both personal memories and Ralph's scientific contributions. The Bell farm is a haven for birds, with various nesting options housing American kestrels, tree swallows, purple martins, and Eastern bluebirds. Along the Greene River Trail, a memorial bench is dedicated to Ralph K. Bell, also.

Interested in becoming a part of the Ralph K. Bell Bird Club? Find them on Facebook! You can also contact them by emailing rkbirdclub@yahoo.com.

Photo courtesy of George 'Bly' Blystone of the Ralph K. Bell Bird Club.

Greene Gardens

By Lisa Lewis of the Greene County Master Gardeners

Mayapples and Box Turtles

Mayapple (*Podophyllotoxin peltatum*) is a native woodland plant that emerges in early spring before the trees in the deciduous forests they typically inhabit develop leaves. It is a herbaceous perennial, meaning its above soil growth dies back in the fall and re-emerges in spring. Mayapples typically grow in colonies from a single root and they thrive in shady to partly sunny forests, riverbanks and roadsides where the spring soil is moist and rich in organic matter.



Their upright stems are topped by umbrella-like leaves that remain furled along the stem until it nears full height. Each smooth leaf is up to a foot across and has 5-9 shallow-cut to deep-cut lobes. On mature plants there are two leaves to a stem, and it is only these plants that produce a solitary nodding white or rose-colored flower two to three inches wide and partly covered by the leaves. A variety of bees pollinate the flowers, and these pollinated flowers produce a lemon-shaped fruit (a berry) which contains several tan seeds. These green "apples" ripen to a golden color, sometimes tinged with pink or purple, and are up to two inches long. Except for the fruit, all other parts of the plant are highly toxic, even the seeds. When fully ripe, the fruit can be eaten and used to make jelly, preserves and drinks. Box turtles and other mammals may also eat them.

(*Terrapene carolina carolina*) are thought to be the major distributor of Mayapple seeds. Research has shown that the seeds of Mayapples that have passed through the gut of box turtles germinate more quickly and more often, having a higher probability of success than non-ingested seeds. This is presumably because digestion results in partial scouring of the outer seed covering, a process called scarifying. This specialized relationship is just one of many examples in nature of a mutually beneficial plant-animal interaction.

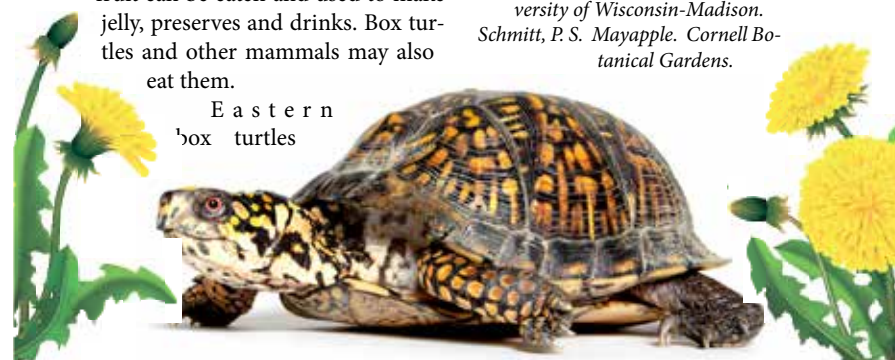
SOURCES:

Maqbool, M. *Mayapple: A review of the literature from a horticultural perspective.* J of Medicinal Plant Research, May, 2011.

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Eastern box turtles



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