

WVDN APR 26, 2021

THE WEST VIRGINIA **DAILY NEWS** FOR THE HIGHLANDS AREA OF WEST VIRGINIA

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APRIL 26, 2021 \$4.00

SPORTS CENTER

GRAND JES. Greenhouse in Open Air
The greenhouse is open to the sky, and the plants are growing in a natural environment. The greenhouse is located in the town of Grand Junction, and it is one of the largest greenhouses in the area. The greenhouse is open to the sky, and the plants are growing in a natural environment. The greenhouse is located in the town of Grand Junction, and it is one of the largest greenhouses in the area.

Ghr. Council Highlights
The council highlights the work of the Ghr. Council, which is responsible for the management and operation of the Ghr. Council. The council highlights the work of the Ghr. Council, which is responsible for the management and operation of the Ghr. Council.

GVAA Holds Its Meeting
The GVAA holds its meeting, which is a regular meeting of the GVAA. The meeting is held in the town of Grand Junction, and it is one of the largest meetings in the area. The meeting is held in the town of Grand Junction, and it is one of the largest meetings in the area.

Lewisburg First Fridays Resume
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Empower Art Auction Funds CIS Of Ghr. Co.
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Letter To Public Education Professionals

By delegate todd longanacre | WVDN APR 26, 2021

Greetings, Public Educators, Administrators, & Staff!

The 85th Legislature was instrumental in setting the conditions for the element of fairness in the private, charter, and homeschooling communities for the first time. Now our taxpaying citizen friends and neighbors who have decided to homeschool or send their children to a private school can utilize some of their own earnings to purchase educational supplies, materials, uniforms, tutoring, tuition, etc.

Some have pushed a narrative that the legislature was “trying to destroy the public school system.” This is patently false. On the contrary, a House Resolution was passed with overwhelming bipartisan support aimed at a full review and upgrade of public education law. Quite frankly, Chapter 18 of the West Virginia Code is far from perfect and may have language which is not only outdated and redundant, but may also be cumbersome and detrimental to the educational process. For far too many decades our public school law was written by legislatures who may have been influenced and funded by forces who, in many regards, did not have the best interests of the students in mind. Therefore, our goal during the next Legislative Regular Session is to directly assist public education by repealing bad laws which may be stifling the educational process. We must do this only after first soliciting input from, and achieving buy-in with important stakeholders in the administrative, educator, and service personnel communities.

If you would like to be a positive contributor to this organized effort to update and better public education in West Virginia, I want to hear from you. Please note that this is not going to be a gripe session. This needs to be a sincere effort to identify, isolate, codify, and possibly repeal some language in the current code that is holding back our employees and stifling the educational process. Every decision should be student-first focused going forward, especially with regard to increasing STEM standards.

I hope you will consider signing on as a contributing team member to this process by joining myself and other House Delegates from both sides of the political aisle in striving to sincerely better our public education system. We are currently working to establish an online legislative depository link where you may, after reviewing sections of Chapter 18 that directly impacts your duties, responsibilities, and educational, administrative, or facilities maintenance standards in a negative way, login and leave your own personal examples and recommendations for moving forward. More to follow on this later. While I will continue to provide updates there is no need to wait to get started. Simply visit the West Virginia Legislative website, do a search for “Chapter 18”, then scroll down and locate the various sections of code that deal with your specific duties and responsibilities.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Todd Longanacre Delegate, District 42, WV House

Civil Air Patrol Cadets Attend MESA Camp

By emily warthan and joy fisher guest columnists | WVDN APR 26, 2021



We — Emily Warthan and Joy Fisher — are two Civil Air Patrol cadets from Greenbrier Composite Squadron. From April 9-11, we participated in the Mountaineer Emergency Services Academy (MESA) training activity at Camp Dawson in Kingwood, West Virginia. The course we attended was called Ground Pounders Session 1 and other cadets from around West Virginia were also there.

The Ground Pounders course was on emergency services and it taught us how to be part of a ground team. We learned how to prevent and treat hot/cold weather injuries, how to avoid natural hazards, how to apply universal precautions in first aid, how to prevent and treat fatigue, what to do if we get lost, how to use a compass, and how to conduct a phone alert.

Emily: One of my favorite classes was learning how to use a compass.

All the cadet's meals throughout the weekend (Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and Sunday breakfast) were provided free of charge. We each had our own room, also free of charge. The room was furnished with a bed, desk, small fridge, microwave, TV, and a bathroom with a shower. Camp Dawson is a lovely camp with modern clean buildings.

Emily: For me, the highlight of this trip was meeting all the cadets and making friends.

Joy: My highlight of this camp was meeting an air force sergeant who was on base there. I really enjoyed talking to her and learning about the Air Force and how to join.

We're going to be attending the second Ground Pounders course in June. Once we complete that training, we'll be qualified to be part of a ground team, which will allow us to save lives by finding crashed airplanes and

missing persons.

If you haven't heard of Civil Air Patrol and you're interested in all the opportunities it has to offer like aerospace, leadership, and emergency services, then you should look into it. Anyone 12 years and older can join.

To find out more about Civil Air Patrol, visit www.gocivilairpatrol.com. Or you are invited to attend an open house on May 1 from 1-3:30 p.m., with a presentation at 2 p.m., at the Greenbrier Valley Airport in Lewisburg. If you want to attend RSVP to hmoloney@wvvg.cap.gov.

East Boys Sectional Recap

By brandon baker wvdn | WVDN APR 26, 2021



To say it has been an interesting week for the Greenbrier East boys basketball team would be the biggest understatement in Spartan history.

After not stepping on the court for over two weeks, East was all set to play the Oak Red Devils on Wednesday, April 21 in the Region 3, Section 2 tournament.

However, about 20 minutes before tipoff, players were told they had to go home due to Covid-19 and the game would be postponed. This caused a social media uproar among Spartan parents and fans. No

explanation was given for the postponement and many feared right then and there that East's season was over. Many rumors have swirled as to what or who had the power to make that last-minute cancel, but that is another story for another day.

Anyway, the game got rescheduled for Thursday, April 22, but East had to travel to Oak Hill instead of hosting the contest causing even more unrest for the parents and players.

The Spartans used all the turmoil to fuel their own fire and defeated the Red Devils 61-48 but lost to the Woodrow Wilson Flying Eagles 66-57 on Saturday, April 24 at Fairlea without eight players.

Against Oak Hill, East got off to a quick start with two William Gabbert 3-pointers and a steal and score for Adam Seams. Oak Hill's Ethan Vargo-Thomas got a bucket inside, but Bailee Coles answered with a trey and the Spartans led 11-4 with 5:30 left in the first quarter.

A couple of possessions later, Coles had one of the better dunks in recent memory when he got the step on his defender down the baseline and threw down a one-handed thunderous jam, then he had a nice assist to Gabbert and his Spartans were up 15-6. Oak Hill crept back into the contest, but Coles hit three foul shots after being fouled on a long-range shot and East led 23-16 after one.

Gabbert hit a short jumper early in the second and Coles followed with a blow-by layup and at that point the Spartans led 31-22. Seams would find Coles on a long pass for two and Aidan Huffman scored a layup at the buzzer. East led 37-26 at the break.

However, the cruise control East wore down a little in the third quarter as the Red Devils started to chip away at the lead.

Samuel Crist started the scoring with a score and Camden Craddock followed that with two more. Coles stopped the mini-run with a layup, but Craddock scored four more consecutive points and Oak Hill had pulled within five points at 39-34. Then, after two straight hoops by Coles, Oak Hill's Jacob Perdue hit two threes, and East led just 45-42 entering the fourth quarter.

And that is when a youngster stepped up for East.

With the Spartans clinging to a 49-48 lead after Perdue sank two free throws, little-used Ryan Cole, who was brought up from the JV squad to replace the ineligible East players, drained a 3-pointer from the right corner. On the next possession, Cole made a tough contested shot underneath, and just like that the Spartans were back up by six points, 54-48.

After those two buckets from Cole, East seized the momentum and never let it go. They held Oak Hill scoreless the rest of the way, hit 6-of-7 foul shots down the stretch and secured a big victory.

Speaking about Cole's three, head coach Bimbo Coles said, "Maybe the biggest shot made since I've been coaching here."

Coles finished with 27 points. Gabbert had 21.

Perdue led Oak Hill with 16.

East (10-3) lost to Beckley Saturday. They were undermanned and they were tired. The coaches and players would never use that as an excuse, but it was easy to see. With just four regular varsity players and hardly anyone on the bench, the Eagles took advantage — to take anything away from them as the Eagles did play well also.

East led 16-15 after one, but Dewayne Richardson, Ben Gilliam and Elijah Redfern played well for the Eagles the rest of the half and Beckley led 27-25 at halftime.

Coles made a nice pass to Tucker Via who converted a reverse layup early in the third that pulled the Spartans to within 30-28. However, the next two plays turned the tide of the game in Beckley's favor. Redfern got an offensive rebound and put it back in, and Maddox McMillan drilled a left-wing 3-pointer that gave the Eagles a 35-28 lead. Coles then had a dunk, but Gilliam also had one for Woodrow and East could never get over the hump the rest of the way.

Questionable officiating was in play as well, but the big story was the Eagles free throw shooting. They went 19-of-24 including 10-of-10 from Dewayne Richardson, who broke out big time, and Beckley got the win.

Richardson had 18 points to lead Woodrow. Redfern, a ninth-grader, had 16 and Keynan Cook got 10.

Seams was the player of the game for the Spartans. He finished with 16 points, five steals and four rebounds. He played great defense all night. Coles and Gabbert also had 16 points each.

East was just 4-of-18 from the three-point range.

The Spartans will still get another shot. They will head to George Washington this Wednesday, April 28 to face the Patriots in a Region co-final. The winner will head to the state tournament.

Stats and quotes courtesy of 103.1, The Bear.

How To Manipulate Space And Time

By Scot Refsland, Ph.D. | WVDN APR 26, 2021



The Muse of Dr News

Did you know that The Institute of Incomplete Studies (IIS) has recently uncovered that seven out of ten people?

Last week I was musing on how small town old-timers were masters at slowing down time. One of my most favorite old-timers was my Grandfather, Bill Tuckwiller. Now Bill was not only an avid hunter and fly fisherman, he was a Jedi Master of both space and time. He was able to bend, shape and modify space and time to his liking, all without any fancy quantum physics trickery.

One fine masterful display was when we went fly fishing in Yugoslavia (now Slovenia.) I was just a young teenager, hungry for adventure, and Bill's constant sidekick. So in the middle of summer, we flew to Ljubljana, drove into the Julian Alps and arrived at Lake Bled. And that's where Bill revealed to me one of the most valuable lessons of my life: how to stop spinning around space and make time spin around you.

We got up before sunrise the next morning and embedded ourselves into a small nearby crick (stream in Croatian.) Now, being a young teenager, I was armed not only with waders and a good fly rod, but unbeknownst to my grandfather, a new Sony Walkman (iPod for you wipper-snippers.) I had purchased it during the Heathrow layover, along with a cassette tape of an unknown English band called Dire Straits.

After gearing up, Bill decided he was going to try the nearby pool, complete with a large overhanging rock. "Ok I'll try down there." I pointed gleefully. Or in teenage speak, just enough distance that he couldn't see my earbuds.

I stuck the Walkman into my waders, ran the cord up the inside of my shirt and pressed play. "Money for Nuthin! Chicks for Free!" Trout fishing in Yugoslavia was the best!

BOOM! Mother Nature took over. That whale-sized rainbow trout struck my fly and took off downstream like a squealing pig coming to the understanding it was about to become bacon. Lawd, I had aholt' of a C&O train hell-bound, late on the morning run. We toured high-speed through slippery rocks, across both sides of the banks, and directly into every thorny scrub from here to Timbuktu. That is until it all came to an abrupt halt.

The first thing I remember was just how ice-cold the water was whilst lying face down in it. Then the gates of Boreas opened and flooded my waders. Ohhhhkla-homa!

But no-sir, Mother Nature was not done with me. That Rainbow was still on the line with the reel screaming out an "I'm almost empty!" shriek.

Now Bill was the kind of gentleman who didn't accept the "almost caught" part of a big fish story. There was a price to be paid, like getting your shirt tail cut off if you miss your first buck. And I wasn't going to let this little pea-brained varmint steal my shirttail.

The battle raged for another 20 mins until I finally landed him. And as I was catching my breath, a white object, floating down the river caught my eye. It was my Dire Straights cassette.

I fished into my water-filled waders and sure enough, there was my new, now cracked and ruined Walkman. My adventure was doomed.

And just as I was about to break into a bluesy old-oh-woe-is-me tune, the sun shot a ray of light upon me as it peaked over the 12 thousand foot snow capped Julian Alps. Then a herd of wild goats grazing on the other side instructed me to keep the racket down. Mother Nature seeped deeply into my soul and I became calm.

When I finally arrived back at the pool, my grandfather was sitting on that big rock with nothing on but his undershorts. His wet clothes were spread out on the rock and he was reading a soggy book of Keats.

"What happened?" I asked. "We came to an understanding..." he said calmly, slightly pointing to the two very large trout in his creel. Then he drank in the midsummer morning countryside, took a deep breath of mountain fresh air, and returned to his book.

"Got extra room up there for my clothes too?" I said proudly as if I had just joined the masters club. "Sure." He said without missing a beat. Then awashed in his typical dry humored wit, he shot back, "Oh, I picked up a real good book on a 16th Century musician in Heathrow. Sir Thomas Wyatt. It's in the car and I don't think it needs batteries."

Kudos this week for "those who make small town Main Streets a little better" goes to Lance Syner. Lance has helped revive downtown Lewisburg with his ambitious Court and Stratton street renovations. If you see him around town, please thank him for his service. Heck go big and visit his new Briergarten for family oriented meals and drinks.

Until next week, I'd love hearing your Space-Time anecdotes and hints on good folks doing awesome things for our community. I can be reached at drnews@wvdm.com.