

WVDN JUL 27, 2021

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2021

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Lewisburg Approves Estimated CARES Spending Plan

By by bobby bordelon | WVDN JUL 27, 2021

With federal CARES Act funds waiting to be spent, Lewisburg City Council looked at park improvements, year-round restrooms, City Hall repairs, and broadband during a recent meeting.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 invested \$2.2 trillion in keeping the United States running during the COVID-19 pandemic. Cities in Greenbrier County were reimbursed by these funds as employees continued doing their jobs and the city spent money on public health precautions between March 1, 2020, and December 30, 2020.

For Lewisburg, the remaining \$726,537.01 in reimbursement needs to be spent quickly.

“We have to have these funds expended by December 31, 2021,” explained City Administrator Misty Hill. “In the previous council, we were doing baby steps on expenditures. We had picked a few items and we were trying to get those closed out before we moved forward on other items. With such a tight deadline for [Public Works Director] Tony [Legg] and I, and the streets and parks foremen, we felt like it would [to] watch [the projects] closely on expenditures, ... but be able to expedite this quicker than what we have in the past.”

Of the projects, many of the councilmember’s questions center on Lewisburg’s parks. Hundreds of thousands of dollars of estimated costs for different projects were included on the list.

“What we can [normally] do with our parks is based on coal severance and it’s very low,” Hill said. “Us to having that magnitude of financial backing, like the CARES Act reimbursement, won’t come along a lot of times. “

Some examples of park projects using CARES reimbursement are already complete. Hill also noted that some of the projects already completed have more improvements that could be made.

“[One was] the junior synthetic baseball field, which we completed last Wednesday,” Hill explained. “Another thing we completed was purchasing the player’s benches. It has been brought to our attention that we probably need to add two more benches to that, especially with going through the state baseball tournament. ... A couple of years ago, we had baseball field lights put in. The poles are too short, so now the lights reflect in the children’s eyes in the outfield. ... We are concerned about safety. This is a costly expense to upgrade this, it would be about \$125,000. The good thing is that [the lighting fixtures] we used in the previous project ... can go into our skate park and pickleball courts.”

The list of potential projects are:

- Skate Park Lights
- Walking Track Lights
- Ball Field Dugouts
- ADA Restroom for SB Field

- Player Benches
- Paving Equipment
- Winterization of Bathrooms
- Lights for Batting Cages
- Poles for Little League Field
- Mini Park (hillside) and shelter renovations
- Pickle Ball Courts
- Announcing booth windows
- Football equipment storage

The Parks Department is not the only place receiving funds. City Hall is on the list for a renovation, a generator, and a new phone system.

“Another thing we had talked about with CARES Act funding was the façade for City Hall, the repointing, recorning, ... and repainting of the building,” Hill said. “We had our prebid meeting on Wednesday and Martin Schleiff [of Schleiff Construction LLC] is the construction company that will be doing the bid on the edge of the building. He is gathering all of his information to turn in what the projected amount is for what it would take to renovate City Hall.”

Allowing restrooms in the city to be open during the winter is also on the list.

“We are in the middle of ordering locks that we can set to [have the] doors lock at 10 p.m., they will automatically unlock in the morning,” Hill said. “That will help with the vandalism at night. Also winterizing them will give us the ability, especially downtown when Christmas shopping is open, [to have restrooms]. Once we shut those down, ... late at night, there are no restrooms, so winterizing is very important.”

With all of the projects inbound, needed to be invoiced before the end of the year, city employees will be putting in more hours. Because CARES Act money is reimbursement funds generated by city work and workers, Hill wished to include hazard pay in the plan.

“In every meeting I’ve sat in ... the first thing out of the gate is Hazard Pay for employees. CARES Act reimbursement was brought on and funded by employees working and being here. We would not be sitting on the reimbursement that we have if it were not for the employees’ dedication to be here. I applaud them showing up every day and going through what they did with COVID and the regulations.”

The total hazard pay, planned for September, is set around \$1,600 for each employee, making sure that their take-home hazard pay is \$1,500 apiece.

A final \$100,000 has also been set aside for broadband expansion, but a specific project to fund has not yet been found.

“[We have] a placeholder for \$100,000 for our broadband,” Hill said. “[Treasurer] Susan [Honaker] and I will have to call the state, we can’t expend on broadband right now. No one has a game plan right now. We have ideas but truly we have nothing set in stone to help with our citizens. With some of the ARC money, there are

qualifications you have to meet and with those guidelines set, we don't meet those as a city. I'm not saying that as a county we don't meet those, but as a county we don't meet those."

Each of the projects over \$25,000 are also subject to procurement regulations.

After the near hour of discussion and questions around the plans during a council meeting alone, not counting the efforts of city staff and councilmembers and Mayor Beverly White, council felt strong enough about the plan to put it in motion.

"I make a motion that we approve the use of the CARES Act funds, broken down like this: the Hollowell Park Approved Cares Act Plan of July 2021, the rough estimate for city hall for \$300,000, the quote for the generator for ... \$47,000 even, hazard pay of \$92,040.75 to be expended in September, and then the phone system [worth \$12,000]," said Councilmember John Little. In addition, "put the approval [for the City Administrator] to spend this money in the beginning of that motion, then all the other stuff I said ... This is taxpayer money, and if we don't use it, we're going to lose it."

The council approved the plan on Tuesday, July 20, with all yes votes.

"Go make our city look beautiful," Little told Hill.

"I'm trying!" Hill said through a laugh.

"I'm sorry, even more beautiful!" Little responded.

Greenbrier County Democratic Women's Club: Updates

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUL 27, 2021

Minutes recorded from the meeting held June 22:

Old Business:

- Minutes review — May 25 meeting
- Treasurers report — \$1858
- Tee shirts for club (12 shirts for sale) —Still getting to original purchasers and getting prices for more
- Position paper rollout — No coverage from WVDN despite invite from club and assurance of coverage. Will also contact Mountain Messenger
- WV Federation of Democratic Women — updates — Carol Evans

Annual Meeting — September 18 - Delegates (June 1)- 4 members going

Quilt Raffle Tickets — Available, \$5/ each

Ad for meeting program — Will send position paper.

New Business:

- Activities Committee Update - Gloria Martin

June activities- Plantings and clean-up at Committee on Aging. Father's Day flag at HQ. Money collected for Committee on Aging will be used for gifts/gift cards for workers.

Alderson Fourth of July Parade — Table set up. Committee will plan.

- Communications Committee Update
- Membership Committee — Keep reaching out to new members
- Pride Day Lewisburg- June 26. Lineup for parade 2 p.m. on Lee St. Parade starts at three, then block party in front of HQ to follow. We will help with voter registration
- State Fair Booth- Committee to meet
- August Picnic (no August meeting — meeting is the picnic) August 29
- For the People Act activities— Lorette Young coordinating for July 4 table. Setting up at State Fair w/ Dem Exec. Has grant money to pay for tix for Fair workers
- Race Matters block Party — August 28, 11 a.m. Food, kids activities, WVSOM doing health care screening, OMM, massage offered. Labor Day event — March LUMC to Greenspace, street theater, kids activities, speakers including Stephen Baldwin and Lacey Watson

Next meeting to be held July 27, Shelter #2 Dorie Miller Park:

Agenda

Old Business:

- Minutes review - June 22 meeting
- Treasurers report
- Tee shirts for club (shirts for sale)
- WV Federation of Democratic Women — Updates - Carol Evans

Annual Meeting - September 18 - Delegates (June 1)

Quilt Raffle Tickets

Ad for meeting program

Dues payments

Delegates

New Business:

- Activities Committee Update — Gloria Martin: Alderson Fourth of July Parade, Commission on Aging, Garden restorations
- Communications Committee Update
- Membership Committee — Keep reaching out to new members
- State Fair Booth — Update
- August Picnic — Planning

Big Draft Brewing Opens In White Sulphur Springs

By by bobby bordelon | WVDN JUL 27, 2021



Big Draft Brewing has officially joined the Greenbrier Valley restaurant and brewery scene!

Situated on Main Street in White Sulphur Springs, the building now contains three distinct businesses — the music and event venue Cross Creek on Main, the coffee and ice cream cafe The Local, and the full brewery and restaurant Big Draft Brewing. With the opening of the second two over the past week, the building now offers a gathering place for all types of people.

“The official opening was Saturday [July 17] — it was awesome,” explained owner Clay Elkins. “The community is hugely supportive. They came out in droves. The team did well. We weren’t 100% sure we were going to open that day — we had a little, private event and then after it was done, we just said let’s go for it. We texted a few friends and put it out on social media. It was really good.”

The soft launch did hit a snag, but one completely out of its control.

“We partied hard on Saturday until the friggen power went out,” Elkins said. “A transformer blew and it was out until [from 8:30 p.m. to] midnight or one. It really put a damper on the thing.”

Just outside the building, there is a sprawling yard, outdoor stage, cornhole, fire pits, and ample tables to use, either before or after a meal. Elkins explained that the intention for the entire building and all three businesses was to create a truly social small town place to gather.

“We want the brewery to be your neighborhood community brewery where you can come and hang out,” Elkins said. “That’s why we’ve got the games out there, the firepits. ... Bring the kids, bring the dogs, and stay all day. We’ve got nonalcoholic [drinks], beers, liquors, and wine. We want it to be the spot where you can see the guy off the Harley belly up to the cop, who’s bellied up to the side of the fireman or lawyer or whoever.”



A mural, matching the one inside Cross Creek on Main, is coming to the outside patio and sitting area of Big Draft Brewing.

The Dry Creek Society is also part of Big Draft Brewing – coming with a one-time \$1,000 price tag, the benefits program makes an interesting offer.

“We will buy you a beer every day for life,” Elkins said. “Every day that you stop in to say hello, your first beer is on us. Additionally, you receive a 10% discount on all purchases — beer, food, and swag — made at Big Draft Brewing. You will receive VIP access to all tap release parties. And, finally, you will receive a Big Draft Brewing Beer League t-shirt which we hope you’ll wear with pride.”



Joslyn & The Sweet Compression performs on Saturday, July 24.

Capping off the first week of business was a full event — Joslyn & The Sweet Compression packed Cross Creek on Main, spilling over into Big Draft. The powerful and fun band delivered on their “original funk and soul” sound as the lights turned blue, red, and purple.

“Well, friends, our first week is in the books,” posted the brewery on Facebook. “We want, foremost, to express our sincere appreciation to all of our patrons—foodies, craft beer fans and music lovers alike. We couldn’t be more proud to serve this community. We vow to get better and better. Thanks for all the love.”

This writer certainly recommends the food after going a handful of times over the past week, always enjoying the different entrees and appetizers, ranging from a hot sauced and crispy chicken sandwich to a pretzel with a bacon jelly, and mashed potatoes with an ample drop of beef and gravy on top.



Just one available appetizer, a sharable beef and mashed potatoes.

Big Draft, alongside a number of new Main Street businesses and the Schoolhouse Hotel project, is part of a huge revitalization for White Sulphur Springs in the past few years.

“For years White Sulphur was only a destination because of The Greenbrier,” Elkins said. “We want to change that and make White Sulphur its own destination. We want to partner with Lewisburg. I envision us and Lewisburg as Thomas and Davis, where we coexist really well and we send people back and forth. White Sulphur is trying to rebrand itself as an outdoor destination, which is what we’re going for.”

Elkins thanked the community and his team in all three businesses.

“We could not do this without everybody else,” Elkins said. “We really appreciate the communities’ support. It’s been awesome seeing the way the team has come together to do things. ... I think it’s getting there, exactly where we want it.”

Author’s note - this article was not sponsored and no food or services were provided for free for coverage.

Residents Of One Beckley Location Ask Council For Help With Flooding Concerns

By autumn shelton | WVDN JUL 27, 2021

In one area of Beckley, residents need help addressing flooding concerns that have been affecting their community for decades.

At the Tuesday, July 12 council meeting, several residents of Hartley Avenue, Hager Street and Hunter Street stated that the city should find a solution to the stormwater drainage issues that flood their properties. They said they have been asking for help from the city for a long time but are being told that nothing can be done.

“When we have a bad rainstorm, it floods my yard, it runs over top of my porch, it has wreaked havoc on my foundation in places and it has almost completely rotted away the foundation on my tool sheds,” said community resident Calvin Moore Jr.

He said if the drains in the area were bigger, they would help carry the water away from homes, but even though he has tried time after time to have city workers look into the issue, they continue to say nothing can be done.

“There is something you can do if you would take the time to find out how to do it,” he stated.

“We need some help down there,” said Beatrice Pannell-Johnson. “It’s getting worse and worse. Sanitation comes, they look and look and look, but there is nothing being done. Some of this money, the CARES money, should be put back into the community for us. Please help us.”

Community resident Adam Smith stated that he too has lived in the area for a long time and that the situation is overwhelming.

He said it was his understanding when they passed the CARES act that hundreds of thousands would be spent on infrastructure, but none of that money has come to his area of Beckley. However, he noted other areas of Beckley that experience flooding have been either fixed or an effort has at least been made to fix their problems.

“None of that money has touched the Hartley, Hager Street area,” he said.

Mayor Rob Rappold responded to the citizens’ concerns by stating that he is aware of the issue and that it has been a problem for a long time, but there is no easy fix. Some estimates on fixing the drainage issues have been as high as \$22 million.

“We don’t have the money,” Rappold continued. He added that the city has applied for two different loans through the state revolving fund to complete this project but was denied both times.

He noted that stormwater flows into a pipe that is too small to properly drain the area and that, unfortunately, most of the homes on Hartley Avenue were built over sewer and stormwater lines.

He told those in attendance that several project ideas are in progress and that a community meeting will be held at a later date to discuss them. The first meeting could occur as soon as mid-August.

“We want input from your community. You will be hearing from us,” Rappold said.

Young W.Va. Filmmaker Finds Her Place In The Disney Kingdom

By maria young charleston gazette-mail | WVDN JUL 27, 2021



CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — Say you wanted to carve a career track that would take you from a nice, suburban neighborhood in Scott Depot to the magical Walt Disney Studios in Los Angeles, where you would land a dream job working on such famous projects as “Frozen II” and “Raya and the Last Dragon.” You could figuratively grab a machete and start chopping away at the many, many barriers — real and imagined — that stand in the way.

Or you could follow the path just set by Jillian Howell, which reads like a modern-day fairy tale.

“I always tell people that it started when Santa Claus brought me a Barbie video camera when I was seven years old — I just started making videos,” said Howell, now 26.

“I went to Winfield (Middle School and High School) and in seventh grade, that was kind of the YouTube boom. I got my first digital camera and taught myself how to edit on Windows Movie Maker on my mom’s Dell. And I remember turning to my mom and being like, ‘I can do this as a job.’”

She was hired to produce video slideshows for different sports teams and created a YouTube group called PJM Squared Productions.

“It was me and three friends from my soccer team. And we just made little video skits that we put on YouTube. ... and I think they’re still up there. They’re kind of embarrassing. But, you know, you’ve got to start somewhere. And that was how I really learned to start hearing, like, feedback. And just really learning how to

honestly, like at 12 years old, how to project-manage, how to produce, how to direct.”

By high school, it seemed, the road was set. She wanted to work in film.

She did announcement videos for the morning broadcast, and in her senior year started Music Video Mondays. “And a lot of those got huge notoriety online. We were on the news. I won a young filmmakers award at WVU. So that was another just kind of solidification of this is the path that I want,” she said.

The problem — and every good fairy tale has them — was the lack of a clear path, or really any path, for getting from here to there. At the end of the day, it was really about trusting her own instincts and following her heart.

“It’s interesting in West Virginia ... I found that a lot of people would say, like, ‘Oh, you can do broadcast journalism,’ or ‘Oh, you can, you know, do advertising,’ but I was just very firm. I want to work in film. And at the time, there wasn’t really like an indie film scene built up here that I could really tap into. So it was a lot of just experimenting on my own and trying to be resourceful and coming up with an idea and just kind of trying to see it through.”

She took core classes at Marshall University, then transferred to the University of North Carolina at Wilmington — “They used to be the Hollywood of the East” — to study film, and even took a semester off, despite the baffled reaction of her professors, to take part in the Disney College program.

“It was always a dream of mine because I was always a huge Disney fan, obsessed with Disney and the parks. And so for me it was like a bucket list item, getting to actually work in the parks and run a ride. And that ended up being great to teach me stamina and about the company,” she said.

She worked the Star Wars simulation ride at Disney’s Hollywood Studios.

“I wouldn’t say that it necessarily is the reason that I was able to get my job that I have now, but it definitely helped create that groundwork.”

Back on campus, she juggled school work, narrative short films and short documentaries for nonprofits. “And then one of my friends was like, ‘Hey, will you produce my film for me?’ And I was like, ‘Oh, I don’t really do that. I kind of, you know, write and direct my own stuff.’ He said ‘You finished more films than anybody else. I think you’re a producer.’ And I was like, ‘Wow.’

“And working on his short film as a producer was one of the easiest things I’ve ever done. Like it came so naturally, so just, yeah, I am a project manager. ... That was kind of an ‘aha’ moment,” said Howell.

There was hard work — and a few lucky breaks. Somewhere in the summer before her senior year, her mom, former WSAZ-TV news anchor Kathy Young, was chatting with a former colleague and mentioned that Jillian had recently returned from a semester with Disney.

“And he said, ‘Oh, do you remember Terry Williams who worked with us? He works for Disney in California now, and I’ll put her in touch with him.’ ... And so I was very excited because, obviously, a huge Disney fan, had just come back from the college program. Absolutely I wanted to learn from him,” she said.

She called Williams — he now works for Disney in the Parks Marketing Department — and they chatted pleasantly for a while.

“And he mentioned, ‘Oh, well, if you’re ever in L.A., I’ll show you around our office.’”

Jillian had never been to Los Angeles and had no plans to go then.

But that wasn’t about to stop a would-be film producer from seizing an opportunity when it was dangled right in front of her.

“And I was like, ‘Oh, that’s so interesting. I’m actually going to be in town, you know, this month.’”

She laughs at the memory — but she jumped through all the hoops to make that trip.

“And so I got to see around his office and we had lunch and, you know, there was no job offer. It was really just me being genuinely interested in what they were doing,” she said.

Fast forward to her graduation day in May 2017.

“I didn’t have a job. I had applied and interviewed for different internships and hadn’t gotten anything and was going to go to Atlanta and work in Starbucks or do another Disney College program, just trying to figure it out.

“And I get an email from Terry that said, ‘Hey, it’s not working out with the person that we were going to hire for our internship. Are you still available or interested?’”

About a week later, there was an informational remote interview with a recruiter. But since they'd already met her in person, the job offer came during that first interview.

"I was blown away. So within two weeks, I was flipping the script" — producer lingo for turning the storyline upside down — "and moving to L.A."

"I bought a one-way ticket to Los Angeles and packed everything up, kissed my fiancée at the time, now husband, goodbye. He was still going to Atlanta. And so I went out completely alone. ... It was daunting, but at the same time, just so exhilarating, being able to finally be around other folks interested in the kind of work that I wanted to do," she said.

The internship was with the Yellow Shoes Creative Group, Disney Parks' internal ad agency — so named because, well, look at Mickey's feet.

"My first screen credit was actually the Disney Parks Magical Christmas Celebration, which is the ABC parade that they show on Christmas morning. So I was on set for American Idol when they filmed at the park and the Disney Channel Fan Fest. And then also I was able to kind of prove myself in their edit bay, too, because I've always edited my own stuff."

She had the internship for a year, and felt like she was surrounded by possibilities. It was magical, in a way — like so many Disney things — and seemed that anything, everything, could happen if you just believed.

"I never thought I could work in animation. I can't draw. I thought that you had to be a visual artist or a master of computer-generated imagery. You know, I can't do that," she said.

Then she attended a presentation called the Trailblazing Women of Disney Animation, where she heard from Ruthie Thompson, now 110 years old and known for her work on the 1937 animation of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," and Amy Smeed, the head of the Disney animation team that helped to create "Moana," Disney's 2016 hit about Pacific voyagers.

"I just sent (Smeed) a message saying, you know, 'I really enjoyed what you talked about at the event. I would love to have coffee if you're ever available,'" said Howell.

They had lunch instead — and that eventually led to a job starting in January, 2019, as a production assistant with Walt Disney's Animation Studios where she worked in the stereo department on "Frozen II." Short for stereoscopic, that's the department that created the 3D version of the film.

She did all the little things that needed to be done — and soaked up knowledge along the way.

"So each department has their own production assistants, their own coordinator, their own supervisor. And like, the person that's working on Elsa's acting is different from the person working on animating her hair or her actual dress," she said.

Next came a stint in the lighting department for "Raya and the Last Dragon."

"Lighting is the final step of the process, and it is what it sounds like. They're actually manipulating the film to have different colors, to show different emotions, and really just tying the whole thing together."

That began in January 2020.

"And then we went home in March. We received an email that we would go home for two weeks," she said, and laughed.

"'Raya' was made almost completely from home shop production. ... It even says in the end, the credit talks about how it was all made from folk's homes."

She joined the virtual wrap party from her parents' home in Scott Depot.

Back in L.A. now, she's moved up to the role of production coordinator for Disney's Creative Legacy department, which handles special projects for theme parks.

"They did a Peter Pan ride for Tokyo. So our team would be brought in because ... we have the brand experts. We have all the artwork. We have artists who know the design. So that way we can create any custom animation that they need. And it's really grown since 'Frozen,' this department has, just because there's been so many requests. I mean, they're still opening new 'Frozen' rides overseas," she said.

It is a dream job, playing a role in producing the films and creating the effects that dazzle kids and adults alike around the world.

So much has happened in four short years.

But for Jillian, the dream is just beginning.

"I want to be either a creative producer or a director. ... I could definitely see myself producing animated films," she said.

The biggest difference now is that no one is telling the kid with big dreams from West Virginia that it can't be done.

Morrisey Rails Against The 'Woke Left' At GOP Fundraiser

By by matthew young | WVDN JUL 27, 2021



The Greenbrier County Republican Club held their "Great American Comeback Cookout Fundraiser" this past Saturday, July 24, at the Greenbrier Christian Retreat in Crawley. The event featured carnival games, a silent auction, live musical performances from the Thomas Taylor Band and Joanna Young Bryant and a fireworks display by Zambelli Fireworks.

In addition to the family-friendly activities, the fundraiser featured a host of speakers, including Congresswoman Carol Miller, State Treasurer Riley Moore, State Senate President Craig Blair and State Attorney General Patrick Morrisey, among others.

Blair was in standard form. When he took the podium, the senate president called out one particular

Charleston-area journalist, saying, "I get accused by Phil Kabler of the Gazette of screaming all the time," Blair said. "And he's right!"

Blair spoke briefly about recent legislative accomplishments, education reform and necessary DMV improvements.

In closing, Blair said, "I feel better now, I've let it all out. Make sure you donate to your candidates, even if it's \$5. Donate to these candidates so they know that you're with them. That money means everything. [] I'm not gonna' be happy until I've got 34 senators that are Republicans."

When Morrissey spoke, it seemed that his primary objective was to energize the crowd. The Attorney General began his remarks with, "I love seeing so many great patriots out in this field. This is one of the biggest crowds in Greenbrier County history. Kudos to you for coming out!"

Morrissey then moved right into the enjoyment he feels in his position as attorney general.

"I'm having a good time today, and every day," Morrissey said. "Every single day I get to wake up and decide, 'what am I gonna sue the Biden Administration over today?' I've been your attorney general for the last nine years, and we've had to have some real fights over time. We took on Obama. We worked closely with President Trump. But I look at this Biden Administration, and this isn't Obama 2.0, it's Obama 5.0. They're radical as hell!"

Morrissey then doubled down with his disdain for President Joe Biden and the Democratic party, saying, "We're looking at a one-party state — occupied territory in Washington D.C. You have the far left...the woke left, and they want fundamental change to our country. They not only want to re-make America and make it into a socialist country, they want to erode our democratic institutions, suppress our 1st Amendment rights, take away our 2nd Amendment rights and bankrupt future generations."

In addition to the standard arguments surrounding federal money and energy, Morrissey alleged that the "massive increases in fentanyl deaths" in Greenbrier County are a result of illegal immigrants entering the United States. Morrissey further referred to the immigration policies of the Biden Administration as "border disorder," and claimed that "more than 2 million illegals will flood into our country in a short period of time."

"They're prioritizing asylum and migration over protecting American lives," Morrissey charged. "We're gonna' file suit, and we're gonna' stop them on that!"

Morrissey then shifted gears, directing his impassioned tirade at what he described as "the integrity of women's sports."

"Early on, this (Biden) administration said they were going to fundamentally change the nature of sports. [] We've stood up and said 'no!' [] And we're all so very proud to defend the legislature's work-product. It's right to say, 'if you're a biological male, you shouldn't compete on the women's team!'"

Just three days prior, on July 21, a federal judge put a stop to the West Virginia legislation, which discriminated against one particular transgender child's (identified as B.P.J.) participation in organized sports within her school.

The court's ruling, as written by Judge Joseph R. Goodwin, stated: "It is clearly in the public interest to uphold B.P.J.'s constitutional right to not be treated any differently than her similarly situated peers because any harm to B.P.J.'s personal rights is a harm to the share of American rights that we all hold collectively. The right not to be discriminated against by the government belongs to all of us in equal measure. It is that communal and shared ownership of freedom that makes up the American ideal. The American ideal is one that 'never

has been yet and yet must be - the land where every man is free.' (Let America Be America Again by Langston Hughes.) B.P.J.'s Motion for a Preliminary Injunction is GRANTED."

Morrisey then shifted gears once again, this time transitioning to education, saying, "There's so many challenges facing our country right now. And one of them is critical race theory. We can't allow that to gain strength here in West Virginia. Fortunately, there's some good news on the horizon. 21 states, we reached out about a month-and-a-half ago, and it looks like we're gonna' block some of the introduction of critical race theory by the federal government."

Currently, there are no bills before the House or Senate in the State of West Virginia proposing the introduction of critical race theory into the public school curriculum.

In conclusion, Morrisey said, "This is what your attorney general is doing every single day!"

Man Arrested Following Mid-July Shooting In Beckley

By autumn shelton | WVDN JUL 27, 2021



Albert Shacore Jones, 25, has been arrested in Charlotte, North Carolina. He was wanted in connection to a

shooting that occurred in the area of Westline Drive in Beckley.

On July 18, Jones allegedly shot a female in her lower body and fled the scene. The woman was transported to a local hospital for treatment. After an extensive search conducted by multiple agencies, Jones could not be found.

According to information from those at the Beckley Police Department, Jones was taken into custody on July 26 by members of the US Marshal Service Fugitive Task Force.

He is currently being held in a Charlotte-Mecklenburg area jail pending an extradition hearing. He faces charges of malicious wounding, wanton endangerment and burglary.

No additional information is being provided at this time.

Dear Abby: Tuesday, July 27

By Abigail Van Buren | WVDN JUL 27, 2021

Young Adult Struggling As A Full-Time Caregiver

Dear Abby: I'm 23 years old and caring for my two grandparents. My dad, their only son, lives with them, but avoids them at all costs, no matter how much I beg him to help. He causes more problems than he solves. I graduated from college last year, but because of all the doctor appointments, nurse visits and the attention they need, there's no way I can work. My life is completely absorbed in caring for them. I'm going crazy! They don't want to leave their home and won't pay me or anyone else to care for them, but they need round-the-clock care. I'm not asking for help with THEM, I'm asking for help with balance. How can I be a young adult and full-time caregiver? — **In Difficult Circumstances**

Dear I.D.C.: You can't. The longer you allow this to continue, the more trapped you will become. Contact senior services and inform them about what's going on with your dad and your grandparents. Then find a job. I am sure there are many available openings right now. You may have to continue living with your grandparents for a while, but as soon as you can manage it, you should live independently. As to your father, tell him that if he doesn't accept at least some of the responsibility for his parents' care, you will report him to adult protective services for neglect. It may not make you popular, but if you don't assume control of your future, you will become increasingly isolated.

Dear Abby: I have a strong, healthy bond with my 5- and 8-year-old daughters. When the older one was 6, my wife taught her not to let me see her naked when using the bathroom and bathing. That broke my heart. I'm OK with it now, but my wife is now discouraging them from sitting on my lap. I'm a loving and responsible dad, and I would never do any harm to my kids, or do the things my wife thinks I will do. What should I do? — **Not Trusted in California**

Dear Not Trusted: What you should do is discuss with her the reasons for her fears about the safety of your daughters. The answer may be that when she was small, she was molested by a male relative she trusted. There is nothing wrong with 5-year-old and 8-year-old girls sitting on their father's lap. What is troubling is your wife's reaction to it.

Dear Abby: My husband of six months (whom I do not live with) refuses to agree not to contact his ex-

girlfriends. He refuses to send me copies of emails or texts from them, and won't agree to allow me to send a polite, but firm, email requesting they stop contacting him, even though his therapist said it was OK to send. What should I do? — **Distrustful in New York**

Dear Distrustful: The person you married clearly isn't ready for the responsibilities of being a husband. Ask him if he's willing to meet with a licensed marriage and family therapist. If he is unwilling, talk to a lawyer about an annulment. If you do, you may save yourself years of frustration and heartache.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

West Virginia Signs Okonkwo

By The Associated Press | WVDN JUL 27, 2021

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (AP) — West Virginia has signed forward James Okonkwo for the 2021-22 basketball season.

Coach Bob Huggins announced the signing of Okonkwo on Monday.

The 6-foot-8, 230-pound Okonkwo is a native of Maidenhead, England. He saw limited action last season at Beckley Prep in West Virginia due to a broken finger and COVID-19. He is playing AAU basketball this summer for the All-Ohio Red team.

"James is 17 years old, he's 6-foot-8 and can run and jump," Huggins said. "He's had a great summer, and James is a very good rebounder and shot-blocker. He will fit in extremely well with our style of play."

Okonkwo is expected to enroll at West Virginia for the fall semester.

Municipal Round Up

By by rebecca stalnaker | WVDN JUL 27, 2021

Hinton — A representative of Congresswoman Carol Miller will be at Hinton City Hall on Wednesday, July 28 between 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. for mobile office hours.

Alderson — The fundraiser for the Alderson Town Clock is still in effect. As of Wednesday, July 21, it was announced that if 100 people would donate \$30 each, the fundraiser would meet its goal. Links to donate virtually are available on the Alderson Town Clock Project Fundraiser Facebook page. If donating by check, make it out to Alderson Main Street (a 501c3 nonprofit organization) and put "Town Clock" in the memo line. Checks should then be mailed to Alderson Main Street, PO Box 117. Alderson WV 24910.

Union — On July 8 it was announced that Cellco Partnership and its affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless had proposed to build a 129-foot Monopole Communications Tower in the area of Nota Street in Union. With this notice, citizens were given 30 days to submit any comments on the potential effects of this site on historic properties. To submit a comment contact Trileaf Corp, Kayla Lauer by email k.lauer@trileaf.com, mail 8600 LaSalle Road Suite 301 Towson, MD 21286 or by phone at 410-853-7128. The Monroe County Public Library in Union is hosting a blood drive on July 30 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Check out the library's Facebook page for more information.

Marlinton — The Pocahontas County Opera House is hosting a series of outdoor concerts. The last in the series will take place on July 31 at 7 p.m.

Quinwood — The Quinwood Community Library continues to provide crafts and snacks on Thursdays between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. for families with children between the ages of 4 - 11 to pick up.

Alderson Community Market

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUL 27, 2021

Free school supplies for students in elementary, middle, and high school at the Alderson Community Market will be available on Tuesday, Aug. 3, sponsored by Read A Loud WV and Elizabeth Spangler. The market is open from 3 to 6 p.m. every Tuesday through October, in the parking lot of the Alderson Visitor Center. But free school supplies will be distributed only on Aug. 3.

Every Tuesday, children are invited to Carrot Club at the Alderson Community Market, where they can try a bite of fresh fruit or vegetable, enjoy a fun physical activity, and earn four Carrot Club Dollars (\$4) to spend at the market for local vegetables or fruit. Carrot Club is made possible through a grant from the Greenbrier County Health Alliance.

All of Summer's County is coming to the market — tomatoes, berries, onions, salad greens, cabbage, cucumbers, potatoes, summer squash and so much more. Shoppers are often surprised that their local produce will stay fresh in the refrigerator much longer than supermarket produce. Alderson Community Market is well known for homemade bakery products from Kountry Krust Bakery, an Amish enterprise in Monroe County, and Fruits of Labor, a culinary training center in Rainelle. Soon, Fruits of Labor will open a café and bakery in the Alderson Visitor Center

Progressive CEOs Hold July Meeting

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUL 27, 2021



Andi Hoover, West Virginia Extension Agent, was in charge of the program when the Progressive CEOs met at the extension office for their July Meeting.

She demonstrated her instant cooker by cooking a creamy basil chicken and tortellini dish. She showed all the steps and by the time it was done, we were all eager to taste it. Needless to say, it was delicious.

President Patty Gray presided over the business meeting. She gave the Health Motivator report, which was on iron. It is found in red meats, poultry, seafood, beans, nuts and leafy vegetables. Eating iron-rich foods helps prevent anemia.

Our program in September is on heritage foods. We are asked to bring heritage food recipes next month and Patty will compile them in a booklet.

Kitty Loudermilk read the poem that she is entering in the poetry contest.

Lynn Humphreys sent the traveling basket and Patty Gray took it and will bring it back next month.

Colleen Walton reminded everyone to come prepared next month to report how many volunteer hours they have.

The County CEOs' Picnic is July 20 at Hollowell Park in Lewisburg at 10:30 a.m. It will be a box lunch catered by Fruits of Labor.

Our meeting next month will be with Faye Honaker and it is a reorganization.

Those in attendance were Patty Gray, Faye Honaker, Jean Foley, Kitty Loudermilk, Barbara Shiley, Colleen

Walton and Mary Liz Richmond.

CDC May Issue New Face Mask Recommendations For K-12 Classrooms

By autumn shelton | WVDN JUL 27, 2021



Dr. Rochelle P. Walensky, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will be hosting a briefing today, July 27, at 3 p.m. to discuss recommended public safety updates on the COVID-19 pandemic.

Anticipated discussions include a recommendation for all those in K-12 classrooms to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status, and a recommendation for areas experiencing an increase in Coronavirus cases to once again wear masks.

The West Virginia Daily News will keep you posted on any CDC mask recommendations following this announcement.

Bobby Gene Bragg

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUL 27, 2021



BRAGG

Bobby Gene Bragg, 70, of Ocean Isle Beach, NC passed into eternity after a short battle with cancer Thursday, July 22, 2021 at Duke University Medical Center with loving family by his side.

Mr. Bragg was born in Sandstone, WV on July 17, 1951 and was the son of the late James B. Bragg and Nola L. Conner Bragg. He was preceded in death by a sister-in-law, Rosie McClung. Bobby's legacy was a man with a big heart who loved and was loved by family and friends. His love will live on in all our hearts.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara J. Bragg; a son, Jamie Bragg (Tonya) of Alderson, WV; daughters, Marcie Vaughan (Kelly) of Rainelle, WV, Crystal Pendleton of Rainelle, WV, Tina Comer (Tommy) of Summersville, WV; his loving canine companion, Pepper; grandchildren, Morgan Pendleton, Lindsay and Trey Comer, Kerrigan and Braden Bragg, Lawson Vaughan; sister, Peggy McCune (Jim); brother, Kenny Bragg; mother-in-law, Irene George; sisters-in-law, Sue Treadway, Anita George; brother-in-law, Pee Wee McClung; and many friends who loved Bobby in West Virginia and North Carolina.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be directed to Paws Ability, P.O. Box 6174, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469.

Bobby's wishes were to be cremated and no services.

You may offer online condolences at www.shallottefunerals.com.

Information submitted by White Funeral and Cremation Service, Shallotte Chapel of Shallotte, NC.

Ova A. Coffman

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUL 27, 2021



COFFMAN

Ova A. Coffman, 94, of Lewisburg, WV passed away Sunday, July 25, 2021, at Stonerise Lewisburg, formerly The Brier.

Born March 21, 1927, in Lewisburg, WV, she was the daughter of the late Floyd Clark Coffman Sr. and Margaret Gray Piercy Coffman.

Ova was a lifelong member of Lewisburg United Methodist Church. She was a member of the Iris Association and took many Iris trips. Ova helped in the rabbit barn at the State Fair of West Virginia for over twenty-five years.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Margaret Lee Stone; brother, Floyd Clark Coffman Jr.; brother-in-law, Maynard B. Hayes; and niece, Teresa Anderson.

Survivors include sisters, Laura Davis of Hagerstown, MD and Georgia Hayes of Lewisburg, WV; nieces and nephews, A.J. Stone Jr. (Nancy), Linda Carol Bianco (Jerry), Mr. & Mrs. Harlis Davis Jr., Alda Gray Gross (Steve), Maynard Lee Hayes, David Coffman, and Kristie Coffman; several other great-nieces and -nephews.

Funeral service will be 2 p.m., Thursday, July 29, 2021, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel – 252 Montvue Drive, Lewisburg, WV with Pastor Ron Miller and Pastor Tiler Bland officiating. Visitation will be 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at the funeral home.

The family would like to thank Stonerise – Lewisburg, Dr. Connie Anderson, nurses, aides, and staff for the wonderful care she received.

In lieu of flowers, donations should be made to Stonerise – Lewisburg, 979 Rocky Hill Road, Ronceverte, WV 24970 or to Lewisburg United Methodist Church – 1133 E. Washington Street, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net.

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Dwight Douglas Paulin

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUL 27, 2021

PAULIN

On July 21, 2021, Dwight Douglas Paulin, affectionately known as “Chief” to those close to him, passed with his family by his side. He was 67.

Born in West Virginia on Butler Mountain to David Alexander and Hazel Betty (née Poe), he would come to live in Anne Arundel County in the late 1980s.

Dwight grew up farming and enjoyed all of the trappings of rural life. He was an avid hunter, a right of passage in those parts, and also had a passion for fishing. He was a true outdoorsman.

When he was 20, Dwight entered the construction trade and became a carpenter specializing in cabinetry. He was particularly skilled at woodworking and took pride in teaching others to work with wood.

Dwight liked to read and write and found joy in riding his motorcycle. He had an adventurous spirit and a “big generous heart,” forgiving and kind, he believed people deserved a second chance.

Dwight is now reunited with his dear wife of 26 years, Teresa Marie (née Jenkins) in eternity. He is survived by his devoted daughter, Christina Kirsch and husband, Irvin Thomas, III “Tom”; and will be cherished in memory by his beloved granddaughters, Trinity Rose and Hope Kirsch, who know him as their loving “Paw-Paw.”

He will be deeply missed by his sisters, Linda Paulin, Camilla Sizemore and husband, Jack, and Pamela Paulin; as well as numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins, and many dear friends.

Dwight rejoins his friend, Rob Legg, who “was like a little brother to him,” as well as once again being in the field with his beloved “Sugar” and “Saint,” the later being his “right hand girl,” who once saved his life.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.finkfh.com.

Information submitted by Fink Funeral Home of Glen Burnie, MD.

Mary Frances Zink

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUL 27, 2021



ZINK

(April 19, 1940 - July 22, 2021)

Mary Frances Zink of Ronceverte, WV passed away peacefully with loved ones at her side on July 22, 2021.

She was the daughter of the late William Sanford Spencer and Eula Boggs Spencer Tribett.

She was the sister of William "Gene" Boggs and wife, Donna; the late Marie Baker and her late husband, Vernon; Helen and her late husband, Bill Brown; Joyce and her late husband, Cecil Callison; and Florence and her late husband, Tony Sellards. She had many nieces, nephews, and dear friends, too numerous to mention.

Frances was mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother to the following:

Natalie and Jay Morgan and family;

Corey and Ashley Morgan; daughters, Brynlee, Lynkan, son, Krew;

Kelli Morgan and Brian Sledd;

Ruta and Al Lierman and family;

Trevor and Brooke Weikle; daughter, Ella;

Taylor and Taylor Carter; daughters, Reagan, Lakyn;

Tanner Weikle; son, Blake; daughter, Tinley / Melissa Bostic; daughter, Nevaeh King;

Al's sons, AJ, Steven Lierman;

Clifton McClintic and family / Anita Solis;

Sons, Casey, Isaac;

Kevin and Marwa McClintic and family;

Sons, Bransen, Adam, Rayan; daughters, Safa, Sofia.

Frances was a talented crafter whose creative needlecrafts delighted her friends, family, and countless others who saw them. She was socially active, greatly enjoyed dancing, and did so as often as possible. She had a keen talent for observation and was an active member of the neighborhood watch. Grandma was often the life of the party and had a heart of gold; she would not take "no" for an answer. We often joked that she was our live entertainment, she was sweet and sassy and always put together.

In honor of her wishes, a private service is scheduled for August 1, 2021.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net.

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.