An aerial photograph of the Greene County Courthouse, a large white neoclassical building with a prominent dome and a statue on top. The building is surrounded by a green lawn and trees. In the background, a residential neighborhood with houses and streets is visible. The entire image is framed by a thick green border.

# Greene Scene

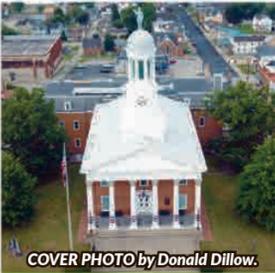
COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

HEALTH &  
WELLNESS  
EDITION

April 2024 Issue

**FEATURES**

- 4 I LOVE THIS PLACE**  
Andrew Heisey
- 6 GREENESCENE OF THE PAST**  
Moore's Bakery & Jimmie's Lunch
- 7 LOCAL. LIBRARY. LOVE**  
New Family Literacy Coordinator at Bowlby
- 9 TOGETHER WITH VETERANS**  
Greene County band of brothers
- 10 PUBLIC SERVICE PROFILE**  
Seed to Supper
- 11 COOL AT SCHOOL**  
JM students organize Youth Fishing Derby
- 12 GREENE ARTIFACTS**  
Opening Day
- 13 GOING GREENE**  
A circus mystery in Greene
- 14 RECENT HAPPENINGS IN GREENE**  
Check out the recent events & see what you're missing!
- 18 GOOD NEWS IN GREENE**  
Awards & acknowledgements within our community
- 26 MESSAGE BOARD**  
What's up in the area
- 28 HOMETOWN HERITAGE**  
Current and vintage local sports highlights



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**EXTRAS**

- 32 EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT IN GREENE**  
And renovates school track barn.
- 33 BULL RIDING RETURNS TO WAYNESBURG**  
To benefit local horse rescue.
- 34 WASHINGTON HEALTH SYSTEM GREENE**  
Merger with UPMC will benefit rural healthcare
- 36 CORNERSTONE CARE**  
New interactive patient guide makes staying healthy easy
- 38 CENTERVILLE CLINIC**  
Black Lung program is helping miners breathe easier
- 40 WVU MEDICINE CANCER INSTITUTE**  
Early detection saves lives
- 42 CLAY-BATTELLE HEALTH SERVICES**  
A more-than-50-year commitment to dental health
- 44 100 YEARS & COUNTING**  
Local woman celebrates 100th birthday
- 46 A GOLDEN CELEBRATION**  
George Blystone celebrates 44 years sober



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# I Love this Community — ANDREW HEISEY

By Colleen Nelson

Were in the eHive Maker Space in Stauffer Hall of Waynesburg University. Professor Andrew Heisey is at his laptop, busy putting fellow artist Andrew Walker's art into production. With a few deft keystrokes, he's transformed Walker's image of *Periplaneta americana* on the screen into a poster-sized page of stickers, then with another keystroke sent it to be printed. That big-bed Roland printer beside him is just one of the 21st century tools that students, under Heisey's sure hand, can now use to turn their creativity into marketable products.

"I just got promoted to full professor," Heisey tells me, and then confesses with a classic "Call me Andy," grin, "I have never fit the norm. I'm not an art teacher. I'm an artist teaching art." And at the eHive, "I get to be Chief Maker. I'm back to my roots as a country kid who loved wood shop and loved making things."

For Heisey, teaching entrepreneurial skills that will give every student at WU the opportunity to tap into their own reservoir of creativity mirrors the story of his own life.

Growing up in rural Lancaster County, Heisey admits, "I loved playing with Legos in the basement with my brother, making a mess. We'd make the box version once, then throw the box away and build other things. That's how I learned I could create. But I never thought I was an artist. My sister was the artist."

Then, in 10th grade at Lancaster Mennonite High, something clicked. "I got to be in a pottery class just for a week. I remember holding my first pot and saying, 'Wow! I made this!'" That was the moment the nerdy farm kid who loved making things but didn't think he was anything special became an artist.

"My grades weren't that great, but I applied to Messiah College [now University] to be an art teacher and got in, and I remember thinking, 'What am I doing here?'"

That question found its first answer when Heisey met history major Debbie Tober from Strathmore CT during freshman year. (They would marry in 1997, the year both graduated.)

As the class load needed for a teaching degree began cutting into studio time, Heisey decided to take studio art as a major and threw himself into ceramics, honing his skills. "I was stubborn, and I stuck to it. I got in local exhibits, and before I graduated I had a job offer to teach art at Harrisburg Christian School."

There, he discovered his years teaching Sunday school and planning curriculum for summer camps had given him the teacher's skills he needed. Over the next 15 years, Heisey would teach students to use the tools of the creative trade, fashioning his classes like college courses, giving kids the taste of the time and guidance it takes to develop as an artist.

More education was the path to better-paying jobs and Heisey began making the three-hour round trip from Harrisburg to Blumbersburg for his MA. Then it was on to the University of the Arts in Center City Philadelphia that offered an MFA to full-time teachers willing to do the work. "I had two aunts I stayed with, and they lived right by the Philly Art Museum. I could go there any time I wanted."

It would be while getting his MFA he met the professor who later recommended him for the art department position at WU. It would also be where he met fellow art teacher An-



Andrew Walker's show will run until April 5 Benedum Fine Arts Gallery at Waynesburg University.



Andrew Heisey prints stickers of Andrew Walker's art to be given out at Walker's upcoming exhibit.



Rose colored glasses help Heisey manage his migraines, which are represented in these self portrait sculptures.

drew Walker and they bonded over a collaborative art project on the streets of Philadelphia. This public art project was later

deconstructed, and its panels hung at Mt. Airy Art Garage, a nonprofit art hub that promotes creative expression as an

instrument for social change.

"It was the vision we both shared of an igloo. We both had sketches of it the first time we met," Walker tells me. "That's what did it. I told him I'm an artist, you're a builder!"

We're back at the Benedum Fine Arts Gallery now, surrounded by paintings waiting to be hung. It's Saturday afternoon and Walker's show "Reaching For The Light" will open on Monday, March 8. Today "the two Andys" will spend hours organizing what goes on what wall, rearranging, joking, reminiscing, climbing ladders to adjust lighting, using a laser beam to straighten, a cordless drill to secure. Slowly, seamlessly, each piece finds its proper place. This is the time it takes to create the conceptual story being told by the exhibit that viewers will soon experience.

This is Heisey, the conceptual artist at work, lending his expertise to help a fellow artist tell his story.

Walker's photographs of his and Heisey's shared project from 12 years ago hang in the hallway outside the gallery. "We built it on an empty lot, and homeless people would come by and help. One woman rode up on her bike and gave us her helmet and watched as I cut it in half."

Heisey gestures to the landscape of found objects embedded in the curved outer walls of the finished structure, thatched with living turf. Using recycled material—slag cement for the skin, the inner structural arches and beautifully rendered door from recycled crates, sandwiched, glued, and sanded into functional art.

"What you can't see in this photo is the inside, with light coming in through the bottles embedded in the panels. At the time, I wasn't very environmental, but building this taught me. Now at the eHive, our projects involve creating new products out of recycled plastics. These are things we need to learn."

Two sculpted heads along another wall are self-portraits. Each shows how art is a way to tell personal stories—in this case by being manifestations of the feelings associated with the migraines that Heisey is subject to. The head with spikes coming out of the neck: "I did this one when I was younger, before I knew what migraines were." The second is laced with metallic threads in places where the pain emerges.

They display what Heisey has learned to work with and control, through observation and elimination. Foods like oranges and bacon trigger instant onset, he's found. "When the cooks at Chick-Fil-A [on campus] see me coming, they change their gloves so my food isn't cross contaminated!" The campy, rose-colored glasses above his bearded grin are there for a reason. "Certain colors help filter light for certain people. For some it might be green. For me it's pink."

The call and response of personal expe-

rience as art also underlies every painting in Walker's exhibit. As his artist bio states: "Andrew Walker has always addressed the universal issues of illness and recovery/transformation of human beings and our environment." His own chronic illness (Alport's Syndrome) that called for kidney transplants at age 14 has been the texture of his art, from documenting the health of the Schuylkill River to creating art with iPad and Apple Pencil to promote awareness of organ donations.

For this, which he thinks might be his final exhibit, Walker has been making art every day for five years "in the acrylic medium, exposing what could be the future of our planet."

It's Monday afternoon now and Heisey's bagpipes are calling in the students to meet the artist and get a sticker to remember this day. They talk with Walker, field questions from Heisey, then linger over spare but lush paintings of bananas, pears and apples in various stages of shelf life that entice the eye with color and form.

At another wall they stop to browse a brilliant collage of paintings that spreads waves, skies and cracked landscapes from ceiling to floor. Captured in the middle are gold and brick cityscapes taken to the abstract yet grounded in metaphor by the cracks and crevices where mosses and fungi have begun the process of recycling the world once more. American roaches in ancient tribal mode are painted against lush backdrops of gold; dance teams of plastic roaches, compliments of eHive's 3-D printers, scamper ever upward on every available surface.

Walker's artist statement notes: "Reaching for the Light is what many of us are trying to achieve. The light could be many things, such as family, fame, or God. In these paintings, the fruit and landscapes are examples of both the darkness and the light coexisting on one plane. The pears show the weather of time, but the very brown spots are the sweetness of the fruit. In the landscapes, the dark colors show the wear of time on the planet, but the light colors and the gold could lead one to reach for the light, as the roaches seem to do. Heading for the light. Aren't we all someday?"

Andrew Walker's exhibit will be on display at the Benedum Fine Arts Gallery until April 5, on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and by appointment. Art in the exhibit is available for purchase. FMI, contact Professor Heisey at aheisey@waynesburg.edu.

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**GreeneScene**  
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# GreeneScene of the Past

By Colleen Nelson

Who can forget the smell of bread baking? When I interviewed Lucille Tharp on her hundredth birthday, she reminisced about her husband Kenneth and his job at Moore's Bakery, starting when they married and moved from Khuntown to Waynesburg in 1943. Shopping local for local products was the norm back then and fresh baked bread, buns and treats of every kind were once the order of the day, whether made at home or brought home from the local bakery.

Greene County kid Dave Clark remembers "Beanie Church delivered their [Moore's] products to Ivy Church's store in Rogersville. When that little old bread truck pulled up to Ivy's, we knew treat time had arrived."

Clark and others joined me on Greene Connections Facebook page when I stopped by to see if I could find an old photo of the bakery where the Tharp brothers once worked. There were no photos I could track down of the bakery in its heyday or even afterwards when the building became Bell's Wholesale in the late 1970s. What I found instead were a lot of glorious memories of its delicious treats.

When Moore's Bakery closed in 1967, it was the unofficial end of that era of locally produced baked goods as corporate chains brought their brands to grocery shelves nationwide.

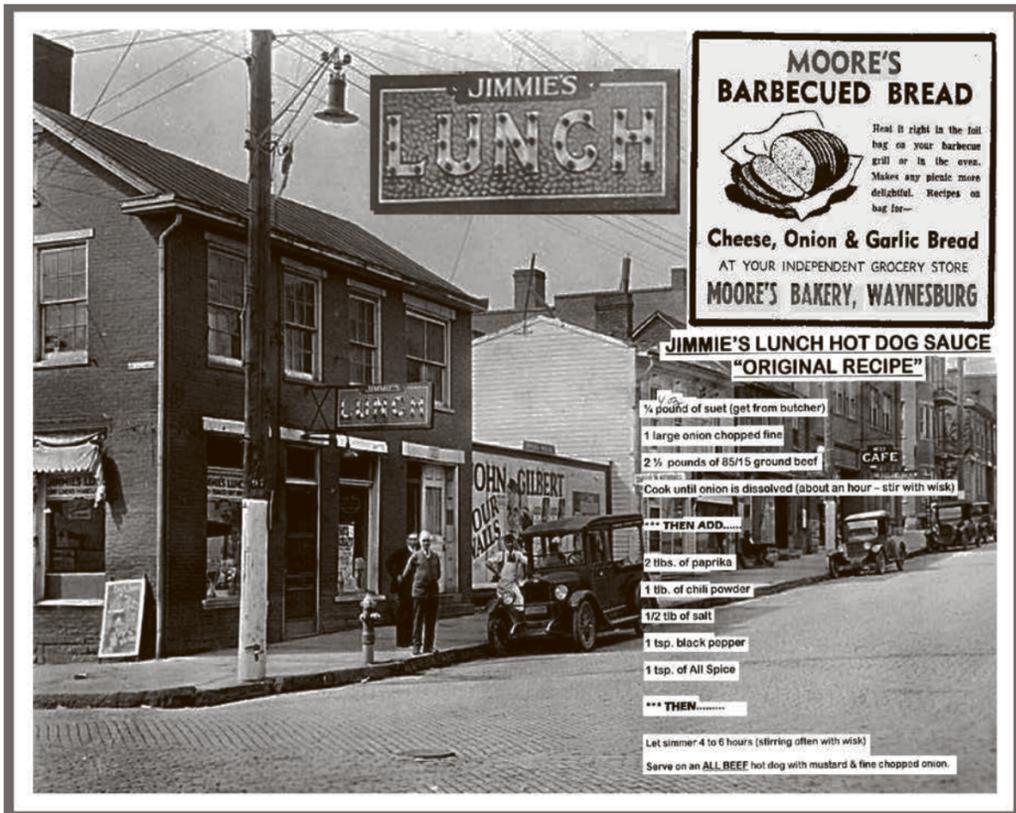
The building may be lost to time but thanks to Shannon Henry's sleuthing, here's an ad for Moore's Barbecued Bread "Heat it right in the foil bag on your barbecue grill" with recipes on the bag for "Cheese, Onion and Garlic Bread"

Sarah Matthews, who still lives across the road on Elm Street, remembers using the store's branded bun bags as liners as a kid for her rubber boots in the winter. "It was wonderful to wake in the morning to the smell of bread baking, but we didn't buy it. My mom baked all of ours and I liked hers better!"

Paula Herman tells us that dad Stanley H. Gump worked at Moore's "early on, and his favorite [were] the fresh glazed rings."

Cousin Anna Baker stopped by to add, "My dad was Kenneth Tharp's brother. I used to go there with mom."

Candi Leathers remembers the other bakery—Hoges, on Maiden Street. An article on file at Cornerstone Genealogy tells us it was one of the city's oldest firms, opening in 1903 and run by Hiram and Albert Hoge. "Only the highest quality materials are used and all workmen are true artists. Twenty-two men are employed, most are heads of families and supporting about 65 people, all residents of Waynesburg and nearby sections."



When Connie Hart texted in with a recipe—not for Moore's banana flips, but for the secret sauce for the all beef hotdogs from Jimmie's Lunch, I was finally able to find a fine old photo for this story.

Jimmie's Lunch was gutted by fire early Saturday morning, October 30, 1976, but this iconic image from the late 1920s is a classic.

A newspaper clipping of it is on file at Cornerstone. It can also be found on the cover of the book *Images of America—WAYNESBURG*, by Glenn Toothman and Candice Buchanan.

The newspaper clipping tells us Jimmie's Lunch was in the building at the corner of Morris and High Street and the

billboard beside it conceals the empty lot where the Edsonia Theater once stood. "Beyond it are the Davis and Kendall meat market, the A. & P., a shoe shine shop, Burns store [where Sherman Williams now is] and the Waynesburg Post Office. The café sign is for the Hess Café, which was located in the basement of the Burns building."

Superimposed over it all is the recipe for the sauce that made the hot dogs from this lunchroom eatery (that also served beer) the stuff of legend. Thanks Connie and Wayne!

Feel free to make it up for your next family gathering that includes folks who remember grabbing their dogs through the side window at Jimmie's Lunch!



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## Local. Library. Love.

Ronda DePriest has recently been named the new Family Literacy Coordinator for Eva K. Bowlby Library. The library is pleased to welcome to the staff someone who is so passionate for education. Dr. DePriest was a Professor of Instrumental Music and Director of the Music Program at Waynesburg University for sixteen years until she retired in 2022. DePriest will head the various programs available for youth and adults.

The Afterschool Tutoring Program is open for students K through 6, from 3:15-4:15, Monday through Thursday upstairs in the tutoring rooms at the library. It is mostly for homework help, though the tutors can help students through any area of learning difficulties.

Older students and adults are also welcome. Currently there are students preparing for their GED, the GRE, and there are also adults who are studying English as a second language. The SAT and ACT tests are coming up, so if older students might like test preparation help, that is an option too. Dr. DePriest says, "No one is turned down. We'll find a tutor to meet your needs and are willing to help you or your children's education in any way we can."

If you are a parent who is concerned that your child has not caught up with where they should be post-Covid, the tutoring center can give your child that extra boost they might need. "Whether they need a lot of help or just a little self-confidence, the tu-

toring center can help your child fill in the gaps or connect the dots," Dr. DePriest says. "Education and learning should be fun, and we try to always keep that philosophy first."

For more information, call Eva K. Bowlby Library at 724-627-9776 and ask about the Tutoring programs or check out the library's web page under Family Literacy at [www.evakbowlby.org](http://www.evakbowlby.org).

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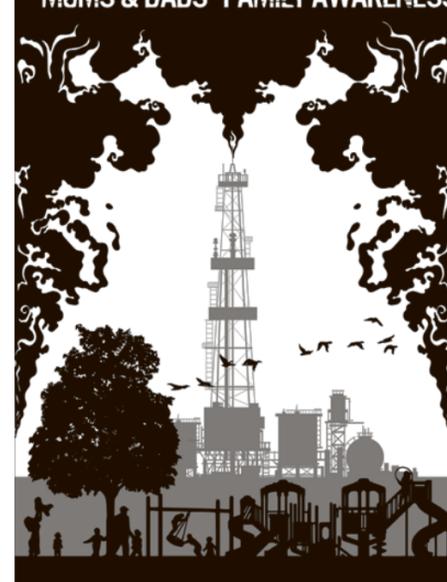
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# VETERANS CORNER

By Tracy Horne

## A GREENE COUNTY BAND OF BROTHERS

Tom Brokaw wrote a book, *The Greatest Generation*, where he says, "It is, I believe, the greatest generation any society has ever produced." The generation he speaks of, both men and women, fought not for recognition, but because it was the right thing to do.

This is the story of four brothers, three that served and one that wanted to but couldn't, although as an adult he served his community in a different way. This is the story of how their lives were shaped by their time at war and afterwards. Some would say they left as boys and came back as men, but these boys were men before their time.

These brothers are the Humberts: Bill (now 97), James (Jay), Don (also in his 90s) and Richard. Although they near the century mark, both gentlemen are sharp as a tack and willing to share their stories of what life was like for them during World War II.

Bill, an excellent storyteller, was in the Navy. He enlisted at 17 years old, with his parents' approval - they had to sign the papers. He enlisted because he wanted to be in the Navy, and if he waited until he was 18, he would have been drafted, with no choice in his branch of service. Bill had quite the adventure serving our country; even his first time at sea, while being shipped to California, was an adventure. The soldiers were woken in the night asked to prepare for abandoning the ship. There was a terrible storm, but after about an hour of waiting to jump, they were told to return to quarters.

Bill served 18 months in the Pacific during the war. The ship he served on sunk two submarines and was held captive for 18 days in the Marshall Islands. The Japanese did not believe that there was about to be a surrender, but they were treated well, when surrender did happen. Bill was part of the ceremony where the Japanese flag went down and as he put it "Old Glory went up!"

Don was a Marine. He joined when he was 19, and he also served in the Pacific at Okinawa. He has many stories to tell of his time on the ship but was not involved in any battles at sea. When his crew came home, the ship sailed under the Golden Gate Bridge, and then he came back to Washington DC where he was discharged. "It was an honor to serve."

James, who has passed away, served in the Army. James's daughter Tina shared his story. James enlisted when he was 15 and walked many miles to do so. While in the Army, he was part of the First Infantry and served in Germany. He got his GED while in the Army, and during basic training he learned to drive by practicing on Army Jeeps. He was a NCO Buck Sergeant and a member of the "Circle C Cowboys". He served as part of the Occupation Forces after the war.

Brother Richard had a health condition that kept him from serving in the military, but that did not keep him from public service. He served the State of Maryland by working for their department of health.

Each of the men lived productive lives after their military experiences. Each of the four brothers had good jobs and wonderful families.

When asked about how they heard about world events during the war when they were on their respective ships, Bill explained that there were not radios or telephones, so anything that happened was relayed via messages to the ship. The worst news they received was of President Roosevelt's death. Even though they were still at war, the ships on the Pacific gathered and had a ceremony. When they heard the war in Europe had ended and they were still at war in the Pacific, they knew they still had a job to be done.

During the interview, the brothers talked about many things related to the times of their service and afterwards: the atomic bomb, PTSD, and more. Both brothers agreed



The four brothers enjoy the view of the Pacific Ocean.

they didn't suffer from PTSD from their time in the service. Bill was at one time part of a mine rescue team, and he felt he saw things in rescue work that were a lot worse than he saw during his time in the service.

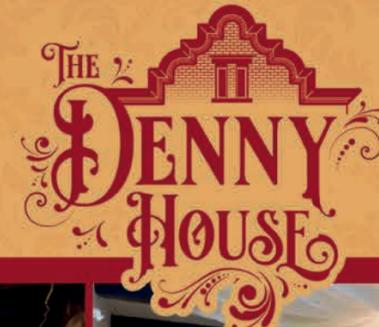
The stories of this generation need to be heard. Many people of that time have passed away without sharing their stories. As part of that generation, Bill's, Don's, James's, and Robert's stories of wanting to serve their country however they could act as a lesson to those that remain. All they knew was that they wanted to serve and protect America even if they were just "boys."

Bill, James, Don and Richard... Thank you for your service.



Bill & Don Humbert served their country during WWII.

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# Public Service Profile

By Rochelle McCracken

## GARDENING PROGRAMS HELP FAMILIES

The Greene County Master Gardeners have been heading up programs in Greene County to help people grow their own food affordably for the past few years. The Seed to Supper program was started in January 2020 to assist low-income people with how to grow their own food to lower their monthly cost of living and provide healthy nutrition. The program originally started in Oregon, and the Master Gardeners of Penn State have adapted the original program to accommodate growing food in the Greene County climate.

Cheryl Brendel is the part-time coordinator for Penn State Extension's Master Gardener program. Cheryl and the Penn State team of Master Gardeners have partnered with the Corner Cupboard food bank and Eva K. Bowlby Library to bring the Seed to Supper gardening program to the public. Participants receive a Seed to Supper Gardening Manual, and the sponsoring agency also provides a small garden site to do hands-on activities. Participants learn over the course of six classes. These classes include planning your garden, soil, planting your garden, caring for your garden, harvesting, and using your harvest. These classes started at the Bowlby Public Library in March, but the food bank still has openings for the classes starting in April. If interested, call Corner Cupboard Food Bank at 724-627-9784.

The Master Gardeners also has programs working with children to teach them their food doesn't just come from the grocery store. The "Tiny Tim" program teaches children about growing tomatoes, what foods tomatoes are in, and how the seed grows. The children are then given plants to care for at home. Tiny Tim is offered at Bowlby and Fleniken libraries; adults can sign children up for the program at each location. The program is free. They have also teamed up with Bowlby's Summer Reading project, Crystal's Child Care, and WWJD to teach children more about growing beans, grass, etc.

The Penn State Extension's Master Gardener Program is in every county in Pennsylvania, with activities tailored to each county. Trainees take classes from October to March and are required to have volunteer and continuing education every year to remain certified. The goal is to provide science-based education to the public. Penn State Extension is pleased to announce the certification of five new Master Gardeners in Greene County: Judi Tanner, Laura Mitter, Tammy Jamieson, Lisa Durbin, and Sandra Brudnock. Each completed the 40 hours of educational classes, passed their certification exam, and completed a required project of their choice. Judi, Sandy, and Lisa worked with Bret Moore and the Department of Parks & Recreation to plant natives in several gardens at the Greene County Fairgrounds. Tammy worked with the students and staff of Mapletown High School to plant a native garden on their campus. Laura developed a Facebook page for our county. If you would like to visit, the address is: <https://tinyurl.com/MGgreene>

In addition to providing programs to the public, Cheryl and her team of Master Gardeners work closely with the Corner Cupboard Food Bank to help grow veggies for food distributions. They meet with Director Candace Webster to identify which vegetables to grow to supplement what they receive through donations. They are always looking for volunteers to work with the Master Gardeners to help tend these gardens. They were able to supply an additional 245 lbs. of produce last year to the food distribution program. The Master Gardeners also work with

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Seed to Supper Program held at Eva K. Bowlby Library in 2023.

the Penn State Dept. of Pesticide Education. This team collaboration brings Pesticide Education and Poison Prevention classes to the first-grade classes in Greene County during the Poison Prevention Month of March.

The Master Gardeners are looking to recruit more applicants to their programs. They are invested in increasing and immersing

their presence in the community by getting the word out about what their programs have to offer and their benefits. If you're interested in participating or would like to find out about becoming a Master Gardener contact Cheryl Brendel by emailing [ckb5569@psu.edu](mailto:ckb5569@psu.edu) or calling 724-802-8025. Applications will be accepted until August 30.

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## The Community Foundation of Greene County (CFGF) is accepting applications for several grant opportunities for nonprofits, public schools and teachers.

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- Human Services

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The deadline to submit applications for each of these funds is May 31.

Successful grant awards will be announced in late July for projects beginning after the first of August.

For more information about these grant opportunities, please go to our website <http://www.cfgcpa.org/about-cfgc-grants/> to review guidelines, application procedures and process.

Applications will be accepted through the CFGF Online Grant Portal on the CFGF Grants website at <http://www.cfgcpa.org/apply-for-a-grant/>

For additional information, contact the Foundation office at 724-627-2010, or e-mail [cfgcpa@gmail.com](mailto:cfgcpa@gmail.com).



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## Cool at School: Jefferson Morgan School District

By Michelle Church

On April 21 2024, a Youth Fishing Derby will be held at Waynesburg Sportsmen's Association Pond in Waynesburg, PA. This exciting free event is sponsored by the Rockets Launching Leadership class at Jefferson-Morgan. The Fishing Derby is intended to promote both fishing and love of the outdoors. The event will be open to everyone under the age of sixteen. The only requirement to join the event is to preregister.

The Rockets Launching Leadership class, or RLL, is a class held at Jefferson Morgan. Those taking the class are required to plan and promote two activities or events per year that will benefit both the school and the Greene County community. Students can choose their own events, given their teacher's approval, and are encouraged to pick activities that appeal to their personal interests. In the RLL class, the students receive hands-on experience and learn how to make events a success.

"My teacher suggested to do something like the derby for my project because I enjoy the outdoors

and I wanted to share my love for the outdoors with others in our community," says Eli Taylor, one of the students in charge of the Youth Fishing Derby. Two other students, Alaina McCollum and Cera Jamison, are planning and organizing the Youth Fishing Derby along with Eli.

Jodi Fulks, Business/Computer Teacher at Jefferson-Morgan, shares about Waynesburg Sportsmen's Association's involvement in the event: "The Waynesburg Sportsmen's Association is allowing us to use their pond, because they too, wanted to do something for the youth in the community. The RLL students invited the leaders of the Waynesburg Sportsmen's Association to our school to meet with them to discuss the details of the derby. The gentlemen were very much on board with helping and we appreciate the collaboration. Many times, with our different events/activities that we do in the RLL class, we are fortunate to work with several local clubs, organizations, and businesses."

Each child who participates will receive a t-shirt. There will also

be several prizes that can be won. "There are different fish categories and different age groups for winners. Prizes will be fishing equipment, gift cards and any other donations that we may receive from local businesses," Jodi says. "We would like to thank our sponsors for stepping up to help us. Big expenses for the event are stocking the pond, giving every pre-registered youth a shirt, and awarding prizes," Jodi adds. If a local business would like to donate prizes, they can email Jodi at [jfulks@jmsd.org](mailto:jfulks@jmsd.org).

"The most valuable aspect of our derby is that we are learning how to organize and plan an event. And we wanted to get our youth to get outdoors and enjoy what Greene County has to offer," Alaina says.

If you are interested in your child participating in the Fishing Derby, you must pre-register by March 25, 2024. You may do so by emailing Jodi at [jfulks@jmsd.org](mailto:jfulks@jmsd.org). The event will run from 8am to 11am with check in at 7:30am.



Eli Taylor is one of the students organizing the free fishing derby for children in April.

# Greene Artifacts

By Matthew Cumberledge, GCHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## OPENING DAY & RENOVATIONS

It's been a busy winter at the Greene County Historical Society Museum, all about the maintenance, repairs, and renovations that make the museum a one-of-a-kind place to visit.

The second floor got a massive electrical overhaul due to wiring issues, and the addition of a new room open to the public. The attic was also rewired and is currently undergoing renovations that will open it to the public. Several new rooms have been opened and renovated, and they will be open for view on Opening Day on April 27, 2024. There will be a lot of new things to see and enjoy!

Our crew has also been hard at work restoring the nearly 150 historic windows in our main building. The project has been going along very well, with less than 30 left to complete. We anticipate being nearly finished with all of them when we open in April.

This spring, be sure to visit during the Opening Day celebrations. There will be a lot to enjoy, with Brick Oven Concessions made in the Poor Farm's century old bread oven. For a little something special, there will be historic documents on display, including letters by George Washington, Patrick Henry, and Abraham Lincoln, and

documents signed by Benjamin Franklin.

Inside the museum, there will be a new doctor's office on the second floor, an infirmary room, a nursery room, and new clothing shop on the first floor and lots more.

Outside of the main building, the Tavern behind the Museum will be open. The Waynesburg and Washington Railroad locomotive will also be out and on display. A used book sale will be held in the historic barn, and you'll find other smaller activities inside and out. It will certainly make for an excellent way to spend a Saturday!

The grounds open at 10AM and close at 3PM; food will be available beginning at 11AM.

Later this year, the museum will hold our Cruisin' the Museum Car Show on June 8, and Harvest Festival will be October 5 and 6. There will be other smaller events in the works as well, including the Annual Food Truck event on August 25, Christmas in July on July 20, and presentations throughout the year.

Follow the museum on Facebook and visit their website to stay up to date with the activities. The crew is excited to get this season underway and hope to see you all soon!



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## Going Greene: A CIRCUS MYSTERY

By Matthew Cumberledge

A box of old photos can take you on an adventure. We find these in attics, closets, chests, all over the place, often given to us by older relatives. Sometimes they come with information - marked photos, stories of what was going on - but all too often they come with very little or even no information. This can be unfortunate, especially when you are seeking photographs of ancestors and know that the people you are looking for likely have photos in the box, but you don't know for sure. Sometimes, however, certain photos tell a story all on their own, even if they come with no information at all.

The weather was probably fair that day, but likely not too hot. Some of the children were dressed in short pants and skirts, while others had on light coats. It was possibly early summer judging by the leaves on the tree. Some had come with their parents or an older brother or sister, but they were all in Fountain Park by the College to see one thing: an event that came to town with the circus!

As they all strolled down the hill, there they were: two medium-sized black bears,

each wearing a collar and tethered to a very long rope. They lounged about on the ground looking rather pleased and perhaps a bit bored, while their handler and his German Shepard waited patiently for the group to assemble so he could get on with the show.

The masses had converged, and it was go time! The handler introduced the two bears, by name, and gave a casual introduction to his dog to the excited crowd. You might get to see a black bear in the wild from time to time, but rarely did you get to see them perform tricks!

With the rope wrapped around him, the handler called for the bears to stand up, and so they did. Once they each stood on two legs, they started dancing a sloppy yet proficient waltz! Everyone looked on in amusement, and there was even someone there ready to capture the moment for posterity. Perhaps for a private album, perhaps for a local newspaper. But so it was, that moment in time was captured and preserved for posterity. However, the poor German Shepard, who barely got an introduction, wasn't about to be upstaged.



Let's just say he got his just revenge by executing the most comical photo bomb of all time.

Unfortunately, we know very little about the real story of this photo, other than it was indeed part of a circus act that took place in Fountain Park near Waynesburg University sometime in the 1940s. But, boy oh boy, does this photo tell a story. It's sort of fun to

think of all the memories that were made that day, perhaps memories that were eventually shared with children and grandchildren. If you have any information on this photo and the circus that was in town when these memories were made, please share them with us. Email them to [info@greenscenemagazine.com](mailto:info@greenscenemagazine.com).

# Recent Events in Greene & Nearby



WU unveiled its new eHIVE facility.

## Waynesburg U. Unveils New Innovation Hub

Waynesburg University celebrated the grand opening of its Entrepreneurial Hub for Innovative Ventures and Endeavors' (eHIVE) new location on Friday, February 16.

The day-long celebration included a ribbon cutting ceremony, demonstrations, competitions, and activities as well as a nod to the University's milestone 175th anniversary, which is being celebrated throughout the year.

Now located on the first floor of Stover Campus Center, the eHIVE's new space continues the work of the University's award-winning Entrepreneurial Leadership Program, established in 2018.

The new innovation hub houses equipment that supports student entrepreneurs in their prototyping efforts and enables them to make products to sell for their own small businesses. The renovations and purchase of the equipment were made possible by generous donors.

During the ribbon cutting ceremony, remarks were offered by Waynesburg University President Douglas G. Lee; Gregory Halvatzis, Chair of the Waynesburg University Board of Trustees; and Mindy Walls, Director of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Program, Chairperson for the Business Administration Department and Associate Professor of Business Administration.

"To our donors, we are so incredibly grateful," said Walls. "I want you to know that you are changing lives through this gift."

Equipped with a laser engraver, 3-D printers, large format printer, CNC machine, heat press and more, the eHIVE has already supported student entrepreneurs as they work on apparel startups or use the machines to create stickers, clings, etc.

Students can enroll in classes to learn how to operate the new makerspace equipment or prototype. Andrew Heisey, Associate Professor of Art, is currently teaching "Makerspace Lab," which allows students to learn the programming of the machines so they can utilize the equipment themselves.

Walls and Heisey are also teaching the award-winning "Plastics to Progress" course in the new space. This class turns recycled plastic waste from campus into a product with social cause and supports recycling on campus.

The eHIVE also supports the University's retail learning

lab and official campus spirit store, The Nest, with products created in the makerspace currently for sale in the store. In addition, staff and student workers have filled orders for custom products from across campus, providing an additional revenue stream to support the center and its programming.

### An Award-Winning Program

Committed to developing an entrepreneurial mindset within all students, Waynesburg University continues to receive accolades for its Entrepreneurial Leadership Program.

In October 2023, the eHIVE was named the "Outstanding Emerging Entrepreneurship Center" by the Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers (GCEC) during its annual conference at the Perot

Museum of Nature in Science in Dallas, Texas.

In 2022, the Entrepreneurial Leadership Program was presented with the Rising Star Award for Excellence in Curriculum Innovation in Entrepreneurship at the 11th Annual Deshpande Symposium at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in downtown Cleveland, Ohio.

Last month, the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) selected Mindy Walls as a Justin G. Longenecker Fellow.

Selection as a USASBE Justin G. Longenecker Fellow is the highest recognition that USASBE gives to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the development, furtherance and benefit of small and medium businesses. The Longenecker Fellow designation recognizes the achievements of men and women whose passion and burning desire for small business and entrepreneurship is reflected in their teaching, writing, training and public service.

### About the Entrepreneurial Leadership Program

The vision of the Entrepreneurial Leadership Program is to create a culture of proactive, innovative, ethical problem solving which will provide Waynesburg University students with the skills, abilities, experiences, and knowledge needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

### The program includes the following components:

1. The eHIVE: The University's co-curricular innovation hub focused on the practice of entrepreneurial leadership in a variety of ways, including: individual coaching, workshops, competitions and speakers. The eHIVE's services are available to all students of any major at any time.
2. The Nest: The University's student learning lab and official apparel spirit store.
3. Curriculum: The Entrepreneurial Leadership Program focuses on the study and practice of entrepreneurship in an academic setting through a major in the Department of Business Administration and a cross-campus minor.

### WU Welcomed Speaker Dr. Dana Milakovic

Waynesburg University's regional counseling symposium, "Elevating Voices: Adverse Childhood Experiences," welcomed keynote speaker Dr. Dana Milakovic, who presented her session, "Building Bridges Not Walls: How Relationships Can Help Us Heal and Thrive."

Dr. Milakovic serves as the mental wellness and trauma specialist with the Office for Safe Schools for the Pennsylvania Department of Education and as a statewide crisis and response trainer for PREPaRE and provides consultations for threat assessments. She also participates on the leadership team for HEAL



PA, a multisectoral coalition that aims to transform Pennsylvania into a trauma-informed and healing-centered state.

Dr. Milakovic is a mental health and trauma specialist with over 20 years of experience in school and community mental health, pediatric neuropsychology and school psychology and administration. Currently, she is focusing on strengthening schools by developing equitable trauma-informed learning environments that support the academic, physical, and psychological safety and well-being of students and staff.

The counseling symposium was held on March 15 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Southpointe; admission to the event was free. The event opened with a keynote speech from Dr. Milakovic. Following her session, the first half of the symposium was split into different breakout sessions led by various presenters and conclude with roundtable and poster sessions. After an hour-long lunch break, the breakout sessions began again and culminated in panel discussions.

### WU Hosted Library of Congress Librarian

Waynesburg University hosted Waynesburg alumna Candice Buchanan on Feb. 22, in Alumni Hall as part of the Crosby Lecture Series. Buchanan is a reference librarian in the history and genealogy section at the Library of Congress.



Buchanan's lecture, "We Will Do Great Things: Waynesburg's Early Female Alumnae and the Success of Coeducation," explored the unique history of Waynesburg University through the stories of its earliest students and faculty, focusing on women's experiences in collegiate coeducation during the University's first 75 years, from 1849 to 1924.

Buchanan grew up in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, and received an early education in family and local history from volunteers at the Cornerstone Genealogical Society. She is a third-generation graduate from Waynesburg University, where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts in history followed by a Master of Arts in public history from Duquesne University. In 2001, Buchanan created the Greene County, Pennsylvania Archives Project to digitize original photographs and docu-

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## Recent Events in Greene & Nearby

ments for public access.

Prior to her position at the Library of Congress, Buchanan was a genealogist and archivist at Memory Medallion, Inc., Genealogists.com and at the Orphans' Court at the Greene County Courthouse.

She has authored and co-authored several local history publications, including "A Waynesburg College Family: The Legacy of Alfred Brashear & Margaret Kerr (Bell) Miller."

The Crosby Lecture Series is funded by Glenn A. and Jane Lichtenfels Crosby, 1950 magna cum laude graduates of Waynesburg University, and brings visiting scholars to the University who are distinguished in their disciplines.

### Greene County Tourist Promotion Agency Recognizes Outstanding Hospitality at Annual Meeting

The Greene County Tourist Promotion Agency held its annual partnership meeting in March. During the meeting, the GCTPA Hospitality Awards for Event of the Year, Partner of the Year, Employee of the Year, and Volunteer of the Year were presented.

Nominees for Event of the Year were 50s Fest & Car Cruise, Rain Day, Jacktown Fair, Legendary Con, and the Christmas Parade. The winner was Rain Day (not pictured due to absence).

Partner of the Year Nominees were The Denny House, Lippencott Alpacas, the Warrior Trail, Miss Rain Day Schol-



GCTPA Partner of the Year Lippencott Alpacas



GCTPA Employee of the Year Echo Johnson

arship, and Cornerstone Genealogical Society. Lippencott Alpacas won the award.

Nominees for Employee of the Year were Matt Cumberledge, Cassandra Criss, Fred McConn, and Echo Johnson. Echo Johnson of RGB Coffee won.

The GCTPA Volunteer of the Year was Pat Walko. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners.

### Ribbon Cutting on GCCTC Club House Store

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce recently hosted an official ribbon cutting ceremony for the Greene County Career & Technology Center's student built and operated "Club House" store located in the school's community room.

On Tuesday, February 27th, Director Mark Krupa was joined by staff members Daniel Wagner, Chris Ralston, Larry Frank, Jennifer Nix, Todd Kieffer, & Natalie Goodwin and dignitaries to cut the ribbon on this architecturally and aesthetically pleasing snack shop.

Greene County Chamber of Commerce Executive



GCTPA Volunteer of the Year Pat Walko

Director Melody Longstreth welcomed those in attendance. Students and other staff witnessed the celebration commemorating the opening of the "Club House," residing in the CTC's Community Room. The event featured remarks from CTC staff members, as well as Representative of the 50th District Bud Cook, and PA State Senator Camera Bartolotta. Multiple programs were involved in the creation of this project, and all profits will be used for the student's field trips/competitions. After the official cutting of the ribbon, those in attendance had the opportunity to converse and partake in a light breakfast prepared by the CTC's Culinary Arts Students. FMI, on the GCCTC contact Mark Krupa at (724)627-3106, or via email at krupam@greenectc.org.



Ribbon Cutting for GCCTC Club House store.

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# Good NEWS In Greene County

## WCHS Lions Club Students of the Month for February

The WCHS Lions Club Students of the Month for February are Kayla Strellick and Ember Weber.

Kayla Strellick is the daughter of Brian and Chera Strellick of Waynesburg. She has earned a 3.92 GPA throughout high school. Kayla has been a member of the Alpha Beta Club, Prom Committee, Student Council, Spanish Club, Yearbook, and the National Honor Society. She has earned classroom honors in chemistry and math class.

Outside of school, Kayla competes as a member of the Seldom Seen Farm Equestrian Team. She also takes classes at Waynesburg University.

In the summers Kayla works as a camp counselor at the Greene County Day Camp. She enjoys traveling, listening to music, and hanging out with her friends. Kayla's plans are to attend Penn State University campus.

Ember Weber is the daughter of James Weber of Morgantown and Christa Devore of Waynesburg. She has earned a 3.9 GPA into her senior year. Ember has been a member of the Envirothon Team, Art Club, Spanish Club, Ski Club and NHS. She has competed as a member of the cross country and track teams.

Ember has been recognized for her efforts. She was awarded the Heisman Scholarship and the WVU climb higher scholarship. Ember was an FLBA Regional Leadership conference winner in 2023.

Outside of school Ember works a part-time job and takes classes at Waynesburg University. In the summers, she works as a lifeguard.

In her free time Ember enjoys painting, running, playing piano and sewing. Ember's plans are to attend WVU and major in exercise physiology before entering the medical field.



Kayla Strellick



Ember Weber

## WCHS Students Perform in WVU Honor Band Festival

Waynesburg Central High School students Sophina Maute, Craig Rohanna, and Joe Kirsch auditioned and were chosen to perform in the 2024 WVU Honor Band Festival at West Virginia University on February 10, 2024.



## Local Man Becomes U.S. Concealed Carry Association Training Counselor

Earlier this year during SHOT Show in Las Vegas NV, the United States Concealed Carry Association (USCCA) teased a new live-fire curriculum, the Defensive Pistol Program (DPP), launching this spring for certified instructors and end-users. The course focuses on objective and performance-based training methods, utilizing motor learning and skill acquisition science to ensure students are equipped with the knowledge and practical experience needed to effectively use a firearm in a defensive context.

Kerry Dugan Jr., local USCCA certified instructor, training counselor and owner of Archangel Defense LLC (Greene County, PA), was one of twelve candidates, hand selected, to become part of the cadre of professional counselors to deliver this new live-fire curriculum to qualified instructor candidates across the nation. The USCCA DPP training counselor course took place February 26th through March 1st at Compass Training Center in Chino Valley, Arizona. After 5 days of training, Dugan received his DPP training counselor certification.



Standing left to right: Randy Watt, Freddie Blish, Justin Peters, Bob Schneider, Graham Hunt, Paige Roux, Kerry Dugan Jr., Gavin Glasenapp, Steven Washington, Glen Stinson, John Dunn. Kneeling left to right: Jack Shepard, Steve Fischer, Rob Chadwick, Kevin Dixie.

## WU Celebrates 175 Years and Breaks Ground on New Building

As Waynesburg University celebrates its 175th anniversary, construction begins on the University's new Center for Criminal and Forensic Investigation.

Slated to open in the fall 2024 semester of the University's milestone year, the \$2.1 million Center has been funded in its entirety by generous donors and will benefit students from various disciplines as well as provide training opportunities for regional first responders.

"In our 175th year, we continue to make progress as we undertake the construction of this new building," said Waynesburg University President Douglas G. Lee. "We are deeply grateful to our donors who help make this growth possible."

Waynesburg University's Criminal Justice Program has a history of offering training facilities and opportunities to local and regional first responders, and this Center will enhance those training opportunities while enabling students to learn alongside and network with professionals in the field. Students from various academic programs, including criminal justice administration, cybersecurity and forensics, forensic accounting, forensic biology, forensic chemistry, forensic investigation, forensic science and pre-law will benefit from classroom and experiential learning opportunities in the space.

The Center will include a large space that can be used for functions of up to 120 people while also being able to convert into three separate classrooms outfitted with state-of-the-art technology. The Center will also house a conference room, office space and large area for practical learning exercises.

Waynesburg University serves as a training and recruitment hub for local, regional, and national law enforcement, such as the FBI, CIA, ATF, police departments, and probation offices, efforts which will be enhanced by the new physical space.

The Center for Criminal and Forensic Investigation will be located next to the University's existing Crime Scene Investigation Center, which houses classrooms and state-of-the-art virtual training equipment, including a newly acquired \$110K patrol car simulator, which enables students to be immersed into simulated, real world situations, allowing for problem solving and critical thinking opportunities that will better prepare them for their careers.

...continued on page 20.



# TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF SO YOU CAN BE THERE FOR THEM

If you are living with HIV, Southwestern PA has many services to help you stay healthy

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More **Good NEWS**  
In Greene County

Offering students the opportunity to learn technical skills from experienced professionals in a hands-on setting from day one, Waynesburg's Criminal Justice Administration Program was recently ranked No. 2 overall out of the 22 schools named to College Factual's 2023 "Best Criminal Justice Schools in Pennsylvania" list. The program has consistently been recognized as a best value school by College Factual in recent years.

**Viewpoint with host Dennis Quaid Collaborates with Baily Insurance to Advocate for Independent Insurance Agents**

Viewpoint, the acclaimed educational program hosted by renowned actor Dennis Quaid, has partnered with Baily Insurance to produce an educational segment focused on highlighting the crucial role of Independent Insurance Agents in guiding consumers through the complexities of selecting insurance policies. Filmed and distributed in 2023, these segments shed light on the importance of unbiased professional guidance to avoid potential catastrophic losses in the event of unexpected occurrences.

The collaboration between Viewpoint and Baily Insurance aims to bridge the gap in understanding the intricacies of insurance policies that consumers often face when shopping for coverage. While several insurance companies try to solicit customers through impersonal national advertising and agents who only sell their products, these educational pieces emphasize how Independent Insurance Agents personally advocate for their clients to help them navigate the complexities of the insurance landscape, ensuring they make informed decisions tailored to their unique needs.

The collaboration between Viewpoint and Baily Insurance aims to bridge the gap in understanding the intricacies of insurance policies that consumers often face when shopping for coverage.

Many professionals understand that education is key when it comes to making important decisions, especially regarding insurance. Consumers may underestimate the complexities of policies, and that's where Independent Insurance Agents come in – to provide expert guidance and ensure individuals are adequately covered.

The segments delve into real-life scenarios, illustrating how individuals may be unaware of the potential pitfalls in their chosen policies and how professional assistance can prevent catastrophic losses. By combining engaging interviews with Baily Insurance's industry expertise, the educational pieces aim to empower viewers with the knowledge needed to make well-informed decisions regarding their insurance coverage.

"Through our research it was clear that the general public needed better awareness of the value that Independent Insurance Agents can provide to consumers," stated Valerie Maliga, Senior VP of Viewpoint. "Baily Insurance was the perfect organization with whom to partner on this initiative, especially given their experience and overall insights in this sector."

Baily Insurance, a leading player in the insurance industry, brings its wealth of experience and commitment to consumer education to the collaboration. The partnership aligns with Baily Insurance's mission to promote awareness about the value of Independent Insurance Agents and the benefits they bring to individuals seeking insurance solutions.

"It was an absolute privilege to be selected by Viewpoint for this documentary. It was a pleasure to work with their team. We are passionate and deeply committed to advocating for our clients and promoting transparency in the insurance marketplace," noted David Baily. "Like every industry, conflicts of interest exist in insurance leading to people and businesses overpaying for their insurance and not getting the coverage they thought they were buying. We are committed to transforming the insurance buying process by educating our clients to ensure that they are buying what they need



David Baily  
Independent Insurance Agent

and not just what some agent can sell them."

To view the educational segments produced by Viewpoint and Baily Insurance go to <https://www.viewpointproject.com/features-baily-insurance/> By leveraging the reach and influence of Viewpoint, the collaboration seeks to make a meaningful impact on consumer awareness and understanding of the pivotal role played by Independent Insurance Agents in the insurance selection process.

Viewpoint is an educational program hosted by Dennis Quaid that explores a wide range of topics, providing valuable insights and information to viewers. With a commitment to delivering engaging and informative content, Viewpoint aims to empower individuals with knowledge that can positively impact their lives.

About Baily Insurance:

Baily Insurance is a leading insurance provider committed to delivering personalized and comprehensive coverage solutions. With a focus on client education and service excellence, Baily Insurance strives to be a trusted partner in safeguarding the financial well-being of individuals and businesses. More information about this fourth-generation insurance agency can be found at their website <http://www.bailyagency.com>.

**2024 GCLS Reading Competition Results**

The 2024 GCLS Reading Competition was held at Waynesburg University on Tuesday, March 5. Over 150 students from all five county school districts competed in three categories: Elementary, Middle School, and High School. Elementary had 11 teams, middle school had six teams, and high school had three teams. Winners were as follows:

**Elementary:** 1st Place - The Meaning of Reading from West Greene; 2nd Place - Books R US from Bobtown Elementary; 3rd Place - The Unusual Readers from Carmichaels

**Middle School:** 1st Place - The Tomcats from Eva K. Bowlby Library; 2nd Place - Fiction Addiction - Waynesburg Central; 3rd Place - Waynesburg Bookworms - Waynesburg Central

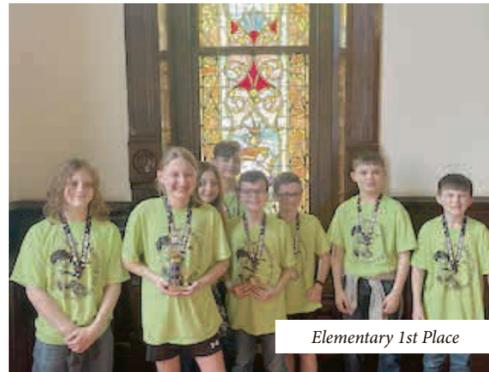
**High School:** 1st Place - Plot Twist - Waynesburg Central; 2nd Place - The Mysterious Mists - Jefferson Morgan; 3rd Place - The Shining Scholars - Jefferson Morgan

...continued on page 22.

**WINNERS**

**LOTTERY TICKETS:**  
Angie McClenathan, Rose Moore, Loretta McKahon, Bonnie Frameli

**BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT TRIVIA**  
Kylie Roupe



Elementary 1st Place



Middle School 1st Place



High School 1st Place

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### Muse & Stone Magazine Recognized

Waynesburg University's student literary magazine, the "Muse & Stone" was recognized as superior by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) as part of the Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines (REALM) Program.

Schools in 46 states and five countries nominated 375 student magazines. Literary magazines from middle schools, high schools, and higher education were welcomed for the 2023 contest. The REALM program aims to encourage all schools to develop literary magazines that celebrate writing by publicly recognizing schools that stand out for their efforts.

The "Muse & Stone" is an annually published student-led literary magazine that strives to promote the University's mission through creative expression. The magazine features short stories, works of creative nonfiction, poetry, art and photographs.

### CLASSIFIEDS

#### TOYS & RECREATION

Various NERF/dart guns, \$5 to \$10 each, take all 17 for \$75. 724-998-0788

Octonauts playset w/ Octopod, 2 Gup-As, Gup-C, Gup-Q, multiples of characters in diff. outfits, accessories, etc. \$75. 724-998-0788

Swagman 3 bike Rack, 1-1/4" towbar hitch, \$70. 412-582-2544.

20" Boy's Huffly bicycle, 10 speed hand brakes, \$50. 412-582-2544.

#### AUTOMOBILES & PARTS

CURT 31320 Front trailer hitch for 02-08 Dodge Ram w/installation kit. Brand new, never used or installed. \$225. Text 724-998-0788.

#### HOUSEHOLD

Bed alarm (Smart Economy Cordless model 433-EC), good condition \$25. Can text photos 304-238-6322 .

Kitchen sink, double basin, white fiberglass, copper fixtures \$60. Can text photos. 304-238-6322.

County Line ton Log Splitter, \$650. 630 NH round Baler, \$3200. Pub Table with 2 stools, \$200.00. 724-231-5333.

Vintage Craftsman 10" radial arm saw. Vintage Craftsman tablesaw 27"x44". \$75 each OBO. Call/text 724-231-5925.

Noritake China Set #48, 8 Setting, various pieces, \$50obo. 412-582-2544.

Whirlpool 220v stovetop range, Bisque/Light Beige, New Oven Control Module, \$325. 412-582-2544.

#### HOMES & PROPERTY

Interior trunk panels for 93-02 Camaro/Firebird, dark gray, with speaker cutout & grille. \$15. Text 724-998-0788.

Duplex 60ft. RV trailer/tiny home for sale. Contains 2 newly remodeled living quarters. No underpinning required. Sets up on your site quickly, for extended living. Former oil/gas living set up. \$40,000 negotiable. 304-281-8184.

RV trailer/"tiny

home" 48 ft. for sale. Former oil/gas. living set up. One bedroom, newly remodeled. No underpinning required. Sets up on your site quickly, for extended living. \$30,000 negotiable. 304-281-8184.

2023 Forest River Wildwood 29VBUD; brand new camper RV; 36'2"; UVW=7728; power tongue jack; sleeps 8; bunk room; front bedroom with pass thru storage; fireplace; Versa-Bunk, Versa-Queen, Versa-Lounger; huge slide-out; outdoor kitchen, shower, & speakers; 18' awning. 32K. Call/Text Toni 614-256-3209.

**SPORTING GOODS**  
Nordic Track Ski Machine, \$10. 724-499-5148.

Three Quad Camp Chairs Adult, 2-Child, aluminum frame, nylon fabric, like new, \$30. 412-582-2544.

Camp Set - Camel Tent, Dining Fly, Sleeping bag, Coleman Gas Catalytic Heater. \$125. 412-8184.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

15"x15" 8-n-1 Heat Press w/swingaway arm. Comes with adaptors for hats, plates, and mugs. New in box, never used. \$150. 724-998-0788.

Caps for cosmetics, lotions or other bath and body care products; full cases. 20/410 Black Polypro Ribbed Top Caps - Case 5500, \$400. 20/410 Unlined Smooth Black Top Caps - Case 5000, \$300. Call Stephen @724-426-4579 (no txts).

Hay wagon, \$1000 or best offer. Mt.Morris. Garage kept, well-maintained 7x14 feet. Deck was always oiled, rough cut oak. Straight tongue, very solid. Trails great down the road. 304-238-6322.

Merits scooter, \$1000. 724-943-3033.



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**Becky Pecjak of Dilliner sent us this photo of Allison Pecjak walking her lambs on a warm Sunday evening in Dilliner, PA.**

**MONTHLY RECURRING EVENTS**

- Flea Market**  
7am-2pm @Greene Co. Fairgrounds. Every Tuesday & Saturday.
- Bingo**  
5:30pm @Greensboro VFD, Garards Fort. Every Thursday. \$5 admission.
- Mindful Movement**  
9:30am @Thisletwhaita Vineyards. \$12/each, mats provided. Every Saturday.
- TOPS**  
10-11am @Bowly Library. Weight management support group meets every Friday. FMI: 724-627-9776.
- Dungeons & Dragons Session**  
12:30pm-3:30pm @Bowly Library. Led by Dungeon Master Matthew every Friday and Saturday.
- Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention**  
10:30-11:30am @Bowly Library. Led by Sheri Tucker. Cost: \$5. Every Saturday. Call 724-627-9776 to RSVP.
- Roller Skating**  
7pm @Mon View Roller Rink, Greensboro on Fridays & Saturdays. 10 & under skate on Friday from 6-7pm. Closed on holidays.
- Friends Sharing Grief**  
5pm @Bowly Library. First and third Monday of every month. Support group for those that have suffered a loss. FMI: 724-627-9776.
- Divorce Support**  
7pm @First Christian Church in Waynesburg on Mondays.
- SOAR Meeting**  
6:30pm @Greene Co. Airport. First Tuesday each month. FMI, visit soarof.greenecounty.org.

- Carmichaels & Cumberland Twp VFC Bingo**  
6:30pm @Carmichaels & Cumberland Twp VFC, every Tuesday.
- White Covered Bridge Assoc. Meeting**  
7:30pm @Greene Twp. Community Building. First Tuesday each month. FMI, visit facebook.com/wcbridge
- Tech Tutoring**  
@Bowly Library. Need help with your device? A tech-savvy librarian is ready to help! Reserve your spot., call 724-627-9776.
- Mahjong Club**  
1-4pm @Bowly Library on Wednesdays. FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- Wine Down Wednesday**  
5pm @Thisletwhaita Vineyards. Glass and bottle specials, food, and a peaceful atmosphere each Wednesday.
- Fleenniken Book Club**  
6-7pm @Fleenniken Library. Second Tuesday each month.
- Bowly Book Club**  
4:30pm @Bowly Library. Second Thursday every month. FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- Coffee with Veterans**  
8-10am @varying locations. Second Saturday each month. (see ad for upcoming locations)
- Warrior Trail Meeting**  
6:30pm @Warrior Trail Headquarters, Garards Fort. Third Thursday monthly.
- Pouring Out Praise**  
6:30pm-8 @Carmichaels Methodist Church, Every fourth Wednesday.

Events times/dates are subject to change, especially on holidays. Please check with organizers to ensure the event is still being held or if you have any questions.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- APR 16** Ore Banks & Charcoal Hearths Presentation
- APR 27** Opening Day
- MAY 21** The RMS Lusitania, Part II Presentation
- JUN 08** Cruisin' the Museum Car Show
- JUL 20** Christmas in July
- AUG 25** Food Truck/Car Cruise Sunday

**Opening Day!**

Activities include demonstrations, reenactors, Revolutionary War tavern, W&W Railroad, brick oven concessions, self-guided tours, a special display of historic documents and flags, and more.

**Saturday, April 27**  
**10am - 3pm**

918 Rolling Meadows Rd., Waynesburg, PA 15370  
724-627-3204 • [greenecountyhistory.org](http://greenecountyhistory.org)



**Greene County Museum**

**APRIL EVENTS**

- April Fools' Pick Your Puzzle Challenge**  
4/1, 5-7pm @Bowly Library. Special puzzle challenge for teams of two. FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- Spring Basket Bonanza**  
4/1-6, 10am-7pm @First Christian Church, Carmichaels. Over 30 baskets raffled off. Tickets are \$1/each, 6 for \$5, 25 for \$20. Drawing will take place at 12pm on Saturday, April 6.
- Movie Night at the Library**  
4/5, 7pm @Bowly Library. Movies: "Trolls: Band Together" (kids) and "The Color Purple" (Adults) FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- Symposium Jr - A Morning with Lewis & Clark**  
4/6, 10am @The Meeting House, Washington, PA. For ages 8 to 12; children will have the opportunity to learn about the incredible adventures of Lewis and Clark, two of America's most renowned explorers, and explore what life was like in early 1800s America. Visit the Bradford House at bradfordhouse.org FMI or to reserve your spot.
- Super Bingo**  
4/7, 12:30pm @Nemacolin VFD. Doors open at 12:30pm, bingo starts at 2pm.. Admission is \$40 for 20 games.
- Solar Eclipse Viewing**  
4/8, 2-4pm @Ryerson Station State Park. Meet in the swimming pool parking lot on the Day Use side of the park. Glasses will be provided, but bring your own chair. There will be a short talk before the eclipse.
- JM Art Show**  
4/11, 6-8pm @JM Elementary Gym. Art, silent auction, food/refreshments, bake sale, photo station, interactive mural, face painting, basket raffle, and more. .
- Puzzle Challenge**  
4/13, 9:30am-12:30pm @Bowly Library. 10 teams of 2 compete in putting together a 500-pc puzzle.. FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- Spring Craft Show**  
4/13, 8am-2pm @Greene County Fairgrounds. To inquire about being a vendor, call Verona Allman at 724-627-3720.
- Ore Banks & Charcoal Hearths Presentation**  
4/16, 6pm @GCHS Museum. History, archaeology, and landscape legacies of charcoal production and ore mining in the 19th century.
- Bowly Lecture Series: The Underground Railroad in Greene & Washington Counties**  
4/17, 5:30pm @Bowly Library. Presentation by Rea Andrew Redd. FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- Jazz Ensemble Concert**  
4/16, 7:30pm @Goodwin Performing Arts Center.
- Hammer-In**  
4/20, 9am-2pm @WA Young & Sons Foundry & Machine Shop. Guided tours, demonstrations, auctions, aluminum pour, and more. Free admission.
- Turkey Shoot**  
4/20, 10am @Springhill Community Center, New Freeport. Turkey shoot shooting competition., Chinese auction, refreshments/food.
- Community Solar Presentation**  
4/20, 2:30pm @Bowly Library. Presentation about Community Solar. FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- CPRI/IED Training**  
4/20, 10:30am-2:30pm @Bowly Library. Cost: \$88 and includes training, workbook, Take Home CPR Kit, 2-year certification, and manual. Call 724-984-5702 to register.
- Music Program Spring Concert**  
4/20, 7:30pm @Roberts Chapel. The Waynesburg University Lamplighter Choir and Symphonic Band present an evening of music for students, parents and the surrounding community.
- Chamber Works**  
4/25, 12pm @ Marsh Center at WU. This short, hour-long performance is free and open to the public.
- Cosmic Bingo**  
4/26, 7pm @Bowly Library. Glow in the dark bingo. FMI, call 724-627-9776.
- Opening Day at GCHS Museum**  
4/27, 10am-3pm @GCHS Museum. Welcoming guests back for the 2024 season!  
Explore all that is new, enjoy your favorites from the past and savor something delicious from our Historic Brick Oven Concessions!
- FRIDAY FISH FRIES (until March 29)**  
Greensboro & Montongahela Twp. VFD  
11am-7pm
- Jefferson VFD**  
11am-7pm
- Knights of Columbus at St. Ann Church**  
11:30am-1pm, 4:30pm-7pm
- Nemacolin VFD**  
11am-6pm
- Rices Landing VFD**  
11am-7pm
- St. Marcellus**  
11am-3pm, 3-7pm

## Greene County Chamber Looking for Businesses to Participate in Raffle

Each year the chamber organizes two gift card/ gift certificate raffles. These tickets sell fast and drive customers into local businesses. They already have a waiting list for this year's tickets!

The Chamber is currently looking for businesses who would like to participate in 2024. Tell them what level you would like to participate at \$25, \$50, \$100, and if you will be providing a gift card/ certificate from your business or if you would like to purchase one yourself from another local business or national chain. You can also tell the Chamber how much you would like to spend and they will invoice you and make the purchase for you. It couldn't be easier!

Each donor will be listed on the tickets which include two three-digit numbers.

They are currently seeking participation commitments for one or both raffles. The Summer Vacation Raffle donation deadline is April 15, and the Christmas Raffle is August 30 – or commit to both now!

The winner of the Summer Vacation raffle will be drawn on Friday, June 7 and the Christmas raffle will be drawn on Friday, November 15. The winning number will be based on the PA Lottery evening three-digit number drawing on those dates.

## Have a Collection? American Pickers is Looking For You!

American Pickers is looking for large, rare collections and things they've never seen before. Tell them the interesting story behind your stuff! To be considered, contact [americpickers@cinetflix.com](mailto:americpickers@cinetflix.com), leave a voicemail at 646-493-2184, or reach on out Facebook @ GotAPick. Make sure to include your name, town, and state, as well as your phone number, where your collection is located, and a description of your items.

## Greene Chamber Scholarship Deadline Approaching

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce is reminding the public that the deadline for two scholarships opportunities is approaching.

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce Educational Fund Scholarship was first awarded in 1991. The scholarship program is open to any Greene County student who will be graduating senior. The individual chosen is selected by a panel of qualified judges and will be given a \$1,500 scholarship as well as a laptop compliments of PCsquared. The winner is selected based on an essay of a given topic.

The Chamber will also award the "Dr. Nancy I. Davis Memorial Leadership Scholarship" in memory of the late, Dr. Nancy I. Davis. It's a \$1,500 scholarship presented to an individual of any age that's seeking to continue their education and expand their leadership skills.

Completed applications for both scholarships must be submitted no later than midnight on Monday, April 1. The winners will be announced in early May, and the award for the Educational Fund Scholarship will be presented at the Chamber's monthly general membership luncheon in May at Waynesburg University.

Top-scoring applicants may be interviewed before a panel of judges as part of the process.

Applications are available in the Chamber of Commerce Office at 3157 Mt. Morris Road and can also be obtained by calling the Chamber of Commerce office at 724 627-5926 or downloaded from the Chamber website at [www.greenechamber.org](http://www.greenechamber.org)

## Local Author Published First Novel

Laura Zoeller announced the publication of her first book, *Twisted Roots*. "I am excited to have released this novel for publication," Laura says. "It has been in the works for several years, and I finally felt confident that it was ready. What an exhilarating experience!"

The novel follows Quinn Marsten through a difficult period of her life. Quinn has spent several years of her life and thousands of dollars in therapy trying to forget her traumatic childhood, but her nightmares won't stop. She can't see how to navigate towards a future with those she loves because of what she has endured. When she gets a call telling her that her dad, the source of most of her trauma, is dying and wants to see her, she has no choice but to stop pretending it never happened and work to confront her issues head on.

*Twisted Roots* is available for purchase in paperback and for Kindle at Amazon.

## Library Looking for Early Childhood Educator

The library is seeking an experienced Early Childhood Educator to join our team. The ECE is responsible for creating and implementing a developmentally appropriate curriculum for young children from birth to age three, as well as planning and implementing activities to help them learn and grow. This role will require lesson planning, recording program statistics, and implementing outreach programs to area day cares and preschools on request. The ideal candidate is enthusiastic and passionate about working with children under age three.

### Duties & Responsibilities:

- Develop and implement an appropriate curriculum for children from newborn to five years of age.
- Plan and execute activities that contribute to the physical, intellectual, and social development of infants and toddlers.
- Create a safe and nurturing environment
- Establish and maintain positive relationships with the children, caregivers, and staff.
- Participate in professional development activities and workshops.
- Ensure compliance with all relevant health and safety regulations.

### Requirements and Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Minimum of two years of experience working with young children in a childcare or educational setting.
- Knowledge and understanding of appropriate practices and techniques.
- Able to work independently and as part of a team.
- First Aid and CPR certification required or able to acquire.
- Child Abuse, State Police, and FBI Clearances.
- Reliable transportation.

Please send a letter of interest and resume to [reference@evakowlby.org](mailto:reference@evakowlby.org) attention Kathy McClure, Executive Director

## Fundraising Turkey Shoot in April

A turkey shoot will be held on April 20 at the New Freeport Springhill Community Center at 10am. There will be a turkey shoot shooting competition, Chinese auction, and food/refreshments will be available. Profits from the event will benefit the DIPG Fund at Children's Hospital.

**CORRECTION: March's GreeneScene Community Magazine Cover was provided by Nikki Cole.**

## 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](mailto:GreeneScene Message Board, 185 Wade Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370) or email to: [info@GreeneSceneMagazine.com](mailto:info@GreeneSceneMagazine.com).

## Yesterday's Service Today's Technology



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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 28 MARCH** OPEN MIC NIGHT
- 11 APRIL** STEVE HALOW
- 17 APRIL** CASSIDY PAIGE
- 25 APRIL** KARAOKE NIGHT
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# Intentional Walks

By Bret Moore

## GREENE COUNTY SPORTS IN 1974

I always enjoyed the part in the sports section where they went back five, 10 or 25 years on that day. I thought it might be fun to look back a half century ago at sports in the County in 1974. It's always amazing to me how some things change so much, while others remain so similar.

### Baseball

In 1974, the local youth baseball leagues were still thriving. That summer, the Waynesburg Minor League added Greenway Manufacturing and Bell's Wholesale to the traditional teams. The names of the other County youth teams are indelibly etched in the collective conscience of several generations.

Waynesburg Little League: Moose, Elks, Pepsi, Ross Drug, Lions Club and Ullom & Baily Drug Store

Greene Valley Little League: Dry Tavern Reds, Rices Landing Giants, Jefferson Pirates, and the Jefferson Yankees

King Coal Little League: Lesako's, Grumman Boats, Indians, Civics, Fire Company, and Lions Club

King Coal Senior League: St. Hugh, Nemaocolin Community Club, Greensboro, Slovianics, and Rices Landing

Waynesburg Senior League: First Federal, First National and Gallatin Banks, as well as Coca-Cola.

Waynesburg College skipper Bill Hardisty coached a district collegiate all-star game at Three Rivers Stadium. The game was part of a double header with the Pittsburgh Pirates against their AAA affiliate Charleston Charlies in the nightcap. The South team included Waynesburg College, Cal State, Frostburg, IUP, Point Park and WVU. The North squad was comprised of players from Pitt, Clarion, Slippery Rock, Grove City, Edinboro, Mercyhurst and Penn State Behrend

Waynesburg even started a girls' baseball league in 1974 with teams such as Howard's Grocery, Waynesburg Restaurant, Ross Tractor Supply, and the Chicken House. It would last only two years before it became a softball league.

### Softball

The Waynesburg Lions Club softball tournament format changed to include a women's slo-pitch division. Fewer fast pitch teams and the rebirth of women's athletics in the decade led to the change. Penn Plastics of Washington won the first women's trophy.

The West Greene Pioneers started girls' softball in the 1974/75 school year. They lost their first game to Immaculate Conception 35-17. Very few schools had quality pitchers during this era. Most girls had not been exposed to youth leagues or pitching camps; therefore, high scoring games were not uncommon.

### Football

From the early to mid-70s, the traditional youth program in Waynesburg that consisted of the Bonar Bears, East End Wildcats, West End Steelers and Richhill Grays was expanded countywide. In 1970, the Brave Braves joined the league. By the mid-70s, the Greene County Junior Football League consisted of a Western Division, which included the Richhill Grays, Brave Braves, Springhill, Freeport/Gilmore, Aleppo and the Franklin Township Tigers. The Eastern Division consisted of Waynesburg, Jefferson, Bobtown, Dunkard Township, Greensboro, and Mt. Morris. The winners of each division met for the championship, while the runners-up also played a post-season contest against each other.

Dry Tavern and Clarksville started flag football leagues.

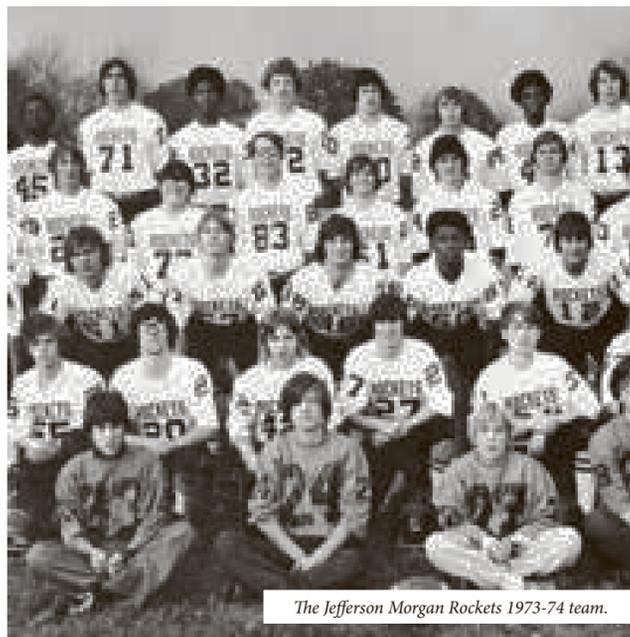
At the high school level, the Jefferson-Morgan Rockets captured their second consecutive WPIAL Championship. The team featured two Division I players in Frank Paci (Yale) and Jeff Culp (Army). In addition, Kevin and Keith Martin, Jon Culp and Dennis Garrett would go on to star on Waynesburg College's successful NAIA teams of the mid-70s. Week seven brought the undefeated showdown everyone expected against German Township, which was led by future Pitt star Ralph Still. However, the Rockets knocked him out of the game during the first series. He returned briefly in the third quarter

before returning to the bench.

The result was a surprisingly convincing 34-7 victory. The Rockets faced a highly regarded Midland team in the Class B WPIAL Finals. The game attendance was 3,500. Kevin Martin and Jon Culp each had interception returns for touchdowns and Garrett scored on a 27-yard reverse to give the Rockets a 20-0 victory and their back-to-back championships.

Jeff Culp was named the Dapper Dan Class B WPIAL Player of the Year. (Carmichaels' John Menhart had won the award the year before.) In addition, Culp, both Martins and Frank Paci were named First Team All-WPIAL

At the collegiate level, future Mapletown coach George Messich was named First Team Junior College All-American at Potomac State. He went on to be the starting tackle for the 1976 National Champion Pitt Panthers that featured Tony Dorsett. Waynesburg College alum Jim Dumm played defensive tackle for the Baltimore Colts during the exhibition season. He also played briefly with the World F o o t b a l l League's Chicago Fire. Finally, another Waynesburg College alum (Class of 1950) Fran Monaco paid \$750,000 for the World F o o t b a l l League franchise in Jacksonvill. He



The Jefferson Morgan Rockets 1973-74 team.

## ATTENTION PARENTS AND COACHES!

Do you know of an achievement in sports and would like to see it shared in Hometown Heritage? Email it to: [sports@directresults.us](mailto:sports@directresults.us).

*Bret Moore is the Director of Recreation for Greene County. He taught English and coached multiple sports at McGuffey High School for thirty years. He is also the author of Rough and Ungentlemanly Tactics, a two-volume history of sports in Greene County, available at Direct Results and McCracken Pharmacy.*

bought the Sharks after failing to obtain the bid for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. After leaving Waynesburg with a business degree, he had started a chain of medical labs in Florida.

### Basketball

Girls' basketball as we know it today started at the WPIAL and PIAA level in 1973. However, Waynesburg, West Greene, Carmichaels and Jefferson-Morgan had started teams and played each other as early as the 1969-70 season.

The 1974 Waynesburg Central girls' basketball team won their second consecutive section title with an 8-0 record and were 14-4 overall. That team was led in scoring by Trish Patterson. The Mikettes first official season was 1974-75. According to the school yearbook, they "showed great effort and teamwork." The Mapletown girls were in their sec-

ond year and finished 6-6.

Waynesburg Central alum Carolyn Huffman was playing for the WVU Lady Mountaineers hoop team.

On the boys' court Jefferson-Morgan's Dennis Garrett was named All-WPIAL as a junior that season. He scored 1,356 career points (1972-75) for the Rockets before freshman eligibility and the three-point line.

Rudy Marisa had turned around the Waynesburg College program. The 1974 season ended with a 15-6 record, the best since the 1950-51 season. However, they were not selected for the N.A.I.A. playoffs. As an independent, they lost out on bids to four Pennsylvania Conference schools including Indiana, Edinboro, Slippery Rock and Clarion.

### Wrestling

Waynesburg's Tom Baker won the first of his two 105-pound WPIAL titles. His teammate Kevin Bussey captured the 185-pound crown and finished third at the PIAA Tournament. Down the road, Jefferson's Kevin Martin won the first of his back-to-back WPIAL titles.

At West Greene, the Pioneers season resulted in a 13-1 record. Their only loss was a close 34-27 decision at Waynesburg. Buzz Walters was named the WPIAL Class B Coach of the Year that season. That year began a streak of 23 consecutive winning seasons for the program.

Dan Barnickel finished his career at Waynesburg College in 1974. He recorded a 56-6-4 career dual meet mark, while compiling an overall record of 74-12-4. Jacket alum Richard Pollock went on to wrestle for Athletes in Action, a popular touring team sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ. In 1974, he posted a 9-2-2 record for the group while competing against some of the country's top collegiate programs.

West Greene alum Jay Closser posted a 7-7 mark his senior year at Princeton. He led the team with five pins.

### Track and Cross Country

The WPIAL began girls' cross-country championships for the first time. The boys' championship dated back to 1935.

Waynesburg Central's Bob Alberts won the WPIAL Pole Vault Championship and finished 5th at the PIAA Meet. He set a WPIAL record of 13 feet 6 ¼ inches when he used a fiberglass pole for the first time. He had only practiced with the pole once. That season, the Raiders won their 10th consecutive County Championship

Dennis Garrett won and set meet records at the Tri-County Meet in both the 220M and Broad Jump. He also set the JM school record for the Triple Jump. His teammate Lee Buckingham broke the school record in the Two-Mile Run (11:12.4)

### Golf

Carmichaels and Jefferson-Morgan

shared the section title. The Rockets' Greg and Gary Battistoni placed second and third, respectively, at the WPIAL section qualifier. Greg also qualified for the WPIAL Tournament at Oakmont. Waynesburg's Greg Rohanna reached the WPIAL Semi-finals as a junior.

At the Greene County Country Club, Frank Benemati and Irene Bell won the club championships. Both would repeat the following year.

### Volleyball

Although the WPIAL started girls' volleyball in 1973, it would be two years before Waynesburg started a team. However, the College started a team in 1974-75. Lorraine Cassidy started the program and turned it into a regional powerhouse by the end of the decade. Mrs. Cassidy was an early champion of women's athletics at the school. She was responsible for dragging the college's boy's club into the modern era with her determination and enthusiasm

### Bowling

At the Carmichaels Bowling Arena, Jim Rathburn of Carmichaels competed in both the King Coal and Big East Leagues and earned his Professional Bowling Association card. He carried a 190 average and bowled the first perfect 300 game at the Arena. Leona Hennen of Carmichaels maintained a 150 average in the United Methodist Church League at 79 years of age.

At Waynesburg's Triangle Lanes, the Cokettes won the Monday Night Women's League and Barna's Furniture won the Thursday Night Men's League.

The Sahady Lanes team from Jefferson won the Boys Pennsylvania State Junior Bowling Championship (13-15 years old). Earnie Sahady, Sr., a teacher at Jefferson-Morgan and owner of the alley, coached both the boys' and girls' teams from the establishment. The boys won the title in Lancaster by a tremendous 184 pin margin. A total of 3,400 youth teams had competed in the local, regional and state tournaments. The team members were Jim Deter, Barry Iddings, Paul Crile, Ralph Pinkney and Joe Rudman. The girls' team finished second at the same tournament. The squad consisted of Kim Smillie, Deanna Sphar, Veronica Tencek, Mabel Crile, and Janet Sahady. Their adult team also won the 18-team Travelers Bowling League of Fayette and Greene Counties.

### Miscellaneous

In 1974, the Tri-County Trap Shooting League consisted of the following teams: the Game Commission, Jefferson Hotel, Route 88, Stringtown, The Dusters, IBEW, Nemaocolin, Chucks's Gun Shop, the Greenway Ladies, and league champions Clarksville Sport Shop.

The Waynesburg Central band finished fourth at the 1974 Indianapolis 500 Parade.

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**BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE MONTH**



Brice Smith is the son of Brandon and Adrienne Smith of Rogersville. He is a sophomore member of the Pioneers' wrestling team and works hard in the off season, lifting in the TCFCA weightlifting competition. Brice is a member of the school's FFA chapter as well.



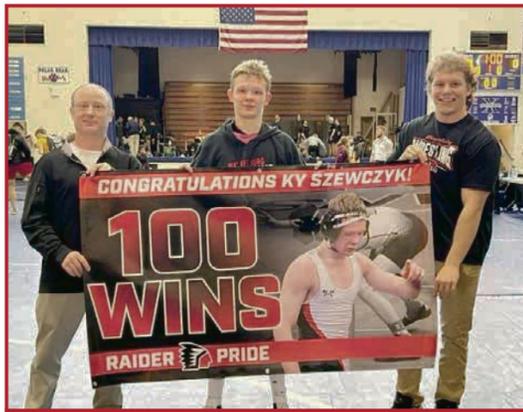
Madelyn Roberts is the daughter of Greg and Allison Roberts of Nineveh. She is a member of the Pioneers' volleyball, basketball, and softball teams. Madelyn is an active participant in the school's FFA program and was the freshman homecoming attendant.



Cole Headlee is the son of Joe and Nicole Headlee of Waynesburg. He is a freshman member of the Raiders' golf, basketball, and track and field teams. He also plays AAU Basketball for Wildcat Select. Cole is an honors student and a member of the Greene County 4-H Market Steer Club. In his free time, he likes spending time with his friends and family and playing golf with his two older brothers.



Avery Davis is the daughter of Larry and Becky Davis of Waynesburg. The junior is a member of the Raiders' golf, basketball, and softball teams. She finished 15th in the WPIAL girl's golf finals. Avery maintains high honors and works at Scotty's Pizza. She plans to attend college and major in criminal justice.



Waynesburg Central's Ky Sczewczyk joined the Raiders' 100-Win Club. Not pictured: Chase Frameli also joined the Rocket 100-Wins Club

**WEST GREENE PIONEERS NAMED TO WINTER TRICADA TEAMS**

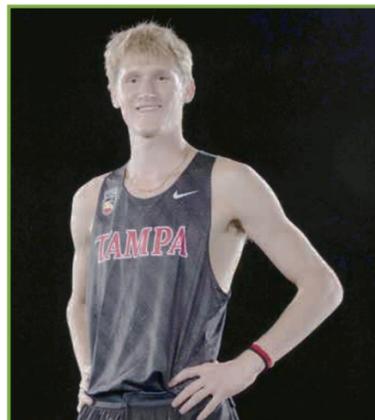
BOYS	GIRLS
<b>BASKETBALL</b>	<b>BASKETBALL</b>
Lane Allison	Kendra Tharp
Parker Burns	Kasie Meek
Patrick Durbin	Marissa
Darren Knight	Tharp
Matthew Wassil	
<b>RIFLE</b>	
JLin Scott	Mackenzie
Allexis	Whipkey
Berdine	Dylan Hughes
Kameron	
Tedrow	
<b>WRESTLING</b>	
Colin Whyte	Seth Burns
Noah Collins	



Jefferson-Morgan Announces Four-Time All-TriCADA Selections: Kayla Larkin, Chase Frameli, and Adan McAnany.



WCHS alum Drew Layton finished fourth at the PSAC Indoor Championships with a PR of 15'11.25" (4.86M)



Gabe McConville broke the University of Tampa mile record in his first Indoor meet after transferring from Seton Hill.



Waynesburg's Kaley Rohanna finished her career with 1,510 points. That places her in second place on the Raider women's all-time list behind only Tammy McIntire's (Mandich) 1,592.



Mapletown alumnae Ella Menear recently qualified for the NCAA Division I Swimming & Diving Championships at the University of Georgia. She is a freshman at the University of Alabama.

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# Eagle Scout Service Project at WCHS Renovates Track Barn

Waynesburg Central High School sophomore Duncan Barto was in kindergarten when, influenced by the older children, he decided that he wanted to participate in Boy Scouts of America. He liked what he saw in their skills and character, which included their "dedication to serving others."

Several years, 61 merit badges, and 237 hours of community service later, Duncan, age 16, has been awarded the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout.

During his acceptance speech at Troop 1280's Court of Honor ceremony held at the Greene County Fairgrounds on March 3, Duncan spoke of his desire to "leave a positive impact on the community while striving to become the best version of myself." Stating, "I couldn't have made it here alone," he thanked "family, friends, scout leaders, and everyone who encouraged me along the way." He also credited his parents, Mark and Christy, calling them the cornerstone of his success.

To obtain rank of Eagle Scout - the highest rank attainable in the BSA - a young person must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges, exhibit Scout Spirit, demonstrate leadership within their troop, and plan, develop, and lead a service project. After these requirements are met, the candidate must undergo an Eagle Scout board of review.

For Duncan's service project, he chose to make renovations to his high school's track barn, where the track team's equipment is stored. This labor-intensive undertaking included replacement of two doors, painting the exterior, re-

placing the gutter and downspout systems, and repairing a portion of the floor.

The track barn renovation is an impressive feat for a young man already actively involved in a myriad of other time-consuming scholastic activities. Duncan is a member of the marching and concert bands (bass drum), Drama Club (stage crew), Debate Team, Academic League, Student Council, Leo Club, and Engineering Club. He throws discus, javelin, and shot put for the track team, and plays on the soccer team - lettering in both sports. His mom told me that he also helps tend the family's chickens, two cats, and their Great Pyrenees, Rex. Whew!

Duncan has one sibling, a sister, Rowan, age 20, who studies mechanical engineering at WVU. Duncan, too, plans to study engineering - "I'm leaning towards either mechanical or aerospace."

To learn more about Duncan's Service Project, check out the website he developed at <https://sites.google.com/view/duncan-barto-eaglescoutproject/home>. Here you'll be able to see before-and-after photos of the track barn renovation and a list of sponsors.

Congratulations and thank you, Duncan. You are an asset to the community!



Duncan Barto's Eagle Scout Project was to restore the track barn at his school. LEFT: Duncan at his Court of Honor Ceremony.

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# BENEFIT BULL RIDING EVENT RETURNS TO WAYNESBURG

Greene County favorite is returning on April 19 & 20! Bucking B Cattle Company is bringing in Extreme Bull Riding and Barrel Racing, a benefit being held to support Angel Wings Rescue, an organization that rescues horses from various places, with the goal of placing them into a forever home through adoption.

The fundraiser was quite successful last year. The Friday evening event brought around 900 guests, and on Saturday there were over 1,000 attendees. This is the second year that the event will be held at the Greene County Fairgrounds to benefit the rescue.

Guests will see an entertaining show; there will also be other things available for the crowd. There will be food trucks—local favorites, Lexi's Lemon Aide and Sweet and Salt Popcorn—local musical performers, and even a mechanical bull if you're feeling daring—and a little lucky.

Proceeds from the event will help with the care of the animals and facilitate the placement of the horses with their future owners. Barbie McMinn runs the non-profit Angel Wings Rescue, and, when asked why she chose a horse rescue, she shared she has loved horses her entire life, and she had finally had the opportunity to be able to help them.

There are a lot of challenges with rescuing animals and the commitment is life changing, the board of directors of Angel Wing Rescue are committed to ensuring the horses they rescue are well cared for, their medical needs are met, and the animals are housed with the best possible match. The board comprises members that have had horses and those who will step in and plan events such as the upcoming Rodeo.

The horses rescued by the group come from many places. Some of the animals in her care now or previously have come from other online rescues and some from auctions. She even gained a horse that had been auctioned off from the Meadows. The

horse was unfit for racing. The horse's owner wanted to treat the animal's issues. Sadly, it wasn't possible, so he put the horse up for sale. Barbie bid on the horse and initially lost the bid. A few days after the auction, the trainer from the Meadows that had worked with the horse called her and asked if she still wanted the horse. She did, and the horse was rescued.

She rescued another horse with a broken leg. The horse, much to his previous owners' surprise, is now thriving. Barbie also shared that it is very difficult to find veterinary services for horses in Greene County.

Events like the Extreme Bull Riding and Barrel Racing raise the necessary funds so that Barbie can continue to rescue horses in need. Attending the event is a great way to support the rescue and have a night out.

So, if you are looking for something to do that second weekend in April, bring your family out to this event. The cost is \$18 for adults and \$10 for children. All will certainly have a good time!



Events like Extreme Bull Riding or Christmas in the Barn support the rescue's mission.

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# WASHINGTON HEALTH SYSTEM-UPMC AFFILIATION

## The Future of Healthcare in Washington & Greene County

Washington Health System (WHS) has proudly served Southwestern Pennsylvania for 127 years with a mission of providing Great Patient Care close to home. What began as a singular entity in 1897 for the purpose of providing healthcare services and medical training has grown into a system of more than 40 locations spanning multiple counties and employing 2,700 people across the region.

While WHS remains Washington County's largest employer and continues to invest resources to better meet the needs of local residents, the system has not been immune from the challenges many providers – particularly in rural communities – have faced in the post-pandemic landscape.

Approximately 27% of Pennsylvania's rural hospitals are at risk of closing due to growing financial pressures, according to the Pittsburgh-based Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform. Following years declining patient volumes, increased overhead costs, and government insurance reimbursement not keeping up with overall expense increases – WHS, together with the Board of Directors, decided it was time to make a change. They did so before becoming a statistic became inevitable and the ability to maintain high quality care was in jeopardy.

The Board's goal was simple and clear: make sure WHS can continue to serve local communities with the best healthcare and to be a rewarding and secure home for employees, both current and future.

Having received multiple bids from providers across the region and assessing potential partners on a multitude of criteria, keeping patients front of mind, the Board made a unanimous decision. UPMC would be WHS' partner of choice for the future.

Affiliating with UPMC – a longstanding partner already serving 10,000 WHS patients through various clinical joint ventures – advances the shared goal of delivering the highest quality of healthcare to regional residents. This affiliation will be good for patients, ensuring local access to care and maintaining current services. It will be good for employees, sustaining current jobs while offering world-class benefits to attract new talent and opportunities. And it will be good for communities, ensuring that WHS can continue to provide long-term exceptional care today and well into the future.

As part of the affiliation agreement, UPMC has made several commitments for at least 10 years. This includes maintaining Washington Hospital as an acute care general hospital along with its key services, maintaining core services such as emergency care, diagnostic, ambulatory, and primary care in Greene County, and investing a minimum of \$300 million in capital in WHS. The Washington Hospital Foundation will be funded with \$40 million as of the closing of the transaction, which will be used exclusively to support programs in the Washington and Greene communities.

This is all while expanding services and



A community meeting was held to discuss the merger.

ensuring delivery of the highest quality of healthcare to regional residents.

While the regulatory approval process of the affiliation is still ongoing, WHS is hopeful it will be completed as soon as possible. WHS employees, public officials, members of the building trades, and UPMC personnel voiced their overwhelming support for the affiliation at a public hearing held by the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General in January. As described, time is of the essence – as each month goes by without the affiliation, the

current WHS system is placed in further financial strain.

“Our affiliation with UPMC will ensure that when you – our patients and community partners – need us, we'll be there for you. Just as we are now,” Brook Ward, President & CEO of Washington Health System wrote in an op-ed.

“We believe the Washington and Greene communities deserve world-class health care. We're taking action to keep that mission, now and for many years to come.”

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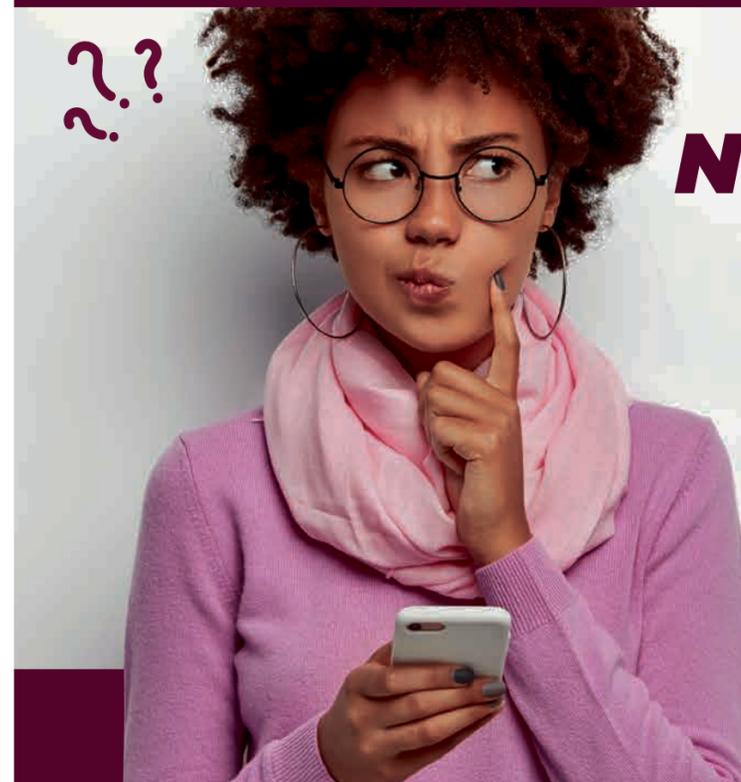
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# CORNERSTONE CARE INTRODUCES INTERACTIVE PATIENT GUIDE

## New Webpage Offers Educational Resources for Community

Cornerstone Care has launched a new online resource for patient education to encourage individuals of all age groups to prioritize their health by routinely engaging in wellness checkups, screenings and vaccinations.

Cornerstone's dedication to providing accessible healthcare information reaches beyond patient affiliations to benefit the wider community. Through this new public webpage, Cornerstone Care provides resources for all age groups. This interactive platform allows all members of the public an opportunity to navigate and review recommended vaccines and screenings based on their age and gender. It also features a comprehensive checklist outlining what pediatricians or primary care physicians should address at routine visits.

"Maintaining a consistent schedule of screenings is essential, regardless of age," said Dr. Julie Orlosky, a family physician at Cornerstone. "By sharing this interactive resource, we hope to educate members of the community about the screenings and vaccines recommended for their age groups and encourage them to make health a priority."

Cornerstone Care's new patient resource encourages a healthy lifestyle by emphasizing the importance of staying current with yearly checkups. This initiative is mending the gap left by the challenges of COVID-19 when routine visits were neglected.

- According to the National Institute

of Health, due to the restrictions on access to health services, including visits to the family doctor, screening tests and visits to specialists, cancer patients are diagnosed at more advanced stages. The National Cancer Institute predicted an additional 10,000 deaths over 10 years in the United States from breast and colorectal cancers due to reduced access to cancer diagnosis and treatment in the early months of the pandemic.

- According to the American College of Physicians, more than one-third of adults ages 18-64 years in the United States delayed or went without medical care because of efforts by patients or providers to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Among the adults who postponed or missed care, 32.6% said the gap worsened one or more health conditions or limited their ability to work or perform daily activities.
- The Vaccine Alliance stated that cancer and TB screening/detection and HIV testing were the most affected services, experiencing a 26-96% decline, depending on the country. Breast cancer screening was particularly affected.

"As a pediatrician, emphasizing the significance of preventive care and devel-



opmental screenings for children is paramount," stressed Dr. Max Chen. "Working at an FQHC gives us a unique perspective into the need for universal healthcare. At Cornerstone, we prioritize access to immunizations and provide vital support for mental health patients. While always crucial, the need for continued care for pediatric patients has become even more essential in the post-COVID-19 landscape."

For more information on this resource, please visit Cornerstone Care's website.

**About Cornerstone Care**  
Cornerstone Care, a Community Health Center, provides family practice and pediatric medicine, psychiatry, family and individual counseling, general dentistry, vision services, help with insurance enrollment, and other services to over 22,000 patients at 15 locations throughout the region and through a mobile services unit. Patients are accepted regardless of ability to pay or insurance status. Cornerstone Care has been recognized as the Best of the Best by the Observer-Reporter for five years. For more information visit the website at [www.CornerstoneCare.com](http://www.CornerstoneCare.com).

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## CENTERVILLE CLINICS Black Lung Program

Black Lung disease results from inhaling coal dust over a long period of time. The symptoms, including difficulty in breathing, coughing, and black mucus, may not appear immediately. Black Lung can lead to complications like tuberculosis, COPD, and lung cancer.

While there is no cure presently for the damage to the lungs done by coal dust and other occupational exposures, there are steps that can be taken to slow down the progression of lung disease, help a patient manage their symptoms, and improve quality of life.

The Centerville Clinics Black Lung Program is a one-stop clinic for the evaluation, testing, and treatment of patients with respiratory disease and lung-related issues. While special attention is paid to retired and active miners, workers near coke plants or foundries can be exposed to dust.

You do not have to be a patient at Centerville Clinics to be seen at the Clinics' Black Lung Program. Centerville Clinics participates in most insurance programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, UPMC and Highmark. Centerville Clinics provides medical care regardless of a person's ability to pay.

The program dates to 1976, when Centerville Clinics was awarded a Pennsylvania Coal Workers' Respiratory Disease grant. Connie Crow is the Black Lung Program

Supervisor. Dr. Daniel Holt, medical director for Centerville Clinics, oversees the testing and treatment programs.

Both of them agree that having all testing and reviews done in-house at one location rather than having to go to different providers is a big "plus."

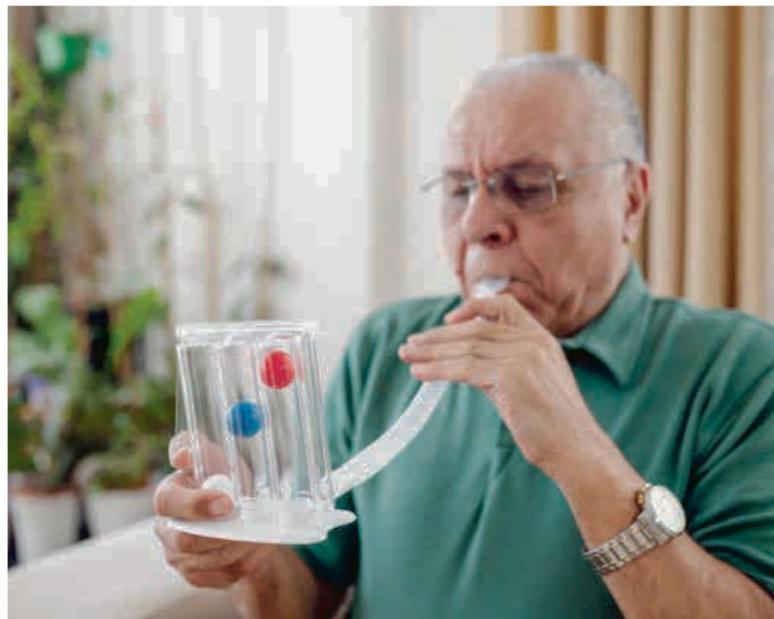
Certified by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) as a certified Spirometry and chest x-ray testing site, the Centerville Clinics Black Lung Program stresses testing, evaluation, individualized treatment plans, and follow-up.

Tests include a Breathing Test, a Spirometry pulmonary function test that measures the amount and/or speed of air that can be inhaled and exhaled, a Pulse Oximetry test that measures a person's blood oxygen saturation, a B-reader chest x-ray, an electrocardiogram, and blood work. A B-reader is a doctor certified by NIOSH as qualified to determine if a patient has signs of Black Lung by examining x-rays.

A patient also will have a physical exam to determine their pulmonary status.

Based on test results, an education and treatment plan is developed that focuses on the individual patient's condition.

Dr. Holt said a treatment plan may include medications, breathing treatments, use of nebulizers or inhalers, and pulmonary exercises that teach patients how to



breathe better and stay active.

Each patient in the Black Lung Program is tested annually and seen regularly so that changes in their treatment program can be made as needed.

The Centerville Clinics Black Lung Program works closely with the U.S. Department of Labor and offers assistance with the Federal Black Lung Claim process. Crow said, "We will also provide a referral to an attorney if you need legal help in pursuing your claim."

The Centerville Clinics Black Lung

Program is offered at both Carmichaels Clinic (601 West George Street, Carmichaels) and the Joseph A. Yablonski Memorial Clinic (1070 Old National Pike, Fredericktown).

For more information on the Centerville Clinics Black Lung Program and other programs at the Clinics, visit [centerville-clinics.com](http://centerville-clinics.com). To schedule a convenient appointment, including same-day appointments, call 724-632-6801, extension 1216.



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**April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and the children of Greene County deserve the extra layer of protection and support that Growing Up Greene provides.** The blue pinwheels across the lawn of the Greene County Courthouse represent the children who received child-welfare services last year. Let them be a reminder that we all have more work to do.

**Growing Up Greene** is committed to protecting Greene County's most important resource: its children. Our volunteers are continuing to advocate for children in the child-welfare system. The Children's Emergency Overnight Housing project offers a safe alternative to temporary hotel placement. Our Iron Senergy Children's Winter Gear Distribution has now outfitted over 820 children in the last four years. With help from CONSOL, our Pup Program was recently launched with Greene County's new child therapy dog, COALBIE. Our Foster Care Comfort Bags are packed and ready to be distributed to local children when they are needed. COALBIE: A Foster Care Story has been published and is being distributed to foster kids that need a friend who knows what they are going through.

**Please join Growing Up Greene at our fourth annual Greene County Dodgeball Tournament on April 27th at the EQT REC Center.** Previous champions include the Central Greene Raiders, the Bowman Contracting Sitting Ducks, and the KSWs from KSW Oilfield Rentals. This year, two dozen local teams, made up of your Greene County friends and family, will battle to take the COALBIE CUP home. Enter for your chance to win amazing raffles, an awesome door prize, and the big 50/50 drawing. We can do so much more when we all work together.




# WVU CANCER INSTITUTE Early Detection Saves Lives

As of 2024, one in every eight women develops breast cancer. The words “you have cancer” are often ones of heartbreak and discouragement, but with the implementation of frequent mammograms and other early detection practices, breast cancer has become far more treatable in the long run.

Dr. Jessica Partin, a breast surgeon at the WVU Cancer Institute, explains that anyone, regardless of their family medical history or healthy lifestyle, can develop breast cancer. However, the disease is very treatable at early stages. The greatest challenge associated with breast cancer, she says, is catching it early.

“Maintaining health is time consuming,” Dr. Partin acknowledges, and sometimes patients in advanced stages have neglected their own health due to caring for another family member. Fear of what may be found also keeps many patients from scheduling routine screenings. “It’s a challenge to trust in the system,” she says, especially when a patient’s experiences differ from what is expected based on what their family and friends may have shared. Dr. Partin explains that there are different types of breast cancer, and subsequently, different treatment pathways to address a patient’s individual needs.

Dr. Partin and the rest of the WVU Cancer Institute team are fighting for greater access to care in more convenient and personalized ways, such as expanding the network into our local counties to better support both patients and providers. The system is building a more “streamlined approach,” as Dr. Partin explains – one that will lessen the travel burden for office visits and implement teleconferences between regular visits with providers.

“There is an overwhelming need to feel empowered,” Dr. Partin says, and patients recently diagnosed are encouraged to involve a support team of family and friends in their journey. “We all work together.”

And this team mentality certainly rings true for former State Representative Pam Snyder, who recently underwent the radiation process for breast cancer herself.

Pam shares that she has always been diligent with her healthcare, and especially mammograms. Three years ago, doctors spotted a small cyst, but all tests were clear. However, in October of 2023, Pam was called to get a sonogram and biopsy. Soon after Thanksgiving, she received the news that she had developed a malignant tumor – in other words, cancer.

“I had no idea what I was facing,” she remembers. Pam underwent a successful surgery on December 13, which was later followed by a four-week period of radiation at WVU Medicine Uniontown Hospital, which she recently completed.

“All they kept saying was ‘Good job, Pam.’ I struggled to go public until I knew exactly what I was facing. It was a very emotional process. And it is a process,” she explains. Great patience was required between each new test and discovery. “Everything is a two-week wait.”

However, at the prompting of her family, Pam decided to share her journey to encourage others facing similar situations and empower them to become more diligent about

their own healthcare. “I am so blessed that everything went so positively,” she says. “It took a lot of strength to hit that post button. And I’m so glad I did.”



ABOVE: Pam Snyder celebrates her last day of radiation by ringing the bell. RIGHT: Dr. Jessica Partin.



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## CLAY-BATTELLE HEALTH SERVICES ASSOCIATION'S More Than 50 Year Commitment to Dental Health

Located in Blacksville, West Virginia and serving the communities of Northern West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania, Clay-Battelle Health Services Association (CBHSA) has provided dental services for more than 50 years. The healthcare provider has remained dedicated to its mission to provide high-quality medical, behavioral health, and dental services to our communities, regardless of one's ability to pay.

### Why Dental Health Matters

Dental health is not just about maintaining a perfect smile; it is a foundation for overall health and well-being. The mouth serves as a gateway to the body, therefore, poor dental health can bring about extensive consequences, from gum disease to systemic issues such as heart disease or diabetes. A healthy smile is not just aesthetically pleasing; it is a reflection of an individual's overall health and wellness.

### Taking Charge of Your Dental Health

Proper dental care begins with individual responsibility, at home. Routine brushing, flossing, and dental check-ups allow patients to practice good oral hygiene and health. Education plays a crucial role too! Understanding the importance of oral hygiene and adopting good habits early can prevent a variety of dental issues later on.

### Clay-Battelle's Blacksville Dental Program

The CBHSA Dental Program allows patients to access high-quality dental healthcare services. These services range from routine exams and cleanings to restorative work including root canal therapy. The program is designed to serve the diverse dental needs of its pa-

tients. In fact, the organization goes above and beyond to ensure affordability, accessibility, and inclusivity by accepting uninsured, insured, and Medicaid patients for services alike. The application of a Sliding Fee Scale aids in easing financial strain, making certain that no patient is denied access to essential dental healthcare due to financial limitations.

Clay-Battelle Health Services Association's commitment to accessibility extends beyond financial aspects. Convenience is key, which is why CBHSA offers evening hours, available to accommodate busy schedules. The Blacksville facility is handicap accessible with plenty of parking so that all patients can access the care they need without issue. For uninsured patients experiencing transportation challenges, CBHSA offers Mileage Reimbursement—a testament to its unwavering commitment to community health and wellness.

Clay-Battelle Health Services Association's Dental Program is not just a dental office—it is an important place of care for the community. The dental office is located on the second floor of the facility, with a ground-level entrance located in the rear parking lot.

**About Clay-Battelle Health Services Association**  
Since 1973, the Clay-Battelle Health Services Association has served the communities of northern West Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania through two facilities located in Blacksville and Burton, WV.

Dental services and pharmaceutical services are offered at the Blacksville location, while medical and behavioral health services are offered at both locations.

To contact Clay-Battelle Health Services Association, please call (304) 432-8211.



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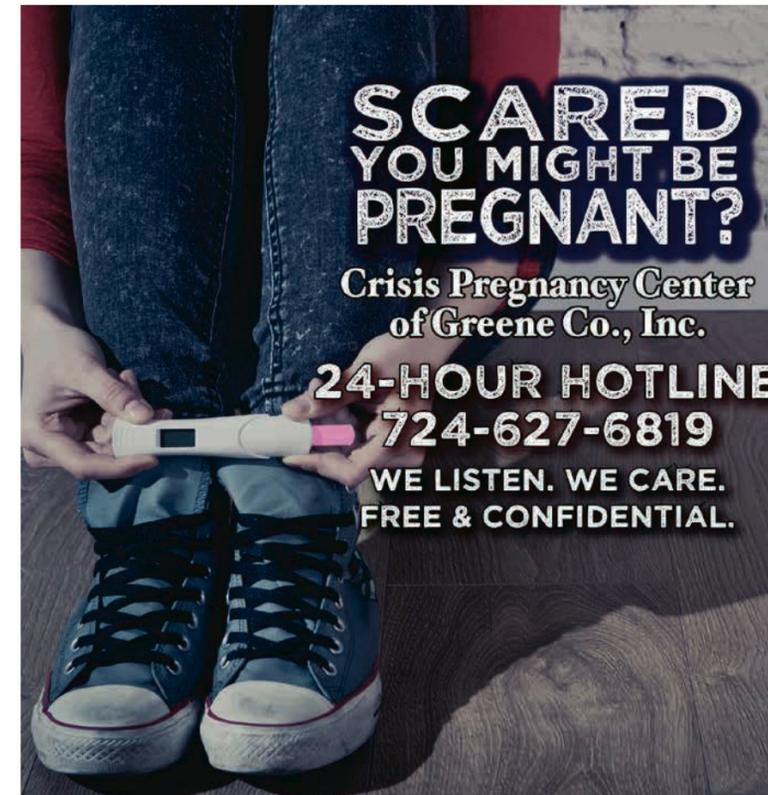
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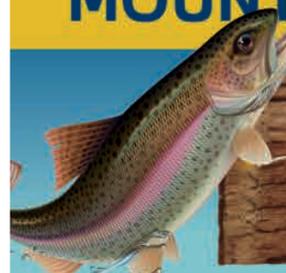
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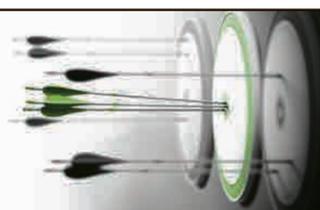


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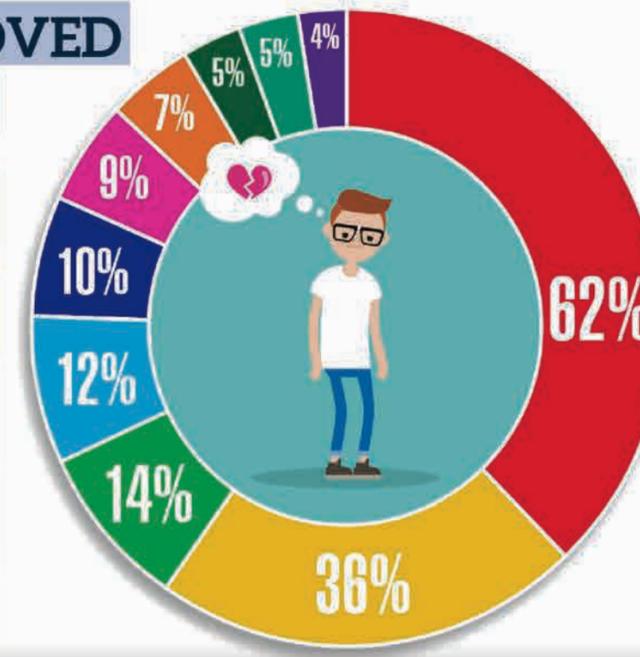
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# 100 Years & Counting

By Colleen Nelson

It was the day before Edna “I go by my middle name Lucille” Tharp’s 100th birthday and the kitchen of her home on Easy St. in Waynesburg was filled with family. Some gathered around her, hands busy turning fruit and croissants into kabobs and sandwiches for the many visitors who would drop by on February 24.

“I’m a blessed person,” the diminutive, soon-to-be-centurion declared with a smile, from her place at the head of the table. “Two, 24, 24! That’s when I was born.” Her memories are the stuff of family legend and her ability to recall the many small details of living through nine decades and counting is remarkable. Surrounded in the kitchen by daughters, granddaughters, and son Stephen (in from Ohio for the occasion), her story of a life well lived got told as the fruit kabobs got made.

If there are three things the whole family credits for giving their mom a long life, it would be hard work, (She never sat down, and you never told her you were bored!) a family that never quarreled... and cloves.

“She always said cloves made her live this long!” daughter Patricia “I go by my middle name Joan!” Brown said. She and husband Gary live next door and there’s always a family member or two here to keep Lucille comfortable and entertained in every way. “Mom is amazing! Every morning she wakes up singing a hymn. She can’t get out to church any more [at Rolling Meadows Church of God], but Pastor Berkey keeps an eye on her. She’s a wonderful cook - used to bake nine loaves of bread a week when we lived on the farm in Sycamore. At church they used to ask, ‘Is Sister Tharp going to make her chocolate cake?’”

Lucille beamed and nodded. “I’ve always gone to church. The day I lose my song, I’ll be gone.”

Memories came with laughter and prompts from the family and some adjusting of hearing aids.

“I was born in Wanna, West Virginia, but my mother came back to Greene County when I was an infant,” Lucille recalled. “My cousin carried me to my new home.”

The Edgar farm was a few miles up the road from Brave. She grew up surrounded by aunts, uncles, and Emma Jane Edgar - a grandmother she adored. “My grandmother smelled like cloves, and I loved it. I always had a clove tucked in my lip!”

As to the hard work: “I lived through the depression. I loved school. I dearly loved to read.” A little frown now. “In

eighth grade, I was the highest in the township, but I had to quit school and help out.”

Helping meant going with her mother and aunts to clean houses and care for those in need in their homes. Helping meant learning to sew and becoming “a seamstress for the whole family. I was a good one.”

As to marriage—an impish grin. “My mom said I had to be 18 when I got married, but I got married [to Kenneth Walter Tharp, 1917-2005] on February 6, 1942, and my 18th birthday was February 24.”

It was the war years, and the new couple would spend their first year in “a little house in Khuntown. You used everything. The government sent us materials to make our own mattresses. I had to fluff that cotton and it went up my nose, but it was a good mattress. It lasted for years.”

The Tharps moved when Kenneth got a job at Moore’s Bakery in Waynesburg and the family grew. Connie, now deceased, was born in 1943, Joan in 1945, Stephen in 1952, Loretta in 1953, Wanda in 1955, and Glenda in 1959. These were the years the children remember best, growing up on their parent’s 40-acre farm near Sycamore and going to Margaret Bell High School, where the scent of bread baking at Moore’s Bakery next door filled the air.

It was a working farm that fed a large family. “I milked my first cow there,” Lucille declared. “She was as big as a mountain!”

That’s where the nine loaves a week were baked, butter was churned, gardens were tended, and Lucille made the clothes for the family.

Kenneth’s job disappeared when Moore’s Bakery closed in 1967, but brother “Red” Tharp got him a job and the family moved to New Salem, Ohio.

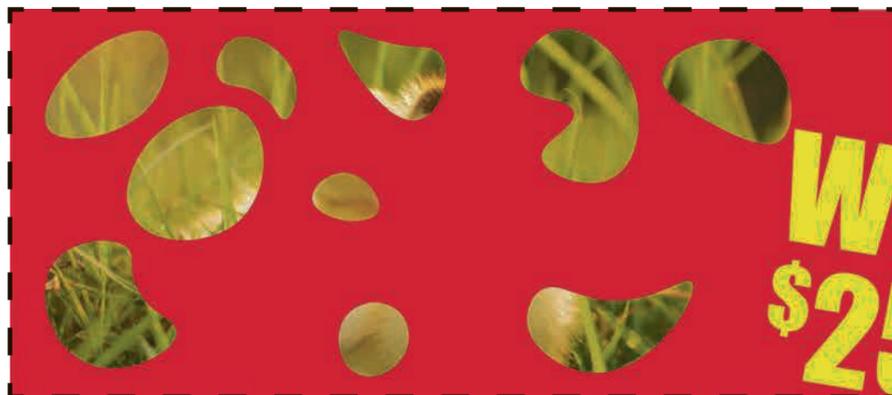
When Kenneth retired in the late 1990s, the Tharps returned to Waynesburg and rented a home. Later, Kenneth moved to Rolling Meadows Nursing Home and Lucille to Thompson Gardens. A family photo shows her and Kenneth renewing their vows at Rolling Meadows, along with several



other couples. When Kenneth died in 2005, Lucille kept up her never-sit-down pace for the next decade or so until failing eyesight and hearing loss started slowing her down, Joan said.

I’ve returned a week after the big birthday party for the perfect photo of Lucille, wearing her birthday party dress, surrounded by balloons, and holding her birthday card covered with well wishes. Her face is one big smile.

Surrounded by a loving family and still singing every morning, Edna Lucille Conaway Tharp is 100 years old and cheerfully counting.



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# A GOLDEN CELEBRATION

## Celebrating 44 Years Sobriety By Helping Others

As a young boy, George “Bly” Blystone watched his father struggle in the grip of alcoholism. Witnessing drink after drink, Bly’s fear of alcohol grew, and he vowed to never let drinking control him. But within a year of his twenty-first birthday, he was walking down that very road.

“I guess it’s in the genetics,” Bly says of his adopted practices. Although never physically harming anyone, “I was a happy drunk, but I hurt my family emotionally.” Bly didn’t realize what was happening to his life, and even ignored major warning signs— including the loss of his father from alcohol-related conditions. “Dad died at 55, and I still didn’t get it. Drinking cans, I wasn’t an alcoholic. Dad drank bottles.” At least, that’s what he told himself.

Eventually, Bly was confronted by reality— alcohol was robbing him of a good life and would soon rob him of life entirely if a change was not made. He was advised to get help, so he became involved with the Care Center, which provides drug and alcohol counseling services, and is still in existence today, now located at 35 South West Street in Waynesburg. The Care Center then recommended a 28-day program at Gateway Rehab in Aliquippa, PA. “Halfway through, I realized I had a problem,” he explains. Surrender was key for Bly and became the pivotal point in fueling his desire to improve his life.

But the rehab journey didn’t end there. Bly reconnected with the Care Center for continued support and rehabilitation and went on to take a maintenance position at the Greene County Memorial Hospital, simultaneously participating in Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at the hospital. The support Bly received here carried him through the long road of recovery. Finally, alcoholism was seen as a disability, and the right help for breaking the cycle became available. The 16 years Bly dedicated to work at the hospital proved to not only benefit him, but others, providing an avenue to pass the blessings he received on to those around him, and kick-start his reputation as a community servant and an active supporter to many in their personal sobriety journeys. “It was a good job, but it helped me help others,” he states. “I was here, I was well, and I could help!”

Keeping his own story anonymous never felt like an option for Bly. “People like people,” he says; every person has a unique story with unique needs. Sharing his own struggle is Bly’s tool to uplift and inspire those around him, so he began hosting Alcoholics Anonymous meetings of his own, first at the hospital, and then nearby at St. George’s Church in

Waynesburg. All the while, he continued to improve.

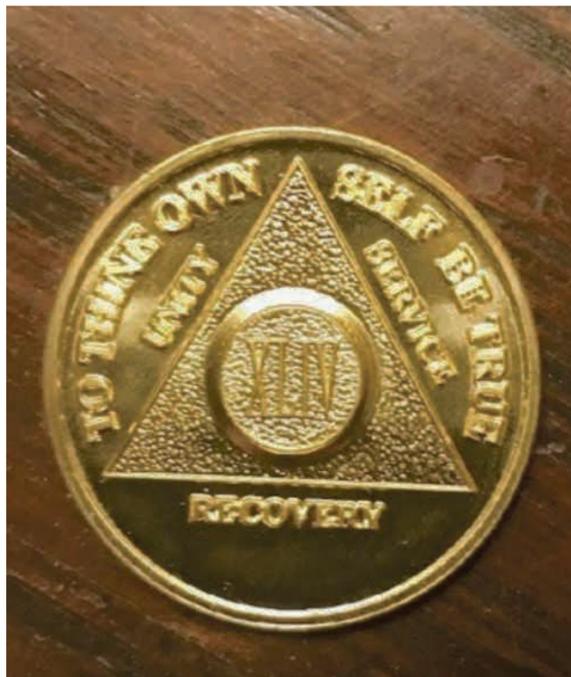
Sadly, his hospital position was downsized, and Bly took some small jobs before transitioning to Fox Ford Dealership in Waynesburg. He would spend 11 years there before retiring. Toward the end of his time at Fox Ford, Bly spent six months working for Greenbrier, now known as Gateway, another rehab program through the hospital to help individuals regain their lives.

Retirement, however, was only the beginning of Bly’s true career. Realizing that those struggling with alcohol abuse needed an outlet for relationships and support, Bly partnered with other like-minded individuals to create Steps Inside, a recovery clubhouse, which still operates today. Steps Inside is located at 1790 Morris Street in Waynesburg and holds meetings every day but Tuesday. Eventually, this group branched out to create Community Recovery, a system of halfway houses for both men and women. Unfortunately, all the residents were not able to secure jobs to contribute to the cost of the facilities, and the houses were forced to close. Despite this disappointment, Community Recovery did aid many in their own recovery journeys, with Bly’s experiences helping to provide this opportunity. The current goal is to gain enough funds to start new three-quarter or halfway houses in the Greene County area, since there are none accessible to the local community. Bly also became active with Drug Court, helping alcoholics and drug addicts stay out of jail and find housing placements through Human Services.

Bly celebrates his own sobriety by helping others do the same. Taking advantage of each of the groups available to him allowed Bly to build a network of lifelong friends, many of whom are still in daily contact. “People call every day to check in or just keep

By Emma Bates

themselves going,” he says. “You have to understand that the AA program is a way of living.” Alcoholics Anonymous celebrates every year of a participant’s sobriety by awarding an anniversary coin. It is from this program that Bly recently received his gold coin for 44 years of sobriety at a celebratory dinner. But it isn’t just the coin that is golden, but the new life he has built by being constantly encouraged by those around him and doing the same for others. “I just love what I am doing— I love to be alive!”



Bly’s AA Medallion for 44 years sober.

For more information, connect with Bly at 724-710-4898.

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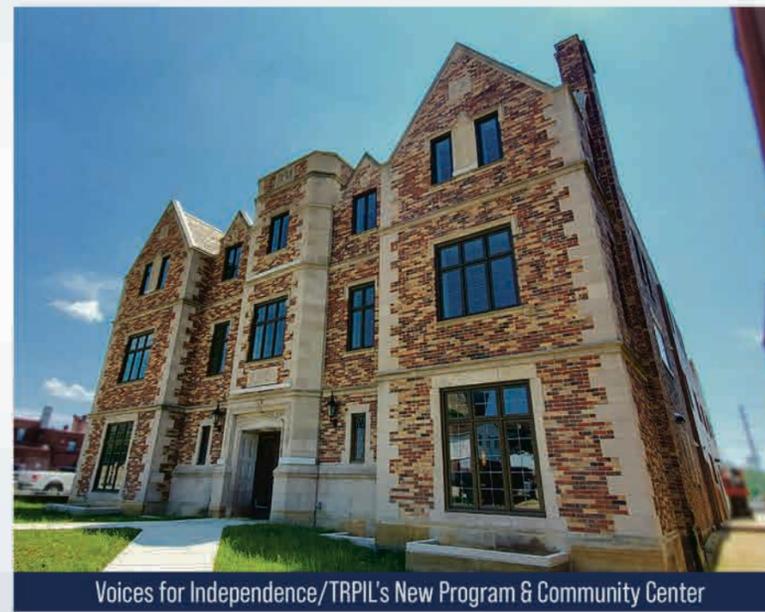
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