

Greene Scene

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

A DIRECT RESULTS
COMPANY



MAY 2025

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GREENE COUNTY LAUNCHES COMPREHENSIVE RESOURCE BOOKLET FOR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY

By Pamela Marisa

Families across Greene County are receiving a valuable new guide designed to connect them with essential services, support, and opportunities. The Greene County Family & Community Resource Booklet has officially been mailed to households.

Developed to serve as a go-to reference for families and individuals alike, the booklet compiles vital information about the many programs and organizations working to support the well-being of the Greene County community.

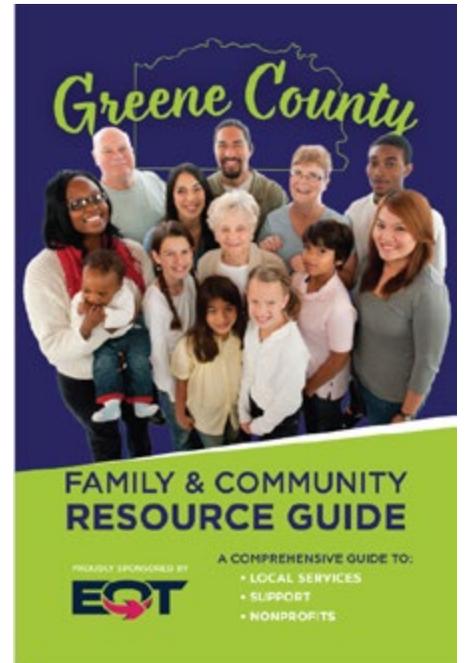
Inside the booklet, readers will find:

- **Available Services:** A comprehensive overview of local programs offering family care, medical services, educational pathways, job training, housing assistance, and more.
- **Support Resources:** Contact details for mental health providers, addiction recovery services, financial assistance programs, and local support groups.
- **Nonprofit Highlights:** Profiles of nonprofits dedicated to uplifting the community through volunteerism, advocacy, and specialized outreach programs.

“This project aims to foster stronger connections between residents and the services that can make a real difference in their lives,” said Michael Holloway, Administrator of the Greene County Family Center. “We want every family in Greene County to feel supported and know where to turn when they need help.”

Beyond just a list of resources, the booklet reflects the community’s commitment to collaboration and care. It includes information on evidence-based parenting programs, after-school opportunities, wellness initiatives, and community-building events.

“As you explore this resource booklet, you’ll discover the many programs, services, and opportunities designed with your family’s



well-being in mind,” Holloway added. “From parenting support to community-driven activities, we are here to support and empower you every step of the way. Thank you for allowing us to be part of your journey. Together, we can continue to foster a thriving and united community.”

With this new resource in hand, Greene County continues to build on its promise to create a stronger, healthier, and more connected place for all who call it home.

For more information, residents can visit the Greene County Family Center’s website www.greencountypa.gov/Department-Family-Center-and-resources or contact their office directly at 724-852-5368

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CFGFC ANNOUNCES OVER \$130,000 IN DONATIONS TO SUPPORT WEEKEND BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

The Community Foundation of Greene County (CFGFC) received multiple donations from individuals, businesses and foundations to assist K-12 students in all Greene County schools.

In addition to a few anonymous individual donors, the following organizations participated: Waynesburg Lions Club, A.C.T.S. of Greene County, First Federal Savings and Loan Association, Community Bank, Greene County Association of School Retirees, FirstEnergy Foundation, Consol Cares Foundation, EQT Foundation, Essential Foundation (Peoples Gas), NiSource Foundation (Columbia Gas), DT Midstream, the William and Shirley Hanley Weekend Backpack Food Fund, and Waynesburg University Bonner Scholars.

CFGFC has been involved with the Weekend Backpack Food Program since the early 2010s. The program provides a bag of non-perishable food for school-aged children in need at each of the five Greene County school districts and the Greene County Career and Technology Center.

Jim Elsenheimer, the Food Service Director for West Greene School District has been involved for the

past 12 years. “We do the best we can do to help people,” Elsenheimer said. “Child hunger is rampant in this country and the food programs are one way to address that. It’s great to know that we live in a county where businesses, churches, and the people know they need to help one another.”

West Greene has started a pantry program, which is something that Elsenheimer hopes other schools will implement. “We realize that food insecurity issues don’t end when kids go from elementary to junior high. We established a pantry program to help those older students that may have food insecurity issues at home. I would encourage other schools to do that as well.”

To learn more about the Weekend Backpack Food Program, or how to make a potential tax-exempt gift to the program, contact the Community Foundation by phone at 724-627-2010, email at cfgcpa@gmail.com or go to www.cfgcpa.org.

The Community Foundation of Greene County is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and a central philanthropic vehicle in the county for donations of various types and sizes.



Myleen McCollum and Colleen Valosen presented Community Foundation Director Dave Calvario with a donation for the Weekend Backpack Program on behalf of the Greene County Association of School Retirees.

TOWNE SQUARE



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

By Bret Moore

To answer Shakespeare's famous rhetorical question posed by Juliet.... plenty. In today's environment, people are more anxious than ever to hang a label on someone and categorize them accordingly. These names are often used to hurt or marginalize others. Although, sometimes they are used without malice of any kind. In other words, when it comes to language, things can be complicated – and I ain't talking about grammar.

Language is a dynamic and ever-evolving system, continuously adapting to societal norms, cultural shifts, and historical changes. One particularly fascinating linguistic phenomenon that illustrates this adaptability is the “euphemism treadmill,” a term coined by cognitive scientist Steven Pinker.

This concept describes the cyclical process by which euphemisms, originally introduced to soften unpleasant, offensive, or sensitive terms, gradually acquire the same negative connotations as the words they replaced, necessitating the invention of new euphemisms. Unfortunately, in recent years, this topic has been hijacked by both sides of the political spectrum and used to sow division and cast aspersions. However, this article explores the euphemism treadmill purely from a linguistic perspective.

At its core, the euphemism treadmill operates due to semantic changes, a process in which the meaning of words shifts over time. This shift occurs through a mechanism called “pejoration,” where a neutral or positive word takes on a negative connotation. This phenomenon is driven by factors such as social stigma, cultural attitudes, and the psychological association between words and the people or things to which they refer.

The treadmill functions as follows:

1. Initial Taboo or Stigma: A term referring to a socially sensitive or stigmatized concept becomes unacceptable or offensive.

2. Euphemistic Substitution: A new term is introduced to replace the offensive one, often through metaphorical or indirect language.

3. Semantic Contamination: Over time, the new euphemism becomes associated with the same negative connotations as the original term.

4. Replacement and Cycle Continuation: The contaminated euphemism is abandoned in favor of a new, more socially acceptable term, and the cycle begins again.

This continuous process highlights how language has been shaped by social attitudes and how speakers

usually seek ways to align their language with prevailing cultural norms. However, today the exact opposite can occur when individuals are worried about being labeled “woke.” Conversely, individuals who have good intentions of protecting the feelings and dignity of a specific group can jump to negative conclusions about anyone who doesn't get on the treadmill quickly enough.

To illustrate my point, allow me to list some examples of the euphemism treadmill:

The term “cripple,” once a neutral description of a person with physical disabilities (think of Dickens' character Tiny Tim), became stigmatized and was replaced by “handicapped.” Eventually, “handicapped” took on negative connotations and was replaced by “disabled.” Finally, “disabled” has more recently been replaced by terms such as “differently-abled” to avoid perceived negativity.

Terms for racial and ethnic groups frequently change as societal attitudes evolve. For instance, “negro,” once a standard term in the 19th and early 20th centuries, was replaced by “colored,” then “black,” and later “African American” in the U.S. Similar changes occurred with terms like “Indian” being replaced by “Native American” then “indigenous peoples.” The shift in terminology often reflects efforts to promote respect, dignity, and cultural identity, but the treadmill effect means that even newer terms are eventually viewed as outdated or problematic.

In addition, many job titles have undergone euphemistic changes to avoid negative connotations. For example, “janitor” became “custodian,” and “garbage collector” turned into “sanitation worker.” These shifts often aim to elevate the perceived status of the occupation, though they may also succumb to the treadmill as the new terms become associated with the original job.

While these substitutions may initially seem more polite or socially acceptable, they will eventually acquire the same connotations over time, prompting further lexical gymnastics.

The euphemism treadmill underscores the deep connection between language and social perception.

However, words do not inherently carry negative connotations; rather, society assigns meaning to them. As long as the underlying concept remains stigmatized, any term associated with it will eventually take on that stigma. This demonstrates how language change is not merely about words but about shifting societal attitudes.

Ultimately, political correctness plays a crucial role in the euphemism treadmill. Well-intentioned efforts to promote inclusive and respectful language usually drive euphemistic substitutions. While some view this as a positive step toward social progress, others criticize it as an endless cycle that does not address underlying biases.

The treadmill also relates to the hypothesis, which suggests that language influences thought. By continually replacing stigmatized terms, society attempts to reshape perceptions and attitudes. As long as social attitudes evolve, the euphemism treadmill is likely to persist.

However, with a greater understanding of the euphemism treadmill, society may become more strategic in how it approaches language change, focusing on reducing stigma rather than constantly replacing terminology. Efforts to create more neutral and focused terms may slow the treadmill effect by emphasizing individual identity over stigmatized labels.

While euphemisms can serve as temporary solutions to linguistic stigma, they do not address the root causes of social attitudes. Understanding this phenomenon from a linguistic perspective allows for a more nuanced approach to language evolution, one that considers not just the words we use, but the cultural forces that shape their meaning.

The GreeneScene welcomes its readers to share their opinions on civic, economic, or cultural issues in Town Square Thoughts. All submissions must be respectful and constructive points of view aimed at improving our area. Please send Thoughts to bret@directresults.us *We reserve the right to edit submissions for grammar, length and clarity.*

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Executive Insights

with Ben McMillen

“Buying local.” You’ve heard it a thousand times. It’s a phrase tossed around in campaigns, posted in storefronts, and shared across social media. And yet, somewhere along the way, the message has lost its edge. It’s become background noise—well-intentioned, but easy to tune out.

But maybe we’ve been focusing on the wrong reasons.

Yes, shopping local supports the economy. Yes, it keeps money circulating in the community. But here’s the truth no one talks about: **shopping local adds value to your life.**

In the day-to-day grind—commuting, working, returning home—the rhythm of routine becomes a blur. Life begins to feel like an endless loop. What if breaking that loop could be as simple as where you choose to spend your money?

When you walk into a local shop, you’re stepping into someone’s passion. You’re not just another transaction. You’re part of an experience that can’t be replicated by a big box store or an online cart. Local businesses reflect the heart of your community. They offer something different—authenticity, connection, and often, a little bit of surprise.

Will it cost more? Sometimes, but not al-

ways. Will it be perfect every time? Probably not. But what you will often find is a shop owner who genuinely cares. Someone who remembers your name, your preferences, and who will go above and beyond to make things right if something goes wrong.

That’s not just customer service—it’s human connection. It’s being seen.

Big chains often prioritize efficiency and profit. They’re designed to be the same everywhere, to minimize variance, and maximize returns. Local businesses, on the other hand, are built on personality and personal investment. They evolve with their customers. They listen. They try harder.

So next time you find yourself stuck in the daily rhythm, consider shaking things up. Wander into that small bookstore you always pass by. Grab coffee at the corner café instead of the drive-thru. Browse a local boutique for a gift instead of clicking “Buy Now.”

It’s not just about where your money goes—it’s about what you get in return. Real people. Real stories. Real experiences.

Life’s too short to keep living on repeat. Shop local. Not just for the economy—for yourself.



Then & NOW

A special thank you to Ben McMillen for providing the photos.

The First National Bank Building on High Street in Waynesburg was originally Citizens National Bank. The structure was designed in 1922 by the prominent New York City architectural firm Dennison and Hiron. The Beaux-Arts style was very popular in the early 20th century. When the construction contract was published, the cost was listed at \$275,000, which is over 5 million dollars in today’s money.



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SCOTTISH HIGHLAND CATTLE CAPTURE LOCAL HEARTS

By Emma Bates



Fuzzy friends share a peaceful moment on the farm (Samantha Lemley photography, courtesy of Lauren Weaver).

Check out any home decor aisle or craft store and you'll probably find yourself face to face with a fluffy, bovine friend. Scottish Highland Cattle have become all the rage in recent popular culture, but some people in the breed's tight knit community have recognized the simple grander of these beautiful creatures all along.

Father-son farming duo William and Sean Hilverding have been involved in the cattle world for most of their lives. William, a first-generation cattle farmer, fell in love with the lifestyle years ago. He passed the joys of farming along to Sean, and the two are now joint owners of Highland Acres Cattle in Spraggs. The farm was established in 2009 as a family effort with one bull and six cows and has expanded into today's operation of 60-70 cows annually.

"It started as a hobby [to have] self-sustained beef personally and sell halves and wholes to a few locals," Sean says.

The farm gained popularity, as did the specific breed of cattle, and in 2023, Sean took on more of the farm duties.

"People really like them," William says of the Highland Cattle. "They're a docile breed, and the only breed that's never been genetically altered since the 1500s when they came to Canada," he explains. "They are the oldest registered breed. Bulls must have DNA tests, and they're the only breed to require that."

While Sean is hands-on caring for the cattle full-time, William heads up property management and machinery. "I'm living the dream, that's what I'm doing," he shares. "Sean has done a fantastic job."

Many members of the Hilverding herd have a very special lineage, with a few cattle even tracing their roots back to the Queen's Herd of England.

"Some stock are 'unseen genetics' on our farm," says Sean in regard to the unique roots of many of the cattle. The family has even raised some Grand Champions and Reserve Grand Champions during their time in the business.

Genetics first piqued Sean's interest at a sale a few years ago. "We needed a new bull," he remembers, "but didn't know much about genetics yet." After making the purchase, a particular calf caught his attention. "She had one horn up, one down."

Sean soon realized just how unique this animal was: "Her bull calf was from the 2015 Grand Champ."

The family knew that to stay in touch with the authenticity of the breed, genetics would serve as the puzzle pieces to stitch each cow's past together.

Sean states, "This is our first year extensively showing. Four of us are going to the Big East show in Springfield, Massachusetts," as well as a myriad of other showing and selling locations. This year will also serve as the jumping-off point for artificial breeding, which has led the family to partner with friends in the trade and their veterinarian.

Sean, William, and the whole family are interested in connecting other families in the community with their farm by offering photography opportu-

nities with the livestock for occasions like Christmas and graduations. This year, they also offered Easter pictures, with the rabbits that Sean's wife, Kayla, raises. "People are always welcome to look at, pet, [and] visit the cattle," William says.

The cows will also be spreading spring greetings off the farm at Evergreen Personal Care— the first of many more outreach programs the Hilverdings would like to see in our community.

There's a lot more to love just over the West Virginia border at Hundred Acres Farm in its namesake town. An EMS worker and Highland Cattle farmer, Lauren Weaver has taken her place among the breed's tight-knit community as the primary owner of the farm.

Having grown up on her parents' farm, Lauren was able to purchase some cattle from her father in 2019 to start her own. Invited by friends to begin showing, Lauren soon discovered Highland Cattle for all they had to offer.

"They're great animals to raise," she says emphatically. "They have lean meat, easy calving, and longer, two-layered hair [making them] a hardy breed. They don't carry as much winter fat and they eat brush, so they clean up well," she continued.

Lauren shared that her farming journey has involved a lot of growth. "I bought the first cow for \$1,000. Now, we sell calves for \$8-15,000 based on color and qualities." While some of her Highlands have

been sold at auction, the majority of sales are private. She also raises pigs for butcher, and enjoys the chickens, dogs, cats, and donkeys who also share the farm.

Hundred Acres maintains a herd of about 15-20 head of cattle. The farm is registered with the American Highland Cattle Association, which has been an immense support for entering



Highland Cow gets up close and personal on Kelley Morris' farm.



Hannah Toth, a junior winning division champion at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, CO.

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the show world. “[The association] goes above and beyond in shows. They’re not snooty, but provide awesome feedback,” Lauren explains.

Lauren aims to provide that same support to others who have never shown before. Showing livestock is a family-wide passion for her and her relatives, as well as the many people who have become family in the farming community.

“I’ve been at the top and bottom of the show class. We don’t do it for ribbons, it’s a family fun event. The young ones have gotten more awards,” she says with a laugh. “Now, my two girls show, and cousins, too.”

“Kelley [Morris] took us under her wing and provided animals for us to show,” Lauren shares, gratefully. “She has changed the farming stories of many individuals, young and old, in the area.”

“I have a habit of bringing weird animals home,” she continued, chuckling. Some of these animals include water buffalo used for dairy, Painted Desert sheep, Kiko goats, and endangered breeds of chickens. North American yak... will hopefully join us before this summer,” not to mention the aforementioned cattle breed.

“Highland Cattle were included on the Livestock Conservancy’s Conservation Priority List until the pop culture movement popularized them,” Morris outlines. Now, they are a thriving Heritage Breed, which means they “existed before industrial agriculture and have maintained their unique traits.” However, the need for protecting Highlands and other Heritage Breeds remains essential.

Events for the public provide much of that needed awareness. “Photographers schedule events with animals,” Morris said. ‘Paint & Pets’ are also popular among artists hosting classes. “Agrotourism helps with feed and maintenance costs of a small farm,” she shared.

Among the joys of farming are the humorous interactions between man and beast. Kelley explained, “My herd matriarch likes being curry combed. The first time...she held me against her body to tell me I wasn’t brushing sufficiently. It’s an adjustment to animals with horns,” she reveals.

Kelley has also experimented with co-grazing with a successful result. “Sheep, goats, and cows all graze at different levels. This allows every animal to help the others thrive in this style of farming.

She recommends exploring county extension agencies or school FFA and 4-H programs for youth who are interested in starting in the show world. She is also active in helping kids take the next steps. “I collect kids who want to go out,” Kelley joked.

In the words of Ms. Weaver, “Farming is never easy...you either love it or hate it.” Fortunately, our region is home to a few special people who recognize the beauty of the farm and the four-legged creatures who share our land.

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MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES-2025

SUNDAY - MAY 25, 2025



James T. Maxon American Legion Post No. 992 Mt. Morris, PA will hold services as follows:

- 11:00 am- Services at Kiger Cemetery- HG/FS
- 11:20 am- Services at Claughton Chapel Cemetery- HS/FS

Garards Fort Cemetery

- 11:00 am- Garards Fort Cemetery Service
- Music by: Mapletown Band
- Followed with salute to the deceased, and placement of the wreath at the Monuments. HG/FS
- Greene County Honor Guard will participate in the service.

Greensboro Veteran of Foreign Wars Post No. 6303 will hold services as follows:

- 1:00 pm- Greensboro VFW Honor Roll
- Guest Speaker: Retired SGM Chris Clark
- Music By: Post 400 American Legion Band under the direction of Mr. Frank Ricco.
- Followed by a salute to the deceased and placement of the wreath at the Honor Roll
- Greene County Honor Guard: Will participate in the service
- There will be a light lunch following the service

Brooks- Crago American Legion Post No. 816 Rices Landing, will hold services as follows:

- 2:00 pm- Parade will begin at the post home and proceed to the Honor Roll located between the Hewitt Cemetery & the Hewitt Presbyterian Church. The participants are as follows: Jefferson-Morgan High School Band, Boy & Girl Scouts of Rices Landing; and the Rices Landing Volunteer Fire Department.
- Followed by a salute to the deceased and placement of the wreath at the Honor Roll. HG/FS
- Following this service, another program will be held at Crucible/St. Mary's Cemetery Honor Roll. HG/FS

MONDAY - MAY 26, 2025

Greene County Veterans Memorial Park Ceremony

- 10:00 am- Memorial Day Ceremony
- Welcome
- Invocation
- General Logans Orders
- Followed with salute to the deceased, and placement of the wreath at the monument. HG/FS
- Closing Prayer
(Greene County Veterans Memorial Park, 900 Rolling Meadows Road, Waynesburg, PA 15370)

James T. Maxon American Legion Post No. 992 Mt. Morris will have services as follows:

- 10:00am Services at the Mt. Morris United Methodist Church
- 11:00 am Parade from the Mt. Morris United Methodist Church to the Creek with a salute to the deceased by throwing a flower into the creek in memory of the Navy
- 12:00 pm- Ceremonies at the Cedar Grove Cemetery
- Guest Speaker: MSGT Douglas E. Headley USAF Ret.
- Followed with salute to the deceased, and placement of the wreath at the Monument. HG/FS
- Veterans lunch at the Legion Social Hall immediately following

Jefferson Boro Memorial Day Parade

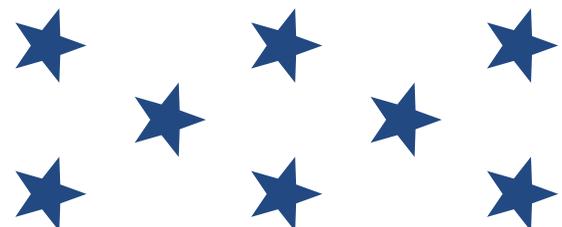
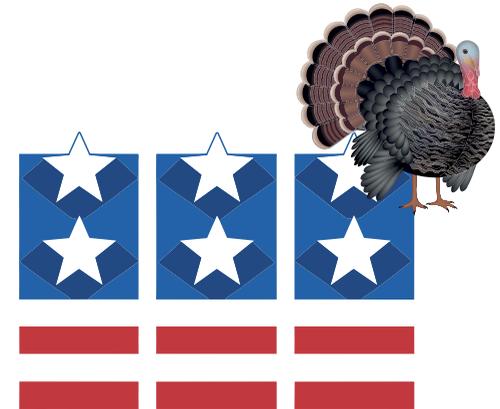
- 11:00 am- Parade Starts at JM High School and ends at Jefferson VFD

Filer-Sadlek Post No. 954 Jefferson, PA will have services as follows:

- 10:30 am- Jefferson Cemetery with a salute to the deceased and wreath placement at the Honor Roll. HS/FS
- 11:00 am- Mather Honor Roll/ Post Office
- Guest Speaker: Pastor Harry (Buddy) Hawk
- Music By: Jefferson Morgan Band- SAL members
- Followed with salute to the deceased, and placement of the wreath at the monuments. HG/FS
- 11:30 am Service at the Veteran's section of the Greene County memorial Park, with a salute to the deceased and wreath placed at the base of the American Flag. HG/FS
- Immediately following: light lunch located in the bottom of the Jefferson American Legion.

Carmichaels American Legion Post No. 400, will hold services as follows:

- 12:30 pm- Laurel Point Cemetery services
- Frank Ricco & the American Legion Post Band performing the National Anthem.
- Reading of General Logan's Orders
- Presentation of the wreath
- American Flag presented, followed by a prayer
- Immediately following is a light lunch located at the Carmichaels American Legion



WU STOVER SCHOLARS TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

In March, the Waynesburg University Stover Scholars had the opportunity to meet with several prominent figures as well as Stover Scholar alumni during their annual spring trip to Washington, D.C.

This year's trip included a meeting with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito. For many students, having the ability to meet and converse with Justice Alito was one of the most notable moments of the trip.

During the first day, students visited the Swiss Embassy, where they met with Marcelus Rolle, Head of Communications and Public Diplomacy for the Embassy of Switzerland in the United States of America. Then, they met with Luke Diel, the Legislative Assistant for Representative Byron Donalds of Florida's 19th Congressional District. Diel is a Stover Scholar alumnus and former Student Senate president.

During their visit with Diel, students had the opportunity to tour several areas of the U.S. Capitol Building, including the floor of the House of Representatives and the Speaker of the House's Balcony, which overlooks the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial.

Following their visit with Diel, students took part in a private meeting with Judge Neo-

mi J. Rao, U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

The day concluded with a dinner at the Metropolitan Club with U.S. Court of Federal Claims Judges Catherine C. Davis and Victor J. Wolski, also Stover Scholar alumni.

Throughout the second day, in addition to their meeting with Justice Alito, students met with the Congressional Budget Office Director and the head of Regulatory Affairs & Public Policy.

Local Stover Scholars who attended this year's Washington, D.C., trip include: Emma Shashura, sophomore accounting major from Fredericktown; Olivia Toth, sophomore middle-level education major from Carmichaels; and Kimberly Trump, senior psychology major from Fairchance.

The Stover Center for Constitutional Studies and Moral Leadership Scholarship recognizes students with a passionate interest in the U.S. Constitution and its application in public life today. Several incoming freshmen of academic ability are chosen each year. To learn more about this prestigious scholarship opportunity and its application requirements, visit waynesburg.edu/stoverscholarship.

WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY HOSTS SHOWCASE OF GROWTH ON CAMPUS

Waynesburg University hosted a Showcase of Growth event April 11, for local media, law enforcement and government agencies to tour the new and recently renovated facilities on campus.

The schedule of events began with a ribbon cutting for the new Center for Criminal Justice and Forensic Investigation. It concluded with tours of four facilities both on and off campus.

Tours began at the Center for Criminal Justice and Forensic Investigation, which features state-of-the-art, high-tech simulators on the lower level, including a MILO Range Theater, training for interactive Use-of-Force and Crisis Management Training, and a driving simulator. On the upper level is an area with cutting-edge technology for three separate classrooms, a conference room and office space, accommodating functions of up to 120 people.

Next door, participants toured the newly renovated Practical Exercise Facility, formerly known as the CSI House. This building now features a mock courtroom, which has been named "The Williamson Courtroom" in honor of the contributions of Rev. Dr. Williamson; a bloodstain pattern interpretation room; and a fingerprint lab.

These facilities provide training to

prepare students to excel in the field. The enhanced Center will also enrich training opportunities for local and regional first responders, strengthening the University's long-standing relationships with law enforcement agencies such as the FBI, CIA, ATF, police departments and probation offices.

Tours continued to the bottom floor of Eberly Library, where the newly renovated Pathways Center is located. The Pathways Center offers comprehensive support services to students on campus and includes community learning space, private testing and interview rooms, a restructured Career Closet storefront with changing rooms, a sensory room and staff offices.

Shuttles then departed for a tour of Alston Farm, a well-preserved historic house, log cabin, barn, renovated classroom and greenhouse space on 52 acres, recently donated to the University. Alston Farm provides incredible opportunities for new and expanded student instruction and community outreach. Waynesburg University has hired a consultant to develop a strategic plan for the farm, made possible through a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). The plan is expected to be completed in the fall.

PERSON PLACE OR THING

SCAN TO ENTER!



Hint:

*A place of circular logic, if any
The generations who've glided are many
Buzzing to the Beatles to disco to rap,
The swiftest have led the lap,
But usually end up on their fanny.*



DID YOU GUESS LAST MONTH'S PERSON, PLACE, OR THING?

**APRIL'S ANSWER:
CHUCK TRUMP,
PRESIDENT/CEO
OF FIRST FEDERAL
SAVINGS & LOAN**



ENTER TO WIN

ONLINE OR BY MAIL

EACH MONTH, WE'LL PRESENT A TEASER - A SHORT RIDDLE ABOUT A PERSON, PLACE, OR THING IN OUR READERSHIP AREA - AND INVITE OUR READERS TO GUESS THE ANSWER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN GREENESCENE T-SHIRT! THE FOLLOWING MONTH, WE'LL REVEAL BOTH THE ANSWER AND THE LUCKY WINNER.

Answer: _____
Name: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____
Town of Residence: _____

Mail to: GreeneScene Contest, 185 Wade St, Waynesburg, PA 15370. One Entry per person per category. Drawing on 05-12-25. Winner must respond within 24 hours of notification to receive prize.

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In the Out-Door

THE WARRIOR TRAIL GOBBLERS, JAKES AND THE NWTF

By T.R. Mahle

The National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of wild turkeys and the preservation of hunting heritage. Since its founding in 1973, the NWTF has been instrumental in restoring wild turkey populations across North America, making it one of the greatest conservation success stories of our time. The organization also focuses on habitat management, benefiting both game and non-game species.

NWTF offers various programs, including youth outreach through JAKES (Juniors Acquiring Knowledge, Ethics, and Sportsmanship), women-focused initiatives like Women in the Outdoors (WITO), and Wheelin' Sportsmen for individuals with disabilities. They also host events such as banquets, hunting workshops, and conservation projects.

The Warrior Trail Gobblers chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) has a rich history rooted in conservation and community engagement. Founded in Waynesburg in 1996, they are involved in multiple programs beyond the NWTF.

Guy Hostutler, a key figure in the chapter's development, became its president in 2010 and has been instrumental in expanding its outreach and conservation efforts. The Warrior Trail Gobblers chapter stands out for its strong focus on youth outreach and community engagement. While many NWTF chapters share similar goals, the Warrior Trail Gobblers' dedication to mentoring and education, as well as their involvement in local conservation efforts, makes them a notable example of how chapters can make a difference in their communities.

Rarely do you find an individual with more enthusiasm and passion for what he is doing than Guy Hostutler. The Warrior Trail Gobblers, along with their supporters and sponsors, are a faith-based organization that believes in God, family, country and the wild turkey. "We are not an organization that only supports the hunting aspect of the sport. We are mostly a conservation organization," explained Guy. "Our goal is to build networks that will enable kids from all over the Tri-state area to enjoy the opportunities that we support".

Under Hostutler's leadership, the chapter's JAKES program has grown significantly, starting with just five sponsors in 2012 and expanding to 39 sponsors by 2024. The "Jakes program" is open to all individuals seventeen years of age and

under. Their events now attract hundreds of participants, including youth and their families, fostering a strong connection to conservation and hunting heritage.

One such event is the "JAKES DAY" celebration sponsored by the Hunting Hills Shooting Preserve. Held annually on the PA youth-only season for turkeys, the event allows successful hunters to showcase their birds with an opportunity to win amazing prizes. The event has drawn over 150 youngsters and close to 500 adults in the past. Participants can enjoy outdoor activities like clay pigeon shooting, archery, trapping, turkey calling, and fishing. Last year's event featured hundreds of prizes, including over 30 guns.

The chapter has also partnered with organizations like Iron Synergy to host national JAKES turkey hunts, further solidifying its impact on the community. The JAKES also organizes events to help educate youth about the importance of maintaining habitats that benefit all species. Additionally, they host mentored hunts and outreach programs to foster a new generation of hunter-conservationists.

Through networking, the Warrior Trail Gobblers have opened opportunities for kids to "trade" hunts in areas that otherwise would not be available for them. Recently, hunts in Missouri and Tennessee were traded for hunts on private land

owned by Iron Synergy in Pennsylvania and Husky Lumber in West Virginia. The Gobblers continue to be a shining example of how local chapters can make a meaningful difference in wildlife conservation and education.

The chapter actively contributes to local wildlife conservation through various initiatives. They collaborate with the Pennsylvania Game Commission on projects like trapping wild turkeys to study hen survival. Such projects have had a positive impact on local wildlife populations. For instance, the research on hen survival has provided valuable data to improve turkey population management. Additionally, their habitat restoration efforts, often tied to youth programs like JAKES, have enhanced environments that benefit not only wild turkeys but other species in the region.

All of these opportunities are available at absolutely no cost to the kids. These initiatives have also fostered a stronger community connection to conservation, inspiring more people to participate in preserving local wildlife. The key to continuing these efforts is participation. Sponsorships and volunteering are essential for the survival of these organizations.

To volunteer, sponsor or donate please contact: Guy Hostutler (724-350-1062) or email warriortrailgobblers@hotmail.com.

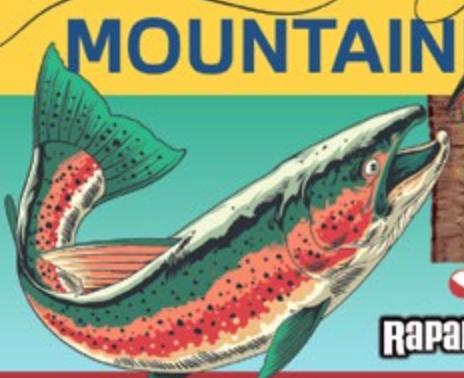


Ethan Polling was the winner of the Jakes' Tennessee Hunt



The Warrior Trail Gobblers' Jakes Program is part of their youth outreach.

MOUNTAINEER GUN SALES & Country Ice Cream



LARGEST FISHING TACKLE SHOP IN THE TRI-STATE AREA

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HERSHEY'S Ice Cream

PA TROUT SEASON STARTS SATURDAY, APRIL 5! STOCK UP TODAY! 659 PT MARION RD, MORGANTOWN, WV • (304) 284-9811

I AM READY FOR TURKEY ENJOYING SEASON

By Kent Marisa



Okay, relax. Yes, I said “Turkey Enjoying” rather than “Turkey Hunting,” but this is not an anti-hunting piece, ...quite the contrary.

I have been turkey hunting for 51 years, and I am an avid fan. I am hesitant, however, to label myself a turkey hunter, because I have had the privilege of being guided by some of the most legendary turkey hunters in Greene County. I am not in their league. These folks have an incredible level of mastery.

A typical guide excursion started with roosting the flock the night before, so that we knew where to set up at 5:30 am. The morning began with a couple of mouthed Barred Owl calls that not only elicited a gobble or two, but also often compelled a few of the real owls to silently swoop over our heads.

When the time was right, my guide would artfully employ his mouth calls, box calls, and slate calls, to get a “Hot” Tom gobbling. Within 10 minutes, I would have a strutting Tom within range of my 12-Gauge Mossberg. These guys had no trouble pulling these Toms away from the amorous hens in their established flocks. In fact, I am pretty sure that one of my guides could draw a Tom away from a dozen coquettish hens by merely batting his eyelashes. These were the real turkey hunters.

I worked in New York City for 15 years, during which time my turkey seasons became more sporadic. I would, however, always attempt to include a Greene County visit in my May schedule. Talking about going turkey hunting while sitting on a Wall Street trading desk elicits quite a different reaction than it does while having breakfast at Laverne’s. Frequently the reaction was judgmental. I always handled such criticism with delicacy, and I always tried to educate my audience on cultural differences, the incredible impact that hunting license revenue has on game-land preservation, and the bonds built in the hunting experience.

My most memorable such encounter was when three women who worked in my division began to rail on me for heading back home for a turkey hunt.

“So, you just walk out into the woods and shoot some innocent, defenseless bird?” one of them asked with more than a little condemnation.

“Not exactly,” I replied, mischievously.

“I actually, and very cleverly, imitate a sexy female turkey, whereupon I draw it away from its current girlfriend... THEN I shoot it.”

At which point, one of the three women blurted out, “Then it deserves to die!”

So, while I do not label myself a true turkey hunter, I count myself amongst those who relish the season the most. For me it starts with the first time I

hear a gobble in early March as the mating season begins.

Once alerted, I begin to take regular pleasure-drives on roads like Sugar Run, Oak Forest, or Bluff Ridge, all in the hopes of seeing our magnificent, feathered residents strutting their fans across newly greening fields.

And when I get the chance to hunt, I usually take a nephew (And soon my grandson, Ben), so that they can experience their first chance at a shot. Shooting is a low priority for me. I am content to hear and see the various birds that have returned after a long winter. I am content to drink in the smells, and admire the flowering Dogwoods, Cherries, and Apples. And I am still thrilled to hear that first wonderful gobble...that stark blast that disrupts the serenity and stirs my senses. That beautiful call that keeps me ever enamored of my Turkey Enjoying Season.

MAY CALENDAR:

5/2/25

12:30 Trout Stocking

Dunkard Fork, 1 Brown & Rainbow

Upper Limit: North and South Fork Dunkard Fork

Lower Limit: First Veterans Road (SR 4003) bridge (Durbin)

North Fork Dunkard Fork, 2 Brown & Rainbow

Upper Limit: Riggs Road bridge

Lower Limit: Duke Lake dam breast

5/3/25

Opening day of Spring Gobbler season

(Bearded bird only) NO Sunday Hunting

May 3 - May 17, 2025; May be hunted ½ hour before sunrise to 12 noon

May 19 - May 31, 2025; May be hunted ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset

Daily limit 1, season limit 2.

(Second spring gobbler may only be taken by persons who possess a valid special wild turkey license.)

COYOTES

No closed season, No limit.

Outside of any big game season (deer, bear, elk and turkey), coyotes may be taken with a hunting license or a furtaker license.

During any big game season, coyotes may be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker license.

OPOSSUM, STRIPED SKUNKS and WEASELS

No closed season, No limit.

No closed season, except during the firearms deer season. No Sunday hunting with the exceptions of Nov. 17, Nov. 24 and Dec. 1.

No limit.

HUNTING HILLS SHOOTING PRESERVE NEWS

The Hunting Hills Hawkeyes, based in Dilliner, are a Scholastic Clay Target Program. The team provides students in grades 5 through 12 with opportunities to develop skills in clay target shooting while emphasizing gun safety, teamwork, and proficiency in shooting sports.

The Hawkeyes have consistently excelled in regional and national competitions. Beyond competitions, the Hawkeyes emphasize community involvement and skill development. They host annual benefit shoots to support the program and engage with the local community.

The program has experienced significant growth, with over 50 students participating annually. The Hawkeyes offer various divisions catering to different skill levels.

Competition Results for 2025 (shoot @ 100 clay pigeons per round)

California Western Cup

ROOKIE

Isaac Caldwell *

Trevor Corwin 62

Anson Lewis 37

Gunnar Novotny 74

I-ENTRY

Brennan Baily *

Parker Bland 80

Kaylen Caldwell 36

Raeleigh Crowe 50

Paxton Fairchild 71

Beau Miller 45

Ryker Rice 81

Sonny Roebuck 61

Steven Roebuck 69

Parker Thompson 63

I-ADVANCED

AJ Diamond 89

Colin Flanagan *

Tyler McLaughlin *

Blake Miller 75

Braden Rayle 85

Alexander Smith 70

JR VARSITY

Carson Henry *

Charles Kenney 85

Andrew Mahle 69

Nate Miller 84

Dominic Thompson 75

Brody Wilmoth 60

VARSAITY

William Boden 86

Hunter Bowlen *

Mackenzie Bowlen *

Brendan Cole 90

Thomas Comiskey *

Micha Crowe 78

Corbin Flanagan *

Samuel Fowler *

Carrigan Henry 69

Benjamin Horne *

Parker Jones 90

Nathaniel Letourneau 90

Jacob Rockwell *

Hunting Hills Western Cup

ROOKIE

Isaac Caldwell 55

Trevor Corwin 71

Anson Lewis 60

Gunnar Novotny 67

I-ENTRY

Brennan Baily *

Parker Bland 84

Kaylen Caldwell 39

Raeleigh Crowe 52

Paxton Fairchild 73

Beau Miller 61

Ryker Rice 88

Sonny Roebuck 73

Steven Roebuck 66

Parker Thompson 47

I-ADVANCED

AJ Diamond 95

Colin Flanagan 54

Tyler McLaughlin *

Blake Miller 89

Braden Rayle 92

Alexander Smith 74

JR VARSITY

Carson Henry 84

Charles Kenney 95

Andrew Mahle 77

Nate Miller 81

Dominic Thompson 60

Brody Wilmoth 62

VARSAITY

William Boden 95

Hunter Bowlen 81

Mackenzie Bowlen 49

Brendan Cole 97

Thomas Comiskey *

Micha Crowe 75

Corbin Flanagan 80

Samuel Fowler 66

Carrigan Henry 69

Benjamin Horne 93

Parker Jones 96

Nathaniel Letourneau 96

Jacob Rockwell 66





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.

Intentional Walks

By Bret Moore

THE GLORY DAYS OF MEN'S FASTPITCH SOFTBALL

Men's fast pitch softball became a very popular sport in the US during the 1930s and 1940s. Local leagues sprang up all over the country. Pitchers that could hurl the ball over 85 mph at a batter 46 feet away could strike out 15 to 20 batters a game. To make things even more difficult, the underhand delivery meant the ball could rise and drop with incredible motion.

The Amateur Softball Association was formed in 1934. Soon there were state and regional tournaments all over the country selecting teams to vie for the coveted National Championship. Competition was fierce among teams to recruit the best pitcher around. It was not unusual for a talented pitcher to be recruited by the winning team after his team was eliminated from a tournament. Often, these "amateurs" were making a fair living playing softball.

In the early 60s, Brave was dominant in the area in men's fast pitch. Their pitcher Bob Burgman was nationally known and often pitched for "big time" teams. He commanded local mounds from 1950-91. In 1961, he pitched for Philadelphia at the Softball World Series. In 1961, Huck Tennent pitched the Brave team to the West Virginia State Finals.

In the early 60s, there was also an adult church fastpitch league in the county. The teams included: Ruff Creek, Fairall, Spraggs, Morrisville, First Christian, Washington Street Methodist and First Baptist. In 1960, the Baptists and star pitcher Pete Walker went 24-2 in the regular season. Walker had a 12-1 pitching record, a .603 batting average, 16 homeruns and 16 doubles. He was one of the area's premier players for the two decades of fast pitch softball's popularity. By 1961, there was an Independent League. Waynesburg's Wonder Bar defeated Mather three games to two in the championship series. The series featured Wonder Bar's Walker against Mather's Muscles McNeely.

There was also a Big 4 League that included: Rich's Mobile Homes, GI Town (Clarksville), Gigi's Shoemakers (Carmichaels), and the Dilliner Miners. Rich's won the 1962 title with a 45-5 overall record after going undefeated in the league regular season. They competed within the league as well as against independent teams such as Brave.

Many of us are old enough to remember when local tournaments were huge events around the county. The annual tournaments drew large crowds to watch teams from around the region. The Brave tournament was the oldest (started 1949) and largest in the area until the Waynesburg Lions Club tournament (started 1964) surpassed it in size and reputation by the late 60s. Burgman was the pitcher for the winning squad the first three years of the Lions tournament. He accomplished the feat for three different teams – Brave, Curry's of McKeesport, and Zane's Bar.

At the 1965 Waynesburg Lions Club Tournament, Brave tied the King and his Court 2-2 in an exhibition game. The famous four-man touring team was led by the legendary pitcher Eddie "The King" Feigner. In his career, the King threw 930 no-hitters and 238 perfect games. (Another team of County All-Stars lost 1-0 to the King in 1983. The game was played on the Waynesburg High School football field in front of packed stands, and Pete Walker pitched for the locals.)

In 1969, Waynesburg's Guthrie Truckers defeated Burgman and Zane's Bar in the finals of the Lion's Club tournament. As a result, they earned another birth to the KASA state tournament. That tournament was held in Waynesburg at three local fields. College Field, Emerald Field, and Meadowlark Park all hosted games. The tournament was won again by Sal's Lunch, who then went on to win the national title.

In 1970, the Truckers did what no area team had done. They won the State Championship and went on to the World Tournament in California. Before the team could attend the World Tournament, funds needed to be raised. Local businesses stepped up and sponsored each player and manager. The business would get a big write-up in the Democrat-Messenger with the player's picture for its sponsorship. The trip cost \$273 (\$219 for the flight and \$54 for the motel room). The Truckers lost a close 2-1 contest to eventual champion Houston, Texas. This would mark the high point for men's fast pitch in the area.

The following year, they became the Triangle Truckers. They once again qualified for the State Tournament; however, they finished second after falling to Nazareth 2-1 in the finals. Walker had pitched a perfect game in the semi-finals and was named the tournament MVP. Members of the team during their runs included: Dave Cosgray, Marty Doney, Gary "Shade" Cole, Dave Sowden, Jeff Criss, John Summersgill, Gary Vukmanic, Bob Watts, Myron McMinn, Larry Wilson, Dana Filer, Bob Iams, Paul Ankney, John Edgar, Ernie Chadderton, Keith Haney, Dave Pritchard and Bob Iams. Jim Moore and Bob Rohanna both served as managers during various years. Rohanna was also an occasional pitcher for the squad.

From 1964 to 1979, the Waynesburg Lion's Club Tournament drew huge crowds to College Field and later the Fairgrounds. The evening would begin with a slo-pitch contest and be followed by two fast pitch games under the lights. The fast-pitch division was a highly competitive affair that saw the area's best

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.

athletes compete for the title. Burns' Esso, Red Star and Jefferson Hotel were other highly competitive local teams. In 1974, the tournament format changed to include a women's slo-pitch division. Fewer fast pitch teams and the rebirth of women's athletics in the decade led to the change.

By the middle of the next decade, the fast-pitch game had all but disappeared from the area.



BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE MONTH



Spencer Yeager plays baseball for the Maples. He has played baseball his whole life and started all four years of his high school career. Spencer is a pitcher and infielder. In addition to sports, Spencer works two part-time jobs. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with friends and family. He is the son of Shaun and Ginny Yeager of Greensboro, and he plans to enter the workforce after high school.



Peyton Cowell is the daughter of Wade and Michelle Cowell of Waynesburg. She is a three-year soccer and basketball letter winner as well as a first-year track athlete. In the classroom, she has maintained a 4.0 GPA each year. Currently, she acts as the president of the Leo Club, reporter of the Waynesburg FFA Officer Team, and Secretary of Youth Alive. In addition, she is a member of Alpha Beta, Debate Team, Book Club, and Student Council. Outside of school, she is involved in the Greene County 4H Market Lamb Club, the First Baptist Church Youth Group, and Youth Praise Team. Her plans are to major in Nursing and get her Doctorate in Nurse Anesthesiology.



Emma Zalar is the daughter of Jessica and Stephen Zalar of Greensboro. She is a junior and has played softball for two years and basketball for three years for the Lady Maples. Emma is also a cheerleader, majorette, and dancer at the Center for Performing Arts in Carmichaels. In school, Emma is a member of the NHS, Student Council, Interact Club, Envirothon, FBLA, and the Academic League. She works at DJ's Diner on the weekends. In her free time, she enjoys hanging out with friends and family and driving around listening to music.



Alex VanSickle is the son of Scott and Corey VanSickle of Waynesburg. Alex is the senior captain of the baseball team where he earned the following accolades: Multiple Athlete of the Week Awards; 2024: Pennsylvania First Team All-State 3A and Greene County Messenger Player of the Year; Waynesburg Central – Single Season School Record – Batting Average (.617); 2X WPIAL 3A Post-Gazette All-Section team, 3X All-County team.

Alex also captains the basketball team and was named Athlete of the Week, MVP at the Todd Kalivoda Holiday Showcase in Toronto, Ohio, 2X All-Section team, and 2X All-County team.

In the classroom, Alex is a member of the NHS, yearbook, and newspaper staffs. Outside school, he plays for the Team All American Baseball Program and the Carmichaels Copperheads.

After graduation, Alex will be attending Indiana University of PA, where he has committed to play baseball for the Crimson Hawks and major in finance.



Emilee Bazzoli is the daughter of Dan and Jessica Bazzoli of Jefferson. She is an All-County softball and volleyball player for the Rockets. Emilee was also named a 2024 All-Area player in softball. During the travel season, she plays for the PA Lady Knights. In school, she is a member of the student council and academic team. After school, she volunteers with the Big Brother/Big Sister organization and works for the Greene County Department of Recreation. She plans to attend nursing school and become a CRNA.



Harlan Truitt is the son of Joshua and Callie Truitt of Wind Ridge. He participates in football, wrestling, and baseball. Harlan is a member of the Pioneer's FFA program and was the freshman escort in the 2024 homecoming court this fall. He enjoys fishing and turkey hunting in his spare time.



Jaymison Robinson is the son of Bruce and Sarah Ellsworth of Rices Landing. He is a member of the Rockets' golf, basketball, and baseball teams. He also plays travel baseball for the Ghosts. He has a weighted GPA of 4.71 and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is also a member of GATE and the Leo, Science, Spanish and Envirothon Clubs. Outside school, the junior enjoys spending time with family and friends.



Katie Brudnock is the daughter of Ben and Sandy Brudnock of Sycamore. She is a freshman and participates in volleyball, basketball, and softball. Katie is a member of the 4-H Greene County Swine Club and has shown her animal for three years. She plays travel softball for the Canonsburg Lady Halos and loves to crochet in her down time.



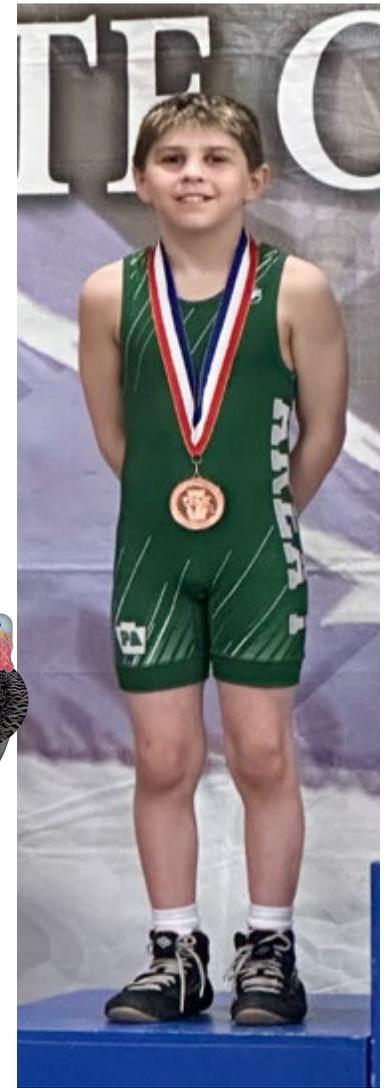
TOM ALBERT - WAYNESBURG CENTRAL'S FIRST NCAA CHAMP.

Most local wrestling fans know the name of Tom Albert, who was a two-time PIAA Champion and two-time NCAA All-American at Pitt. He won the 167-pound NCAA title in 1957. Alberts also had a long, illustrious coaching career in the area.

What many people forget is the fact he faced a wrestler from Waynesburg College in the NCAA final. Both men took a tough path to the championship. Alberts received a first-round bye before pinning Frank Guitierrez of Muhlenberg, and besting Rex Edgar of Oklahoma (8-6) and Ken Kraft of Northwestern (2-0).

Waynesburg's Ralph Schneider defeated Harvard's Bob Foster (9-1) and Iowa's Jim Craig (7-2) before upsetting the number 1 seed, Roy Minter of Minnesota in the quarterfinals by a 5-3 score. In the semi's he took down Iowa State's Frank Powell 3-1.

In the finals, Albert, who was a junior, outlasted Schneider 8-5 to win the crown. In an interesting side note for wrestling fans, Dan Hodge was named the Outstanding Wrestler at that championship. Today, the Hodge Award is given annually to the nation's top collegiate wrestler.



COUNTY BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL STATS (AS OF 4/15)

Top 15 Girls Batting Averages

.600	A. Batis (C)
.591	C. McConnell (C)
.583	B. Barnyak (C)
.567	P. Gilbert (WG)
.560	E. Beazell (WG)
.545	D. Staggers (C)
.542	K Waggett (C)
.500	M. Lotspeich (M)
.471	G. Tedrow (WC)
.471	E. Makel (WC)
.429	S. Zimmerman (WG)
.409	B. Kerr (WC)
.389	A. Snider (WC)
.389	K. Schaum (WC)
.385	M. Shiflett (M)

Girls ERA

0.68	B. Barnyak (C)
1.06	P. Gilbert (WG)

Top 15 Boys Batting Averages

.633	A. VanSickle (WC)
.520	D. Turcheck (WC)
.500	B. Ellsworth (JM)
.500	A. Walker (M)
.500	S. Yeager (M)
.480	T. Groves (WC)
.387	E. Kiger (WC)
.375	K. Taylor (WC)
.357	J. Stephenson (WC)
.357	D. Fox (M)
.350	C. Corwin (WC)
.333	L. Stevenson (M)
.314	A. Surber (WC)
.308	C. Halbert (M)
.304	G. Pack (WC)

Boys Pitching ERA

0.00	A. Surber (WC)
1.17	A. VanSickle (WC)
1.50	D. Adams (JM)
1.70	T. Groves (WC)
1.75	C. Corwin (WC)

Baseball Section Standings (As of 4/15)

Section 4 (3A)		Section 1 (1A)	
Waynesburg Central	5-0 (9-0)	Avella	5-1 (9-1)
McGuffey	4-1 (7-3)	Carmichaels	4-2 (5-3)
Seton LaSalle	4-2 (5-4)	Jeff-Morgan	3-3 (4-3)
Charleroi	3-3 (4-4)	West Greene	2-3 (3-6)
Keystone Oaks	2-3 (5-4)	Jeanette	0-3 (2-6)
Brownsville	2-5 (2-5)	Mapletown	0-6 (1-8)
Washington	0-6 (3-9)		

Girls Softball Standings (As of 4/15)

Section 4 (2A)		Section 2 (1A)	
Waynesburg	2-0 (5-3)	Carmichaels	3-0 (7-0)
Frazier	2-1 (5-2)	West Greene	2-1 (7-1)
Brownsville	1-1 (4-3)	Jeff-Morgan	2-1 (5-2)
Bentworth	1-1 (4-4)	Mapletown	1-3 (3-6)
Washington	0-1 (4-1)	Avella	0-3 (1-7)
California	0-2 (2-4)		

Eleven-year-old Levi Sisler of Jefferson-Morgan Youth Wrestling took 3rd place in the under-70- pound division at the Pennsylvania Junior Youth State Tournament on March 22. He is a 6th grade student at Carmichaels elementary.

Levi went 7-1 on the weekend, losing in the round of 16 in sudden victory, then winning six straight matches in the consolations.

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- ★ Endorsed by President of the United States Former Chief of Staff, William Daley



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CARMICHAELS ALUMNAE IS THREE SPORT STANDOUT AT PSU FAYETTE



Sophia Zalar has achieved tremendous success both in the athletic and academic arenas at Penn State Fayette. This past fall she was named to the USCAA All-Academic Volleyball Team. When the leaves fell, she turned her talents to the hardwood and was named PSUAC Player of the week, PSUAC First-team All-Conference, USCAA Player of the week twice and USCAA All-Academic Team.

This spring, she hopes to repeat her 2024 success on the softball field when she was named Second Team PSUAC All-Conference, USCAA Second Team All-American, and USCAA All-Academic Team.

Even more impressive, Zalar is a Dean's List student (4.0 GPA), a Lions Ambassador, and a tutor. She was inducted into the "Pi Sigma Phi Honor Society" for academic excellence.

IS THERE SUCH A THING AS A G.O.A.T.?

By Bret Moore

Calling someone the "Greatest of All Time" (GOAT) in any field—be it sports, music, art, science, or any other human endeavor—is a complex and often subjective undertaking. While the term carries immense cultural weight and admiration, the process of assigning it is riddled with nuance, historical context, bias, and evolving standards.

First and foremost, greatness itself is difficult to define universally. In sports, does it mean the most championships, best individual stats, longest career, or greatest influence on the game? In music, is it about sales, critical acclaim, innovation, or emotional resonance? What constitutes "greatness" depends on what criteria are prioritized, and those priorities often differ from person to person.

Time adds another layer of complexity. Comparing athletes, artists, or thinkers across different eras means accounting for vast differences in competition, technology, rules, and societal norms. For example, basketball legend Bill Russell won 11 championships in the 1950s and 60s, but played in a league with fewer teams and less global talent than today. On the other hand, LeBron James plays in an era with constant media scrutiny, advanced analytics, and much more athletic parity. Can we compare their greatness fairly?

Bias and personal preference further complicate GOAT debates. People often elevate figures from their own generation or cultural background, valuing

emotional connections over objective analysis. (Try telling me that Roberto Clemente wasn't the greatest all-around baseball player of all time) Nostalgia can enhance the legacy of those long retired, while recency bias can cause us to exaggerate current accomplishments. In this way, GOAT conversations often say more about the speaker than the subject.

Moreover, many fields don't lend themselves well to quantifiable greatness. In science, for instance, how do you measure Einstein's theories against Newton's laws? In music, how do you compare the lyrical depth of Bob Dylan or Bruce Springsteen with the vocal prowess of Whitney Houston or the innovation of Prince? Art and intellect are often too diverse and multidimensional to allow for one definitive champion.

Another issue is that the GOAT label tends to flatten complex legacies. It can oversimplify lives and careers filled with nuance, contradiction, and evolution. Greatness isn't a static trait—it often includes failure, reinvention, and growth. By focusing too narrowly on the idea of being "the best," we risk ignoring the richness of someone's contribution and the broader society that enabled it.

Finally, calling someone the GOAT implies that the debate is settled, when it rarely is. The very nature of human achievement is that it's ongoing, and records are constantly broken, styles evolve, and new contenders emerge.

HOME OF THE WASHINGTON WILD THINGS RENAMED EQT PARK

By Bret Moore

Sports Facility, LLC and energy giant EQT recently announced an agreement that will change the area's entertainment landscape. The home of the Washington Wild Things baseball team will now be known as EQT Park. Specific financial terms about the three-year naming rights deal were not released. The 24-year-old entertainment complex is home to the reigning Frontier League West Division Champion Wild Things.

According to a release by Stuart Williams, managing partner of the Wild Things, "EQT Park will be a community asset like no other. We are delighted to partner with such a community minded organization. Their commitment to this area is evident in many ways, including the partnership they've formed with us".

In addition to Frontier League baseball, this year EQT Park will host the Taco and Tequila Festival, the C ad M ile F ite (Irish National Baseball Team vs the Washington Whiskey Runners), the Pride Festival, the WPIAL Baseball Playoffs, Penn West West California Vulcan Baseball, McGuffey and Washington High School games, PONY League events, plus concerts.

"The Washington Wild Things have brought a vibrancy to the community, including the hundreds of EQT employees who reside here, for more than two decades. The park serves as not only home to the team, but to countless other high school and college games as well as community events," said Toby Z Rice, President & CEO of EQT Corporation. "By establishing EQT Park, we are reaffirming our commitment to the local communities we have been part of for over a century. We look forward to welcoming our friends, family and neighbors to the park."

EQT Corporation is a premier American natural gas company with production and midstream operations focused in the Appalachian Basin

The complex debuted in 2002 and was originally named Falconi Field, to honor the Washington entrepreneur, Angelo Falconi. From 2007–2016 the complex was known as CONSOL Energy Park. From 2017 until the most recent change, the

facility was simply Wild Things Park.

The Wild Things compete in the Frontier League, an 18-team independent professional league founded in 1993. Last season, they set a franchise record for wins with 67, winning a West Division crown before advancing to the Frontier League Championship Series. The home opener is scheduled for Tuesday, May 13 when the Wild Things host the Ottawa Titans.



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Greene Artifacts

By Matthew Cumberledge, GCHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ONLINE RESEARCH IN GREENE COUNTY

One of the most frequently asked questions I get is: "What Can you tell me about the history of my house?" Unfortunately, this often requires a lot of in-depth research, and sometimes there simply isn't much to be learned. It can even be very difficult figuring out exactly what year a house was built.

There are, however, some places you can begin your journey. Your first stop should be the courthouse, to look at the deed history of your property. It is rare, but occasionally, there may be specific mentions of the house or descriptions of it that may help you in your quest for information. Tax records, held in the County Office Building, may also be of assistance. Most tax records will indicate what year the house was built; however, such a date should always be taken with a grain of salt as often it is merely an estimate. I have seen dates of construction that were obviously inaccurate. However, Deed and Tax information can give you an idea of the people who may have been living in your house at various points in time.

Most people who are looking for information like this are asking about an older house, generally built before 1900. If you live in Waynesburg, or a couple of the other larger towns in the county, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps can give you some help. For example, if your house shows up in an 1891 Sanborn Map, you know it was built before 1891. Sanborn Maps can be very easily found online, through the "Resources" page of greeneconnections.com.

For Waynesburg itself, the 1901 Book "Waynesburg

Prosperous and Beautiful" might also contain some useful information.

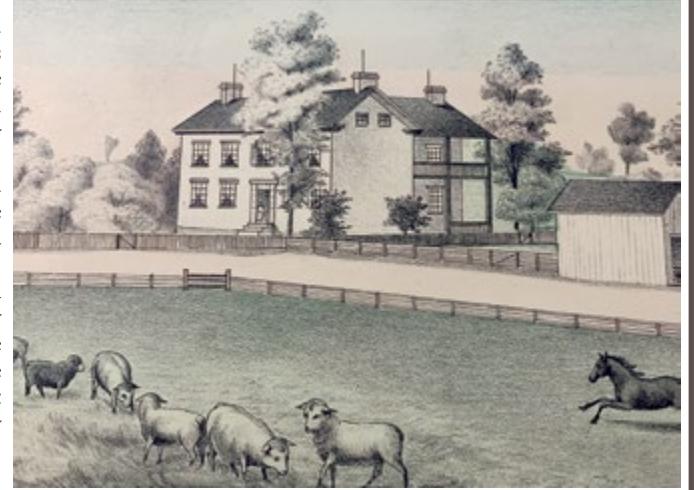
If you live in the more rural parts of the county however, learning about the history of your house can be much more difficult. It may be impossible to figure out exactly when it was built. In this instance, it is always worth checking Caldwell's 1876 Atlas of Greene County (This can also be found on the resources page of the Greene Connections Website.) Many farms were illustrated in the Atlas, and you may be lucky enough to find an early image of your home.

Perhaps where Caldwell's Atlas can be most useful is comparing your home to others illustrated in it. The architectural features of a house are often the best, and sometimes only, way to figure out the age of a house. A general rule of thumb is, if the woodwork inside and outside of your home is extremely fancy, with many designs and eccentricities it most likely dates to the Victorian Period, approximately 1870-1900 or a little later. If it is more plain with a lot of straight lines, it most likely dates to an earlier period, perhaps as early as the 1830s.

Unfortunately, this is a difficult area of research, but these few tips can give you a place to start. You can always email the Greene County Historical Society at

IF YOUR WALLS COULD TALK

gchs1925@gmail.com, and we can provide a few more tips for places to research. In addition, it is always worthwhile to search the Greene Connections archives. You never know just what you might come up with.



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- Education
- Environment
- Food & Hunger
- Health & Fitness
- Human Services
- Medical Needs

Grant awards for Community grants will not exceed \$5,000.

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.

FMI or to apply for the grants, visit our website www.cfgcpa.org/about-cfcg-grants/ or contact us at 724-627-2010, or e-mail cfgcpa@gmail.com.



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Greene Artifacts

By Matthew Cumberledge, GCHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ONLINE RESEARCH IN GREENE COUNTY

THE TENMILE COUNTRY AND ITS PIONEER FAMILIES

For anyone doing Genealogy Research pertaining to Greene County and the surrounding region, the first book you should check is “The Tenmile Country and Its Pioneer Families” researched and compiled by Howard L. Leckey and first published by the Greene County Historical Society in 1950.

Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, Leckey dedicated the better part of his life researching our local families and compiling them into one extremely convenient resource, to a level of accuracy that has withstood the test of time.

The book opens with an extensive overview on the History of Greene County, followed by an extensive history of the region’s role in the Revolutionary War, Indian Wars, and the Pennsylvania Militia. It then explores the very extensive history of the earliest families to live in what is now Greene County. There are extensive sections on the Minor, VanMeter, Swan and other families who were settling in the region as early as the 1760s.

Leckey sourced a great deal of his

material by visiting and interviewing surviving members of these families and referencing things such as family Bibles, handwritten accounts of family histories, as well as public county records. He leaves no guess work, he only published what he could learn to be fact.

Occasionally, Leckey also includes Militia and Company Rolls relevant to those who served, specifically in the Revolutionary War.

This book truly is a “one stop shop” for the Greene County Genealogist and is, without question, the best place to begin your journey into Genealogy and Family History.

As far as editions of the book are concerned, the text remains unchanged from edition to edition. However, various editions do have different indexes, all of which are not created equal. The

current edition, published by Janaway Publishing, has the same index as some of the more recent editions, a simple surname only index. This is helpful to narrow down a search but requires a lot of page flipping.

The most desirable edition is a smaller, green hardcover version, published first in the 70s and later again in the 80s that contains a whole name index.

Unfortunately, it is nearly impossible to find this version for sale anymore, however if one is visiting a library, it is often found in their collection and is indeed the best index to use.

Leckey’s Tenmile country is still widely available for sale, locally copies can be found at Cornerstone Genealogical Society and the Greene County Historical Society (both in person, and via their respective online stores) and directly from Janaway Publishing.

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GCCF HELPS SUPPORT EMERGENCY AND MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM



The Community Foundation of Greene County is pleased to announce it has awarded over \$13,000 to the Greene County Career and Technology Center (GCCTC) from the Campbell Family Fund to support the Emergency and Medical Services Program (EMS).

The EMS program trains the next generation of EMS professionals while they are still in high school, providing students with the opportunity to earn their EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) certification before graduation. The Campbell Family Fund will provide uniforms for EMS students, including tactical pants, job shirts, polo shirts, and create Greene County CTC EMS patches to look professional while doing hands-on training within the Emergency Medical Field.

“We are incredibly grateful to the Campbell Family for this wonderful opportunity for our EMS students,” said Natalie Goodwin, Learning Support Facilitator at GCCTC. “Providing our students with professional uniforms helps instill confidence and a sense of pride in their work while they develop the skills needed to serve their communities in emergency medical situations,” said Dan Halliday, Emergency Medical Technician Instructor at GCCTC.

The CTC provides hands-on training through 11 Career and Technology programs. Director Mark Krupa said, “We are building future generations of the workforce and have students working in cooperative educational placements within the county. Through partnerships with local businesses and organizations, students gain real-world experience and develop industry-relevant skills. Our programs emphasize both technical and employability skills, ensuring graduates are well-prepared for immediate employment or further education. By fostering career readiness, Greene County CTC plays a vital role in strengthening the local economy and workforce.”

CAMPBELL FAMILY FUND SUPPORTS SUMMER READING PROGRAMS

The Community Foundation of Greene County awarded over \$13,000 to the Eva K. Bowlby Public and the Flenniken Public Library from the Campbell Family Fund to support the summer reading programs at both libraries.

According to Kathy McClure, Executive Director of the Eva K. Bowlby Public Library, “These programs are instrumental in providing a learning bridge for students. Studies have proven that students may lose up to two months of reading proficiency during the summer months. Also, students participating in summer reading programs score higher on achievement tests and assessments at the beginning of the school year. The 2025 theme, Color Our World, is an invitation to explore art in a myriad of ways with inspiring and engaging activities which incorporate STEM into a full day of activity. Bowlby Library is providing a full eight weeks of summer programming be-

ginning June 14th with a Color Our World festival.”

Nicole Mitchell, Executive Director of Flenniken Public Library, said, “Summer reading programs in public libraries play a crucial role in promoting literacy and lifelong learning. These initiatives provide a structured opportunity for children and young adults to engage in different types of literature during the summer months. By offering a diverse selection of reading materials and activities, public libraries not only foster a love for reading, but also help combat the ‘summer slide,’ a phenomenon where students lose academic skills over break. These programs encourage social interaction and community involvement by bringing together readers of all ages, fostering a sense of belonging and shared literary interest. In essence, summer reading in public libraries is vital for enhancing educational outcomes and nurturing a culturally enriched community.”



Community Foundation Director Dave Calvario presents Kathy McClure and Nicole Mitchell with funds for the libraries' summer reading programs.



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SPRING REFRESHING & DECORATIVE IDEAS

By Ed Keepers

Open your windows and refresh your home. With winter slowly leaving our area, now is the time to reinvent and reimagine your interior. It doesn't have to be a major project, but a little freshening up your space can go a long way. While beginning your spring cleaning, it is a good time to assess different areas by decluttering. It's as easy as looking around and viewing what items you like to see daily. Store or donate those items that don't need to be in your space.

Another way to refresh your space is to reinvent your color scheme. There are literally thousands of paint colors available, but don't be overwhelmed. Go through some interior design magazines. Look to see what room designs are attractive to you and create the mood you are looking for. Next, purchase small sample-sized paint colors and paint color patches on at least two walls to get an idea of what that color looks like in various lightings throughout the day and evening. Paint colors change in natural and artificial lighting.

If painting directly on the walls is too much of a commitment, purchase some foam core boards from your local craft store and sample colors out on them. This method is helpful if you are trying out several colors at once.

Don't forget, you can also just change the color on one or two walls as an accent that compliments your present color choice. Try accenting a fireplace or window wall with a contrasting color. This way, you can change the whole look of a room. By previewing color choices with sample sized paints, you can avoid a costly and labor-intensive mistake.

Another easy and inexpensive way to reinvent a room is simply by rearranging items and furnishings. Head out to your local home center and purchase some furniture moving glides. These make short work of moving even the heaviest of pieces. Think out of the box. An old china cupboard can become a bookcase in another area. A buffet can become a great foyer piece.

Area rugs are yet another way to create a new look in any space. Color and texture on your floor can create a mood for any room. A rug is an anchor for the room and many decorators start there in building an entire space. Furnishings, wall color, accessories, etc. all relate to the rug. There are thousands of styles available and a huge variety of price points, so this is a great place to start.

Lighting and accessories play a major role in décor. Lamps and other forms of lighting enliven a space and do double duty as beauty and function. Accessories and art should not be overlooked. Lighting and accessories are the jewelry for a room and bring the whole design together.

Finally, the most important tip is to have fun creating a space in which you are happy and comfortable. The design should reflect your personality and surround you with items that bring you peace and comfort.

Ed Keepers is the creative director at Classic Furniture in Morgantown. His work can be seen at The Denny House and several other well-appointed homes in the Waynesburg area.

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Good NEWS

In Greene County

WCHS Lions Club Students of the Month For January

Emma Hellems is the daughter of Elizabeth Hellems of Waynesburg. She has earned a 4.0 GPA into her senior year. She has been a member of student council, the Spanish club, Academic League, the creative writing club, the art club, Envirothon, Alpha Beta, Encore, GSA, world travelers club, ASL club, and drama club. She also operates the sound board for technical theater.

Outside of school Emma attends the Jefferson United Methodist Church and spends time volunteering. She has worked in the summers at her family's dental practice.

In her free time Emma enjoys baking and making jewelry.

Her plans are to attend Coastal Carolina and study marine sciences.



Vince Maley is the son of Craig and Susan Maley of Waynesburg. He has earned a 4.0 GPA through high school. Vince loves sports. He is a member of the Raiders' football and baseball teams. On the gridiron, Vince was named All-County and All-Conference both his junior and senior year.

In his free time Vince loves hunting and fishing. He works summers with his family's construction business. His plans are to attend Slippery Rock University and major in industrial engineering.

WCHS Lions Club Students of the Month For March



Joe Withrow is the son of Jason and Jennifer Withrow of Waynesburg. He is a member of the Waynesburg Central rifle team. During his time at WCHS he has earned the Challenge Program Award for STEM, and the President's Education Awards Program. He was also Student of the Quarter in 2022 and helps with the school plays. In addition, Joe participates in the computer networking class at the CTC.

Outside of school, Joe enjoys weightlifting and computer programming. He mows lawns in the summer and attends Calvary Baptist Church. His plans are to attend Pennwest California and earn a degree in computer science.

BayLi Barclay is the daughter of Rob and Anita Barclay of Waynesburg. She has earned a 4.0 GPA throughout her high school career. BayLi is a member of the art club, Spanish club, NHS and is president of the physics club. BayLi has earned the STEM Challenge Program Award, National Rural and Smalltown Recognition Program Award, and the AP Scholar Award. She has earned classroom awards in FST, PDM, AP Calculus, and chemistry.

BayLi spends a lot of time volunteering in the community. She has been a WCHS boys and girls basketball concessions volunteer, track and field scorekeeper, Eva K. Bowlby Library Turkey Trot volunteer, CGSD Childcare volunteer, and GCST Trivia Contest volunteer. She has also worked as a geometry tutor, a babysitter, and a lawn care person.

In her free time BayLi enjoys reading, going to the gym, shopping and eating. Her plans are to attend Robert Morris University and major in actuarial science.



Wana B Park Improvements

Cumberland Township is awarding bids for improvements at Wana B Park this summer. A large percentage of the funds are available through a 2023 Local Share Account (LSA).

Some of the improvements include updating the park's restroom facilities, widening walking trails, expanding the storm drainage system, and paving gravel parking lots. In addition, two existing bridges will be renovated to assure easy access to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

New paths and concrete sidewalks will further enhance the park's accessibility for residents of different mobilities. According to Cumberland Township's community development administrator Marcia Sonneborn, "Anybody in a wheelchair or someone pushing a baby carriage will be able to travel through the park with ease."

Finally, a new part-time events coordinator was hired recently to provide activities for people of all ages. Future development plans include improved signage and lighting around Wana B.

The supervisors are also working on other recreational facility improvements in other areas of the township.

WU Staff Presented Teaching Awards

Waynesburg University honored three faculty members March 25, with the 2025 Lucas-Hathaway Teaching Excellence Awards during the annual Charter Day celebration in Roberts Chapel. This year's Charter Day commemorated the 175th anniversary of Waynesburg University's charter by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Christy Wise, lecturer of Biblical and Ministry Studies, received the Excellence in Teaching by Part-Time Faculty Award.

Wise earned her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Waynesburg College and her Master of Education from California University of Pennsylvania. She is a Permanent Certified Lay Minister from the American Baptist Church Leadership Institute of Western Pennsylvania.

Chaley Knight, instructor of psychology, received the Excellence in Introductory Subjects.

Knight earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Waynesburg College, her Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from Waynesburg University and is a doctoral candidate in Waynesburg University's Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision Program.

Dr. William Batchelder, associate professor of history and director of the Honors Program, received the History of Teaching Excellence Award.

Dr. Batchelder earned his Bachelor of Arts in History from Grove City College, his Master of Arts in History from The Ohio State University, his Master of Arts in English and Medieval History from University of St. Andrews, Scotland, and his Ph.D. in History from The Ohio State University.

The supervisors are also working on other recreational facility improvements in other areas of the township.



Ella Edgreen takes her daily walk on the family farm with her 4-H steer Yogi. They stopped to smell the magnolia tree in full bloom planted by her great grandmother and grandfather Mooney.

Cool at School:

PIONEERS' GREENHOUSE TO OPEN THIS MONTH

By Aubrey Lesnett

With spring rolling around, it's time for what West Greene FFA members and the community look forward to every year, the opening of the school's greenhouse. The greenhouse is run by Mrs. Karlie Wright and her students, making it one of the best hands-on learning experiences at the school.

The greenhouse has been standing since long before Mrs. Wright's time at West Greene began. The current greenhouse was built in the 1998-1999 school year when the school was undergoing renovations. The new gym is located on the site of the old greenhouse.

One of the most powerful aspects of the West Greene greenhouse is its ability to prepare students for life beyond high school. While students learn how to nurture plants from seed to sale, they're also developing essential skills that translate to any career: communication, time management, problem-solving, and leadership.

Through working in the facility, students learn the whole process of greenhouse production. From beginning seeds and transferring plugs, to fertilization and proper watering, to advertising and selling products.

"They're learning how to run a business, manage time, troubleshoot problems, and work as a

team," Mrs. Wright explains. "These are life skills that go well beyond agriculture."

The work starts right after the students get back from Christmas break. Before they can plant, the students must clean the greenhouse from the mess left behind the year prior. Sweeping soil off the ground, organizing the hanging baskets, and making sure they have the proper seeds for what they want to plant that season are the start of the process. After everything is in order, the students start planting their seeds and plugs, hanging up the hanging baskets, and taking turns watering every day.

As the greenhouse continues to bloom, so does the impact it has on the students involved. Many have gone on to pursue studies in environmental science, agriculture, and sustainability. However, even those who choose other paths take with them the valuable lessons learned.

The big opening day event is scheduled for May 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. On that day, the greenhouse transforms into a bustling hub of energy and color, offering flowers, vegetables, and hanging baskets for sale to the public. Visitors can expect to find a wide selection of blooms lovingly nurtured by student hands. Proceeds go back into funding the program, allowing for the purchase of seeds, supplies, and upgrades to keep the greenhouse thriving year after year.



Noah Collins tagging the flower plugs.



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Cool at School:

CARMICHAELS HIGH STAGES THE ADDAMS FAMILY

By Emma Bates



As the musical's opening number states, "When you're an Addams, you've got to have a lot of passion." Fortunately, the Carmichaels Drama Club is known for the passion behind what they do.

2023 saw the drama club's return after the pandemic with a junior production of "Newsies the Musical." The experience was nothing short of a miracle for so many who had been without an outlet for creativity, socialization, and growth. Since then, the drama club has added "Frozen Jr." to the list. But this year, "The Addams Family" took the stage for a next-level performance.

"When I first found out about the show, I was a little nervous that it was a full show," recalls freshman Lilah Burket. "But as we moved through [the musical], it was clear to me that it was going to be amazing."

Students began rehearsing in January, and prepared until their performances in March of this year.

Balance is key when putting on a high school production. Student actors develop a work ethic to rival any professional, spending countless hours reviewing music, practicing dances, and running lines with peers to commit the show to memory before it's ever placed on stage.

Many cast members were active in other extra-curriculars, jobs, and academic pursuits, but always made the time to perfect their performances and support one another on and off stage.

Sophomore Dominic Yazanni reflects on this experience: "Being Gomez was special because it showed me what I can do as an actor. Being able to do the accent and the demeanor...was hard, but it was worth it in the

end."

The rehearsal process requires something beyond basic teamwork. Actors build a special rapport with one another to portray on-stage relationships well and maintain healthy relationships behind the curtain. As junior Ryder Campbell states, "It just feels like family, and I feel like all of my relationships with everyone [have] grown."

Timing really was everything in this hilarious comedy, chalk full of upbeat fanfares and driving, Latin-tinged numbers along with moodier pieces and heartfelt moments.

In the show, the iconically creepy and kooky crew return to the stage for "One Normal Night" at the Addams residence. Wednesday has grown up and found love in a "normal" boy named Lucas and is hopeful the two families will get along. Morticia and Gomez are the hosts of the evening, but are battling a secret that eventually comes out, resulting in renewed life and love for all.

Uncle Fester, Lurch, Pugsley and Grandma conspire to make the evening a dismal success, and the "Ancestors" help to move the plot along through ghoulishly fun songs and choreography led by music director Gabrielle Yazzani and choreographer Suzie Zalar.

Drama Club sponsor Jeanine Hudock shares, "I am most proud of the way this group of students are such a determined, hardworking, and not to mention very talented bunch." She continued, "The arts in school fosters growth and builds resilient, determined young adults."

With that kind of love, it really is "family first, and family last, and family by and by," for the members who call the drama club home.



Opening with spooky success! (Credit Jeremy Herod)



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Cool at School:

ROCKET STUDENTS GET HOOKED ON FISHING PROGRAM

By Jodi Petro Fulks

Jefferson-Morgan is embracing the educational and recreational benefits of fishing with their students and the local community through activities and hands-on experiences in and out of the classroom.

According to Jefferson-Morgan teacher Barry Mylan, “The benefits of fishing are numerous. It’s something you can do alone or with people. When I fish by myself, it’s very relaxing and it calms me. And when I fish with others, I enjoy the camaraderie and the time with family and friends. Fishing also brings about responsibility for the waterways and the local environment. These are great life lessons that I want to share with my students.”

Because of that passion, Mylan decided to bring the Pennsylvania Trout in the Classroom program to Jefferson-Morgan, through a partnership between the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited (PATU) and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC.) His students have been able to raise trout from eggs and have been involved in each stage in the trout life cycle. They released their fish into a state-approved stream and nearby watersheds.

While students are observing the trout, other important topics are addressed including conservation, ecosystems, habitats, natural resources and effective strategies to protect the watersheds.

Superintendent Brandon Robinson said, “There isn’t a better way to learn than to see something happen right in front of you and to experience it in real life. These students are learning so much more, than just raising trout. They are learning how to be better citizens and better humans.”

And keeping with the mantra of forming better citizens, the RLL (Rockets Launching Leadership) class at the high school continues to advocate bringing Jefferson-Morgan and its students together with the local community, creating events and activities for all to enjoy.

Their Youth Fishing Derby gathered many together to enjoy the outdoors and the excitement of that first bite. The derby was held on April 13th at the Waynesburg Sportsman’s Club pond with many people in attendance.

“It is wonderful that we can get our children outdoors and share in these great experiences. It is always nice when JM realizes it can be a part of our children’s lives outside of school too. When they have events like this, our children, my husband and I appreciate our school even more,” stated

JM parent of three Tammy Whitmer.

Student leaders Drew Adams, Brayden Ellsworth and Alek Palko continued the event from last year, which was the inaugural year spearheaded by the RLL class and the Waynesburg Sportsman’s Club. The boys wanted to share their love of the outdoors with younger students and fulfill their semester service project for their RLL class.

Drew stated, “It is always nice to pair what you enjoy and helping your community at the same time. I love fishing with my family and friends and, helping the little kids at the derby, I am hopeful that they continue to fish and connect with it like me.”



Preston Whitmer at the JM Fishing Derby at the Waynesburg Sportsman’s Club.



Mr. Mylan’s class took part in the IU1 Student Showcase.

Cool at School:

STUDENTS FROM GCCTC ADVANCE TO NATIONAL PROSTART STUDENT INVITATIONAL

A total of 140 students from 21 schools showcased their culinary and management expertise at the 11th annual Pennsylvania ProStart Student Invitational hosted by PRLA, the state-wide association that represents Pennsylvania’s hospitality and tourism industries.

The statewide competition was held on February 27 at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel and was sponsored by Marriott International, Hershey Foodservice, Penn State School of Hospitality Management, and the United States Coast Guard. The first-place winners in the culinary and management divisions advanced to the National ProStart Student Invitational in Baltimore this month.

Students from the Greene County Career & Technology Center captured the title in the management competition. They bested the prestigious private Milton Hershey School, who finished in second place.

Those competing in the management division must create a restaurant concept, complete with menu items, marketing tactics, and a floor plan.



The award-winning Greene County CTC management team is made up of Alivia Minor, Ellie Turner, and Jessie Cooke.

GCCTC CULINARY STUDENTS SHINE AT STATE CONFERENCE

Students from the Career and Technology Center’s FCCLA chapter showcased their skills at the State Leadership Conference held at Seven Springs. They returned home with several top honors. The Restaurant Management Team, consisting of Eleanor Turner, Alivia Minor, and Jessie Cooke, earned first place in their event and will advance to the National Competition in Orlando, Florida, this July. Austin Baker earned second place in the Knife Skills event, while Andrew Cooper also secured a second-place finish in Table Service. Other students who represented the school with excellence included Abigale Roscoe in Job Interview, Zachary Welda in Culinary Arts, and the team of Maddie Wise and Matthew Ruse in Food Innovation.

Mr. Wagner, FCCLA advisor and Culinary Arts instructor, shared how proud he is of the entire team. “These students put in countless hours of preparation, often going above and beyond to perfect their skills,” he said. “It’s amazing to watch their growth, not just as competitors, but as young professionals. I couldn’t be more proud of how they represented our school. I’m especially excited to see our Restaurant Management Team head to Nationals—what an incredible opportunity for them.”

Cool at School: NEW PROGRAM ENCOURAGES WCHS STUDENTS TO DREAM BIG

During the fourth quarter, WCHS students are learning to incorporate the 7 Mindsets as part of their education and daily lives. The socio-emotional learning program encourages students to become comfortable with uncertainty and to dream big. It is based on *The 7 Mindsets to Live Your Ultimate Life* by Scott Shickler and Jeff Walker.

Launch week for the initial mindset was the first of April, and students explored the idea that "Everything is Possible" through a video related to Roger Bannister's breaking of the 4-minute mile barrier. Students also reflected on their own dreams.

In Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. McCracken's group, students shared dreams that ranged from becoming president to having a garage full of classic cars to supporting a family by earning a stable income. The group strategized about how to avoid the negative effects of dream snatchers and discovered that sometimes the worst dream snatcher is oneself.



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After Mrs. Wilson shared a dream of hers from long ago, students were encouraged to put on Aviator sunglasses and dream a slightly bigger version of their dream each day.

Other mindsets included: "Passion First", "We Are Connected", "100% Accountable", "Attitude of Gratitude", "Live to Give" and "The Time Is Now."



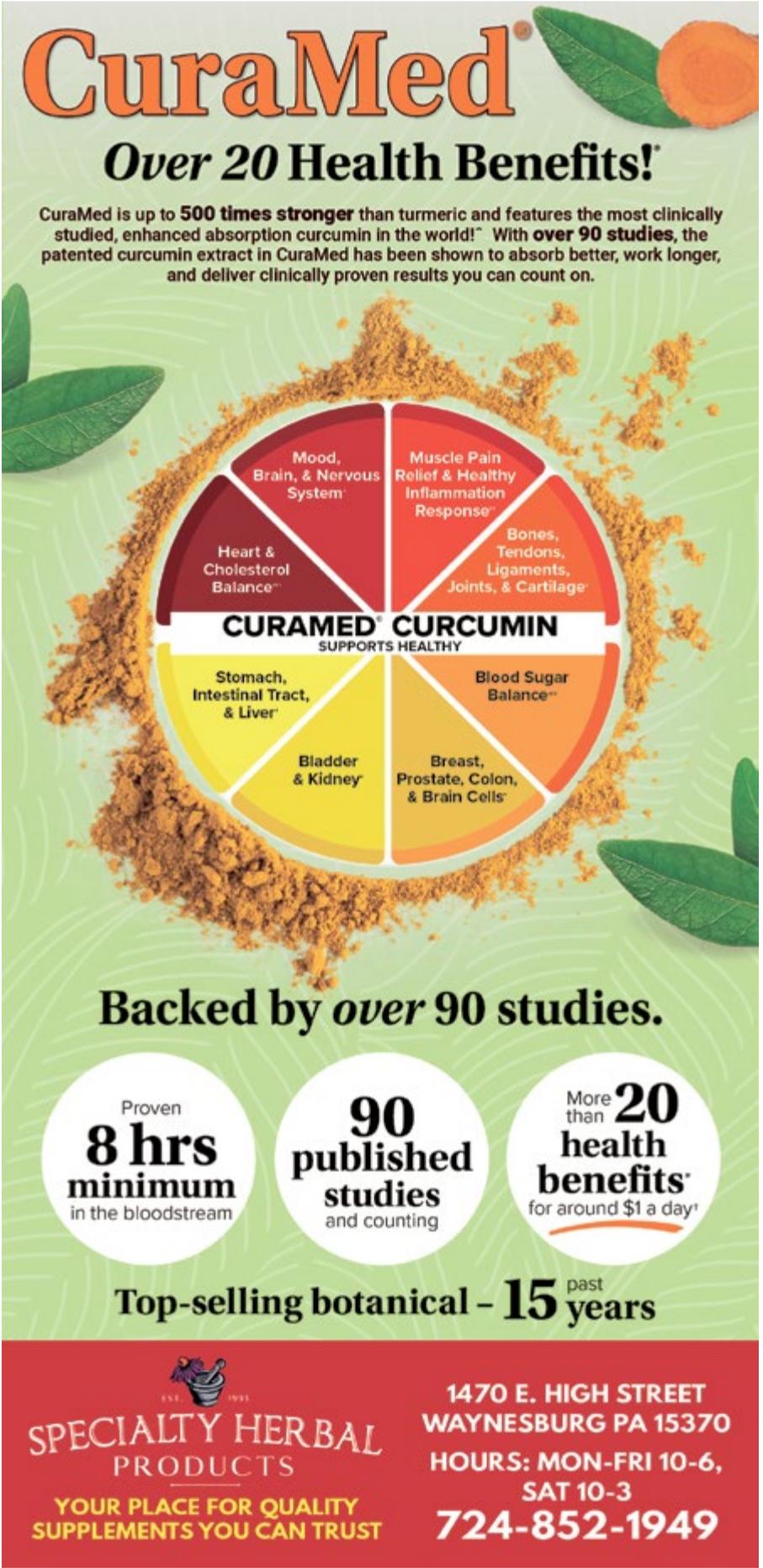
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NOBODY LEFT TO RUN WITH ANYMORE

By Bret Moore

For those of you old enough to recognize the title of this article as a reference to an Allman Brothers song, you probably remember the days when live bands were part of the social landscape of the county.

Almost everyone who grew up in Greene County has a memory of their favorite local band. Whether they played at your prom or at your favorite watering hole, those images and sounds are indelibly etched in your memory.

In the 1960s, kids put together a group in their garage and brought live music to high school dances, roadhouses and battles of the bands. I can remember my father hating the thumping sounds that emanated from our neighbor's house thanks to a 15-year-old Jim Morrison wannabe. (Today, that teenager is a highly respected preacher around the county)

Many of a certain age can remember fire hall wedding staples like Stush and the Boys, the Shufflers, and later Colony. Such bands were de rigueur for a successful reception. Groups such as The Harding Brothers, Toiz, The Yankee Band, Wheatfield Circus, Empire, and Frog Lodge drew large crowds when their name appeared on the illuminated marquee in front of a local fire hall, Stoney Point, the Jury Box, Good Times, Alberts, Koci's, or Koratich's Golden Rail.

There are still vestiges of those types of bands that command attention for a Saturday night on the town. More recent bands such as Quick Exit, The Shadow Cats, The Projects, and Ruff Creek have/had loyal followings and enjoyed long-term success.

In the past, our strong local music scene created a sense of pride and identity when performers such as Gary and Jay Van Syhoc, Danny Greco, Dave Pahanish, Brynn Marie Cirotta, and Robin Lee Smith achieved regional and national acclaim.

Today, one often hears people, including myself, lament the loss of those days from a musical standpoint. However, despite the fact venues where budding musicians can develop their artistic chops are becoming as rare as Pittsburgh Pirate victories, there is hope for a musical renaissance. Slowly, local artists and entrepreneurs are building a different type of music scene.

One of the few dedicated music venues remaining today is the Waynesburg Lions Club Sounds of Summer program on Tuesday evenings. According to club member Eleanor Chapman, "Our series has grown by leaps and bounds over the past nine years. The music is free, and the concession prices are reasonable." In addition, she feels the variety of different types of music adds to the popularity of the concerts.

However, there are fewer and fewer places for young performers to get a chance to gain experience. Ben McMillan, owner of RGB Coffee in Waynesburg, is attempting to remedy that situation. On Friday nights, local musicians provide atmosphere for customers enjoying popular food trucks at RGB. In addition, the shop hosts open-mic nights. "We are trying to stick to local talent," said McMillan. "We want to be part of building a unique music scene in the area."

According to Kent Marisa, co-owner of the Denny House, "Our embracing the local music scene was a happy accident. We were approached by a couple of musicians about playing on Thursday nights. It didn't take us long to realize there is a lot of talent around the area. We have been thrilled to discover what it adds to the evening's atmosphere. Our crowds seem to really enjoy it."

While the number of venues may be fewer, many musicians choose to look on the positive side of the changes. Timm Reeves, who has been playing publicly since the mid-80s, says the hours and conditions of today's venues are far better than the smokey, late nights in the honky-tonks of his youth. "We

would get home at 4:00 or 5:00 a.m. and need to take a shower and put our clothes in the washer before we went to bed. Most places today are non-smoking and close by 11p.m. Also, the equipment is so much smaller set-up and tear down time is less than half of what it was."

Lucien Schroyer, owner of LPS Guitar, has spanned the time periods from the "good old" days to the current scene. "For the past 15 years, I have made it a point to provide young musicians with opportunities to play in front of live audiences by holding open mic nights at places that previously didn't have live music. As a young musician growing up in the 90s, there were a lot of places to play, but I didn't have connections. Now that I do, I try to help the people coming up today."

One of those open mic venues is at the RGB Coffee Shop. Matthew Stewart of Soldiers and Sons is thrilled to have such a venue. "We enjoy playing at RGB because people are there to hear and appreciate live music. It's not just about socializing where there happens to be a band playing in the background."

Obviously, the genre of music is a factor for many. Moreover, some people want to sit passively and enjoy the lyrics and artistry of the songwriters and performers, while some want to get up and dance.

Either way, live music can foster a sense of belonging and bring people together regardless of background. The spontaneity and energy of live music offer an immersive and unforgettable experience that cannot be replicated by recorded music.

In the end, nurturing a vibrant local live music scene is crucial for community building and fostering artistic growth. If done correctly, it can even promote economic vitality in the hospitality and restaurant sectors. Finally, from a cultural perspective it can offer a unique and enriching experience that transcends mere entertainment.



Lucien Schroyer, musician.



Matthew and Andrew Stewart of Soldiers and Sons.

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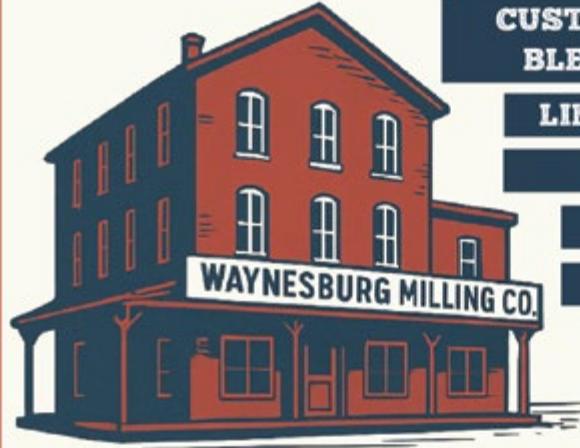
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A PIECE OF MY MIND

Random Thoughts, Reflections & Memories That Occupy Space in My Mind by Vicky Hughes



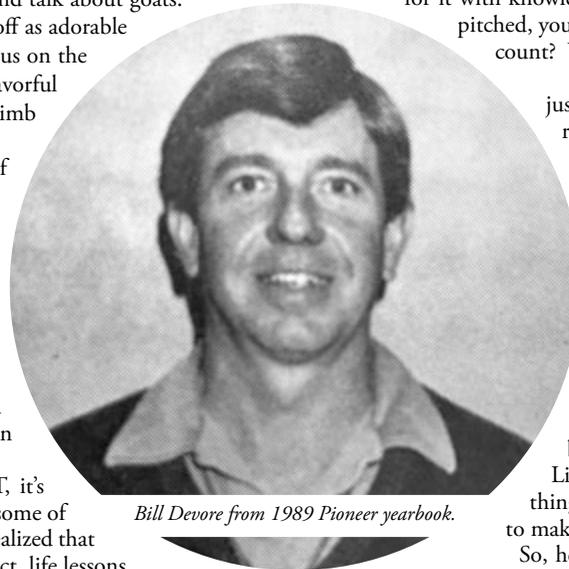
Last month was all about chickens, so let's switch things up and talk about goats. My column, however, will not be about the goats that start off as adorable furry kids with a curious and playful nature. Nor will it focus on the ornery and obnoxious adult creatures that can produce some flavorful milk but can also wreak havoc on a paint job while attempting to climb onto the hood of a new car.

Instead, we will talk about goats in terms of the "Greatest Of All Time." Some may say that there's only one GOAT. My son, Alex, will often refer to Tom Brady as "The GOAT." He knows that I definitely don't agree, but we'll save that discussion for another time.

In my mind, there are many GOAT's and each has their own contributions and attributes. One of the GOAT's in my memory is my high school softball coach, Bill Devore. While I won't overshadow the amazing tenure of the current West Greene softball coach, my friend Bill Simms, Coach Devore held fifteen years (1977-1991) as head coach and led his team to two section championships.

If you're wondering why I consider Coach Devore a GOAT, it's because of the lessons I learned from him. I will always remember some of the things he talked about, but as a young student athlete, I never realized that the things he told us didn't only pertain to softball, they were, in fact, life lessons.

For example, one of his speeches given at practice started with the statement that, "Some of the best players might only have adequate skills. But, if they lack skill, they make up



Bill Devore from 1989 Pioneer yearbook.

for it with knowledge. You have to stay focused on that field. Every time the ball is pitched, you need to know what you will do if that ball comes to you. What's the count? Where are the runners? Where is the play?"

I never realized until much later that Coach Devore's words didn't just apply to the game. Those same words meant something to life. Be ready. Use the skills you have and gather knowledge and information. Have intentionality and have a plan for what you will do when you have choices to make.

One of my sister's favorite signals to get after she reached base was when the coach gave her the sign to "steal the catcher." If you don't know what that means, the best explanation is that the catcher is falling into a basic routine of returning the ball directly to the pitcher without checking the runners. So, the catcher gets the pitch, the base runner has a huge lead, and the catcher throws the ball back to the pitcher. The runner then steals the next base pretty quickly and often before the pitcher realizes it. My sister, Daisy, was either fast enough or maybe sneaky enough or maybe a bit of both, but Coach liked to send that signal to her all the time. Life lesson? Don't fall into a mundane routine that blocks out everything happening around you. Be aware of your surroundings and ready to make a move when you need to.

So, here's a piece of my mind- when you're in the batter's box with a full count and the pitcher of Life throws you a curve ball, you have two options. You can stand and watch and hope for the best OR you can act like Coach Devore just gave you the signal... and swing away! Life is too precious to stand and watch. Take a SWING!

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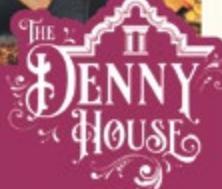
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GUESS WHAT I LEARNED?

By History PI

In my research into the Civil War, I learned that many battles have different names. There were countless skirmishes and approximately fifty major battles. More than a dozen have dual names.

For four long years our nation was divided between Union States and Confederate States - Yankees and Rebels. The war was fought across three major "Theaters." The Eastern Theater was Pennsylvania and Virginia and what is now West Virginia. The Western Theater which included Kentucky, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida and parts of Louisiana east of the Mississippi. The Trans-Mississippi Theater was made up of the land west of the Mississippi River including Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Texas and parts of Indian Territory (now Oklahoma)

What confuses some are the different names that were used in history books, lectures and newspaper accounts for the same battles. Depending on which side of the Mason-Dixon line the source came from, names sometimes differed. For example, the first major battle of the war was called Manassas Junction by the Confederacy. It was named for a nearby Virginia town. The Union called it the Battle of Bull Run, a stream that ran through the battlefield.

In addition, the Yankees called the Battle of Murfreesboro the Bat-

tle of Stones River because of the nearby waterway.

On September 17, 1862, the Battle of Antietam as it was known to the Union or the battle of Sharpsburg as the rebels called it became the bloodiest single day of the war. Once again, the North chose a nearby creek as the name, while the South chose the closest town.

There were two main reasons for this confusion. First, the Union soldiers were in unfamiliar territory. Most of them were from towns and cities. As Union commanders sent out scouts to survey the land, the natural features of the South caught their attention, especially the rivers and streams. They used these features as landmarks. Some of the maps that were available to them also highlighted the waterways and hills. There were no signs telling you what town you were near. Of course, no good rebel would help a Yankee with direction or information.

The Confederate commanders had a different reason for using the names of nearby towns. They wanted to reinforce the South's fight was, as Lewis Armistead expressed in the movie Gettysburg, "Virginians! Virginians! For your Land- For your Homes- For your Sweetheart- For your Wives- For Virginia! In other words, the Confederate army's fight was for their home. This message was paramount to keep up the South's morale and lessen the chance of desertion.







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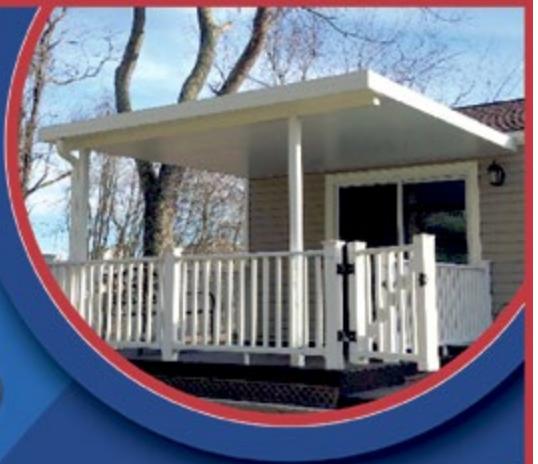
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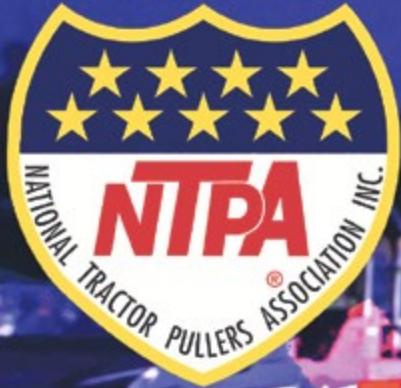
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WHATEVER FLOATS YOUR GOAT

By Morgan Marisa

Greene County is no stranger to rural beauty and the charming lifestyles the countryside can offer. That charm would not be complete without its plentiful farms, featuring dozens of animals to point out on Sunday drives. These animals are fun to admire but also serve their purposes beyond entertainment. No one can attest better to this than those who tend to these animal farms, whether for commercial reasons or as a hobby.

"I grew up in a neighborhood where there wasn't a lot of space for farm animals," said Jessica Bland, a UR nurse at UPMC who has been living in Waynesburg for over 15 years with her husband, Adam, and their three children. "I knew as a kid I loved being around animals and learning about them, but I did not intend to become a hobby farmer and knew very little about farming prior to starting out."

Despite never intending to start the hobby, Bland and her husband decided to buy three goats around 2015, which gradually turned into adopting additional goats into the herd every six months or so. After three years, they tried their hand at breeding and were successful in adding kids to the farm family.

"For our ten-year anniversary, I hinted to Adam about wanting miniature donkeys," added Bland. "I told him we really needed them to protect my goats from coyotes. Of course, he surprised me with two jennies. First thing we learned is don't mix donkeys and goats."

With the new faces came new fences and more opportunities to grow. About a year into donkey farming, they bought some jacks from a friend and began breeding mini donkeys. They sold the foals even though they got quite attached to them in the six months the babies had to spend with their mom after birth.

The Blands are not the only Greene County residents who have learned the ups-and-downs of raising goats and other farm animals. Mike and Lisa Belding both discovered their passion for farming and agriculture at a young age. Mike grew up on a small sheep farm and participated in 4-H programs and the Future Farmers of America in high school before obtaining a degree in Agriculture Science from Penn State University. Lisa was raised in a small farming community in eastern North Carolina, working in tobacco fields before heading off to North Carolina State University to study education.

"While preparing for retirement from the Marine Corps, (we) sought to move back to Southwest Pennsylvania and give (our) children an opportunity to raise farm animals and live in a rural community," said Mike Belding. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the US Marine Corps in North Carolina, where he met Lisa. "Throughout the years of moving around in the military, there was always a desire to get back to the farming environment."

Although it took nearly thirty years, Mike and Lisa finally settled in Greene County in 2012 when they found and purchased a small farm for sale close to where Mike was raised. They were accompanied by their son, W.D., and their daughter, Jessie, who were in ninth and tenth grade at the time. Although they had visited

Greene County over the years, the big move was quite a change from their experience of moving every three years on military orders. Anticipating this significant lifestyle transformation, they called their property "Leap of Faith Farm".

Given the topography of the land, Mike's earlier farming experiences, and the relatively small property, the family decided to first focus on raising goats. They started by dividing their property into several pastures with fencing and water, then built an additional barn and a chicken coop. Over the years, they have raised rabbits, chickens for eggs, steers, and barn cats along with maintaining a few large vegetable gardens. Still, their most numerous livestock, like the Blands, are goats.

"It is both rewarding and challenging to raise goats," said Belding. "They do make good pets if someone would like just a couple goats, but I would say in large numbers, there are three things to consider when preparing to raise goats - protection, shelter, and health programs."

Both couples emphasized the importance of protecting their goats from threats such as coyotes and roaming dogs. Secure fencing is also essential as goats can quickly become little escape artists if it's not done properly. Goats also require warm shelter as they are not big fans of cold, wet environments. Additionally, herd health depends on a strict regimen of nutrition, parasite prevention programs and hoof trimming.

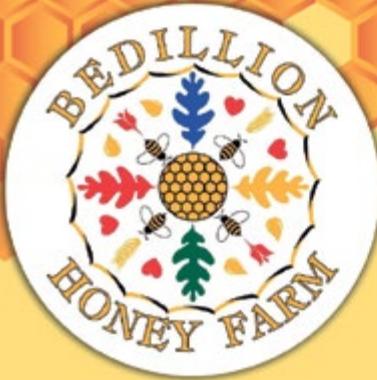
"The reality is farming is a lot of trial and error. You learn by doing," said Bland. "If you are considering starting a farm, just make sure you have the time and resources to do so. The animals depend on you for all their needs."

Raising cute animals can be worthwhile, but there are challenges to getting started. Extensive research is necessary to know what to expect and how to best prepare to bring your first animals home. Belding recommended approaching a new farm like any other enterprise. One should develop a traditional business plan with a business description, intended products, market analysis, operational details, financial projections, and organizational and management details.

Although both families are currently down-sizing their farms due to their children leaving the nest, they still enjoy the few animals they decided to keep. For Jessica and Adam, this includes their goat herd, dogs, a cat, a horse, and a mini donkey with special needs named Twitch. Leap of Faith Farm, on the other hand, has several honey bee hives, a couple feeder steers, a handful of barn cats, and a spoiled potbelly pig named Lemon.

Goats can be a great introductory livestock to kick off a farming experience. Farming can be especially rewarding for children as they learn a great deal from the time and effort required to care for animals. For those curious about starting their own farm, there are organizations and individuals that are happy to share their experiences and guidance for new farmers such as the County Extension Offices, Farm Bureau members, 4-H and FFA programs.





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FORMER FIRE CHIEF JACK COOPER REMEMBERED BY HIS COMMUNITY

By Aubrey Lesnett

The community of Rogersville is mourning the loss of a true hero. Former Fire Chief Jack Cooper, a steadfast leader and lifelong public servant, passed away at the age of 85 on March 22, leaving behind a legacy defined by bravery, compassion, and unwavering dedication to protecting others.

Jack was a hardworking, community-oriented man. He was a dedicated fireman with over 60 years of service to both the New Freeport Volunteer Fire Company and the Center Township Volunteer Fire Company, serving both companies as Chief at some point in his career. Those who knew him best say he led not with ego, but with humility, always putting the safety of his team and the well-being of the community first.

"If there was someone that needed help, you'd better believe Jack was on top

of it. No matter what time it was, or how major the issue was, he was on it. He was a dedicated, community-oriented, one of a kind, old school kind of guy when it came to the fire department," said Harry Gillispie, a fellow volunteer firefighter who worked alongside Jack for years.

When asked to describe Cooper in three words, Center Township Fire Chief Paul Cook said, "Wow, just three? Well, if I had to pick, I'd have to say Jack was very forward, honest, and dedicated." The common theme expressed by his admirers was Jack's unique ability to combine hard work and humanity.

Cooper was also known to be the comedic relief of the department. His good-natured jokes about his wife, family, and friends were part of the charm that kept his fellow volunteers on their toes. His good humor and positive outlook were infectious around the entire community.

When asked how he thinks Jack Cooper should be remembered, Gillispie said, "As someone that always answered the call, no matter what time it was. He would respond to any problem, big or small. He even carried that mindset with him outside the department. That's really who he was, and I think it's important to remember him that way."

Cook added, "He should really be remembered as a stand-up guy who would do anything for anyone. He built that fire company up through all the bingos that he and wife ran. That's the main reason the department was able to buy the fire trucks and any new equipment".

Fire Chief Jack Cooper didn't just protect his community - he built it, strengthened it, and led it with honor. Though he may be gone, the values he championed, the lives he touched, and the legacy he leaves behind will forever burn bright in the heart of his community. His was a life of purpose - and in that purpose - he will never be forgotten.



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ENTERING YOUR KID'S ARTS AND CRAFTS AT THE FAIR

By Courtney Hursey

With the school year winding down, you may be looking around at all the arts and crafts your kids have created this year wondering what you should do with them. Did you know that you can enter them at the fair?

Both the Jacktown and Greene County Fairs have a plethora of classes for arts and crafts in their Home & Garden Departments. In the youth departments, they are divided into age categories, so kids are competing against their peers. It's a great opportunity to showcase what they have created over the year and participate in our fairs. The classes available include just about anything you can think of. Sculpture, Painting, Photography, Legos, Short Stories, Poetry, Sewing, Beadwork, and more. If your kid created it, they can enter it.

How do you go about entering these items? Jacktown and Greene County Fairs will publish their 2025 Fair Books on their websites. Download the book, fill out the entry form, and send it to the fair. Greene County Fair also offers online entries on their website as an option. If you get stuck and need help, just reach out to one of the Home & Garden department superintendents. They are more than happy to help.

You will then head to the fair on the date and time they are accepting entries to drop off your items. There will be volunteers there to help you get to the right place and check in your items. Once you drop them off, it's time to wait for judging.

Judging is closed to the public. There are judges for each department that meticulously examine all the items entered. The top three items in each class get ribbons and premium money. The judge can then pick items from everything they judged to place as "Best in Show". This award comes with a special ribbon and bragging rights until next year's fair.

After the fair, you will need to return and pick up your items, ribbons, and premium checks. I can't tell you what you should let your kid do with their premium money, but stopping for ice cream on the way home to celebrate their hard work would be a good choice.

That's it. It's that easy to enter at the fair. We can't wait to see all your kids' creations at the Jacktown and Greene County Fairs this year.

If you are looking for some hands-on instructions for how and what to enter, please join us at The Way Community Center on May 20 from 4-7 p.m. We will have representatives from both the Jacktown and Greene County Fairs, examples of what you can enter, information on how to enter, and entry forms. This will be a great opportunity to learn about what you can enter and get inspiration.

For more information on Home & Garden entries, please contact:

Jacktown Fair	Greene County Fair
Karrie Gorby	Courtney Hursey
724-833-0718	724-299-1249
jacktownfairhomegarden@gmail.com	greencountyfair@windstream.net

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THIS MONTH'S FEATURED RECIPE COURTESY OF THE DENNY HOUSE

GOAT CHEESE LINGUINI

Ingredients:

4 T. Olive oil
 4 cloves of minced garlic
 5 c. spinach leaves, roughly chopped
 1½ c. basil leaves roughly chopped (reserve ½ c. for garnish)
 1# linguini or fettuccini
 Zest from 1 lemon
 Juice from 1 lemon (about 1 Tablespoon)
 6 oz goat cheese crumbled
 1 c. halved cherry tomatoes



Boil pasta to al dente according to the package directions. Don't forget to salt your pasta water! Drain and keep 1c. pasta water aside.

While the pasta is boiling, sauté the minced garlic in a pan until fragrant (about 1 minute) then add the spinach and 1 cup of the basil leaves. Sauté until wilted.

To the spinach mixture, add lemon juice and zest, cherry tomatoes, ½ cup of hot pasta water and the pasta along with most of the crumbled goat cheese (keeping some aside for garnish).

Stir gently until the cheese is melted into a nice, creamy sauce. (adding more water if needed until reaching the desired consistency)

Serve garnished with basil and crumbled goat cheese.

IT'S TIME FOR MORELS

By T.R. Mahle

An old timer once told me you only need three things to find morels...a walking stick, a good pair of boots and a keen eye. I am by no means an expert at mushroom hunting, but I have learned a few things along the way. Over the years, I have added to his list...things like luck, patience and experience are also necessary to be successful in finding the elusive fungi. This activity often coincides with turkey hunting for me and is a rewarding participation trophy when the turkeys are not cooperating.

Morchella, the true morels, with a distinctive honeycomb appearance of their caps, are highly prized delicacies for their flavorful taste and nutritional value (manganese, phosphorus, zinc and vitamin D). Locating morels is not easy, and once found, the plot locations are often a closely guarded secret to allow for future gatherings (much like ginseng plots).

Morels are almost universally associated with spring and can be found in many habitats. Morels are more likely to fruit during a period of increasing heat following a chilly period, a preference which is credited for their abundance in areas with cold winters (like ours).

For beginners, take the time to educate yourself on the dif-



ferent morel fungi. When gathering morels for the table, care must be taken to distinguish them from the poisonous "false morels" and other morel lookalikes. All wild morels should be thoroughly cleaned (soaked in saltwater) and cooked before eating.

The "mushroom season" generally runs from late March to early May depending on the weather. To find morel mushrooms,

focus on woodlands or woody edges, and especially around dead or dying trees like elms, ashes, poplars, and apple. In addition, disturbed areas like burn sites or logged areas are often productive. Drainage ditches, which tend to be wet and get sunlight, are ideal places to look for morels. South facing slopes in the early season are also good since this is where the ground warms up first. The best time to hunt for morels is after a good spring rain when soil temperatures are in the 50's or 60's, and ideally, when the nights are above 50 degrees. These conditions trigger their growth and emergence.

Finding morels can be a fun event for the entire family. However, everyone should use caution when reaching in and around logs and tree trunks. The warm weather brings out wild mushrooms, but snakes are stirring too. Copperheads frequent the same areas in which mushrooms thrive. Stay alert and you should be fine.

So, get out there with your family this spring and find some mushrooms. You don't have to be an expert to find wild mushrooms...but you do need to put in the effort. You will be glad you did. A simple google search of 'morel recipe's' will reveal several options to highlight the earthy, nutty flavor of these popular wild seasonal mushrooms.

GETTING YOUR LAWN SUMMER READY AFTER A LONG WINTER

By Courtney Hursey

As we emerge from a long, cold winter, we begin to see all the things that need done in our lawns. This makes now the perfect time to give your lawn some extra love to ensure a lush, green space to enjoy this summer.

Step 1 – Clear Debris

Rake up leaves and small sticks. Pick up large branches that may have fallen over winter. Remove and cut back dead and overgrown plants. These simple actions will ensure that sun and air can reach the soil, giving your lawn a head start. Pro tip – start a compost pile with the debris,



it will make great soil for potted plants!

Step 2 – Aerate

While this step is not required, if your ground seems hardpacked, aerating can help loosen the soil and allow water and nutrients to better drain into the ground. Getting the nutrients where they need to go faster is like a cheat code for a healthier lawn. If you don't have an aerator, check with neighbors to see if they have one. Many local businesses also rent aerators.

Step 3 – Reseed and Patch Up

Winter is hard on your lawn and Greene County experienced an especially cold winter this year. Simply sprinkle some grass seed in bare areas and cover with mulch or straw. Your lawn will be back to normal in no time as spring temperatures, sun, and rain creep in.

Step 4 – Fertilize

Now that you have your lawn cleared and seed planted, you are ready to feed your lawn. Work with a local business to determine the best fertilizer for your lawn and apply using the directions on the package. This is an easy way to give your lawn a boost after a difficult winter.

Step 5 – Check Your Mower

Make sure that your mower is ready to go before you need to mow. We all like a little pampering and your mower is no exception. Make sure it starts and check to make sure the blades turn on. Once you know everything is working, change the oil and filter, air filter, fuel filter, and spark plugs. Your local dealers keep these common items in stock, so make sure to support them. If you would rather send your mower for service, call your dealer and schedule an appointment before things get busy.

Following these simple steps can help you have a thriving lawn ready to enjoy all summer long. You'll be ready for barbecues, backyard parties, and simply enjoying the outdoors. Summer is too short to spend inside, so get your lawn ready to enjoy this summer.

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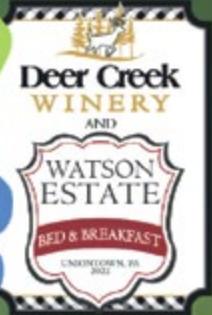


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Last month's Greenscene Photo was correctly identified as the picturesque sign that adorns Main Street in Mt. Morris. The colorful, bucolic addition to the town is near the bridge by Sweet Baby's at Rising Creek Restaurant.

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Lions Medical Center



Greentree Medical Center
Established 1987

RESPIRATORY VIRUSES ARE ON THE RISE!

IF YOU'RE UNDER THE WEATHER, WE CAN HELP WITH SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS!

Whether it's the Flu, RSV, Rhinovirus, HMNPU, Walking Pneumonia, or many others, Dr. Gosai and his team can test, diagnose, and treat you in-house with targeted treatments to eliminate the guesswork - even on the same day!

We offer same day appointments Monday-Friday during our business hours, **EVEN IF WE'RE NOT YOUR PCP!**

All patients are welcome!

IF INTERESTED PLEASE CALL 724-883-2223

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