

Greene Scene

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

A DIRECT RESULTS COMPANY



WOMEN'S
HISTORY
MONTH

MARCH 2026

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FRONT COVER PHOTO:
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GreeneScene Announces New Editor

A NEW VISION WITH OLD ROOTS

By Bret Moore

Some of you have been reading my "Intentional Walks" column for the past five years. I have tried to preserve and present some of the fascinating sports history of our county. Occasionally, I offered my opinions on contemporary sports topics of the day.

I have been incredibly lucky in my professional life. I spent three decades teaching and coaching at McGuffey High School. I then spent another 11 years with Greene County as the Director of Community Service and the Director of Recreation. I could not have asked for a more rewarding and enjoyable career.

However, last March yet another opportunity presented itself. I began contributing other articles and tried my hand at restructuring and expanding some aspects of this magazine. With the support and shared insights of the entire staff, I feel we have continued to provide the community with a valuable service. The GreeneScene provides a communal source of information, celebration, and recollection.

Upon my latest (and last) retirement, I will now assume the duties of editor of the GreeneScene. Therefore, I would like to share our continuing vision for upcoming issues.

I remember the days when "reading the paper" meant grabbing the Democrat-Messenger from your porch or mailbox and opening it to your preferred section without having to check the index. Everything you needed to navigate your day and plan your weekend was available over breakfast.

Local news, engagements, anniversaries, box scores, and classifieds were available in glorious black and white print. You knew which movies were playing at the theaters or drive-ins, and which bands were playing at your local club or tavern.

The fact I get to recreate this nexus of information is even more special to me because my father Jim Moore was the editor of the Messenger in my formative years. I loved going to his office and hearing the constant chatter of the Associated Press ticker tape and the squeaky wheel of the dumbwaiter that sent stories down to the print room.

I understand that no amount of romanticization can bring back print journalism to its glory days. However, we hope to capture the zeitgeist of those years, while still embracing the new technologies of social media and podcasts.

Producing a small-town newspaper has always been an act of quiet devotion, capturing the events and ordinary moments that somehow become history. The challenge today is finding a way to carry the soul of a bygone era into a landscape reshaped by screens, scrolls, and shrinking attention spans. The old newsroom rhythms still echo with the awareness that local stories matter because they belong to someone you might pass in the grocery store.

As the new editor, I'm standing at the crossroads of memory and momentum, carefully weaving the warmth of yesterday's stories with the energy of today's voices. By honoring the traditions that shaped the community while embracing emerging trends, fresh perspectives, and modern platforms, I want to ensure this magazine remains both a cherished keepsake and a vibrant reflection of the present. In blending nostalgia with innovation, we aren't just preserving the past, we are reimagining it, creating a publication that feels timeless, relevant, and deeply rooted in the people it serves.





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TOWNE SQUARE



GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN BUSINESS/INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

Recent online discussions have inspired this article, which aims to accurately inform readers about the roles government plays in the development of local properties. The construction of a new car wash on the former Tommy Boy's site and the "Hummingbird Project" proposal for a data center in Alicia, Monongahela Township have sparked debates and, at times, the spread of misinformation.

Today, individuals have unprecedented opportunities to express their opinions on social media platforms, speak at public meetings, or protest in the streets. Gone are the days of published Op Eds that have been vetted by an editor and screened for appropriateness and accuracy. All platforms of social media have an audience eager to respond, a cheering section for angry "keyboard warriors." For whatever reason: frustration, rage, resentment, indignation, or society's inability to hold authors accountable, allow for the publication of theories, statements, and declarations which are often wrong.

There are a significant number of regulations, codes, acts and permitting requirements that must be adhered to in the development of properties by individuals, businesses, or industry. All these requirements are for the protection of people (safety), physical property, environmental, and - sometimes - property values. This article will clarify the roles of government bodies and programs with respect for business/industry development.

The Greene County Commissioners

County Commissioners DO NOT pick and choose the next businesses. The Commissioners are responsible for the fiscal affairs of the county, including the annual budget, levying real estate taxes, and the investment of county funds. Daily operations of county government are administered via five primary departments: Finance & Administration, Law & Order, Human Services, Economic Development, and Recreation. Generally, through their administration, commissioners work to provide an environment appealing to future (taxable) growth. In providing a safe environment, access to required infrastructure and utilities, county government can entice future business and industry investment. The commissioners' responsibilities are diverse and can be complex; however, they play no role and have no authority in the sale or transfer of property from one individual or company to another.

I've seen the statement, "County Commissioners are not representing me!" That's likely a true statement if "me" is an individual or a small specific group of constituents. Commissioners are elected to represent Greene County as a whole. They are charged with making the best decisions for the total population of Greene County. Their representation of the whole population is more appropriate when considered as it applies to relationships with the state government, regional relationships, and across adjoining state lines (neighboring WV counties).

The Greene County Planning Commission

Let us now look at how the Planning Commission fits into the process. The Greene



County Planning Commission is a 9-member board of varied experiences and expertise with jurisdiction and control of the subdivision of land and development located within the county limits as set forth in Act 247, Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. The board's authority is with approval or review of proposed subdivisions or development. The board ensures all legal requirements are met. Their authority does not extend to choosing whether a business or industry is desired, only that it meets all established constraints.

In its simplest form, Act 247 is the legal backbone for local land use (zoning) and land development processes in Pennsylvania, giving towns and municipalities the authority to decide what gets built where. Unfortunately, in 2021 when County Commissioners encouraged and the planning commission held zoning workshops for municipalities, not a single township participated. As a matter of fact, Township Supervisors were threatened with being black-balled in the next election if they considered zoning. This is why there is currently no zoning protection in most townships. The people said, "Government will not

continued on next page

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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continued from previous page

tell me what I can or cannot do with my property.” So, here we are with no protection for property owners by their own choice.

Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDA)

The term Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDA) stirred a lot of emotional discussion. These are standard agreements within government and business/industries. A non-disclosure agreement is a legally binding contract that establishes a confidential relationship between two parties (In this discussion, between government and industry) It outlines the sensitive information that one party wishes to share with the other for specific purposes while restricting access to that information. NDAs are commonly used to protect proprietary information and other confidential data from being disclosed to third parties without authorization. They do not insinuate conspiracies, preferential treatment, or collusion. It is not government’s responsibility to tell constituents about new property owners’ intentions, only that the business/industry has met all constraints for development.

Tax Abatements

The Greene County Tax Abatement Program is a tax exemption for new development within Greene County. For the program to be applicable, all three of the elected bodies (county, municipality and school district) must adopt the program to benefit their own residents and to promote growth in their jurisdictions.

The Greene County Tax Abatement program is a 5-Year Modified Basis program with Year one 100%, Year two 80%, Year three 60%, Year four 40% and Year five 20% relief of property taxes. The abatement program is for taxable improvements. Land is not eligible for tax abatement. There is no process nor provision for the taxing bodies; county, municipality and school district to give preferential treatment or extensions of the tax abatement program. All housing, business and industry get treated the same for the same duration.

You Don’t Get to Choose Your New Neighbor

If your neighbor decides to sell their property—whether it’s a town lot, subdivision

AMERICA 250

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To celebrate America’s 250th Birthday, GreeneScene Magazine will honor this historic milestone with two special commemorative editions.

THE LEGACY COMMEMORATIVE EDITION #1 — JUNE 2026

THIS EDITION WILL:

- Look back on the past 250 years of history in America, Pennsylvania, Greene County, and the surrounding communities
- Highlight upcoming July 4th events and celebrations
- Feature stories, photos, and local history tied to America’s journey

THE CELEBRATION COMMEMORATIVE EDITION #2 — AUG 2026

- Spotlight how our communities celebrated America 250 in 2026
- Share event recaps, photos, and highlights from local celebrations

WE WANT YOUR PHOTOS, STORIES, AND EVENT INFO!

If you are planning an event—or if you have photos, stories, or memories from America’s past celebrations—we’d love to include them in these two very special editions.

PLEASE SEND US:

- Photos (new or historic)
- Stories or community memories
- Details on upcoming events (dates, times, locations)
- Celebration recaps after the events take place

Your contributions will help us share this once-in-a-lifetime milestone with readers across Greene County and beyond.

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SUBMIT EVENTS TO:
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estate, or a large farm—you or the community have no legal right to select the new owner. Government agencies, Planning Boards, and Conservation Districts ensure compliance with laws and regulations, but the sale of private property remains a transaction between the seller and buyer. In cases like the proposed data center, in the absence of zoning, there are no inherent protections for property owners.

It is not government’s responsibility to tell constituents about new property owners’ intentions; however, it may be beneficial for businesses and industry to inform the adjoining and potentially affected property owners of their plans. Being good neighbors goes a long way to quell anger and distrust in the neighborhood.

Whether the development is a car wash or a data center, the government’s role remains consistent regarding privately owned property. It ensures compliance with established regulations, codes, acts and permitting requirements. Politicians would do themselves a favor by not claiming “progress” or “success” when they have nothing to do with the proposed sale or development of properties – it only muddies the waters of public perception.

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HIGH ST. AND MORRIS ST. INTERSECTION FEBRUARY PERSON, PLACE OR THING ANSWER



An Intersection Lost to Time: High and Morris Streets Remembered

The old photograph of the intersection of High Street and Morris Street in Waynesburg captured a moment when downtown life was dense, walkable, and defined by familiar storefronts rather than open asphalt. Today, the site is home to a borough parking lot—but the image reminds us that this corner once bustled with commerce, conversation, and daily routine.

Dominating one side of the intersection were **Glenn Arnold Real Estate** and the **Atlantic Service Station**, two businesses that anchored the block and served both local residents and passing motorists. Their eventual demolition made way for the parking lot, reflecting a mid-to-late 20th-century shift in priorities as automobiles reshaped small-town planning.

Around the intersection stood landmarks just as woven into community memory. **Gallatin Bank** stood on the northeast corner. Catty-corner was **Jimmie's Lunch** and their famous "death dogs." **Willison Real Estate** and the **Waynesburg Restaurant** were also on that block, creating a tightly packed crossroads of business, dining, and social exchange.

The photo freezes a version of Waynesburg that many remember fondly—a time when errands were run on foot, lunch counters had character, and every corner told a story. While the parking lot now serves a practical purpose, the image stands as a quiet testament to what once stood there, reminding us that beneath today's pavement lies a layered and living history.

PERSON PLACE OR THING

SCAN TO ENTER!



Hint:

*Where thundered hooves once tore the eager ground,
And racing hearts kept pace with flying mane,
Now stands a steed in bronze, forever bound
To guard the past where cheers and dust once reigned.*

*No starting bell now splits the morning air,
No wagers ride the wind with breathless plea;
Yet in his gaze lives all that want to be,
The speed, the hope, the glory lingering there.*

*Around him laugh the children with bat and ball,
While pavilions cast their shade on present days;
The track once cut by hooves now welcomes all,
Where memory and motion gently braid.*

*Though still he stands, time yields to what we see:
What once had been—and all we want to be.*

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Brighter Tomorrows

Good NEWS

In Greene County

WU Nursing Program Opens State-of-the Art Facility



Waynesburg University's Nursing Program recently welcomed the completion of a new AI- and VR-powered Immersion Room in its Clinical Learning Center in Stewart Science Hall.

The Nasco Healthcare-designed immersion lab is the first of its kind in the nation. Its installation further advances immersive, competency-based learning opportunities for students in the University's Nursing Program.

The donor-funded Immersion Room features a fully enclosed room with three additional interior walls that create an amphitheater-style environment. Using advanced projection, laser and touchscreen technology, the room delivers a fully immersive interactive learning experience that places students at the center of realistic clinical scenarios and team-based patient care.

"Our commitment is to ensure that nursing students have access to the technology and learning tools necessary to succeed in today's complex healthcare environment," said Dr. Sherry Zak, PhD, RN, Director of Nursing. "By intentionally integrating technology across our programs, we are preparing graduates who are adaptable, confident and ready to practice in settings that increasingly rely on innovation and evidence-based care."

Anchored by the NextGen DANI™ Immersive Experience / Be READY Immersive Experience by Nasco Healthcare and supplied by McKesson Medical Surgical, the technology was custom-designed and constructed specifically for Waynesburg University.

A centralized server and dedicated wireless network allow all components to communicate seamlessly, supporting smooth scenario execution and real-time interaction. Built precisely to detailed specifications, the installation process ensured the system met the Nursing Program's exact instructional needs.

The simulation system supports a wide range of hands-on clinical capabilities, including temperature assessment, stethoscope auscultation, injections, blood pressure monitoring, labs, ultrasound, glucometer use, pulse oximetry, CPR, ventilation, cardiac leads, defibrillation and more.

Faculty can utilize pre-programmed scenarios that are fully customizable or design custom simulations from scratch, allowing instructors to tailor experiences to specific lesson plans and prepare students for the complexities of real-world patient care.

In October 2025, Waynesburg University unveiled ALEX Gen AI, a **groundbreaking generative AI-powered manikin** manufactured by Nasco Healthcare. It is **the first of its kind** and enhances clinical nursing education with responsive, speech-enabled simulation and real-time interaction capabilities.

WCHS Lions Club Students of the Month for February



Keira Kennedy is the daughter of Lisa and Allan Kennedy of Mount Morris. She has carried a 4.0 GPA through high school. At WCHS, she has been a member of the rifle team, track and field team, drama club, Spanish Club, Prom Committee, Alpha Beta, Raider Rose Club, Envirothon, National Honor Society, Student Council, and the Ski Club. She has also won classroom awards in math and chemistry.

She has worked at Sorella's Pizzeria for the past three years. Keira also works to serve her community. She is the coordinator of the food pantry at the Mount Morris United Methodist Church.

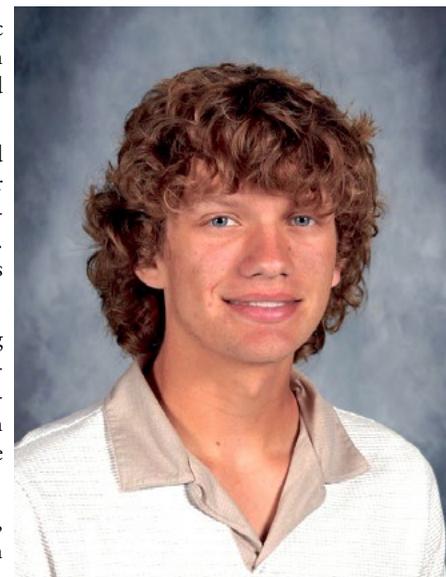
She plans to attend WVU and major in pre-med.

Mylo Snyder is the son of Megan and Eric Bacorn of Waynesburg and Micah and Hannah Snyder of Buckhannon, WV. He has earned straight 'A's throughout high school.

He is a member of the soccer, rifle and track teams. Mylo has earned a varsity letter in all three sports. He also participates in Envirothon and the county STEM competition. Mylo has earned classroom awards in statistics and chemistry.

His community service includes providing childcare for elementary teachers over the summer and working maintenance for his grandmother's church. In addition, he has done trash pickups on the Greene Country Trail with the college soccer team.

In his free time, Mylo enjoys photography, skiing, and music. He plans to earn a degree in chemistry and pursue a career in pharmacology.



Five Solas Christian Theater to Hold Auditions for Summer Play

Auditions for the summer production of *Pilgrim's Progress: the Musical (Part Two)* will be held Monday, April 13 and Wednesday April 15 at 7 p.m.

All ages and experience levels are welcome. There are both singing and acting roles available.

Five Solas Christian Theatre
193 Preachers Rd. Waynesburg
Email: fivesolasministry@yahoo.com

Please e-mail or Facebook message with questions if you are interested in helping.

University Celebrates First Hybrid Second-Degree BSN Cohort

In January, Waynesburg University's Department of Nursing held a Pinning Ceremony for graduates of a new program. The ceremony marked a historic milestone as the first graduating cohort of the Hybrid Second-Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

"The Pinning Ceremony is the moment when we formally welcome our students into the nursing profession," according to Dr. Sherry Zak, chair of the Department of Nursing and director of the undergraduate and graduate Nursing programs.

The Hybrid Nursing as a Second Degree BSN pathway is designed for individuals who have previously earned a bachelor's degree in another field and have felt a new calling to serve in healthcare.

The hybrid format allows students to complete coursework online while participating in required on-campus labs and simulations, as well as off-campus clinical experiences, making nursing education accessible to adult learners and career changers.

Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN), the final step toward entering professional nursing practice.

The program reflects the University's ongoing commitment to innovative nursing education, workforce development, and the preparation of compassionate, practice-ready nurses to meet the evolving healthcare needs of this region.

Greene County CTC's Automotive Technologies Program Offers Residents Multiple Services

If you need basic services for your auto needs, consider the Career and Technology Center's Automotive Program for oil changes, tire rotations, fluid checks and replacement, and brake installations. You can contact Dave Thistlethwaite at 724-627-3106 for more information.



Project Balloon Takes Flight

At WVU Medicine Golisano Children's Hospital in Morgantown, a simple balloon is making a big difference. Project Balloon, a newly launched initiative, is designed to brighten the days of pediatric patients with a small but powerful gesture: a colorful balloon and a handwritten get-well card delivered right to their hospital room.

The program was inspired by the story of a local child whose hospital stay following open-heart surgery was made a little lighter by balloons that filled his room with color and hope. Recognizing how meaningful that simple act could be, community partners came together to ensure more children could experience the same joy—especially those who may have few visitors or are facing particularly difficult days.

Project Balloon is a collaboration between Golisano Children's Hospital, the nonprofit Growing Up Greene, and First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Greene County, along with its subsidiary First Greene Mortgage. Initial seed funding from local donors and churches helped launch the effort, while First Federal committed additional financial support and ongoing annual contributions to sustain it.

Through Project Balloon, hospital staff can easily request a balloon delivery for a child in need of encouragement—proving that sometimes the smallest gestures can lift spirits the highest.



Participants from First Federal, First Greene Mortgage, WVU Medicine Child Life, WVU Gift Shop, and Growing Up Greene joined together for the official launch of Project Balloon. All balloons, with get-well cards attached, were later handed out to Children's Hospital patients.



Miss Rain Day, Camryn Hawfield, has chosen Growing Up Greene as her service organization project during her reign. Volunteer Lexi Hooper and board members Keshia Weaver and Cathy Schoen joined her for the program's launch.

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Cool at School:

WEST GREENE FINDS FLEXIBILITY IS AN EDUCATIONAL NECESSITY

By Aubrey Lesnett



West Greene Administrators, teachers and staff pitch in to keep things moving.

When winter weather forced West Greene School District to implement Flexible Instruction Days (FIDs) during the last week of January, the district's preparation and community support ensured that learning—and essential services—continued without interruption.

"Overall, the feedback has been really positive regarding the implementation of Flexible Instruction Days throughout the last week of January due to the snowstorm," according to Superintendent Eric Gaydos.

Despite the difficult circumstances, attendance and participation remained high. In fact, Gaydos noted, "We couldn't have asked for a better outcome despite the circumstances. This highlights the resilience and resolve that are a part of the character and culture of this District."

Preparation began early as weather models predicted significant snowfall. "As the models started to show a northern shift of the axis of heavier rates of snowfall, we had a good idea that we would be out of school for a good portion of the week," Gaydos explained.

Teachers were asked to prepare for extended remote instruction and met the challenge head-on and created plans that were appropriate and effective for remote instruction.

The district's FID plan is tiered by grade level. "Students in grades K-2 are given packets to complete. Students in grades 3-5 are sent home with their Chromebooks to access online instruction and learning resources assigned to them by their teachers. Students in grades 6-12 follow their daily schedule online. Teachers hosted Google Meets, provided instruction and support, and reached out to families as needed.

Two of the women who reflected on the week experienced it from dual roles—as educators and as parents of elementary students in the district.

Mrs. Karlie Wright, K-12 Academic Director and a parent of an elementary student, shared, "I felt the virtual instruction days were effective overall and a great example of how our staff prioritizes student learning, even when unfortunate circumstances require a shift in our delivery". She was especially impressed with the attentiveness of her kindergarten student's teacher, noting the "clear communication, thoughtful support, and multiple options for students to meet learning goals in developmentally appropriate ways".

Mrs. Jill Stoffa, an elementary teacher, who is also the parent of a kindergartener in the district, described her classroom experience: "Virtual days for my third graders during the snowstorm looked similar to in-person instruction in many ways. Students logged into a Google Meet where attendance was taken, and instruction was provided in the core content areas".

Balancing both roles added another layer to the week. "This year, balancing a class to teach with a kindergartener at home added a new dynamic to our virtual days," she shared. Still, she emphasized that "administration, teachers, students, staff, and families work together to ensure learning continues and connections remain strong".

Beyond academics, the district prioritized student well-being. "When it comes to making the call to cancel school, we are always concerned about those who are less fortunate or come from extraordinary circumstances," Gaydos explained.

Meals were sent home before the storm, and when closures extended, administrators worked quickly to coordinate additional meal distributions despite delivery challenges.

Ultimately, the week of FIDs demonstrated West Greene's ability to adapt while keeping students at the center of every decision—proving that even during difficult weather conditions, the Pioneer spirit continues to move forward.

Cool at School:

THE LAVINS MEDIA CENTER/LIBRARY: A LAUNCHPAD FOR LEARNING

By Emma Bates



Library Aides: (Back) Canon Bupka (Middle) Roy Riggleman, Braden Andreus (Front) Lucy The Therapy Dog, Bailey Barnyak, Shaley Grover, Kace Burrie, and Jericho Schiffbauer.

As you enter the double doors, you share a look with the smiling, young faces wrapped on the wall, boasting a photograph from nearly every yearbook of over a century of Carmichaels history. On the left is a trendy storefront decked out in blue and gold Mikes' pride. As you sink into the welcoming environment, you notice students working on homework while riding stationary study bikes or chatting with friends around a table near the bookcases. Welcome to the Carmichaels Area Middle/High School Library, also known as the Lavins Media Center.

This space is redefining what a school library is meant to look like while maintaining the integrity of the room's original intent.

"The library has a corner for everyone," remarks librarian Cassie Menhart. The space is a great place for students to sample future career interests such as aviation through the flight simulator or by participation in the Investment Club. That organization is in its third year, partnering with the Greene County Community Foundation, who funded the club's start-up needs. The students work with personal finance advisor Joshua Daines of Malinovich & Co., meeting before school on Tuesday mornings. The Carmichaels Alumni Entrepreneur Gallery also encourages former students with their own businesses to display a tee-shirt and speak to finance classes with their experiences.

The library cafe is another favorite spot for Carmichaels students of all ages and interests. Students can always stop down for an Italian ice and a refreshing drink, with some special events allowing for a warm cookie or hot chocolate. The cafe doesn't just fill up students' bellies, though. It also funds two important school activities: the Book Club and E-Sports team, whose spring season is starting now.

Students in Book Club don't just meet together to discuss what they've read, although this is an integral part of the activity. Mrs. Menhart ensures that students gain an immersive understanding of the works they've read. One of these activities will be the students' upcoming trip to the Benedum Center in Pittsburgh to see the musical *Water for Elephants* after reading the accompanying novel.

Middle Schoolers learn critical thinking skills by playing chess and are, as Mrs. Menhart notes, the most avid readers who actively participate in checking out books. Outside on the library's patio are also life size scrabble and chess boards as well as an outdoor classroom.

Additionally, the library offers an easily accessible mental health resource station with books targeted at dealing with tough stuff. And if students require some softer support, Lucy, the library therapy dog, now works five days a week.

"Our newest thing we have are the Tails on the Trail from a PA State Retired Teachers' Association grant that built the stations on the elementary school track," Menhart shares excitedly. Library classes build the boards, curate the stories, and man the stations on event nights.

Most importantly, though, the library is a gathering place for ideas, education, and celebration. The center boasts after-school tutoring, holds receptions after ceremonies, and promotes Carmichaels students in their various endeavors, such as during Decision Day, where seniors gather to share their future plans. If the living room is the heart of the home, then the library is the heart of Carmichaels Area School District.

FLYING HIGH, SKATING FAR: HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT EMBRACES PASSIONS AND INCLUDES OTHERS

By Emma Bates

“It’s hard to describe my hockey journey briefly, but I will try,” states Anthony Post, a junior at Carmichaels Area High School. “I started hockey when I was nine. I had never ice skated before then, but I knew I wanted to play and be a goalie. My parents took me the day before tryouts, and I took to it instantly. I tried out for the Ice Miners and made the team.”

Anthony got involved with the Little Pens Learn to Play program immediately after. Anthony has always played rec league hockey and last year established a co-op with Bishop Canevin, where he is a goalie. Anthony’s is starting his eighth regular season, but he also plays in summer hockey leagues, making the icy sport a year-round priority. “I’ve [been able] to play in major cities across the U.S. and see some great sights, visit some amazing historical sights places, and become friends with players from all over. One of my favorite tournaments is in Lake Placid, New York,” he shares.

But Anthony doesn’t just play hockey for himself– he does a great deal to improve others’ experiences on the ice as well. “I’ve been volunteering with the Mighty Penguins Sled hockey team(s), an adaptive non-profit ice hockey organization that’s based out of Cranberry. It offers therapeutic and competitive opportunities for children and adults with physical disabilities.”

“I got involved with it when a volunteer opportunity was shared with me,” he continued. “It’s something that is important to me because it promotes inclusion, accessibility, and empowerment for the sled hockey players. It’s getting to see people that have a common passion for hockey enjoy it.”

Anthony explains that he mainly helps with player assistance and practice support. “I help athletes get equipment to and from their cars, get in and out of their sleds, and on and off the ice. I also help with things like shooting, player skills, drills, and picking up pucks - something I never realized could be so important. Volunteering for sled hockey is an opportunity that turned into something I really enjoy.”

Anthony’s volunteering and work ethic have carried over from childhood, much of which he attributes to his time in the Boy Scouts program. “I started scouts in first grade as a tiger cub. My parents signed me up because it was one of the first organized activities I could do. Scouting has taught me a lot. I’ve learned practical skills, character, and values that I carry with me in everyday life.”

Today, Anthony is working his way toward the most prestigious award in scouting–reaching the level of an Eagle Scout. The “years, dedication, and hard work” needed to complete the program is, to Anthony, “a representation of commitment, growth, service, integrity, and character development.”

“My family has been huge for guiding me. I have also had great scout leaders, coaches (I was lucky to have ones that understood the importance of scouting), neighbors, and teachers. Most notable were my scoutmasters Joe Krampy and Jason Hagyar and my teacher Mrs. Menhart.”

Some of Anthony’s most cherished scouting moments consisted of camping on the battleship *USS Massachusetts* and receiving a good citizenship award from the Marine Corps League.

Volunteering for the Mighty Penguins Sled Hockey Program was not Anthony’s Eagle Project. Instead, Anthony partnered with the Washington County Conservation Department and the Million Trees Project to perform improvements on the West Beth Township Hiking Trail in Marianna.

“My great grandfather helped create the walking trail on an old slate dump,” Anthony states. “Planting additional trees not only helped with the aesthetics, but it also created habitat and food for wildlife and helped with soil erosion. Getting to see pictures people post of

the walking trail and knowing that I did something small that will help the community and nature at a location that is important to a small coal mine town has been pretty rewarding.”

Anthony cites finding balance as one of the greatest challenges as he juggles school, multiple sports, clubs, volunteerism, and one other endeavor– working toward his career aspirations of becoming a commercial airline pilot.

“I’ve done a lot of studying on my own and now am a dual enrollment student at Beaver Community College in the professional aviation program. I got my start at Aviation Days at the Greene County Airport. After going, I was hooked. The people at the airport were and still are so helpful and are always willing to share information and guidance.”

In October, Anthony became the pilot of his very own Cessna 150, which he has been using to log flight hours under the guidance of his instructor, with help from Jacob Fordyce, another young, local pilot. “Jacob helped me fly my plane back and is always there with helpful advice or a willingness to fly with me.

SOAR of Greene County has also been instrumental in my flying. It’s been a place for me to meet pilots and aviation enthusiasts, learn from people with the same interests, and work with aviation days. Now, I’m one of the co-chairs for the event and that has taught me so much about aviation and logistics.”

In any personal time Anthony gets, he also enjoys skiing, golf, travel, trying new restaurants, and cooking. But in everything he takes on, he knows that determination and hard work are the two ingredients that always allow us to take flight.

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Joey Lipovich took this photo of a Barred Owl nesting in a hollowed-out beech tree near Mt. Morris.



Five generations gathered at the Hartley Inn for this photo. Westyn Reynolds is being held by his great-great grandmother Marlene Hardy. Westyn's father, Collins Reynolds, great-grandmother Marsha McMinn, and grandmother Michelle Reynolds complete the generational portrait.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

THE DENNY SISTERS

The Denny sisters paint a vivid picture of what life was like for those with means in the early 20th century. Step into the Denny House today, and you step into their world—freshly restored and ready to be enjoyed by a new generation.

Mary and Helen married, built glamorous careers in opera and music, and spent most of their lives in Chicago and traveling abroad, far from their hometown.

Middle sister Josephine chose a different path—and the Greene County Historical Society Museum on Rolling Meadows Road can thank her for it.

Josephine earned her Bachelor of Science degree in 1915 and, like her sisters, set off to explore the world. After studying abroad and teaching in private schools, she returned home unmarried to live with her mother. Her life became one of steady service to the community through social and educational work, including teaching science at Central Greene High School. In 1960, she helped establish the Cherry Door Thrift Shop and the Social Service League, further strengthening the county's charitable and civic outreach.

As the world shifted after World War II and modern culture took hold, a matronly Miss Denny—now in her late 70s—found a new mission: preserving the beauty, craftsman-

ship, and good taste of the past that still filled every room of her elegant High Street home.

In 1965, when the old poor county farm closed, residents moved across Rolling Meadows Road to the modern convenience of Curry Nursing Home. The stately 1840s brick mansion, with its poorhouse additions, was reclaimed by the county—only to sit vacant for five years while commissioners debated its future.

Then came Josephine Denny and the Greene County Historical Society.

As president of the organization, which had been salvaging local history since the 1920s, Miss Denny was ready to save the artifacts of the life she had known. While little is recorded about the conversations she must have had among families with pioneer pedigrees and inherited estates, the results were clear: when she led the charge to petition the county for stewardship of the property and buildings, donations poured in.

Victorian furniture, garments, appliances, and photographs arrived in quantities large enough to recreate the parlors, dining rooms, music rooms, and bedrooms Miss Denny remembered so well.



Josephine Denny.

She often reminded visitors that what she helped create was a museum—not a mausoleum—a place to keep history alive and accessible to all who wished to experience the past.

Today, the Denny House has become a museum piece in its own right, restored by Pam and Kent Marisa to much of its original elegance. It now welcomes guests for parties, cultural events, weekend retreats, and—of course—fairytale weddings.

It's not hard to imagine Miss Denny smiling.



Furniture donated to the Greene County Historical Society by Miss Denny.

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A ST. PADDY'S TRADITION...THE WAYNESBURG HOTEL AND LOUNGE

By T.R. Mahle



I guess it's safe to say that the Waynesburg Hotel and Lounge was legendary for those who frequented it on a regular basis. The Hotel was right up there with premier establishments like the Jury Box, the Colonial, Koratich's Golden Rail, Buddy's, Albert's, and the Green Grill...just to name a few.

However, the Hotel had its own unique personality. It was like a friend, someone to "hang-out" with. It was where you went to see anybody who was anybody and maybe even a few nobody's. Gathering there was less about the drinks and more about the quiet ritual of belonging to a special group. It had its own cast of characters who watched over it like a child and handled any situation that needed tending to.

On any given night, the bar hummed with familiar sounds. Honky-tonk tunes on the Wurlitzer jukebox, the spinning wheels of the poker machines, balls smacking on the pool table, loud conversations and laughter, and unfortunately, an occasional struggle. The Hotel was not a place to start trouble...get "out-of-line" and there was a good chance you went home with a knot on your head.

The regulars usually only nodded to one another in a shorthand of recognition when arriving, while newcomers hovered at the edges, slowly trying to figure out what they had walked into. The bartenders were steady anchors, knowing most by their names, their drink of choice, and usually something more personal like...who had a rough week, who's celebrating, or who just needs to sit quietly.

At the Hotel, time behaved differently, and it had its own set of rules. Transferring your status from a stranger to friend was not an easy task. Conversations looped from the trivial to the surprisingly profound and many of the world's problems were solved (some started) behind its heavy metal door. There was comfort in the predictability of it all.

You sat in the same stools, played the same songs, and drank the same beverages. Most of the time it was enough just to show up, take a seat, and be part of the ongoing story, if only for an evening.

The Hotel opened for business on St. Patrick's Day of 1989. The "Grand Opening" was one for the ages, and it was an all-day affair. To start the day's activities, a large cannon was rolled out the front door and discharged. Irish music filled the air, and the aroma of corned beef and cabbage swirled beneath the low tin ceiling. One unusual event featured something that most people in the county had never witnessed before. For five dollars you could toss a real-life "leprechaun" wearing a leather harness. The money from this event

was always donated to a charity...usually muscular dystrophy.

Over the years, St. Paddy's Day became more than a holiday for the Hotel. It was more like a reunion or a homecoming, where current and former friends and patrons gathered to relive old stories and create new ones. You literally had to push through the door. There were lots of familiar faces...like an Irish blessing you didn't know you needed. Somehow, between all of life's struggles, people would find their way back to that old dive bar.

The familiar Irish songs that bellowed from the jukebox made people shout the lyrics instead of singing them. It was almost like nothing had really been lost to time, just paused for a while. People celebrated with the ones who were there and toasted the ones who couldn't make it...and for just a while they were exactly who they used to be.

Unfortunately, all stories have an ending. That chapter of the Hotel's life came to an end when Jim Orum, the very colorful owner/proprietor passed away in 2010.

Orum's impact on the establishment is forever etched in time with photographs and local recollections that document the hotel during his ownership. Truly knowing Jim was a tough task at best, but if you were in his circle, there was nothing he wouldn't do for you.

After Orum's death in 2010, the building eventually underwent a multi-year renovation and creative repurposing. It was transformed into Farley's Hotel Café, a vibrant mix of coffee bar, ice cream parlor, and community space that celebrates the site's historic character while offering modern amenities and events.

If the nostalgic effects of the hotel have to be explained...you probably wouldn't understand it.

No doubt many small town bars have a similar legacy. But for many locals, the Hotel was uniquely special. Every time I drive past the Hotel, I wish I could swing in, see everybody and just say hello. It will always hold a special place in my heart...especially on St. Paddy's Day.

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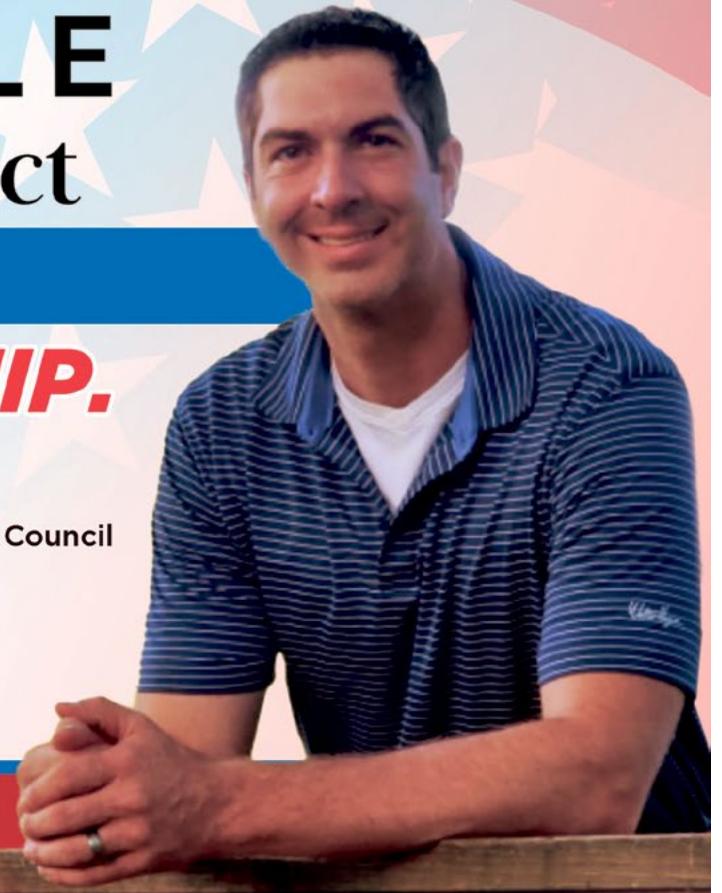
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Intentional Walks

By Bret Moore



*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.*

FROM BLOOMERS TO BREAKTHROUGHS: THE UNEVEN EVOLUTION OF WOMEN'S SPORTS

At the turn of the 20th century, women's sports in the United States were quietly gaining ground. Female athletes competed in basketball, tennis, swimming, golf, and track. These early opportunities reflected the broader Progressive Era belief that physical activity promoted health, discipline, and moral character—qualities increasingly seen as acceptable for women.

Yet this early momentum would not last. **By the 1930s, women's sports began a long period of decline that stretched well into the 1970s**, shaped by cultural backlash, economic hardship, and institutional resistance.

In the early 1900s, women's basketball flourished in high schools and colleges, albeit with modified rules. Tennis stars like Helen Wills became national celebrities, and women competed in the Olympics as early as 1900. Physical education programs for girls expanded, often led by female educators who believed sport could empower young women without undermining femininity.

This evolution was evident in Greene County as well. During the 1913-14 basketball season, the **Waynesburg High School girls** played a home and away series against Claysville, Martin's Ferry, Ohio, and East Washington. They split their games with the first two opponents, but were swept by East Washington, who according to the local newspaper "played very rough for girls." Mary Munnell was the star of the team. She and her teammates Adna Faddis and Mary Sayers went on to play at Waynesburg College.

The **Cumberland Township High School girls** began playing in 1920 as part of double headers with the boys' team. Their first season, they played Jefferson and McClellandtown.

Mary Martha Baily led them to the county championship in 1923. In 1926, the team was 19-3 and beat Redstone, the Fayette County Champions. They even split a pair of games with the powerful Waynesburg College women's team. By the end of the decade, they were playing large schools like Canonsburg and Charleroi.

They also won the County Tournament in 1929 with Harriet Baily, Sara Cree, Elizabeth Dugan, Annabelle Crago, and Bernice Riley.

The names on the **Jefferson girls' teams** of that day were also familiar: Faddis, Hathaway, Dugan, Baily, Eaton, Johnson, and Kline.

The **Monongahela Township girls** started playing in 1926, and by 1929 they were undefeated in the regular season,

beating a powerful German Township squad.

Even tiny **Nineveh High School** had a girls' team in 1929. They lost badly to Claysville, but the next game beat a powerful Washington team 18-10. The players' names would sound familiar today: Hopkins, Clutter, Lightner, McCullough and Huffman. They also beat a Mt. Morris High School team filled with Foxes, Donleys and Kennedys.

The **Waynesburg College women** regularly sold out the armory. Their home game against top-ranked Pitt was a big deal



Waynesburg High School Girls Basketball 1916.

in town. They even hired an orchestra to play for a dance after the game. However, a fight broke out between the teams, and the game was called early when Waynesburg's Mary Munnell fouled out but refused to leave the court.

The enthusiasm and equality were also evident on the local diamonds. The Democrat Messenger reported a well-attended baseball game between the **women of Ned and Pine Bank**. Ned won in a 28-19 slugfest.

Perhaps the most amazing story of that era occurred in 1920. At a time when men's independent baseball was at its zenith in the area, the West Waynesburg American Steel team was a highly respected regional team.

Westinghouse Electric sponsored a women's barnstorming team, who had compiled a 20-8 record against the top independent men's teams in Western PA and Ohio. On the day

of the big game, Waynesburg shops closed in town and farmers came in from their fields to watch the much-anticipated clash. The crowd was stunned when the women left town with a 13-12 victory.

Unfortunately, as women pushed boundaries, concerns grew. **Medical "experts" and social commentators warned that competitive sports could damage women's reproductive health or make them "unladylike."** During the Great Depression, traditional gender roles reasserted themselves. Funding for women's athletics dried up.

By the 1930s and 1940s, many schools replaced interscholastic competition for women with intramural programs. The goal shifted from competition to participation, emphasizing grace, cooperation, and social development.

World War II briefly disrupted these patterns. **As women entered factories and military support roles, they also stepped into athletic spaces left vacant by men.** The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League symbolized this moment of possibility. But once the war ended, so did the progress. Women were once again encouraged to return to domestic roles.

The postwar period entrenched the marginalization of women's sports. Television, corporate sponsorships, and school athletic budgets overwhelmingly favored men. By the 1950s and 1960s, girls had almost no access to competitive teams, coaching, or facilities.

This long decline was not accidental; it was institutional. Administrations openly questioned whether women's sports were worth supporting. The message was clear: sports were for men, and women's participation was a privilege, not a right.

That reality changed in 1972 with the passage of Title IX, a federal law prohibiting sex-based discrimination in any educational program receiving federal funds. Title IX transformed women's sports more than any single event in U.S. history. Schools were suddenly required to provide equitable opportunities and resources for female athletes.

Title IX did not create women's sports. What it did was restore and legitimize what had been systematically diminished for decades. The explosion of participation in the years that followed was not a cultural accident—it was a correction.

The story of women's sports in the 20th century is not a straight line of progress, but a cycle of advance, backlash, and renewal. Understanding that history reminds us that gains in equality are neither inevitable nor permanent—but when supported by law and culture, they can be transformative.



Stephen Lewis is the son of Doug Lewis and Amanda Lawrence of Carmichaels. He is a junior and maintains a 4.6 GPA. Stephen is a member of the National Honor Society and a member of the Envirothon team.

A multi-sport athlete, Stephen has lettered in both football and basketball. In football, he was selected for the All-County team and twice to the All-Conference team. He was also selected to the 2025 Lions Club Coal Bowl All-Tournament basketball team.

Following graduation, Stephen plans to attend college and pursue a career in law, with aspirations of becoming a defense attorney.



Bentley Lukacs is the daughter of Tommy and Kaysee Lukacs of Carmichaels. She is homeschooled and enjoys playing and watching all sports. Bentley plays basketball, golf, and softball for the Mikes.

She attends the Carmichaels Methodist Church and is a 4H member. During her free time, she works at LK Cafe. She plans to continue playing sports through high school and later in college.



Catelynn Teagarden is the daughter of Christie and Kevin Teagarden of Jefferson. She is a four-year participant on the Rockets' basketball team. She plans to attend college to get a bachelor's degree in nursing.



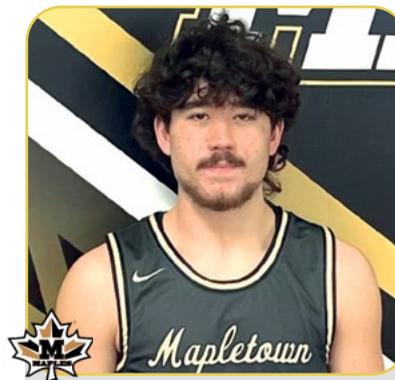
Jordan Thistlethwaite is the son of Mike and Kathy Thistlethwaite of Rices Landing. He is on the Rockets' Bocce team. In addition, he is involved in band, drama club, and the Best Buddies Initiative. Outside school, he attends the Center for Performing Arts in Carmichaels. His plans include working in the culinary field and continuing in the family woodworking shop.



Addonae Johnson (2) celebrates with team mates.



Tess Pauley drives to the hoop.



Kaleb Evosevich is a sophomore at Mapletown and is the son of Jennifer Evosevich of Bobtown. He has lettered in football and basketball and plays on the Maples' baseball team. He earned All-County honors in football this fall. In his spare time, Kaleb likes weightlifting, fishing, hiking, riding four wheelers and hanging out with friends. He attends Greene County CTC where he is in the welding program.



Lainey Taylor is a freshman at Mapletown where she is a speedster on the basketball court. She also plays volleyball for the Lady Maples and plans to play softball this spring. Lainey plays with a travel softball league in her spare time. She is the daughter of Tara Taylor and Jonathan Taylor. She hopes to use the cosmetology program at GCCTC as a stepping stone to achieve her goal of becoming a hairstylist.

Raider Girls Post 20-Win Season

The Waynesburg Central girls' basketball team enjoyed one of its most impressive regular seasons in recent memory, blending youthful talent with strong leadership to compile a **20-2 overall record** and a **10-2 mark in WPIAL 3A Section 3 play**.

The Raiders' success stemmed from a balanced attack — capable scoring from multiple players, solid rebounding, and disciplined ball handling.

Freshmen Tess Pauley, Addonae Johnson, and Emma Blair all started and contributed on both ends of the court.

Junior Chatham Knight and senior Peyton Cowell provided rebounding and scoring punch in addition to their leadership.

Kendall McKay and Addison Cowell provided additional depth.



Jaymison Robinson (1) and Dayten Marion (13) helped lead the Rockets to the playoffs.

Rocket Boys Post Memorable Season

The **Jefferson-Morgan Rockets boys' basketball team** enjoyed one of the most exciting and successful regular seasons in recent memory. They finished 19-1 overall and 12-1 in their section under the leadership of **head coach Brandon Lawless**. The Rockets emphasized strong defense, team chemistry, and senior leadership to pace the historic campaign.

Jeff Woodward, Jeremiah Robertson, and Dayten Marion anchored the offense, with Robertson's scoring and Marion's presence in the paint proving especially impactful.

In the Out-Door

By T.R. Mahle

THE PASSING OF WINTER

I often have wondered about the seasonal changes and how they affect each-and-every one of us differently. After an unusually long sub-zero cold spell that left most of us yearning for something a little warmer and more bearable...nature did an abrupt turn and treated us to nearly sixty-degree weather. A reminder that warmer weather is right around the corner.

The sudden temperature surge brought out street walkers, short sleeves, motorcycles, car washes, and a subtle genuine smile on many faces. I personally enjoy the fall and winter months with the cooler temperatures they bring, but the sunlight does feel good.

Winter does not leave all at once. It loosens its grip gradually, like a guest lingering in the doorway, reluctant to admit the party is over. The passing of winter is not a dramatic ending but a quiet negotiation between cold and warmth, shadow and light, and wind and quiet. It happens in small, almost forgettable moments that only later reveal their intentions.

At first, when the days lengthen by minutes, no one notices. Morning light arrives earlier, softer, as if testing the room before committing. Snow that once felt permanent slowly begins to thin and retreat, shrinking into gray and dirty patches along sidewalks and fence lines. The air still bites, but not with the same confidence. Winter is still present, yet it has begun to doubt itself.

When you start to hear the sound of winter's passing it will come first in the dripping of melting snow and ice from rooftops, the hush of snow turning to slush, the return of running water that was long frozen into silence. Every living thing becomes more active, the streets grow louder and footsteps splash instead of crunching. The world becomes messier, a lot less pristine, and more alive. What winter preserved in stillness, spring will soon disturb.

Emotionally, winter's departure carries a strange duality for me. There is relief in its leaving and giving relief from the darkness that arrived too early, from cold that seeped into my bones, from days that demanded endurance rather than enjoyment. Yet there is also a subtle loss. Winter gives us permission to slow down, to retreat inward, to be quiet without explanation. As it fades, so does that excuse. The world begins, gently but insistently, to ask for motion again.

Nature senses this before we do. Trees bud tentatively, not yet trusting the warmth. Birds return in scattered groups, and the deer seek out the grassy patches that have sprung up. The earth softens. Beneath the surface, roots awaken and stretch, preparing for a season of effort after months of rest. The passing of winter is not death but transformation... a shift from conservation to creation.

For me, the passing of winter mirrors something internal. Winter is a time of reflection and often isolation. Winter can be a time to plan, or sometimes just to stay at home and practice nesting. As it passes, there is an invitation for us to re-emerge, to bring what was learned in stillness back into the world. Thawing exposes what was hidden.

Eventually, winter leaves without ceremony. We eventually stop checking the forecast for snow. We stop bracing ourselves for the Canadian vortex and sub-zero temperatures. The passing of winter reminds us all that nothing...no season, no feeling, no hardship stays forever. It teaches patience, resilience, and the quiet faith that change, even when slow, is always underway.



HUNTERS' BRAG MAG

We're sorry we missed you last month.

Grant Patton (10)
Shot at his home in Rutan during archery season

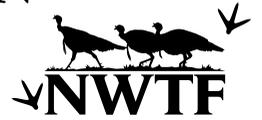
Denny McIntire
Denny bagged this 11 point with a bow in Rices Landing. Grandsons Eli and Benson Richardson lend a hand.

Jordan Yakubik
From Dilliner, PA

THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

GREENE COUNTY CHAPTER

By T.R. Mahle



The National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) is a nonprofit dedicated to **conserving wild turkeys and preserving America's hunting heritage**. Founded in 1973, the NWTF has grown into one of the most effective conservation organizations in North America, investing millions of dollars into habitat enhancement, wildlife research, hunter education, and community programs for people of all ages and backgrounds.

Local NWTF chapters operate under the umbrella of larger state chapters...in this case the **Pennsylvania State Chapter** — but they are crucial grassroots organizations that engage directly with their communities. Pennsylvania's state chapter alone includes **over 70 local chapters**, collectively involving tens of thousands of members, including youth and women's programs like JAKES (Juniors Acquiring Knowledge, Ethics and Sportsmanship) and WITO (Women in the Outdoors).

In **Greene County**, one of the most active and visible NWTF chapters is known locally as the **Warrior Trail Gobblers**. Founded in Waynesburg in the mid-1990s, this chapter has become a hub for conservation, education, and outdoor heritage in southwestern Pennsylvania.

At the heart of the chapter's mission is **engagement with youth and the broader community**. The Warrior Trail Gobblers are especially notable for their commitment to **youth outreach through the JAKES program**. JAKES, started in 2013, began with a \$1,000 donations from five different corporations.

In 2014 the event was moved to Hunting Hills Sporting Complex. Jakes events offer youngsters structured, fun opportunities to learn about wildlife habitat, safe and ethical hunting practices, outdoor skills, and the value of conservation. These events often include activities such as archery, shooting sports, turkey calling, trapping demonstrations, and fishing, all designed to connect kids and their families with the outdoors — and they are offered **at no cost to participants**.

One of the chapter's signature events is **JAKES Day**, held annually during Pennsylvania's youth-only turkey hunting season. Hundreds of participants, including both kids and adults, gather for games, educational activities, contests, and chances to win prizes. This event not only teaches valuable skills but

also fosters a strong sense of community and appreciation for wildlife stewardship.

As a local nonprofit driven by volunteers and sponsors, the Greene County chapter also hosts an **annual banquet** that serves dual purposes: fostering social connections and raising funds to support its conservation and educational programs. Recent banquets have drawn strong local support and notable contributions from area businesses, raising thousands of dollars that are funneled back into wildlife habitat projects and other initiatives.

The impact of the Greene County chapter and its efforts goes beyond turkey conservation. Through habitat improvement activities and partnerships with organizations such as the Pennsylvania Game Commission, NWTF volunteers contribute to broader wildlife management goals that benefit species across the landscape. Moreover, by engaging families, landowners, and young hunters, the chapter helps sustain traditions and ethical outdoor practices that strengthen local culture and stewardship values.

The Warrior Trails Gobblers branch of the NWTF has three major events starting on March 21, with their annual banquet being held at the Greene County Fairgrounds. The annual Jakes event is held April 25 (PA youth hunting day) at Hunting Hills shooting preserve. And finally on May 2 at Hunting Hills, they have their Veterans Hunt.

The chapter has experienced great success over the last ten years on both the state and national level. The success of the Jakes program has fueled most of this growth. Thirteen years ago, they had 37 youths participate and last year they had 192...and they are growing.

Please tune into the **Greene Scene Podcast** (NWTF podcast) to find out more exciting information on this wonderful organization. If you would like tickets to the banquet, or to volunteer or make a donation to this outstanding organization, you can contact:

Warrior Trail Gobblers, 151 Plantz Ridge Road, New Freeport PA., 15352. Or you can contact: **Hunter Moore** 724-833-3477, **Nick Bragg** 304-276-7923, **Guy Hostutler** 724-350-1062, or **Jim Garber** 724-998-6779.



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FAREWELL TO FOUR PILLARS OF THE GREENE COUNTY COMMUNITY



Jerry Hardy, a beloved teacher, photographer, and community leader, passed away on January 8 at the age of 81. Known for his curiosity, creativity, and infectious enthusiasm, Jerry touched the lives of students, neighbors, and friends across Greene County.

Jerry devoted decades to **Waynesburg Central High School**, inspiring generations as a science teacher. In 1993, he was honored as a **Distinguished Teacher**, attending a White House recognition ceremony. Beyond the classroom, Jerry led the high school stage crew, affectionately called "*Slip Shod Construction*," bringing countless school productions to life with his dedication and humor.

A man of many talents, Jerry captured the beauty of his community from above in his book, **Greene from the Blue**, showcasing Greene County through aerial photography flown in his Piper Cub. He served locally on the Franklin Township Sewer Authority and led the 4H Rabbit Club and the Greene County Photography Club. Ever generous with his time and spirit, he was fondly known as "*The Ice Man*," serving shaved ice to neighbors and brightening countless summer days.

Jerry shared a remarkable 59-year marriage with Frances "Fran" Hardy, Waynesburg High School librarian. Though he will be deeply missed, his laughter, generosity, and love for learning will continue to inspire everyone who knew him.

John O. Higgins of Waynesburg passed away February 3 at the age of 92.

John was a lifelong resident of the area and a proud graduate of **Waynesburg High School**, where he distinguished himself as the **1952 Pennsylvania State Wrestling Champion**.

After high school, John answered the call to serve in Korea, becoming a dedicated member of the **United States Marine Corps**.

John was a hardworking businessman who built a life defined by integrity and determination. His career included work with Penn Lines, West Penn Power, PennDOT, and Greene County Maintenance, before he fulfilled his entrepreneurial dream by founding **Higgins Hauling** in the 1960s, which continues today as part of his lasting legacy.

John was also an active member of Fairall United Methodist Church and belonged to the Elks, Moose, VFW, and Grange lodges, where his presence was felt by many.



James Mason {Jim} of Waynesburg will be remembered as a man whose life was defined not by loud gestures, but by steady presence, quiet strength, and genuine care for others. He was the kind of person who showed up...consistently, faithfully, and without expectation of recognition. In a world that often moves too fast, Jim moved with purpose, grounded in values that never wavered.

Jim was an active member of the Waynesburg Church of the Nazarene. **To those who knew him well, Jim was dependable in the truest sense of the word. He believed in hard work, in keeping one's word, and in doing the right thing even when no one was watching.** These principles guided every part of his life and left a lasting impression on family, friends, and neighbors alike. His integrity was not something he spoke about—it was something he lived.

Jim had a deep connection to Waynesburg and the people who call it home. He understood the importance of community and treated everyone with respect. A conversation with Jim was never rushed. He listened more than he spoke, and when he did speak, his words carried sincerity and thoughtfulness.

Family was at the heart of Jim's life. He took pride in those he loved and found fulfillment in being present for them...in both ordinary moments and life's most important milestones. His love was shown through actions, through support, through guidance, and the quiet reassurance that he would always be there.

Jim also understood the value of perseverance. Life brings challenges to everyone, and he faced his with resilience and grace. Rather than dwelling on difficulties, he focused on what could be done, offering encouragement to others along the way. His example taught those around him that strength does not have to be loud to be powerful.

The loss of Jim leaves an undeniable absence, but his legacy will remain firmly rooted in the lives he touched. It lives on in the lessons he taught, the kindness he extended, and the respect he earned. Waynesburg is better for having known him, and those who loved him are better for having shared their lives with him.



The community is mourning the loss, and celebrating the remarkable life, of a man who gave his heart fully to his family, his faith, and his neighbors. **John Charles "JC" Thomas** will be remembered as a devoted husband and proud father of three daughters. He was also a man of steady faith, deep love, and unwavering dedication. He built his life around service, compassion, and quiet strength.

As a dog warden and a trusted constable, he approached his work with fairness and integrity, as he carried out his duties with patience and respect. People knew they could count on him not just for enforcement, but for understanding.

His faith was the foundation of his life. It guided his actions, shaped his character, and inspired his commitment to others. He lived

what he believed, showing kindness, offering encouragement, and standing steady in times of need.

Some of his greatest joys were found outdoors or on the ball field. As a Little League baseball coach, he taught more than the fundamentals of the game. He taught teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship. He believed every child deserved a chance to shine, and he made sure they did. He encouraged kids to try, boosted their confidence, and gave purpose to many.

On countless evenings and weekends, he could be found on the sidelines of his daughters' games, as their biggest fan, cheering not only for them but for the entire team. His voice, full of pride and unwavering support, became a familiar and cherished sound.

He leaves behind a loving wife, three daughters, and grandchildren who were the center of his world. His legacy of faith, service, and wholehearted love will continue to echo throughout the community he so faithfully served.

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HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Having been elected to Leadership by the Republican Caucus, Senator Bartolotta's advocacy has led to the following funding:

- Iron Senergy Methane Abatement Project \$2M
- East Dunkard Water Authority - \$1.9 M
- The Way Community Center - \$773,300
- WHS Green Ambulance Entrance - \$345,000
- Carmichaels Senior Center - \$113,428

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Boilermakers 154



PA Laborers'
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Bricklayers &
Allied Craftworkers
Local 9



Operating
Engineers
Local 66



UA Local 27
Pittsburgh
Plumbers



IBEW Local 5



Sheet Metal
Workers Local 12



Steamfitters
Local 449



Plumbers and
Pipefitters
Local 354

FEBRUARY WAS TOUGH... BUT WE'VE SEEN WORSE

By Bret Moore

As we have witnessed over the last couple months, Greene County endures winters that are as unpredictable as they are dramatic. From historic snowstorms that buried roads and stalled lives to brutal cold snaps that tested human endurance, we have witnessed some memorable winter extremes.

I grew up listening to my parents' generation always dismissing the latest blizzard as "nothing compared to the big Thanksgiving snow of 1950." My family's photo album had several old black and white photos of the event showing the snow piled high in the unplowed streets.

As it turns out, they were correct..... sort of. The most intense snowfall ever documented in Greene County occurred on **November 25, 1950**, when a powerful winter storm dropped **25 inches of snow in a single 24-hour period**. (27.4 inches total from the three-day storm) This remarkable event still stands as the county's 24-hour snowfall record.

For residents at the time, the storm wasn't just a statistic. It was a life-altering experience. Schools closed, farm work ceased, and even essential travel became perilous as drifts built up and plows struggled to keep roads passable. Back then, with fewer snow-clearing machines and more reliance on human effort, communities depended on neighbors helping neighbors, forging winter memories that still get passed down through generations.

However, human nature being what it is, I'm sure that generation listened to their grandparents say that blizzard was nothing like the one in 1890. That storm dumped 25.9 inches from December 16–18, way before snowplows were around.

Although storms like the one in 1950 are rare, significant snow events have punctuated other winters as well. In **January 1978**, Greene County saw **20 inches of snow over a two-day period**, contributing to a 35-inch monthly total. It was the heaviest January snowfall in decades. The combination of deep snow and strong winds made travel almost impossible.

Even spring isn't immune from winter's reach. In **1987**, what meteorologists called "the worst April snowstorm in nearly a century" dropped **about a foot of snow** across the region. While this may seem modest compared to the 1950 record, its timing made it far more disruptive. Lawns and budding trees were suddenly buried, and spring hopes were put on hold.

Two years later, on **March 7, 1989**, the county was paralyzed by the worst ice storm in memory. Much of the country received a foot of snow, but southwestern Pennsylvania got ice. In the tri-county area over 8,100 homes were without power as lines snapped under the weight. Schools and businesses were closed for days, and the Mon River rose to dangerous levels because of jams.

I recall being stuck at home for three days. Fortunately, I was one of the few people in town who had power, but the cable was out. I binge watched (before that was a thing) the entire series of Lonesome Dove, which I had recorded on multiple VHS tapes.

However, I'm sure anyone over the age of 40 remembers **March 12-14 of 1993**. The "**Storm of the Century**" was no ordinary snow event. It was a Category 5 nor'easter that was extraordinary in scale and intensity. As it tracked up the Eastern Seaboard, it brought recordbreaking snow, hurricane-force winds, and bitterly cold temperatures.

The 23.6 inches on March 13 remains the official record for the most snow Pittsburgh has ever received in one calendar day. However, I remember the totals around here substantially succeeded that amount.

In recent years, Greene County has continued to see notable winter storms. On **February 5-6, 2010**, **22.1 inches of snow** fell overnight. What became known as **Snowmageddon** shut down the area and caused massive power outages for over a week. The one thing that stands out in my mind about that storm was the power returned for most people just in time to watch the Super Bowl.

That month, also had single day snowstorms that dumped 11 inches and 10 inches respectively, making it our snowiest month ever. Schools went almost to the end of June to complete their required days.

Unsurprisingly, our three snowiest winters were 1950-51 (82 inches), 2009-2010 (77.4 inches), and 1992-93 (76.6

inches)

The cold that accompanies winter storms has its own history in Greene County. Data compiled for Greene County shows that **record low temperatures in the area have dipped as low as -27 °F to -29.9 °F**.

The 1980s and early 1990s were especially noteworthy for cold snaps. One particularly severe winter saw temperatures plunge to **-18° F in January 1983**, matching a record cold set in 1963.

Christmas Day, 1984 was especially brutal: temperatures fell to **-12 °F**, but wind-chill values plunged much lower (between **-50°F and -70°F**) enough to cause frostbite in minutes.

One thing I remember about that day is the fact that a group of young men always played a touch football game on Christmas Day called the Toilet Bowl. Despite the general absence of common sense in this group of men, even they cancelled the time-honored tradition due to the dangerously cold temperatures and spent the day around the tree with their families.

Another brutal cold spell the following month brought readings as low as **-17 °F**, again with severe wind chills.

Though our topography and location make our weather somewhat milder than the nearby Appalachians or northern plateau, we do see our rough patches. Modern plows, salt trucks, and improved forecasting mean fewer surprises when storms hit; however, the memory of historic snowfalls and bone-chilling cold remains part of the county's lore.



Southwestern Pennsylvania was brought to a standstill during the Thanksgiving Blizzard of 1950.



A YEAR OF SUCCESS & GROWTH

FIRST FEDERAL OF GREENE COUNTY NOTES ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025

WAYNESBURG, PA - Shortly after marking 101 years of service in early 2025, First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Greene County continued adding to its history with the opening of its eleventh office in Fairchance, PA.

The new full-service branch - which hosted a grand opening in April - was just one of many achievements highlighting the Association's successes and growth last year, according to Charles W. Trump, Jr., President/CEO of First Federal of Greene County, who reviewed those accomplishments during the Jan. 28 annual meeting of members.

"The local communities and neighborhoods were fantastically welcoming and supportive, and the business and relationships that have continued to evolve and expand in the last several months have been fulfilling and meaningful," Trump wrote in his annual President's Report about the Fairchance office. *"This project seemed to be the perfect launch into the next century of service for First Federal of Greene County."*

Turning to the Association's successes in 2025, Trump remarked that no contributing factor is more paramount than its employees.

"The men and women responsible for running each transaction, managing each relationship and conversation and ensuring that each customer is handled with care are crucial to the Association's success," Trump wrote.

The work family and employee longevity are two unique features First Federal of Greene County has maintained in a rapidly changing workforce environment. Last year saw the retirement of six long-time employees, whose individual service years added up to almost two centuries.

"This year was marked with bittersweet retirements of some of those special souls that carry out our service mission," Trump said. *"Most companies today do not experience the blessing of longevity with their employees, but what a blessing to have a combined 172 years of service from these retirees."*

Other areas of success in 2025 included numerous investments and upgrades in technology and across bank operations, which only help the Association deliver better service, safety and security for customers.

Financial highlights from 2025 included \$1.010 billion in assets, \$850 million in deposits, and \$701 million in the Association's mortgage portfolio, a \$29 million increase over 2024. The year-end mortgage effective yield totaled 4.32 percent.

"As with the last few years, funds on deposit represented the most volatile aspect of asset-liability management," Trump noted, adding that the Association will continue "monitoring the competitive field of financial institutions and mitigating deposit funds reduction by offering competitive and sensible rates of return on various deposit products."

Along with Trump, the Board of Directors includes Chairwoman Judi Goodwin Tanner, Gregory A. Parsons, Jay S. Hammers, Murray W. Hoy, Stephen M. Neubauer, Douglas A. Wilson and Michael C. Baily. Neubauer and Baily were re-elected to 3-year terms on the Board. John E. Mariner and Henry T. Cochran serve as Directors Emeritus.

Also during the Association's annual meeting, Trump was re-elected President/CEO, and the following Association officers were once again elected: Chad M. Moore, Executive Vice President; Jeffrey B. Widdup, Vice President; Courtney A. Schroyer, Vice President/Chief Financial Officer; Kathleen M. Toth, Vice President/Secretary; Terry L. Clutter, Vice President/Treasurer/Assistant Secretary; Sarah A. Westfall, Assistant Vice President; Danielle R. Tobusto, Assistant Vice President; Aimee D. Toothman, Assistant Vice President; and Brian E. Moody, Assistant Treasurer.

As First Federal of Greene County enters its 102nd year of service, all of its various people and parts add up to a powerful engine driving the Association forward. Fittingly, Trump referenced a famous quote by famed businessman and Ford Motor Company founder Henry Ford.

"Our employees, officers and Board of Directors are excited to be a part of such a storied and successful organization," Trump wrote. *"As we venture past the century mark, our evolution, success and progression will be carried out carefully, thoughtfully and strategically, with the customer and community at heart."*

"Henry Ford offered, 'Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.' First Federal of Greene County takes pride in being woven into the fabric of our special neighborhoods and towns, helping to unite behind the healthy and crucial efforts of working together as our journey continues."



NMLS#458729



ABIGAIL HOGE

By Aubrey Lesnett

One of the most famous milestones in women's suffrage was the convention in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848. However, it wasn't until 1915 that Pennsylvania's legislature even attempted to grant women in the state the right to vote. The initiative failed statewide, and men in Greene County voted 1,694 "For" vs. 2,070 "Against"

Four years later, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the 19th Amendment. Two weeks later, the Senate also passed it. On June 24, 1919, Pennsylvania became the 7th state to ratify the 19th Amendment, which would ultimately give women the right to vote.

On Tuesday, November 2, 1920, Greene County women joined women across the country at the polls. One of the first women in line was Mrs. Abigail Hoge, who was 93 years old.

Women like Abigail Hoge showed exactly why the fight mattered. She represented decades of determination and hope.

OTHER WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE PIONEERS

Dr. Phoebe Jane "Dr. Jane" Teagarden was born in Greene County in 1841. She was the first female physician in the county. She graduated from Women's Medical College in Philadelphia and established a medical practice in Waynesburg. She helped found the Greene County Children's Aid Society and served as its president for many years. She attended Waynesburg College, graduating with honors, and pursued a teaching career for a few years.

However, during the Civil War, Teagarden reportedly lost a beloved who died on the battlefield because of inattention. This alleged incident is thought to have influenced her choice to become a doctor.

During her time at medical school, Sarah met women's rights activist Susan B. Anthony. She invited Anthony to speak at Waynesburg College. Anthony gave two lectures there and one in Carmichaels the following spring. Teagarden crossed paths with Anthony again in 1890 at the famous National American Woman's Suffrage Association convention. Teagarden was the first woman to vote in Greene County.

"Aunt Betsy" Workman, who was once a slave in Virginia, joined Dr. Jane Teagarden, Abigail Hoge, and Mary Denny in Waynesburg's Ward II district, to be among the first women to vote in the 1920 election.

The *Waynesburg Republican* newspaper was a champion of Women's Suffrage and celebrated the victory of the 19th Amendment. Immediately after the amendment's adoption, the newspaper began encouraging Greene County women to register and participate in the fall election. Local women took up the opportunity eagerly. They literally had just days to register if they wanted to vote in November.

Between the amendment's adoption on August 26 and the registration deadline on September 1, 7,074 women in Greene County registered to vote, compared to 8,082 men who were already on the rolls.

From "New Voters Show Interest in Election" article, Waynesburg Republican, Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, 4 November 1920, page 1, column 2. Transcribed by Candice Buchanan.

We would like to credit Candice Buchanan (Greene Connections) and Joanne Marshall (Greene County Tourism) for much of the research and information available on these historical women.

OTHER FEMALE ICONS

Mary Temple Bayard (Mary Bayard Jamison) was born in Waynesburg in 1853. After briefly attending Waynesburg College, she married and put her writing dreams on hold.

However, her career began after writing an editorial published in a Waynesburg newspaper and subsequently copied in the Pittsburgh Post. Eventually, the Pittsburgh Dispatch, after having read some of her work under her pen name Meg, printed a request in their publication for her to make herself known.

This led to her employment with the Dispatch. From that point forward her work was in heavy demand. Later she would write for the Philadelphia Times. In 1893, Mary would present a paper entitled "Women in Journalism" at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. She was also a member of the Women's National Press League, The Women's Press Club of Pittsburgh, and The League of American Pen Women.

Bayard later returned to complete her degree at Waynesburg College and attended at the same time as her son.

Margaret (Bell) Miller (1826 – 1874) was an important **educator and early advocate for coeducation** in the mid-19th century. In 1849, when **Waynesburg College** was chartered, Margaret Bell was hired as one of its first professors, and she served as principal of the female education department.

Under her leadership, by **1851 the college began coed classrooms**, marking a crucial early step toward educational equality. By 1852, the college graduated its first women with diplomas, and by 1857 women earned bachelor's degrees.

In **1855 she married Alfred Brashear Miller**, a mathematics professor who later became president of Waynesburg College. She continued teaching, advising students, and managing both academic and family responsibilities while raising eight children.

The former **Margaret Bell Miller Middle School** in Waynesburg was named for her and served the community for decades.

The First Female Graduates of Waynesburg College

In 1857, **Waynesburg College was one of the first higher education institutions to graduate women with degrees.** Prior to that, women that attended followed a shorter educational program than the men. Women's diplomas did not receive the same significance as the men's degrees. Reverend Jonathan Weethee became President of the college in 1855 and began advocating for equal education for all.

Laura Weethee Jennings, Lydia Ann Weethee Sparrow, and Margret Needham Still were the first women to complete degrees at the college. These women were pioneers in equal education, not just in the county or the state, but the country.



Mary Temple Bayard

Greene County Women Sports Champions and Pioneers

Individual State Champions

Track

Jocelyn Lindsay (WCHS, Pole Vault, 1999 & 2002)

Marissa Kalsey (WCHS, Pole Vault, 2012)

Peyton Hampson (WCHS, Indoor 800M)

Taylor Shriver (WCHS, Pole Vault, 2021)

continued on next page

continued from previous page

Swimming

Ella Menear (Mapletown, 100M Back /2021, 200M IM/2022 & 2023)

Golf

Rachel Rohanna (WCHS, 2005 & 2007)

PIAA Players of the Year

Madison and McKeena Lampe (West Greene, Softball, 2017)

Madison Renner (West Greene, Softball, 2018)

State Team Champions

Carmichaels Softball (1998)

West Greene Softball (2017 & 2018)

Historical Firsts

First Woman to Letter in Athletics at Waynesburg College

Linda Smith (Tennis, 1962)

First Greene County Girl to Score 1,000 Points in Basketball Career

Sally Walker (WCHS, 1978)

First Girl to Wrestle in a Boys PIAA Varsity Match

Terri Harding (WCHS, 1985)

First Girl to Play in a Boys' WPIAL Golf Qualifier

Remmy Lohr (Carmichaels, 2019)



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A PIECE OF MY MIND

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



One of the things that I remember about middle school was something that one of my teachers frequently shared with the class. She said that “There’s a price to pay for every choice you make.” I don’t recall if that was her way of telling us that if we didn’t do our homework, the price would be detention or if there truly was a deeper meaning, but either way, her words stayed with me.

Life is a continuous series of choices, some small and forgettable, others so significant that they shape the direction of our future. From career paths to relationships, from moral decisions to moments of quiet courage, our lives are defined not only by what we choose, but also by what we leave behind. Few literary works capture this universal experience as succinctly and powerfully as Robert Frost’s poem “The Road Not Taken,” in which a traveler stands at a fork in the woods, forced to choose one path over another.

In everyday life, choices rarely come with clear instructions or guarantees. Like the traveler in Frost’s

poem, we often pause at crossroads, wishing we could see further down each road before committing. We want certainty and proof that one decision will lead to happiness or success while the other will not. Yet Frost reminds us that this certainty is an illusion. Both roads are described as “really about the same,” equally worn and equally unknown. This reflects real life, where options often appear different on the surface but carry similar risks and unknown outcomes.

One of the most striking aspects of Frost’s poem is its honesty about irreversibility. The speaker acknowledges that “way leads on to way,” doubting he will ever return to try the other road. Life works much the same way. While we like to believe we can always change course, many decisions quietly close doors behind us. Choosing one career may mean abandoning another passion and choosing one place to live may mean drifting away from certain people. These losses are not always dramatic, but they are real.

At the same time, the poem explores how humans

assign meaning to their choices after the fact. The speaker imagines himself in the future, saying that taking the road “less traveled by” made all the difference. This line is often interpreted as celebrating individualism, but it is more complex than that. Frost suggests that we create narratives to justify our decisions, shaping our memories to give our lives coherence and purpose. In reality, the difference may not have been inherent in the road itself, but in the act of choosing and committing to it.

So, here’s a piece of my mind... “The Road Not Taken” reflects a fundamental truth about life choices: their power lies not only in the options before us, but in how we live with them afterward. Life does not hand us perfect answers, only moments of decision. Like the traveler in the woods, we choose with incomplete knowledge, move forward without looking back too often, and later tell ourselves a story about who we became because of it. In that sense, every life is a poem written one choice at a time, shaped as much by reflection as by action.

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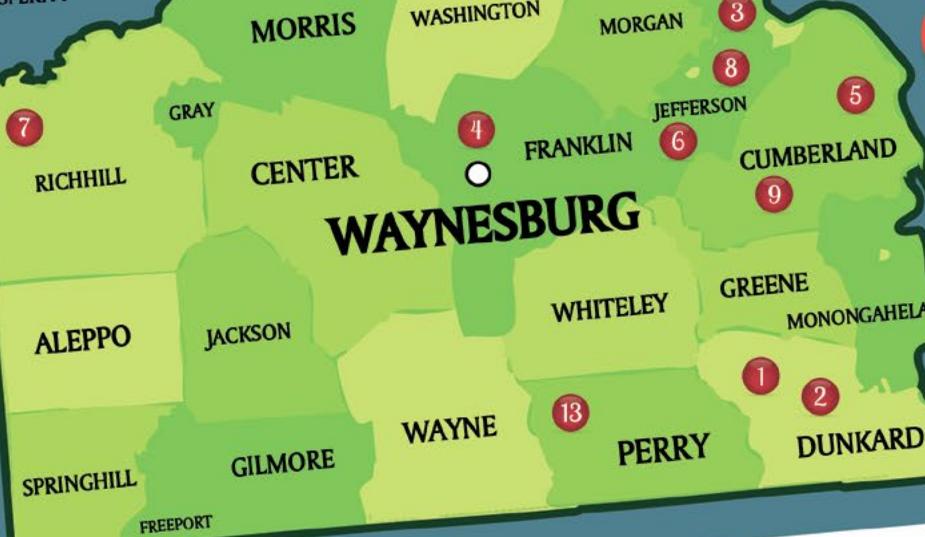
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BANDS THAT NEVER WERE: THE FICTIONAL GROUPS WHO MADE REAL MUSIC HISTORY

By Ima B. Lever

Pop music has always thrived on illusion. From carefully constructed images to studio wizardry, the line between what's real and what's manufactured has often been blurry. But nothing embodies that contradiction quite like the phenomenon of the fictional band.

I'm talking about groups that never rehearsed in a garage, never argued over chord changes, and in many cases never even existed outside the television screen. And yet, some of these imaginary acts produced very real hits and became embedded in the cultural soundtrack of their era.

Perhaps the greatest irony is that many of these "bands" were more successful than countless flesh-and-blood musicians grinding away in clubs.

The Archies may be the purest example of a band that never existed at all. Born from the long-running Archie Comics franchise, The Archies were quite literally animated characters who somehow managed to top the 1969 Billboard Hot 100 chart with "Sugar, Sugar."

The song was an unapologetically bubblegum slice of pop perfection. Catchy, simple, and relentlessly cheerful, it became the best-selling single of the year, beating out some very real competitors. The rest of the Top 5 were: The Beatles ("Come Together/Something"), The Rolling Stones ("Honkey Tonk Women"), Marvin Gay ("I Heard it Through the Grape Vine") and CCR's ("Bad Moon Rising").

Behind the scenes, "Sugar, Sugar" was the work of studio musicians and session singers. Kids loved it. Parents tolerated it. The fact that the band didn't exist only added to its charm. The "band" remains forever young, frozen in animated perfection.

If The Archies were pure fantasy, The Monkees occupied a more complicated space between fiction and reality. The show was created in 1966 as a sitcom about a struggling rock band.

The band was assembled through auditions. The members were chosen more for their charisma than their musical chops. Critics were quick to dismiss them as a prefabricated rip-off of The Beatles.

However, the songs The Monkees created went well beyond critics' expectations. "Last Train to Clarksville," "I'm a Believer," "Pleasant Valley Sunday, and "Daydream Believer" weren't just hits. They were era-defining anthems. At their peak, The Monkees outsold The Beatles and The Rolling Stones combined.

By the early 1970s, television executives had figured out the formula. Give young people catchy songs their parents didn't hate and watch records fly off the shelves. Enter The Partridge Family, a wholesome, musical sitcom starring Shirley Jones and a teen idol named David Cassidy.

Of course, the band itself was fictional and featured a widowed mother and her musically gifted children touring the country in a brightly painted bus. But the hits were very real. "I Think I Love You" shot to No. 1 in 1970.

Like The Archies, the music was recorded by studio musicians, with Cassidy and Jones providing vocals. The rest of the "family" never sang on the records at all. It didn't matter. For millions of fans, The Partridge Family felt real enough.

The success of these fictional groups wasn't an accident. They arrived at a time when mass media worked in lockstep to create shared cultural moments. A hit TV show could launch a hit song, which could sell a hit album, which could reinforce the popularity of the show. It was synergy before that word became corporate gospel.

The influence of these fictional groups didn't end with the 1970s. Later generations would see similar success with imaginary acts.

Otis Day and the Knights were a fictional rhythm-and-blues band created for the 1978 comedy *Animal House*, but their musical moment proved unforgettable. Frontman Otis Day led the group through a raucous rendition of "Shout" that became one of the film's most iconic scenes.

"Shout" was originally recorded in 1959 by The Isley Brothers; however, Otis turned it into a cultural staple, re-charting and cementing its status as one of the most enduring party anthems in music history.

The Blues Brothers began as a comedy sketch on *Saturday Night Live*. John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd were Jake and Elwood Blues. Their performances helped introduce artists like James Brown, Aretha Franklin, and Ray Charles to a new generation of fans.

The Soggy Bottom Boys were a fictional bluegrass trio created for the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* However, their music felt anything but fake. Led by the haunting "Man of Constant Sorrow," the group sparked a massive revival of old-time American folk and proved authenticity can exist without reality.

The Oneders—pronounced "the Wonders"—were the fictional one-hit 60's band at the heart of the 1996 film *That Thing You Do!* The song charted in real life and became a pop-culture staple.

A generation ago, Gorillaz and the Cheetah girls had hits. Even today, the trend persists. The fictional K-Pop girl group HUNTR/X from Netflix's K-Pop *Demon Hunters* released a song called "Golden" that has become a global sensation, topping the charts in 30 countries.

These "bands" remind us that authenticity in music isn't always about where it comes from. Sometimes it's about how a song makes you feel. If a cartoon redhead or a TV family can make you sing along decades later, who's to say they weren't real after all?



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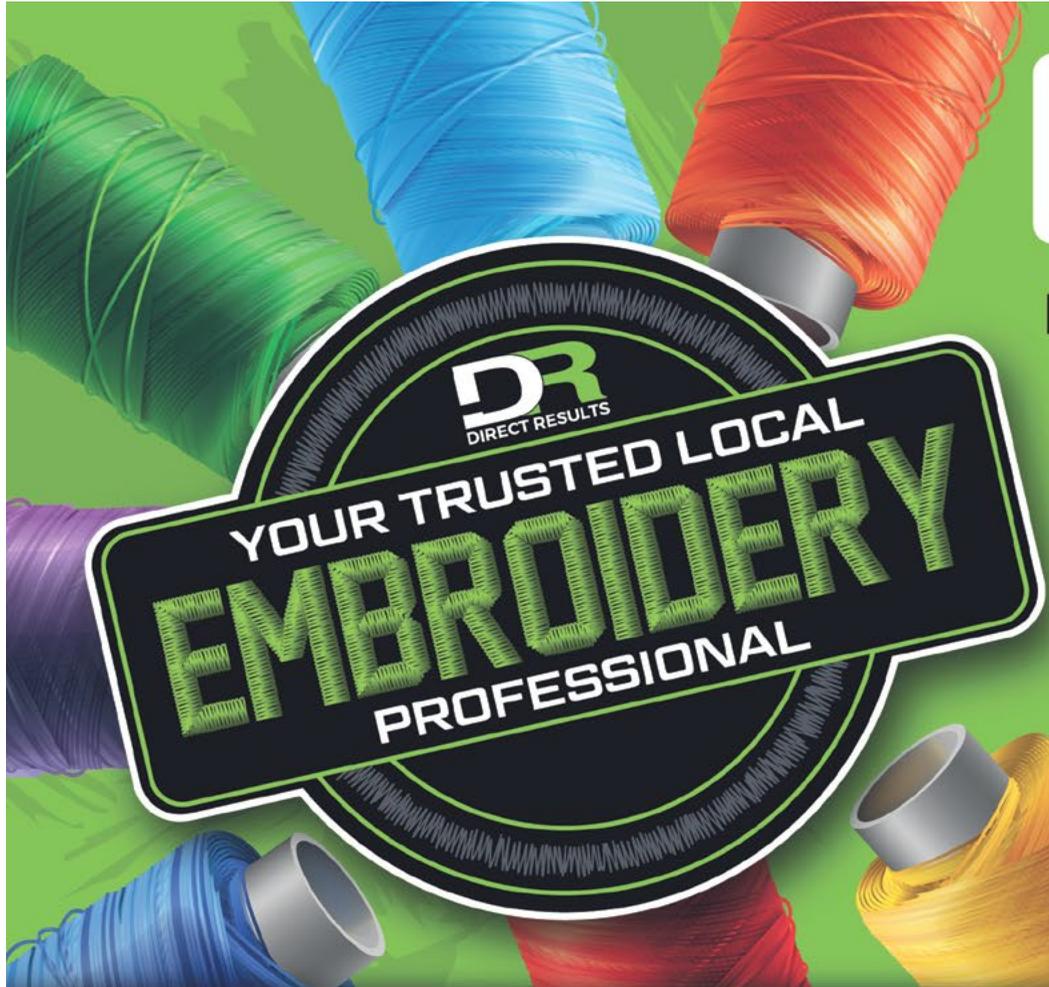
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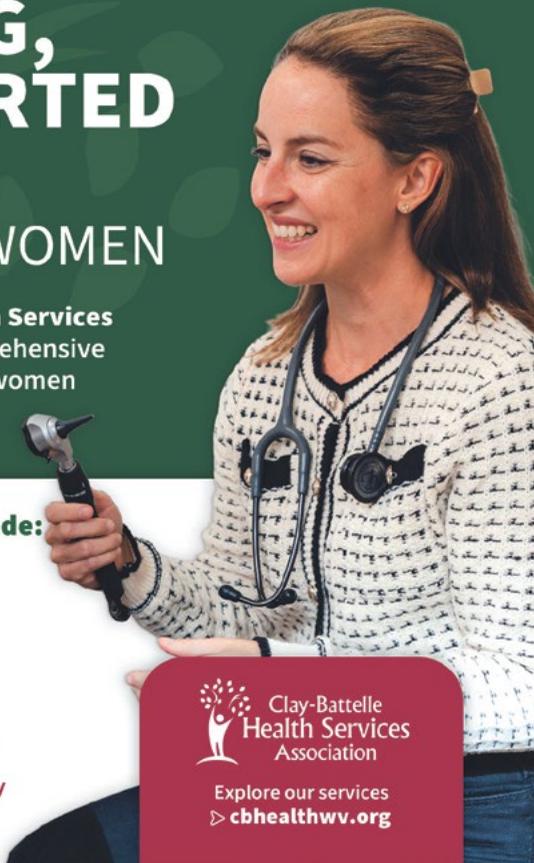
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LOCAL AUTHOR PUBLISHES CHILDREN'S BOOK

Natalie Eddy of Mount Morris, Pa., has written and published a children's fiction book designed to help young readers overcome their fear of thunder and storms.

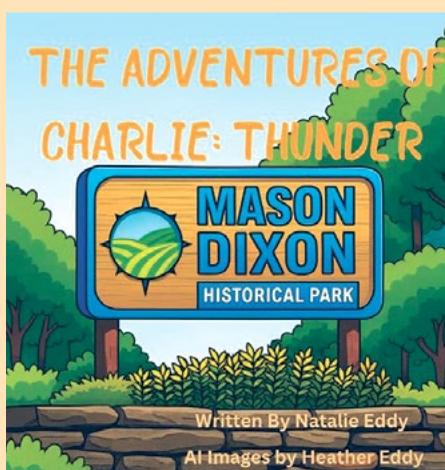
Eddy — a professor at both West Virginia University and Southern New Hampshire University — wrote “The Adventures of Charlie: Thunder” to comfort children who experience storm anxiety by weaving in simple, science-based explanations about how and why storms occur.

“I hope the story will reassure children when a storm approaches by taking some of the mystery out of what's happening in the sky,” Eddy said. “When kids understand the science, storms can seem a lot less scary.”

Geared toward ages 4 to 12, the story follows a third-grade boy who becomes separated from his class during a field trip to Mason-Dixon Historical Park. Along the way, he meets McDoogle, a friendly bird who guides him on a magical journey that reveals the wonders of thunder, lightning and nature's need for storms.

The book features AI-generated illustrations created by Eddy's daughter-in-law, Heather Eddy. The 31-page paperback is available now on Amazon.

Before turning to children's literature, Eddy built a distinguished career as a magazine writer for international environmental publications, a local newspaper reporter and a public relations specialist and editor at WVU. Over the years, she has won numerous awards for her writing.





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TWO PIONEERS WILL NOW OVERSEE THE COUNTY JUDICIARY

T.R. Mahle

Judge Jeff Grimes has been elevated to the position of President Judge of Greene County. Grimes previously served on the court and assumed the leadership responsibilities in January.

Grimes, a lifelong County resident, graduated from West Greene High School and California University of Pennsylvania. He earned his law degree from Ohio Northern University in 1998. Judge Grimes is a member and past president of the Greene County Bar Association. He and his wife, Kim, are raising their two children, Jackson and Joel, on the family farm in Holbrook. They are members of Valley Chapel United Methodist Church in Holbrook. Grimes is a member of the National Rifle Association and volunteers his time coaching youth sports.

Filling the vacancy left by his elevation will be the newly elected Common Pleas judge, the honorable Chris Simms, an attorney and lifelong County resident. Simms has extensive legal experience as a general practitioner including broad-based civil, municipal, family and criminal law. During his campaign, he pledged to be a fair judge who will serve with integrity and work to protect Greene Countians and their constitutional rights.

He is also active in the community and is a member of Waynesburg Rotary Club, Waynesburg Moose Lodge, and the Greene County Bar Association. Simms graduated from West Greene High School and Washington & Jefferson College. He earned his law degree from Duquesne University.



Jeff Grimes, President Judge of Greene County.



Chris Simms, Common Pleas Judge.

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In Honor of St. Patrick's Day



A Denny House Favorite Recipe - Innkeeper Leigh Ann Shaner

Twice Baked Potatoes

- 4 large baking potatoes
- 4 tbs. of olive oil
- 2 tbs. coarse salt and pepper
- 8 slices bacon
- 1 cup sour cream
- ½ cup half and half
- 4 tbs. butter
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese, divided
- 8 green onions, sliced, divided

Start by preheating your oven to 350 degrees. Rub each potato with olive oil and sprinkle with coarse salt and pepper. Poke each potato several times with a fork so they don't explode in your oven (ask me how I know!!). Bake potatoes in the preheated oven until tender (about 1 hour) depending on the size of your potatoes. Set potatoes aside until cool enough to handle (if you attempt to cut your potatoes while they are hot, they will fall apart).

Meanwhile, place bacon in a large, deep skillet. Cook over medium-high heat until evenly brown. Drain, crumble, and set aside.

Slice potatoes in half lengthwise and scoop most of the flesh into a large bowl leaving a small amount of the potato so that it resembles a canoe. Add sour cream, cream, butter, salt, pepper, 1/2 cup cheese, and 1/2 of the green onions to the potato; mix with a hand mixer until well blended and creamy. Spoon the mixture into the potato skins; top each with remaining cheese, green onions, and bacon.

Return potatoes to the preheated oven and continue baking until the cheese is melted, about 15 minutes. Serve Hot!



SPUDS AND A BIT OF BUTTER

Ireland's Long Love Affair with the Potato

Potatoes were introduced to Ireland in the late 16th century by New World Spanish traders, and they quickly became a cornerstone of daily life. They thrived in the country's cool climate and poor soils, where other crops struggled. By the 18th century, potatoes were a means to survival—fueling rural households with remarkable efficiency and shaping cooking traditions that prized simplicity and thrift.

Boiling became the dominant technique, often with potatoes cooked in their skins to preserve nutrients, then eaten with salt, butter, or buttermilk. This straightforward preparation reflected necessity rather than lack of imagination; potatoes were frequently paired with cabbage, onions, or kale, and later with bacon or salt pork when available. Dishes like colcannon and champ (potatoes mashed with greens, scallions, and generous butter) offered warmth and comfort through long winters.

The Great Famine of the 1840s forever altered Ireland's relationship with the potato. The devastation caused by blight and overreliance on a single crop left a deep cultural scar. Yet it never disappeared from Irish kitchens. Instead, it adapted, appearing in breads, stews, and modern interpretations of traditional fare.

From rustic farmhouse meals to refined restaurant plates, cooking with potatoes remains a living link between Ireland's past and present, proof that the simplest foods often carry the richest stories.

HOMEMADE BAILEY'S IRISH CREAM

From Cathie Giachetti

Ingredients:

- 1 cup half and half (or heavy cream)
- 14 oz. can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 cups Irish whiskey (1 ½ cups for lighter touch)
- 1 teaspoon instant coffee
- 2 or 3 tablespoons chocolate syrup (to your taste)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Instructions

1. Pour all ingredients into a blender and mix on high for 30 seconds.
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Wilson Accounting Group has offices in both Waynesburg and Pittsburgh. Michael shares, "We are proud to be part of the Greene County business community."

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Joey Bair

By Dolly Throckmorton

EMPATHY IS NOT WEAKNESS — IT'S POWER

Empathy....do most people even know what it means?

I feel that we have heard this word quite a bit in the last couple of years. I am not sure I heard this word very much growing up, but I understand it is a very vital part of our existence. Empathy can be defined as “the ability to understand and share the feelings of another.”

I like to think of empathy as “stepping into someone else’s shoes” and trying to experience someone else’s emotions as if they were your own. It is not feeling sorry for someone, that would be sympathy. It is important not to confuse the two.

Some people can be so affected by others’ sorrows or fears they can feel those emotions. We might refer to that person as an empath. They help or support a person, not because they feel sorry for them, but because they have come to truly understand their distress.

I completed my 200-hour RYT (yoga certification) and Reiki Master in recent years. There was so much discussion about this topic of empathy and how vital it is in practice.

It is a complex skill, but it is certainly rooted in our brains. **We all can be empathetic. Whether we decide it is something we want to work on is up to us.** I think I have always been em-

pathetic, but sadly judgment got in the way in my earlier years.

After a couple tragic family events, witnessing miraculous recoveries, and relying on my new yoga insights, I would like to think I evolved into someone a little better. Not perfect by any means, but someone with a little less judgment, a little more patience, and a little more cognitively empathetic.

If you have read some of my earlier articles, you will see a theme. That theme is: we are never done progressing. **We should keep trying to better ourselves as human beings.** It is a lifelong process, and learning empathy is certainly one of the most valuable traits.

Recently, nineteen monks left Fort Worth, Texas on a 2,300-mile trek to Washington, DC on a Walk for Peace. They gathered from around the globe to complete this journey of peacefulness and mindfulness. Sadly, I just missed them in North Carolina, but some friends and relatives did catch a glimpse and sent videos.

They walked through very harsh weather. A couple sustained injuries and one monk even required an amputation. People came out in droves to witness their journey, no matter their political or religious affiliation.

You can search online for videos. Their page is Walk for Peace on Facebook (just make sure it is the official one: blue checkmark). Their trek ended February 10. I was certainly moved by their many talks as they stopped along the way. People broke down talking with them about whatever was going on in their lives, and they listened and passed on wisdom.

These monks embody empathy in every way. They teach us the value of mindfulness and meditation (or prayer if that what works for the individual) and living a peaceful and empathetic life. Giving grace to people because we have not walked in their shoes. Until we have done that, how are we to judge?

We become so obsessed with the evil of this world that we begin to believe that is all there is. Personally, I cannot live that way. There will always be good and evil. I must practice empathy and find peace anyway I can.

So, I will try to hold my tongue, be less quick to judge, and work to put myself in other’s shoes. If I can help, I will. If I can lend some wisdom, I will. If I need to learn more about something, I will study rather than spew nonsense. I will not assume I know better but work to listen and observe. Walk in peace, readers.



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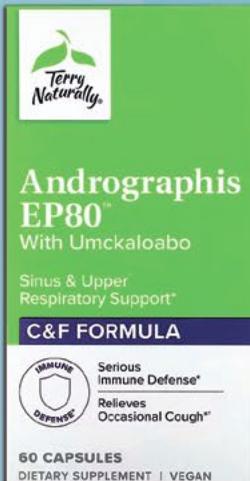
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MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM - 4PM

GreeneScene COMMUNITY MAGAZINE CONTEST



WHERE IS THIS?

Be sure you don't *sail on* by this trendy triceratops if you're in his neighborhood.

SCAN TO ENTER!



FEBRUARY'S "WHERE IS THIS" ANSWER: OAK FOREST ROAD.

Where is this?: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

ONLINE OR BY MAIL Town of Residence: _____

Mail to: GreeneScene Contest, 185 Wade St, Waynesburg, PA 15370. One Entry per person per category. Drawing on 03-17-26. Winner must respond within 24 hours of notification to receive prize.



CARRIAGE HOUSE

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 5pm-9pm



MARCH - OPEN EVERY THURSDAY FOR DINNER 5 PM - 9 PM

MUSIC

HOMEMADE SPECIALS

- MARCH 5TH** - Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes & Green Beans.....Two to Win
- MARCH 12TH** - Stuffed Shells, Salad, and Rolls.....Devan Cowell as Johnny Cash
- MARCH 19TH** - Prime Rib, Roasted Mini Potatoes, and Brussels Sprouts.....Ferd Dolfi
- MARCH 26TH** - Beef Stroganoff over Noodles with a Spring Salad.....Nick Savage
- APRIL 2ND** - Chicken Marsala, Potatoes, and Vegetables
- APRIL 9TH** - Prime Rib, Roasted Mini Potatoes, and Brussels Sprouts
- APRIL 16TH** - Cream Chicken over Biscuits, Mashed Potatoes, and Vegetables

FIRST FRIDAYS OPEN ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 5 PM - 9 PM

MUSIC

- FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH** - Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes & Green Beans.....Steve Halow
- FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD** - Chicken Marsala, Potatoes, and Vegetables.....Timm Reeves
- FRIDAY, MAY 8TH** - Spaghetti & Meatballs, Salad & Rolls.....Lucien Schroyer

FULL MENU EVERY THURSDAY & SPECIALS EVERY WEEK

Specialty Dinners

Eat In or Take Out

APPETIZERS

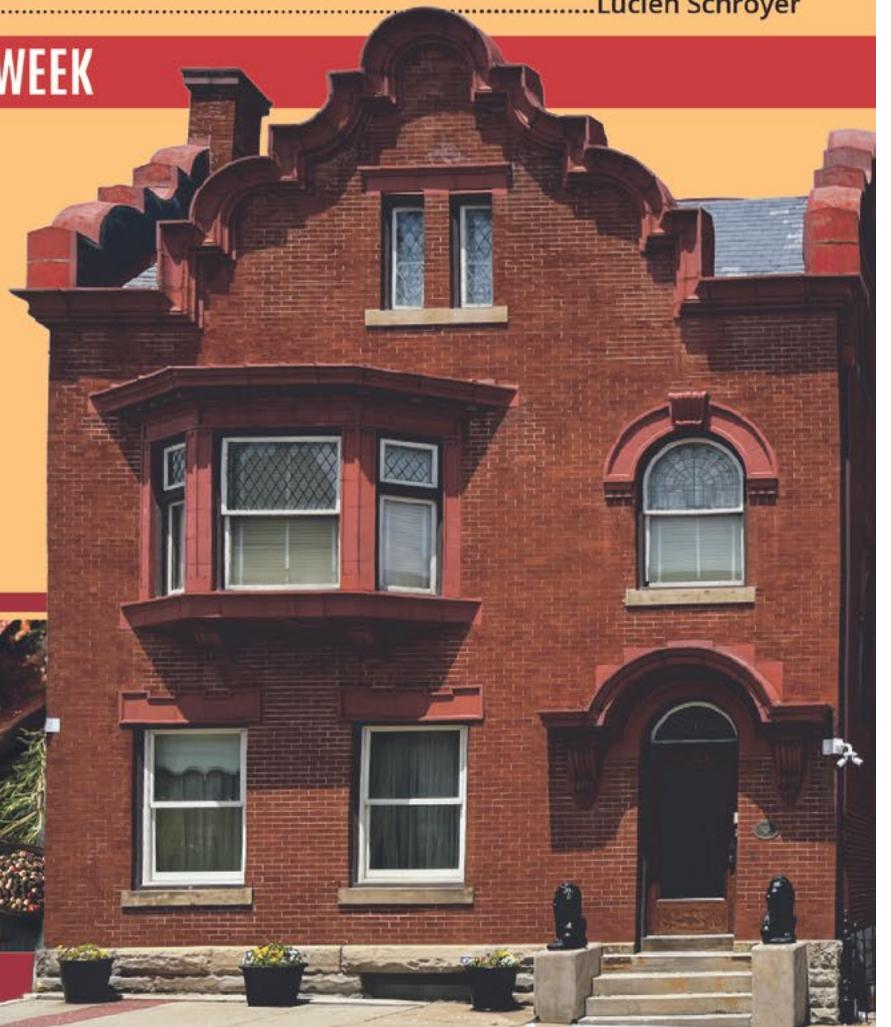
- Truffle Fries
- Loaded Fries
- Cheese Boards
- Charcuterie Boards
- Creamy Spinach Dip

WRAPS & SANDWICHES

- Grilled Chicken Wrap
- Italian Wrap
- Grilled Chicken Sandwich
- 6" New York Italian Sub
- "World Famous" Reuben Sandwich
- Grilled Cheese Sandwich

SALADS

- Mixed Greene Salad
- Seasonal Salad
- Grilled Chicken Salad



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O' You Think You're Irish?

A ST. PATRICK'S DAY QUIZ

Instructions:
Each question features a famous person whose surname begins with O'. Name the person from the description.

WIN \$50

1. Famous Tiger, Magic, and Laker hoop legend?
Answer: _____
2. A bald Irish singer-songwriter whose emotional voice and fearless public persona made Nothing Compares 2 U a global hit.
Answer: _____
3. An Irish-American late-night talk show host famous for his towering height, bright red hair, and quick, self-deprecating humor.
Answer: _____
4. Film and television actor known for Love Story, Barry Lyndon, and Paper Moon; part of a famous Hollywood family.
Answer: _____
5. Iconic redheaded film actress and singer, celebrated for classic Hollywood roles and her strong Irish identity; later became a U.S. citizen.
Answer: _____
6. Long-time owner who moved the Dodgers from Brooklyn to Los Angeles.
Answer: _____
7. Celebrated American writer known for Southern Gothic short stories and novels infused with dark humor and moral themes.
Answer: _____
8. The NBA Champions receive a trophy named after this former commissioner.
Answer: _____
9. One of America's greatest playwrights and the only American to win the Nobel Prize in Literature for drama; son of Irish immigrants.
Answer: _____
10. An Irish-American politician and former U.S. House Speaker known for his strong leadership style and Irish heritage.
Answer: _____



SCAN TO ENTER! ONLINE OR BY MAIL!

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

Mail to: GreeneScene Contest, 185 Wade St, Waynesburg, PA 15370. One Entry per person per category. Drawing on 03-17-26. Winner must respond within 24 hours of notification to receive prize.



GreeneScene

Lilly Orndoff captured this image of a cardinal in her backyard in Sprags.

The WAY

5K RUN WALK RUCK

KIDS 1K RACE

PET WALK 1K

All pets must be on a leash.

SATURDAY MAY 2 AT 8:30AM

Race STARTS and FINISHES at THE WAY
209 W High St, Waynesburg, PA 15370

8:30AM WELCOME
9:00AM PET WALK
9:15AM KIDS 1K RACE
9:30AM WALK & RUCK
9:45AM RUN

AWARDS
(Immediately following race)

AGE GROUPS

13 - 19,	20 - 29,
30 - 39,	40 - 49,
50 - 59,	60+

Awards will be given to the top three male and female finishers in each age category for each race.

\$40 REGISTRATION

Registration includes an awesome 5K Race T-shirt which can be picked up race day.
Register by 4/2/26 to guarantee your size!

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-  **To qualify for the study, you must be Type 1 Diabetic, Insulin Dependent, and be between ages 6-17.**
-  **16 days study 3 visits- compensation \$750.00**
-  **21 days study 3 visits- compensation \$4000.00**

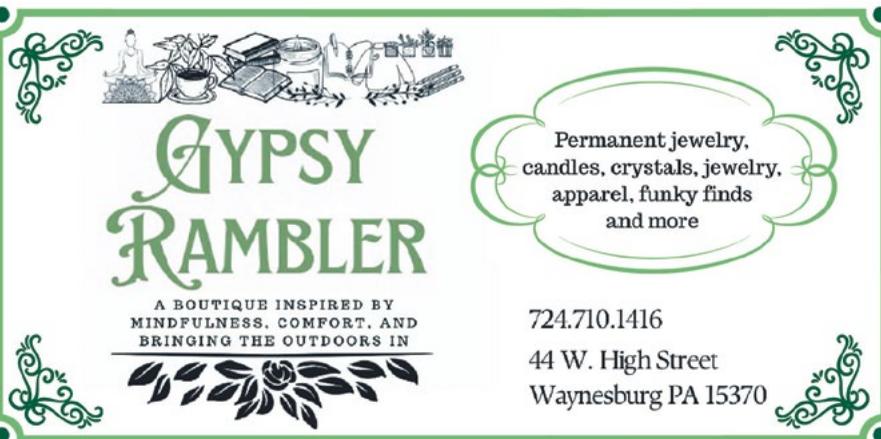


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