

GreeneScene

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE



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Pennsylvania Lottery
Scratch Off Tickets

May 2021 Issue

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PENNSYLVANIA LOTTERY
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I Love this Place FORDYCE



Local paintings and other handmade goods can be found at The Dutch House.

The village of Fordyce is easy to miss – it sits on a straight stretch of Garards Fort Road, surrounded by grassy bottomland and 7000 reforested acres of State Game Land 223. Step on the gas and you'll miss it.

What catches the eye if you're just cruising through is the brick one-room Fordyce School, now headquarters of the Warrior Trail Association. Beside it is another blast from the past – a general store that sat vacant for years. It's open now as The Dutch House at the corner of the crossroads leading to Jefferson to the east and Kirby to the west, if you're up for a back roads ramble. But if you have the time to see America as it used to be, Fordyce is a good place to pull over, get out and meet the neighbors. They know what's been going on around here for the last 200 some years.

"See?" Kathy Morris Miller placed the old photograph on her dining room table and pointed to a smudge of gray beside a cleared field that is now game land. "That was the Moredock farm. The cemetery is there above it. You can hardly see it now but I could take you up if you have time."

The Morris family Bicentennial Farm was honored in 2007 for being owned and operated by the same family for more than 200 years. Kathy shows me the fragile original deed dated 1786 she found tucked away in a family bible that got her started on her genealogical quest. The farm's 240 remaining acres that once supported a dairy business are now leased for cattle and hay. The stately farmhouse built in 1875 has

been restored and is filled with family artifacts, photographs, and lifetimes of family lore. We spend the afternoon leafing through what Kathy has researched, assembled and is happy to share.

When Kathy testified before the Public Utility Commission about proposed plans to put a high voltage electrical tower grid through Fordyce in 2007, she added historical preservation to the concerns of property devaluation and health issues. Seven generations of patriots lived here, she pointed out. Three times great grandfather Jonathan Morris and his brother George came in the 1770s and helped build Garard's Fort to protect first settlers, then stayed to serve the Revolution as frontier rangers. The Morris farm had just been awarded Bicentennial Farm status by the Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture and the proposed lines "hissing with deadly voltage and maintained with deadly herbicides" would cut through the farm and pass within a few hundred yards of the house and barn.

Her words and the impassioned testimony of others helped win the day for six family farms and the historic integrity of Fordyce.

The Caldwell's Atlas of 1876 has an insert map of the village that grew up around "Moredock's X Roads" and a good eye can spot the post office, general store, school and church. One dot represents a shoe shop, another, by the church, shows where George Elms once had a blacksmith shop.

Kathy points on the *Caldwell Atlas* map at two log cabins, both long gone, on either side of the original Morris deed. Morris families lived in them until one brother sold his share and great grandfather Jonathan built the present farmhouse for his wife Charlotte and their ten children.

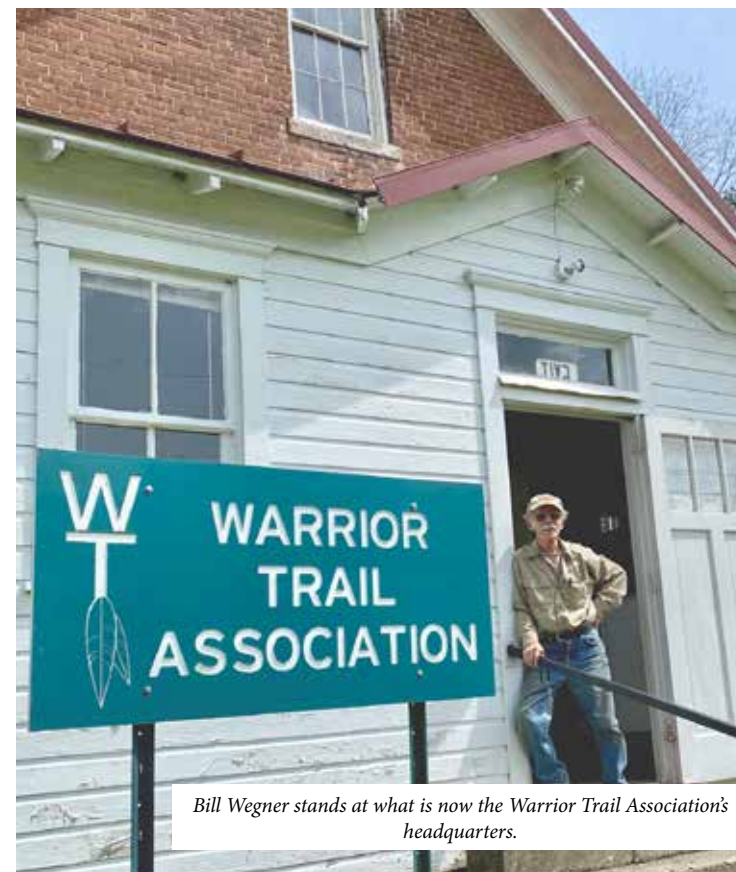
Farming isn't the only business in Fordyce these days, Kathy tells me. Her next-door neighbors the Zalars have a bus company and just built a new home.

The future is coming at its own pace, one day and one season at a time. By summer, Warrior Trail members will hopefully be having potluck dinner meetings again and out-of-towners will be taking the Kirby exit on Interstate 79 to shop The Dutch House. And in a few years, who knows what sustainable crops will be growing or grazing on these old family farms?

Slow down, stop by and see for yourself.



Savanna Christy, Shelly Christy, and Artis Corwin at The Dutch House on opening day April 3, 2021.



Bill Wegner stands at what is now the Warrior Trail Association's headquarters.



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Greene County Historical Society Museum Receives Donation



This 1900's hit and miss engine and pumpjack were donated to the Greene County Historical Society Museum from Leatherwood, a CONSOL energy entity. The donation will assist in the preservation of the history of the gas and oil field. It will be displayed at the museum in Greene County, where is predominant.



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GreeneScene of the Past

By Colleen Nelson



This old photograph of the general store at Moredock's Crossroads captures the early days of the 20th century in picturesque detail. It's easy to imagine that the man with the horse and buggy is waiting to see the blacksmith in the basement while the family shops upstairs and picks up the mail.

Benjamin Franklin Moredock built the store in 1856, the year the village that would someday be known as Fordyce got its own post office. That's the family farm in the background and across the road in front of the store is a trim two-story house with a Mansard roof that a Moredock relative built for a daughter in 1880. It's an easy guess that she spent her share of time working at the family

store. Life back then was very much a family affair.

G. Wayne Smith's *Post Offices of Greene County* doesn't say why Moredock Post Office closed in 1863. But when it reopened in 1866 it was renamed Fordyce, a familiar surname from frontier times when Reverend John Fordyce moved from Morris County, New Jersey and settled here.

In 1870, Moredock was paid \$97.90 a year to be postmaster, a job he held for 32 years. By 1916, James Patterson had the job and Smith notes that when Fordyce Post Office closed in 1930 it was in Patterson's General Store. Farmers could now drive to Waynesburg on muddy roads to get their mail and

shop and general stores slowly became a thing of the past. The building sat empty until Audrey Blaker Bailey opened an antique shop in the 1970s. After she died, the old store with its distinctive front windows sat as a weathered reminder of a time when people shopped local and things were made to last.

Moredock farm is now part of State Game Lands 223 and all the barns and outbuildings are gone. But the store that Moredock built so well is back, under new management and ready to cater to those who want to shop local and buy things that are as good now as they were then.

The Dutch House is Greene County's newest antique and everything else worth saving store.

There's penny candy for sale in antique candy jars and kitchen must haves from the 1930s spread out beside post office boxes that retired in 1930 but still hang on the wall.

The upstairs is full of furniture looking for a new family to love, chairs of every old style hang from the walls. Owner Savanna Christy's heart is in the small details of repurposing those things of the past that can be taken home and reused. A wall of brushes and specialty milk paints shows her passion for refinishing furniture and selling the products she's found to be sustainable, like heirloom seeds from Southern Exposure Seed Exchange. Local artists have found their niche here. Her grandmother, Artis Corwin's paintings and prints are on every wall. Wingar Pottery, produced in Graysville, is a good fit here - made by hand, beautifully useful and ready to become a family heirloom.

Savanna, 27, grew up in Greene County, got an associate degree in business and real estate and land economics and worked in Morgantown for a real estate developer. While working, she attended WVU for multidisciplinary studies including rural community development, sustainable design and landscape studies. It was on one of those cross country drives from Morgantown to Greene County to visit family and friends that she saw a for sale sign in the yard of an older Greene County home.

"As soon as I saw it I had to have it!"

When Savanna threw herself into restoring her house in 2018, the old general store in Fordyce seemed to be calling her name.

Which isn't that surprising, considering. Savanna's mother, Shelly Christy and grandmother Artis have been tracing their family roots back to the first settlers and then through the centuries in Europe. BF Moredock is an ancestor.

Wayne Kapp was willing to sell the old store and fixing it up for opening day became a family affair. As COVID-19 came calling in 2020, Savanna brought her antiques home from her rented space in Morgantown and began stocking the shelves. When people came in droves on opening day April 3, Savanna and her family were there to welcome them in to a world where the past waits to live again.

There are treasures to be found in historic Greene County whose stories deserve to live on. Savanna believes you can find that story "if you listen or know how to discover it."

Store hours are Thursday to Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Check The Dutch House on Facebook for directions and to see new inventory as it is brought in.

If you have an interesting old photo from the area you'd like to share, just send it to: GreeneScene of the Past, 185 Wade Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370. Or email to: info@greenescenemagazine.com with GreeneScene Past in subject line.

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ALEPPO TOWNSHIP IS PART OF THE 2021 TOUR OF HONOR



The Tour of Honor is including the Veterans War Memorial in Aleppo Township in this year's event!

The Veterans War Memorial, located across from the Post Office on Aleppo Road, was originally built in the early 1970s. Over time, the memorial suffered deterioration and decay and needed to be replaced. The Aleppo Townships Supervisors unveiled a new granite monument in a ceremony on Memorial Day 2014 that honors over 300 individuals from Aleppo Township who served in the armed forces from World War I through Vietnam.

At 12:01 am on Thursday, April 1, 2021, the 500 memorial sites in this year's tour were released to over 1,000 registered participants across the nation at tourofthonor.com. Participants will take self-guided motorcycle rides through October 31 to photograph their bikes in front of as many memorial sites they choose. Awards will be distributed in various categories.

The motorcycle event encourages participants to hit the open road, honor our nation's heroes, and contribute to a few good charities from April 1 to October 31. Participants may register at any time on the Tour of Honor website. The registration fee includes a flag, patch, stickers, season-long scoring, Fin-

isher's certificates and pins, and a short-sleeve T-shirt.

ABOUT TOUR OF HONOR

Celebrating its 11th year, Tour of Honor is the premiere motorcycling event that honors American heroes and raises money for Veterans and First Responders charities. The event kicks off on April 1 and is a season-long, self-directed ride to memorials and monuments around the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii.

Trophies will be awarded to the first three riders to visit all of the memorials in a stage (or region). Pins and finishers certificates will be given to all who visit a minimum of seven state memorial sites. A "Jack Shoalmire Achievement Award" and free registration for 2022 will be awarded to the person visiting the most memorial sites during 2021. Top 10 riders will receive flag numbers 1 through 10 in 2022.

According to rider preference, \$25 from each paid registration will go to Fisher House Foundation, Gold Star Family Memorial Foundation, or Police and Fire: The Fallen Heroes. All profits after expenses will be divided equally between the three charities.

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PA State Inspection

Fordyce United Methodist Church on the Whiteley Township side of town cuts a low profile when seen from Garrards Fort Road. There is no high spire to announce its spiritual presence, and at first glance the tidy buff brick building could be mistaken for a school. But to the neighbors who congregate here, it is a fine family sanctuary that teaches love thy neighbor as yourself and don't forget the ties that bind.

Kathy Morris Miller tells me that her three-times-great grandfather Johathan Morris and his good neighbor John Moredock gave land from their farms in 1837 to build a meeting place "for the benefit of the neighborhood." The deed stipulated that church services held there would be "equally free for all regularly organized denomination of Christians" as long as they didn't interfere with regular school hours. Preachers were allowed "one Sabbath in two weeks if another denomination wished to use the building." The settlement sat at a crossroads and the first store had yet to be built. But the farmers who had pioneered this land now had a place where communion and education brought them together.

That first meetinghouse is no more, although it remains identified as a schoolhouse on the Greene Township side of the crossroads in the 1876 Caldwell's Centennial Atlas of Greene County.

John Moredock later deeded another parcel across the road in Whiteley Township in 1856 and parishioners built a wood frame Methodist Protestant church there. It was beside a log cabin that became the parsonage and, later, the home of James and Fern Cline.

Pleasant Valley Methodist Protestant Church remained on the Monongahela Circuit as an uncharted church into the 20th century before it was incorporated as United Methodist in 1914.

Church records give a wry account of

how change happens in a thrifty farming community. When the congregation "tentatively" decided to build a new brick church in the summer of 1923, presiding pastor Reverend J.P. Adams helped them make up their minds. "On Monday morning before daylight Rev. Adams started demolishing the old church. The indecision by some of the trustees was changed in favor of building a new church when daylight arrived."

When I ask Kathy how he did it, she grins. "He used a crow bar."

When finished, the new church was lauded in the press as a modern structure of artistic design with an arch above the altar, beautiful woodwork and a modern kitchen in the basement. The \$18,000 price tag caused some consternation about money that was still owed, but help was on its way. Kathy's sleuthing located a newspaper article that tells us Dr. John Calvin Broomfield of the Pittsburgh Conference came for the dedication on October 12, 1923 and made a passionate appeal for funds to "clear the church of debt." Three services were held that day, free lunch was served to all and \$7300 was raised – more than enough to burn the mortgage then and there.

Reverend Adams wasn't the only "shoot from the shoulder" pastor to preach that old time religion in Fordyce. Sometime in the late 1940s, journalist William Faust wrote about Reverend Larry HB "Hell Bent" Jewel, a reformed "hoodlum" turned old time country preacher. The Lord may have turned his life around but seems to have left his personality cheerfully intact. While driving his weekly Sunday charge between churches, Faust reported "he looks for groundhogs, which he calls whistle pigs, to take pot shots at" with his Winchester 52. As a Nemaacolin Mine mechanic "in addition to respecting him as a man of the cloth, his fellow workers respect his 220 pound bulk." At church his hobbies of



The Fordyce UMC with next door neighbor John Cline.

building model trains and planes where used "to entertain the boys in his Sunday schools." At home in Khedive, he farmed three acres, milked his goats and lived with his family in a restored 150-year-old log cabin. Daughter Erna Jane Ross saved the stories he told about the wild days of his youth in her book *Hell Bent...Plucked as a Brand from the Burning* and read some of them aloud at church in 2017, standing where her father once stood behind the pulpit.

The crown jewel of this country church is arguably the 4' x 6' oil reproduction of Christ at Gethsemane by Hoffman that hangs behind the pulpit. Greene County artist Emon Haines (1883-1958) toured the world by freighter after retiring as a civil engineer in 1948. A 19-day visit to the Holy Land during Passover set him on a six year pilgrimage painting and donating classic biblical scenes to churches and remote missionary stations, from the Arctic Circle to a leper colony in the

Philippines. Once home, he taught Sunday school, gave art lessons and painted biblical master works to give to local churches. His family farm is just over the hill near Muddy Creek in Jefferson Township.

Modern touches like handicap ramps, new windows and carpeting were added in 2008 and today's congregation of a dozen families can be found helping out at the White Covered Bridge during the September festival, filling Samaritans Purses and hopefully getting back to monthly dinners when the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Kathy, a retired music teacher, plays piano on Sunday and tells me Pastor Phil Yost has a powerful message to share. At the height of the lockdown it was delivered through speakers and parishioners in the parking lot held up signs and honked their horns amen. Now the pews are taped off properly and members are back inside for Sunday services that start at 11 a.m.

GreeneScene

Save the Date!

We're looking for Greene County wedding stories!



Did you have a unique Greene County wedding? Or have a great Greene County proposal? Or adapted your wedding for the pandemic? The GreeneScene is looking for stories like these for our wedding edition.

Topics for stories include: being married 50+ years, Greene County weddings, Greene County engagements, and more. We're also looking for pictures of your fire hall wedding and cake tables! Send us your stories by MAY 3 to be included!

Send your stories and photographs to info@greenescenemagazine.com!

County Conversations

GREENE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Greene County Industrial Development Authority (GCIDA) has been working with their environmental consultant AMO Environmental Decisions to complete environmental assessments and reclamation of brownfield sites across the county.

A *brownfield* is a property that the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant, including mine-scarred land. The GCIDA was awarded a US EPA Brownfields Community Wide Assessment Grant in 2018 for \$300,000.

The GCIDA has led this program and initiated the Greene County Brownfields Advisory Committee (GC-BRAC). The GC-BRAC hosts quarterly public meetings (advertised on Facebook and the local newspapers) to provide the opportunity for the public to provide input for redevelopment goals. The next GC-BRAC meeting will be held June 8 at 10AM at the Greene County Office Building Second Floor Conference Room.

Utilizing the US EPA Brownfields

Grant funding, the GCIDA has identified over 30 potential brownfield sites and completed assessment activities on seven. Three sites are in the process of being redeveloped in Mount Morris. The GCIDA is currently working on reclaiming the former Gateway Forest Products site in Morgan Township. The GCIDA has successfully leveraged this US EPA Grant funding without any County funding sources and is addressing underutilized and vacant sites to attract businesses and redevelopment.

In the fall of 2021 GCIDA will pursue new assessment funding through the US EPA Brownfields Coalition Grant for \$600,000 with local township partners. This new grant would allow the GCIDA to continue the successful reclamation of brownfield sites across the county. The GCIDA is making these sites and the county more favorable to redevelopment, new industries and new jobs by initiating the first steps in reclaiming these sites and removing the burden on potential purchasers.

FMI, contact the GC-BRAC at 93 East High Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370, call 724.627.9259 or fax 724.627.6569.



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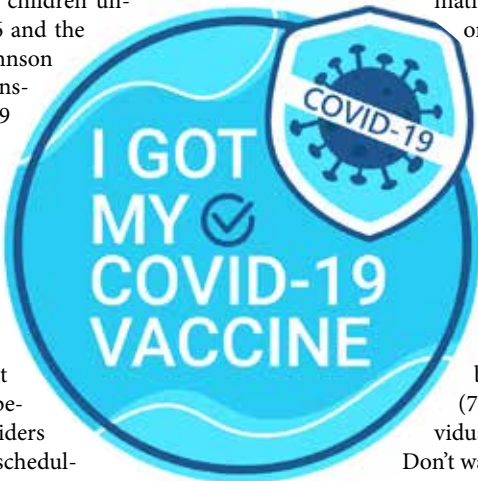
IN GREENE, MORE VACCINE AVAILABLE THAN PATIENTS IN QUEUE

For the first time, there is more COVID-19 vaccine available than patients in the queue for receiving the vaccine in Greene County. Since the first week of January, a coalition of medical authorities, county officials and other agencies have been meeting weekly in order to plan, organize and effectively administer the COVID-19 vaccine. During the meeting Monday, the balance between those requesting COVID-19 vaccinations and the amount of vaccine available was reversed from previous meetings.

Planning, coordination and communication through the coalition meetings previously validated a significant capacity in Greene County to administer COVID-19 vaccines. The issue was the small amount of vaccine available through the state and federal distribution programs. Now, the vaccine is more readily available and Governor Wolf and Acting Secretary Beam announced, "that effective, Tuesday, April 13, all Pennsylvania adults will be eligible to schedule an appointment for the COVID-19 vaccine."

The announcement included that the Department of Health has seen ongoing appointment availability in many parts of the state even as Phase 1A and 1B continue and 1C begins today. This updated timeline will signal the start of Phase 2, and allow all interested adults to fill appointments at providers immediately as of April 13. The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is not yet approved for children under the age of 16 and the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccines are not yet approved for children under the age of 18.

Individuals that do not currently have an appointment can contact the below vaccine providers for immediate scheduling.



ing.

- **Washington Health System:** Residents of Washington or Greene counties, or established patients of a WHS outpatient practice, can register for a vaccination at <https://whs.org/vaccine-form>
- **Cornerstone Care:** Register at https://cornerstonecare.com/covid-19_vaccine/
- **Centerville Clinics:** Patients can register at <https://centervilleclinics.com/covid-19-vaccine/>
- **CVS Pharmacy:** Visit <https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine/>
- **Giant Eagle Pharmacy:** Visit <https://www.gianteagle.com/covidvaccine/>
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- **WVU Medical:** Visit <https://wvumedicine.org/info/vaccine/>

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging, Inc. continues to offer free rides to all seniors, 60 years of age and older, needing transportation to and from their scheduled COVID-19 vaccination appointment. For those who are interested in scheduling transportation to and from a vaccination site, call Greene County Transportation at (724) 627-6778 and have your COVID-19 vaccination appointment information available to help coordinate your ride. The Area Agency on Aging will also make vaccine appointments for individuals that do not have access to the internet.

Additional information can be obtained on the Greene County Commissioner's Facebook page, by calling (724) 852-5210 or individual healthcare providers.

Don't wait to make an appointment, be safe and vaccinate!

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Cool at School

By Danielle Nyland

CARMICHAELS AREA HIGH SCHOOL

A freshman Wildlife Leadership Academy Conservation Ambassador, Faith Willis's article on Fall Trout Stocking was recently published in the Pennsylvania Environment Digest Blog. The blog is edited by David Hess, the former Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Faith's article:

This fall I had the amazing opportunity to stock fish with the Izaak Walton League. I met my good friend and fellow Wildlife Leadership Academy Conservation Ambassador, Sophia Zalar, at the bridge at Pollock's Mill early in the morning on November 14.

We started the morning by taking fish from the stock truck down to the float box in buckets. One of the men there asked Sophia and I if we were going down stream with the float box.

We weren't entirely sure what that meant, but we excitedly agreed. He said the trip would take two and a half hours, and Sophia and I thought he was joking!

Turns out he was not joking, but the next two and a half hours were awesome.

We waded most of the way, throwing fish out into the stream as we went along. There were over 500 fish of different spe-

cies: rainbow, brown, and golden trout.

It was a great experience to listen to these men talk about how they have spent most of their lives as hunters, fishermen, and conservationists.

It was really interesting to hear about my family and friends who actually fished that stream talk about the fish that they caught--the fish that we had stocked!

Faith is part of the first Envirothon team for Carmichaels, along with Sophia Zalar (the recipient of the 2020 George H. Block Conservation Scholarship), Brooke Watters, Spenser Conard, and Alex Lawrence. The team is competing in the Greene County Envirothon on April 22. They are also joining in the Izaak Walton League tree planting event on April 24.

The students in Carmichaels' Conservation Biology class participated in a virtual field trip in late February. The virtual event was hosted by Rivers of Steel RiverQuest. RiverQuest is a nonprofit focusing on environmental science education. "Typically, RiverQuest would present to our students aboard *Explorer*, the vessel which hosts the

educational programming," teacher Kevin Willis shares. "Due to restrictions related to the pandemic, students received their content through a Zoom session. Even though the venue changed from the rivers of Pittsburgh to the home of the students, the content remained rich and was customized for our students."

The virtual field trip was arranged and introduced by Suzi Bloom, Director of Education at RiverQuest, hosted by Frank Muto, and presented by Marisa Tobia. Both Frank and Marisa are RiverQuest instructors. Marisa presented a program related to well water and groundwater issues. Her presentation included actual well water test results to emphasize the importance of well water testing. Students were challenged to continue their own research into the quality and quantity of water locally available to them, along with ways to conserve their valuable water resources.

Handcrafted Inc. is officially open! Handcrafted Inc. is a student run EdCorps business located in the middle/ high school at Carmichaels Area School District. Check out



Trout stocking with the Izaak Walton League.



A virtual field trip in the time of COVID-19.

the premium wax tarts, air freshener sprays and a wide array of sublimated items! Support the 9-12 grade students in the Business Development & Marketing class by visiting <https://www.edcorps.org/shop/handcrafted-inc> and making a purchase!

FROM CONNECTICUT TO GREENSBORO

In the year 1629, England was still embroiled in the conflicts between Catholics and Protestants that began during the Tudor Dynasty in the previous century. Though things had become more peaceful, tensions were still high, and many Protestants, especially of the Puritanical sects, were leaving for the New World in droves.

Thomas Minor, a young man of 21 years, from the small village of Chew Magna in Somerset, was looking toward the New World as an opportunity to practice his religion as he saw fit, and to escape the class system that was still prevalent in England at the time. He was about to embark on the greatest journey of his life. Sometime in the summer of 1629, he boarded a ship named *The Lyon's Whelp*, built the previous year on the orders of the Duke of Buckingham, and set sail for the eastern coast of the United States.

Salem, Massachusetts was the destination. At that time, it was just a small settlement with a few timber frame houses, a church, and the seeds of what would become a huge shipping industry. Thomas would stay here for a brief period of time, moving on to Watertown and eventually Charlestown, Massachusetts after an outbreak of typhoid fever ravaged the region. It was in Charlestown that Thomas would meet his wife, Grace, the daughter of Walter Palmer, whom he married in 1634. Thomas and Grace would eventually have seven sons and three daughters.

In 1653, when his first-born son John was 18 years old, Thomas purchased a large tract of land, further down the coast in what eventually became the Colony, and later, State of Connecticut. The region was untouched. The Pequot Indians had small villages dotting the area around Stonington Harbor where Thomas purchased his land, and there were no European settlements any closer than Plymouth - nearly one hundred miles away. It was around this time that Thomas began keeping a diary that detailed his daily life, farm chores, dealings with the local natives and church, and local politics. This diary survived and was published in 1899, with later reprints throughout the next century. This diary is one of only a handful of accounts that provide a glimpse into what life was like in these very early times.

Thomas, along with Walter Palmer (his father-in-law), William Cheesebrough, George Denison and Thomas Stanton would found the town of Stonington, and Thomas, along with his son Ephraim, would help to found the first church.

Thomas Minor would stay in Stonington for the rest of his life and there he would die, on October 23, 1690. His wife Grace would pass that year also, but the Minor family was in Stonington to stay - for a while at least.

In 1706, just eight years after Thomas' death, his great grandson Stephen was born. Stephen, much like his great grandfather, had a strong desire to explore the world and seek out new destinations. He left Stonington, where his family had lived for several generations, and headed south. Stephen found his way to Middlesex County, New Jersey, where he settled for a while, but he eventually headed for Winchester, Virginia. In Virginia, Stephen raised a family of at least six children with his wife Athalia (Updyke) Minor. Among those six children was a son John, born January 5, 1747.

John, like ancestors before him, was born to be a pioneer.

Around the age of 17, John, along with his friend Jeremiah Glasgow, followed the woodland trails from their home in Winchester to Fort Redstone (now Brownsville, Pennsylvania) and explored the wilderness in the great wooded region west of the Monongahela River. It was 1764, and there wasn't a single permanent settlement in what is now Greene County. The land was open and few natives were present; the last group of natives to permanently live in the area had disappeared around 1635, and now the Shawnees, Iroquois, Delaware and Mingos were using the land mainly for hunting.

John and Jeremiah would spend the season exploring the wilderness, scouting out territories to settle. John eventually staked out a claim for himself on a promising tract of land on Whitely Creek, as well as a tract nearby for his older brother William.

As summer turned into fall, John and Jeremiah would return to Virginia. They spent the winter preparing for their next journey north into the vast wooded lands and rolling hills of western Pennsylvania. This time would be different - they would bring their families, a few meager possessions and say their farewell to Winchester. John would become the first permanent settler in the area that became Greene County.

Over the course of the next decade, others would follow, and a community would develop along Whiteley Creek. In 1772, John built a flour mill, the first in the region, but there was great change brewing in the colonies during these years.

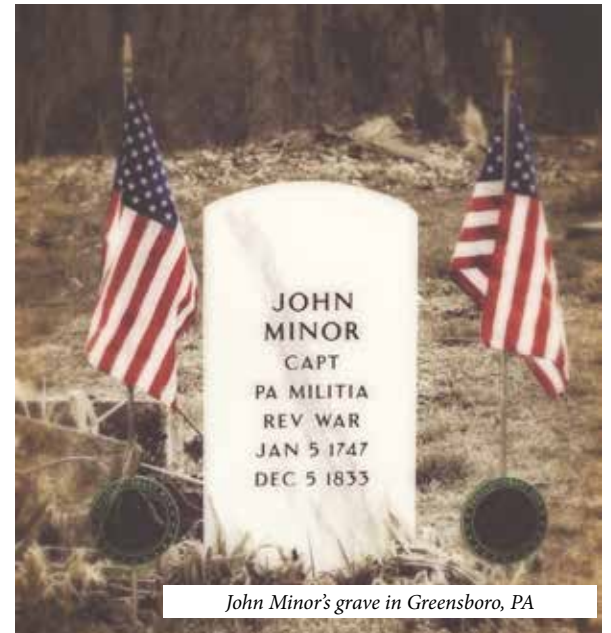
Trouble had been brewing since the close of the French and Indian War in 1763. In April of 1775, the "shot that rang round the world" brought with it the American Revolution. John was commissioned a Captain under Colonel Zachariah Morgan and was placed in command of Statler's Fort, an important frontier fort on Dunkard Creek near present day Penntress, West Virginia, close to where he staked out land for his brother William in 1764.

John would go on in 1778 to orchestrate the construction of a flotilla of boats for General George Rogers Clark to be used to take settler families into the Illinois country to help in expelling the British.

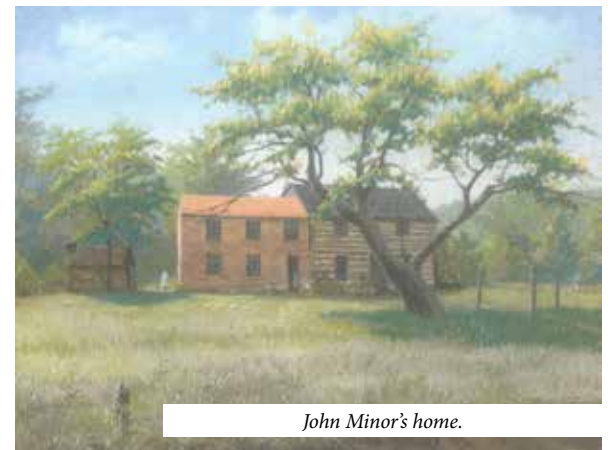
In 1781, John would become a Justice of the Peace for Cumberland Township, and he was launched into local politics. At that time, this region was the southern portion of Washington County. With the Whiskey Rebellion in full swing and realizing the impracticality of residents near the southern border making the trip to Washington to conduct business, John began a campaign to separate the southern portion of Washington County into a new county. It took several years and after multiple attempts, on February 9, 1796, the southern portion of Washington county was detached forming Greene County, Pennsylvania.

Soon after, Thomas Slater would provide land to erect a county seat and Waynesburg was born, named for General Mad Anthony Wayne after his defeating the Indians at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794.

John remained a Justice of the Peace and stayed active in local politics for the remainder of his life. He would keep his farm on Whitely Creek, but when the town of Greensboro was established in the 1790s, John bought several lots, built a modest home, and spent his remaining years in comfort.



John Minor's grave in Greensboro, PA



John Minor's home.



Thomas Minor's grave in , Stonington, CT.

In his last years, John would assist his fellow veterans of the Revolutionary War in completing their pension applications. John died December 5, 1833 at the age of 86 and is buried in the old cemetery on 3rd Street in Greensboro.

John, like his great great grandfather Thomas, left the comforts of the only world he knew. He left civilization behind and blazed a trail that others would follow. Both men left a legacy, and John went on to be known as the father of Greene County.

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Jeff is a dedicated husband, father and NRA member who attends Valley Chapel United Methodist Church. He is a member of the Greene County Bar Assoc., Carmichaels Area Historical Society, Greene County Chamber of Commerce, Greene County Historical Society, and more.



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- Dunkard Township: May 14 & 15
- Franklin Township: April 30 & May 1, 8am-12pm
- Freeport Township: June 6 & 7
- Jackson Township: May 22
- Morris Township: May 1 & October 2
- Perry Township: May 1, 8am-1pm
- Rices Landing Borough: May 8 8AM - 12PM
- Waynesburg Borough: May 13 & 14, 7am-2pm; May 15 7am-12pm
- Whiteley Township: May 1



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Greene Artifacts

By Matthew Cumberledge, GCHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BATES HISTORY OF GREENE COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

Perhaps the most interesting artifacts are the ones that can literally tell us a story. Every lover of history or genealogy knows that if you want to learn any really good information, you will spend a lot of time in libraries, historical societies, genealogical libraries and records archives. The history is there – you just need to seek it out.

Nowadays, many folks do a lot of their research online, and many older books and reference materials have gone into the public domain. Complete digital copies can easily be found in a quick search on the web. But many people still enjoy the smell and feel of turning the pages of an aged and well cared for old book.

Samuel P. Bates, a native of Massachusetts, adopted Pennsylvania as his home in 1853. A teacher and lover of history, he was later appointed State Historian by the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1864, a position he would fill until his death in 1902. Perhaps most well-known for his five-volume work *History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers*, a chronicle of Pennsylvania's role in the Civil War. Bates also penned the *1888 History of Greene County Pennsylvania*.

This work is one of the most important reference books for anyone researching Greene County, Pennsylvania. The book begins with a general outline history of the discovery and early settlement of the United States, then moves into the expansion into the territories on the western side of the Allegheny Mountains.

The book details the separation and formation of Greene County from the southern portion of Wash-

ington County in 1796 and gives a history of each township and the major towns that existed in Greene County in 1888. The book also offers an excellent summary of Greene Counties involvement in the Civil War.

Notably, the book contains a section of biographical sketches for many of the prominent citizens and families that lived here at the time. Several of the biographical sketches include portraits providing a rare and insightful glimpse into late 19th century life in Greene County.

Shown in the photo is a first edition copy opened to one of the portrait pages in the biographical section. This book is a valuable resource for anyone researching their own genealogy or looking for information on our local history and heritage.

If this book is something you need to reference, both Bowlby and Flenniken libraries have copies in their collections that you can peruse, and Cornerstone Genealogical Society and the Greene County Historical Society archive copies as well. Reprinted editions are also available by contacting the Greene County Historical Society and Cornerstone Genealogical Society as well.



WANT MORE? VISIT THE
Greene County  Museum

WINNERS

GREENESCENE CON-TEST - Nick Hughes. Read about its location on page 20!

BLUE RIBBON ACADEMY GIFT CERTIFI-

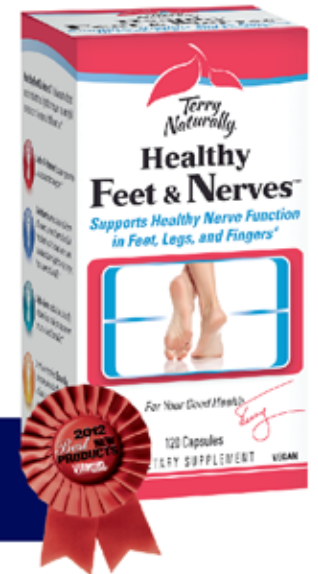
CATES- Robert Hunnell, Amanda Fife, Sarah Speelman, Michael Manchas

SEGGI'S FISHING PACKAGE- Bob Teagarden, Jr.

MOTHER'S DAY BASKET- Anna Belle Yeager

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Getting Better in **Greene**

By Danielle Nyland

BROADBAND UPGRADE UPDATE



The internet. It plays a vital role in communication throughout the world. Now more than ever, speedy and reliable internet service is necessary. With the pandemic continuing, schools rely on virtual instruction for students, businesses use video conferences for meetings, employees continue to work from home, and, for many, the internet has been essential for entertainment and communication with family members they can no longer visit in person.

Greene County is continuing its efforts to provide better broadband coverage to its citizens. The County invested \$1.2 million of CARES Act funding to increase broadband coverage to underserved and unserved community members and businesses. This initial investment increased speed and reliability in 7,313 homes and businesses in Bobtown, Carmichaels, Greensboro, Jefferson, Mount Morris, and Waynesburg. It included upgraded hardware and the installation of 171 miles of fiber. This phase of the project was completed in December 2020.

"Everyone involved in the project from the outcome of the feasibility study through funding allocation to final service installation are extremely pleased with the outcome,"

Commissioner Mike Belding says.

The County continues to pursue additional funding to resume the project. They are currently seeking funding through the Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC) Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative. This grant proposal, due in mid-April, could garner a \$2.5 million grant. Once funding is in place, the County will begin collecting proposals for a public-private partnership to begin work on the broadband infrastructure.

With the proposal, the County hopes to fill gaps in broadband service across the county, but with a preference to:

- Aleppo Township
- Springhill Township
- Freeport Township
- Jackson Township
- Gilmore Township
- Wayne Township
- Whiteley Township
- Perry Township
- Dunkard Township
- Greene Township
- Monongahela Township (Robena Site)
- Greensboro Borough

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J-M Students Receive NMSE Award

Katie Ruscitti, Mason McNett, Amber McAnany, and Zoe Burkett are the recipients of the NMSI STEM Star Award.

The NMSI STEM Star Award Program recognizes student's hard work, dedication and willingness to take on the challenge of rigorous coursework in their high school. Students were nominated by their AP teachers. Each student will receive an award of \$500.



Congratulations, Hunter Voithofer

Hunter Voithofer will be attending Case Western Reserve University on an Academic/Football Scholarship with a major in engineering.

Local Official Honored for Leadership

Janet Pennington, Vice-President of the SEGSD School Board, was recognized this week as a leader in modern governance. The Diligent Corporation announced the honorees of the Inaugural Modern Governance 100 Community Boards, a program dedicated to the recognition of community governance leaders who are committed to driving positive organizational change. In a year of unprecedented challenges, the program shines a light on publicly elected boards and councils as well as the professionals that support them. These community leaders have demonstrated resilience, dedication and empathy in the face of complex and challenging times, when good governance matters more than ever.

Comprised of 100 impressive individuals and teams, the list recognizes leaders from the field of municipal and education governance. Over the last year, governance leaders faced an array of new challenges, from the COVID-19 pandemic to civil unrest to shifting to work from home offices. In the face of these changes, governance experts redefined their roles



and helped to ensure service continuity and long-term organizational success. The professionals recognized by the Modern Governance 100 Community Boards program demonstrated exceptional work throughout the year, with a consistent focus on communication, collaboration, and community. "Amidst all of the changes and hardships we've faced this year, the Modern Governance 100 Community Boards program reminds us that there is a very human side to governance. Every day, there are talented people working behind-the-scenes to drive real change for their organizations," said Brian Stafford, CEO of Diligent. "At the end of the day, it's important to remember that it's individuals who navigate the complex realities of our world to make good governance decisions. At Diligent, we strive to honor those who have excelled in their roles and gone above and beyond to help their organizations thrive in turbulent times."

Congratulations to Janet for all she does to make the Southeastern Greene School District the best it can be in any circumstances.

Waynesburg University Recognizes Faculty

Waynesburg University presented the 2021 Lucas-Hathaway Teaching Excellence Awards to three faculty members during the March 23 Charter Day virtual celebration.

Presented annually, the awards recognize faculty in three categories: Excellence in Teaching by Part-Time Faculty, Excellence in Introductory Subjects and History of Teaching Excellence.

"We are grateful to the Lucas-Hathaway Charitable Trust for providing the opportunity for us to recognize outstanding faculty members every year," said Provost Dr. Dana Cook Baer. "The three faculty members who were selected this year are talented and compassionate individuals. They represent the many faculty and staff members at Waynesburg University who recognize that the gifts we have received are not ours alone, and, like many others, they use them for the purpose of serving Him and serving other people."

Excellence in Teaching by Part-Time Faculty

Recognizes a non-full-time faculty member who teaches at any Waynesburg University site or online.

Described as an "example of dedication," Jeremy Olisar, part-time lecturer in music, received the 2021 Excellence in Teaching by Part-Time Faculty Award.

A nomination stated that Olisar "creates a teaching environment that is encouraging, even when students fail" and that he "always finds a way of turning student difficulties into a teaching tool."

Another nomination described Olisar as being "caring and considerate of students" and shared that he "prioritizes their skills."

Olisar holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Clarinet Performance from Carnegie Mellon University, as well as Minors in Music Education and Conducting. He also holds a Master of Arts in Band Conducting from the American Band College of Sam Houston State University. He is certified in music education (K-12) in the state of Pennsylvania.

Aside from his duties at Waynesburg, Olisar has been involved in a number of instrumental music teaching experiences with local school districts.

He is a member and the director of the James "Fuzzy" D. Randolph Kiltie Band.

Excellence in Introductory Subjects

Recognizes a faculty member with teaching excellence in introductory subjects.

Introduced as a faculty member who "espouses the Christian mission of the University," Dr. Sherry Parsons, assistant professor of nursing and director of Student Health Services, received the 2021 Excellence in Introductory Subjects Award.

Nominations for Dr. Parsons shared that she "goes above and beyond for students and teaches with hope, wisdom and encourage-

ment" and that she "keeps material organized and accessible at all times and makes sure everyone is following along and grasping the information."

Another nomination said that she is a "rock star professor," who is "all about providing support and care when it's needed."

Dr. Parsons joined the University in 2015. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree and a Master of Science in Nursing degree from Waynesburg University. More recently, she earned a Ph.D. in education, specializing in Nursing Education from Cappella University.

Dr. Baer highlighted that, as the director of Student Health Services, Dr. Parsons played an important role in the successful implementation of COVID-19 protocols on campus.

History of Teaching Excellence

Recognizes a faculty member with a history of teaching excellence.

Presented as a faculty member who is "a phenomenal leader with creative and practical ideas," Dr. Faith Musko, assistant professor of forensic science, received the 2021 History of Teaching Excellence Award.

One of the nominations for Dr. Musko shared that she makes "information interesting and relatable by designing classes in ways that are useful for real-world applications."

Another nomination stated that "as a mentor, scientist, role model and amazing all-around educator, Dr. Musko reminds students that they can succeed and challenges them to explore their limits to help them grow."

Dr. Musko holds a Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science with Minors in Biology and Chemistry from Waynesburg University, a Master of Science in Forensic Science with a concentration in Criminalistics from the University of Central Oklahoma and a recently completed Ph.D. in Instructional Management and Leadership from Robert Morris University.

She currently serves as the chair of the Professional Development Committee and organizes the University's annual CSI Camp for prospective students.

The Lucas-Hathaway Charitable Trust has established an endowed fund that provides two annual teaching excellence awards for full-time faculty members and one award for a part-time faculty member. Faculty members were nominated by students, faculty or alumni. Each recipient will receive a commemorative plaque and a \$1,200 award. The Trust is funded by J. Richard Lucas and C. Joan Hathaway Lucas, members of the class of 1950.

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6th Walk•Run•Roll Virtual 5K

Date and Time: Saturday, May 8th, 2021 through end of month. The 6th Annual Walk•Run•Roll Virtual 5K is in a little over a month! Sign up at www.trpil.com/calendar/wrr2021/! As with last year, this event will be held virtually to reduce po-

tential spread of COVID-19. In addition, if you'd like to participate, but are unable to do so virtually on the 8th, we are extending the opportunity to take part throughout the end of May – now you can use a trail or forest to walk, run, or roll!

Dunkard Township Clean Up Day

Cleanup is for Dunkard Township residents only on Friday, May 14 (8am to 4pm) & Saturday, May 15 (8am to 2pm). Dunkard Township reserves the right to close early due to dumpsters becoming full. The event will be held in the parking lot across from the Municipal Park

Accepting: Appliances, Furniture, Construction Wood, Metals, Glass, Plastics and Concrete Block Materials. Also accepting Tires - \$1/tire. Residential only - no

commercial. NO Household Garbage, Batteries, Electronics, Shingles, Oil or Paint.

Must show proof of residency. FMI, please call the Township Office (724) 839-7273.



Bradford House Historical Association Drop-In Season Opens

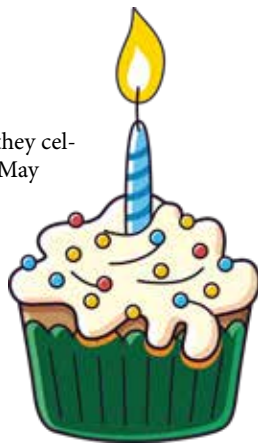
Come visit the home of David Bradford, see the door that Alexander Hamilton knocked on and learn the history of this beautiful, National, Historic Landmark. The Bradford House Museum drop-in season is April 7 through December 1, Wednesdays through Saturday at 175 South Main Street, Washington, PA 15301. Admission: \$5.00. Hours: 10am to 4pm. FMI, email bradfordhouse@verizon.net or visit bradfordhouse.org.

The Whiskey Rebellion was the single

largest incident of armed resistance to U.S. law between the American Revolution and the Civil War, and the most important incident in the first 25 years of the U.S. Constitution. Come learn more! The Whiskey Rebellion Education and Visitor Center drop-in season is April 7 through December 1, Wednesdays through Saturday at 184 South Main Street, Washington, PA 15301. Admission is free. Hours: 10am to 4pm. FMI, email bradfordhouse@verizon.net or visit whiskeyrebellioncenter.org.

Flenniken Library Celebrates 60th!

Join the Flenniken Public Library in Carmichaels as they celebrate their 60th year with an open house event. Saturday, May 1 from 1pm to 4pm, the library welcomes you to their anniversary celebration. The celebration will feature presentations, raffles, door prizes, childrens' activities, and more. Area food vendors will participate in the Taste of Carmichaels, a gathering of area catering, restaurants, and food trucks selling their delicious wares. FMI, call 724-966-5263 or find the library's on Facebook, or visit their website, flenniken.org.



Froggy Fun at CGSD

Kindergarten students in the Central Greene School District have been learning about frogs. They are enjoying watching the frog life cycle happening before their eyes



Greene County Veterans Memorial Park Dedication Approaching

The dedication of the Greene County Veterans Memorial Park is on schedule for Monday, May 31 at 2pm. As part of the dedication of the memorial park, the VFW Post #4793 will be sponsoring a Field of Flags at the site. Each flag is \$5 and orders should be sent directly to the VFW, attention: Commander Dave Logan. Deadline is

May 1. FMI, or to find the Field of Flags application, visit www.facebook.com/GreeneCountyVeteransMemorialPark/. The park is also continuing to accept brick orders for future walls at the park. Contact Connie Hart at cmhart@windstream.net for more information.

WG Summer Learning Program

Attention Families in Grades K-8! The West Greene School District will be hosting a Summer Learning Program. This program is FREE to all students. Transportation details will be provided at a later time. The district will not be able to run full bus routes and will be conducting centralized pick-ups and drop-offs within the district communi-

ties.

The program will be every Tues., Wed., & Thur. from June 15-July 8, from 9am-3pm. Subjects: Math and ELA with STEM activities embedded into the schedule daily.

FMI, contact Eric Gaydos, Academic Director, at gaydose@wgsd.org.

Department of Recreation Fun

FAIRGROUNDS FRIDAY

Relax after a hard week of work and unwind with great food, beverages, and games with Fairground Fridays on April 30, May 28, June 18, and July 23 from 3:30pm to 6:30pm. Each month will feature a restaurant and bakery of the month, with wine tasting from Thistlethwaite Vineyards. Corn hole games will be available for fun or join a corn hole tournament for \$10/person. Proceeds from the corn hole tournament go to For the Kids.

MON VIEW ROLLER RINK CAPACITY INCREASES

Mon View Roller Rink is now able to operate at 25% capacity! That means the number of tickets available goes from 50 to 75 per night for public skates. Tickets must still be pre-purchased. You can stop by the Recreation Office at the Greene County Fairgrounds to pick up your tickets or call and pay for your tickets over the phone and to be put on a will call list. FMI, 724-852-5323.

This Message Board Is For You!

If you'd like to comment on a picture, send in a GreeneScene of your own, ask questions or share an interesting tidbit about the local area, send it to: GreeneScene Magazine Message Board, 185 Wade Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370 or email to: info@GreeneSceneMagazine.com.



Pediatric care now close to home

+ The pediatricians of WVU Medicine Children's are now seeing patients at the general pediatrics clinic in Waynesburg. They are specially trained to care for children from infancy to young adulthood, treating all the typical problems that accompany a child's growth and development and providing routine care such as well-child check-ups, immunizations, and treatment for common pediatric illnesses like ear infections.

To schedule an appointment call:
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451 Murtha Drive • Waynesburg, PA 15370 • WVUMedicine.org/Waynesburg

JUST ADD WATER

By Colleen Nelson

Adam Courtwright's spring house on Martin Road in Aleppo Township is beautifully made and has had its share of people stopping by to take its photo. I did it myself last spring while taking a country drive to see the first wild flowers. It had a wreath on the door and every detail showed the hands of fine craftsmanship – old horseshoes reshaped as latches, every bit of joinery done just right. It made me happy to know that someone would take the time to honor the past by building a genuine old time spring house and setting a tub to catch the water that teams of horses would have drunk a hundred years ago.

It was the perfect once-seen never-forgotten roadside artifact to put in last month's GreeneScene Contest. Martin Road is way off the beaten path for many readers but readers still sent in the correct answer and took their chance at winning \$100.

What can't be seen in this photo is the massive waterwheel that Adam and his brothers built last year, starting a few weeks after I took my photo of the spring house. It sits below the road and harnesses the power of this spring to produce future electricity for the family.

Truth be told, this is one heck of a spring, a spring that never runs dry.

Standing in Adam's front yard where the giant wooden wheel towers up to meet the overshot chute and feeling the force of the water tumbling down, I can believe it when he tells me an Alliance water consultant clocked it as producing 130,000 gallons of water a day.

Neighbors have always come by for spring water when their wells go dry in the summer and Adam grew up watching and wondering where all that water comes from. "The spring was my inspiration." Being a spiritual man, Adam wasn't surprised to find that it filled him with joy to get to work on his first project – building a proper spring house with a 300 gallon holding tank inside. But it was the photograph that his sister Millie gave him of a rustic water wheel and mill house beside a winter stream that convinced him to take his spiritual inspiration to that next level.

"I priced them on the Internet, but the one I wanted cost \$30,000. So I decided to build it myself."

Adam checked out the designs Fritz Water Works Company uses, did his research and got to work on the project of a lifetime. Brothers Wilbur, Dean, Fred and Jacob came onboard and some neighbors and friends stopped by to help out. There were forms to be built for the concrete walls and wood to be bought for the wheel. Adam, a certified welder and steamfitter, fabricated the metal axle and fittings and shopped locally at Wayne Lumber and Hoys Concrete for building materials and the concrete pour.

In the end, Adam is happy to say he has about \$1,200 in materials and a lot of family sweat equity to give thanks for. The spring on the farm that parents Roger and Blanche Courtwright bought for their children is still flowing strong and the family asks me to end this story with the words their mother Blanche (1928-2013) ended the stories she submitted to the *Christian Guild*, local newspapers and even the *Readers Digest* over the years. On April 21 she would have been 93. "Day comes to an end but love goes on forever." Happy Birth day Blanche!



Adam's spring house was featured in last month's GreeneScene contest.



Adam, his family, and some friends and neighbors all pitched in to build the looming water wheel on his property.

GreeneScene CONTEST

WHAT'S THE WORD ON THE LOCATION OF THIS BIRD?

Where is it?: _____

Name: _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Winner must respond within 24 hours of notification to receive prize.

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Northern Appalachian Paranormal Society,
Native American Reanimator Ghost in the Hood.

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A HAUNTINGLY GOOD TIME IN GREENE

Get ready for a spooky good time - the Southwestern Pennsylvania HauntedCon will be returning in May! After postponing last year's event because of the pandemic, the SWPA HauntedCon will be returning better than ever - and in a new location!

SWPA HauntedCon founder Kevin Paul has been hard at work during the past year, ensuring the event would be held this May with full safety precautions in place. And since the first con in 2019, Kevin has been working on the follow-up volume to his 2018 book *Haunted Hills & Hollows: What Lurks in Greene County Pennsylvania*, coauthored with Rosemary Ellen Guiley. Sadly, Rosemary passed away in 2019. Kevin will be a speaker at this year's event.

"Last year was a disappointment for nearly everyone involved in organizing or attending any type of event, so we're really looking forward to seeing some new faces and old friends on May 15th at the museum," Kevin says. "This is the second HauntedCon, and we chose the museum as the venue because of the tremendous amount of room that will allow us to spread things out. The building and grounds really will add to the

atmosphere of the event and there's a wealth of things on display. Admission to the event provides access to the entire grounds; and activities are scheduled both indoors and out. Speakers, seers, vendors, food, and history all in a haunted museum. What more could you ask for?"

The lineup for this year's event includes authors and experts on the paranormal. Guests at the first HauntedCon, Joey and Tonya Madia return this year. Joey and Tonya combine meticulous tech investigation and mediumship skills in their groundbreaking paranormal case work. Stan Gordon will also return. Since the 1960s, Stan has traveled widely, presenting illustrated lectures locally and nationally to social and professional groups, schools, and conferences. First time guest Ron Murphy is a paranormal investigator, folklorist, and author of short stories, poetry, and plays. Other guests include Paranormal Quest's Steve Hummel, the Northern Appalachia Para-

normal Society and Native American reenactor Ghost in the Head.

The event will be held at a new location - the Greene County Historical Society Museum. The museum is one of the area's most haunted locations. Formerly the county's poor house, the museum has an interesting and often tragic history. Guests, staff, and investigators have had many paranormal experiences on the ground. Who knows? Maybe you'll have your own encounter while touring the grounds during the event!

"This will no doubt prove to be an exciting event! We hope that the historic haunts of the Greene County Historical Society Muse-

um will provide an excellent backdrop to this informative and engaging event," says Matthew Cumberledge, the museum's director.

Vendors at the show will be selling a variety of handmade arts, crafts, goods, and more. Seers will be available for palm readings and fortunes told. A panel discussion - "What Haunts the Museum" - will discuss the museum, its history, and its paranormal activity.

FMI on the event, visit the SWPA HauntedCon Facebook page @swpahauntedcon or email hauntedgc@yahoo.com. We hope you have a hauntingly good time at the event!



There were many unique vendors at the 2019 event. Haunt-



This year's event will be held at the GCHS museum.

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Name: _____
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Mail to: GreeneScene Contest, 185 Wade Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370. Winner will be selected at random from correct entries. **One Entry Per Person, Drawing on 5/10/21.** Winner must respond within 24 hours of notification to receive prize.

Community Foundation of Greene County Now Accepting Applications for Summer Grants

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

Grants are available from the following funds:

Community Grant Fund projects may include (but are not limited to) any one or more of the following broad priorities:

- Arts, Culture & Humanities
- Children, Youth & Families
- Community and Economic Development
- Education
- Environment
- Food and Hunger
- Health & Fitness
- Human Services

Grant awards for Community grants will not exceed \$2,000.

Cindy's Wind Fund for Women and Girls will provide one grant of \$500 to projects which help women and girls fulfill their potential. The Cindy's Wind Fund seeks proposals for projects that aim to help women and girls fulfill their full potential, which may include activities such as information programs, direct service programs, special activities, professional development for women and more.

Consol Energy Excellence in Education Fund will provide up to eight grants

of \$250-\$500 for teacher-led classroom projects that fall outside the normal school budget, or that the teacher would otherwise use their own funds to support. Grants are available to public school teachers.

EITC Innovative Education Fund for Greene County public school approved innovative education projects. \$6,000 is available for one or more grants.

Eligible organizations for grants from the Community Grant funds and Cindy's Wind Fund for Women & Girls must be 501(c)(3) nonprofits, educational institutions, or governmental units/agencies. Religious organizations may apply for projects that focus on addressing community needs outside the organization.

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

The deadline to submit applications for each of these funds is June 1.

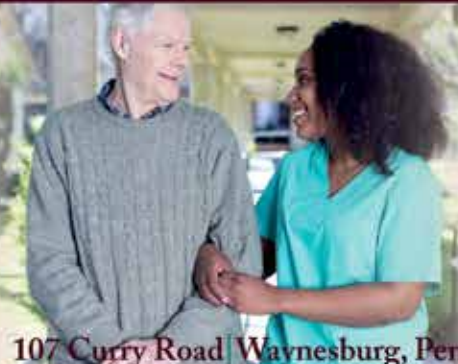
Successful grant awards will be announced in late July for projects beginning after the first of August.

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

For additional information, contact the Foundation office at 724-627-2010, or e-mail cfgcpa@gmail.com.



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SHEEP & FIBER FESTIVAL 2021

When the pandemic hit the United States in March 2020 – just two months before the annual Sheep & Fiber Festival in Waynesburg – events were canceled, and our safety restrictions were just beginning. The Sheep & Fiber committee made the difficult decision to cancel the festival, in hopes of a better 2021. And while we're still not back to normal, we're getting closer

thanks to mitigation efforts and vaccines.

The Sheep & Fiber Festival is returning this year, and just like everything else, it's not quite the same festival we've grown used to seeing year after year. Because regulations still prohibit large gatherings and so many things are uncertain, to guarantee the event, the festival is streamlining its activities and offering a simplified version of its schedule. The majority of the one-day event will be held outdoors, for safety, and will feature a variety of vendors. Food trucks will be in attendance, and area vendors will be setup around the fairgrounds outside the buildings. Many of your favorite vendors will be returning, and some new ones will be attending for the first time. Festival shirts will also be for a sale.

So, keep your calendar cleared for Saturday, May 22 from 10am to 5pm for the 2021 Sheep & Fiber Festival at the Greene County Fairgrounds! Visit their Facebook @WaynesburgSheepAndFiberFestival for more information.





Students work on the repurposed art.

For Carmichaels Area High School art students, the pandemic put many things on hold last year, including a collaborative project with Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse.

In 2019, the Carmichaels Area High School Art Department received a grant from the Community Foundation of Greene County to develop a partnership with Creative Reuse. According to their website, “Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse is a non-profit that inspires creativity, conservation, and community engagement through reuse. We facilitate hands-on creative programming that educates the public about the benefits of reuse for the environment, community, and self.” Through this organization, teaching artists traveled to the school to work with students in grades 9-12 to collaborate on an installation around these ideas. The installation would be made from objects and materi-

als that may have otherwise been discarded, showing that art can be created by repurposing and reusing rather than throwing away and contributing to pollution. This was not only an art education experience, but an example of the impact that people have on the environment.

Unfortunately, the project was left in the beginning stages before school moved to virtual instruction, and students could no longer work with the teaching artists and complete the artwork. High school art teacher Marlynn White continued the project this school year with a new design and inspiration, with the help of maintenance supervisor, Dave Franks.

After researching “plastic pollution” and its effects on the environment, specifically water, students in Art II and Advanced Art classes decided to create a work of art that would be impactful and relatable to our own community. Students designed a large wall-hanging sculpture rep-

resenting the rainbow trout made entirely of reclaimed materials and “trash” including plastic toys, artificial flowers, cassette tapes, and even babies’ shoes.

The fish assemblage will be unveiled at the High School Art Show, located in the high school cafeteria, on Thursday, May 13, 2021. The exhibition is open to the public at limited capacity from 6pm–8pm. Along with the assemblage, other artwork from throughout this school year and last will be on display.



The artwork will be unveiled at the May art show.

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Greene County Conservation District

Farmland Preservation

The Greene County Farmland Preservation Program has suspended their application period until further notice. The application period will open back up as soon as there are sufficient funds to complete the encumbrance of our current, highest ranked farm in the program.

However, the Greene County Conservation District staff will now start screening any interested landowners to determine whether or not their land may qualify once the application period re-opens. If you own a farm and are interested in applying for this program, you may contact the Greene County Conservation District office to start the screening process and to receive latest updates and information on the next application period.

What is the Farmland Preservation Program?

The Farmland Preservation Program's objective is to purchase agricultural conservation easements from current farmers in order to preserve that land as viable farmland for the future while simultaneously granting the landowner cash for their easement. The agricultural conservation easement can permanently protect a family's farmland from being lost to future non-agricultural development. It may be used as an estate planning tool to help landowners successfully pass farms on to the next generation. Or landowners may receive cash for some of the equity tied up in their land for expansion or improving farm operation, debt repayment or retirement while retaining ownership of their land.

The easement is an interest in land, which represents the right to prevent development or improvement of a parcel for any purpose other than agricultural production. The easement may be granted by a farmland owner to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a county agricultural land preservation program, a local government unit or a local land trust.

Easements may be sold or donated with the restrictions recorded in the recorder of deeds office in the county where the easement is located.

For eligibility, a landowner must: be enrolled in an approved agricultural security area consisting of at least 500 acres; have at least 50 contiguous acres; have at least 50% of the soils on the parcel under consideration in soil capability classes I to IV (as defined by the web Soil Survey), be available for agricultural production, and contain the greater of 50% or at least ten acres of harvested cropland, pasture or grazing land. The landowner will also need to provide ownership verification to the surface mineral rights on the parcel being considered.

Currently in Greene County, there are eight townships with approved agricultural security areas: Center, Cumberland, Franklin, Greene, Jefferson, Morgan, Washington and

Wayne. If your land is in one of these townships, you may be eligible for Farmland Preservation – even if you are not yet in the Agricultural Security program. If you are not, but you are interested in Agricultural Security Areas or Farmland Preservation, please call us to find out more information about beginning an Agricultural Security Area in your township.



Farmers! Assistance is Available!

G.R.A.C.E.

Greene County's Reinvestment in Agriculture: Cost-Share Enhancement Program

The Conservation District Board of Directors is accepting applications for a newly expanded program that the board is directly funding. Greene County's Reinvestment in Agriculture: Cost-share Enhancement (GRACE) Program is a conservation-based program designed to enhance soil health within the agriculture community. **All cost-share rates are reimbursements based on receipts.**



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Contact the GCCD today! Located at 22 West High Street, Suite 204, Waynesburg, PA 15370, call 724-852-5278 or email gccd@co.greene.pa.us. Office hours are Monday- Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



If you think Greene County isn't home to some fantastic restaurants, think again! Greene County has a great selection of local restaurants serving delicious home cooked food and delightful desserts. If you've always wanted to see what Greene County has to offer your tastebuds, check out the Greene County United Way's A Taste of Greene.

Serving as a pandemic-safe alternative to the annual United Way's Greene Cuisine, A Taste of Greene delivers the chance to sample wares from your favorite Greene County food providers –and offers the opportunity to try some new ones. The event is a four-week blind taste test sampling food from local vendors, all in the comfort and safety of your own home.

"We were really bummed we couldn't hold Greene Cuisine in 2020. It is a favorite of our staff and board, and an event that many look forward to each spring," says MaChal Forbes, the director of the Greene County United Way (GCUW). "A Taste of Greene still offers samples from local restaurants and caterers but allows them to participate in a new – and socially distanced – way. To make it even more fun, all participants will get to vote for their favorite, as well as be entered to win a weekly raffle. We thought it would be a fun way to raise money while still showcasing some of the best food in the county."

Each Friday in May, participants receive a box with 4-6 8oz samples themed around that week's course. A placemat, napkins, utensils, and reheating instructions are included with the samples. Participants will

also find a suggested wine pairing from Thistlethwaite Vineyards. And Thistlethwaite is offering free wine tastings during the month of May for those participating in A Taste of Greene.

Each box costs \$15 and is designed for one person. Participants that sign up for all four weeks will receive a \$10 discount. Week one (appetizers) must be purchased by April 30 and will be ready for pickup on May 7. Week two (soups, salads, or sides) must be purchased by May 7 and will be ready for pickup on May 14. Week three (entrees) must be purchased by May 14 and will be ready for pickup on May 21. Week four (desserts) must be purchased by May 21 and will be ready for pickup on May 28. All boxes can be picked up from 3pm to 6pm at the GCUW office located at 748 E. High Street in Waynesburg.

After enjoying their food samples, participants will receive an emailed survey to vote for their favorite dish. Winning dishes and vendors will be announced on the GCUW's Facebook page @GreeneCountyUnitedWay. The GCUW will also be raffling off gift cards for participating restaurants to those partaking.

Current vendors include Brady's Roadhouse, Heritage Craft Butchers, Piccolo's BBQ, Jam's Sweets, and Stokes General Store, and more hope to be added. The GCUW would like to thank event sponsors Keystone Lawn Services, Waynesburg Lumber & Supply, and Blueprints. FMI, visit www.greencountyunitedway.org/atasteofgreene.html.

FOUR WEEKS OF SAMPLES FROM YOUR FAVORITE RESTAURANTS!



Greene County United Way

Register at [724-852-1009](tel:724-852-1009) / info@greencountyunitedway.org or greencountyunitedway.org/atasteofgreene

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WE REMEMBER



Honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military dates back to shortly after the Civil War. During this time, various towns and cities paid spring tributes to fallen soldiers. In 1968, General John A. Logan called for Decoration Day which would be a nationwide day of remembrance for those who had fallen during the Civil War. Decoration Day evolved to include honoring those who had served during all of our wars. In 1971, it became an official federal holiday and was renamed Memorial Day. Our Memorial Day traditions vary from visiting the resting place of our heroes, parades, picnics and a National Moment of Remembrance at 3:00pm local time.

Many of our veterans now struggle from either service-connected disabilities or non-service connected disabilities. Although most of them are aware that they could be entitled to compensation for service-connected disabilities, many are not aware of the nonservice connected pension they (or their dependents and surviving spouses) may qualify for. This basic pension is called the Improved Pension, with additional benefits for those who are homebound or who qualify for aid and attendance benefits.

The Improved Pension rates vary depending on a variety of factors, but generally a veteran without any dependents may qualify for over \$18,000 per year. If that same veteran also qualified for the aid and attendance benefit, they may qualify for over \$23,000 per year. While the amounts for an un-remarried surviving spouse are less, they are still significant. For the basic pension an un-remarried surviv-

ing spouse may qualify for over \$9,000 per year and with the Aid and Attendance Benefit, they may qualify for over \$14,000 per year.

Sometimes veterans and their spouses are hesitant to apply for this pension because they "are not in the VA system" or they have previously been denied other benefits, but many veterans who have never qualified for other VA benefits qualify for this benefit. Although the qualifications for this pension can be confusing, generally a veteran should qualify if they served active duty during wartime, did not have a dishonorable discharge, is either permanently and totally disabled or is at least 65 years old, and meets certain financial requirements. For a surviving spouse to qualify, that spouse must have been married to the wartime veteran at the time of the veteran's death and not have remarried.

For those applicants who plan ahead, the financial requirements may be an easy obstacle to surmount. This type of planning is typically done with the assistance of your VA accredited estate or elder law attorney. Fortunately, this type of planning dovetails with the typical planning a person should consider as they age to protect assets from the high costs of long-term care.

This Memorial Day, thank the veterans in your life and make sure they are aware of this valuable benefit, it may provide the additional income to allow that veteran to pay for care in their home or applied towards the cost of a facility.

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HOMETOWN HERITAGE

Intentional Walks

By Bret Moore

Wrestling Raiders

Last month, the Waynesburg Central wrestling team won the PIAA State Title in historic fashion. In the WPIAL Team Tournament, they defeated North Allegheny (51-9) and Seneca Valley (67-3). In the state tournament, they beat Erie Cathedral Prep (54-12), Williamsport (50-13), and Central Dauphin (42-6). In addition, they won the PIAA Individual Tournament team title by a ridiculous margin after walking away with three state champions, two runners-up, and an additional place-winner. We may never see this kind of dominance from any local sports team again. However, several generations ago another group of Waynesburg wrestlers had an amazing run.

After losing the last match of the 1956 season to Mapletown, the Raiders put together a seven-year run that would be hard to top. They captured seven section crowns and six WPIAL titles and finished as WPIAL runner-up in 1958. Six times they finished the season undefeated on their way to an amazing 100-1 record over those years. The run included 48 and 52 match win streaks. The only blemish was an opening season loss to Canon-Mac in 1960. However, the team avenged that loss later in the season on their way to the WPIAL title. In the first match, the Raiders had qualified for the football playoffs that year and many of the key squad members were just getting off the gridiron.

In 1959, the team opened the season by traveling to Arlington, Virginia to take on Washington & Lee High School. The Raiders dominated the defending Virginia state champs 28-13. They also opened the 1961 and 1962 seasons against the defending Ohio state champions, Bridgeport and Beaver Local. Both matches ended with dominant Raider wins. Individual WPIAL champions during

the run included John Ketchem and Robert Bleakney in 1957; John Byard and Duane Makle in 1958; Ron Mahle, Jim Husk and Sam Fuller in 1959; Phil Lapping and Tom Baily in 1960; Terry Wilson and Tony Gusic in 1961; Allan Roberts, Mickey Boudreau, Bob Shriver and Jim Meighen in 1962; and Leroy Taylor in 1963. Byard, Wilson, Boudreau and Shriver all went on to win state titles. Fuller finished as the state runner-up, as did Jim Higgins in 1964. Ralph Adamson also won the WPIAL in 1964.

Many on those teams went on to successful collegiate careers. Tony Gusic went on to win an NAIA National Title at Waynesburg College. Other members of those Raider teams who wrestled for the legendary Bucky Murdock at Waynesburg College were Terry Wilson, Frank Remaley, Mickey Boudreau, Ron Mahle, John Moore, Mickey Clayton, and Ralph Adamson. Adamson was a two-time conference champion and NAIA National Runner-up for the Jackets. Other Raider team members of the era who went on to wrestle collegiately were Jim Husk (Xavier), Jerry Phillips (Cincinnati), Joe Greenlee (Iowa), Wilson Voelker (Lafayette), Jim Meighen (Virginia), Jerry Gooden (WVU), Sam Church (WVU), and Mike George (WVU). Church and George both won Southern Conference titles for the Mountaineers. Terry Cole also won two Wisconsin State College titles at Wisconsin-Superior. Finally, Tom Baily was a two-time NCAA qualifier for Pitt.

Dave Clelland was the head coach for the first three years of the run, and Ernie Closser took over the helm for the last four. Joe Ayersman started his career in 1960 as an assistant coach for those teams after returning from his stint in the U.S. Army.

GREENE GOLF

GREENE COUNTY COUNTRY CLUB 2021 SCHEDULE

| | |
|---------|--|
| 4/2 | <i>Captain's Scramble (Rain Date: 4/3), 1:30 PM Shotgun Start*</i> |
| 4/10 | <i>Masters for the Jacket</i> |
| 5/7 | <i>Shootout 5:00 PM</i> |
| 5/7 | <i>Glow Ball 8:30 PM</i> |
| 5/9 | <i>Member-Member 27 Hole (Scramble, 2Ball, Alt Shot) 8:30 AM*</i> |
| 5/21 | <i>Spring Member-Guest Tee Times all day*</i> |
| 5/29-31 | <i>Memorial Day Weekend Challenge (1-Person Best Ball)</i> |
| 6/3 | <i>Thursday Night League Begins 4:15 PM</i> |
| 6/6 | Greene County Cup (GCCC vs. Carm. vs. Rohanna's) |
| 6/11 | <i>Shootout 1:00 PM</i> |
| 6/13 | <i>Sr. Club Championship 55+ (Green Tee Day for All!)*</i> |
| 6/18 | GCCC 100th Anniversary Weekend (Dinner & Band) Details TBD |
| 6/19 | GCCC 100th Anniv. Weekend (Family Picnic & Band) Details TBD |
| 6/19 | <i>1 Net, 1 Gross Pick Your Own Foursome 7:30 AM</i> |
| 6/20 | Parent - Child Tournament 1:00 PM |
| 6/23 | Skip Work Day 8:30 AM* |
| 7/4 | <i>Flag Tournament</i> |
| 7/16 | GCMH Foundation Scramble 8:00 AM* |
| 7/23-25 | <i>6th Annual Member-Guest TBD*</i> |
| 8/7-8 | <i>Men's Club Championship*</i> |
| 8/20 | Skip Work Day 8:30 AM* |
| 9/4-5 | <i>Labor Day 2-Day Better Ball Tournament 8:00 AM</i> |
| 9/25 | Tournament of Champions (For all event winners) 9:00 AM |
| 10/2 | New Member Recruitment (Guest) Day |
| 10/4 | Golf Course Aerification Course Closed All Day* |
| 10/7 | Manager Appreciation Event (3-Person Shamble) 9:30 AM* |

*Course will be closed during these events

Winners of bold italics events will be eligible for 9/25 Tournament of Champions.
Dinner and cash drawing every Friday evening starting April 30.

SPORTING CLAYS

HUNTING HILLS HAWKEYES SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT

Hunting Hills Hawkeyes Association will host a sporting clays shoot, Sunday, May 23, 2021; 1PM at Hunting Hills Shooting Preserve in Dilliner. Now accepting Teams and station sponsors. FMI, call 724-710-8355 or e-mail: Huntinghillshawkeyes@gmail.com. All proceeds from the event benefit the Hunting Hills Hawkeyes Youth Shooting program.

SMASH FASTPITCH 14U

| FIRST NAME | LAST NAME | # | FIRST NAME | LAST NAME | # |
|------------|------------|----|------------|-----------|-------|
| Ava | Wood | 15 | Danica | Grainey | 2 |
| Payton | Plavi | 13 | Brooklynne | Snyder | 7 |
| Bayli | Barclay | 14 | Aiden | Snider | 32 |
| Hope | Swanger | 4 | Addyson | Teagarden | 24 |
| Alexis | Spitznogle | 20 | Kayla | O'Dell | 12 |
| Dani | Stockdale | 18 | | | |
| Jayden | Laskody | 22 | Terry | Meek | Coach |
| Breanna | Kerr | 00 | Brooke | Meek | Coach |



Front Row L-R: Jaydon Laskody, Kayla O'Dell, Danica Grainey. Back Row L-R: Addyson Teagarden, Breanna Kerr, Brooklynne Snider, Aidan Snyder, Payton Plavi, Hope Swanger, Ava Wood, Dani Stockdale, Alexis Spitznogle, Bayli Barclay.

"MAKE READY"

With Dave Bates of Alpha Omega Shooting Solutions, LLC

Size Matters

con-un'-drum: a confusing and difficult problem or question.

When new students arrive at my shooting school they are usually carrying a box containing their new firearm purchase. Admittedly, they didn't know much about picking out a weapon for self-defense and they rely on the sales person at the gun shop to assist them. This can be good or bad, depending on the gun shop, knowledge of the clerk, what's in stock, and if the weapon meets the needs of the shooter. Students ask, "Is this O.K.?" and present it to me as if the box contained weapons grade plutonium. I tell them, "We're about to find out."

The contents of their box usually produces a micro-compact pistol of small caliber. It is new, has not been cleaned, and tags are still attached to the frame. Let's call it a pocket gun. In theory, a pocket gun sounded like the right idea at the time. Buy the smallest gun made so that its bulk won't cause problems when I chuck it in my purse or pocket. However, the tweezers and magnifying glass needed to operate said weapon may have been an indicator of operator difficulty. I have diminishing eyesight and need my cheater readers. Sometimes, my grip just lets go due to arthritis. Working the controls on this little guy could prove challenging. I'm having second thoughts about my purchase. What if I can't operate this platform? Can I get my money back? All good questions.

Think of driving cross country... What car would you pick? A convertible with the top down seems romantic but there's not a lot of room for suitcases and you may want something a bit more luxurious. A crew cab pick up will get you up in the air and put a little more metal around you, for safety's sake?

Now think guns! How big is too big? How small is too small? What does Baby Bear, just right, look and feel like? These are questions that only you are going to be able to ask and answer for yourself. One way to do this is handle a lot of guns at the store. Counter attendants aren't usually too recep-

tive to the tenth or twelfth request to handle a new firearm. Renting a potential shooter from a range is another option but can get expensive, quickly. Going to the range with a friend often leads to FGE or friend's gun envy, a well known psychological disorder that I just made up. What to do? Shoot a few larger framed weapons. Try some really small micro pocket pistols. More than likely, you will find some comfort in the mid-range weapons that are "just right." Where can I do all this?" you ask. (Read the byline at the end of the article.)

Here's the conundrum... Big guns shoot well but are difficult to carry on your body and even harder to hide. Larger weapons make great bed stand guns for self-defense. Almost everyone shoots a larger gun better. Controls are larger, thus, easier to manipulate but larger springs can require a little more strength than you may have.

On the other hand, small guns seem like a good idea because they cut weight and bulk from the equation. However, smaller guns tend to malfunction more often. They can be more finicky about the ammo they will feed and oftentimes are tough to get a firm grip on. Then there is recoil (felt recoil.) A smaller framed weapon in the same caliber as a larger one may feel like a bomb going off in your hands.

The answer is try before you buy! Once you walk out of the shop it is yours, forever, or until you decide to get ripped off going back to buy another weapon and they offer 25% of its worth in return. Before you get mired in the quicksand that is newbie gun owner territory, give me a call. Let me walk you around the pitfalls before they become an issue.



Dave Bates is the owner of Alpha Omega Shooting Solutions, LLC in Khedive, PA. Bates is an NRA certified instructor, a teacher, coach and police officer with nearly 40 years of experience. If you have questions or are interested in learning more about firearms training, contact Dave by email: alphaomegashootingsolutions@gmail.com or by phone at 724-966-7011.




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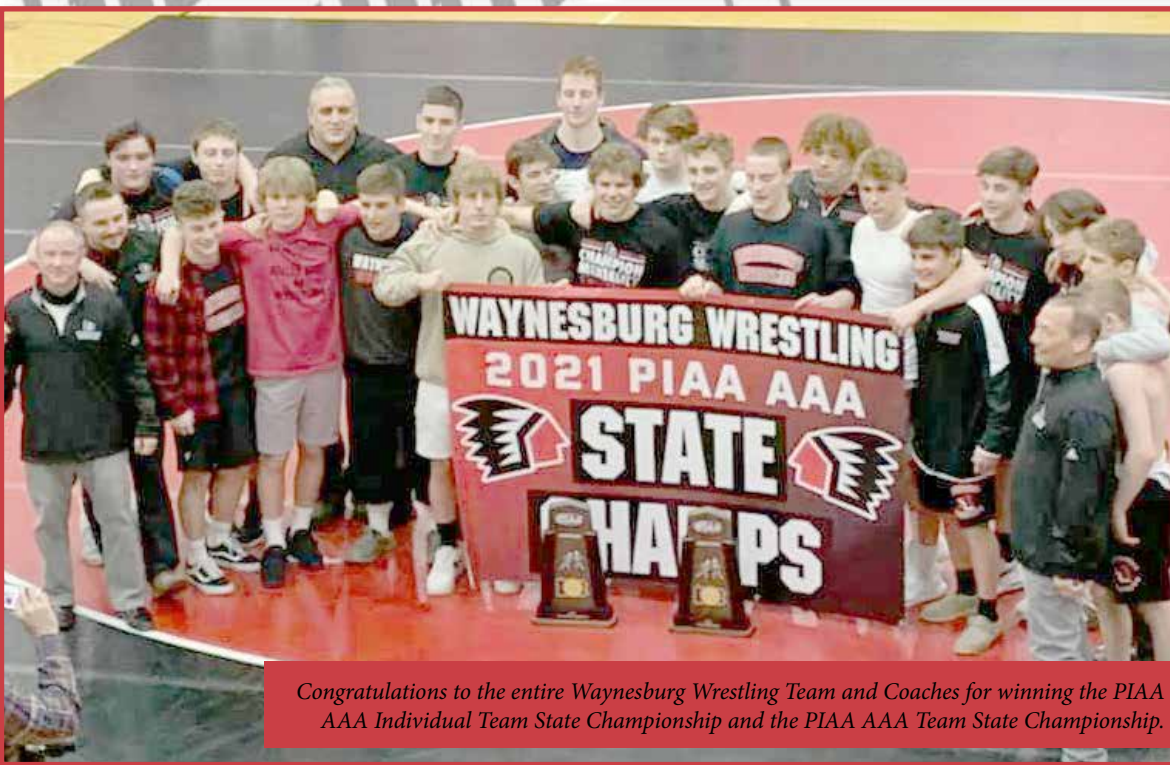
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ELLA MENEAR

Mapletown High School PIAA State Champion Swimmer in the 100m Backstroke Event.

CARMICHAELS AREA



CARMICHAELS CHRONICLES

The 1962 football team won Carmichaels' third WPIAL Championship. The squad finished the regular season 9-0, then met Rostraver in the title game. Halfback Glenn "The Rabbit" Ellsworth set a new county scoring record with 139 points. Right tackle Joe Taffoni was named to the Big 33 Team as well as First Team All-WPIAL. He was joined on the Class A WPIAL team by Ellsworth and center Ed Vuknic. Joe Lencewicz and Mike

Fedorko received Honorable Mention. The regular season opponents included North and South Union, Jefferson, West Greene, Waynesburg, California, Albert Gallatin, German Township and Turkeyfoot. The Mikes WPIAL Championship game on November 16 against Rostraver ended in a 0-0 tie. Six thousand fans endured the pouring rain and watched as both teams struggled to move the ball in "a sea of mud".

Send your sports and outdoor accomplishments to sports@directresults.us.



Joel Stanley "Stush" Ferek is the son of Ron and Brenda Ferek. The senior is the starting catcher for the Mikes' baseball team. He maintains a 4.1 GPA and is the Vice President of the National Honor Society. Outside school, he is a member of the Big Brothers' program and enjoys spending time with his family and friends. In the fall, Stush plans to attend West Virginia University Honors College to major in Cyber Security.

BOY OF THE MONTH



Madison Ellsworth is the daughter of Brent and Chasity Ellsworth. She maintains a 4.3 GPA and is a member of the National Honor Society. She is a member of the school's newspaper club. Madison is a member of the softball team and a former member of the volleyball team. She is employed as a waitress at Ozy's restaurant and enjoys spending time with family and friends. In the fall, she plans to attend West Virginia University to pursue a degree in biochemistry.

GIRL OF THE MONTH



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CENTRAL GREENE

RAIDER RECALL

The Raider football teams posted a 44-42-4 record in the 1960s. They opened the decade with a second straight Class A Southwest Conference title after finishing 8-1 overall. A non-conference 13-7 loss to Masontown kept them out of the playoffs. However, Cary Rush and Dick Baker were both named to the All-WPIAL Team. In 1961, the Raiders won the Southwestern Conference for the third straight season with a 7-2

(7-0) record. That season, guard Bill Buchanon was named Class A First Team All-WPIAL. Joe Rohanna (G), Mike George (T), and Jim Meighen (FB) received Honorable Mention. In 1963, guard Larry Simmons received Honorable Mention for the All-WPIAL team.



Dawson Fowler is the son of Dave and Stacy Fowler of Waynesburg. He is a junior at Waynesburg Central and is a high honors student. He is on the track and field, basketball and golf teams. This past fall he was an individual section qualifier in golf. In his spare time, Dawson enjoys hunting, fishing and golfing. He is also a member of the First Christian Church of New Salem and is active in the youth group.

BOY OF THE MONTH



Sophomore Emily Mahle is the daughter of TR and Candy Mahle of Waynesburg. She is a member of the Waynesburg Central girls' soccer and track teams. At school, she is involved in the Spanish club and student council. In her free time, she enjoys weightlifting and working out.

GIRL OF THE MONTH

RAIDER ROUNDUP

Seven members of the Raider basketball team were named to the All-Century Conference Team. Juniors Chase Henkins and Jacob Mason were awarded second team and honorable mention honors, respectively. They were also named to the All-Academic Team along with teammates Drew Layton, Sam Harmon, Hudson Boris, Dawson Fowler and Trenton Zupar.

Former Raider standout Scott Benco won the Javelin event in his first collegiate meet for the Kent State Golden Flashes. His winning toss was 197 feet, 5 inches.

Waynesburg Central alum Daniel Layton won the opening event at the 55th Annual Colonial Relays. The former PIAA

State Champion is now gracing the track for William & Mary College. The red-shirt freshman won the 110-meter-high hurdles in 14.95 seconds and became the Tribe's first winner in that event since 1973.

Although she is not technically a Raider (however, she was a Peters Township Indian), Makenna Marisa earned Honorable Mention Big 10 honors on the hardwood this year after her sophomore season at Penn State. MaKenna is the granddaughter of legendary Waynesburg University basketball coach Rudy Marisa and his wife Jackie. She averaged 13.7 points, 5 assists, 4.9 rebounds, and 1.1 steal per game.

BASKETBALL

WAYNESBURG GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM IN PLAYOFFS

The very young Waynesburg Raider women's basketball team finished 13-6 overall and 9-2 in their AAA Section. They qualified for the WPIAL playoffs and defeated East Allegheny 54-19 in the first round. The following game, they lost in overtime to Beaver Falls.

The team's leading scorers were freshman

Kaley Rohanna (16.4 ppg), and juniors Clara Paige Miller (15.6) and Nina Sarra (8.1). The leading rebounders were Miller (8.3 rpg), freshman Josie Horne (6.3) and senior Riley Morehead (4.5). Brenna Benke was the team's defensive specialist. Coach Dave Serra is looking forward to continuing the team's development next season.



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RETRO ROCKET

After going 5-6 the previous year, The Rocket wrestling team went 11-1-1 during the 1960-61 season, losing only to Chartiers-Houston and tying Washington. Everette Hill lost only two matches during the 1961-62 and 1962-63 seasons. However, during this time only section and district champions advanced to the next round. In 1962, Hill went 16-0 during dual meets, pinning 15 of those opponents. He lost in the WPIAL finals

to eventual PIAA Runner-up Andy Uliski of Kittaning 4-2. He also went undefeated in the 1963 regular season but lost a controversial 7-4 decision to defending state champion Mickey Boudreau in the section finals. According to one of my father's sports columns in the *Democrat-Messenger* at the time, Hill was preaching at the Jefferson Presbyterian Church the following morning. He had been preaching since the age of 13.

Send your sports and outdoor accomplishments to sports@directresults.us.



Ayden Pratt is the son of Shannon and Beth Pratt of Jefferson. He is a member of the National Honor Society, SADD, Academic Team, golf and baseball teams. Ayden has volunteered for Colby Stars, March of Dimes, and is a member of St. Mathias Catholic Church. After high school Ayden plans to attend West Virginia University and major in business with a concentration in Information Systems.

BOY OF THE MONTH



Abigail Ankrom is the daughter of Bill and Amy Ankrom of Rices Landing. She is a four-year letter winner and captain of both the softball and volleyball teams. She is also the President of Student Council, Vice-President of National Honor Society, Treasurer of Spanish Club, and a member of SADD, Peer Jury, and Drama Club. Abigail is a four-year letter winner in academics and is the Salutatorian of the 2021 class. She was elected Jefferson-Morgan's 2020 Homecoming Queen. She plans to attend Waynesburg University to major in nursing and continue her athletic career in volleyball.

GIRL OF THE MONTH

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SOUTHEASTERN GREENE



MAPLE MEMORIES

The early 1960s was a great era for Mapletown football. The first year of the decade, the Maple Leafs finished as Co-Champions of the Class B Southwest Conference after going 7-2. They also won the County Class B Championship for the second straight year. John Zaby was the top scorer in the county and future WVU end Francis Nickler received Honorable Mention on the All-State Team. It was also the first time the team went to a

preseason football camp. They had stayed at Camp Iroquois near Meadville. In 1961, John Kelly was named to the All-WPIAL Class B First Team. Chuck Wallace, Bob Taylor, Don Lewis and John Zaby all received Honorable Mention. The squad had finished 6-1-2 with the only loss coming against Avella, the Class B Champions. Lewis led the county in scoring with 113 points. The following three years, the teams had solid winning records. End Art Jones received All-WPIAL Honorable Mention in 1964.



Clay Menear is the son of Rick and Christy Menear. This year, the junior was All-Conference, All-County, and All-District in football. He also earned All-County and All-Section honors in baseball his freshman season. After losing last season due to the COVID-19 shutdown, he was placed on the list of "players to watch" in the WPIAL Class A for the 2021 season. He has a 3.7 GPA and is a member of the National Honor Society.

BOY OF THE MONTH



Taylor Dusenberry is the daughter of Tim and Cassy Dusenberry of Dilliner. She is a junior and maintains a 4.59 GPA in AP and Honors classes. She has been named All-Section and All-County in volleyball; All-County in softball; and All-Section, All-County, and Section Freshman of the Year in basketball. She averaged 13 points per game this season on the court and was named to the All-Greene County First Team. Her activities include the National Honor Society, Student Council, Envirothon, and Relay for Life.

GIRL OF THE MONTH

CORRECTION: In our April 2021 issue's Maple Memories, we reported that Sam Headlee shattered the country javelin record with a throw of 167'8". The name should have read **STANLEY HEADLEE**. Stanley lettered in football, basketball, and track through all four years at Mapletown High School. He was also selected All County Quarterback in 1929 and 1930.

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WEST GREENE

PIONEER PAST



The Pioneers started their official wrestling program in January of 1960 after several scrimmages. They wrestled only three official matches that season under coach Carol Dodge. The first match was against Mapletown – a 40-5 loss. After a two-point draw in the middle weights, Jack Patterson got the program's first win with a decision at 180 pounds. The squad lost another 44-4 decision to the Maples later that season. They also lost to Waynesburg's B team. In

1963, Lynn Hamilton became the first Pioneer to represent the school at the WPIAL tournament. However, by the 1963-64 season the Pioneers would become extremely competitive. That year, they went 8-6. The following year, they had an 11-3 record, losing only to Waynesburg, German Township, and Uniontown. Doug Crouse won the section and finished as the WPIAL Runner-up at 127 pounds. Their best year came during the '65-66 season when they won 13 matches and lost only to Waynesburg.



Senior Brayden Mooney is a member of the football, wrestling and baseball teams. The Pioneers' baseball team is looking for a return trip to the WPIAL playoffs. He is an active member of 4-H and competes annually in the Market Steer and Lamb & Goat competitions. Brandon is also a member of Varsity Club.

BOY OF THE MONTH



Brooke Barner was a member of the Pioneer girls' basketball team that just completed another Section Championship and WPIAL Class A Runner Up season. The junior also excels at track & field and is looking for a return trip to the PIAA State Championships this season. Her best events are the 200 and 400 meters, and she is looking to medal this year at the WPIAL and PIAA meets. She is a member of the National Honor Society and is an active member at Ryerson Baptist Church.

GIRL OF THE MONTH

PIONEER ROUNDUP

FORMER WEST GREENE STANDOUTS STILL OUTSTANDING

Former West Greene standouts McKenna and Madison Lampe are having outstanding sophomore campaigns on the softball field for Carlow College. McKenna is batting .310 on the season with 8 stolen bases in 12 games. She was named the United States Collegiate Athletic Association Player of the week for March 19-25 after going 5 for 11 with five RBI in two Celtic victories.

Her sister Madison is the team's leading hitter with a .400 batting average. She is playing outstanding defense at third base and has stolen seven bases on the season.



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BASKETBALL

WEST GREENE GIRLS BASKETBALL 2020-21 SUMMARY

RECORD 18-4

Key Victories: Aquinas Academy (section champion, class A semifinalist); California (won a playoff game in AA); Waynesburg (twice - home and away, won a playoff game in AAA); Bishop Canevin in the playoffs (defending WPIAL 2A Champion); Eden Christian Academy in the playoffs (WPIAL semifinals)

Only Losses: Rochester (Three consecutive WPIAL A Championships, PIAA Semifinalist); Mohawk (Back-to-back WPIAL AAA Champions, PIAA Runner-Up); Chartiers Valley (WPIAL AAAAA

Champion, PIAA Runner-Up); Sewickley Academy WPIAL AA semifinalist

Streaks:

- 55 game section winning streak - last loss 2/2/16 @ Jefferson-Morgan
- 40 home game winning streak - last loss vs. Charleroi 2/13/17
- 5 straight section titles and WPIAL Semi-final appearances
- 4 straight WPIAL Runner-Up finishes

2020- 2021 Player Season Averages

- Jersey Wise: 15.9 ppg, 4.6 spg, 4.2 rpg, 3.2 rpg
- Anna Durbin: 12.2 ppg, 5.7 rpg, 4.0

spg, 2.4 apg

- Elizabeth Brudnock: 8.8 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 3.3 apg, 2.0 spg
- Brooke Barner: 10.1 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 1.6 spg, .7 apg

Senior Career Stats:

- Jersey Wise: 1083 points, 353 rebounds, 338 steals, 292 assists
- Elizabeth Brudnock: 795 points, 372 rebounds, 188 steals, 239 assists
- Kaytlynn Walls: 211 points, 307 rebounds, 59 steals, 15 assists

Head Coach: Jordan Watson

- Career Record: 157 wins and 82 losses

- Nine playoff appearances in 10 seasons
- WPIAL Playoff Record 11 wins and 9 losses (also earned 5 byes)
- PIAA Playoff Record 0 wins and 4 losses

WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY



JACKET JOURNALS

The 1960s began with the College increasing football scholarships from 18 to 22. Fullback Don Bartolomucci was named Little All-American after the 1960 season. That season, the College attempted to schedule one football and one basketball game at a site in Uniontown. The school was operating a branch campus in Uniontown called The Waynesburg College Center. College officials felt the 300 students enrolled there would enjoy watching the school's athletic teams. After a winless first season, new football coach Peter Mazzaferro was hung in effigy on the campus by overly pas-

sionate students. When the Jackets rebounded with a 6-2 season in 1961, he was named regional Small College Coach of the Year and hailed as a campus hero. Fullback Paul Stanek made the Little All-American Team that season. Stanek had only started playing football his senior year at Ellsworth High School. After graduation, he went to work at a local Ford plant. He returned to Ellsworth two years later to play in an alumni game. A Yellow Jackets assistant coach happened to be in attendance and offered Stanek a scholarship after the game. Seniors Dave Brick and Jim Lonergan represented the Jackets in the Gem All-Star Bowl in Erie after that '61 season.

Junior Jacob Nicholas (2) assisted on the only goal scored in Waynesburg's 1-0 win over Chatham on March 20.



Junior Alyson Johnson (6) ended the regular season ranked first in the PAC with a 6.03 digs per set average.

JACKET ROUNDUP

Since March 13, the Waynesburg University Department of Athletics has seen varsity action nearly every day. Most notably, the Yellow Jacket football team kicked off its 2020-21 campaign on Friday, March 26, with the first of two back-to-back home games to open the campaign.

Waynesburg's football, soccer and lacrosse teams have all gotten to enjoy the noticeable upgrades at John F. Wiley Stadium, which include an upgraded sound system and a brand-new scoreboard complete with video board, making it the newest and most up-to-date in the Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC).

SOFTBALL

Under the guidance of head coach Brett Shimek, assistant coach Matt Tedrow and assistant coach Bill Herbert, all of which have strong ties to the Greene County softball community, the Waynesburg softball team finished the non-conference portion of its schedule by going 5-7 since mid-March. The start of PAC play on April 5, saw the Yellow Jacket bats explode for 35 hits in a double-header sweep of Thiel.

Most of Waynesburg's offensive production hails from Washington County. Sophomore catcher Brin Hunter, a McGuffey graduate, has led the charge with a .465 batting average, 18 runs scored, 33 total hits, eight doubles and three triples, all of which are team highs. Her 14 RBI's put her second

on the squad.

The Jackets also boast three former Chartiers-Houston standouts in sophomore infielder Lauren Lober, senior infielder Kayla Alderson and freshman pitcher/utility player Ella Brookman. The trio of former Buccaneers have combined for a .331 batting average with 24 runs scored, 35 RBI's and 16 extra-base hits.

Further adding to the tri-county flavor is freshman Emma Bliss. The native of Uniontown and Laurel Highlands grad is batting .365 with three doubles, a triple, eight RBI's and 13 runs scored.

BASEBALL

Waynesburg's baseball team has posted a 4-4 mark since March 13 by splitting a pair four-game series with Geneva and Westminster. The Yellow Jackets went a perfect 4-0 at their home field against the two opponents from the north, but were unable to salvage a victory during a pair of two-game road trips.

Junior Brandon Durbin, a Cresson, Pennsylvania, native, leads the Waynesburg offense with a .391 batting average. His eight RBI's are also a team high.

The Jacket lineup has featured a multitude of freshmen throughout the season. First-year standouts Nolan Vertullo and Justin Clevenger, a pair of South Fayette graduates, rank second and third in batting average, respectively, with marks of .355 and .346. Another freshman, Mike Bell, a Yough graduate,

has been the everyday starter at third baseman.

FOOTBALL

It's been a bit of a rough start for the Waynesburg football team, who opened the season with home losses to Washington & Jefferson (66-0) and Carnegie Mellon (51-0) and looked to pick up its first win of the season on the road at Bethany.

MEN'S SOCCER

The Waynesburg University men's soccer team posted a 1-3-1 mark as of April 9. Four different Yellow Jackets have scored one goal each on the season, including sophomore Samuel Hawkins, a Maryland native, who produced the lone tally in Waynesburg's 1-0 win over Chatham on March 20.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Yellow Jacket women kicked off their season on March 13 and sported a 1-4 record as of April 9. Waynesburg tallied all three of its goals this season during a 3-1 victory over Bethany on March 27.

VOLLEYBALL

The Waynesburg University volleyball team wrapped up its regular season on March 30 and ended its schedule with a 2-9 overall record and a 2-6 mark in PAC play. Waynesburg went on to take part in the conference's consolation tournament, which got underway on April 12. The Yellow Jackets hosted Saint Vincent at the Rudy Marisa Fieldhouse as part of the event.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The Waynesburg women sported a 0-6 record as of April 9. The Yellow Jackets have been led offensively by the sophomore duo of Hannah Rosenberger and Eve O'Sullivan, who have scored 12 and 11 goals, respectively.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S TENNIS

Though he is best known for his decades of excellence on the wrestling mats, Ron Headlee has also been the leader of the Waynesburg tennis programs since 2016. Heading into the weekend of April 10, both teams sported 0-3 record and were in search of their first victories of the spring.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Led by veteran head coach Chris Hardie, the Yellow Jackets have been competing this spring since March 27. The Waynesburg women won the 2019 PAC title and are looking for a fourth-straight conference crown after the event was cancelled by the COVID-19 pandemic. Former Waynesburg Central Raiders Megan McElligott and Bree Echegary are listed on the squad's roster.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S GOLF

The Yellow Jackets have been competing on the course since March 27. The Waynesburg men are led by junior Luke Diel, a native of Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania, who was named honorable mention All-PAC following the 2018-19 season.

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BIRDS OF A FEATHER

By Michelle Church

According to a recent survey by US Fish and Wildlife, over 45 million Americans regularly watch birds. Thanks to its natural self-distancing and ability to be done alone, bird watching has soared in popularity during the pandemic. Birding can be great for our health, both physical and mental. A “growing body of scientific evidence indicating that contact with nature can ease anxiety and provide an all-around mood boost,” shares Aubodon.org. While bird watching may be new to some, it has a strong presence and history in Greene County.

In 2007, a group of dedicated birders organized the Ralph K. Bell Bird Club in Greene County. Ralph K. Bell's name is synonymous with birds. In 1958, he founded the Allegheny Front Migration Observatory (AFMO). The AFMO is the oldest uninterrupted bird banding station in North America. In 1966, Bell established a specific route 25 miles in length with 50 stops where bird watchers spend three minutes counting all the birds they can hear and see. In 2002, the West Virginia Public Broadcasting System filmed a documentary about his founding of the AFMO. In 2006, he was awarded the Pennsylvania Game Commission Certificate of Appreciation for over 50 years of service. As of May 2013, Bell had banded 142,255 birds.

With such a dedicated and beloved bird expert, it is no wonder that the bird club was named in his honor. The idea of the bird club came to Marjorie Howard in 2006. She was soon able to find many other bird enthusiasts interested in joining the club. The original mission of the Ralph K. Bell Bird Club was to encourage a better understanding of avian life and the environment. The mission has been amended to include one of Bell's favorite sayings, “One of the main reasons for living is to learn.”

After Bell's passing in 2014, his property at Bell Farms still felt like home to the bird club. The Bell family generously continues to allow the bird club to hold meetings at the farm, where many people first learned to love birds from their mentor.

The meetings' locations vary but the meetings are regularly held on the third Monday of even months. Some meetings are public outings for the group. These outings sometimes involve looking for a particular species, like when the bird club goes to Pymatuning Reservoir to watch for shorebirds and water fowl.

The bird club participates in many bird counts throughout the year. Birders can even participate in a bird count right from their own home. After all, the very best place to begin bird watching in Greene County might be

your own yard.

Each February, the Great Backyard Bird Count is held and takes place over four days. Anyone interested is encouraged to join. The GBBC was started by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society in 1998. FMI, visit www.birdcount.org.

For the beginning bird watcher, phone apps are available to help with bird identification. The Merlin Bird ID app allows the user to take a photograph of a bird they have spotted in order to identify the bird. Another option for identifying a bird online is to use a search engine to input a description of the bird. If you use a reading app like Kindle, e-book versions of popular field guides are available at the touch of a finger.

Ralph K. Bell Bird Club members Lucille DeFrank, Marjorie Howard and Kathy Kern shared advice for those new to bird watching. They recommend getting a pair of binoculars, a bird field guide, a bird feeder, and bird food. While different types of food appeals to different types of birds, a black oil sunflower seed and cracked corn mixture appeals to several different species. If you really want to get up close and personal, try a bird feeder that attaches to a window. You can watch the birds directly from your house and eventually recognize their facial patterns, bird songs and habits.

Each member has birds that love to see or hope to see in the wild. For Marjorie, the bird she'd most like to see is a Painted Bunting.

Lucille recommends that if you are interested in seeing more species beyond your own backyard to take a trip to a nearby body of water. There are “an amazing number of species of ducks on our river. Ducks are very colorful and make great photographs.” She also mentions the several breeding pairs of eagles in Greene County, but warns about venturing too close to the nests. The US Game Commission recommends not getting any closer than 600 feet. If an eagle feels safe in their nest, they will return to it year after year.

The bird club supports local events related to wildlife issues such as the Wildflower Walk at the State Game lands in En-

low Fork, usually held the last Sunday in April. The club also supports the bird banding station of the AFMO each August at Dolly Sods, in Grant County, West Virginia. Over 200,000 individual birds of 125 species have been banded at this location over the years.

The Ralph K. Bell Bird Club offers a scholarship award each year to a local high school senior or college freshman. Participants write a 500-word essay on Winter Birds of Greene County. In memory of Mr. Bell, the Greene County Conservation District and the bird club both donate towards the scholarships.

For anyone interested in joining the Ralph K. Bell Bird Club, contact rkbirdclub@yahoo.com and request an application. Membership is \$15 a year for individuals or \$25 for families. A portion of the annual dues goes towards the scholarship fund.



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A hummingbird.



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This month especially, we recognize the role everyone has in enhancing the lives of children and youth in foster care.

How can I help???

Want to learn more about becoming a foster parent?

Maybe you just want to learn about how to help a child in foster care.

Come to our Foster Care Recruitment Event!

Where: 4H Building at Greene County Fairgrounds

When: Sunday, May 16, 2021 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

You will have the opportunity to speak to our foster care agency workers. Learn more about the process to foster, what fostering looks like, and other ways to help foster children.



[Learn More](#)

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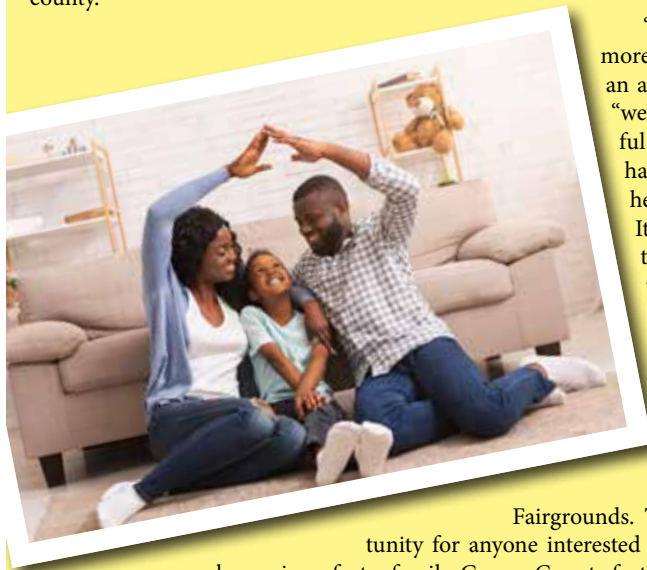
www.GCFosterCare.com

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National Foster Care Awareness Month

There is an urgent need for local foster care families. Greene County Children & Youth Services currently has 66 children in care with 12 certified foster homes. A lot of these children have been placed outside of Greene County, away from their school, friends and everything familiar to them. This only adds to the anxiety that they may already be feeling, and emphasizes the instability that is already such a huge part of their lives, as they are taken away to unknown territory.

When you think of the children who are in need of foster care, what age comes to mind? Two, five, ten? Foster care is needed for children of all ages, but what about when it comes to those in their teenage years? "Absolutely!" says, Beth Booker, of Greene County Children & Youth Services. "We have a HUGE need for families who are willing to take in teens. More often than not, we have to send them to a group home facility out of the county."



"While the need for more foster care families is at an all-time high," says Beth, "we are extremely grateful for the families who have already opened their hearts and their homes. It's time to celebrate all of the amazing, selfless foster parents out there."

May is Foster Care Appreciation month. On May 16th, there will be a foster care recruitment event held at the 4-H building at the Greene County

Fairgrounds. This event is an opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about

becoming a foster family. Greene County foster care staff will be available to answer any questions you may have and to discuss ways that you can make a difference. All attendees will also be entered into a basket raffle.

If you have been considering opening your home to a foster child, there is no better time than now. With your patience, a stable and loving support system could make a life

more rewarding than that? Contact Greene County Children & Youth Services at: 724-852-5217 or visit: GCFosterCare.com for more information on how you can make a positive difference in a child's future.



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Why compost your scraps and yard waste? Well, here are plenty of good reasons! Composting benefits your garden's soil, pH balance, and moisture levels. It reduces landfill waste and your impact on the environment. It saves money and resources. The better question is - why NOT compost?

Composting reduces the quantity of material in our waste stream while producing a valuable soil amendment. The National Composting Council estimates that the average U.S. household generates 650 pounds of compostables every year. Sources indicate that yard waste amounts to nearly 230 pounds per person per year, and food waste accounts for an additional 100 pounds per person. The reduction in trash also saves money, because garbage collection is a large expense for communities.

Composting is a natural process. Organic materials such as leaves, grass and vegetable scraps are broken down by microorganisms, forming a rich soil like substance called compost. Practically any plant material can be composted for garden use: sod and grass clippings (if they haven't been chemically treated), hay, straw, weeds (without seed or disease), chopped cornstalks or cobs, sawdust (not treated wood),



shredded newspaper and cardboard, wood ashes, hedge clippings, and many kinds of vegetable scraps from the kitchen.

To begin your compost area, choose a location that is fairly level, near where the compost will be used, close to a water source, and a safe distance from wells to avoid contaminating your drinking water. If you have an area that is 3-feet by 3-feet, preferably by your garden, you can easily start a compost pile today.

Efficient composting requires air, moisture, and the proper mix of materials, browns and greens. Green materials include fresh grass and untreated garden clippings, weeds, manure and kitchen vegetable scraps. Brown materials in-

clude fallen leaves, straw, wood chips, dead plant material, paper, and cardboard. Start the pile on the ground with a 4 to 6-inch layer of brown materials. Water well. Sprinkle in a 2-inch layer of greens. Water well. Add a handful of soil or finished compost to boost the number of microbes and mix the two layers together with a spading fork or shovel.

Continue to add layers of browns and greens, maintaining the ratio of brown to greens at 2:1. Make sure to mix each new layer group together. Periodically squeeze a handful of the mixture to check the water content. If several drops of water are produced, the material is wet enough. If water comes out in a stream, that's too much. Add water or additional dry material to achieve the proper moisture content in the pile. Compost is produced in 8 to 10 weeks in spring and summer and longer during fall and winter with frequent turning. Turning less frequently will also extend compost production time.

Composting is a natural process that takes kitchen, garden, and yard waste and creates a valuable product for your garden. It's a simple process to create compost, and it's even easier to use. This inexpensive process can transform your garden. What are you waiting for? Start your compost pile today!

What Type of Compost Bin Should I Use?

Looking for a way to compost without the backyard compost pile? Compost bins are a perfect choice for you. Compost bins are touted for their ability to make composting easier and more efficient. They are made from a wide variety of materials, including plastic, stainless steel, wood, blocks, bricks, stones, or mesh wires. Bins can be purchased from retailers, or hand-made at home.



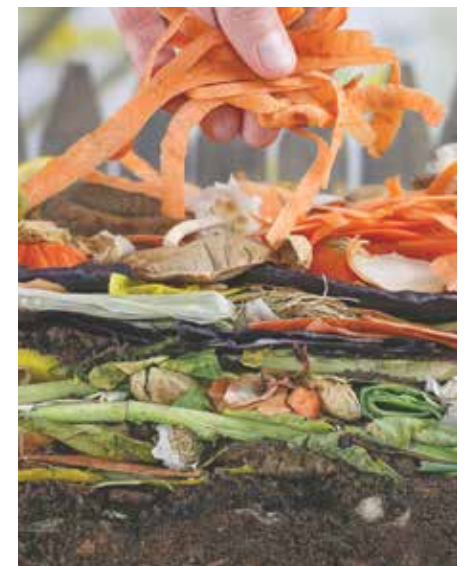
If you're the type that just likes to toss it in and forget about it, **continuous compost bins** might be the way to go. Composting material, like kitchen and yard scraps, are added to this enclosed bin continuously. Compost is created slowly in these bins, and the finished compost filters down to the bottom of the bin to be removed. Continuous compost bins are sealed, which is helpful for keeping animals out – and smells inside.



If you need to create compost fast and are able to put in additional effort and planning, consider a **batch or tumbling composter**. Batch composters use rotating action to accelerate the compost process. Using a balanced mix of ingredients, the composter can generate compost in four to eight weeks. The composter should be regularly checked for moisture and turned daily to maintain the speedy process. Once the process has begun, you cannot add more composting material. This material should be stockpiled for the next batch; it can be kept in an open bin, an outside pile, or even a continuous composter.



For those with limited access to outdoor space and much smaller compost needs, an **indoor composter** is designed to turn kitchen waste into compost. Many indoor compost bins are worm bins used for vermicomposting. Vermicomposting, or worm composting, is used to generate worm castings (worm poop) and produce natural compost. The process is known for its low odor compost. Worm bins can be created from a plastic bin with a lid (inside) or even wooden boxes (outside). Fabricated boxes are also available. These bins may take a little additional work at setup and harvest but are easy to maintain.



What Ingredients Should I Use?

ITEMS THAT BREAK DOWN QUICKLY

GREENS:

- Grass clippings (untreated)
- Salad greens
- Banana + peels
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Tea bags, with staples removed
- Apple cores
- Strawberry tops
- Peeled fruit (except citrus) and vegetable skins (carrot, apple, potato, etc.)

BROWNS:

- Dry autumn leaves
- Non-waxy paper, including newspaper
- Non-waxy cardboard boxes
- Cardboard egg cartons and beverage trays
- Paper towel, toilet paper, and wrapping paper rolls
- Sawdust from untreated wood
- Coffee chaff
- Non-oily bread, pasta, and grain
- Dried flowers

VERY WET GREENS:

- Watermelon + rinds
- Cantaloupe + rinds
- Honeydew + rinds
- Celery
- Tomatoes
- Cucumbers
- Plums

ITEMS THAT BREAK DOWN SLOWLY

GREENS:

- Big pits (peach, plum, avocado, etc.)
- Avocado skin
- Carrots (whole or chunked)
- Corncobs

BROWNS:

- Sticks, twigs, and logs
- Pine needles and cones
- Wooden chopsticks and stirrers

GREENS WITH NATURAL ODOR

- Garlic
- Onion
- Cabbage

TRICKY GREENS THAT REQUIRE SPECIAL HANDLING

- Manure
- Citrus rinds (a no-no in vermicomposting)
- Meat
- Bones
- Dairy
- Cooked food
- Oily food
- Weeds

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KEEP THE RAIN FROM THE DRAIN

By Danielle Nyland

Collecting rainwater has many benefits – some obvious and others less so.

One of the most obvious benefits is saving money on your water bill. During the summer, people begin to do more seasonal activities – cleaning up their homes, planting and growing, watering the lawn, and cleaning cars, just to name a few. Lawn and garden irrigation accounts for up to 40% of residential water usage during the growing season. Utilizing rain barrels to provide water for outdoor watering tasks can save homeowners approximately 1,300 gallons of water each summer. And your water supply gets replenished every time it rains for no extra cost.

In addition to saving money, rain barrels also assist in water conservation and lighten the reliance and strain on municipal or well water. During times of plenty, water can be collected and stored for use during droughts or watering restrictions. A half-inch of rain can fill a 50- to 55-gallon rain barrel (Southwest Florida Water Management District). Depending on the size of your house/roof, rain barrels can collect a substantial amount of water. An average rainfall of one inch within 24 hours can produce more than 700 gallons of water!

Rain barrels can also assist in the prevention of runoff vulnerabilities. As rainwater falls from the sky and onto ground surfaces, it begins to collect on hard surfaces, such as concrete, metal, asphalt, and even compact soil. This begins to flow into runoff. As the runoff increases and travels, it begins to collect contaminants such as debris, fertilizers,

pesticides, and other chemicals. The runoff carries these contaminants into local waterways. These contaminants pollute local water sources and can lead to increased algae growth and bacteria, and dangerous wildlife habitat alterations. Collecting runoff before it reaches the ground also helps with soil erosion. Erosion can damage foundation, remove topsoil from your garden, and damage your landscaping.

Rainwater is healthier for both your plants and soil. It is free of the chemicals often found in tap water like fluoride, calcium, chlorine, lime, salts, and inorganic ions, and it is highly oxygenated. Rainwater is the healthiest choice for your indoor and outdoor potted plants and gardens. And water collected in rain barrels doesn't need to be used strictly for your garden. While it isn't safe for human consumption, it can be used for a multitude of outside household chores. Collected rainwater can be used to clean vehicles, wash windows or houses, clean decks and patios, and other tasks. Because it's soft water and free of added chemicals, it's especially useful for washing vehicles and windows without causing damage.

Before creating and installing your rain barrel(s), consider your water needs. How will you use the rainwater? How much water will you need to collect? How will you handle overflow? How many rain barrels do you need? Where are the best spots for the rain barrel(s)? Are you going to build or buy? Rain barrels can be purchased or home-made. In our area, the Greene County Conservation District holds annual rain barrel workshops, if you are interested in building your own rain barrel.

Once you've figured out the answers to these questions, you can begin the installation. You'll need to level the area where your barrel will be placed, and then place a sturdy, stable base made from blocks, stones, wood, cement, or bricks. Elevate the barrel enough to provide room to fill watering cans or buckets and attach a hose. Once it is in place, you'll need to connect a downspout, so that rain from your roof can travel into the barrel. If you don't have gutters or an available downspout, a chain can be hung that allows water to travel its length and flow into the barrel.

Make sure you have a plan in place to handle your overflow. Overflow can be directed into a space in your yard – at least ten feet from your foundation, sidewalk, patio, or driveway, and five feet from a property line. Multiple rain barrels can be con-

nected to handle overflow or collect more water.

If you'd like to add a little personality to your rain barrel, the exterior can be decorated with paints. Lightly rough up the surface for better paint adhesion, and paint. If using acrylics for artwork, make sure to seal with topcoat.

Because rainwater is collected from your roof – and roofs are frequently built from asphalt shingles treated with chemicals to prevent moss and algae and a resting place for many animal friends – there is concern that rainwater may not be safe for edible plants. Although data is still limited, studies have been done that have shown that rainwater appears to be safe for most edibles. To reduce potential risk, some basic precautions should be taken.

Water collected from roofs with wood-shake shingles, asbestos, zinc strips, chemicals treatments, and copper should not be used on edible plants. Heavy rains after a dry spell can wash away accumulated roof pollutants; dump this first collection or divert it straight to the ground. Avoid pouring water directly on edible plants. Instead, water the soil around them. As the water travels through the soil, it will be purified by the dirt and microorganisms. Treating your rain barrel with bleach can also kill bacteria. Adding one ounce of unscented chlorine bleach to 55 gallons of water will help kill bacteria; wait at least 24 hours before applying to your garden.

Maintaining a clean rain barrel, free of debris and sediment is important. Although rain barrels are low maintenance, they should be checked regularly for buildup of debris and to ensure openings are flowing freely. After each rain, check the barrel to determine how soon it needs to be emptied. You can empty it between storms or after it is full. Check the screen and make sure it is free of debris. It can be cleaned with a soft brush, as needed. Clean the inside of the barrel periodically. This can be done with a bleach water mix. In addition to keeping the barrel clean, make sure that your gutters and the downspout are clean and free of debris.

To keep your rain barrel free from mosquitos, add a mesh screen to any open areas on the barrel. Make sure that the screen is small enough, around 1/16-inch, so that mosquitos cannot slip through the mesh. Other ways to minimize the threat of mosquitos is to keep the barrel free of debris and organic matter, cleaning the inside periodically, and make sure all seals are tight. An insecticide that is safe for plants or adding a tablespoon of an eco-friendly dish soap or vegetable oil will prevent mosquitos.

During the winter when temperatures are below freezing, additional maintenance may be required. Repeated freeze/thaw cycles can damage your rain barrel, so consider disconnecting the downspout from the rain barrel or draining it and storing it upside down.

The Greene County Conservation District plans to hold rain barrel workshops again this summer. These workshops are open to all Greene County residents and are free to attend. Participants in the workshop will construct their own rain barrel from materials provided by the Conservation District. For more information or to register, call the Conservation District at 724-852-5278, or e-mail jjinn@co.greene.pa.us. See information on the facing page about their upcoming seminar.



A screen protects your rain barrel from debris and mosquitos.



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RAIN BARREL WORKSHOPS TO BE HELD IN WAYNESBURG

The Greene County Conservation District and the Waynesburg Borough will hold the first of several rain barrel workshops on the evening of Thursday, April 29th.

This one-hour workshop will start at 6:00 PM, is open to all Greene County residents and is free to attend. The workshop will be held at the Waynesburg Borough Maintenance Yard located on East First Street (Right around the corner from College Field). Social distancing guidelines will be observed for the safety of staff and workshop participants. Masks will be required while indoors.

Participants in the workshop will construct their own rain barrel from materials provided by the Conservation District. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Conservation District at 724-852-5278, or e-mail Jared Zinn at jjzinn@co.greene.pa.us.

Financial and other support for this project is provided by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. (PACD) through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For more information about PACD, visit www.pacd.org.



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Wildflowers IN GREENE

As the bucolic beauty of Greene County ripens under the spring sunshine, the wooded hills and valleys bloom with color from the myriad of wildflowers emerging from their winter slumber in our rich soil. Our corner of Pennsylvania is the perfect place to head out for a springtime wildflower walk – and some birdwatching!

Greene County has many places perfect for a spring wildflower walk. The area's trails

– such as the Greene River Trail and the Warrior Trail – take you through scenic countryside. The State Game Lands and Ryerson Station State Park also offer ample opportunities for wildlife and wildflower viewing. And our country roads are a great way to get out of the house and explore, with wildflowers growing right up to the sides of the roads.

The Greene River Trail, stretching from the Jessop Boat Club in Carmichaels, through Crucible and Rices Landing, and reaching almost to Millsboro, winds along the mighty

Monongahela River. The trail is perfect for a hiking, biking, birdwatching and enjoying the spring and summer greenery.

The Mason-Dixon Historical Park frequently holds an event that is the perfect way to enjoy spring – a wildflower walk and ramp dinner. And although the event is not scheduled for this year, the wildflowers at the park are available to view any time during the season while hiking their extensive trails. Enjoy a scenic walk along the Bluebell Trail, blooming with spring flowers in late April. The Bluebell trail is also home to the Fairy

Door Trail.

Each spring, the Enlow Fork Wildflower Walk is held at Enlow Fork Natural Area, part of State Game Lands 302. The event brings large groups of birdwatchers and wildflower enthusiasts. The bird hike starts around approximately 8am and the first guided wildflower walk starts at approximately 10am to 10:30am (times subject to change). However, guests can attend non-guided walks at any point during the day. GPS coordinates are 39.961076, -80.462700. The trail is located at the end of Smoky Row Lane which is located in State Game Lands 302. There is on-site parking and access to the trail is located at the end of the parking area.

Remember while out admiring the flowers this spring to be mindful of where you walk, avoid trespassing on private property and don't pick the wildflowers along the trails and on private property.



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Goin' Batty

By Danielle Nyland

Often feared and maligned, the bat's reputation is undeserved. Regardless of myths, movies, and other misinformation, bats don't attack people or fly in their hair. They aren't "rats with wings"; they aren't even related to the rodent family. Bats aren't blind. Most bats can see as well as humans, and some can see in color and have adapted to low-light. They aren't vampires and most have no interest in blood. Only the vampire bat subsists on blood, usually lapped from small cuts on livestock. Bats aren't dirty animals – they actually spend much of their time grooming their fur so that it remains soft and silky, like household cats.

Bats fulfill important ecological and economical roles and are an essential part of each environment in which they live. Insect-eating bats, consuming as much as their own body weight every night, reduce the amount of pesticides farmers need to protect their crops. Bats consume mosquitos, which often carry deadly diseases such as West Nile Virus and malaria. Bats are vital pollinators, especially fruit bats. Many commercially valuable crops benefit from the pollination and seed dispersal by fruit bats. Pollination and seed dispersal by fruit bats is responsible for more than 95% rainforest regrowth, approximately 80 medicines and 450 commercial products.

Maybe it's time to get to know more about your neighborhood bats, the species that are common to southwestern Pennsylvania, their current struggles against the deadly disease reducing their numbers, and how you can help the bats in your community. Pennsylvania is home to nine species of bat – the big brown, the little brown, the eastern red, hoary, the eastern small-footed, the northern long-eared, the silver-haired, the tricolored, and the Indiana bat. The evening bat can be found in Pennsylvania, also.

While not all of the bats in Pennsylvania are listed as threatened or endangered species, more species' statuses are being changed from least concern to threatened or endangered. In 2019, three bat species were added to the Pennsylvania endangered species list by state Game Commissioners. These species – the little brown bat, the northern long-eared

bat, and the tri-colored bat – joined the Indiana bat as endangered species in PA. Federally, the northern long-eared bat was listed as a threatened species in 2018. Of the species found in Pennsylvania, only the Indiana bat is listed as endangered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

In addition to destruction of habitat, certain bat species are facing an often-fatal disease that is wiping colonies out in large numbers. White nose syndrome (WNS), a fungus attacking bats during hibernation, has been devastating bat populations since it was first detected in Pennsylvania during the 2008-2009 winter. WNS causes the bats to run out of energy mid-winter, prompting them to leave the cave early and usually causing them to die. Over the past decade, there has been a 98% decline in cave bat species. The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) is one of the many institutions working to reduce the disease's effects on bats.

Conservation efforts are being made to help the reduced bat population. Significant hibernation sites are gated to minimize human disturbance. The PGC is currently working with colleagues on two management techniques that hope to reduce disease severity at the sites where they can be applied. "There are many funded projects trying to come up with a treatment to help," shares Gregory Turner from the Bureau of Wildlife management, part of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. "Ours treats the environment and is showing some promise to help reduce disease and not impact any non-target species."

The Appalachian Bat Count is a critical part in helping the PGC monitor population trends in summer bat colonies.

The count helps document the location and size of surviving colonies, and allows the PGC to track reproduction timing, successful females, colony recruitment, and mortality events. Volunteers are asked to conduct a pre-volant count (before juveniles wean) around mid-May to June and then get a post-volant count in mid-July through August to capture the bulk of the juveniles and before the adult females leave. The

Bat houses are a great way to provide a safe habitat for local bats.

count's database is currently being updated. If you would like to participate, visit www.pgc.pa.gov/InformationResources/GetInvolved/Pages/AppalachianBatCount.aspx.

Want to take more action to help bats? "There is bill floating around congress called Recovering Americas Wildlife Act (RAWA). Constituents calling their reps and telling them to support this bill and get it moving forward would be good. This would be a game changer for non-game species to address their threats and help protect them," Gregory adds.

Because most bats don't live in caves year-round, and spend their summers roosting in trees and in dark buildings like barns, a bat house is an ideal way to provide habitats for local bats. The key when creating a bat house is to create a space that mimics their natural habitat. The main ways to do so are to keep the bat house narrow, paint it an appropriate color, seal the seams, and rough up the interior of the box. This satisfies their needs for tight spaces, warmth, and imitates a natural environment. Bat boxes can be built or purchased.

"People that have good habitat with bats or live near streams can put a good quality bat box up in a sunny location, particularly a location that gets sun early in morning. Boxes should be at least 10 feet above the ground level and be black for solar absorption. Putting several up gives the bats choices and some species like to move around," says Gregory.

When placing a bat box, there are some considerations to keep in mind. You'll need a location with lots of sun, 10 to 20 feet off the ground, 20 to 30 feet from the nearest trees, and with a nearby water source (if possible). A tall pole is a suitable place to mount a bat house, and the side of a building is even better. Bats prefer a house mounted on a building, and these houses offer a more consistent temperature. Buildings with wood, brick, and stone siding work the best; bat houses placed on buildings with metal siding rarely attract bats. Bats are less attracted to tree-mounted houses because there is often too much shade, the branches cause obstruction to exiting bats, and these houses are vulnerable to predation.

Because some species of bats prefer roosting in buildings, it is likely that you will come across a single bat, or even a colony at some point. The top priorities in removing bats from your home or other building are safety and humane removal. Improper removal or handling of protected species often results in strict penalties.



A researcher inspects a big brown bat for white nose syndrome.

Bats of Pennsylvania



An Indiana bat.



A hoary bat.



A northern long-eared bat.



A tri-color bat.

The **big brown bat** (*Eptesicus fuscus*) reaches lengths of 4.1 to 4.8 inches with a wingspan of 12.1 to 12.9 inches. A dark brown bat, they are common across Pennsylvania, and known for their

diverse habitats. They can be found in both the city and the country, in man-made and natural homes. Big brown bats are one of the last species to enter hibernation, waiting to hibernate until October, November and even December. During hibernation, they roost in caves, mines, buildings, and storm sewers, and emerge in March and April.

Single bats found in your home are commonly just a lost bat. Help the bat find an exit by opening doors and windows and closing interior doors. Remain quiet and turn off lights and electronics. If the bat does not leave, you can remove it. Because bats may carry disease, wear leather gloves and a long sleeve shirt to remain safe. Wait until the bat lands and cover it with a small container. Slip a piece of cardboard under the container and bat, while being careful not to catch any part of the bat between the layers. Flip the container and place in a quiet place until dark. If the container is airtight, create ventilation holes. You can add a piece of T-shirt fabric into the container for the bat to roost on. To release the bat, place the container in an elevated location, open the container, and turn it on its side. If the bat does not fly away, it may be sick or injured. Do not release bats during cold snap or deep freeze – call a rehabilitator to take the bat away.

Use care if you've found an injured or grounded bat, and do not directly handle it. Contact a bat rescue or rehabilitator to assist, such as the Humane Animal Rescue Wildlife Center in Verona, PA (412-345-7300 x500). If they are unavailable, you can reach out to the PA Game Commission for assistance.

Preventative measures can minimize the likelihood of bats entering your home and other buildings. To prevent single intruders, keep doors and windows screened, chimneys capped, and exterior attic and basement doors closed. If you have found a colony of bats in your home, you can hire professional bat removers or attempt to do so yourself, although the process is much more complicated than removing a single bat. For various methods on removing colonies, visit batcon.org.

Bats are an important part of their environment. They promote biodiversity and are responsible for the pollination, seed dispersal, and protection of crops and people from insects. They need our help – and we owe it to them to assist them and protect from the dangerous effects of disease and habitat decline. For more information on area bat species, conservation efforts, bats in your home, and directions on building your own bat box, visit the www.pgc.pa.gov/Wildlife/WildlifeSpecies/Bats/Pages/default.aspx.

Distinct due to its bright rusty red fur – and a pair of large, pointed wings – the **eastern red bat** (*Lasiurus borealis*) reaches a length of 3.7 to 4.8 inches, with a wingspan of 11.3 to 12.9 inches. Flying at night, red bats migrate south in September or October and return in the spring. They are found roosting singly, except for females with young, in trees; they are rarely found in buildings and caves.

The largest bat in Pennsylvania, the **hoary bat** (*Lasiurus cinereus*) reaches lengths of 5.1 to 5.9 inches and has a 14.6-to-16.4-inch wingspan. The uncommon species has fur that is dark brown, tipped with white (hence the name hoary). They roost in trees, preferably conifers, approximately 12 to 40 feet above the ground, along forest edges, in woods, and around farmland. Hoary bats migrate in the winter and return in the spring.

Part of the vesper bat family, the **evening bat** (*Nycticeius humeralis*) is thought to be migratory, but studies suggest that some individuals may

not migrate. The evening bat can be found throughout the eastern and midwestern United States and northeastern Mexico, roosting in small colonies in tree cavities and large colonies in man-made structures. During winter, they roost in their usual spaces and may even be found foraging on warm days. They are brown in color, and often mistaken for juvenile big brown bats. They grow to be about 4 inches in length, with an 11 inch wingspan. While it has been found in Pennsylvania, it is not common.

Until recently, the **little brown bat** (*Myotis lucifugus*) was considered one of the most common species of bat in America. Their glossy fur ranges from tan or reddish to dark brown, with black wings reaching 8.6 to 10.5 inches wide. Including their tail, they reach lengths of 3.1 to 3.7 inches. During hibernation, they leave their summer roosts of hollow trees, crevices, and dark buildings and move to tunnels, caves, and mine shafts. They emerge from hibernation in April or May and will often return to previous summer roosting sites.

One of the smallest species in North America is the **eastern small-footed bat** (*Myotis leibii*), also known as Leib's bat. These small bats have an average length of 2.8 to 3.3 inches, with an average wingspan of 8.3 to 9.7 inches. Compared to other bats, they have a very small foot, with a distinct black mask stretching from ear tip to ear tip. Like the Indiana bat, they resemble the little brown bat, but with a golden tint to their fur. The bats begin hibernating in November and emerge in March. During hibernation, they can be found singly or in groups, inside cracks in walls, floors, and roofs.

The **northern long-eared bat** (*Myotis septentrionalis*) ranges throughout forested regions across Pennsylvania. They grow to be 3 to 3.7 inches in length, with a wingspan of 9 to 10.7 inches. Although similar to the little brown bat, northern long-eared bat are differentiated by their ears – narrower and longer – and a longer tail. They are also less commonly found than the little brown bat.

These bats often share hibernation space with other similar bats, and can be found singly or in small groups, roosting in caves, attics, barns, tree cavities, and cliff crevices.

Formerly known as the **eastern pip-strelle** (*Pipistrellus subflavus*), the **tri-colored bat** (*Perimyotis subflavus*) was named for its distinct hair coloration: black at the base, yellow in the middle, and brown at the tips. The tri-color bat is one of the smallest bats in eastern North America and reaches a length of 2.9 to 3.5 inches, with a wingspan of 8.1 to 10.1 inches. They hibernate from September through April/May, deep inside caves. During the summer, they roost in open woods, near water, rock, or cliff crevices, as well as buildings and caves.

Resembling the little brown bat, the **Indiana bat** (*Myotis sodalists*), has a pinkish cast to its brown fur, making them appear a purple-brown color. This small bat reaches lengths of 2.9 to 3.7 inches, with a wingspan of 9.4 to 10.3 inches. Not commonly found in buildings, Indiana bats roost in trees during the summer; during the winter, the majority of the species hibernate in specific caves located in Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. Approximately a dozen Indiana bat wintering sites have been found in Pennsylvania, located in caves, abandoned mines, and railroad tunnels.



A little brown bat.

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