

THE WEEKLY RECORDER

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Est 1888

West Alexander Fair September 4-9

By W.R. Smith

The West Alexander Agricultural Fair will be staging its 117th annual event during the first week of September. The fair is another Washington County mainstay which is rich in tradition and highlights the importance of agriculture in our region.

The fair has been a labor of love and pride since its beginnings.

Early in 1906 a group of men from the area surrounding West Alexander, Pennsylvania, met to discuss the establishment of an annual agricultural fair in the community. Most of these individuals had been involved in a similar fair/event just across the state line in West Virginia, but 1905 proved to be the last year the WVA fair was staged, inspiring the group to establish the fair in West Alexander.

The West Alexander Agricultural Association was chartered in April of 1906. The objective of the association was and remains to encourage the advancement and progress in all things pertaining to agriculture and horticulture and to promote the intelligence



Dwight Hunter - West Alexander Fair Director

and welfare of the community. Seven hundred fifty shares of stock were issued and sold at ten dollars a share to create the capital needed to buy land and erect buildings. The total of \$7,500.00 allowed the Association to purchase a fifty-seven-acre farm just north of the town of West



West Alexander Fair Entrance

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Alexander and to purchase the buildings from the old fair in West Virginia to be moved to the newly acquired fairgrounds.

The first West Alexander Fair was held in September 1906. Many meetings of the directors were called in the days leading up to that first fair as issues had to be dealt with on the run. The racetrack around the grounds had been completed in time for the first fair and two horse races were the feature events. An exhibit hall and livestock barns and pens were erected during

cornfield. A wedding was held in front of the grandstand at the 1915 fair, and as a reward for holding the wedding for all to see at the fair, the



bride and groom were presented with a thirty-five-dollar bedroom suite. A truly unique attraction.

And when I started, it was mostly dairy cattle. Now it's mostly beef as there are so few dairymen left. We change as the area changes."



West Alexander Fair Mural

the first years of the fair allowing the showing of all local farm animals and products. Hot air balloon ascensions became a major attraction during

While fair traditions have and must be maintained, the fair is constantly challenged to meet the changing tastes of the public. Upgrades in entertainment and midway attractions have been made to satisfy the modern fairgoer. Over the years the original buildings have been upgraded or replaced.

For over 117 years the West Alexander Fair has been the highlight event of the community. The directors work hard and volunteer their time with the hope that it will continue for years to come.

Hunter explained that there are twenty directors who just do whatever it takes to make things run as smooth as possible. Everyone just works together to make it happen.

He said, "Nobody has a specific job everyone makes sure everything gets done. This is a hard-working group of people who try and make the fair as good as we can."

Hunter also pointed out that there are well over one hundred volunteers who bring success to the fair each year. "From the kids who show livestock to their parents, everyone helps out," he said. "This is just one big community event where everyone pitches in."

The local flavor of the West Alexander Fair is unique in that it tries to keep the community



Funnel Cake

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the early years of the West Alexander Fair. Crowds gathered each year to witness this exciting event until 1951 when the wind carried the balloon away from the fairground and deposited it in a very destructive manner in a neighbor's

Hunter was quick to point out many of the improvements he has seen over his time as a volunteer/participant. "When I started showing in the 50's we had to lead the livestock over to grandstand to show them," he said. "Then we built an arena."

West Alexander Fair Schedule

SUNDAY – September 3

ALL ENTRIES for the Hall and Youth Building to be brought in between 1:00-5:00 p.m.

6:00 pm..... Worship at the Fair – MST

MONDAY – September 4 – DEAN DENTAL DAY

Entries for Specialty Baked Goods Contest to be brought to the Show Tent between 8:00-9:30 am

10:00 am..... Specialty Baked Goods Judging – MST
Sponsored by Farmhouse Kitchen & Bakery

12:30 pm..... Opening Parade

1:00 pm..... RAFTER M RODEO – GR

1:30 pm..... Pedal Power Pull – CNXSA

1:30 pm..... Meet the 2022 Fair Queen – CNXSA

1:30 pm..... ” Crandall Creek” – MST

3:30 pm..... ” Hopping Highlanders” - MST

4:45 pm..... ” Zupe” - MST

5:45 pm..... Opening ” Friend of the Fair” Award

6:00 pm..... 2023 Fair Queen Contest – MST

7:00 pm..... RAFTER M RODEO – GR
Sponsored by Tunnel Ridge Mine

TUESDAY – September 5 – CARING MISSION DAY

9:00 am..... Judging Goats followed by 4-H/FFA Showmanship Contest - CNXSA

6:00 pm..... Judging Market Lambs followed by 4-H & FFA Showmanship Contest - CNXSA

6:00 pm..... McGuffey High School Marching Band

6:30 pm..... Music Talent Competition - MST

7:00 pm..... DEMOLITION DERBY – GR
Sponsored by Pennsylvania Packinghouse

8:00 pm..... ” Stevie Lynn” - MST

WEDNESDAY – September 6 – DNT DAY

6:00 pm..... Judging Market Swine, Pure bred and Cross bred, followed by 4-H & FFA Showmanship Contest – CNXSA

6:30 pm..... Music Talent Competition - MST

7:00 pm..... DEMOLITION DERBY – Grandstand
Sponsored by Washington Auto Mall

8:00 pm..... ” Tess Ann” -MST

THURSDAY – September 7 – TUNNEL RIDGE MINE DAY

1:00 pm..... Judging Prospect Steer & Heifer Class - CNXSA

2:00 pm..... Judging Crossbred Heifers – CNXSA

3:00 pm..... Judging Breeding Beef – CNXSA

6:00 pm..... Judging Market Steers followed by 4-H & FFA Showmanship Contest - CNXSA

6:00 pm..... Wheeling Park Steel Drum Band – MST

7:30 pm..... ARENA CROSS (QUADS AND MOTO CROSS RACING) – GR Sponsored by Laird Trucking

8:00 pm..... ” Aaron Margaria” – MST

FRIDAY – September 8 – WASHINGTON CHEVY DAY

9:00 am..... Judging Breeding Sheep – CNXSA

9:00 am McGuffey School District 2nd Grade “Got Ag?” Day at the Fair Sponsored by Wright Family Farm

6:00 pm..... Hot Dog Eating Contest – MST

6:00 pm..... Judging Dairy Cattle followed by 4-H/FFA Showmanship Contest - CNXSA

7:00 pm..... TRUCK PULL by Steel City Pullers – GR
Sponsored by Washington Chevy

8:00 pm..... “Easy Street” – MST

9:30 pm..... “FIREWORKS” by DNT Enterprises

SATURDAY – September 9 – LOG CABIN FENCE DAY

9:00 am..... SWPA Lawn & Garden Tractor Pull – GS
Sponsored by Sloneker Home Improvement

11:00 am..... Market Animal Sale – Swine, Lambs, Steers – CNXSA

11:00 am..... Spinning & Weaving Demonstrations

1:30 pm..... ” Veronica Glad” - MST

4:00 pm..... TRACTOR PULL by Steel City Pullers – GR
Sponsored by Briggs Tire

4:00 pm..... 4-H Modeling Contest – MST

5:00 pm..... Ladies & Shepherds Lead Contest – CNXSA

8:00 pm..... ” Cross Creek” – MST Sponsored by Fry City

8:00 pm..... Farmer’s Olympics – SA

MST = McAdoo Show Tent; CNXSA = CNX Show Arena;
GR = Grandstand

DAILY GATE ADMISSION: \$10 per person

WEEKLY PASS: \$30

(This includes Amusement Rides & Grandstand)

CARNIVAL BY

SHAW AND SONS AMUSEMENTS

MONDAY & SATURDAY 12 NOON

TUESDAY THRU FRIDAY 5:00 PM

ALCOHOL PROHIBITED ON FAIRGROUNDS

PETS PROHIBITED ON FAIRGROUNDS

Service and Therapy Animals must be accompanied with a CVI.

Schedule subject to change due to weather or any unforeseen circumstance

West Alexander Fair

West Alexander Fair continued

theme as strong as possible.

“We hold our events so almost all of it is local entertainment,” Hunter mentioned. “Our rodeo has a lot of local rider’s as does the demolition derby and truck and tractor pulls. We found that when local people perform, exhibit, and show they bring friends and family through our gate. It’s just a big community reunion. People travel a lot of miles to come back home and visit the fair. And we keep the price down so it’s affordable. We are proud of our community.

Some of the 2023 attractions

Shaw and Son’s Amusements will be providing their midway services as they specialize in providing safe carnival rides, fun games, and tasty foods to fairs, festivals and other events in the Mid Atlantic area.

The game department fields a fine array of fun games operated in a professional manner. Make sure to test your luck and skill and take home some winners.

For hungry patrons, a delicious assortment of fun foods consisting of Pop Corn, Cotton Candy, Caramel Apples, Pizza, and Funnel cakes tempt the palate. Additional items of Hot Sausage, Hot Dogs and French Fries are also available. See below for local concession venues as well.

Agriculture is at the forefront of the fair attractions.

The 4H building offers exhibits and crafts provided by the hard working 4H groups.

The main building allows patrons to purchase vegetables and flowers and ribbons will be awarded for various show entries.

Agricultural and livestock exhibits are scheduled throughout the event. From sheep to cattle to swine to goats and everything in between, the animals are always crowd pleasers and highlight the work which each caretaker puts in throughout the year, getting their prize animals ready for show or market.

A new Fair Queen will be crowned.

Tractor pulls and truck pulls are big draws at the fair as area folks compete to determine whose rig is the toughest in the land.

Antique machinery will be on display to help recall the way things used to be done.

The Rafter M Rodeo brings the cowboys to the forefront providing excitement as the competitors cowboy up to see who is best.

There will also be a mini “Scare Fair” exhibit in this year’s event. The

“Scare Fare,” which has become one of the Tri-State’s premier haunted, fall attractions, also hosts a haunted house on the grounds for the entire month of October.

There will be chainsaw carving, demolition derby, live entertainment, eating contests, pedal pulls, moto cross and dozens of other events that people of all ages can enjoy or participate in.

Keeping with the community tradition, many local groups will be on hand providing a multitude of food choices. These groups include, the West Alexander Fire Department, West Alexander 4H AG Club, Claysville Boy scouts, McGuffey Baseball Boosters, WAACOS (West Alexander Community Group), McGuffey Girls Basketball, West Alexander American Legion and Auxiliary, and

multiple commercial food trucks.

The Board of Directors was quick to point out that the fair would not be where it is today without sponsors. Title/Day Sponsors are listed on the fair schedule on page 2 of this edition.

Companies and Individuals can also sponsor the fair in three different levels. The Grand champion level has 28 sponsors. There are 13 Blue Ribbon Sponsors, and 7 Red Ribbon Sponsors.

If you have not been to the West Alexander Fair, the scenic drive to the fairgrounds is worth the time. Make sure to visit “The World’s Fair” as called by the locals.

You will not be short on excitement, education and just plain fun at the West Alexander Fair.

Beef Cattle

By Mark A. Finfrock

Way before Miss O'Leary's cow kicked over a lantern and allegedly started the great Chicago fire, cattle has been a part of U.S. history since that explorer Christopher Columbus brought them here in the 1400's. Granted, those cattle were different than the cattle we have today, which was still even more different from the documented three cows and a bull brought over in 1611 from England to Plymouth Massachusetts. Today, nine states have more cattle than people roaming within their borders. Did you know, The United States Harvests 30 million cattle to produce eleven and a half million metric tons of beef for domestic and foreign markets each year?

Yes, the storied history of the cattle industry is rife with legends of giant longhorns from Texas to the current specially fed and cared for, Japanese Wagyu breeds. BEEF! It's what's for dinner, so said the slogan of the cattle industry's business advertising. And Brother, business is booming.

Locally, Washington County cattle farmers, according to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (2012), are ranked 1st in the number of sheep and lambs, coming in 1st in the amount of wool sold, and 1st in the number of

cow and calf operations, location of where the cow's birth and nurse the calves, where they are weaned and fed a forage-based diet and then the Feedlot operation, where cattle are fattened and fed a forage-based diet before slaughter. However, the step of feedlot is replaced when more and more beef producers change to and

After this step is completed and the cattle are ready, it's time for the processing stage. Beef processing involves a wide range of treatments, including the chopping of, seasoning, mixing, smoking, etcetera. Specialized meat processing equipment is used, such as meat grinding machines, brine injectors, meat tumbling machines, sausage machines and smokers to name a few. These technologies are used to produce tender, tasty beef, beef steak, beef sausage, or other beef products. Locally, again as with Vistamont, they take their cattle to a certified USDA inspected processing plant that will "Humanely" harvest their product and continue with a series of measures such as aging for 10 days in a 38-degree Fahrenheit cooler to allow for tenderness.

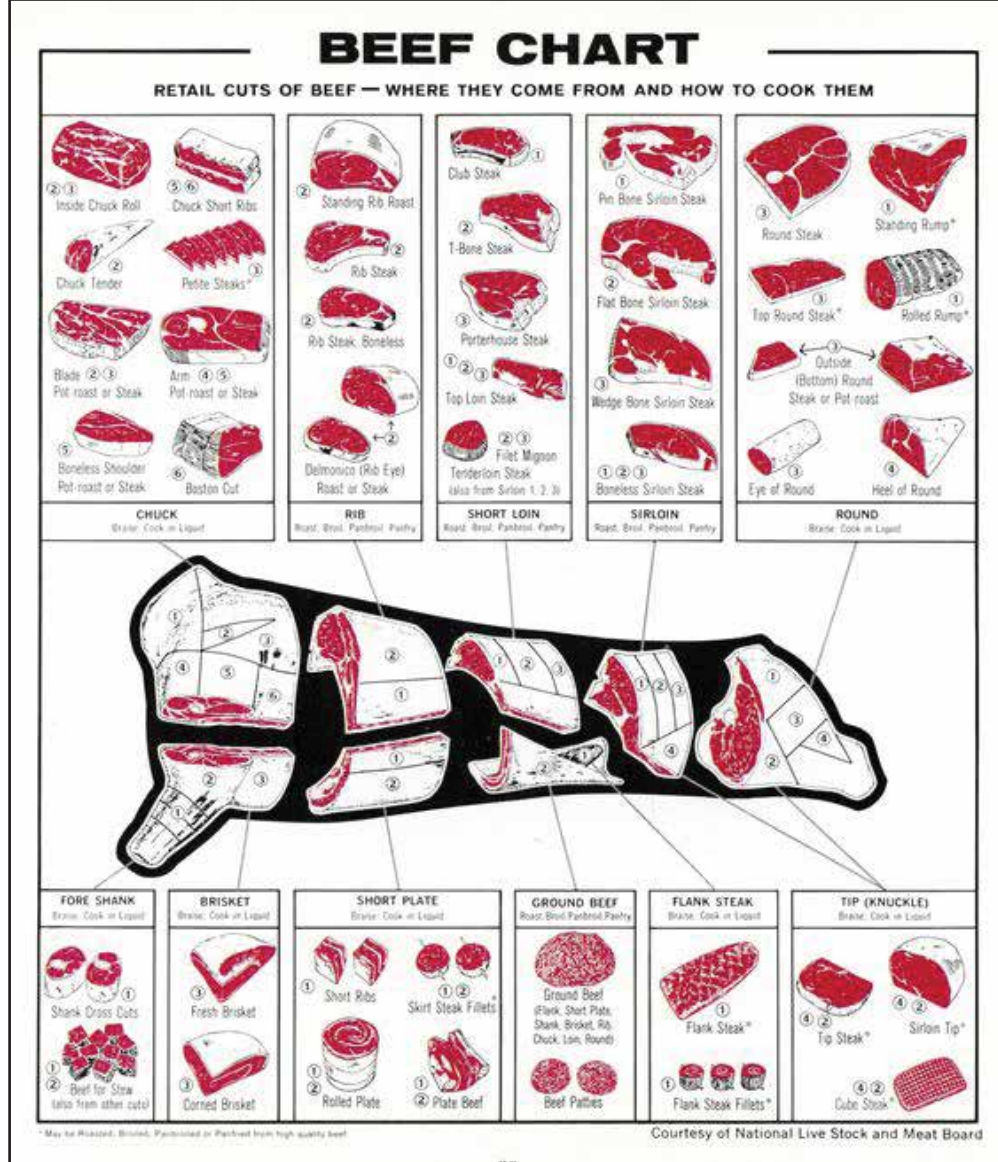
So, what's the difference between local free range and what is referred to pasture raised cattle? Pasture raised cows is an official term where cows only eat grass and other natural vegetation, but no grain. Meanwhile, the term 'free range cows' is an unofficial term where cows have unrestricted access to grazing land but can consume grass, vegetation, grain, and other supplements. the differences, albeit subtle, as both types have free access to fields, but only pasture-raised are truly 'organic'.

Once the beef is ready, it comes time to be distributed. Beef transport and distribution involves the movement of beef from the farm to the table. Fresh beef is transported from packers to markets in a custom cutting federally inspected meat facility. There are various ways of transporting the beef via containers and

flash-freeze or vacuum-seal their products before shipping. Orders are generally packed in insulated coolers with freezer packs or dry ice, allowing the meat to stay fresh for hours, even on your doorstep. Organic brands generally use organic packaging, as orders arrive in recyclable and compostable materials. Remember that practices vary from company to company, so you can seek out the specifics before you buy based on your preferences. Delivery frequencies will differ depending on store orders and subscription, delivered right to your home and can accommodate your daily schedule. Today's preferences are many and we can forget just how far the industry has come over the years. The system of farm to table runs like a well-oiled machine. Science and genetics along with technology have afforded cattle producers the ability to key in on aspects of productivity to maintain consistency. The same can be said of 'Organic' production only with less and even simpler techniques in a more natural process for a product.

And after all this, it ends up in your home and on your table.

Here are some interesting facts about beef.



Two cows out to pasture

beef cattle and beef farms.

The following will go over how the process of "From Farm to Table" happens.

First there is the production of beef. This is the process of raising cattle for meat consumption. This is done in a couple of ways, Pasture Raised and Free Range. The methods for these are in three stages:

utilize the method that cattle were born to do. Roam freely over the farmland eating fresh corn grain with no performance enhanced additives, hormones, or antibiotics.

This, according to the website of one of the many local producers, Vistamont Farms, is how they choose to raise their product. This provides for a stress-free, less crowded environment such as a feedlot system.



Bessy comes in for a closer look

refrigeration systems to transport fresh meats from packers to markets. This industry, transportation, is responsible for delivering meat to areas where demanded. The logistics of beef shipping involves processing and distribution, retail, and companies that use beef as a "raw material" in various other products.

To keep your order fresh and tasty, the majority of meat delivery services

The United States and Australia are the top countries producing beef.

There are over a hundred medicines we use that come from beef cattle.

Cattle consume less than 2/10ths of 1% of all water used in the United States.

Cattle outnumber humans in nine states: Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Montana,

Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma, and Wyoming.

Ashley Estes of Hickory, PA Finds Success at The Washington County Agricultural Fair

Ashley, 12, is member of the Hickory AG 4-H Group and has been showing since she was 8. She shows Market Lambs, Breeding Lambs, Market Goats, and Pigs and is a member of the Pennsylvania Club Livestock Association (PCLA) - Educating and encouraging today's youth toward becoming tomorrow's leaders.

Ashley had a great week at the Washington County Agricultural Fair as her Market Lamb placed 2nd in class and she was awarded Reserve Showman. Her Market Goat was Division



Market Goat - Division IV Reserve Champion - Purchased by County Commissioner Nick Sherman and Candidate Electra Janis

IV Reserve Champion, and her Breeding Lamb was the Grand Champion

Crossbred Ewe, and Overall Supreme Champion. She was selected Junior Grand Champion Showman.

Like so many other young people in the county, Ashley dedicates her entire year to these animals. Countless hours of work before and after school, time and money go into raising animals. Ashley is beyond grateful for all the love and support from her family and friends and she loves going to the fair.

This year Ashley also competed in the Pennsylvania State Farm

Show in Harrisburg and was introduced and honored on the Senate Floor by Senator Devlin Robinson.



Breeding Lamb - Grand Champion Crossbred Ewe & Overall Supreme Champion

Ashley would like to give a special thank you to Witt Club Lambs, Senator Devlin Robinson, County Commissioner Nick Sherman, and Candidate Electra Janis for purchasing her 2023 Market Goat, and Tom and Jeannie Robinson

for purchasing her 2023 Market Lamb.

Ashley is another shining example of the many hard working and dedicated young people who live and thrive in Washington County. Fantastic job Ashley. You represent your 4H peers and the county with excellence.



Breeding Lamb - Grand Champion Crossbred Ewe & Overall Supreme Champion

FAITH

7 Tips for Reading the Bible

Here are seven tips to help you read the Bible this year.

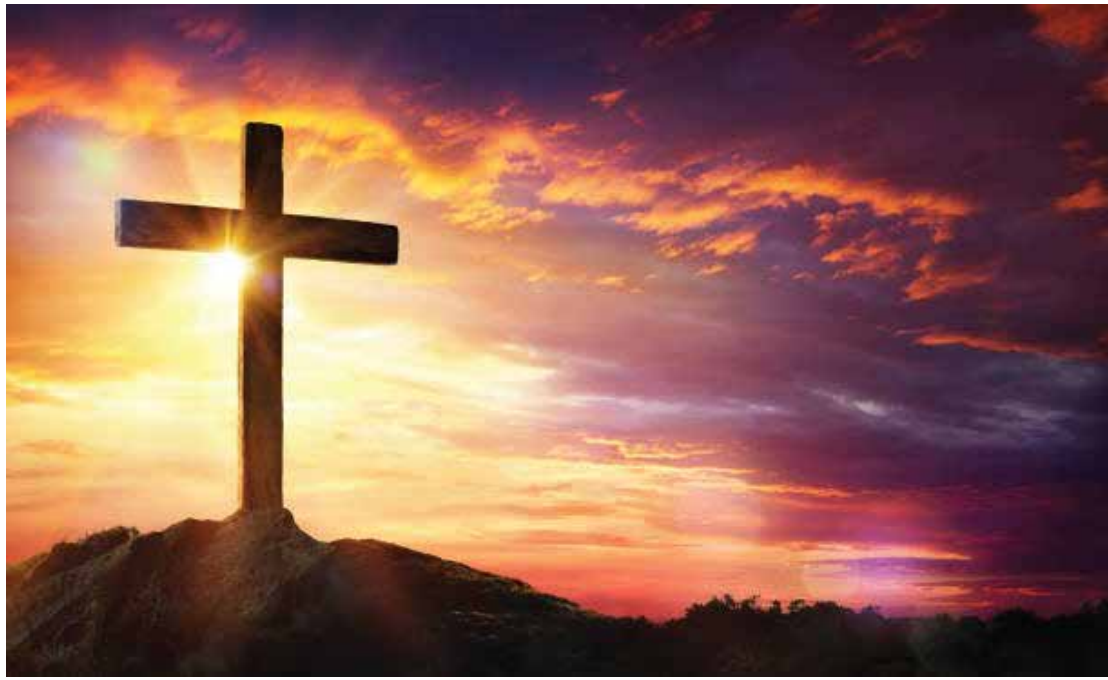
TIP #1: Read the Bible Like Any Other Book

My first suggestion is to embrace what I call "A Better Way to Read the Bible." Simply put, a better way to read the Bible is to read it like any other book, which means we read the whole thing. Think about the last time you read a book that you truly enjoyed and from which you benefitted greatly. Did you read it all, or just a portion? Did you read only a few sections, or did you start at the beginning and go all the way to the end. I'm stating the obvious, but to truly understand a book, isn't it best to read it in its entirety?

TIP #2: Read the Bible Like No Other Book

My second suggestion is to pray . . . before, during and after you read the Bible. Here's one of my favorite Bible reading prayers: "Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law" (Psalm 119:18). The word "law" can mean "instruction" or "teaching." The Word of God, like no other book, contains the instruction and teaching of God. While the Bible is to be read like any other book, it is also to be read like no other book, because there is no other book like the Bible. It is the only book written by God, and we need His supernatural help to understand it.

TIP #3: Get the Big Picture



When reading the Bible, always keep in mind what Jen Wilkin states so succinctly, "The Bible is a book about God." I take this to mean that the Bible is primarily or mainly about God. It is His autobiography. Until just a few years ago, this was a new idea for me and a hard pill to swallow, so I know it can come as a surprise to some. But like life itself, the Bible is not primarily about us. Sure, we are there, too, and the Bible has much to say about you and me. But we're not the focus. God is. Therefore, every time you read the Bible, ask the question, "What does this passage teach about God (Father, Son and Spirit)?" And then ask, "What is my response to this teaching about God?"

TIP #4: Write Down Your Thoughts

Write down your answers to those two questions in Tip #3. Maintain a Bible Reading Journal. This doesn't have to be fancy.

Record your thoughts in a word processing document or a spiral notebook. I always learn and retain more when I interact with the material I'm reading. Don't just read and pray. Whenever possible: Read, pray, and write. Even better: Pray, Read, Pray, Write, and Pray.

TIP #5: Make a Commitment to Read the Whole Bible (or at least the New Testament)

Yes, I'm circling back to Tip #1 – to understand any book, it is best to read the whole thing. Resources abound to help you do this. Bible Reading Plans are a good place to start, so search online and find one that you like. Then . . . Go For It! By the grace of God and for the glory of God, it can be done.

Here's how I've been approaching the task to read the whole Bible. For several years I've been reading the entire New Testament in a year. This

can be done by reading one chapter a day, five days a week. Then, every two or three years, I read both the Old Testament and the New Testament in a year. This is how I've been doing it for the past 15 years, and it has worked well for me.

If you're new to the Bible or if reading the entire Book seems too intimidating right now, why not start with the New Testament? Eventually, though, you'll want to read both Testaments; your understanding of the New Testament will skyrocket to a new level when you read and understand the Old Testament. And when was the last time you read only the last 25% of a book?

TIP #6: Get Help to Understand What You Read

Regardless of how you read it, take advantage of the many wonderful resources that can aid in your understanding of the Bible. God has given the

Church many gifts. One of those gifts is knowledgeable Bible teachers who have spent years studying the Bible so they can help God's people to comprehend it.

The Bible is both one Book and a Book of Books. As you read through the Bible, take time to get the big picture of each individual book. A good study Bible should have an introduction and an outline of each book, which you would do well to read and use to navigate that particular book. Another important aspect of the Bible is the variety of literary genres which are found in Scripture. Again, find a study Bible to help you learn what these genres are and how they differ.

TIP #7: Search Your Heart for the Answer to This Huge Question

Finally, let's not forget the "Why" question. You are reading this article because you want to read the Bible. That is such a good thing, or so it would seem. But why? What is your motive? That is such an important question. It is a matter of life and death. I think about this a lot because I know that my reasons for reading the Bible have not always been pure.

How about you? How do you answer the question, "Why do I want to read the Bible?" The true believer reads the Word of God primarily to know and glorify the God of the Word. There is a huge difference between reading for the purpose of knowing about God and reading in order to know God. May the latter be your motive, not the former.

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WASHINGTON COUNTY

RAY PHILLIPS
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FOOD & DRINK

Destination Candy “Connecting Community Through Candy”

By Mark A. Finrock

There is a famous song that was written in 1971 that asks, “Who can take the sunrise, Sprinkle it with dew? Cover it in chocolate and a miracle or two.”

You know the answer, The Candyman. Or in the case of Destination Candy, a new shop in the city of Washington, The Candy-Men.

First, lets meet Mr. Phillip Agostinelli, a local businessman/Entrepreneur whose enthusiasm creates an air of excitement when talking about Destination Candy said, “I’ve watched and talked to every single one of the vendors we have displayed here. I listened to their stories. I loved them. That’s how I picked them to be here.” Philip went through and pointed out each vendor on display and gave a brief history of where they are from and how and where they started.

Enter Chris Adkins. Another businessman, formally of Washington and now resides Los Angeles California and works as a Financial Analyst Senior. “This is actually only the third time I’ve been with Phil in person...”

Getting to the Destination

Chris Adkins, a former Prexie and Duquesne University graduate, had an idea for a couple of years and it was through mutual acquaintances that Phillip and Chris were brought together to share that idea. But not in the conventional way. There was no “I’ll have my people call your people” or any board room pitch meetings. It was actually very low key with many phone calls coast to coast and online Zoom conversations. That was all it took to have these two men blend their visions together, walk away so to speak after the initial phone call with a feeling that each of them, was the one to make it all happen. Truth be told, both men agree it was “Fate. God brought us together...seriously” said Phil, with Chris nodding in agreement.

Some unique ingredients for the vision

Destination Candy is, or at least plans to be, more than just a candy store. As was explained, with the continued enthusiasm as previously mentioned, one



(L) Phil Agostinelli (M) Chelsea Agostinelli (R) Chris Adkins

globally. One of the displays we are working on will be a section that will have candies from around the world that maybe you can’t get here or even heard of.” Explained Phil. “We want to include a gelato stand here in the back part.” He continued. “Then over here,” Phil Pointed to a set of coolers with various beverages. Some known, some not, “We have Mexican Coke. Coca-Cola from Mexico!” when asked what the difference between Mexican Coca-Cola and U.S. Coca-Cola was, “Pure cane sugar is used.” *(The U.S. has used high fructose corn syrup since the early 80’s)* “Then look at this!” exclaimed Phil “I watched this product for a long time, and it kept flying off the shelves so, I said let’s bring it here too.” *Snickers*



Store underway

Milk. Augustus Gloop, eat your heart out.

It is about giving back to the community.

In keeping with Destination Candy not being just any old garden variety candy store, it is also a Second Chance Employer.

Second chance employment is the hiring practice of applicants with a criminal record. It gives those individuals a fair and equal opportunity for employment and guidance to re-enter back into society.

“Let me focus on what I call the disadvantaged

Destination Candy looks to partner with various agencies like Harmony or the Mission. “...and tap those resources as we help guide you in obtaining those goals.”

These two men both agree, there are no limits to what Destination Candy can be. Or will be. Both men explained it like this. “We don’t want levels and goals in the sense of, ok, we met this goal. Next level. Then five years down the road you level off and that’s it. We don’t want that. It’s each goal is another step to unlimited possibilities.”

Local Tastes Better

Those unlimited possibilities are not only afforded to the employees of Destination Candy and the community, but to the vendors that sell their wares that range from real, honest to goodness homemade Peanut Brittle to Toffee Bark. From the jars of sweet seasonal local honey to the original homemade Granola. Hot sauce to salsa. From candy to local artist crafts. Destination Candy becomes a hub of local flavors and culture then presents it alongside the flavors and culture of world candies and consumables. Now here is where, through a sort of synergy, unlimited possibilities can occur. Let us say Mr. and Mrs. USA are selling a product and they are set up next to Mrs. Europeans’ home style cream cheese. Mr. and Mrs. USA tried the cream cheese and finds it enhances their products flavor. Mr and Mrs. USA can then go into a business venture with Mrs. Europeans cream cheese. This in turn helps build new business partnerships and aids in boosting local economies.

Liken it to ‘The Great Glass Wonkavator’ it did not just go up and down. ‘It went sideways, slantways, and long ways. Backways, square ways, front ways, and any other ways you can think of.’ *(That will be the last Wonka reference)* That is what the goals are for two very passionate and enthusiastic men. Businessmen that want to help others in the community achieve their entrepreneurial dreams. Then take those dreams and help make them a reality through every imaginable direction that can be taken and share it all with two very important groups of people in our society. Our families and our communities.

Destination Candy is located at 148 N. Main Steet in Washington. It sits right next door to L.A. Sweets, which is owned and operated by Chris’ mother.

Vesta 88 River House Fredericktown

By Tom Grande

Vesta 88 River House is making a name for itself as an upscale casual restaurant that is built on a proud local tradition. New owners Carmellio (Carmen) Faieta and Denny Welsh grew up together, playing football and frequenting Faieta’s Bar after the games, and have been doing business together for years. Even though they are successful in the mining supplies and labor industry, they found that they really enjoyed cooking with each other when their friends got together. Carmen says, “The highlight of our days would be, you come to my place, or I go to yours, make some dinner, everyone is helping and we’re putting out great food, and we just got to talking and decided we’ve got to do something about this.” When an opportunity arose to bring the sort of quality dining to the area that people have been craving, they accepted the challenge.



Exterior

Carmen’s grandfather was the owner of Faieta’s Bar, known to miners and locals for their odd hours and amazing wings. Vesta 88 replicates those wings to a T. Coated and crispy, packed full of flavor from the secret recipe of spices, you simply cannot pass them up. The menu is chock full of items given just as much thought and heart. “Being new restaurateurs, we had to learn how to take what we were doing at home and do it for customers to order. It was a lot to get through.” Executive chef & kitchen manager Paul (Pauly) Yakopovich has been the perfect match for their team, bringing to life the vision of Carmen, Denny, and Denny’s wife, Natalie. Chef Paul is a classically trained culinary chef with years of experience in food service management. He had spent his college years and the next couple of decades that followed in South Carolina, honing his craft, but Paul had just moved back into the Washington area and had a vision to create a menu featuring home-cooked meals with some Italian influence. “I heard about this place, what Denny and Carmen were doing, and I thought ‘I know those guys, it was like it was meant to be.’”



Denny and Carmen

Their menu features many elevated classics, including homemade pastas like a short rib ravioli in marsala sauce that’s a rich balanced blend of sweet and savory. There are many seafood options as well that range from a tropical inspired mahi mahi to Valero’s Cod a la Nana, a lightly seasoned broiled white fish topped with panko, lemon, and fresh parsley.

Thursday’s bring generous cuts of prime rib to offer. There is even a catering menu for at home events.

Vesta 88 River House exists on the footprint of the Riviera but is completely redone with a newly equipped kitchen and dining area, as well as an outdoor kitchen and bar called The Barge where you can pull up to the dock to watch a local act take the stage. They even have a party barge, a pontoon boat waiting for you and some guests to take out for a couple of hours. “During Covid, we realized that people that were going stir crazy in their homes really found joy taking to the river.” Denny tells me, “It became a destination again and we wanted to give people a place to enjoy when they got here.” You can also follow Vesta 88 on Facebook to keep an eye on when local bands perform and what specials they are running.



Original Faieta's Sign

When you enter the restaurant, the main dining area has tall ceilings, wooden accents, iron sconces and lots of natural light from tall windows. There is also an intimate side dining room, where you and your guests are surrounded by screen-printed walls depicting the interior “rib bones” of a mine shaft, the scaffolding that gets built in order to secure the shafts. The ceiling here is also lower than the main room, which combines with the walls to give you a sense of dining in a mine. On the opposite end of the main dining room is the bar, a bright area with copper paneled walls and bold black accents. Look up and you are immersed in the rich history of the local mines, as you take in the many pictures gathered by locals and displayed as the headliner of the bar. Depicted in these photos are local legends that represent the generations of families that have found a livelihood underground. Future plans include aspirations of converting the second floor into a banquet room with a separate kitchen.



Chef Paul

The impression I left with was one of hope for the Vesta crew. They have a lot of ambition and are realizing it quickly. The owners greeted every guest and communicated with staff throughout our visit, stopping at tables to check in with friends and new faces alike. Vesta 88 should have a bright future with a ton of pride for the local community, an inspired staff, and dedicated owners that want to fully realize the vision they have to keep this river town a destination for years to come.



Soon to be completed entryway wall mural of Washington

of the draws is the notion that the store itself will not be the same each time one comes to visit. This will continue for a couple of months.

“If you come in on a Monday it will look one way. Come in a couple of days later, it will look different. We want to offer a variety of candies that are created locally and

Hiring Approach,” Chris said with a look of true passion on this subject, “our goal is to get you in for at least 6 months, no more than 2 years or so and prepare you for the next level in your life and get you on a solid foundation with the support and resources you will need...” As a second chance employer,

TRAVEL

4 Days in London

By Jeff Scanlon

Heading to London for Vacation for me is like putting on your favorite pair of old shoes. I lived on the West side of London in Kew for a few years and going back to London brings back found memories. There is a direct flight from Pittsburgh to London Heathrow that makes getting there even easier. So, I packed my bags and headed over.

My flight landed a full 40 minutes early thanks to a 100MPH tail wind which put us on the ground at 9:20 am. I chose to stay in Paddington at the Hotel Indigo due to the location of the Tube Station and it is easy to get into the city on the Heathrow Express. If you are traveling with 3 or less people the £25 per person gives you the fastest and easiest way into town via Paddington Station. The Hotel is a quick 5-minute walk and everything you need is situated close by

London hotels are not flexible on early check ins so be prepared on early morning arrivals you might have to wait until 3pm. Sometimes a smile and a friendly greeting can speed things up but be prepared to leave your bags and do some early exploring if



Big Ben

Serpentine Lake and is the perfect place to watch the world walk by. After eating and a few cups of tea I headed back towards the hotel at around 12:30 I got a text that our room was ready.

Now the hard part. After you get to your room and take a shower, fight the urge to take a nap. It is not easy after all your body thinks it's 7:30 am back home. We decided to push ourselves to visit the Tower Hill area which is a 30 min Tube ride on the Circle Line. The Underground or "Tube" is a clean and somewhat comfortable way to get around the city. They have a prepaid card called Oyster that you can load at the

station and refill as needed. You can also use them on the bus which makes for an easy way to get around London traffic.

The Tower Hill area has many of the top attractions to see in London. The iconic Tower Bridge, The Tower of London, home of the Crown Jewels, Thames River Boat Tours, The London Wall just to name a few. For me if you only had one day in London a tour of the Tower of London and a walk on Tower Bridge are on the list to do. This trip is more of a home coming

so after a few pictures along the Thames we went to one of our favorite pubs for a pint. "The Minorities" at 64-73 Minorities, London, it is under the train tracks, and you will hear the trains going overhead as you enjoy your pint.

If you have never been to a pub in the UK or Ireland, be prepared to order your food and drink and the bar. You will pay for it and then they will bring you your food. Gratuities in London are expected and 10% is the norm. Outside of London tips are not expected. Well after a few pints and trains go over head we walked over grab Italian at Emilia's Crafted Pasta at St Kathrines Docks. The food is always good the vibe is unique, make sure you reserve a table. We left full and exhausted and headed back to the hotel via the Tower Hill Station Circle Line to Paddington.

The first full day is always hard as you tend to fall asleep fast but then wake up around midnight. This was no different and after a few hours of watching Sky News we fell back to sleep and woke up around 9 am. Today we decided to head to Kew and Richmond upon the

Thames via the District Line to Earls Court and then the Richmond Line. Kew is a quaint little Village with shops and restaurants and Home to the Famous Kew Gardens. 300 Acres of indoor and outdoor gardens it can be a full day to enjoy if you choose to explore the entire grounds. Today we walked the Sunday Market in the Village and enjoyed being back. If you fancy a pint, then go to the "Tap on the Line" it is attached to the Kew Train Station. The food is excellent, and they pour a great pint of Guinness.

We hopped on the Tube and went one more stop to Richmond. Richmond is one of the more affluent areas in London. When I lived here it was not uncommon to run into famous folks like Pete Townsend from the Who and Tom Hardy. If you watch the Ted Lasso series on Apple TV then you have seen many parts of the town on the show. Take a walk along the Thames and enjoy the famous Deer Park at Richmond Park. Make sure to stop by the Green and grab a pint and a meal at the "Princess Head" truly a great pub.

To get back to central London we decided to take the water taxi back to Westminster Pier and enjoyed the 2 hours sailing up the Thames. The trip is

heart of Westminster. Westminster is home to Parliament, Big Ben, The Churchill War Rooms, Westminster Abby, and Green Park to name just a few. The must does for me here are pictures of Big Ben, Parliament, and Westminster Bridge. The Churchill War Rooms are well worth the stop if you are a WW2 buff.

Monday was a day to shop at Oxford Circus and Mayfair, home of the famous department store Harrods. The food halls are world famous, and you can have your lunch there with many choices with tableside cooking right where they are selling their goods. We had Fish and Chips at Kerridge's Fish and Chips. You sit at the bar and watch them prepare your meal. Truly a unique experience.

To finish Monday, we headed back to the Hotel in the late afternoon and waited to walk



St Paul's Cathedral; View from the Thames

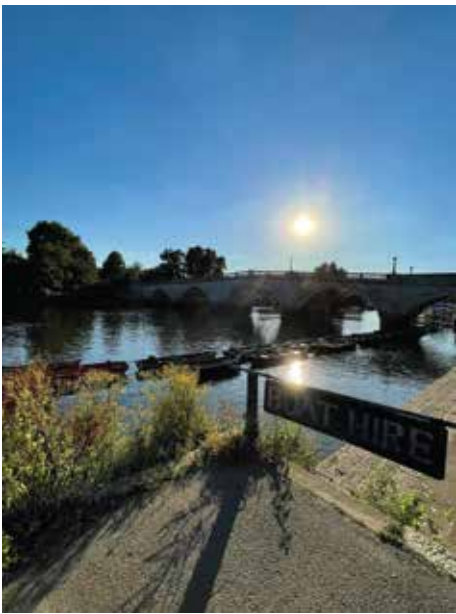
Westminster at night for pictures and dinner at Pattershall Castle. Perfect for dinner or drinking it is a ship tied off with great views of the London Eye and Westminster Bridge.

Our last full day in London was spent at the Borough Market a mixture of Food, flowers, and Craft Stores under a roof. The market is one of the oldest and really gives you a taste of London. From there we headed to St Paul's Cathedral. If you are up for it make the climb to the top for some of the best views of the London Skyline. Allow yourself at least 2.5 hours for both locations. London is a great city and I can't wait to get back. My next story will talk about the rest of the trip by train North to York and then to Scotland.



Hyde Park Italian Gardens

relaxing, and you can grab a drink or two and enjoy the trip. You will be dropped off in the



Richmond Bridge

need be. The trick for me to cut down on jet leg for the 5-hour time difference is to try and stay awake till 8 pm the first day.

One of my favorite things about the hotel's location is the proximity to Hyde Park. It is a quick 10 min walk through charming row houses to the park at the Italian Gardens Entrance. A perfect place to stretch your legs. Hyde Park is 350 acres and there are plenty of ways to enjoy it. For me it was a simple walk and a morning breakfast at Serpentine Bar and Kitchen it sits on the



THE WEEKLY RECORDER

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Penn West Media

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Vic DaPra – Guitars Worldwide Yet in Your Back Yard

By P. Phillips

What is your definition of a rockstar or legend?

Let's see, within the walls of my cranium, I would say:

Skill and appeal on one's instrument – check!

Hangs out with other rockstars and other rockstars have him on speed dial- check!

Legendary Guitar manufacturers consult with you - check!

Parties like a madman-well not so much now-check in past tense!

Known throughout the land as a subject matter expert in rock and roll guitars – check!

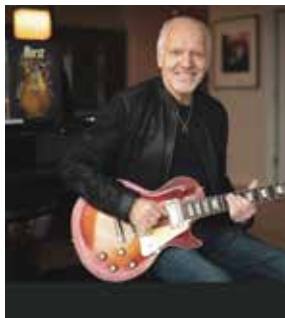


Vic DaPra and Billy Gibbons

Has written numerous (chart topping) books specializing in Gibson guitars- Wait, what??

Any way that you look at it, Vic DaPra has carved his niche into making him a rockstar. On his terms!

And he is in your backyard.



Peter Frampton

It appears to have started in the 60's when bands like The Ventures were making the guitar something to dream about. The Beatles and Stones added something even more interesting to an adolescent's brain. Screaming girls! Vic was on a fast track to becoming hooked on both. His brother Val had



Burst Believer series

all the rags, Downbeat, Hit Parade with Ed Sullivan adding to the mix. Daydreaming of being onstage was hitting him with a deep mastication. Through his brother and friends, Vic was being turned onto the likes of Jimmy Page, Mike Bloomfield, Keith Richards, and Jeff Beck. Incredible musicians that outside of American blues and rock, had one other common denominator. The Gibson Les Paul.



1959 Gibson Les Paul 'Bursts'

Gibson Les Paul's got their start in 1952 with a gold top version in which Gibson had approached jazz/pop icon Les Paul to bear his name. The guitar went through multiple iterations between 1952-1956. In 1957, a revolutionary upgrade occurred, humbucking pickups. Humbucking pickups (aka humbuckers) are basically

2 single pickups acting as one. When this occurs, noise dissipates. No more squealing feedback. In 1958, Gibson stopped making gold tops and applied a two-tone stain, known to players as "sunbursts or bursts". Gibson continued through 1960 and ceased making that style of Les Paul. But in the mid-sixties, British players started demanding the late 50's Les Pauls, hence making them iconic. So much so that Gibson reintroduced the Les Paul in 1968. It is no coincidence that a young Vic DaPra was soaking it in eyes wide open.



Joe Walsh

Moving forward to 1973, Mr. DaPra, now a known regional guitar commodity in the band Sugarcane, had a girlfriend with an insurance settlement burning a hole in her

pocket. This gave birth to him receiving a 1959 burst Les Paul. Then a call from another local guitar legend, Roger Hoard, led Vic to yet another 1959 Les Paul. Vic began a lifelong obsession of acquiring, selling, sometimes reacquiring Gibson guitars of all types (with an occasional Fender/other brand thrown in for good measure). His guitar collecting along with offers to join Wild Cherry and Rick Springfield allowed his name to grow. Globally!



Slash

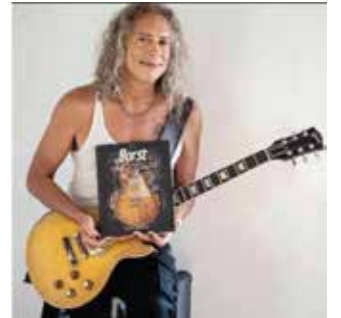
Vic went into partnership with Tim Matyas to start the Guitar Gallery in Peters Township (now in North Strabane) in 1985 to let every musician know that The Guitar Gallery is where to cool man thrived. The store built deep relationships with scores of local and touring musicians. This included a deeper relationship with Gibson Guitars in Nashville. Vic did extensive work with their custom shop in reintroducing their classic 50's and 60's instruments to entrench his name only further with the brand.



Rick Neilson

After years of collecting, Vic became "the guy" and has built close relationships with The Gibson Corporation,

Mick Ralphs (Bad Company), Peter Frampton, Rick Neilson (Cheap Trick), Joe Walsh (Eagles/solo), Alex Lifeson (Rush), Joe Perry (Aerosmith), Howard Leese (Heart), Billy Gibbons (ZZ top), Kirk Hammet (Metallica), Joe Bonamassa and dozens of other legends of rock, blues, jazz and pop.



Kirk Hammet

But wait, I have yet to mention the books!

Burst Believers 1-6 with many iconic "burst players" giving their comments (see a partial list above) with some of the best illustrations you will ever see. The books have topped sellers lists in Japan, Italy, UK, Germany and throughout South America.

Gold Top Believers Like Burst Believers but specifically using Gibson Gold Top Les Pauls from 1952-1957. Once again topping charts throughout the world.

ES Believers (Due before Christmas 2023) will cover Gibson's famous ES (Electric Spanish) guitars with verbiage from Steve Howe (Yes), Larry Carlton (Steely Dan and many others), Eric Johnson, Eric Clapton, and Justin Heyward (The Moody Blues).

These books are the greatest coffee table books in my collection!

One would not think that someone that is practically in your backyard would be so universally known. Look again! Vic DaPra is the man!

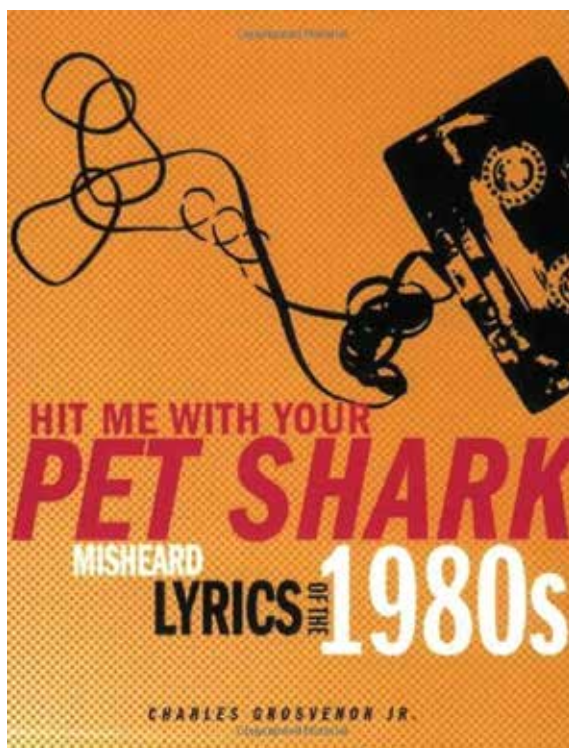
McPeake My Interest

By Brian McPeake



There is an actual science to misunderstanding song lyrics and it is called Mondegreen. Basically, there is a breakdown in communication from the part of your brain that tries to interpret sounds and translate them into significant meaning. If the sounds are unclear your brain tries to fill the ambiguous parts with something that makes sense. It's like looking at big puffy clouds and your brain thinks it looks like a puppy or a turtle. So, our brains work in mysterious ways. Sure, it is possible that "Sweet dreams are made of cheese," but that's definitely not what Annie Lennox was singing about. Neither was Sir

Mix-A-Lot stating, "I like big butts in a can of limes" or Starship professing to have "Built this city on sausage rolls." Who can forget the "Friend's" episode when Phoebe thought the lyrics to Elton John's "Tiny Dancer" were "Hold me closer Tony Danza!?"



With no disrespect for the above-mentioned gems, here is my is my top ten misunderstood song lyrics:

1. Pat Benatar – 'Hit me with your best shot' comes across as "Hit me with your pet shark."
2. Jimmy Hendrix – 'Purple Haze' lyrics sound like "Excuse me while I kiss this guy."
3. Johnny Nash – 'I Can See Clearly Now' should say "I can see clearly now the rain is gone... not Lorraine is gone."
4. Bon Jovi – 'Living on a Prayer' was penned "Doesn't make a difference is we make it or not" but we all heard "Doesn't make a difference if we're naked or not."
5. The Monkees – 'I'm A Believer' belts out "Then I saw her face, now I'm a believer" not "Then I saw her face, now I'm going to leave her."
6. REM – 'Losing My Religion' Cue little kids laughing... "Let's pee in the corner, Let's pee in the spotlight."

7. Bee Gees – 'More Than A Woman' Together now...in your best falsetto "Bald headed woman, Bald headed woman to me."
 8. Will Smith – 'Get Jiggy Wit it' was mangled with "Kick a chicken wit it."
 9. ABBA – 'Dancing Queen' had many a teenage girl singing "Feel the beat on the tambourine... as tangerine."
 10. Chic – 'Le Freak' – is my all-time favorite. Meant to be sung "Ahhh, freak out! / Le freak, c'est chic," but we belted out at every dance in America "Freak cow / Le freak, c'est sheep."
- Well, there you have it children. If you got something out of this episode like, comment and subscribe. Oh, snap this isn't YouTube. Well share with your friends and family. Visit my Facebook page for daily posts of comedic genius. Till next month stay safe, stay goofy and know that you are loved.

Waterdam Plaza Business

By Toni Fitch

When ground was broken in 1989 on a stretch of property off Route 19 in McMurray, who knew that almost 35 years later it would boast a campus of fifteen buildings with 100 different tenants on 250,000 managed square feet and 1500 total parking spaces?

Today, Waterdam Plaza and Waterdam Commons stand tall as pillars in Washington County. They are home to everything from retail businesses to health and wellness professionals, dining options to the performing arts and all things in between. Most of all, the tenants are family and friends. Some establishments have called Waterdam "home" for decades. And every



One of the Waterdam plaza business directories

also a perk for businesses and customers alike. And their landlord makes every effort to provide a warm and welcoming environment. The website states that "ownership, management, and maintenance are on-site and ready to help when needed."

Waterdam's owners do their best to

location, location" as a primary reason for their partnership with Waterdam. They also appreciate the free parking for their patrons. And the sense of community that has developed through the years is another reason. They are appreciated by their landlord and vice versa.

When asked what she would say to someone considering renting space at Waterdam, Linda Webster, owner of Minuteman Press said "Go for it, it's really great. The landlord's great." Oliver Schmitt, the owner of Ollie's Pizza, has been here for 25 years. Monti Jewelers owner Chris Monti noted that the landlord "is more than fair" and is grateful



Waterdam Plaza

one of them feels a part of the community that has been built from the ground up.

And Waterdam Plaza and Commons are all-inclusive. They made sure that they remain ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant, taking great care to see that there is plenty of parking and ramp accessibility for those that need it.

With easy access on and off Route 19 and mere minutes from I79 and Southpointe, this complex is set up to see that its occupants succeed. Free parking is

accommodate all the various establishments in their complex. Per their website, they have "prospered through long-standing tenant relationships and deep connections to the community." They understand that most of the businesses are locally owned and try to go above and beyond for their clients, making "each unit built to spec." There is a 50-square-foot digital sign that offers free postings to tenants to help catch the eye of motorists traveling up and down Route 19, too.

Many of the business owners cite "location,

for the numerous parking spaces for his customers. Mark Baumiller, Waterdam Auto Service owner, has been located in this complex since July 1, 1998.

As their website states, "At Waterdam, our top priority is supporting your property needs so that you can focus on your business." From a "strip center and single office building" to the tight-knit community of fifteen buildings, Waterdam Plaza and Waterdam Commons has grown by leaps and bounds. And it continues to be a vital part of Washington County.

EQT Clear to Close Acquisition of Tug Hill and XcL Midstream

EQT Corporation (NYSE: EQT) ("EQT" or the "Company") today announced that the U.S. Federal Trade Commission (the "FTC") has resolved its review of EQT's agreement with THQ Appalachia I, LLC ("Tug Hill") and THQ-XcL Holdings I, LLC ("XcL Midstream") to acquire Tug Hill's upstream assets and XcL Midstream's gathering and processing assets pursuant to an Agreement Containing Consent Order entered into among the parties to the transactions and the FTC effective as of today. Tug Hill and XcL Midstream are backed by equity commitments from funds managed by Quantum Energy Partners. The parties have now satisfied the condition relating to the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act of 1976, as amended and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, required to close the transaction.

President and CEO Toby Z. Rice stated, "We are pleased the FTC has completed its review and we are now able to bring the acquisition of Tug Hill and XcL Midstream to a close. This acquisition will lower EQT's cost structure, reduce EQT's development risk, and increase cash flow and net asset value per share, while maintaining our investment grade balance sheet. It will also allow us to continue our progress in making the energy we produce more affordable, reliable, and cleaner."

EQT expects to close the transaction within the next seven business days.

Energy Update

Rig Count

Us Rig Count 642 -12
PA Rig Count 21 +2

Henry Hub Natural Gas Price as of August 22

\$2.55

Pennsylvania Activity

There are currently 23,523 unconventional gas wells

Permits in the state assigned to 5,117 well-pads
21,687 are horizontal wells, 14,279 are reported as developed, and 12,164 have reported production values

Shale Permits

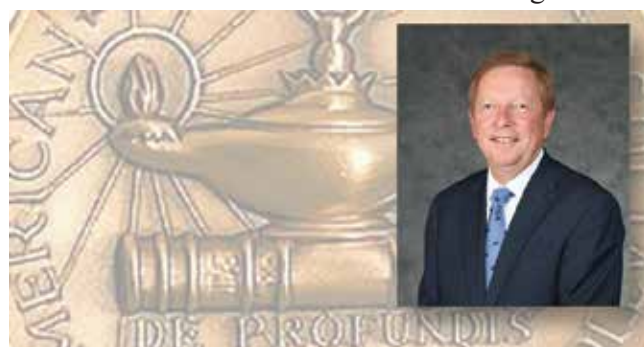
39 New Shale Permits issued for PA, OH, and WV

Thomas J. Uram Becomes American Numismatic Association's 63rd President at Pittsburgh World's Fair of Money.

Thomas J. Uram, a lifelong resident of Washington County has been installed as the new ANA president during the organization's annual World's Fair of Money® convention, located in Pittsburgh this year. The installation took place during the ANA 132nd Anniversary Awards Banquet at 7 p.m. on Friday, August 11, at The Westin Pittsburgh in the Allegheny Ballroom.

focusing on estate planning and charitable giving. He has served on multiple nonprofit organization boards and has helped raise considerable funds for those groups.

Uram has advised multiple Treasury Secretaries on the designs that appear on U.S. coins and medals and has sought to deepen the connections between the United States Mint and numismatic organizations



Thomas J. Uram - ANA President

Uram succeeds previous President Ralph Ross, who will serve as a nonvoting, ex-officio member of the board of governors.

Uram's resume and career accomplishments made him uniquely qualified to seek this prestigious office and will serve him well in leadership of the association.

Uram is president of the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN), former chairman of the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC), former American Numismatic Association governor, and the first recipient of the ANA's Chester L. Krause Memorial Distinguished

like the ANA. His leadership within the CCAC created multiple public forums for collectors during ANA shows. As president, he will understand the importance of keeping the focus of the organization squarely on the interests of its members while protecting the ANA's financial future. He will work to make the ANA an even stronger organization and to advocate for all members of the numismatic community while keeping members engaged in shaping the future of the Association and numismatic hobby.

Uram has committed to working with the ANA Board of



ANA Past President Dr. Ralph Ross handing off the gavel to new ANA President Thomas Uram for the 2023-25 term. Photo Credit - American Numismatic Association

Service Award. A tireless advocate for the hobby.

Uram brings a unique blend of experience and talent to the position. He is a past recipient of most major numismatic awards, including the ANA Presidential Award, Numismatic News's Numismatic Ambassador, and the Sower Award from the Central States Numismatic Society (CSNS).

As a 50-plus-year collector of both classic and modern coins, Uram is also a veteran of the financial-services industry. He has spent 38 years working with MetLife,

Governors to achieve common goals that include:

- Benefits of ANA membership
 - eLearning—what are collectors and clubs expecting?
 - Numismatic outreach
 - Relationships with other related organizations and affiliates
 - Shows and conventions
- He is also committed to a "Future Vision" study for The organization.

Retired City of Washington K9 Golem, passes

It is with great sadness that The City of Washington Police Department announce the passing of Retired K9 Golem.

K9 Golem passed shortly after midnight due to an unexpected medical event. K9 Golem was a 12-year-old German Shepard, from the Czech Republic, and had served the City of Washington for 5 years prior to retirement. During his 5 years of service, K9 Golem was not only an invaluable asset to the city and this department but also provided outstanding service to other communities throughout the region.



K9 Golem

The Department also extends our deepest condolences to K9 Golem's handler, Sgt. Karlowsky.

Rest in Peace now K9 Golem. Job well done.

2023 PONY Princess and Hostess Crowned



Brooke Lindsay-2023 PONY Princess



Brookelyn Dames-2023 PONY Hostess



PONY Princess Court

Brookelyn Dames - 9th grade McGuffey high school, Morgan Stimmell - 8th grade Trinity Middle School, Addy Miklic - 8th grade Trinity Middle School, Katelyn Voytek - 8th grade Trinity Middle school, Allison Sworden - 7th grade Peters Twp. Middle School, Brooke Lindsay - 9th grade Trinity High school, Maya Andrae 9th grade Canon McMillan High School, and Maddie Piatt- 9th grade Canon McMillan High School.

With the culmination of the 2023 PONY World Series, Brooke Lindsay of Trinity Highschool, daughter of Steven Lindsay and Heather McAlister was crowned as the Tournaments PONY Princess.

PONY Hostess honors were awarded to Brookelyn Dames of McGuffey Highschool. Brooklyn is the daughter of Tom and Holly Dames.

Both Lindsay and Dames were part of the PONY court, representing the host team from Washington County.

Participating in this year's court were;

Brookelyn Dames - 9th grade McGuffey high school, Morgan Stimmell - 8th grade Trinity Middle School, Addy Miklic - 8th grade Trinity Middle School, Katelyn Voytek - 8th grade Trinity Middle school, Allison Sworden - 7th grade Peters Twp. Middle School, Brooke Lindsay - 9th grade Trinity High school, Maya Andrae 9th grade Canon McMillan High School, and Maddie Piatt- 9th grade Canon McMillan High School.

EVENT CALENDER

- 8-26 Rally on Main
- 8-27 Outdoor Worship 11AM North Strabane Park Canonsburg United Presbyterian Church
- 9-3 Lynyrd Skynyrd/ZZ Top The Pavilion
- 9-7 Micro Wrestling (the Biggest Little Show on Earth) Nineteen North Washington
- 9-9 StemFest
- 9-9 Tunnel to Towers 5K Canonsburg
- 9-9 Read Local Eat Local Peters Township Library
- 9-10 Fall Open House Bedners Farm and Greenhouse Coleman Rd Cecil Township
- 9-15 Whiskey Rebellion Dinner Hilton Garden Inn Southpointe
- 9-15, 16, and 17 Bavarian Okotoberfest Canonsburg
- 9-16 Arts in the Park Washington Park 11-4
- 9-16 Covered Bridge Festival Mingo Creek Park
- 9-17 MFD Car Show Monongahela Aquatorium
- 9-23 Italian Fest
- 9-23/24 ARH Sport Shop and Gun Show Washington County Fairgrounds
- 9-29 The Wallflowers Hollywood Casino
- 9-30 Vet Jam Taylorstown American Legion
- 10-7 Washington and Jefferson Homecoming
- 10-7/9 Houston Pumpkin Festival
- 10-14 Art Walk on N. Main
- 10-14 EKoostik Hooookaaaaaaa Nineteen North Washington
- 10-14 Whitney Cummings Hollywood Casino
- 10-22/23 Haunted History Tours
- 10-23 The Road to Recovery Bella Sera Canonsburg 10AM
- 10-23 Small Business Saturday

Around the County

West Alexander New Restaurant opening soon

Creekwater Farms Scratch Kitchen is in the process of renovating for a new restaurant in the former Liberty Street Café space, located at 137 W US Route 40 in West Alexander. The new dine in establishment promises to provide good old-fashioned down-home cooking to West Alex and surrounding areas. No details are yet available on opening day, but word is the ribbon cutting is just around the corner. To follow the progress and keep up to date, visit their Facebook page at Creekwater Farms Scratch Kitchen.

Bulger Car and Bike Show

SNPJ 89's Club is hosting a car and bike show on September 10th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Come out and enjoy, entertainment, food drink, Chinese auction 50/50. Dash plaques to the first 50 cars. SNPJ 89 - 1305 Grant Street Bulger Pa. for information call 724-350-5984

Canonsburg VFD Calendar available

The 2024 Canonsburg Fireman's Calendar is now available. A donation of \$35.00 supports the Canonsburg, Fallowfield, Smith Township and Perry Township VFD's. Over \$165,000 in cash and prizes are available throughout the year. To

purchase a calendar contact: Canonsburg VFD - 724-746-1014. Fallowfield VFD - 724-483-8005. Slovan/Smith Township VFD - 724-947-3488. Perry Township VFD - 724-736-4020.

Washington

Pop's and Rory's is growing

Pop's and Rory's, a popular ice cream, pizza and sandwich shop in Claysville is expanding to another location. The site of the former Lens's Crafters in the Washington Crown Center Mall will house the business. Work is currently being completed on the construction of a private entrance, allowing the establishment to manage its own hours.

The eatery has not set a firm date for opening however it is anticipated the grand opening will be within the next several weeks. The hours will be 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 7 days a week: open year-round.

The shop is currently hiring for all positions. For more information follow them on their Facebook page at Pop's and Rory's.

Lucas reappointed Trinity district Superintendent

The Trinity school district has voted to reappoint superintendent Dr. Michael Lucas. Lucas has worked in the Trinity district since 2011 when he was hired as assistant superintendent. He was appointed to his current role in 2014.

Non-Profit Legal Aid groups merge

SW PA Legal Aid and Laurel Legal Services have merged and is now Summit Legal Aid. The group provides civil legal aid to low-income residents in the areas it serves. Summit Legal Aid will serve 10 counties: Armstrong, Cambria, Clarion, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland. pictured below and will enhance the non-profits services for clients by boosting their collaborations and resources.

For more developments and information about the program, you can follow them on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn, or visit their website at summitlegal.org.

OPINION

Private Property and Law and Order

By Tom Flickinger

Life and Liberty are secure only so long as the right to property is secure. Current events across the country showing the destruction and looting of property is a direct threat to our individual freedom. We cannot as a society tolerate these actions regardless of anyone's grievances. The result of these actions of looting and the destruction of retail stores and small businesses is that they will cease to exist any longer. Why would I work hard to build a business only to have the people it serves loot it, and cause me harm? I will either shut it down or move it to a safer community. Four things happen when property rights are threatened, 1, it destroys the incentive of industrious people to risk their work and savings, 2. It deprives the individual the fruits of their labor, 3. Mobs will confiscate by force and violence the

good things of others, and 4. Man would only live hand-to-mouth as any accumulation of anything would be under attack.

Justice George Sutherland said in 1921, "To give a man his life but deny him his liberty is to take from him all that makes his life worth living. To give him his liberty but take from him the property, which is the fruit and badge of his liberty, is to still leave him a slave."

Abraham Lincoln once said, "... Let not him who is homeless pull down the hose of another but let him work diligently to build one for himself, thus by example assuring that his own shall be safe from violence."

And finally, John Adams states, "The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not a cared as the laws of God, and that there is not a force of law and public

justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence."

Why would any man become a member of a community where he could not enjoy the fruits of his labor? The protection of one's property is a primary object of the social compact. Government is to provide the means to protect our lives, our liberties, and our property. That means a structure of law and order under a just legal system to provide a venue where grievances are heard, and the law is justly administered. We have all this already in our constitution and through the many years of statutes and court decisions, we just need to abide by them.

In this charge of protecting our life, liberty and property, the government is failing. Citizens no longer feel

safe in their homes, car, or shopping. We cannot count on the police showing up to respond to our needs due to the massive "defund the police" efforts. The courts are letting dangerous felons out as soon as they commit a crime. The public then is forced to protect themselves and the result is that the legal system goes after the victim not the perpetrator. The world is upside down.

We the people must demand that our elected government officials do one of their most basic jobs, to protect us and our property. We need to swing the pendulum back and insist on strong law and order to return our society to one that is safe. We need additional money to hire, train and build a strong police force. We also must demand equal justice under the law. Regardless of our political leaning,

wealth, or status we must have a fair and just legal system that cannot be bought or persuaded to turn a blind eye. It seems that if I have enough wealth or status or belong to the correct political party, I can get away with just about anything.

We need to return to a society that trusts in God, family, and freedom. Only with a basis of God's truth can we return to a strong respectful and loving society. This is what I believe with all my heart and soul. Join me in seeking God's truth and let us build a land of hope and opportunity for our sons and daughters.

Romans 1:21-22 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools...

Harrisburg Update

By Robert Johnson

"The Government Relations Advocate"

In early August, the PA State Senate returned to Harrisburg to sign the 2022-23 Commonwealth Budget. Due to the lack of necessary votes in the State House for a \$100 million dollar school choice program supporting children living under the poverty level, Governor Shapiro and Senate Republicans agreed to continue negotiating an estimated \$1.1 billion in funding programs proposed in the budget. Important dollars are now flowing to school districts, counties, and other vital state programs.



Pitt/PA Dept of Health Study Fails to Connect Rare Cancer to Natural Gas Drilling

A Public Meeting was held August 15th at Pennsylvania Western University in California, PA to review a recently completed state study related to natural gas development and a rare cancer, Ewing's Sarcoma.

The most important part of the study findings is:

There is no correlation between unconventional natural gas development and Ewing's Sarcoma. Ewing's sarcoma is a rare type of cancer that occurs in bones or in the soft tissue around bones. It is more common among children but can occur at any age.

This study was requested by former Governor Tom Wolf two years ago and completed by researchers at the University of Pittsburgh Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of health. State taxpayers paid for this study which began in 2021.

Study results indicated no connection between unconventional natural gas development and childhood leukemia, brain, and bone cancers. While this study did indicate higher lymphoma and asthma correlations related to natural gas development, energy supporters state the limitations of the study and lack of consideration for other critical causation factors raise doubt on these findings.

Supreme Court Decision Seemingly Rejects Part of Constitution

By Dave Ball

A U.S. Supreme Court ruling on June 27th reminded us of several very important things as we prepare to go to the polls in November.

SCOTUS ruled on a North Carolina case regarding the power of State Legislatures to set the rules of federal elections. The ruling involved what has come to be known as "independent State Legislature" theory.

The United States Constitution says, "The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Place of choosing (sic) Senators." – U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 4.

This seems fairly clear to many of us.

The U.S. Supreme Court, by a 6-3 vote, appears to have declined to support that theory, rejecting a bid to give state legislatures broad powers to draw congressional maps and regulate federal elections.

The majority opinion, written by Chief Justice John Roberts allows state courts to retain the ability to hear partisan



gerrymandering lawsuits in congressional redistricting and to review other federal election rules established by state legislatures.

For us, in Pennsylvania, this is tantamount to handing many vital decisions to the Democrats because of our hyper partisan State Supreme Court.

The recent decision ruled that state legislatures do not have absolute power in setting rules for federal elections and are not immune to being over-ruled by state courts.

The decision found that the state courts still must act within "ordinary bounds" when reviewing laws governing federal elections. This leaves some opening to limited challenges. If those challenges are lost in state courts, they might be appealed to federal courts. This certainly leaves open the

possibility of election law challenges during the 2024 election.

Following this ruling, there are other cases in process where state courts have ordered the redrawing of congressional district maps. There are other situations where newly liberal state supreme courts have been elected and Democrats are expected to appeal existing maps hoping to reverse what they will claim is Republican gerrymandering (to become Democratic gerrymandering?)

In this year's election, we have an open position on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The court was 5 – 2 Democrat prior to the passing of Democrat Chief Justice Max Baer. By electing Republican Carolyn Carluccio we could have a 4 – 3 court meaning it would only take one swing vote to possibly change the direction of a vital decision.

It is critically important that Republicans and Unaffiliated voters vote this November and vote for Carolyn Carluccio and the other Republican state court candidates. We must stop the avalanche of liberal decisions and legislating from the bench we are currently experiencing.

<p>HOURS</p> <p>Mon. 3:00-9:00 Tues. 11:00-9:00 Wed. 11:00-9:00 Thurs. 11:00-9:00 Fri. 11:00-9:30 Sat. 11:00-9:30 Sun. 2:00-9:00</p>	<p>ADDRESS</p> <p>12 West Pike Street Houston, PA 15342</p> <p>724-916-2211</p>	<p>Save \$10.00 on any order over \$30</p>
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Old Fashioned, Square Pizza.

SPORTS

How to direct the golf balls path Hit a fade and a draw – Hit it high or low

By John Popeck – Golf Professional



Golf professional John Popeck is an area teaching and playing professional who will be a regular contributor to The Weekly Recorder, providing tips, advice, and golf stories. On top of his busy tournament schedule, John currently provides instruction at Washington Country Club and Pomykala's Driving Range in Washington.

Hitting fades and draws in golf can be useful in different situations. Throughout my teaching career, I have not met someone who hits the ball perfectly straight every time. Most people either hit a natural fade or a natural draw. The problem that occurs in most amateurs I see is trying to get the golf ball to go the opposite way of what their natural swing wants to do. To simplify moving the golf ball each way, I am going to give you a couple of tips to make it happen

without changing the entirety of your golf swing.

When training a golfer how to shape a ball one way or the other, I try to make it as easy and natural as possible. People tend to try to manipulate the golf ball into moving it one way or the other. Instead of manipulating, let us try something a little easier and more efficient in getting the golf ball to move. These tips are for a right-handed golfer. If left-handed, do the opposite of right.

To hit the ball right to left, which is a draw, aim a couple yards right of your target. After you aim a little right, close your stance a little and turn your clubhead slightly closed at address. From there, make your same golf swing. I like to see my clients keep the club moving low through impact to make the golf ball draw.

To move the golf ball left to right, which is a fade, let's do the opposite of how we would hit a draw. Aim a couple yards left of your target, keep a little open stance with a little open club face, and make

your same swing. As stated with the draw, I tell my clients to keep the club face moving high through impact to create the fade.

To hit high and low shots right to left is another shot needed. As stated above, the golfer is going to do the same technique to make the golf ball move into a draw or fade. The biggest difference in the shot is where we position the ball in our stance. If the golfer is trying to hit the ball lower, I tell them to play the ball a little back of center to deloft the club. If the golfer wants to make the ball go higher, I would like to see the ball positioned more towards the front of their stance to create the club to proceed high through impact, creating that higher ball flight. Following these steps should simplify and make it easier to hit the golf shot rather than thinking about a million thoughts on how to make the shot happen.

I hope these tips will help better your ability to move the golf ball both ways without changing the entirety of your golf swing.

Pony Results



By W.R. Smith

Washington County Host Team Reaches finals of the PONY World Series

The 2023 edition of PONY League World Series did not disappoint as once again, 10 talented teams from across the globe converged on Washington Parks Lew Hayes PONY field and battled to earn the title of World Champion.

Edogawa Japan was the eventual winner of the series besting host team Washington in the finals by a score of 8-2.

The host team's run was special as this is the first time since 1985 that a Washington team reached the finals. They played in the championship game in 1982 as well. Washington's only series championship came in 1955.

Let's review Washington's series.

Game 1

In their first game of the series, Washington defeated Paderborn Germany by a score of 2-1.

The host team pulled out a narrow victory in large part thanks to the defensive play of outfielders Ayvari Chandler and Grady Kloosterman who made run saving catches early in the game.

Ryan Huey went 2-4 with a double for the winning team while Troy Stimpson was 2-2 at the plate and Brayden Radue doubled. The winning pitcher was Radue.

Game 2

Washington won its second game of the series 7-5 over Monterrey, Mexico.

Washington got on the board early after a Brayden Radue singled, scoring Ryan Huey to make it 1-0. A wild pitch scored Gavin Dantry to end the inning with Washington up 2-0.

The host team executed a perfect double steal that scored Alex Eslep to put them up 3-0 then Troy Stimpson smacked a 2 rbi, inside-the-park home putting them on top 5-0.

Mexico got their bats working in the bottom of the fourth when Enrique Hinojosa Jr. hit a single. Monterrey then loaded the bases opening the door for Fernando Quiroga to knock in 4 runs when he hit a grand slam. The inning ended with Washington holding onto a 5-4 lead.

In the top of the fifth, Washington scored two more runs when Asher Donley hit a sac fly and Stimpson singled in a run. The lead was now 7-4.

Monterrey added one more run in the bottom of the fifth when Luis Guajardo hit a solo home run to make it 7-5, but Washington escaped the final inning holding onto the 2-run win.

Radue was the winning pitcher for Washington, going the distance and striking out eight. Huey went 3-for-4 for the winning team while scoring three runs and stealing three bases. Stimpson was responsible for three RBI.

Game 3

Washington drew its first loss of the tourney losing to Monterrey, Mexico, 4-2.

Mexico jumped on the board first when Enrique Hinojosa single in a run then Fernando Quiroga doubled in two runs. Another double by Roberto Saucedo Jr. made the score 3-0 Mexico.

Brayden Radue hit a two-run single in the top of the sixth for Washington, but it was not enough as

Monterrey added an insurance run in the bottom of the inning when Miguel Alejandro III singled to score Saucedo Jr. and make it 4-2.

Luis Guajardo was the winning putcher for Mexico, pitching six innings and allowing two runs on three hits with 12 strikeouts. Maximum pitch capacity ended Guajardo's game but Quiroga came on in relief to earn the save.

Radue led Washington at the plate going 2 for 3 with two singles.

Wild Things Update

The end of the 2023 Frontier League and Washington Wild Things season is near. As Washington prepares to close another chapter of its history, it may be without a playoff run for the first time since 2019.

Sitting 7.5 games back of third-place Evansville with 12 games to go, it'll take a monumental collapse from the Otters for Washington to get in, so it's likely the Wild Things, on the field, will be riding out the season and then will be working an entire offseason to reload for a better run in 2024.

Washington will play six games on the road between Schaumburg and Lake Erie from Tuesday, August 22 through Sunday, August 27. Then the Wild Things return home and play six in their final homestand of the season, which will feature plenty of promotions and fun at Wild Things Park.

Tuesday, August 29 is Strike Out Hunger benefitting the Washington County Food Bank with first pitch scheduled for 7:05 p.m.

The Joliet Slammers and Wild Things series continues Wednesday with a Senior Slugger Program Wednesday presented by AARP Pennsylvania. Fans 50 and older that are registered for the senior program at washingtonwildthings.com receive a free ticket to the game and can enjoy \$1 hot dogs thanks to Berk's Foods. First pitch is slated for 6:05 p.m.

Thursday is the final Thirsty Thursday of the season presented by the Molson Coors Beverage Company. It's also Single & Mingle Night.

Friday, September 1 is the final fireworks Friday of the season and the first of three with the Windy City ThunderBolts.

Saturday is Faith and Family Night presented by FORTIFY Private Wealth Management and the first 1,000 fans will receive a coffee mug presented by FORTIFY as well.

It's Halloween Night Sunday, September 3 for the final game of the year at 5:35 p.m. On a Kids Eat Free Sunday, kids 12 and under get in and eat for free. The Steel City Ghostbusters will be around on the night they present.

On the field and around, Washington is also set to find out if it will receive any Frontier League postseason awards, which will be announced during the final week of the season.

The Wild Things had a former player inducted into the Frontier League Hall of Fame August 5 as well when former Wild Thing slugger CJ Beatty was inducted in a pre-game ceremony.

For tickets and more promotions info for the remainder of the 2023 season, visit washingtonwildthings.com or call 724-250-9555.

Game 4

Washington and Mexico met up for a third time with the winner moving onto the series final. The host team was impressive with a strong win, 9-5 and advancing to the championship.

Brayden Radue doubled in the first scoring Troy Stimpson to put Washington up 1-0.

Radue bolstered the momentum in the third inning when he hit a two-RBI longball extending Washington's lead to 3-0.

Gavin Dantry added to the hit parade in in the top of the fourth with a homerun of his own, moving Washington further ahead. 4-0. Dantry then added an RBI sacrifice fly in the next inning to make it a 5-0 ballgame. Washington scored on a wild pitch making the score 6-0.

Ryan Huey and Troy Stimpson singled and Radue doubled in the fifth to give Washington their final three runs.

Monterrey scored two runs in the sixth and three more in the seventh on a Roberto Saucedo Jr. home run, but the late inning heroics fell short for Mexico as Washington held on to earn their birth in the finals by a score of 9-5.

Huey got the win, striking out seven for Washington in 6.2 innings and Radue went 3 for 3 with two doubles and a home run and four RBI. Fernando Quiroga led at the plate for Mexico going 3 for 4.

Championship Game

Edogawa, Japan, defeated Washington by a score of 8-2.

Edogawa went on top 1-0 when Kaisei Fukuchi singled bringing home Kaito Saita. Washington answered in the bottom half of the inning when a Troy Stimpson double scored Ryan Huey tying the game at 1-1 after one.

In the fourth Japan scored on a Haruto Kawasaki single that brought home Yugo Inoue putting them up 2-1.

Errors hurt Washington badly in the top of the seventh where Japan scored six runs. The first two runs scored on a hit-by-pitch and a walk. The next four were scored on a Kodai Minematsu single, and Washington errors.

Washington closed out the scoring with one run on a walked batter after loading the bases, but Japan escaped the inning finishing with an 8-2 victory.

Japan totaled nine hits against Washington's five of which Brayden Radue and Ayvari Chandler had two each.

Inoue earned the win allowing just one run on four hits and striking out nine in 5 and 1/3 innings. Shota Takeshita completed the final two-thirds. Eslep pitched five full innings for Washington giving up two runs on seven hits.

Football Preview

High School-Washington

By W.R. Smith

Washington County is home to 15 high schools. County football teams compete in WPIAL district 7 and encompass teams competing in class A, all the way up to class 6 A. The 2023 season kicks off for week 0 on Friday August 25th.

Class 1A Black Hills Conference

County Teams competing at the Class 1A Black Hill Conference are Avella, Burgettstown, Chartiers-Houston, and Fort Cherry. Other teams are Bishop-Canevin, Carlynton, Cornell, and Our Lady of The Sacred Heart.

Avella looks to rebound from a 1-9 season from a year ago with its only win coming against Carlynton. Historically low roster numbers have plagued the Eagles and with 18 players this year many on the team will be pulling double duty on both sides of the ball. Head Coach Ryan Cecchini will look to upperclassmen to lead the way. Top performers from the 2022 campaign are seniors, quarterback/linebacker Cole Jaworowski, and wide receiver/linebacker Isaiah Bradick.

Burgettstown enjoyed a 6-4 record a season ago which included a 5-2 conference record where the team qualified for the first round of the playoffs. Head Coach Mark Druga returns to the team after two years away. He previously held the position from 2015 to 2020.

Chartiers Houston battled to a 5-5 record the previous year and will look to improve on that this fall. Under the direction of Head Coach Terry Fetsko, the Buccaneers lost 4 first team all conference players to graduation. Including the productive quarterback/receiver tandem of Terry Fetsko and Jake Mele. Also gone are first team selections lineman Cole Pawich, who will be suiting up at W&J along with Mele, and linebacker Jesse Orbin who is playing at Waynesburg.

The Buccaneers will return 14 letterman who will provide experience at multiple positions. Senior Jack Lochran and Sophomore Aaron Walsh have been competing in camp at the quarterback position. One expected bright



McGuffey Seniors

spot for the team will be the line. Senior tackle Trevor Popeck (6'0, 265) will lead the line which also includes senior guards Jack Heiser (6'0, 235) and Joey Shuba (6'1, 215). Junior tackle Ryder Strawn 5'10, 200, and junior center Paul Williamson (6'2, 230) will also provide protection for the Buccaneer backfield.

Sophomore running back Zeke Watkins, who suffered a season ending injury in game 2 of the 2022 season, is expected to provide a hard-hitting running game after positive outings in the two games he played in last year. Watkins will double on defense in the linebacker position.

Fort Cherry had a strong campaign in 2022 finishing the season at 9-4 with a 5-2 conference record. The Rangers, who hadn't won a playoff game since 2016, found playoff success in 2022 defeating Monessen in a 56-42 shootout where then freshman Ranger quarterback Matt Sieg rushed for 255 yards on 26 carries while passing for 139 yards, combined for a total of six touchdowns. The Rangers, who lost in the quarterfinals to Rochester by a score of 30-14 and look to make a deeper playoff run this year.

Head Coach Tanner Garry will look to sophomore Sieg to lead his team again this year. Last year Sieg became the first freshman in WPIAL history to pass and run for over 1,000 yards in the same year. At the wide receiver position junior receivers Shane Cornalli and Braydon Cook are expected to provide Sieg

with competent targets in the 2023 season., while at running back senior Ethan Faletto and junior Nathan Heirendt should provide sparks out of the Ranger backfield.

Class 1A Tri-County South Conference

County Teams competing at the Class 1A Black Hill Conference are Bentworth, Beth-Center and California. Other teams competing are Carmichaels, Jefferson Morgan, Mapletown, Monessen and West Greene.

Bentworth is looking to improve on a 2-8 record while going 0-7 in conference last year. The Bearcats will be under the direction of new head coach and 1983 Bentworth Alum David Pordash. Experience should prove to help The Bearcats as they return multiple starters from last year.

Quarterback Vitali Daniels will have competent targets downfield including junior Lucas Burt and Sophomore Ben Hays. Also looking to contribute at wide receiver are sophomore Chris Harper, junior Anthony Washington and freshman Alex Leichty and Kayden Ayres. Ben Luhetich is expected to provide a hard-nosed running attack from the Bearcat backfield, while Daniels will provide another rushing threat from his QB position.

Beth Center ended the 2022 season at 3-7 overall and 2-5 in section play. The Bulldogs, who play under the direction of head coach Tony Ruscio to will be looking to improve upon

last year's mark with the help of senior running back Ethan Vareko. The team has depth at running back as sophomore Teagan Veatch, and freshman Homer Headlee, Jetadiah Ehert are expected to see action.

The line should be a strong point for the Bulldog's this season with senior Johnathan Esmond (6'0 270) leading the way on both sides of the ball at tackle. Other players to watch are Jayce Hundertmark (5'7 180) at guard and middle line backer and, Chris Erickson (5'10 180) at guard and defensive end.

California had a strong 2022 season finishing the year at 8-3 with a 5-2 conference record. The Trojan's made it to the first round of the playoff's last year but were stopped by South Side Beaver in round one, losing 34-3, ending their season.

The Trojans look to be anchored by experience and size on the line this year with senior Dylan Henry (6'1 285) at center and senior Aiden Jobes (6'3 338) at tackle. Rounding out the line are juniors Darius Johnson (6'0 261), Griffin Parker (6'2 228), Elijah Keene (5'7 211) Matt Miller (6'4 305), and Ethan Hall (5'8 190).

Benefiting from the protection of a strong line, senior quarterback Jake Layhue is expected to turn in another strong year after throwing for over 1,200 yards in 2022. And a balanced offense should be expected as Layhue proved to be fleetfooted last year rushing for 943 yards and 13 touchdowns. Senior halfback Spencer

Petrucci, who gained 788 yards last year on 14 touchdowns, also looks to have another productive campaign. Ed Woods is the head coach for California.

Class 2A Century Conference

Three Washington County Teams play in the tough Class 2A Century Conference including the Charleroi Cougars, McGuffey Highlanders and the Washington Little Prexies. Also in the conference are Brentwood, Keystone Oaks, Sto-Rox and Waynesburg

Charleroi finished last season with a 2-7 overall record while going 1-5 in the conference. Ty Aeschbacher is entering his first year as the Cougars head coach and will enter the season with a young team with only six seniors.

Sophomore quarterback Jackson Keranko has a full season under his belt and will lead the offense again this year. Senior Gianni Pellegrini will line up in the backfield with Bobby DiPiazza and Conner Lucock seeing action as well.

McGuffey head coach Ed Dalton is looking to lead his Highlanders to a 12th consecutive winning season while extending his playoff streak to 5 years. McGuffey had an 8-4 overall record in 2022, going 4-2 in conference play. The team is heavy with upper classmen with over 30 players residing in the senior and junior classes. 7 of them were selected as all conference players.

Returning starters on offense include guards Evan Brookman and Josh Plants (Plants is the punter as well), tackle Reno Presto, split end Ryan Keith, running back Charles Wagers, and fullback Dylan Droboj.

The defense is also returning multiple starters with Nick Madosky at nose tackle, tackles Presto and Brookman, junior linebacker Aiden O'Dell, defensive back Crowe, linebacker Brennan Mullins, defensive backs Nate Romestan, and Wagers.

Senior Conner Crowe is looking to make a name for himself in his first year at starting quarterback and will have multiple hand off options in the backfield including, junior Malachi Ealy, senior Romestan, and senior



Chartiers Houston running back Zeke Watkins looks to contribute after missing most of 2022 with an injury.

Football Preview

High School-Washington

By W.R. Smith

Droboj. Look for multiple options on the Highlander receiving corps as well with Logan Carlise, who had off season surgery and should return to the roster early in the season, junior Lincoln Johnson, Mullins who is a senior and Ryan Keith.

Washington finished last season with a 7-5 record while going 3-3 in conference play. Head Coach Mike Bosnic is hoping to improve on last year's record as the team has 23 letter winners returning this fall. The Little Prexies will be sporting outstanding size on the line this year with Senior tackle De'Ondre Daugherty (6'6 255), junior tackle Kar'zel Daugherty (6'3 240), junior center Alexander Green (5'11 180), senior guard Tyler Roberts (6'2 212), sophomore tackle Jayden Nemeth (6'5 220) and sophomore guard Joe Wilson (6'3 250). Sophomores Caleb Patton and Tristen Reed will share snaps at quarterback and have a talented mix of receivers to choose from.

Senior receiver Ruben Gordon returns this year after a stellar junior season and looks to be the primary target. But depth at receiver should be a Prexie strength with senior Zxavien Willis returning from a solid year as well. Seniors wideouts Travis Crutcher and Elijah Thomas look to make an impact as well along with Sophomore Tyler Crawford.

The Washington Backfield looks to be led by running back Eddie Lewis who ran for almost 900 yards last year and scored 12 touchdowns.

Class 4A Big Seven Conference

The Ringold Rams and the Trinity Hillers are



Fort Cherry quarterback Matt Sieg was the first freshman in WPIAL history to pass and rush for over 1000 yards

the only county teams competing in the conference. The Rams will face off against Connelsville, Greater Latrobe, Laurel Highlands, McKeesport, and Thomas Jefferson.

Ringold is led by head coach Marcus McCullogh and owned a record of 0-10 and 0-6 in 2022. The Rams look to be in a rebuilding year having lost 13 players to graduation from last year's team and will look to all conference players senior Zach Cheplic, junior Daryl Tolliver, and junior Adyen Whaley. Tolliver will line up at tackle on offense and linebacker on defense as will Cheplic while Whaley returns as punter.

Returning letterman senior Xavier Crenshaw and sophomore Gordon Altemre will anchor the line with Cheplic.

Senior Jamar Bethea will take handoffs in the backfield as will senior Zach Winberg and junior

Austin Pehowic.

Trinity hopes to return to playoff form after going 3-6 overall last year with a 2-4 conference record.

The Hillers will be led by sophomore quarterback Jonah Williamson. As a freshman Williamson threw for almost 700 yards including 6 touchdown passes. Seniors Dante DeRubbo, and Luke Lacock look to be two of the Hiller's top receivers this years, while junior running back Andrew Durig, who missed half of the season last year with an injury, is expected to make an impact from the backfield.

The Hillers, led by head coach Dan Knause, should have a strong corps of lineman this year with

Seniors Jace Banco, Aiden Davis, Braeden Helmkamp, and Jimmy Lafferty and junior Semaj Fuse who will see action on both sides of the ball.

Class 5A Allegheny Six Conference

Peters Township is the only county school competing in the Class 5A Allegheny Six Conference. Other teams are Baldwin, Bether Park, Moon, South Fayette, and Upper St. Clair.

The Indians are coming off a 6-4 overall record from last year including a 3-2 conference record. TJ Plack is the head coach. 9 starters are returning on offense this year along with 10 on defense, giving PT a strong chance at improving on their record from a year ago.

Senior quarterback Chris Cibrone and sophomore Nolan DiLucia both have the potential to see snaps this year and will have several experienced potential targets. Returning at wide receiver are Carter Shanafelt, Ethan Wertman, Thomas Aspinall, and Reston Lehman, who combined for 16 touchdown catches last year. Junior

Nick Courie will be looking to get the bulk of the team's carries, but PT has depth in the backfield with several players expected to get touches.

The Indians will be led on defense by junior linebacker Mickey Vaccarello who has multiple division one offers at hand. Lehman will compliment Vaccarello at linebacker as well.

Class 6A Tri-County Five Conference

Canon McMillan is the only county team competing at the 6A level. Conference foes are Mount Lebanon, North Allegheny, Pittsburgh Central Catholic and Seneca Valley.

The Big Macs finished 2022 with a 5-6 overall record and 1-3 in a very tough conference. The team has competed in the playoffs the last two years and hopes to advance further than the first round this year.

Senior quarterback Mike Evans, son of the head coach by the same name, has combined for over 3000 passing yards the past two years while tossing 31 touchdowns. Evans will look to several main targets at wide receiver and running back to further propel the Big Macs. Senior wr/rb Zyan Howard, sophomore wr/rb Marco Faieta, junior wide receiver Bradyn Matto, along with senior running back Zach Welsh.

Canon-McMillan brings significant talent to the line in senior de/te Kaeden Singleton, who is a University of Delaware recruit, as well as senior tackle Liam Reamer, junior center and defensive lineman Matt McMahon, and senior Mason Williams.

WJPA Broadcast schedule

WJPA broadcast schedule for the first six weeks of the upcoming high school football season.

1450 AM 95.3 FM
online at wjpa.com/sports

Friday, Aug. 25

AM Wash High at Monessen
FM McGuffey at Southmoreland

Friday, Sept. 1

AM Beth-Center at Burgettstown
FM Bentworth at Avella

Friday, Sept. 8

AM Seneca Valley at Canon-McMillan
FM Peters Township at Trinity

Friday, Sept. 15

AM Ft. Cherry at Chartiers-Houston
FM McGuffey at Brentwood

Friday, Sept. 22

AM Brentwood at Wash High
FM Upper St. Clair at Peters Township

Friday, Sept. 29

AM Wash High at Waynesburg
FM Trinity at Latrobe

Saturday, Sept. 30

FM Ft. Cherry at Bishop Canevin

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Good Luck Trinity Hillers!

Super Fans

Chartiers Houston's Zac Coss and Mikey Lento

By W.R. Smith

Fall is a special time in southwestern Pennsylvania. A chill sneaks into the air as winter reminds us that summer has retired. School age children and teachers return to class after a much-needed rest from the previous school year. And Friday night stadium lights power on across the region, welcoming another year of high school football.

Football teams have grinded through off season workouts, heat acclimation, double practices and memorized their playbooks. The bands and color guards have rehearsed through the summer in anticipation of providing halftime entertainment and supporting their boys of fall with musical motivation.

Cheerleaders have refined their routines and cheers in preparation for their contribution to their team and the magic of the season. Boosters have printed the programs, stocked the concession stands and raised funds to help curtail the costs associated with financially supporting the young athletes and artists who bring sport and entertainment to the community.

And fans crowd the stadiums in anxious anticipation of a successful year for all.

Everybody is ready.

And through it all, the football teams, cheerleaders, band members, boosters, and fans, perhaps nobody looks forward to kick-off more than two very special fans at Chartiers Houston (CH) high school.

Zac Coss and Michael (Mikey) Lento are CH grads, team managers for the Buccaneer football team, and Chartiers Houston Super Fans!

Zac, who is now 29, has been with the team for 12 years, while Mikey (24) has been around the team since 2008, when his oldest brother Tommy began participating in CH football. Mikey has served in the official team manager capacity for 4 years. But he's quick to mention that since his brother Tommy started and his other brother Anthony followed, Mikey has been to every game and nearly every practice throughout the years.

Both Zac and Mikey were introduced to the football program by Chartiers Houston Life Skills Teacher and former football coach, Dave Rullo.

The Life Skills Program at Chartiers Houston is a blessing to the students and parents it serves and the district in general.

The goal for all Life Skill students is to become independent and successful in life after graduating high school. Everything is based off individual strengths and weaknesses. The curriculum for each student is based off their needs and abilities and is designed with real life activities that will help each student function after leaving school.



Zac Coss and Mikey Lento - CH Super Fans

"I have been teaching the Life Skills classroom for 17 years and coached football for 13 years," Rullo said. This is how I got to meet both Mikey and Zac, and I got to know them so well."

Rullo told the story of how both Super Fans got their starts with the team.

"Zac was the first of the two to get involved with the football team. Because I was his teacher and a football coach at the time, I had heard that Zac really liked football. I talked to coach Fetsko to see if it was possible for Zac to be a student trainer for the team. Coach was all for it, so Zac became a student assistant with trainer Matt Dady. Zac is involved in all aspects of the team and participates in all team functions. The teams have treated him great from the beginning and he was immediately accepted."

Rullo Continued, "I met Mikey before he came to the high school. He was always at the football field for events. I saw how involved he was with the youth program and knew he would want to do the same thing as Zac, so as soon as he came to the high school, he immediately got involved. It also helped that his brother Tommy was a player at the time."

Coach Terry Fetsko, who is also an educator at CH, has played an integral part of having these young man become a part of the team; from giving them their start when Rullo suggested their participation, to including them in virtually every team activity. Fetsko is not only the coach, but a role model to the pair. He embraced them from the beginning and still watches over them in all that they do.

"They are with us every step of the way," Fetsko Said. "They attend practices, in the summer conditioning, heat week, double sessions and games, Thursday night team, spaghetti, dinners, and just about any function that the team participates in."

"They are well respected by all the players, and coaches. They are so well liked and such a part of the team. If, for some reason, one of them would not be able to make it to practice, players will notice and

will ask where they are because they would be missed. The players really take care of them and look out for them."

Rullo explained that both young men are of significant importance to the football team, and school in general.

"Zac and Mikey are now permanent members of the football program,"



First Row - Zac Coss, Jack Heiser, Keegan Kosek, Isaac Jenkins, Addison Hancq, Mikey Lento
Second Row - Jack Lochran, Trevor Popeck, Anthony Romano, Joey Shuba, Landen Oliverio

Rullo said. "They have been accepted by everyone and continue to be involved with everything that goes on with the team. They are not just football fans. They are true Chartiers Houston fans, of all sports. They attend and cheer for each and every Buccaneer team. As everyone knows, they are constant fans for each team and are at all the games. Football, basketball, baseball, soccer, softball, wrestling, volleyball, you name it, they are there, cheering and yelling! There's not a bigger and more dedicated fan than either of these two CH alum."

As a testament to Zac and Mikey's involvement with everything athletic at the school, both have been honored with numerous awards, citations, and recognition of their undying support for anything Chartiers Houston.

Coach Rullo reminisced about some of his favorite memories with these two young men.

"With Mikey, my greatest memory is simply his ability to put a smile on your face. Sometimes, without even saying a word, he can make you smile,"

"There are so many memories for each of them," Rullo recalled. "But I always think back to the Friday night games. Zac really gets into the games. I don't know how many times we were warned by the officials about one of the water boys yelling at them; this was Zac. He would always come up to me after the game and apologize for yelling at the refs! I would tell him it's ok, and we would all laugh about it for the next few weeks!"

Coach Fetsko explained Zac's passion for the game in a similar fashion. "I remember in 2021 we played a very big game against McGuffey and Zach was yelling at an official over a call and the official told me he needs to be quiet or he's going to throw a flag on him, so I had to calm Zach down at that time. And that wasn't the first time that has happened. (Fetsko chuckled) But I can't get mad at him because I know this team means so much to him. And he means so much to the team,"

When speaking of a favorite memory with Mikey, Fetsko explained,

Zac
Football, Baseball, Hockey and basically all sports

Who are your favorite professional and college teams?

Mikey
The Pittsburgh Steelers and the West Virginia Mountaineers

Zac
The Ohio State Buckeyes, Notre Dame, and the Pittsburgh Steelers

How Many Sports Jerseys do you own?

Mikey
40

Zac
40

Who are your favorite all time CH football players?

Mikey
His brothers Tommy and Anthony Lento

Zac
Alec Ferrari, Nate Cavallo, Lane Camden, and Jake Mele

What is your favorite memory from your time with CH football?

Mikey
"The Mikey Game" "I had just been discharged from the hospital. As soon as we got there, my mom literally tossed me over the fence to the sidelines where my brother Tommy and his friends were waiting for me."

Zac
"The win against the Monessen Greyhounds in 2019 where we won 21-19 and came from behind to clinch home field for the playoffs. And in 2021 when we got a win 27-24 win and coach Fetsko got his 100th win."

In conclusion, with high school football season upon us, and if you find yourself at a CH game, make sure to keep an eye out for Zac and Mikey on the sidelines, supporting their teams, doing their jobs, and loving every minute of it. CH Super Fans for certain. Every team and school district should have a "Zac and Mikey," They just make things better.

Some Fun Facts about Mikey and Zac

What college or professional sports do you follow?

Mikey
All sports

Western Pennsylvania Youth Football League

Washington County based youth football league Kicks off 10th anniversary

By W.R. Smith

The Western Pennsylvania Youth Football League (WPYFL) is the largest youth football league in the state of Pennsylvania. And it all started in Washington and continues to grow and flourish right here at the head of the county seat.

The roots of the WPYFL date back to 1956 when Art Sandusky founded the Brownson House Football League in Washington. This would become the first organized youth football league in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Over the years, the Brownson House has seen many former players go onto distinguished college and professional football careers which included former players that participated in the Super Bowl. Since 2000, the WPYFL has produced 27 players from Washington County alone, who have moved on to NCAA FBS Division I or FCS Division I-AA schools.

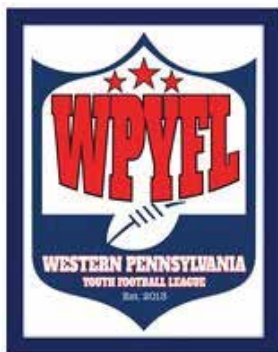
In 2001 the Brownson House Football league merged with the Trinity Recreational League to form the Recreational Football League. Under the guidance of Carl Trusler, the Recreational League flourished for the next 11 seasons. At the conclusion of the 2012 season, Trusler retired as the director of the league. The Washington/Greene Youth Football League recognized Trusler's more than 40 years of volunteer service to the community by naming the Class A Division I Championship Trophy in his honor.

In 2013 Bill Spencer, a Washington high school graduate and multi-sport star, was chosen to lead the newly named Washington/Greene Youth Football League (WGYFL) into the future. Spencer serves as the league's commissioner.

Spencer is employed as CCU/PACU RN at the Washington Hospital and his wife is Amy, who is a Senior Clinical Specialist with Abbott/St. Jude, reside in the Trinity school district where they raised three children Jacob, Jonah, and Maddie.

In 2019 the WGYFL was chosen as one of only six youth football leagues in the United States to be part of the pilot USA Football's Development Program.

On March 12, WGYFL changed its name to WPYFL to be representative of its membership.



2020, the name to the more of its

In 2022 under leadership the WPYFL grew to be the largest youth football league in Pennsylvania with 44 member organizations covering 3,061 square miles in 7 Western Pennsylvania counties. This season there are 850 football coaches, 550 cheer coaches and 400 team moms and volunteers, along with close to 4000 football players and 4000 cheerleaders registered with the league. Spencer directs them all, but is quick to point out that he doesn't do it alone.

"We have a 10-member executive board that helps make decisions that guide the league," Spencer said. "We are fortunate to have 100 years of football knowledge on the board. We even have a current high school athletic director on the board - Brian Pritts at Southmoreland."

Spencer continued, "The importance of volunteers is paramount to running a successful league. Without the volunteers there would not be a league. Many organizations have turn over from year to year when their children move on. I have a core group of guys who have no children involved but continue to give back and coach: Jason Rice (Trinity), Pat Walsh (CH), Robert "Tree" Adkins and Tom Kelley at Washington, Bob Roche, and Bill Hiller (Rostraver) and Jon Pons (Norwin)."

It should be noted as well that Spencer continues in his leadership role despite not having children in the league. For him, it is a labor of love for the community, the kids, and the game itself. Spencer stated, "I think the driving force behind continuing to do this is just being able to give back to the communities in Western Pennsylvania that we cover by giving children the opportunity to learn, what I consider the greatest game, that teaches life lessons, in a safe and enjoyable manner. Some of my greatest joys come on Super Bowl weekends watching the excitement on everyone's faces."

The mission of the WPYFL is designed to be kid centric. This foundation ensures that every youngster who passes through the program is equipped with the best instruction, the safest environment, equal opportunity, an ethical and positive atmosphere, and a chance to gain a formidable understanding of the fundamentals of football.

To further outline the enormity of the league, The WPYFL currently consists 44 member organizations, 138 teams that represent 43 different school districts in seven Southwestern Pennsylvania counties covering 3,061 square miles.

Washington County teams participating are Avella, Bentworth, Beth Center, Brownsville, Burgettstown, California, Charleroi, Chartiers-Houston, Fort Cherry, McGuffey, Ringgold, Trinity, and Washington.

The WPYFL has three divisions of play with no maximum weight limit to play. There is a weight limit to be considered a skilled player on offense in each division. All divisions play tackle football on a regulation football field. The divisions are:

Division I - 5th and 6th grade (120 lb. maximum skill weight). Division II - 3rd and 4th grade (100 lb. maximum skill weight). Division III - Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade (75 lb. maximum skill weight).



FDM Pilot Group at the 2021 L - R: Jeff Gorringer (Ute Conference, Inc), Bill Spencer (Western Pennsylvania Youth Football League), Scott Hallenbeck (CEO and Executive Director, USA Football), Ray Turpin (Niagara Erie Youth Sports Association), Rich Raphael and Mike Pintado (Miami Extreme Youth Football League)

At the end of the season a playoff format is triggered which culminates in teams having the opportunity to play for and win their divisions Super Bowl Title.

The league also recognizes the importance of involving youth cheer in its program. Each school has cheer squads representing each division, opening the door for aspiring varsity cheerleaders to hone their skills alongside the football teams.

Safety

Since its inception, a major goal of the WPYFL has been committed to children by ensuring a safe environment and for all players to enjoy the game of football. The WPYFL has taken several steps towards this goal by having requirements in place for any volunteer who wishes to coach for a WPYFL organization.

All football coaches must complete the annual USA Football tackle certification course to be eligible to coach. All cheer coaches must complete concussion, heat wise and cardiac wise course to be eligible to coach.

In leading the cause for a safer game, the WPYFL became the first league in Western Pennsylvania to make it mandatory for any organization that wants to be affiliated with the WPYFL to become a USA Football Head's Up Football organization.

Endorsed by medical experts in the area of concussions as well as football experts on all levels of the game, Heads UP Football affords the WPYFL the following:

Football's only nationally certified coaching education course for all head and assistant coaches.

Concussion education and awareness for all coaches.

Safer blocking and tackling techniques to lessen the risk for head injuries.

League-wide instruction on proper equipment fitting, helmets in particular.

The latest information on heat and hydration related issues.



2022 Class A Div II WPYFL Champions-Beth Center

Every coach in the WPYFL is required to complete the annual USA Football Tackle Football Certification/Re-Certification course before being permitted on the field. There are no exceptions.

The certification not only covers the X's and O's of football but also covers concussions, heat awareness and sudden cardiac death - all major components of a safer, more prepared youth football organization. In addition to earning coaching certification, each WPYFL coach receives USA Football's online coaching tools to better teach your child. Some of these tools include a Coach Planner, Material on how to practice and other various resources providing guidance to coaches to maximize the player's education and experience.

New this year, after the Buffalo Bill's Damar Hamlin collapsed on the field in 2022, all WPYFL organizations are now required to have an AED on site for all practices and games and all head coaches, both football and cheer, must be CPR/AED certified.

Parents are also encouraged to be involved throughout the process to ensure their child/children are learning Head's Up Football skills and taking advantage of all the health and safety resources offered by USA Football by registering for a free Parent/Player membership at <http://www2.usafootball.com/register/player>

Jason Shaw, who is the Chartiers Houston Youth Football League President and head coach of the D III team, has been involved with the WPYFL for 7 years. Shaw has witnessed firsthand the meteoric rise of the league and believes it is the best option to nurture and teach young athletes. Shaw said, "We chose the WPYFL because the league has great structure and gives us an opportunity to help our young athletes grow in the sport of football. Because of the growth of the league, each CH team gets a full regular season of 8 games as well as playoffs and Super Bowl opportunities. And like the WPIAL, we play against schools of similar size and enrollment."

Shaw also cited Bill Spencer's leadership as a reason for Chartiers Houston's WPYFL affiliation and the success of the league in general. "Billy runs this league with the kids in mind first," Shaw stated. "Every decision that is made in this league is done to help the kids grow as athletes and in life. Billy has done an outstanding job and we are grateful for everything he does."

Youth football is the first step for youngsters embarking on dreams of playing in high school and beyond. And the WPYFL, with its roots embedded in Washington County, is one of the finest programs in the country. From cutting edge safety protocols to unsurpassed training for coaches and volunteers in the league, and continued work to always move forward for the sake of the kids, Bill Spencer has given the county something to be proud of.

For more information on the WPYFL, visit their website at wpyfl.org or check them out on Facebook at Western Pennsylvania Youth Football League.

2023 County Varsity Football Schedules



Avella Eagles
Head Coach: Ryan Cecchini
PIAA District 7 - Class 1A
WPIAL 1A Section 3
Returning Letterman
Returning Starters
2022 Record 0-9

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm vs. Mapletown
09-01 7:00 pm vs. Bentworth
09-08 7:00 pm @ Mapletown
09-15 7:00 pm @ Cornell
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Bishop Canevin -
09-29 7:00 pm @ Carlynton
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Fort Cherry
10-13 7:00 pm vs. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
-
10-20 7:00 pm @ Burgettstown



Bentworth Bearcats
Head Coach: David Pordash
PIAA District 7 - Class 1A
WPIAL 1A Section 2
Returning Letterman
Returning Starters
2022 Record 2-8

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm vs. Mapletown
09-01 7:00 pm vs. Bentworth
09-08 7:00 pm @ Mapletown
09-15 7:00 pm @ Cornell
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Bishop Canevin -
09-29 7:00 pm @ Carlynton
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Fort Cherry
10-13 7:00 pm vs. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
-
10-20 7:00 pm @ Burgettstown



Beth-Center Bulldogs
Head Coach: Tony Ruscitto
PIAA District 7 - Class 1A
WPIAL 1A Section 2
Returning Letterman
Returning Starters
2022 Record 3-7

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm vs. Riverview
09-01 7:00 pm @ Burgettstown
09-08 7:00 pm vs. Fort Cherry
09-15 7:00 pm @ Mapletown
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Jefferson-Morgan
09-29 7:00 pm @ Carmichaels
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Bentworth
10-13 7:00 pm vs. West Greene
10-20 7:00 pm @ California
10-27 7:00 pm vs. Monessen



Brownsville Falcons
Head Coach: Scott Roebuck
PIAA District 7 - Class 2A
Independent
Returning Letterman
Returning Starters
2022 Record 0-8

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm @ Bentworth
09-01 7:00 pm vs. Uniontown
09-08 7:00 pm @ Buckeye Local Ohio
09-15 7:00 pm vs. Shadyside Ohio
09-22 7:00 pm @ Carrick
10-13 7:00 pm @ Meyersdale
10-20 7:00 pm vs. Albert Gallatin
10-27 7:00 pm @ Uniontown



Burgettstown Blue Devils
Head Coach: Terry Havelka
PIAA District 7 - Class 1A
WPIAL 1A Section 3
Returning Letterman
Returning Starters
2022 Record 6-4

2023 Schedule
09-01 7:00 pm vs. Bethlehem-Center
09-08 7:00 pm @ South Side
09-16 7:00 pm @ Bishop Canevin
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Chartiers-Houston
09-29 7:00 pm @ Cornell
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
10-13 7:00 pm @ Carlynton
10-20 7:00 pm vs. Avella
10-27 7:00 pm @ Fort Cherry



California Trojans
Head Coach: Ed Wood
PIAA District 7 - Class 1A
WPIAL 1A Section 2
Returning Starters
Returning Letterman
2022 Record 8-3

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm vs. Frazier
09-01 7:00 pm vs. Charleroi
09-08 7:00 pm @ Waynesburg Central
09-15 7:00 pm @ Jefferson-Morgan
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Monessen
09-29 7:00 pm @ Mapletown
10-06 7:00 pm vs. West Greene
10-13 7:00 pm @ Carmichaels
10-20 7:00 pm vs. Bethlehem-Center
10-27 7:00 pm @ Bentworth



Canon-McMillan Big Macs
Head Coach: Mike Evans
PIAA District 7 - Class 6A
WPIAL 6A
Returning Starters
Returning Letterman
2022 Record 5-6

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm @ Penn-Trafford
09-01 7:30 pm @ North Allegheny
09-08 7:00 pm vs. Seneca Valley
09-15 7:00 pm @ Bethel Park
09-22 7:00 pm vs. South Fayette
09-29 7:00 pm @ Pittsburgh Central Catholic
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Baldwin
10-13 7:00 pm vs. Upper Saint Clair
10-20 7:00 pm @ Peters Township
10-27 7:00 pm vs. Mount Lebanon



Charleroi Cougars
Head Coach: Mark Gambino
PIAA District 7 - Class 2A
WPIAL 2A Section 3
Returning Starters
Returning Letterman
2022 Record 2-7

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm vs. Steel Valley
09-01 7:00 pm @ California
09-08 7:00 pm vs. Yough
09-15 7:00 pm @ Sto-Rox
09-22 7:00 pm @ Jeannette
09-29 7:00 pm vs. Keystone Oaks
10-06 7:00 pm @ McGuffey
10-13 7:00 pm vs. Washington
10-20 7:00 pm @ Brentwood
10-27 7:00 pm vs. Waynesburg Central



Chartiers-Houston Buccaneers
Head Coach: Terry Fetsko
PIAA District 7 - Class 1A
WPIAL 1A Section 3
Returning Starters
Returning Letterman
2022 Record 5-5

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm vs. Jefferson-Morgan
09-01 7:00 pm vs. West Greene
09-08 7:00 pm @ Carmichaels
09-15 7:00 pm vs. Fort Cherry
09-22 7:00 pm @ Burgettstown
09-30 7:00 pm @ Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Carlynton
10-14 7:00 pm @ Bishop Canevin
10-20 7:00 pm vs. Cornell
10-27 7:00 pm @ Avella



Fort Cherry Rangers
Head Coach: Tanner Garry
PIAA District 7 - Class 1A
WPIAL 1A Section 3
Returning Starters
Returning Letterman
2022 Record 9-4

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm @ Northgate
09-01 7:00 pm vs. Carmichaels
09-08 7:00 pm @ Bethlehem-Center
09-15 7:00 pm @ Chartiers-Houston
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
09-30 7:00 pm @ Bishop Canevin
10-06 7:00 pm @ Avella
10-13 7:00 pm vs. Cornell
10-20 7:00 pm @ Carlynton
10-27 7:00 pm vs. Burgettstown



McGuffey Highlanders
Head Coach: Ed Dalton
PIAA District 7 - Class 2A
WPIAL 2A Section 3
Returning Starters
Returning Letterman
2022 Record 8-4

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm @ Northgate
09-01 7:00 pm vs. Carmichaels
09-08 7:00 pm @ Bethlehem-Center
09-15 7:00 pm @ Chartiers-Houston
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
09-30 7:00 pm @ Bishop Canevin
10-06 7:00 pm @ Avella
10-13 7:00 pm vs. Cornell
10-20 7:00 pm @ Carlynton
10-27 7:00 pm vs. Burgettstown



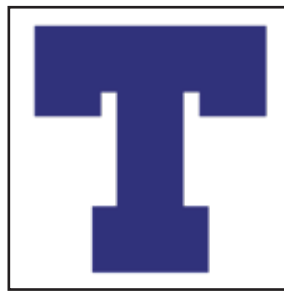
Peters Township Indians
Head Coach: TJ Plack
PIAA District 7 - Class 5A
WPIAL 5A Section 1
Returning Letterman
Returning Starters
2022 Record 6-4

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm vs. Fox Chapel
09-01 7:00 pm vs. Seneca Valley
09-08 7:00 pm @ Trinity
09-15 7:00 pm @ South Fayette
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Upper Saint Clair
09-29 7:00 pm @ Baldwin
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Moon
10-13 7:00 pm @ Mount Lebanon
10-20 7:00 pm vs. Canon-McMillan



Ringgold Rams
Head Coach: Marcus McCullough
PIAA District 7 - Class 4A
WPIAL 4A Section 3
Returning Starters
Returning Letterman
2022 Record 0-10

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm @ Elizabeth-Forward
09-01 7:00 pm vs. McGuffey
09-08 7:00 pm @ West Allegheny
09-15 7:00 pm @ West Mifflin
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Connellsville
09-29 7:00 pm @ McKeesport
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Greater Latrobe
10-13 7:00 pm @ Thomas Jefferson
10-20 7:00 pm vs. Laurel Highlands
10-27 7:00 pm @ Trinity



Trinity Hillers
Head Coach: Dan Knause
PIAA District 7 - Class 4A
WPIAL 4A Section 3
Returning Letterman
Returning Starters
2022 Record 3-6

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm vs. Central Valley
08-25 7:00 pm vs. Perry Traditional
09-01 7:00 pm @ Chartiers Valley
09-08 7:00 pm vs. Peters Township
09-15 7:00 pm @ Connellsville
09-22 7:00 pm vs. McKeesport
09-29 7:00 pm @ Greater Latrobe
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Thomas Jefferson-
10-13 7:00 pm @ Laurel Highlands
10-20 7:00 pm vs. Linsly (WV)



Washington Little Prexies
Head Coach: Mike Bosnic
PIAA District 7 - Class 2A
WPIAL 2A Section 3
Returning Letterman
Returning Starters
2022 Record 7-5

2023 Schedule
08-25 7:00 pm @ Monessen
09-01 7:00 pm vs. Clairton
09-08 7:00 pm vs. Serra Catholic
09-15 7:00 pm @ Greensburg Central Catholic
09-22 7:00 pm vs. Brentwood
09-29 7:00 pm @ Waynesburg Central
10-06 7:00 pm vs. Sto-Rox
10-13 7:00 pm @ Charleroi
10-20 7:00 pm vs. Keystone Oaks
10-27 7:00 pm @ McGuffey

OUTDOORS

The Great Outdoors

By Chris Sidick

Scouting deer using trail cameras has become increasingly popular among hunters and wildlife enthusiasts. These compact motion and heat activated devices provide valuable insights into deer behavior and movement patterns. In this article, we will explore the benefits of using trail cameras for scouting deer and provide some tips for maximizing their effectiveness.

Trail cameras offer a non-intrusive way to monitor deer activity in their natural habitat. By placing these cameras strategically along deer trails, near food sources, or in other high-traffic areas, you can capture valuable information without disturbing the deer or altering their behavior. This allows you to study their movements, identify individual deer, and gain a deeper understanding of their routines. One of the significant advantages of trail cameras is their ability to capture images or videos of deer around the clock. Since deer are primarily nocturnal creatures, scouting during the day might not provide a comprehensive picture of their behavior. Trail cameras equipped with infrared, or no-glow technology can capture high-quality images during low-light conditions without spooking the deer.

When setting up trail cameras, it is crucial to consider their placement. Look for natural funnels, pinch points, or areas where deer are likely to travel, such as trails

attractants. Deer are drawn to food sources like corn, apples, or mineral blocks. By strategically placing these attractants in front of the camera, you can increase the chances of capturing clear and close-up images of deer. However, be aware of local and state regulations regarding the use of bait for hunting or scouting purposes.

I personally am a big fan of cellular cameras. You get instant feedback directly to your cell phone, and do not have to take time out of your busy day to fetch expensive camera cards. I just recently switched to Wise Eyes, but also have been very satisfied with Tactacam. Both have affordable data plans and



Trail Camera capturing the boys and me setting a trap.

even though the cameras can be pricey, the picture and video quality make it worth it. Moreover, cell cameras require less attention than camera card units, thus minimizing human scent in your hunting area. The information you collect can help you make

Types of Tree Stands

Hunting tree stands come in various types and designs, each catering to different hunting styles and preferences. Here are some common types of hunting tree stands:

1. Climbing Tree Stands: These stands consist of two separate sections that are connected by a cable or chain. Hunters can secure the lower section to the tree and then use the upper section to climb up

the tree. Climbing tree stands are highly portable and allow hunters to change locations easily. However, they can be the most dangerous. Quality of stand and extreme caution should be top priority.



Shore fishing at Sunrise

3. Ladder Tree Stands: Ladder stands are freestanding structures that consist of a ladder attached to a platform or seat. They provide a stable and elevated platform for hunting. Ladder stands are easy to set up and are suitable for hunters who want a fixed position for an extended period. The biggest downside of ladder stands is the height, typically only 10'-15' off the ground, putting you right in the line of sight of an approaching deer.

4. Tripod Tree Stands: Tripod stands are self-supporting structures with three legs that provide stability. They usually have a small platform and a rotating seat. Some sport a nice shooting rail for gun season. Tripod stands are versatile and can be placed in areas where trees are scarce or unsuitable for other types of stands.

5. Tower Box Blinds: Tower stands are large, elevated structures with enclosed platforms to completely conceal the hunter. They are often constructed from wood or metal and have windows for observing and shooting. These large structures can be permanent or temporary. Tower stands offer excellent visibility and can accommodate multiple hunters. They are fantastic for young and senior hunters trying to stay out of the weather. Often, you will see these stands on the edges of large fields.

It is important to choose a tree stand that suits your

hunting style, the terrain you will be hunting in, and local regulations. Always prioritize safety and follow the manufacturer's instructions when installing and using tree stands. It is strongly recommended to always wear a quality safety harness. Safety never takes a vacation!

Youth Activity

I had the luxury of writing this issue's article while at the beach! I'm currently enjoying a Sam Adam's with a warm breeze on my face, that's a good writing session. Something I have never seen before, whitetail deer at the ocean! It has been quite intriguing watching deer walk the beach, streets, and dunes all week. Of course, we got to do some after dark crab spotting with the boys. The ghost crabs are much smaller here in Hilton Head than they were at Diamond Beach in New Jersey, but equally as fun to chase, catch, and dodge your toes. It also just happens to be the middle of sea turtle hatching season, so we used red lenses so as to not disturb the little reptiles. Unfortunately, we didn't get to see any baby turtles scrambling for the water's edge, but it was still exciting knowing the potential of seeing one was there. Kind of like when you're in your stand on November 6th and recently had a 160 on your trail camera. Added bonus, every night on the walk back from the beach, the boys were able to spot and test their skills catching some geckos.



Pre-season scouting on the new Ohio Lease.

leading to feeding or bedding areas. Position the camera at a height and angle that captures the desired field of view without being obstructed by vegetation. You will learn quickly that a blade of grass or branch blowing in the wind will leave you with hundreds of empty pictures, and dead batteries. Placing the camera facing north or south can help avoid issues with direct sunlight interfering with the images. To attract deer to the camera's field of view, consider using bait or

informed decisions when planning your hunting strategy, tree stand placement, or wildlife management efforts.

In conclusion, trail cameras offer a valuable tool for scouting deer. By strategically placing and maintaining your investment, you can gather valuable data that enhances your hunting experience. Remember to check local regulations and continue to be an ethical and responsible outdoorsman. Happy scouting!

2. Hang-On Tree Stands: Hang-on stands are lightweight and designed to be attached to a tree using straps or chains. They require separate climbing aids such as climbing sticks or screw-in tree steps to reach the desired height. Hang-on stands are popular among hunters who prefer to leave their stand in place for an extended period. I recommend using climbing sticks with straps vs screws to avoid injuring the tree.



The brothers at the beach.

SHERIFF FUN RUN ZOMBIE 5K

By Toni Fitch

Lace up your shoes and get ready to run for your life. Zombies are invading Mingo Creek County Park! On Sunday, October 8, the Washington County Sheriff's office will hold a "Fun Run Zombie 5K" with proceeds going towards DARE and other community programs.

Deputy Elizabeth Davidson shared information about this first-time event. Deputy Davidson described it as "a fun way that we could come up with funds for the DARE program and our community outreach programs." DARE stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education that strives to give children the preparation they need to steer clear of drugs, gangs, and violence in their schools and neighborhoods. She sees this as an enjoyable way to engage the community in this effort, especially with Halloween right around the corner. The kids in the county are also involved with preparations for the run. Some of them are helping to earn service hours. Others are from the Douglas Education Center. They are involved in promotional videos and



Deputy Davidson and the zombies

photos as zombies, film crew and makeup artists. They range in age from grade school to college and all are extremely excited about the opportunity to put their talents to use for such a worthy cause. But be careful, some of these youngsters, in their zombie makeup, may scare the daylights out of you at the 5K.

The videos are being shot throughout Washington County at various corporate sponsors. They will be

uploaded weekly leading up to the run on the Washington County PA Sheriff's office Facebook page. It's a good way to see all the hard work that the youngsters are putting into this while also having a good time. According to Deputy Davidson "these are high school kids and college kids that have come up with a storyline" for these promos.

There is a page setup on <https://www.itsyourrace.com/> under "Sheriff's Fun

Run Zombie 5K" that gives you the layout for the race. Entrants can either run for their lives (or walk or "crawl") or participate as a zombie that pursues the runners. There are many other awesome things lined up for the day for kids and adults alike. And, since this is scheduled for early October, there is also the chance to enjoy the beautiful fall weather in such a gorgeous setting. Deputy Davidson looks at this as a great way for everyone in the county to

come out and support these programs. She stressed that "we never miss a moment to engage in our community."

If you pre-register, the entry fee is \$45. The day of the race is \$50. The first five hundred to sign-up will receive a commemorative T-shirt and medal. The medals are a replica of the county DARE car. Deputy Davidson mentioned that "the kids helped design those, too." She added "it's been fun watching them get creative."

There is hope that the event is well received so that this can become a new tradition in Washington County, one that the entire community can enjoy together. In closing, Deputy Davidson added "I think it's going to be a great day. It's a great day for our community". With raffles, awards, hayrides, fall foliage, vendors and food trucks scheduled, it promises to be a fun-filled day for the entire family.

So, sign-up now and get in the spirit if you "DARE."

SOME R ANGELS: GROOMING IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

By Toni Fitch

For Some R Angels Mobile Grooming out of Marianna, grooming is a family affair. The mother/daughter duo of Kandi and Jaimie Oglenski founded their business June 19, 2019. Their burgeoning business has grown so much that they had to include some more employees in their endeavor. Kandi's other daughter Ashley is also an aspiring groomer and "helps out a couple days a week" while learning grooming. And Kaitlyn Berry is learning the tricks of the grooming trade, too, as she works towards becoming a veterinary technician. They are all assisted by Eliza and Farley, Kandi, and Jaimie's Jack Russell Terriers. The "mascots" accompany the groomers to their appointments.



Jaxson Smith of Houston looking handsome after another grooming

But this is more than a business venture for the ladies. It is a labor of love. They love helping their clients who sometimes do not have the means to get their "babies" out to a groomer. They also love the animals that they service. To Kandi and Jamie, these are more than mere "pets" to them, they are beloved family members, just as their humans feel. And it is not just a cat and dog operation. The ladies at Some R Angles have worked with everything from rabbits to guinea pigs to a bearded dragon (got to keep that beard trimmed, right?).

Kandi is a former veterinary technician. She has been grooming since 1985 while Jaimie started her grooming career in 2005. While there is less overhead

with a mobile grooming business, they also found that there were other aspects to it. They took a business course to learn the basics as first-time business owners. They joined a network to keep connected to those in the industry. They also invested in a van that holds fifty gallons of fresh water. As Kandi puts it, they are "self-contained," with all their equipment and water and electricity inside the van. No need to use their customers' water or electricity.

What are the benefits of using a mobile grooming service for your pet? Well, some pets get stressed when they are being transported to unfamiliar surroundings, especially a groomer. Some R Angels specialize in pets

that may be considered hard to manage. They provide a welcoming, calming environment for your fur baby using various techniques, depending on your pet's needs. As their website says, "Let our angels groom your angels...and devils, too." Also, be secure in the knowledge that when they are grooming your little angel, who is the only pet they are currently servicing. Whereas groomers in a brick-and-mortar setting may have multiple clients at the same time. Kandi and Jaimie give their total attention to their clientele while working their magic in the van that is parked right outside your home.

The enthusiasm that these ladies have for their careers shines

through when talking with Kandi. Although the fledgling business faced the challenges of COVID-19, they survived the pandemic and have been thriving ever since. They service most of Washington County and sometimes

beyond. They pride themselves on establishing long-term relationships with customers and their pets. This family-run operation takes great care in taking care of your pets.

Some R Angels
MOBILE GROOMING

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Request a Booking

Washington County Machine Guns

By W.R. Smith

Are you a gun enthusiast who enjoys shooting and mixing it up a bit from your personal collection? Or maybe you are a beginner or a novice who is curious about firearms and looking to dip your toe in the water in a safe, structured environment? Or maybe you are a corporate entity looking for a unique team building experience for your group? Perhaps you are looking for an exciting and explosive alternative to the traditional bachelor or bachelorette party? Regardless of which category you fit, Washington County Machine Guns is the place for you.

A veteran owned business located in West Alexander, WCMG offers a multitude of exciting one-of-a-kind experiences for its customers, specializing in machine gun rentals, manufacturing destructive devices, and explosive training with real military-grade explosives.

The Largest Machine Gun Rental Business on the entire East Coast

From the novice to law enforcement, you are in for a memorable experience. WCMG has been delighting guests from all over the world since 2012. Shooting automatic weapons is something that few people have ever done, even those in the military or law enforcement generally have limited exposure to just a few weapons. Washington County Machine Guns gives its clients the opportunity to fire a variety of firearms from the modern suppressed submachine guns (CMMG Banshee), to the classics (Tommy Gun), to the pretty darn big (50-BMG M2HB machine gun). They provide all firearms, ammo, shooting glasses, ear plugs, targets, and a private range with direct supervision from an NRA Range Safety Officer while shooting, plus their guests will receive a quick history lesson of each weapon fired with the option to take pictures or videos. The only limitation is participants must be 16 years old.

Owner Tredd Barton is the brainchild behind the business.

Tredd was born and raised in Lock Haven, PA and now lives in West Alexander, PA (50 miles SW of Pittsburgh). He holds three ATF licenses: Manufacturer of Firearms License, Manufacturer of Destructive Devices License, and Manufacturer of High Explosive License, as well as the required PA Licenses. He works as a Weapons Master for films and TV shows in the Pittsburgh area providing a wide range of full-auto machine

guns, handguns, rifles, shotguns, as well as Airsoft prop firearms and expertise in firearm handling and training at his private gun range. Tredd also owns and operates Washington County Machine Guns and Tactical Range which provides customers the opportunity to shoot a wide range of full-auto machine guns and suppressors. He served in the US Army 10th Mountain Infantry Division as an Infantry soldier and is an NRA Chief Range Safety Officer and a certified NRA Pistol Instructor, as well as an elected Pennsylvania State Constable LEO.

WCMG became a reality because of Tredd's frustration with the firearms transfer process. "I tried to buy a gun online but couldn't find anyone to do a transfer," he said. "Then I investigated getting an FFL license. I first applied for an FFL 01 (Dealer of Firearms) and then after a few years upgraded to a Type 07 FFL Class 2 SOT, which allowed me to make or sell basically any kind of firearm or NFA device, including machine guns, but not Destructive Devices." Then four years ago, we became an FFL 10 Class 2 SOT which allows us to manufacture and deal in Destructive Devices



Explosives class

which makes us one of the few FFL 10's in PA doing destructive device transfers for civilians."

Eventually Tredd had five machine guns in his inventory and soon he received a call from a customer asking if he could rent and shoot his machine guns. "At that point, word of mouth got out that I had machine guns, and I was renting them out." He explained. "And it ballooned from there, and really took off when we built Washington County Tactical Range."

The range was built 7 years ago when his wife got tired of him shooting machine guns at the farm and told him, she did not move to the country to listen to him shoot machine guns all day. And so was born the range.

Tredd states the WCMG is one of few places where you can shoot guns like they are meant to be shot: Quick Draw, Rapid Fire, Move-n-Shoot.

When asked who his typical customer is Tredd said we see all kinds of people, but "today we hosted a bachelor party." The bachelor's fiancé wanted to do something special for him and booked the time with Tredd. "They were mostly what I would call non-shooters, he said." "They had a great time. We do a lot of bachelor parties; it is one of our most popular events."

People also often come from Canada, New York, New Jersey, and other non-gun locales, just to experience shooting machine guns. Tredd even had even had two people who flew in from Iceland for the sole purpose of shooting at the range. They stayed a couple of days and went home after.

No experience is required to participate in the many services WCMG has to offer but rest assured you will be in the capable hands of trained professionals. Anthony, one of the instructors is an NRA range safety officer (RSO) and Hunter and Henry, who help out as well, have extensive training under Tredd. You must be at least 16 years

old and anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Safety is a top priority with Tredd. Each participant is given instruction and firearms based on their experience levels. "The main thing is, what experience level each client is at," Tredd said. "A beginner would start with a pistol-caliber suppressed machine-gun for low noise, no recoil, and then graduate to bigger guns. We always start with a test magazine before they get a full magazine, to let them get a feel for it, just to teach what the gun is like and how it handles."

We walk them through proper stance, grip foot placement, body angle, etc. then begin with the test mags and graduate them to full mags when they are ready."

Tredd continued, "The main thing is this is a place the average person can come to, like dads and sons, to shoot real machine guns. We recently had a 90-year man whose grandson brought him out to shoot a Tommy Gun like he shot in World War II. That was great. And last year a couple brought their kid from Kentucky. He had just turned 16. They drove up to shoot and drove home after. Personally, I think dads and sons and grandfathers and grand kids coming is the most fun. I enjoy seeing those relationships and the bonding."

Reservation System

Tredd had his entire website revamped two years ago with an interface with a real-time



Group fun at WCMG

reservation system that really makes the process of booking an appointment incredibly easy. Just click the [Book Now] button and the reservation system walks the customer through the process.

Tactical Range

Clients get to experience a state of the art, tactical range which is designed for shooters that want to use their tactical rifles, handguns, and shotguns as they were meant to be shot in real-world applications with no limit on number of rounds in magazine or rate of fire, from rapid-fire AR shooting to quick-draw pistol shooting to rifle &

dynamite throw and a belt-fed 1919 machine gun."

Bachelor parties for groups under thirteen typically last two hours. Groups over thirteen usually run around 3 hours. WCMG does not rush its clientele. "This is a big event for them," Tredd said, we take our time and let them enjoy their day.

Corporate outings

Tired of the same-old business outing of golf and dinner for your team or clients? Consider treating them to an unforgettable day at WCMG. This one-of-a-kind

pistol transition drills (move and shoot).

Explosives

And if you are looking to step it up a notch and dabble in the powerful world of explosives, Washington County Machine Guns offers a truly unique experience. You can learn how to safely handle and use high explosives including C-4, Semtex, Emulsions, RDX, Comp-B, DetCord, Dynamite, ANFO, PETN, and the liquid explosive Texpak. WCMG has opened up their High Explosive Law Enforcement Training to the general public with the only requirements being that the individual is 18+ years old and a US citizen. No previous experience required.

Bachelor Parties

Cost includes the firearm, ammo, range fee, targets, and instructor for individuals with extra machine guns or groups.

"These parties are one of the most popular things we do," Tredd said. "We had three bachelor parties on Saturday. They come in, shoot a lot of guns, and have a great time. Today we had a bachelor party who chose the 3-machine gun package which includes two non-machine gun bonus guns. These groups really have a good time. They are fully engaged, smiling, and laughing, taking pictures, and posing with the guns. Today we laid out sixty-one machine guns and each person could pick any three machine guns of those. They also did a

experience will be the talk of the office for years to come.

Your group will have hands-on use of machine guns and high explosives at the largest machine gun rental business on the entire East Coast and one of the few places in America training civilians on the use of high explosives.

The WCMG machine gun rental program and High-Explosive Training Center allows guests from around the world to experience classic machine guns from WW-II to state-of-the-art military and law enforcement firearms and explosives. We currently feature 60+ different models of fully automatic weapons and normally have 10+ different types of high explosives on site including C4, dynamite, Semtex, ANFO, PETN, RDX, HMX, Comp-B, Emulsions, and more.

You can book a half or full-day private event and be assured your guests will leave satisfied.

Check out their YouTube page at Washington County Machine Guns. It has over 331,000 subscribers. And the most popular video has an astounding 63 million views.

Some of the unique pieces owned by the company include an authentic 1964 Marine M9-7 Flamethrower. There is only about 9 M9-7 Flamethrowers in the country. They also feature an authentic M79 40mm Grenade Launcher.



Couples fun at WCMG



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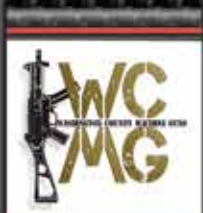
We provide all firearms, safety instructions with direct supervision with a NRA Certified Range Safety Office while shooting, ammo, shooting glasses, ear plugs, targets, and a private range plus our clients will receive a quick history lesson of each weapon fired with the option to take pictures or videos.

Group and Corporate Prices for machine gun rentals

This is the perfect entertainment for your bachelor party, birthday, or corporate event. We will work with you to put together a customized shooting experience that will leave everyone in your group with an unforgettable shooting experience. We can handle any group size at our private range.



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