

# THE MOUNTAINEER

## ALMBS Legislature Passes Journalism Bill



*By Cooper Burkhammer*

This evening the Boys State Senate and the House of Delegates passed a bill to start the printing of physical newspapers to be passed out every morning. The Governor was expected to sign the bill late yesterday evening and it will come into effect in 2025.



## Tornado displaces Upshur Citizens

*By Cooper Burkhammer*

This afternoon, Thursday, June 13, 2024 the WV ALMBS Fire Department, ALMBS police force and ALMBS emergency services responded to a tornado in the town of Lupsher. The ALMBS Army National Guard was first on scene and created a barrier around the area to keep people out of the scene and safe.

Seven citizens were reported injured, with one reported deceased.

*Continued pg. 8*

## Tomb of the Unknown Soldier By: Steven Smith

This evening, the citizens of ALMBS were gathered at the tomb of the unknown soldier ceremony. The purpose of this ceremony is to honor the soldiers who have passed while serving and whose bodies have not been found or identified. Two main ceremonies took place: the changing of the guards and the wreath-laying ceremony. Continued on Page. 8



## Honoring Boss

*By Mason Lanham*

Citizens had the opportunity to meet with Cpl. K9-Handler Zac Eakle today in remembrance of Boss. Boss was Eakle's K-9 who was with him for eight years. Boss also assisted with ALMBS for four years and taught the boys how to work a dog.

Eakle began by discussing how they use the dogs to help out correction officers. He explained how patrol dogs are used in situations such as prison riots, as officers can send in the patrol dogs to restore order, because nobody wants a dog bite. They also have specially trained Labrador Retrievers that are C.D.S. (control dangerous substance) dogs. They can track down and sniff out people and/or drugs.

Tracking dogs are trained differently, Eakle said. The trainer takes a shirt with their odor on it and drags it through the grass; then they tell the dog to track. The trainer watches the dog whose nose is down on the ground, and every time it sniffs out its target, handlers reward them food.

Eakle then talked about Boss' accomplishments. On Thanksgiving, 2017 a criminal ran off away. Boss tracked him down for two miles and bit him. Then in April, 2021 an inmate escaped from a prison in Huntington. Eakle sent Boss to track them. Boss was able to track him down and bit him. Eakle has been presented with a stone in remembrance of Boss. It will be placed in a garden memorial at WVU Jackson's Mill for Boss.

"(Boss) did a lot for me and for the boys here," said Eakle.

Boss was a beloved dog by many citizens and former citizens at ALMBS. He was also beloved in the Corrections offices around the state. Citizens plan to keep Boss in their memories by sharing memories of all of his accomplishments.



## Lewis County Commission President Speaks to Journalism Citizens

*By Brock Tanner*

Brock Tanner and other members of the Journalism department enjoyed sitting down with Lewis County Commissioner Agnes Queen during the Wednesday afternoon session.

Queen Graduated from Glenville State University with a degree in Marketing. Before becoming Lewis County Commissioner, she worked at West Virginia Radio Corporation. Queen is one of only 18 County Commissioners in West Virginia. She said that being one of the only women County Commissioners, she finds it much more difficult for people to listen to her.

Commissioner Queen said you have to make your voice heard for your citizens. Even though the County Commissioner has a part-time job, she said that she wanted to make the job full-time.

"There is too much to do. I have to serve the citizens of my county," said Queen. She said that as a journalist, you must be able to tell the public the truth. As a Politician, you must develop trust between the journalist and the citizens you serve.

You have to keep the public calm in urgent situations. They have to trust you and the sources they are coming from. Queen is most recognized in the state for speaking for West Virginia and Lewis County at the National level. She gets national attention for working to strengthen broadband and internet across the state and the country while making Washinton D.C know her and putting Lewis County on the map on the National Stage.

She sits in on meetings with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and many other government agencies. She said, "This problem is not the internet; it is life or death. If our emergency services can't get calls in or out, it becomes a huge problem." She also mentioned that 30% of Lewis County students failed during the pandemic because they couldn't get internet at their houses.





## ALBMS Murder at the Brew Club in Lewis County

### By: Mason Lanham

Unforeseen events took place in front of Lewis Cottage involving a murder at approximately 9:15 PM on Wednesday June 12, 2024. The murder was covered by the state police and a court date was set for Thursday, June 13, 2024.

In an interview with the lead officer, Peyton Caldwell, in this case, he claimed that two citizens were in an altercation with multiple witnesses. This altercation culminated outside of the college where the defendant turned around and walked roughly five steps towards the Assembly Hall. They reportedly said at that time, "I am sick of you," and shot the victim two to three times. The defendant tried to flee the scene, but was apprehended by the local Sheriff. The court case was held after lunch on Thursday, June 13, 2024 in Hampshire Cottage. It included Judge Luke Tiu, defendant Luke Parcell and his attorney Colin Woelfel, and the victim's attorney Davin Richardson. In the opening statements of the court case Richardson accused Parcell of murdering the victim Collin Wyatt. Woelfel objected to that claim by saying it was out of self-defense.

The first witness of the victim was Travis McCullough. McCullough stated that Wyatt was shot three times. He also claimed the event started in the cabin, but came to the outside. He also drew out where everyone was and stated who was on the scene.

The second witness of the victim was James Gianato. He claimed that Parcell yelled "I'm done with this," and Parcell was being more aggressive. He also claimed that Parcell shot Wyatt three times.

The third witness of the victim was Dylan Johnson. Johnson is an expert in the Forensics field. He explained the evidence brought by Richardson. The evidence was the fingerprints of Parcell that were found on the scene and there was also a fingerprint found on the shell case on the outer part of the casing.

After this the defendants attorneys called up his witnesses. His first witness was Brennan Thames. Thames claimed that he was not at the scene, but claimed that Parcell would not be the type of person to do this.

The second witness for the defendant was Lucas Karpinski. He claimed that he was in the shower during this altercation, but he heard yelling. He also claimed that Parcell would not be the type of person to do an act like this.

The third witness of the defendant was Odell Morgan. He claimed that he was on the porch and saw Parcell shoot Wyatt two times. He also claimed that Wyatt initiated the dispute.

The fourth witness of the defendant was Benjamin Estel. He claimed he was on the front porch

After this the attorneys made their final remark where they explained why their client should be either found guilty or not guilty.

The jury then went into a separate room and decided what they found the defendant. When the jury came back out they announced they found the defendant guilty of second degree murder. The judge Luke Tiu sentenced Parcell to fifteen minutes of jail time.

This case will be appealed and heard at the Supreme Court at a date to be determined.

# Jim's General Store 2024

- Soda (Can).....\$1.00
- Gatorade.....\$2.00
- Lemonade in bottles.....\$2.00
- Water.....\$1.00
- Candy.....\$1.00-\$1.50
- Snow Cone.....\$1.00
- Pepperoni Rolls.....\$2.00 small, \$3.00 large- limit two per person
- Popcorn.....\$1.00 per bag
- Ice Cream.....\$1.25
- Coffee, hot chocolate, and hot tea.....\$1.00 per cup
- Personal items.....\$2.00
- Gold shirts.....\$6.00
- MBS Hoodies.....\$25.00
- MBS Beanie caps....\$10
- MBS Belt buckles...\$25
- MBS coins.....\$10

REMINDER!  
TRAFFIC LAWS ARE  
NOW ENFORCED

TALENT SHOW  
TODAY AT  
8:00 PM

## Journalism Ad Fees

! PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE !

- Newspaper:
- 1/8 Page: \$199.00
- 1/4 Page: \$299.00
- 1/2 Page: \$599.00
- Full Page: \$999.00

**Breakfast:** French Toast Sticks, Eggs, Hot & Cold Cereals, Fresh Fruit, Milk/Juice/Water

**Lunch:** Chicken Tenders, Curly Fries, Caesar Salad, Peaches, Rice Krispy Treats, Water/Punch

**Dinner:** Sliced Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Key West Leg, Caesar Salad, Rolls, Assorted Cobbler, Water/Tea



COLLEGE FAIR

Many colleges will be here, which includes all of the ones here and more. Talk to them about life at the college.



## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

***Sponsorships are solicited year-round for the program.***

Who foots the bill for Boys State? Who pays for the week of citizenship and fellowship enjoyed at West Virginia University Jackson's Mill? Who pays for the transportation, insurance, and administrative costs?" The American Legion Family, civic clubs, lodges, school booster clubs, and service organizations, as well as business firms, sponsor students to attend The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State. The American Legion Department of West Virginia pays for the administrative cost of the program.

Citizens of American Legion Mountaineer Boys State are selected by their high school staff and/or local American Legion Post.

Please be sure to write and thank your sponsor for enabling you to attend The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State by supplementing the cost of the program. If you don't know who that is, see Marie Burliegh in headquarters. The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State stationary and envelopes are available in Dorsey Center. There is also a box for outgoing mail in the Dorsey Center.

The American Legion Posts and ALMBS staff work throughout the year to recruit sponsorships to ensure a full program. It is request that when you return to your hometown and school you help spread the word to continue increasing enrollment. The best gift you can provide to the program is the gift of referring your friends and classmates to attend in the future.

Our goal is to have every high school and county in the State of West Virginia represented each year. Your help will make this possible.



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First Supreme Court Case of West Virginia Boys State

*By Brock Tanner*

9:00 am Supreme Court of Appeals Circuit 1. State Vs. Avinton. Judge Honorable Benjamin Simmerman, Tyler Garbrick, Trenton Nupp, Jaxon Matheny, and Noble Miller presided over the case.

On June 12, 2024, a Circuit Court Jury found Avinton unanimously innocent after insufficient evidence, and the case was sent to the Supreme Court. Avinton allegedly broke into the Stop and Shop and was charged with Assault and Armed Theft. The police spoke to Avinton's Landlord and wrongfully searched his apartment without a warrant. The court rescheduled to 11:30. When the court reconvened, it found there wasn't enough evidence to prove Avinton guilty or innocent. They decided to take the case back to the circuit court to get dismissed.

Thoughts from ALMBS Prison

*By Mason Lanham*

As I sat there in the Yurt Jail paying for my crime of reckless living, many thoughts went through my mind. Some of these thoughts included that these beds are nice, are comfier than the ones in my cottage, and would be a great place to take a nap.

I was first walking when I forgot to use my stop signal, and an officer saw it. He immediately walked over and wrote me a ticket. He then took me to Magistrate Court, where I was sentenced to fifteen minutes of jail time.

When I was brought to Corrections at the Yurts, they escorted me to the registration. At registration, they stripped me of all my items and took my fingerprints.

After registration, they put me in my jail cell, which was a bed in a room with air conditioning. At this point, my first thought was that this place was nice. I was contemplating taking a nap, but since I only had fifteen minutes, I decided to just lay there.

However, I still learned what I did wrong and what I needed to do to correct my behavior.

My prison experience was way better than I thought it would be. I went in thinking that it would probably be annoying. Still, it was a great experience since I want to experience the American Legion Mountaineer Boys State to the fullest. I do not plan to return, but if I ever want to nap, may get myself arrested again.



# Mountaineer Boys State Athletics

*By Julian Pattison*

Mountaineer Boys State Athletics has continued strong this week being many citizens favorite part of some days. Thursday's athletics start off with a tough matchup between Panhandle and Lewis- Upshur Volleyball, Game 1 Panhandle started off strong with a good lead out the start but Lewis- Upshur wasn't far behind with a score of 13-7 Panhandle, but the comeback ended shortly after Panhandle started to regained it power and ended game 1 21-7. Game 2 Lewis-Upshur was just getting warmed up and gained a early lead keeping it all game to win game 2 21-9, Game 3 was close as can be with time running out in game 3 the score 12-12 going back and forth teams not messing up playing best as they can but Panhandle makes a little mistake and it costs them in over time 13-12 Lewis-Upshur the Winner. Second set of games for thursday was Kanawha vs Marion in Softball, First 3 innings was tied 1-1 both teams not doing excellent then when it starts to get into the later innings is when Marion started to figure it out and started a 5-1 lead going into the 9th and Kanawha couldn't find anything and ended up losing to Marion 5-1. Third set of games was Monroe-Webster vs Randolph in Basketball. It was a close game all game going shot for shot into half, after half and into extra minutes it continued and did not change in the end time ran out leaving a tie in the end 17-17.

Thursdays evening games started off with softball between Monroe-Webster vs Panhandle, it was a blowout win in the end but started off bad for Panhandle in the first 3 innings going scoreless but then after the third Panhandle found it and took a strong lead and ended the game with a 15-4 victory. Second set of thursday's games is a close set of games between Lewis-Upshur and Randolph with Randolph taking the win with 2 18-21 and 17-19 victories leaving them winners. Section 3 of thursday's games is a possible game of the week between Kanawha vs Marion with both teams going back and forth all game until mid way through second quarter with minutes left Kanawha leads 14-11, with a minute left Marion makes 2 crucial shots and then gets a clutch layup to tie the game going into extras. Extras start off with both teams playing excellent defense but then Marion makes a clutch shot from the corner to end the possible game of the week in most people's eyes.

***Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Continued***

The changing of the guards ceremony has the new guards appointed take 21 steps back and forth, practicing the post guarding the tomb that they will be fulfilling. It is said that this job is highly physically and mentally demanding, as guards stay at their posts for 96 continuous hours, and despite that, it is one of the highest honors for any soldier who earns this post. Guards prepare their outfits for hours before they report to their posts. The 21 steps that each guard takes back and forth have significance. It is to represent the 21-gun salute, which is the highest honor for any soldier to receive.

The wreath-laying ceremony, a somber and significant event, sees the governor and other officials stand in honor and lay wreaths at the tomb of the unknown soldier. Three wreaths are laid, each symbolizing respect and gratitude for the sacrifices of American service members and veterans of the armed forces.

As the ceremonies concluded, a speech was delivered, underscoring the historical significance of this event to our state. It highlighted the discipline and valor required by those who guard the tomb, and the importance of honoring those who selflessly serve our nation. The tomb of the unknown soldier, established on November 21, 1921, stands as a testament to the sacrifices of our soldiers. Over 11,500 West Virginian soldiers have given their lives in service to our country, in every war from World War 1 and beyond. I urge our citizens, if possible, to visit the actual tomb of the unknown soldier in Arlington, Virginia, and pay their respects.