

Robber pleads guilty
Page 5-A: Rider may face 20 years.

Paying it forward
Page 7-A: Benefit for flood victims.

Post

'Freshman wall' a hard climb
Struggles of 1st-year players. Page 1-B

Harvey's home behind plate
First time catching for Bears. Page 1-B

THURSDAY

July 7, 2016

WEATHER
Clouds and sun, a T-storm.
High **86** Low **72**
Your complete forecast Page 12-A

Feds open civil rights probe in La. shooting
Page 4-A

OBITUARIES

BENSON, Mary
BLEDSOE, Herbert E.
HURLEY, Linda Ann
MYERS, Joseph Ray
ROBINSON, Marcel
SCHAUPP, Frederick
SMITH, Sylvia
WILSON, Russell

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Coroner: SEAL death a homicide
Page 4-A

350 people died in attacks during month of Ramadan
Page 12-B

MARKETS

DOW
17,918.62 +78.00

NASDAQ
4,859.16 +36.26

S&P 500
2,099.73 +11.18

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IN THE POST, TOMORROW

Art museum changes hours

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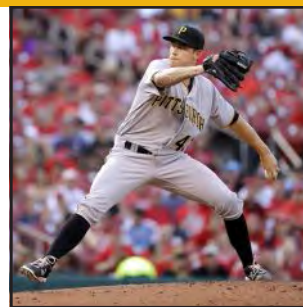
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IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Kayaks cut the ribbon
New trailhead open to public.
Page 5-A



Pirates stretch win streak to 7
Gyorko goes 1-for-3 for the Cardinals.
Page 1-B

Bloom opens up on TIF talk

Asks if proposal would be a boon for the economy

BY BEN CONLEY
The Dominion Post

Monongalia County Commissioner Tom Bloom said Wednesday that he questions whether a new tax increment financing (TIF) district proposal in Mor-

UPDATE

gantown would result in long-term economic development and what that could mean for potential TIF projects in the area going forward.

The TIF in question would be used to build an access road through the WVU Organic Agricultural Farm and provide other infrastructure to support a housing development catering to senior citizens and sin-

gle mothers who wish to pursue higher education.

The project is the vision of the Fairmont-Morgantown Housing Authority and would sit on 20 acres in the city's 3rd Ward — off Liberty Street and along Braddock Street. The land was deeded to the housing authority from WVU, in 1999.

Bloom expressed his concerns to Morgantown City Council during its most recent meeting. He expanded on those

TIRE-RECYCLING COLLECTION to be held Saturday, at Wal-Mart on Grafton Road, Page 2-A.

points prior to Wednesday's regular meeting of the county commission.

"There are already eight TIFs in this county and the legislature has mandated to us very clearly that they didn't want any more

SEE BLOOM, 2-A



Expecto Patronum

Preston Hetrick, a fifth-grader at Eastwood Elementary, uses the Patronus Charm on a demeter on Wednesday, during the Morgantown Public Library's Curiosity Quest program's Harry Potter-themed day.

Ron Rittenhouse/The Dominion Post

Head Start gets \$1M+ jump start

State money will help low-income children

MON BOE swears in members, assigns positions, Page 2-A.

Staff, submitted

U.S. sens. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., and Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va., recently secured more than \$1 million to fund Head Start programs in Monongalia County.

Superintendent Frank Devono said the money will allow Mon County Schools to continue to help children who fall into a low-income category.

The Mon County Board of Education received \$1,378,310, while the Clarksburg-based Central West Virginia Community Action Association got \$2,598,109 and Upshur Human Resources got \$1,428,185.

"We have a Head Start program in Mon County already and we have what's called an Early Head Start program that helps our birth to 3 [year-old] kids, so this money is a re-appropriation to continue the programs we have," Devono said. "It's an opportunity to provide to some of our students that would fall into that low-income category."

A total of \$5,404,604 was funded from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources and Administration for Children and Families to provide services

SEE HEAD START, 2-A

Public library transforms into Hogwarts

FOR MORE information on the Library's Curiosity Quest, visit morgantown.lib.wv.us.

BY MADISON FLECK
The Dominion Post

Twenty elementary-aged students helped turn the Morgantown Public Library into the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry on Wednesday.

The library, on Spruce Street, hosted the function as part of its summer enrichment program, Curiosity Quest.

The program continues today. Upon arrival to "Welcome to Hogwarts," the class of 20 students was sorted into houses: Gryffindor, Slytherin, Hufflepuff or Ravenclaw — those



Professor Jay Gummer poses with Colin Petsko.

Ron Rittenhouse/The Dominion Post

To see video and photos, go to... TheDPost.com

made famous by the Harry Potter book and movie series. The day included activities associated with Hogwarts, with students learning wand-making, dark arts and potions, and conjuring

SEE HOGWARTS, 3-A

Official urges review of flood-protection plan

Associated Press

CHARLESTON— West Virginia's House Speaker urges lawmakers after last month's deadly flooding to revisit a flood protection plan that was largely overlooked by legislators for more than a decade.

House Speaker Tim Armstead said in a recent statement that he wants the 2004 West Virginia Statewide Flood Protection Plan to be studied in legislative interim committee meetings so that lawmakers can find ways to avoid a repeat of the recent disaster that killed at least 23 people and devastated parts of a dozen counties, a state media outlet reported.

Armstead's statement came after the a state newspaper pub-

It includes a call for ... improved flood warnings, tougher building codes, new rules for flood insurance and better public education efforts ...

lished an article Sunday that detailed how a multi-agency task force's recommendations for a flood protection plan were never acted upon since the plan was released, in December 2004.

"I believe, given recent events, that it would be prudent for us to bring this plan back before lawmakers for discussion and review to see what aspects of the plan have been implemented and what can be done going forward," Armstead said.

The plan included dozens of specific proposals. It includes a call

for better management of floodplain construction, improved flood warnings, tougher building codes, new rules for flood insurance and better public education efforts, among other recommendations.

"Even implementing all of the recommendations provided in this plan will not completely eliminate the risk of flooding," the report concluded. "However, implementing the recommendations included in this plan will reduce the flood-related risks to lives and properties in West Virginia."

McGriddles part of all-day breakfast menu

Associated Press

NEW YORK — McDonald's plans to offer McGriddle sandwiches around the clock after testing the addition of the sandwich to its all-day breakfast menu in select markets.

The Oak Brook, Ill.-based company said the national rollout will start in late August.

McDonald's Corp. said this is a way to revive its emaciated sales.

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LOCAL BRIEFS

Submitted to The Dominion Post

Kocan pleads to distributing synthetic pot

Randolph Kocan, 61, of Morgantown, pleaded guilty to distribution of synthetic marijuana and money laundering, United States Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld II announced.

Kocan was the manager of Mid Nite Adult, in Morgantown, where he sold synthetic cannabinoids, commonly referred to as "spice," "K2," "incense" or "fake weed" for nearly two years. Synthetic cannabinoids are designer drugs that resemble a controlled substance in molecular structure and actual or intended physiological effect.

He pleaded guilty Wednesday to one count of conspiracy to distribute synthetic cannabinoids and Schedule I controlled substance analogue, and one count of engaging in a monetary transaction with cash derived from specified unlawful activity. He faces up to 20 years in prison and a fine of up to \$1 million for the conspiracy charge and up to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 for the monetary laundering charge. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed will be based upon the seriousness of the offenses and the prior criminal history, if any,

of the defendant.

U.S. Cellular to host free device workshop

U.S. Cellular will host a free device workshop at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, at 1451 Earl Core Road. Associates can share tips to help you take the best smartphone photos you can. Attendees will get advice on taking better pictures with their devices, such as the iPhone 6s, Samsung Galaxy S7 or LG G5. You don't have to be a U.S. Cellular customer to attend.

For more information or to RSVP: 304-288-2655.

TeleTech to have interviews for vets

Operation Welcome Home and TeleTech will team up to place Veterans in jobs. From noon-3 p.m. July 14, at 452 Mylan Park Lane, in Morgantown, TeleTech will conduct interviews at Operation Welcome Home. TeleTech is looking for veterans or veteran dependents that want a high starting wage, advancement opportunities, benefits and a comfortable working environment. Those interested can schedule an interview by emailing or calling Brett, at bsimpson@welcomehomewv.com or 681-212-9264; or Ariel, at acrawford@paceenterprises.org or 304-983-2441.

STATE BRIEFS

Associated Press

States join suit vs. transgender bathroom plan

AUSTIN, Texas — Two states joined the 11-state coalition Texas is leading in a lawsuit challenging the legality of the Obama administration's recent directive about transgender students in public schools.

In a court pleading filed Wednesday, in Wichita Falls, Texas, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton also seeks a preliminary injunction to halt implementation of the directive pending a final judgment in the lawsuit.

Kentucky and Mississippi joined the coalition challenging the directive to let transgender students use the bathrooms and locker rooms that match their gender iden-

tity. The coalition also includes Oklahoma, Alabama, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Tennessee, Maine, Louisiana, Utah, Arizona and Georgia. Conservative-led states had vowed defiance since the Justice Department handed down the guidance.

The parties ask for a hearing on the injunction motion on Aug. 8 or 9.

Second tornado confirmed in state

CHARLESTON — The National Weather Service confirmed a second tornado in West Virginia during recent storms.

The weather service said Wednesday that an EF-0 tornado touched down Monday, in the Kanawha County community of Loudendale, south of Charleston. The tornado snapped trees in half and had maximum esti-

mated winds of 70 mph.

The weather service earlier confirmed an EF-2 tornado Monday, in Yawkey in Lincoln County, along with twisters in Louisa and Brodhead, Ky.

The storms came 11 days after devastating floods in West Virginia destroyed at least 1,500 homes, damaged 4,000 others, caused \$36 million in damage to roads and killed at least 23 people.

Worker electrocuted at state university

SHEPHERDSTOWN — Officials said a construction worker was electrocuted while working at a site at Shepherd University.

Shepherd University officials said in a news release that the man was killed on campus on Tuesday afternoon.

Harkins Builders Inc. spokesman John Dawson

told a state media outlet that the man was not an employee of Harkins Builders, but was working through a subcontractor. Authorities have not released the man's name.

The construction company was on Shepherd's campus working on a new student residence hall.

Body found in Greenbrier ID'd

CHARLESTON — A sheriff said a body found in Greenbrier County during the weekend has been identified as a woman who had been missing following last month's devastating floods.

Greenbrier County Sheriff Jan Cahill said Wednesday that one of two bodies found Saturday was positively identified as 33-year-old Nataysha Hughes, of White Sulphur Springs.



Ron Rittenhouse /The Dominion Post

Professor Gummer puts in the magic marbles during the Harry Potter party.

HOGWARTS

FROM PAGE 1-A

and conjuring their own Patronus charm to save the castle from attacking dementors.

"We just want them to have a good time and make this experience as real as possible," said Jay Gummer, public relations manager for Morgantown Public Library.

Throughout the day, the houses earned points for good behavior, but also lost points for bad behavior.

Gummer also served as a professor and headmaster of Hogwarts, giving the students the tools and instruction needed to successfully become a witch or wizard.

At the end of the day, students graduated from the school and were given a wizard's hat and certificate.

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