

THIS GUY'S TONGUE NOT TIED IN KNOTS

Auctioneer explains some of the tricks of his age-old trade/5



PIRATES GET A WIN, BUILD FOR FUTURE

Bucs rally past Mets, then draft Louisville catcher Henry Davis/9

FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY AND A HALF West Virginia's oldest newspaper, older than the state itself, The Intelligencer has stood guard for 168 years against predatory interests which would violate civil rights. The Intelligencer was founded on August 24, 1852.

The Intelligencer

INDEX
Classified / 15-16
Comics / 13
Life / 5
Lottery / 2
Obituaries / 2
Opinion / 4
Sports / 9-12
TV Listings / 6
Weather / 8

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WHEELING, W.VA. — MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021

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City Set To Approve \$1M Paving Contract

By ERIC AYRES
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Orange barrels and heavy equipment have been common sights around the Friendly City in recent months, and additional road construction is ahead as more than \$1 million worth street paving projects will soon be coming.

Next week, members of Wheeling City Council are expected to vote to approve an ordinance awarding a \$1,079,722 contract to Cast and Baker of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, for the city's 2021 street resurfacing projects. While typically an annual activity that is welcomed by the public, the street paving work

will be added to the list of projects that have already kept the city abuzz with construction. With the state continuing major work on the Interstate 70 bridges project and the city finishing underground utility work in preparation of the Downtown Streetscape Project, city leaders urged motorists and affected business

owners to continue exercising patience. "I know I sound like a broken record on this, but there's a lot of construction going on in the city, and I know the frustration I hear from folks from time to time is real," Mayor Glenn Elliott said.

(Please see PAVING, Page 3)

"A lot of important streets across the city are going to be paved."

Wheeling Mayor
Glenn Elliott

'COPS, POPS & COMMUNITY' HELD AT HERITAGE PORT Warm Day, Cool Event

Fun Day Meant To Promote Togetherness

By SCOTT McCLOSKEY
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The first Cops, Pops & Community event — a festival exemplifying partnership, acceptance and equality while strengthening community spirit — drew hundreds to Wheeling's Heritage Port on Saturday. Organizers said the inaugural fun and games are a great base to build upon in the future.

The Ziegenfelder Company partnered with the Wheeling Police Department and various organizations, including the YWCA of Wheeling, YSS and Men of Change to host the free community event.

Whether it was participating in one of many relay races with members of the Wheeling Police Department or one of the many games and activities spread out along Heritage Port, the day brought plenty of fun and laughter to the many participating families.

Families enjoyed free food, while children bounced around in inflatable, made jewelry with the help of Disney princesses and had their faces painted, all while a DJ played high-energy tunes.



ABOVE: Wheeling police Officer Rob Safreed, left, participates in a sack race along with Harper Porter of Wheeling during the first Cops, Pops & Community event at Wheeling's Heritage Port Saturday. RIGHT: Wheeling resident Sarah Dupke holds her four-year-old son, Jett, while getting a Twin Pop during Saturday's event.

Photos by Scott McCloskey



(Please see TOGETHERNESS, Page 3)

County Airport To Mark 9/11

Event Will Observe 20th Anniversary Of Terrorist Attacks

By JOSELYN KING
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on America happens this year, and it also corresponds with the 75th anniversary of the Wheeling-Ohio County Airport.

Ohio County commissioners and the County Airport Development Authority are planning a 9/11 commemoration event to take place at the airport, according to County Commissioner Zach Abraham.

He said the gathering will seek to honor current military, military veterans and all first responders. At the same time, it will bring people to the airport to discover its offerings.

"We're excited about the opportunity to revive the airport, and highlight what it's about in the community," Abraham said. "It's an opportunity to recognize the military and first responders, and how the airport is important to them."

On Friday, Sept. 10, an "education day" will be held at the airport. Local school children will be invited to the airport to take tours. Saturday, Sept. 11 then will be "community day" at the airport, and events will be happening starting at 11 a.m. through the evening, according to Abraham.

There will be music, beverages, and food and beer vendors, he said. There will be a rock-climbing wall, and members of the Hilltoppers Flying Club will stage a flight show with their radio-controlled planes.

(Please see 9/11, Page 3)

'Blame My Roots' Returns This Week

By ROBERT A. DEFRANK
For The Intelligencer

BELMONT — The hills of Belmont County will again echo with country music, as the Blame My Roots festival launches its second concert series at the Valley View Campgrounds on U.S. 40.

Chris Dutton and his family spearheaded the new country music festival to fill the void left when Jamboree In The Hills went on hiatus in 2018; the venue site was recently sold. Following the inaugural BMR event in 2019 the COVID-19 pandemic canceled the 2020 event, but Dutton said enthusiasm has remained high for 2021.

The lineup includes some major names in country music. Wednesday will feature local bands and the stage will be open to the public.

(Please see BLAME, Page 3)



Photo by Robert A. DeFrank

Although things are quiet now, the Valley View Campgrounds along U.S. 40 near Belmont soon will be teeming with country music fans as the Blame My Roots festival returns to the site Thursday through Saturday.

Pfizer To Discuss Vaccine Booster With U.S. Officials

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pfizer says it plans to meet with top U.S. health officials Monday to discuss the drug-maker's request for federal authorization of a third dose of its COVID-19 vaccine as President Joe Biden's chief medical adviser acknowledged that "it is entirely conceivable, maybe likely" that booster shots will be needed.

The company said it was scheduled to have the meeting with the Food and Drug Administration and other officials Monday, days after Pfizer asserted that booster shots would be needed within 12 months.

Pfizer's Dr. Mikael Dolsten told The Associated Press last week that early

data from the company's booster study suggests people's antibody levels jump five- to 10-fold after a third dose, compared to their second dose months earlier — evidence it believes supports the need for a booster.

On Sunday, Dr. Anthony Fauci didn't rule out the possibility but said it was too soon for the government to recommend another shot. He said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the FDA did the right thing last week by pushing back against Pfizer's assertion with their statement that they did not view booster shots as necessary "at this time."

(Please see BOOSTER, Page 3)