

# BERNIE'S all over

Living, Page 1D



# Hampshire Review

and The South Branch Intelligencer

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

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Romney, WV • \$1.05 PLUS TAX

**Capon Bridge council member resigns** Details, Page 8A

Hello, Hampshire! From Rileyigh Combs, Slanesville

James Campbell, High View Thanks for subscribing



# Schools to build West, Central 1st

Capon Bridge Elementary gym will go up early too

**SYDNEY MAURER** Review Correspondent

ROMNEY — School construction should begin with simultaneous work on the Central (Augusta) and West (Romney) elementary schools, along with a gym for Capon Bridge, School Superintendent Jeff Pancione told the

Hampshire County Development Authority last week.

Pancione said constructing the 2 schools at the same time would minimize disruption, moving students "all at once, rather than piecemeal."

The authority was successful in get-

ting approval of Hampshire County's school bonds onto the state School Building Authority's agenda in December, and the SBA gave its approval for issuing \$20 million worth of bonds — a necessary step before bond sales can take place.

Had the SBA decision been delayed to April, it could have delayed the project a year, said Development Authority board chair Greg Bohrer.

"Now we've sort of got a clear pathway," said Pancione.

The bonds should be offered for sale in April.

Before construction of the West school can begin, the old hospital building in Romney must be demolished and

the site cleaned up. Application will be made for state Community Development Block Grant funds for the demolition, with a final public hearing on the grant application to be held this Thursday.

Authority Executive Director Eileen Johnson will drive to Charleston to hand-deliver the application to get it there by the Jan. 29 deadline. She said

See **SCHOOLS** page 7A ■

# WOMAN, 94, DIES IN FIRE

**JIM KING** Review Staff

ROMNEY — A 94-year-old woman died in an apparently accidental fire at her Grassy Lick Road home early Saturday morning.

Shirley Craver was pronounced dead at the scene.

The 911 call indicated the house could be occupied, but the 3 a.m. fire was burning so hot and fast that firefighters had to call off an initial search for victims until the blaze was contained.

"We tried to get in the back part of the house, myself and one of my captains," Romney Fire Chief G.T. Parsons said. "We were able to search the part of the house that didn't burn, but we couldn't make it any farther."

Deteriorating fire conditions and an exploding propane tank forced firefighters out of the house temporarily.

"Once the fire was knocked down, an extensive secondary search began," Parsons said in a press release Saturday.

See **FIRE** page 7A ■

## Foreshadowing



**CINDY TWIGG** Review Correspondent

Horn Camp Harry — Hampshire County's official plush groundhog — gets in a dress rehearsal last Saturday for his appearance next Tuesday, Feb. 2, to predict the weather for the rest of our winter. Helping out (left to right) are Horn Camp's Mayor Ernie Racey and First Lady Betty Racey, chocolatier Eric Hott and First Son-in-Law Rodger Twigg. □

## KENNY VOIT

1932-2021

# 'Just a funny guy'

Voit celebrated as a 'pillar of Main Street'

**EMMA JUNE GROSSKOPF** Review Staff

ROMNEY — It seems like everyone in Hampshire County has a story about Kenny Voit.

Some say he sold them their 1st car. Some recall his love for bluegrass music. Some remember how he did business, but whatever the story, it's always told with a smile.

"My brother was a character," chuckled Dot Calvert, Kenny's younger sister. "He had the best stories ever. He was just a funny

guy, a great personality."

Kenny was always up for a laugh and found the humor in everything. The last 20 years saw him working, with no plan to retire, at Voit's on West Main Street in Romney. He was still there, working away, even a month before his passing. When he passed away on Jan. 24 from his heart disease, stories about him were flying left and right.

The Romney Fire Company celebrated Kenny as a lifetime

See **KENNY** page 7A ■



Review Files

Car enthusiast and "pillar of Main Street" Kenny Voit

# You'll flip for them



Sports, Page 1B

# State takes over vaccine sign-up

**JIM KING** Review Staff

A new week is bringing a new plan for vaccinating West Virginians against Covid-19.

Out is the regional model that Gov. Jim Justice ordered a couple of weeks ago, a plan that had Hampshire, Hardy, Grant and Mineral counties all sending residents to Moorefield's National Guard Armory for their vaccinations.

Now the vaccinations are returning to individual counties, but the state is taking control of scheduling.

Any West Virginia resident age 65 or older can sign up for the vaccine in 1 of 2 ways:

- Visit [vaccinate.wv.gov](http://vaccinate.wv.gov).
- Call 1-833-734-0965 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Saturdays.

The County Health department is no longer scheduling appointments, although anyone who had already signed up locally is being added to the state list.

See **SIGN-UP** page 7A ■



Hampshire County Health Dept.

Staff and volunteers prepare for a new round of vaccinations at the National Guard Armory in Moorefield.

## MEET THE MEDICAL RESERVE VOLUNTEERS

Details, Page 8A



**TOM LEWIS**, OPINION, 6A  
How West Virginia is showing the nation how to do it

## SIGN UP FOR VACCINE

To schedule a vaccination, visit [vaccinate.wv.gov](http://vaccinate.wv.gov) or call 1-833-734-0965.

Vaccines are open to all people age 65 or older.

No longer contact the county health department to schedule a vaccination.

# Covid claims 4 more county lives

Review Staff

Covid-19's grip on Hampshire County remained firm over the past week, claiming 4 more lives, spreading at a slightly faster pace and keeping the high school closed.

Twenty-five residents have now died from virus — 1 in the 1st 8 months of the pandemic and the other 24 in the last 2 months.

The Health Department announced 2 deaths Sunday and 2 more Monday. The agency does not provide the names of the deceased.

The toll includes:

## Our toll

**126** Active  
**4** in hospital  
**25** Deaths  
**1,382** Confirmed

## Free testing

Hampshire Fairgrounds dining hall  
**10 a.m.-6 p.m.**  
Thursday

- A 75-year-old woman from Augusta,
- An 87-year-old man from Green Spring,
- A 78-year-old man from Romney and
- A 74-year-old man from Romney.

Ten new cases confirmed Monday bring the county's active cases up to 126. Four people are hospitalized with the virus.

The county had dropped below 100 active cases a week ago for the 1st time since Thanksgiving.

See **COVID** page 7A ■

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