



Volume 77, Issue 6

The Mountaineer

The Official Publication of American Legion

Mountaineer Boys State

LEARNING TODAY...

LEADING TOMORROW

www.mountaineerboysstate.org



June 14, 2014

Announcements:

On behalf of The Citizens of Boys State; the members of The Mountaineer newspaper staff and the Boys State Broadcasting staff would like to thank the American Legion staff along with the Mountaineer Boys State staff for making this wonderful week possible and helping us young men, "The Men of Tomorrow" sculpt our bright futures! Thank you.

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

Mountaineer Boys State has the great fortune of having a replica of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The real Tomb lies in Arlington National Cemetery and is guarded twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week by armed and decorated soldiers. The Tomb is the final resting place of four American soldiers whose lives and identities were lost in four different wars: World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

The first soldier was a Veteran of World War I and was buried on November 11, 1921. The Unknowns of WWII and the Korean War were buried in the Tomb of the Unknown on May 30, 1958. The final Unknown, the soldier who lost his life in Vietnam, was buried on Memorial Day in 1984.

The Tomb itself is highly decorated and crafted in a beautiful way. There are three wreaths on the North panel and three wreaths on the South panel. Each wreath has 38 leaves and 12 berries on them. On the East panel, there are three Greek figures carved representing Peace, Victory, and Valor. And finally, powerful words are written and centered on the West panel. "HERE RESTS IN HONORED GLORY AN AMERICAN SOLDIER KNOWN BUT TO GOD."



On June 13, the Boys State National Guard preformed a changing of the guard ceremony. They spoke of the Tomb and about the discipline it takes to guard the Tomb. The guard marched proudly in front of the Tomb until he was relieved of duty and the new guard immediately took his place. The reverence of the ceremony was a stillness that all present felt. Hopefully they also felt pride as an American looking upon the Tomb, a symbol of the ultimate sacrifice for this great country.

The Tomb is reflective of not only the men within who gave their lives for our country, but for all men who have fought for our country. The men and women of the American Military look to the Tomb not only as the resting place of honored men, but as four role models. If all men were as brave as those four men, then the world would be a place of greatness.

Jacob Wilkinson

2013 Citizen



Be sure to check out MBS online!

State Record Turkey Kill

Citizens Bruce Gibson and Boys State NRP, Matthew Strand, set a record today at Boys State. They killed a 50 pound turkey in the woods of Jackson's Mill. Congratulations, Bruce and Matthew!!!



West Fork River Revue

Last night was the 77th annual West Fork River Revue. There was a remarkable amount of talent displayed from the counselors, administration, and fellow citizens.

The types of performances included instrumental and vocal groups that performed wonderfully. However, the thing that got people laughing the most was the various odd talents that our citizens had. This amazing consortium of talent helped conclude these remarkable past seven days. We all should be thankful for the mass of talent found in our citizens.

FLAG DAY: CELEBRATE THE MEANING OF OUR FLAG

Throughout the past 200 years, Americans have been celebrating Flag Day to commemorate and honor the progression of our country and the sentimental meaning of the flag. The celebration of Flag Day is to commemorate the day the flag of our nation was adopted. The Army of the United States also celebrates their birthdate on the day of June 14. There have been multiple showings of patriotism by leaders in society who celebrated before Flag Day was even considered a holiday. Among these leaders in society were George Balch in 1889 and the governor of New York in 1894, which included approximately 300,000 children. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson put forward a proclamation to have Flag Day set up as a national holiday. However it was not until 35 years later president Truman signed an Act of Congress making June 14 the annual date for Flag Day.



Missing Girl, Kocsis, Finds Home

Boys State Police Officers; Sergeant Jacob Petry, Trooper Wesley Withrow, and Trooper Jacob Works found Kate Kocsis Thursday afternoon. She was kidnapped by Chris Sharps, the choir director. The three police officers found Kate after two days of searching. These young men did a great job and should be highly praised for their excellence in the field of service.

Jacob Evans

ATTENTION!!!

All scenarios are made up to allow the citizens of Mountaineer Boys State the experience of hands-on learning procedures. **THEY ARE NOT REAL!!!** The Fire Chiefs have the opportunity to learn what it's like to be called out on a fire. The State Troopers have the opportunity to learn what it's like to handle crime situations. The National Guard has the opportunity to participate in a "mock" national disaster. It's the way they learn!!!

Thank you! Betty Ann Williams, Journalism Director (print)

Betsy Ross

According to legend, Betsy Ross made the first American flag. Despite a lack of credible evidence to support this, she remains an icon of American history.

Betsy Ross, a fourth-generation American born in 1752 in Philadelphia, apprenticed with an upholsterer before irrevocably splitting with her family to marry outside the Quaker religion. She and her husband John Ross started their own upholstery business. Despite a lack of credible evidence to support it, legend holds that President [George Washington](#) requested that Betsy make the first American fl

Calhoun Cottage News

It is now the last day in our 51st state of Mountaineer Boys State. I think we have all left a huge mark on the history of this wonderful program, and couldn't have represented this seventy-seventh year of the program any better. As for us Calhoun cottage occupants: we have all become closer and all have a friendship together that will never be unwound nor broken. By: Braden Barr

Omar Salem's Big Win

Thursday night quickly became one of the most exciting nights for the Boys State citizens. The trial of Omar Salem was taking place in the West Virginia Building. The trial was heated and the audience was sitting at the edge of



their seats the entire time. Witnesses, included bank teller Parker Boughton, bank teller Dakota Null, bank vice president Nicholas Chevron, and lastly our esteemed secretary of state, Andrew "The Meat Man" Butcher. Witnesses were asked questions by the prosecuting attorney, Ryan Debee, and the defense attorney, Chase Loving, and responded whole-heartedly and honestly. The trial started at roughly 9:00PM and ended around 11:10PM with the judge announcing the verdict as NOT GUILTY.



That's right ladies and gentleman, Omar Salem is a free man!

Both the prosecuting and defense attorneys agreed when we spoke it was an amazing case to be a part of and they enjoyed the heated arguments immensely. There have been rumors that the case... OBJECTION, Speculation, Sustained! Well, we shall see where it goes.

-Dakota Roach, Staff Reporter

FROM THE EDITOR

On Sunday, almost 400 boys came to Jackson's Mill for the 77th Mountaineer Boys State. Some were nervous, others excited with anxiety; No one knew what was in store in the coming week. A lot of us were questioning our decision to come.

After registration, we reported to our cottages, our homes for the next week. Inside the cottages, we met our counselors, our cabin mates, and learned to make our beds. The first meeting these new people resulted in some awkward situations.

There was a quick cabin meeting, which was followed by a march to our first meal. I don't know of anyone thrilled by the proposition of marching, but I'm sure every guy was enticed by a good lunch.

The following days included tiring, albeit interesting, speakers, job interviews, campaigning, and possibly my favorite part of the week, the party caucuses. The Nationalist party caucus resulted in some popular expressions. The best ones included "Decorum" (Brad Furchou) and "Water" (Eric Finch). Later in the week, Bank President, Omar Salem, was accused of Embezzlement. This began the immensely popular chant "Omar!"

Once the election process was complete, and we had our new governor and Board of Public Works in place, things really started to pick up. At the beginning of the week, my enjoyment was slowly adding up, but on Wednesday, it started to multiply. I began to have more time to work on the Newspaper, and the Journalism Staff as a whole. I met some great, and talented people. Together with my Co-Editor, Nathan Wilson, I was able to put together an excellent paper every day, then see our hard work the next morning when it was delivered.

Throughout the entire week, every single one of us, has met people, has learned things, and done things we never would have done had we not come to this camp. The memories we've made with our new friends, will forever link our stories, and our lives. Let us keep in touch with our new brothers after we return to our daily lives. Let us take what we've learned from our experiences here, and bring it home with us. Let us return home to become leaders in our communities, our counties, our state, our nation, and perhaps, the world.

So as you're driving home today, think about your time here. Think what you would do if you could do it again. Think about how WV Mountaineer Boys State has changed your life. Think about how we came here as boys, and we left as men; The Men of Tomorrow.

-- 2014 MBS Newspaper Editor,

Quinten Squires

Working hard or hardly working:
The last full day



