

THE MOUNTAINEER

THE WV ALMBS NEWSPAPER



Cadet Stabbed by Inmate

Christopher Mulligan,
Staff Reporter

Down at the correctional center police cadet Gunner Lilley was stabbed by inmate Tyler Belt. Koltyn Villers was the witness to this attack as he was sitting at the back gate patrolling when he looked back and saw the inmate pulling out a knife from his belt while approaching Lilley. By the time Villers was able to react, Lilley was stabbed and inmate Belt fled for the woods leaving behind his knife. EMS was quickly called before the cadets formed a search party with Alexander Audia being the team leader. K-9 unit Meiko was deployed and was hot on the trail of the inmate as the search party followed behind and into the woods. While this was happening, EMS arrived along with Forensics. EMS tried to

stabilize Gunner Lilley while Forensics cleaned up the area and obtained the knife used. At this time his condition is unknown to the press, but we do know that the inmate responsible for this has been detained and brought back to his cell.

Luckily, Northey promised to provide adequate aid to those affected by the disaster.

Disaster Strikes: American Legion Boys State Governor Gives Statement on Tornado

Max Newman,
Staff Reporter

Today, June 13, 2025, Governor Northey gave a statement on a previous disaster that occurred earlier this week. He stated that the National Guard arrived as quickly as they were able to.

Career & College Fair held at ALMBS

Christopher Mulligan,
Staff Reporter

Organized by Chris Sharps, the American Legion Mountaineer Boys State held a college and career fair up at the pavilion. The college and career fair had a large selection of colleges and universities highlighting opportunities for the members of Boys State ranging from going to WV Tech, Concord, and a variety of other higher education schools ranging from popular to small, or even just having the chance to be informed about the recruitment process of the National Guard, Army, or the FBI.

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	Breakfast
6/13	French Toast Sticks Bacon Eggs Hot & Cold Cereal

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Godfrey, Gregory Guet

Poem

Invictus: The Unconquerable
William Ernest Henley
Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the Pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.
In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud,
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.
Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds, and shall find me, unafraid.
It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.

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Man Shot Whilst Poaching

Man was shot whilst poaching in camp forest. The suspect was located inside his cottage after the crime. Officers searched the vicinity and found the weapon of the suspect. Suspect was charged with illegal baiting and negligent discharge of a firearm. Suspect accidentally shot the victim, trying to hunt game illegally. After a court trial, the suspect was sentenced to 30 minutes in jail and fined 200 dollars.

Fire Behind Panhandle Cottage

Josiah Pilkington, Staff Reporter

There was a fire behind Panhandle Cottage on June 12. The fire was controlled on scene within 3 minutes. There was no structure damage or damage to the woods. Doug Giellatt said his team did a great job.

Counselor Spotlight



Josiah Pilkington,
Staff Reporter

Damian Cooke is the Senior Counselor for Kanawha Cottage. Damian's home county is Preston. Damian went to boys state in 2012. Damian was governor of his class and a federalist. Damian has been at Boys State for 13 years. Damian's favorite thing about his job at Boys State is making a lasting impression on the boys. Damian is excited to see the citizens of 2025 have the interest of the state in mind and thinks that Boys State has improved in a positive way such as having more jobs. Damian's advice is to explore new paths outside of your comfort zone.

Staff Spotlight: Betty Ann Stine Williams

Max Newman,
Staff Reporter

ALMBS staff member Betty Ann Stine Williams grew up in Boone County, West Virginia. She states that her favorite aspects about the ALMBS program are the location, message, and history behind it. She states she enjoys keeping herself busy, and that Boys State is an outlet for herself to maintain a goal. She loves to laugh and have fun.

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Self-Defense Proved in Homicide Case

Josiah Pilkington,
Staff Reporter

A homicide occurred with the victim being Andrew S. David and the suspected killer is Dylan Miller. A court case soon followed after where it was revealed where the defendant claimed to have had plenty of reason to attack the victim, as the victim has a well-documented history of brandishing knives and had a malicious demeanor while approaching the defendant as if to lunge for an attack, so the defendant shot at him with the prosecutors defense being that this wasn't an act of defense as the victim was 9.5ft away. The conflict started inside of the tavern with both individuals being under the influence of-

alcohol. The defendant was accused of buying a drink with the victims money, an argument occurred with the defendant saying, "Whatever, I am going home". After leaving the tavern, the defendant left and the victim followed saying, "I want to fight". The victim then appeared to be lunging towards the defendant, then the defendant pulled out his firearm in self defense and shot the victim in the upper sternum from 9.5 feet. The argument in court was that the defendant was in fear for his life and had reasonable cause for self-defense to shoot the man. The prosecutor's defense was that the victim was 9.5 feet away and that the defendant was too drunk and did not have control over his actions. The prosecutors told the jury that there was without a reason of doubt that the defendant was guilty. The jury's verdict was not guilty, the defendant was released on all charges.

The Final Paper, Thank You Readers

Gregory Guet,
Graphic Designer

With Mountaineer Boys State coming to a close, one can take time to reflect on the numerous (and for a journalist, NUMEROUS) that happened during the week. From all the assemblies, to the scenarios that each career path would have to handle accordingly, to even major events (one I cannot speak about). But personally, the best part of ALMBS to me was the connection I made to all the citizens, cottage counselors, and other staff (yes, that means you Rebecca). I want to say; I thank all of you at Mountaineer Boys State for making it to what it could've been this year. Gregory out.

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Carrying the Torch: My Journey at ALMBS

Torben Heinbockel,
Citizen

As Mountaineer Boys State draws to a close, we can all feel the pride and purpose that comes from a week of rising to the challenge. Elections have been held, and with Inauguration complete, we, the Citizens, have taken the reins of the 51st State. From city halls to the Capitol dome, we have stepped into the roles of leadership, legislation, and responsibility. And I have been proud to play a part in that process.

At Mountaineer Boys State, we are told from the start: this is a place where leaders are made. But what I have learned over the past few days is that leadership does not require a title. It just requires the willingness to step up. On Thursday, I was honored to travel to Charleston and take my seat in the Senate Chambers, where I helped bring forward and debate several-

important issues. These included requiring a semester-long financial literacy course for all public high school students, offering a refundable tax credit for families paying tuition to accredited faith-based K-12 schools, reviewing matters such as gender reassignment surgery, eliminating capital gains taxes on cryptocurrency, raising teacher salaries, reforming student-athlete transfer rules, and creating a First Responder benefits association modeled on Veterans Affairs.

It is a responsibility I do not take lightly. The opportunity to step into the seat of a state senator, even for a day, is a powerful reminder that democracy works best when we participate, debate with respect, and serve with purpose. But Boys State is not only about government, it is about community. This week, I have had the chance to serve in unexpected ways. I was honored to lead the singing of the national anthem and to introduce one of our evening events. These small moments meant a great deal to me. Standing in front of my fellow citizens of Boys State, not as a candidate, but as a member of this united community, reminded me why I came here-

in the first place: to serve, to grow, and to represent something greater than myself. Wednesday's parade was another highlight. With proud smiles and energized hearts, each cottage presented itself to our families. I played trumpet in the Boys State Marching Band. This was my very first time ever marching in a band, and it was an experience I will never forget. Being part of that musical team, playing for the crowd and for one another, reminded me how important unity is to everything we do here. While we still have another day of excitement ahead and our Closing Ceremony on Saturday, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who made Mountaineer Boys State the extraordinary place it is, from the counselors and staff to every citizen who stepped forward to lead, serve, and learn.

Thank you for a truly remarkable and unforgettable week. I will cherish the memories, friendships, and lessons for years to come.

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Edited by Corbin Godfrey

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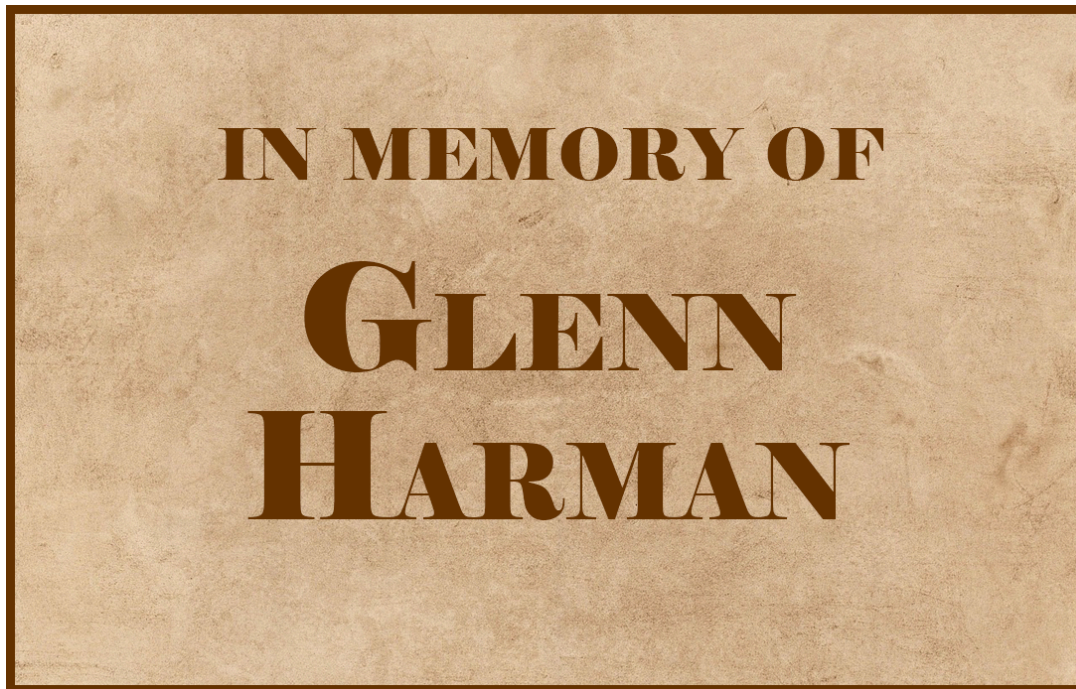
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