

W.Va. words and music

Jeff Ellis will headline a gig at the V Club on Saturday also featuring Wilson Creek Life / 6C

Rain, rain go away





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May 29, 2009

Track and field

Youngsters got a chance to participate in the Hershey Track and Field District Two Meet at Cabell Midland on Friday. Winners from the state finals will go on to compete in Hershey, Pa.

Sports / 1B

Graduates look ahead

Wayne High School graduates were looking to the future following the 85th commencement ceremony at the high school gymnasium Thursday night.

Local / 3A

Getting ready for collegeAshland Technical

and Community College is offering summer classes to help recent high school graduates and older adults prepare for college. Community / 1C

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SENIOR CARE REST HOME REOPENS WITH STYLE



Historical Madison Park to host ribbon-cutting ceremony Saturday

By JEAN TARBETT HARDIMAN The Herald-Dispatch

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HUNTINGTON — A historical rest home on Madison Avenue is reopening this weekend and beginning a new chapter.

Madison Park, which will offer seven levels of care for senior citizens, will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 1 p.m. Saturday, to be followed by open houses on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Formerly known as the Foster Memorial Home, Regency Park and Madison Manor, the facility is now under the co-ownership of Ron and Bobbie McCall of Fairhaven Rest Home on Adams

In fact, staff and 41 residents of Fairhaven are relocating to Madison Park. There are 26 beds still available.

"It's a historical landmark, and we've really spent a lot of time," Bobbie McCall said. "With us being in the business 40 plus years, we know what to offer for (geriatric care and people of retirement age)."

Please see MADISON PARK/5A

Ron and Bobbie McCall pose for a photo in their newly renovated Madison Park on Wednesday in Huntington.



Possible swine flu reported in Cabell

Four cases currently under investigation around state

By LAURA WILCOX

The Herald-Dispatch lwilcox@herald-dispatch.com

HUNTINGTON — Health officials are investigating a probable case of swine flu in Cabell County.

The case is one of four probable cases in West Virginia, according to the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. Other probable cases were identified in Monongalia, Raleigh and Wood counties.

The cases tested positive in the state lab and are now being investigated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, according to Elizabeth Ayers, public health educator for the Cabell County Health Department.

Ayers said final results may not be back until Monday. She said the health department has been preparing for weeks in the event of a positive case and is working closely with hospitals and others.

"We had been expecting a case here in West Virginia. It's no surprise to us," she

West Virginia is one of the last states to confirm probable cases of the virus, also known as the H1N1 flu. Kentucky has a reported 38 cases of the virus and Ohio has 15 cases, according to the CDC. An estimated 7,927 cases have been confirmed across the nation with 11 deaths.

"Right now, there's no need to panic. The case is under investigation, and the protocols are in action. We are investigating the contacts that the patients had been in contact with," Ayers said.

There is no reason to believe the four cases are linked, according to the state department of health and human resources.

Three of the four cases have a strong travel history suggesting they were exposed to the virus while outside the state, according to the department. The fourth case also has some travel history. All four people were treated as outpatients and have recovered or are recovering.

Please see FLU/5A

Board no closer to decision on new member as June 5 deadline looms

By BILL ROSENBERGER

The Herald-Dispatch brosenberger@herald-dispatch.com

members of the Cabell County Board of Education agree on one thing: They don't want state schools superintendent Steve Paine to fill the vacant seat on the board.

But none of the board members is confident they will agree on an appointee before the June 5 deadline, the last of the 45 days the regarding his wife's central office board has to get a decision made on its own before the state steps in.

"I'm not overly optimistic that we can get beyond this," board member Bennie Thomas said. "To my knowledge, it's probably the first time we've disagreed to this

the board has an obligation to fill can. Thomas and Suzanne Oxley the vacancy.

"Am I ashamed we didn't reach HUNTINGTON — The four an agreement? Embarrassed? I am," Barr said. "It shows a lack of discipline on the part of myself and the

> The board members are trying to fill a vacant seat left by Dr. Greg Borowski, who resigned in early April after a conflict of interest was found in the state code employment. But after more than five hours at two meetings, the board members heavily disagree on who should fill the seat. None of the eight candidates has been able to get the necessary three votes to

Barr and member Bessie Holley Board president Ted Barr said want local businessman Rick Dun-

gain the appointment.

don't support Duncan, but both are willing to accept former city council member Mary Neely or Carla Parker, a mother and surveillance nurse at Cabell Huntington

Holley couldn't be reached for comment Thursday, but the other three said someone will have to budge, although no one is ready to give any ground.

"To stay with your principles is worth the risk," Barr said. "It's worth something to that person, if it's not worth a nickel to somebody else."

Barr said last week and at Wednesday's special board meeting that Duncan is his

Please see BOE/5A

Compromise W.Va. budget bill expected today

The House-Senate panel appointed to negotiate a final state budget bill expects to finish one by late Friday. That would set the stage for weekend votes on the measure. The new budget takes effect July 1 and will likely outline \$11.5 billion worth of spending, including \$4.2 billion backed by general tax and lottery revenues.

Other Legislature stories:

ON 4A: House sends 5 more bills back to governor ■ Senators revive vetoed Chesapeake Bay mea-

ON 8A: Drug companies spend thousands on W.Va.



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