

Sunday, December 23, 2007

Leah Hickman

Leah Hickman's body has been found and removed from the scene of the murder crime on eighth avenue in Huntington West Virginia. Her employer, Dress Barn on Merritt's Creek has closed for Weekend in memorial to the murdered co-worker Leah Hickman. Our entire community has been shocked by this crime and we as a city want the criminals who are responsible for this hideous crime to be brought to justice rapidly. In retrospect Leah Hickman was the kind of young woman one would like to have for a daughter. She had a job in a dress shop and was going to school to improve herself. She was not known for any vices. Our community in Huntington WV is saddened by the fact that she is gone and hope the police do a good job of capturing the animal who killed her. I wish to express my condolences to her family and heartfelt sympathies to her friends and associates. The local police are being tight lipped about the nature of the investigation. This is understandable under the grim circumstances. Stephanie Heck Huntington WV

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 08:39

Sunday, October 7, 2007

Tom McCallister running for mayor

I understand that Tom McCallister is running for Mayor in next years Huntington WV municipal election. Tom McCallister once did a good job with trying to save the Olympic pool in the past; it's just that the money was not there. Tom McCallister would be a good recreational manager for a youth facility. If a kid got too obnoxious, Tom McCallister could tell the kid that he was "violating the charter and the law" and boot the brat out until he straightened up. Obnoxious teenagers deserve a scolding lecture from Tom McCallister. However Tom McCallister gets himself in severe hot water for vipersly scolding adults like they were teenagers with disciplinary issues. Tom McCallister can quote chapter and verse of the regulation broken to justify his position. Tom McCallister comes across as "my way or no way" and obnoxious teenagers need that authoritarian guidance, but full-grown adults do not. Adults need common courtesy and basic respect more than conformist regimentation from someone with the inflexible attitude and tight rule set of a drill sergeant. However if a job becomes available to manage a dozen rowdy teenagers, Tom McCallister is the man for the job. But he is not the man to manage city council. Candidate Tom McCallister has a regimented "by the book" mindset IMHO. He needs a very tight set of strict rules to uphold to be happy. He finds contentment in advocating strict conformity for the sake of strict conformity. That attitude is good in a jail guard, or in an attorney, or in the military but not in civil politics. Adults base politics on elective choice rather than legalism that stifles the potential for progress. Tom McCallister seems to be addicted to city council meetings and is constantly lecturing and scolding city council to conform to this or that legalistic standard. After twenty years of city council meetings, Tom McCallister can quote the city charter and many obscure ordinances from memory, in much the same way as a 20-year prison inmate can quote the 1000 rules of the prison. It is my opinion that those who are fixated on legalistic hyper conformity to "the rules and regulations" (or charter) seem to have a form of co-dependency with the rule making regulatory authority. Some people have dependency issues with authoritarian persons and some with institutional authority. To make a case in point... This institutional codependency is often seen in career military men who do not adjust well to civilian life due to a co-dependent relationship with the ultra authoritarian military institution. It is also seen in some career criminals who have no idea how to function outside of a highly regulated prison institutional environment. Ultra conformist mindsets thrive on a multitude of rules and in extreme cases have committed thousands of rules to memory. Hyper conformity is dependent on the status quo for a standard to conform to. When the rules and enforcement become integral to the identity, a public perception of the "enforcer" tends to be negative. It has gone far beyond being just a political activism. Tom McCallister has developed a public identity of holding councils feet to the fire to keep them on their toes. Many see no need for a self-appointed political rules cop that has not been elected and therefore to seek election is an attempt to legitimate his self-appointment by seeking the voter's approval knowing fully well he will not be elected. Until the election is lost, he is for the moment legitimate in his position by virtue of simply being a candidate. Those with an enforcer type hyper conformist mentality are often too concerned with regulating the precise dimensions of the box, to ever comprehend what it is like to think outside the box. The Mayors job in the future requires creative innovative thinking beyond the proverbial box, and although I believe that Tom McCallister sincerely cares about Huntington, he is too old school "by the book" and inflexible to write a innovative new chapter in Huntington's history at the helm of city government. I do not think Tom McCallister is a bad person but I do not believe that he is the man for the job of Mayor. Huntington needs adaptive innovation and improvisation, and not regimentation by the enforcers of the status quo that no longer serves the needs of a rapidly evolving and increasingly diverse community.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 23:01

Thursday, October 4, 2007

Huntington WV votes down LGBT inclusion

Huntington WV votes down LGBT inclusion Once again Huntington has chosen the path of self righteous retro mediocrity. Last week the Huntington city council voted down an amendment to the Huntington Human rights ordinance that would have outlawed discrimination in housing and employment based on sexual orientation. These small minded George Wallace impersonators on the city council are fully aware that large corporations will not do business in locales that do not protect ALL minority employees. As I stated in a previous article, I believe this to be a matter of economics rather than morality. Boyd and Putnam Counties are growing like wildfire and Wayne and Lawrence counties have had some modest growth. The economic reality is that there is a ring of golden progress all around Huntington WV. All of the major Merchants are in the east end of Cabell County because they want nothing to do with Huntington's long history of extreme hostility toward progress. Progress is based on an open door policy and not a small minded policy of retro mediocrity. This city needs new leadership and we need to dispose of all of the polirical retreads tht are currently incumbant, if we are ever going to achieve progress. The fact that it took 30 years to develop the superbloc shows the city is hostile to progress. Did I expect the city to vote down LGBT inclusion. Yes I did. Why? Because it is typical of the mindsets that opposed desegregation 40 years ago in Huntington. See...nothing has really changed....and that old school southern bigotry is alive and well in Huntington West Virginia. The city of Huntington may well not make it till the next election because the potential for bankrupty is a very real one.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 18:40

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Huntington WV ponders sexual orientation protection for LGBT

Dear readers: It is my understanding that the city of Huntington West Virginia is contemplating the amendment of the city human rights ordinance to include sexual orientation as a protected class. It is my understanding that the Huntington West Virginia Human Relations commission will meet at Huntington city hall to discuss this on the 13th of this month. This follows on the tail of the city of Charleston West Virginia amending its ordinance to include sexual orientation in the Charleston West Virginia Ordinance. How can we expect progressive technology jobs to come to Huntington West Virginia with all the benefits that it entails, if we are not willing to adopt progressive laws that deal with modern reality. The leadership in Charleston West Virginia is smart enough to understand that this sexual orientation issue is not a matter of morality but rather a matter of economics. The LGBT community has a lot of money and clout. There is political warfare between the left and the right in this country. I see it in context of an up and down vertical economic model rather than a left and right horizontal model of moral perspectives and sentiments. Political Reality: There are gay people and members of the LGBT community in high positions in every large corp in the country who do not want anything to do with any local jurisdiction that does not think them worthy of equality under law. Consequently any corporation seeking to locate jobs in such a jurisdiction, would meet with extreme internal opposition from its gay management employees and gay stockholders. Many large fortune 500 corps have LGBT members on the board of directors who would be opposed to locating jobs here. There is an economic penalty to be paid by any jurisdiction practicing a regressive mindset against a group that has the economic and political clout to retaliate by sending business elsewhere. The religious fundamentalists have a large number of activists to oppose LGBT equality, however the gay community has its share of radicals too. Some of the most radical gay people are those locals living in fear in the closet. These people express their sentiments with their dollars. Case in Point: Remember what happened in the 80's, when Anita Bryant spread homophobic hate and the devastating impact that it had on the Florida citrus industry? The gay community nationwide boycotted the entire state of Florida. The case of Anita Bryant is extreme, but what it proves is that there is an economic penalty imposed on any jurisdiction that is perceived to be hateful to those of LGBT orientation. What was once seen as a sexual minority has now evolved into a "political camp" with its educated and influential members exercising influence over large amounts of assets and potential jobs that are needed in this locality. Anita Bryant's tirade was 25 years ago and the national LGBT community is now VERY much more economically empowered and influential than they were at that time. I am tired of my hometown of Huntington West Virginia paying the economic penalty for outdated mentality and regressive mindsets. All are welcome and all are equal in humanity in the real America beyond our municipal borders. Many of those potential investors out there who could potentially help to revive Huntington's economy are actually members of the LGBT community. That is why this alleged recent homophobic hate crime in Milton West Virginia is scary from an economic perspective as well as a criminal one. The first rule of economics is: Thou shalt not scare or provoke the potential investor. Nor shall you deny his equality or offend his boyfriend. The second rule of economics is: Money is green and people are not with the exception of days when Marshall University has a football game. Therefore a person's race, sex, or religion and sexual orientation are irrelevant to the color of their money. Due to the fact that the LGBT community travels on vacation 230% more than their hetero counterparts (more disposable income due to fewer children). The travel industry is well aware of the economic factors that I speak of. Those people and their money will not go where they are not equally protected and economic hostility is demonstrated by small minds between the ears of small minded short sighted leaders. As I said my perspective is one of economics and allegiance to the constitution. I absolutely believe in equality under the rule of law for all Americans as a matter of patriotism. It is my desire to uphold the full measure of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. One is obligated to support the full constitution of the United States in its entirety or reject it entirely as a measure of patriotism. It is an all or nothing proposition. A policy of LGBT exclusion is tantamount to a regressive policy of economic isolation in a city where the LGBT community is not protected. It seems that the "White Only" signs of forty years ago have given way to "Straight Only" signs in this town. This merely tells outsiders that we believe ourselves to be a superior caste in what is in essence a classless society by constitutional mandate. Stephanie Heck of Huntington West Virginia

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 19:23

Clarence Thomas comes to Huntington WV

The Marshall University Parthenon has reported that Justice Clarence Thomas's speech at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center included the following statement. ("All you need to be an expert on the Supreme Court are a couple of drinks and a mouth" } As a West Virginia Democrat, I believe there is no doubt that Justice Thomas missed a golden opportunity to have a few drinks before opening his ponderous big mouth! Thomas said this to

the sparse audience Monday evening at an AARP meeting in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.)The Judicial arrogance of Justice Thomas to make a remark of that nature shows just how arrogant and out of touch with the American people that he really has become. The founding fathers of this country intended the constitution to be understood by the common people and the founders did not did not restrict the knowledge of the law to judicial oracles like Thomas. Justice Thomas spoke to the AARP in Huntington WV on Sept 10, 2007. I am appalled that AARP would invite him here. Clarence Thomas is such a right wing extremist, and I had no idea that AARP endorsed that far right wing agenda. I remember when the AARP was all about the retirees.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 07:22

Friday, September 7, 2007

Police Raid on Sixth Avenue in Huntngton WV

Today I have been informed by a local business owner that a police raid in the area of sixth avenue and fourth street last night put about 15 suspects behind bars for various activities related to drugs and prostitution in that area of Huntington. I am grateful that a force of state county and local police did the job. Good riddence dopeheads.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 21:16

Saturday, September 1, 2007

Prostitution in Huntington WV

I have noticed that there is far more prostitution in Huntington WV than there used to be. Some feel prostitution should be legalized and taxed. I am opposed to legalization for the purposes of preventing the spread of disease. There is no 100 percent reliable method to screen out infected prostitutes. Prostitution is not a victimless crime as some suppose. Every day some innocent woman learns she has been infected with venereal disease because her husband has been fooling around with a practitioner of prostitution. Legalization means the state would assume liability for treating those infected. In reality prostitution takes many forms. Every well established Lobbyist has a couple of cute curvy "executive assistants" or "interns" to assist them "persuade" legislators and others in the power structure. This happens in Charleston West Virginia as well as in Washington DC. Monica Lewinsky was just another "political intern" in Washington. However most people in Huntington would call her a whore. Many college athletic recruiters have a few cute college girls on the staff to give prospective recruits a "tour of the campus". It happens all the time. What we need to do is send Huntington's hookers to Charleston where they will all be working as "political consultants" and "political relations specialists" within a month.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 08:09

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Judge Dan O'hanlon throws out Parking ordinance

Well it finally happened folks. Judge Dan O'hanlon of the Cabell County West Virginia Circuit Court has declared sections of the Huntington West Virginia parking ordinance that is enforced by the infamous Huntington West Virginia Meter Maids to be contrary to West Virginia state law. In short Judge Dan Ohanlon has thrown the municipal ordinance out and it is up to Huntington city Council to decide what to do next. The Huntington West Virginia Municipal Parking Board (HMPB) is in charge of parking meters and parking tickets in Huntington. What really bothers me about all of this is that Scott McClure who is the longtime attorney for the City of Huntington assured city council that the ordinance was in compliance with West Virginia state law when it was first passed. Someone did not do their homework and now the city of Huntington is losing lawsuits as a result. Huntington West Virginia deserves competent legal representation. If Scott McClure is not going to do his research and homework before an ordinance is passed, the defective ordinance will be corrected by the circuit court at the cities expense. In short having a bad lawyer is expensive. The city of Huntington West Virginia needs to retain a better attorney. The city has lost a large number of lawsuits in recent years because of the current city attorney. There has been a wide public sentiment in recent years that the Huntington West Virginia city meter maids were exceeding their statutory authority by writing tickets that were most properly done by a trained police officer. Judge Dan O'hanlon of the Cabell County Circuit Court has merely confirmed in his legal jurisprudence what many Huntington West Virginia residents already suspected. That the meter maids and the parking board are in need of a shorter leash to conform to the West Virginia state law.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 09:07

Saturday, July 21, 2007

Blacklist of habitual drunkards

It seems a blacklist has been circulated by Mayor David Felinton's office to downtown Huntington West Virginia establishments that sell alcohol, demanding that the Huntington merchants to refrain from selling alcohol to 19 "habitual drunkards" who are pictured in the document. What happens if one of those "habitual drunkards" in Huntington goes to the ACLU and claims they are being harassed by the city for the symptoms of a disease.. and the term "habitual drunkard" is a synonym for alcoholism. It seems the city is doing its best to provoke litigation. At one time the term "habitual drunkard" was a medical diagnosis. The term "habitual drunkard" is a term taken from the old mental hygiene law. At one time it was legal to commit a drunk to the state hospital just to get them sobered up. The diagnostic term "habitual drunkard" is no longer in use by modern legal or medical professionals in west Virginia and this has been the case since the 1960's as it has been replaced by the diagnostic term "chronic alcoholism". An outdated diagnostic label is none the less a diagnostic label and the city is not qualified to diagnose anyone, much less maintain a medical blacklist. Diagnostic labels are best left to the medical professionals at the health department. The reason that the detox unit at the state hospital does not publish pictures or list names of those drunks in the rehab unit is because HIPAA medical privacy rights are applicable to substance abusers. The city currently maintains a blacklist of alleged "habitual drunkards" in much the same way as Senator McCarthy maintained a list of alleged communists. I believe the harm caused by blacklisting drunks does more to harm our city than any nuisance the drunks can possibly create. Drunks are merely obnoxious in downtown Huntington West Virginia but they pose no serious threat once you get past the smell. It seems kind of heartless to me. If these people really are the "habitual drunkards" that Dr. David Felinton has diagnosed them to be, then our alleged Mayor should instruct the city attorney to obtain a court order to commit the alleged drunks to a detox facility. I believe that ain't going to happen, because that requires far more compassion that has ever existed in city hall. The problem is not the homeless or the prostitutes. The problem in this town is the blasted dope dealers. Get rid of the dope dealers and the peripheral crime associated with addiction will dry up with the dope supply. It seems that city hall desires to give the appearance that the towns problems are being fixed by a series of kneejerk reactions that are in reality a superficial political show.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 14:23

Saturday, July 7, 2007

Riverfront Park tent city

What really bothers me about the situation of the homeless people at the Riverfront Park tent city is that the city of Huntington gets money from U.s. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Huntington housing authority to deal with homelessness. Mayor David Felinton is well aware of this, and this is common knowledge. If the city of Huntington and Mayor David Felinton treat the homeless people in the Riverfront Park tent city as lawless trespassers, HUD may well exercise the right to demand a return of the money given to the City of Huntington housing authority to deal with the homeless problem. There are numerous strings attached to federal money and if you get the federal money, you better use it for its intended purpose or be prepared to give the money back. That's a big chunk of change that could well come out of the city general fund. For Mayor David Felinton to have the police summarily evict the indigent squatters from the Riverfront Park tent city as the Mayor proposes to do is not a good strategy. Mayor David Felinton is fully aware that many of the people in the Riverfront Park tent city are legally disabled with mental and physical impairments. Some are homeless veterans. Mayor David Felinton is well aware that this summary eviction could well result in a massive lawsuit against the city of Huntington from homeless advocacy groups and civil liberties groups.. This summary eviction strategy that Mayor David Felinton has concocted proves that the Huntington Housing authority is not up to doing the job that they have been funded and chartered to do. The Huntington Housing Authority is totally dysfunctional and ineffective under the Leadership of Mayor David Felinton or they would be doing the job of dealing with the homeless situation and not the police. Mayor David Felinton has not even bothered to get a court order to justify the eviction of the homeless people from the Riverfront Park tent city and thus cover the city backside against potential litigation. It seems to me that the philosophy of "act first and think Later" rules the day at Huntngton City Hall. Felinton Poll

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 15:02

Sunday, July 1, 2007

Champion Industries buying Herald Dispatch Newspaper

Champion Industries buying Herald Dispatch Newspaper in Huntington West Virginia. Marshall Reynolds of Huntington West Virginia is the chairman and CEO of Champion Industries Inc. It is my understanding that Champion industries is not owned by Marshall Reynolds, but he does have quite a few shares of its stock. Lets just say that the gentleman is not poor. Marshall Reynolds has put the money on the line as CEO of Champion Industries of Huntington WV to make Huntington a better place. I very much congratulate him for his economic leadership. Marshall Reynolds has invested in Huntington because he loves Huntington and wants to make Huntington a better place for his children and grandchildren, just like the rest of us do. Marshall Reynolds has a stake in many of the local Businesses in the Huntington West Virginia area and he is instrumental in several local business ventures besides Champion Industries. Marshall Reynolds does not need the hassle of running a newspaper. However he and his professional printing associates at Champion Industries are quite well qualified to run the printing plant to print the newspaper cheaper and better than anyone else, and therein lies the potential for a good profit. Marshall Reynolds and Champion Industries know how to make a dollar in Huntington. I very strongly suggest that the local Huntington naysayers get out of his way and let Marshall Reynolds do what he doe best. The newspaper business is a natural investment for a professional printer like Marshall Reynolds. Local control of a newspaper is a ticket to economic growth and positive change when well done. If Marshall Reynolds is half as successful in the Newspaper business as he has been in other business ventures, Huntington West Virgna will have a great newspaper as a result of increased local influence over the editorial priorities of the newspaper. I very much look forward to see what Marshall Reynolds and the other local business professionals who are involved with champion Industries intend to do with the Herald Dispatch Newspaper. Change is in the works. Stephanie Heck

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 19:24

Wednesday, June 27, 2007

Marshall University and Mayor David Felinton

I am aware of the dispute between Marshall University and Mayor David Felinton in Huntington West Virginia, over a small piece of alley property that Marshall University desires to use to fuel an expansion project. In the real world far beyond Huntington, disputes between the states largest cities (Huntington) and state entities like the Board of Regents (Marshall University), are very commonly settled by a negotiated discussion between the Mayor of the city and the Governor of the state. The mechanics of how those negotiations would work are outlined below. 1. The city attorney and the attorney for the University would first have a meeting to discuss the legal position of both parties and attempt to find common ground. 2. If the city attorney was satisfied and accord was reached... all would be well. 3. If the city attorney was unhappy with the results, then he could make his position known to the attorney general who is the states chief lawyer. 4. If that did not work, the the mayor and governor could try to negotiate a solution within the executive branch as an alternative to going to court and seeking adjudication before the judicial branch. End outline. If I would have been in Mayor David Felinton's position, I would have told the governor that I would give the alley to Marshall University... if the governor would sign an order to increase the number of state troopers assigned to Cabell County. It's called a political trade off. This in retrospect would have made Felinton look very tough on criminals, and pro University to boot. A Win-Win situation that could potentially result in re-election. However a golden opportunity was blown by Mayor Felinton. More state troopers in Cabell County and Huntington WV would have put the fear of hell in local dope dealers. I understand why the mayor wants to be a good steward of the public assets. However the public safety is a public asset too. The public assets are not just limited to monetary tangibles. The Mayor seems to limit his perception of the public assets to money only. Our mayor in Huntington is only 32 years old and a more mature man would see things differently. Huntington seems to prefer entertaining public political squabbles, to the finer points of hardball politics that can potentially yield dividends to both sides of a dispute. That's sad. In the mean time... here in chromatic hell, the budget is still red ink, the bridge on 8th street is still pepto bismol pink, the cities reputation has a black eye, and everyone in city hall is still too yellow to take a stand, and this gives the red faced irate populace a case of the blues. Stephanie Heck Huntington West Virginia

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 14:47

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Wrought Iron Fence Factory

I have noticed a lot of high quality security fencing and wrought iron fence going up around Huntington WV in the last 2 years. I think it has a lot to do with crime increases due to the fact that there are too many crackheads running loose. I recently discovered that there is a wrought iron fence and wrought iron gates factory right here in Huntington WV. I am pleasantly surprised to know that some degree of manufacturing still goes on in Huntington in spite of the long term economic troubles. The business I am speaking of is Mountain State Metal Works at 625 8th. Avenue that is owned by Carrie and Doug Wallace. www.wviron.com . One of the purposes of this blog is to promote local businesses.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 20:58

Saturday, March 10, 2007

Marshall University Student Database Hacked?

According to the Parthenon Student Newspaper at Marshall University, the student body database has been hacked and 901 accounts compromised and the information was used to alter the electronic voting in the student body election. This is why they are re-doing the student election with paper ballots now. The student body database at Marshall is a system called MyMU. They have kept a lid on this for 2 weeks. Take a look Rise Above Voter Fraud Is anything on that network secure? The local media needs to look into this because it appears that the holders of those compromised accounts need to be notified so that they can take steps to defend themselves from identity theft. Stephanie Heck

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 07:27

Sunday, January 14, 2007

Emmons Aparment Building Fire

The Emmons apartment building in Huntington WV Burned last night. Three fireman were injured in the fire and seven people are confirmed dead. I will post more as more information becomes available. As of 6 PM Monday, 2 more victims bodies have been found in the Emmons Apartment Building as the result of the fire. One of the victims was a boy under ten years old. Three of the victims were teenage siblings. One more was a senior citizen. The remainder of the victims of the Emmons Apartment Building Fire are not yet identified. Stephanie Heck

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 17:35

Monday, October 2, 2006

Dwight's Restaurant

Dwight's Restaurant is now gone from Huntington forever. They closed the one on 17th street W. last week. For many years the drunks drove in, and the drunks drove out. I once told the owner of Dwight's Restaurant that if there was a law against public intoxication, then there should be jailhouse bars on the windows of Dwight's. That was especially true of the one on first street in Huntington. The roaches and the drunks are going to miss that place.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 03:33

Monday, September 18, 2006

Huntington Mental Health

A long time personal friend of mine, Jennifer Crespo who is a mental health therapist and part time adjunct instructor at Marshall University, here in the Huntington area, has opened a private mental health clinic called New Leaf LLC. This is a private mental health clinic on Route 60 E. not far from Walmart as I understand it. She counsels clients in relation to abuse trauma, anxiety and depression issues. She also does Psychotherapy and hypnotherapy for smoking cessation. I wish her well as a Huntington Mental Health services treatment provider, I am glad that counseling and therapy for mental health disorders is available for those who need it.. Jennifer's appointment secretary can be reached at 304-733-3772 for those who need her services. Her web site is <http://huntingtonmentalhealth.com>

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 21:23

Saturday, September 16, 2006

Eric Anderson House of Delegates

I recently interviewed Eric Anderson who is running for the West Virginia House of Delegates as a Democrat in the 16th Delegate district in the Cabell and Wayne County WV area of the state. I was very impressed with Eric Anderson's deep knowledge of senior citizen and education issues. Eric Anderson appears to have great passion about improving the lot of children and senior citizens. I feel that Eric Anderson will make an outstanding addition to the West Virginia House of Delegates. I intend to vote for him, and encourage others to do so. His campaign sign is in my front yard right now because I am convinced that Eric Anderson will be a man of integrity in the West Virginia House of Delegates.
Stephanie Heck

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 20:44

Chief of Police

I think retired HPD Captain Sam Scheidler would make an excellent Huntington Chief of Police when the current chief of police retires. I have no idea if he is interested in the job, but he is most certainly qualified for the job. It is my understanding that Sam is currently working for the Cabell County Sheriff's Department as a senior deputy. His knowledge of Law Enforcement issues is current and has not lapsed since he retired from HPD. The chief of police job require a senior police officer with a longterm track record of extensive supervisory experience, and current knowledge of law enforcement problems in the jurisdiction he will serve in. There are very few candidates that fill the bill, and if Sam is not the most qualified, then Sam is certainly in the top three potential candidates for the job. He most certainly knows the historical issues of the HPD and perhaps could implement a strategy as the new chief of police to deal with longterm problems and improve morale. If there is a better qualified candidate, I am not aware of them. Stephanie Heck

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 20:33

Saturday, September 9, 2006

We are...Marshall

The movie We are...Marshall is scheduled for widespread release on December 22, 2006. I was a ten year old kid in Huntington when the Marshall University plane went down. I was at the Roll-O-Rama skating rink in Huntington the evening of the Marshall University plane crash on November 14, 1970. There is no person who lived in Huntington West Virginia at that time who will ever forget that evening. It is one of those memories you carry for a lifetime. I lived about 6 blocks from the old Fairfield stadium back then. Between 1968 and 1971, I rarely missed a game. There was a local policeman who always saw to it, that I had a ticket when he could. Marshall University Football Tickets for kids were only 2.00 back then. The police officers who provided security for the Marshall University Football games back then sometimes got a few extra tickets and it was common practice to give them to well behaved kids. One of the policemen lived across the street from the stadium in a two story house with a window in the upstairs front room that gave a Birds eye view of the stadium by looking over the fence. That cop was my buddy when I did not have a ticket. He kept the kids out of the cold. Nice guy. I knew some of the people who died on the plane. I think the majority of Huntington WV at that time did. In the months after that plane crash the whole town of Huntington WV was full of traumatized people. I am hoping this We are...Marshall movie brings about some healing to those who lost friends and family. I cried like a baby just watching the movie trailer. The We are...Marshall movie was filmed in Huntington WV and this adds realism to local citizens who remember all too well what happened on November 14, 1970. When you go to the theatre to see the We are...Marshall movie, don't forget to take a BIG box of Kleenex. This is especially true if you lived in Huntington WV or Attended Marshall University at that time. We are...Marshall will be a classic movie that addresses the ability of the people of Huntington WV and the Alumni of Marshall University to rise from despair and overcome hardship. This movie We are...Marshall is as much about the resiliency of our people, as it is about Marshall University and its football team. Once in a generation something happens to put West Virginia on the map. I wish to note that it was the year 1970 when John Denver released the song, "Take Me Home Country Roads" and it became a platinum hit and stayed on the top of the music charts for weeks on end. I feel the We are...Marshall movie will be taken to heart by the people of West Virginia in much the same way as they embraced and loved John Denver's classic song about West Virginia. I was in the stands at the old Marshall University Fairfield Stadium when I believe it was Reggie Oliver who ran for that first touchdown after the plane crash. That moment was the rebirth of hope to revive the football program. That one touchdown made us as happy as if we had won the Superbowl. If the We are...Marshall movie does not win an Academy Award (Oscar), then the Academy of Motion Pictures will be missing an opportunity to show appreciation for excellence. There is no excuse not to see this movie, Highly recommended. Stephanie Heck

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 23:13

Thursday, August 31, 2006

Drug Arrests in Huntington WV

Drug Arrests in Huntington WV. It appears that the local drug task force has made a large number of drug arrests in Huntington this week. It is my understanding that crack houses all over town were raided. and the number of arrests varies between 40 and 80 according to local sources. I wish to congratulate local law enforcement for a fine job and I also extend thanks and accolades to the WV State Troopers and Federal Agents involved. Good Job!

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 08:53

Thursday, August 17, 2006

Tri State Airport (HTS)

It seems that Tri State Airport at Huntington West Virginia was briefly evacuated today due to the fact that a liquid substance in a passengers carry on luggage set off an alarm with the explosive and flammable substances detector at the airport. It has not been released to the public just exactly what the alleged explosive substance at the airport actually was. According to a chemist I know, a bottle of high proof liquor qualifies as a flammable substance, and good ole West Virginia moonshine qualifies as an explosive fuel based on its chemical profile.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 21:10

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Huntington City Mission

Problem: The Huntington City Mission caters to a large number of vagrant people in Huntington who frequently panhandle downtown for beer money, and create an environment that is not conducive to business. They have been known to turn Riverfront park and Ninth Street Plaza into the "Wino's hall of fame" at times. Solution: I advocate enforcement of existing laws for those Huntington City Mission Wino's who constitute a danger to themselves or others via substance abuse. Court ordered detox and drug treatment is an option to prevent the Huntington city missions homeless alcoholics from laying in their own puke on the steps of the library. This will get the obnoxious panhandling drunken bums off the plaza to some degree. Problem: I resent the Huntington City Mission for ENABLEING substance abuse by helping people who wont help themselves. There was a time that the local merchants donated to the mission because they DID keep the bums off the street, however federal grants for homeless shelters makes it profitable to enable vagrancy so the motivation is gone to accommodate the local community. Solution: Help those willing to help themselves and give the rest of them the boot or a bus ticket to get the hell out of here. Problem: Detroit sends us dope dealing bums to Huntington WV and some of them have stayed at the mission in the past. Solution: We need to seriously contemplate sending the bums at he Huntington City Mission to Detroit. This is merely a ploy to bring the attention of Federal officials to the problem we have in Huntington with out of state drug dealers. We need to send Detroit panhandling alcoholic bums in return for their kindness in sending us drug dealers. I see it as fair trade. Problem: The people at the mission are uneducated and ignorant. Solution: Those that can be educated can be kept off the street with MANDATORY basic literacy classes during business hours, and that will prevent much of the problems in downtown Huntington. Some of them might even get their GED. The college of eduction at Marshall University could send a few student teachers to give them some classroom experience. This is common sense but I doubt the Huntington City Mission management sees it. Problem: The people of Huntington believe that the people at the Huntington City mission do not want to help themselves by working. Solution: The Huntington city mission can create a list of public service projects to give something back to the community. If a man is capable of doing something productive and he has no job, then by all means give him the dignity of some work by letting him do something productive rather than feel worthless. If the Huntington city mission sent 20 SOBER men over to Riverfront park to pick up all the litter and cigarette butts, I would be forced to change my mind about the city mission. If the city mission management would do something constructive with those people during business hours that kept all the bums off the street, I might see them as socially responsible. The city mission needs to put those bums to work doing something constructive or get rid of them. There is a big difference between helping someone down on their luck end enabling social problems. I resent the Huntington city mission for ENABLEING substance abuse by helping people who wont help themselves. Problem: Some of the people at the Huntington city mission are too sick or too old to work. Solution: The Huntington City Mission is not licensed to be a nursing home. Those that are too old or too sick to work or learn could be referred to social workers to tailor a solution to the individual. Historical Context: Many years ago the state hospital used to let the patients run loose up on twentieth street hill and many of them had problems with alcohol and drugs. Then the management of the state hospital changed and more socially responsible programs were instituted to provide life skills training and vocational training to those who could learn. The problems that the state hospital created for local law enforcement diminished because the demented patients were busy doing something constructive rather than running loose making trouble. If only history would repeat itself at the Huntington City Mission. Observation: Many of the people currently at the mission would have been in the state hospital 25 years ago because the laws have changed to the point that psychotic substance abusers have more rights than conventional working people. Some people may not agree with my position but at least I am thinking about a solution rather than gripe about the problem.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 02:05

Sunday, April 9, 2006

local spammers

Many people here in Huntington WV have been getting email from a local spammers list that they never signed up for, and this comes from a river cities guide website. It seems that e mail addresses have been harvested from local message boards and yahoo profiles that list Huntington as an address. I have nothing to do with this. I believe you should get permission before putting someone on a mailing list. It seems that the list that was compiled by the river cities website was left wide open so that anyone who desired to post to the entire list could do so. That is total and complete irresponsibility.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 12:11

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

Golden Oldies Streaming Radio Station

B 97.1 FM Radio in Coal Grove Ohio has an excellent online stream of golden oldies. Classical 60's 70's 80's Rock & Roll and they offer online streaming music for those who are fond of Internet Radio. I frequently listen to this radio station in the car and at home. Now I can listen to it online at the link below. Take a listen, and you will like it. It will play on a standard Windows media player. This is an up and coming radio station in the tri-state area serving Huntington WV, Ashland Ky, and Ironton Ohio. http://2005.b97fm.com/cc-common/streaming_new/index.html?refreshed=yes Radio stations in West Virginia and Ohio are streaming media to the internet in larger numbers and this B97.1 radio station is doing well to exploit technology. I like internet radio and I commend and recommend this radio station. Bookmark the radio station link above.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 22:13

Monday, February 20, 2006

Midway Drive Inn

I understand the city of Huntington West Virginia has shut down Midway Drive Inn, for failure to pay municipal fees and taxes to the city. It seems the hot dogs in city hall have shut down a local hot dog stand that is a local landmark to make a point. Nobody seems to know what that point is? One can only suspect that the political miscreants at city hall feel threatened by the hot dog stand, but nobody can blame the wieners in city hall, for defending their own species. Freudian connotations?

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 21:34

Monday, February 6, 2006

Huntington WV Municipal Website

I have recently been looking at the municipal website for the city of Huntington WV. The whole purpose of a government web site is to facilitate electronic communication to and from elected officials. The negligent omission of such an important detail as a method of electronic contact with government officials negates the partial purpose of the site. When you click on the e mail links all you get is a bunch of database gibberish in your e mail program. The municipal website should be interactive gateways to facilitate electronic gateways for citizens to digitally ingress and egress government. I am of the opinion that the city needs a new webmaster....pronto. I am not looking for the job myself. know how to modernize the cities website, but I don't want anyone in Huntington WV city hall to question my motivations for making these statements. The Huntington WV Police Department website is ponderously in need of an update. This has not been done in the case of Huntington WV and the HPD is overlooking a source of potential intelligence as it relates to the dope trade. Modern police websites have citizen input forms that allows citizens to accept anonymous crime tips over the web. If we had a modern municipal website for the city of Huntington WV , it would allow allow citizens to pay parking tickets and small tax and user fee bills over the internet via electronic commerce. Reducing the need for the Huntington Municipal Finance office to process these manually. Small businesses could pay B&O tax in this manner. Modern municipal websites have e mail list servers to distribute electronic memo's from department heads to city employees and facilitate inter-departmental communication. This reduces paperwork and facilitates more expedient communication. If Huntington WV had a modern municipal website, it would have a piece of blogging software installed for the mayor to give public updates on city affairs and policies. A blogging software does not require a webmaster to post updates, and the mayor can post his own updates in a web based word processor to rapidly get updates in policy to the public. Currently this is done by the cities volunteer webmaster when they get time to do it. A well designed government web site has many features installed in the back end of the site that enhances government efficiency and reduces paperwork. We need this in Huntington West Virginia. If Huntington WV had a modern municipal website, it would have a section where the fire department could promulgate fire prevention and safety tips for teachers to use in the public schools in conjunction with the board of education. Teachers could download fire prevention tips for safety lessons in the public schools. If Huntington WV had a modern municipal website, it would have a section where the police department could promulgate crime prevention and safety tips for teachers to use in the public schools in conjunction with the board of education. The police department could distribute drug prevention educational materials to the public school faculty in this manner. What Huntington WV currently has is a 1990's era municipal billboard in cyberspace with several bugs. How can Huntington embrace technology by enticing tech jobs to come here, if we don't embrace a modern perspective of efficiency by virtue of an online technological presence. Stephanie HeckHuntington WV

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 10:36

Saturday, January 21, 2006

Drug Dealers in Huntington West Virginia

There are several potential ways to stand up to the drug trade from Detroit that Huntington West Virginia has not used to my understanding. Huntington needs a multifaceted full spectrum approach to deal with the problem. Computers are a very powerful tool in fighting crime. Most of these dope dealers from Detroit are lifetime residents of Detroit and were born there. The overwhelming majority are males under the age of 45. It is possible to compile a statistical profile of dope dealers from Detroit that IGNORES the race issue for purposes of prevention of federal liability under profiling case law jurisprudence. FACT: Persons born in the state of WV have SSN's beginning with 232,233, and 236. Persons born in Michigan have a designated social security prefix also. Social Security prefix numbers are based on where you are born. Compile a digital target database list of persons born in Michigan who are currently living within designated Huntington West Virginia zip codes. Example: 25701 This can be done by using the states drivers license database and other databases. Eliminate all females from the target database with the exception of those with a known criminal history. Remove all males over the age of 45 from the target database who are not convicted of a drug related crime or other felony. By the time the end target database is compiled from the parent database. There should statistically be a target data hit list of less than 200 persons per zip code. The police can then easily determine which ones of them are potential trouble based upon criminal history. The state tax department can run the target list through the tax computer to determine which ones are gainfully employed in an honest job. Remove those gainfully employed from the target data base hit list unless they are convicted felons. The police may find a few dope heads that they have overlooked and persons of interest if this is done. We have dope heads running around Huntington with out of state ID's. We need to REQUIRE people to change ID and register with the state within 2 weeks of arrival. Persons with Michigan SSN prefix's could be flagged in designated WV zip codes. The governor would be within his authority to Reduce the requirement to obtain state ID or drivers licence from 30 days to two weeks for persons within our borders within a designated county by executive order. He should be asked to do this by the city or county commission. Compulsory re-registration of ID and vehicles with the state of WV after two weeks would give police probable cause to pull over any out of state vehicle that has been in WV longer than 15 days. That probable cause would be based upon suspicion of unlawful vehicle registration. Perfectly legal for the local police to do that. I am curious if HPD has a database specialist on the payroll? Perhaps this is the area where WVSP are the leading experts? Maybe this has already been done? We need to send a political message as well to these out of state drug gangs. We need to encourage West Virginia's congressional delegation and its two very powerful Senators to strongly encourage the FBI and DEA to greatly increase the budget for the drug task force in Detroit and in Huntington. A full spectrum strategy is based on attacking the dope supply as well as the demand. If more dope dealers get busted in Detroit, this means just one less dope dealer that can potentially come here. We have two powerful senators who can ask the federal agents to turn up the heat on Detroit drug gangs who have turned up the heat on us. Turnabout is fair play at the level of federal politics. I am curious to know if federal firearms charges have been filed against the idiots who shot up the house on Fairfax? As I understand it they are from Detroit. Crossing state lines to commit a felony with a firearm is a ticket to the federal penitentiary. Why was a bond hearing held in magistrates court before the U.S. Attorney had a chance to make the decision if he wished to prosecute under federal law? West Virginia needs to make it easier for drug addicted people to sue their drug dealers. Unleash the power of the civil courts on dope dealers as well as the criminal courts. Make these dope dealers fear the process server as well as the detectives in a full spectrum strategy to abate the problem. I wish to note that the term TORT and torture have the same linguistic root. Turn the litigation lawyers loose on local dope dealers in a full spectrum "open season" strategy to make life hard on them. It does not matter to me if a drug dealer leaves the state to avoid the enforcement of a civil judgement or to evade prosecution, as long as they get the hell out of my town and be quick about it. I am certain that city leaders would agree. Stephanie Heck
stephanie@sheck.com

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 14:16

Monday, January 2, 2006

River cities Celebration

There was a great celebration of the new year in the river cities of Ashland Iron ton and Huntington WV. We are full of hope in the river cities that the new year will be more prosperous than the last. Stephanie Heck Huntington wv

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 05:46

River cities Celebration

There was a great celebration of the new year in the river cities of Ashland Iron ton and Huntington WV. We are full of hope in the river cities that the new year will be more prosperous than the last. Stephanie Heck Huntington wv

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 05:46

Wednesday, December 28, 2005

Huntington West Virginia Chat Room Schedule

Huntington West Virginia Chat Room Schedule We have had a large number of people coming to the Huntington West Virginia Chat Room. However the trickle of traffic has been frustrating to some who have not known when is the best time to show up. Don't give up on this. A Huntington West Virginia Chat Room Server should serve as a community asset. I announced this just before the Christmas holiday and there was not much traffic online locally to support the chat room because people were spending time with friends and family. Hosted chats will be at 8 PM Nightly at <http://sheck.com/chat/>

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 19:01

Monday, December 26, 2005

Huntington West Virginia Message Board

<http://sheck.com/forums>

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 13:38

Wednesday, December 21, 2005

Pullman Square

Dear Huntington City Council:12/21/2005Subject: TTA and Pullman SquareI have some questions, concerns, and comments about the way Pullman Square came in to being with regard to TTA involvement. I will try to be as concise and specific as possible with my concerns. I am quite proud of Pullman Square but I am concerned about how it came into being,Who are the actual real estate owners of the Pullman Square property? Is it TTA as I understand? Or is it a private entity? A private entity can rent parking on private roads with no problems. Who owns the very frequently cursed parking meters in Pullman Square? If the Pullman Square parking meters are not owned by the city, have the municipal vending machine permit fees been paid? That is what a privately owned parking meter is a parking vending machine. I see no municipal vending machine permit stickers on the parking meters at Pullman Square, so I naturally assume that they are owned by the city.Assuming ...the parking board was chartered to regulate metered parking within the municipality.Then the TTA and the Pullman Square developers would in theory need to go through the parking board and or council to gain approval for any private metered parking plan, on any property receiving government money. Compliance with the regulatory will of council is a customary condition to get city money. Assuming... the TTA owns the Pullman Square property and leased it to private developers. As I understand it TTA owns the property and have negotiated a long term sweetheart lease that includes delegating the property tax exemption given to government entities like TTA.Assuming.... TTA gets city or other government money via direct funding and or special levee..My biggest concern is that the TTA is custodian / owner of large real estate assets that are NOT related to or relevant to public transportation. Those assets are not relevant to the purpose for which TTA was chartered. There is in my mind more probable cause to believe TTA has exceeded its charter, than to believe the city has exceeded its charter. Quasi-government corporations like TTA exist and are chartered for the public good. By making the development of Pullman Square under the tax-exempt auspices of TTA, the TTA has created a de facto tax immunity for the developers as to ad valorem property taxes. Was the TTA chartered to shelter private real estate developers from taxes? Did the city consent to this?Did the county commission consent? Did the legislature consent?Was the attorney general involved in the negation of the development contract?The city of Huntington has a vested financial interest in these questions. The property taxes that are collected in Cabell County are distributed along a formula. The public schools get some, the county gets some, and the municipal entities (City of Huntington) get a portion. The city has a financial interest in the TTA's conduct if TTA is undermining revenue. The TTA is a publicly chartered "bus company" that is operating like a for profit real estate holding corporation and sheltering its real estate development clients from tax obligations under the tax exempt auspices of TTA. Pullman Square is a fine facility with great potential, however I believe the actions of TTA in sheltering the Pullman Square developers from taxation and undermining the tax base deserve much closer scrutiny.For the record, the Cabell county assessor (Ottie Adkins) has asked the legislature to close this clearly exploited loophole in the law that supposedly allows this. Ottie makes a good point that the actions exploiting this loophole were beyond the intent of the legislature. The manipulation of the statutory loophole may or may not be an abuse of the legislatures intent. That is the attorney generals and a judicial call. Government owned and Government chartered public service entities that undermine the tax base are not working for the public good as their chartering founders intended. Has TTA gone beyond the scope of its charter, which is essentially that of a "bus company"?The legislature clearly intended that facilities owned by government entities for the public good be exempt from property taxation. This is why the city does not pay property tax on city hall. The concerns of Ottie Adkins about the tax status of the Pullman property and its relationship to TTA are legitimate. Mark that down on the calendar, I have agreed with Ottie for the first time in many years. I question the legitimacy of the legal theory of acquiring tax exemption reserved for government entities by virtue of a real estate development contract. The actions of TTA in structuring the Pullman Square deal in this manner are a de facto delegation of a statutory government tax immunity to a private entity without acquiescence of the taxing government body. Remember it is only lawful to contract to do a lawful thing and any contract that circumvents the law is subject to judicial review by any government entity adversely impacted. I do feel that TTA usurped the prerogative of the legislature, the county commission, the city, and the attorney general, in negotiating a tax shelter for a private developer as an incentive to develop in downtown Huntington. However this contract was negotiated in such a manner as it undermined the municipal tax base to the great detriment of the city finances. In light of the fact that the city and the county commission has subsidized the TTA for many years, I see the TTA as having abandoning its ethical (and perhaps statutory) responsibility to protect the best financial interest of the city, county, and state in its business dealings. Government entities and employees have a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayer.The attorney general can in theory negotiate tax incentives to lure jobs and investment to this state, however the governor and the legislature need to ratify that negotiation for it to be valid. ONLY the legislature can grant tax exemption or create tax shelters for private investors.There is no provision in West Virginia law that I am aware of allowing any government chartered entity such as TTA to abuse its property tax exemption by conferring tax immunity on a private developer by a lease contract, without the formal written consent of all government entities adversely impacted. Due to the fact that the state constitution

requires "Uniform enforcement" of general statutes (including tax laws) I have serious doubts and questions about the TTA's understanding of the law. According to TTA logic, you can contract to circumvent tax liability as long as you agree to do it on TTA property. Forgive me for thinking it is unconscionable and unethical for a contract to be used as a venue to circumvent tax liability. Where is the uniform enforcement in that? Whatever government entity oversees TTA, that entity needs to get them under control, or rewrite the bus company charter as a real estate brokerage. I recognize I have raised some extensive issues, take your time in responding. I am proud of Huntington's Pullman square but displeased with the way it came about
Stephanie Heck
Stephanie@sheck.com

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 07:04

Friday, December 9, 2005

Meeting and Event Planning

Huntington Business News : A well known face in Huntington West Virginia, Russell Alexander, has opened a Meeting and Event Planning business after retiring from the legal profession. The Name of his business is ALX Meeting and Event Planning. He has planned many bar association events and conventions in the past and has decided to take up the Meeting and Event Planning profession as a second career. I wish him well in the meeting and event planning business. He will be a professional seminar and conference planner and provide onsite management for conventions and tradeshows. His website is located at <http://alxmeetingandeventplanning.com> His website can also be reached at <http://conferenceplanner.us> I wish to congratulate Russell Alexander for contributing to the diversity of the growing Huntington WV business community. Stephanie Heck

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 13:43

Sunday, December 4, 2005

Warehouse Fire in Huntington WV

The large warehouse located at 733 Rear Seventh Avenue in Huntington WV burned this evening in a huge fire of currently unknown cause. The Huntington Fire Department did a valiant job in keeping the fire from spreading to adjacent structures. The warehouse at one time housed the Polo Club in its basement, a local bar serving the local gay community. The Polo Club relocated elsewhere last year to the best of my understanding. I was driving on 9th Avenue about a mile from the location of the fire when I saw the huge smoke plume coming from downtown Huntington. I went closer to see what was on fire and wanted to take some pics for the local news section of this blog. The warehouse bordered the railroad tracks on the south side of the building and was directly to the rear of Macintosh's lounge (a straight bar) on the corner of Seventh Avenue and Eighth Street in Huntington West Virginia. The building that houses Macintosh's Lounge did not appear to have any damage and the bar and its dedicated thirsty patrons did not evacuate in spite of the blazing inferno next door. I briefly walked over to Macintosh's bar and stepped inside the door just to see if the place was still open during the blaze. I was amazed that the fire department did not order an evacuation due to the fact that the rear of Macintosh's is only twenty feet from the burning warehouse. The power was off in the nightclub and there were candles lit on the bar. I quietly stepped back outside and took a few more pictures of the fire. The vivid picture below will show the extensive damage that rendered the building to be an apparent total loss and it also shows the Huntington Fire Department in action. God Bless those guys.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 20:42

Saturday, November 19, 2005

Ashland Police Chief

I recently drove through Ashland Kentucky, a small city about 18 miles from Huntington West Virginia, just across the state line. Population about 25,000. I was amazed and flabbergasted at the differences between Ashland Kentucky and Huntington West Virginia. There was not a single crack dealer or crack addicted prostitute on any corner or alley in sight. I did not see any dilapidated crack houses, and the downtown streets were clean and free of thugs, panhandlers, and homeless wino's. It definitely was not Huntington. I really wish it was. I commend the Ashland Police Department for their efforts. Ashland is doing an excellent job of keeping the dope problem under control, in stark contrast to Huntington. I strongly suggest that Mayor David Felinton of Huntington get in the car and drive through Ashland and look at the differences for himself just to see what Huntington could be if we had efficient law enforcement. It has been six months since the prom night murders in Huntington and still no arrests. We need new leadership in the Huntington Police Department. The police chief in Ashland has an excellent track record of getting the job done right. I have never met the gentleman, but it seems clear to me that the Ashland Police Chief would be an excellent candidate to replace "Bummy" and bring a measure of efficiency to Huntington's municipal law enforcement efforts against the dope trade.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 18:26

Monday, November 14, 2005

Marshall University Plane Crash

Today is the thirty fifth anniversary of the Marshall University Plane Crash. On November 14, 1970 an airliner carrying the Marshall University Football Team crashed into a hillside near the Tri State Airport in Huntington WV. I was a ten year old child at the time. I was at the roll-o-rama skating rink in Huntington WV when we got the news of the Marshall University football team plane crash. Several of the children at the skating rink started screaming because they had parents, relatives, and family friends on the airplane. An off duty Huntington policeman who came to pick up one of the children at the skating rink tried to comfort some of the kids who were very upset. When the news of the crash came over the radio from WSAZ, we did not know if there were any survivors from the plane crash or not. The skating event started about 7 PM and the news came over the radio of a plane crash at Tri State Airport came over the radio just a little after 8PM. It was announced that it was unknown if there were any survivors at that time. It was also announced over WSAZ radio that the plane in question was carrying the football team. That's when several children started screaming and crying. The lady that ran the concession stand at the skating rink got some change from the concession stand cash register and helped some of the smaller kids call home on the payphone. Phone calls were only a dime on a payphone at that time. My mother was out of town and my father was at work that evening. My babysitter called my uncle to come and fetch my younger brother and myself. No person who was actually in the City of Huntington on the evening of that Marshall University plane crash will ever forget that evening. As I look back over the thirty five years that have passed, the evening that the Marshall University Plane Crash happened was just like yesterday in my mind. The whole town of Huntington was severely traumatized. I remember that several weeks after the Marshall University Plane Crash, some of the local churches held prayer vigils for the departed near the crash site. The earth at the crash site was scorched and blackened due to the intense heat from the fire. Stephanie Heck Huntington WV

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 09:32

Friday, November 4, 2005

Halloween block party

I hear that a large Halloween block party, attended by numerous Marshall University Students in Huntington was broken up by the Huntington Police Department. There were allegations of misconduct and excessive force by Huntington?police. I encourage Mayor David Felinton to have this matter investigated by the West Virginia State Police from an outside perspective rather than have an internal investigation by the HPD. I feel that this will preserve the integrity of the investigation by having it done by a responsible police agency (WVSP) that is beyond the control of local politics. Stephanie Heck

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 06:49

Tuesday, October 11. 2005

Huntington WV News

I first started this internet blog about one year ago with the intention of providing an alternative news resource for the Huntington west Virginia area. it has generated much more traffic than I ever anticipated. This has been quite rewarding to me on a personal level. At the local level, I am famous or infamous depending on just who you're talking to. The Huntington WV news paper is quite profoundly controversial in our community and therefore a variety of alternative sources insures that the news will be reported from a wide diversity of perspectives. The advent of internet technology has strongly affected the manner which Americans get their news. There are a great diversity of credible websites publishing news in a responsible manner that collectively constitute a new form of media. Some people in Huntington West Virginia question the legitimacy of internet news in contrast to the traditional media. This is an overt replication of a 500 year old historical argument that happened when Mr. Gutenberg's neighbors questioned the legitimacy of dubious books that were printed on the printing press , as opposed to those highly credible books that were copied by hand by the scribes as had been customary for centuries. The definition of media has changed in the last fifteen years due to the evolution of information technology, In much the same way that Mr. Gutenberg and his printing press changed the definition of media 500 years ago with the invention of the printing press. <http://sheck.com/serendipity> Huntington WV news blog

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 19:06

Huntington WV and the future

As I see more and more new business enter the city of Huntington WV, I wonder how long the city of Huntington will see glimmers of economic recovery. I sincerely feel that this is long overdue after three decades of Urban Renewal that resulted in the Huntington WV Mall being placed in Barboursville WV. The city of Huntington is long overdue for a break. I feel the cities residents are more ready for progress than their leaders.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 17:19

Wednesday, October 5, 2005

Grandview Inn South Point Ohio News

The Grandview Inn in South Point Ohio has gone up in flames and been destroyed. The fire was intense and no less than 9 different fire departments responded, but the facility was totally evacuated and nobody got hurt or killed. There was such a tremendous fire that the smoke was visible from higher elevations in Huntington West Virginia.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 15:54

Thursday, September 1, 2005

Gas Prices in Huntngton West Virginia

September 1, 2005 A day that shall live in economic infamy. Gasoline hit three dollars a gallon on this date in Huntington West Virginia. We are paying the prices of the Bush policies. The policies of the U.S. Government are putting the United States that we once knew as a fond memory. I am worried for the old people who will freeze to death this winter because they cannot afford heating oil.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 10:02

Sunday, August 21, 2005

Bank and banking scams

Many of the citizens of Huntington WV are a bit behind the times when it comes to detecting Internet fraud and banking scams that comes in the form of an e mail pretending to be from one bank or another. The best defense is common sense. Beware, this is a common type of Internet banking fraud known as phishing or fishing, they are setting you up for identity theft and this can cause you a huge amount of financial grief with your bank and card accounts. If in doubt of the legitimacy of any e mail from any bank, pick up the phone and call the bank to verify. No legitimate bank will refuse to verify correspondence. These e mails that claim to be from a familiar bank that we have been doing business with for years almost always ask us to confirm our credit card or account information to a website allegedly owned by a bank or banking institution in our Huntington WV area. The e mail provides you with a link to log in to your alleged online account and it looks very official and frequently contains the bank logo or the logo of a familiar banking institution. The link leads to a website owned by criminals who will abuse the sensitive information by draining money from your bank account. If you receive any type of e mail from your bank or banking institution that you have not solicited. Call your bank at once. Your bank would much rather hear from a confused bank customer, than hear from a bank account and or a banking customer who has been the victim of identity theft. A good relationship with your local bank is your best defence against bank account scams, identity theft, and banking fraud. If you have several credit cards, use the one with the lowest credit limit, for Internet purchases, and your bank will thank you in the event of fraud. A lower limit sets off security alerts at the bank when the card is abused by a thief, because the bank or financial institution will notice suspicious activity sooner when the limit is reached. Time is important when catching thieves. Stephanie Heck Huntington West Virginia

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 02:10

Tuesday, August 2, 2005

Polling Software

We have added polling software to sheck.com and this means that this interactive West Virginia blog can be used to take online polling of our visitors. The server side polling software will measure polls of visitors to this site. Polls will be on a variety of controversial topics in the beginning and will become more specific as time goes by and as issues come up. I am trying to add more interactive features to the blog and the polling software is a plus. Polling will be a hit I hope. Take a look and see what you think! Hopefully this will be a great way to meter public opinion in the Huntington West Virginia area. This blog is doing right at a thousand visitors a day. POLLSStephanie

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 20:29

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

Huntington Municipal User Fees

I am still surprised that the City of Huntington West Virginia wants to raise municipal user fees. A \$ 500.00 license to own a pit bull canine within the city limits would raise quite a bit of money. It may be a good idea or a bad idea... but at least I am thinking. Stephanie Heck Huntington Cabell County West Virginia

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 05:58

Friday, July 1, 2005

Huntington West Virginia News Topics :: Crime in Huntington West Virginia

Dear Cabell County Residents: I am shocked at the level of recent crime in Huntington West Virginia. We have just had a quadruple murder here of four youth in the wee hours of the morning following a prom. These killings happened within 300 yards of Cabell Huntington Hospital. It seems that the only way to deal with the crack cocaine problem in Huntington is to place police right on top of the high crime areas. Police need to be in close proximity to crime to effectively combat it in high crime areas. Suggestion: Due to the fact that Cabell County Commission is a major stockholder in Cabell Huntington Hospital. The sheriff would be well within his rights to have the security department at the hospital take training to qualify as auxiliary deputies. The sheriff is obligated to protect the county commissions property and has a valid legal interest in doing so. In the event of crime wave in the Hal Greer Blvd. area, these new auxiliary deputy sheriffs could be called upon to back up the Huntington Police Department and the sheriffs force of regular deputies. What I suggest is turning the security department at the hospital into an auxiliary deputy force under the authority of the county sheriff. The state constitution says the sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer in a county, I am suggesting a strategy to help the sheriff expand law enforcement presence in close proximity to a high crime area that is well known for the illegal drug trade that has criminal repercussions throughout the county. The Cabell Huntington Hospital has a legitimate medical interest in reducing the drug trade to defend the community health. The Cabell Huntington hospital has a vested interest in reducing crime in close proximity to the hospital grounds for the safety of the hospital employees. The Cabell County Sheriff has a lawful enforcement interest in keeping high crime areas within the county under strict control. The Cabell Huntington Hospital could possibly partner with the County Sheriff's Department to expand the much needed law enforcement presence in the Hal Greer Blvd area, if only they would cooperate with each other for the sake of the community. The Cabell Huntington Hospital could amend the mission statement in the Hospital charter, to not only "promoting and protecting the community health", but the amendment would include the "community health and safety" The lucrative contract for security at the hospital should be given to the sheriff's department because the County is part owner of the place. By all proper rights, the security of the hospital should properly be under the lawful authority of the sheriff as the constitutional law enforcement agent of the County commission. The sheriff has a right to control the courthouse law enforcement because the Cabell County Commission owns it. As long as the Cabell County Commission has part ownership of the hospital, the County Sheriff has a right to control all security and establish training standards for security personnel. I encourage the Cabell County Sheriff to exercise his rights to the detriment of the dope dealers in Cabell County. Those who wish to comment may do so at the link below this article marked comments. Feedback is appreciated. Stephanie Heck Cabell County Huntington West Virginia

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 00:00

Friday, June 3, 2005

Huntington West Virginia Digital Resources

<http://sheck.com> Is a web hosting provider and web design house. I own it. It has yet to catch on in this area but I have been consistantly promoting it online. Eventually I hope to promote business in this area. Sheck Search Engine Is a place where you can go to search the web or search sheck.com at your option. It is a branded interface to google and it is convenient. Huntington Community Forum Is a message board that I have set up for huntington people to discuss items of interest to the Huntington West Virginia Area. The sheck.com website is ranked number one on the MSN search engine for Huntington WV. I figured a community discussion forum for local news might be a good idea for something potentially positive to let outsiders see Huntington West Virginia in a more positive light. I stress the word POSITIVE. Sheck Chat Server for Huntington West Virginia Is a chat room server that I have set up for huntington people to discuss items of interest to the Huntington West Virginia Area. The sheck.com website is ranked number eleven on the Google search engine for Huntington WV. I figured a community discussion forum for local news might be a good idea for something potentially positive to let outsiders see Huntington West Virginia in a more positive light. In short a potential employer wanting to locate here might want to ask questions about the area directly from Huntington West Virginia residents. The city of Huntington West Virginia spends money on a "Technology park" but makes little effort to reach out to the technology community, and thus I fear that Sony, Intel, and Microsoft are not going to relocate here in the near future. Is there something positive that can be done on a local level to make this town more attractive to the tech industry which is outsourcing large numbers of jobs to China and India at the moment. All I have done is set up a forum for local Huntington Residents to discuss it. So far it has not garnered much traffic but the word is still getting out and I am sure that will change. Comments and feedback are welcome. If you post a comment you might not see it immediately as I have had to moderate comments to keep the spammers under control. I read all comments submitted. Stephanie

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 20:52

Thursday, June 2, 2005

Hit Counters on Huntington Blog

This Huntington West Virginia blog has hit counters on each article that is viewed because each article has its own individual page. The frontpage of the blog is an aggregate compilation that has its hit counter at the very bottom of the main page. It is very small. This site does about 1000-1500 views a day and half that traffic is local. This is developing into a potential community resource for the Huntington West Virginia area.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 22:36

Monday, May 23, 2005

Prom Night Deaths

Prom Night turned out to be a tragic night of death for four youth aged 16-19, on prom night in Huntington West Virginia. In the 1400 block of Charleston Avenue in Huntington, West Virginia, (about 4 A.M. Sunday morning) police discovered four youth aged 16 to 19 had been shot to death in the wee hours of the morning following the prom at the high school. 2 of the Victims were from Huntington West Virginia, and a third was from Barboursville and the fourth was from South Point Ohio. Details are vague at this point, and police have yet to make much information public, as much related to this Prom Night tragedy of four deaths is still being investigated. The area around the Charleston Avenue scene of the prom night killings is known as a high crime area with much dope related crime, and it has been the scene of past shootings. The motive for the four prom night murders is unknown at this time.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 10:24

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Pit bulldog Attack

A two year old Huntington WV girl has been mauled to death by a Pit Bulldog canine Attack in the Guyandotte section of Huntington on Buffington Street.. It is no wonder that the Pit Bulldog is banned in parts of Canada and Australia and complete bans on Pit Bulldogs are in effect in Italy and Germany. Leave it to West Virginia to tolerate an animal that has been banned in numerous jurisdictions because they are prone to attack children on a regular basis. The best cure for a pitbull is a 38 Smith & Wesson.Pit Bulldogs are not bred to be pets, they are bred to kill or be killed as fighting dogs. Pit Bulldogs are frequently used by drug dealers to thwart police raids. Dogfighting and drug dealing are both illegal in West Virginia and I have no idea why the legislature allows these malicious dogs to be classified as domestic pets. From a Genetic point of view a Wolf is a species of canine, but you do not want one for a pet because they are wild animals with a mean streak when hungry, and they are always hungry. It is illegal to keep a wolf as a domestic pet because they are classified as wildlife. How many children have to die before the legislature acts to ban these hateful badly bred malicious Pit Bulldog animals from our state of West Virginia?Pit Bulldogs are great if you are a dope dealer. If Pitbulls were banned, all the dope dealers would be missing their pets...and be forced to get a lazy hound dawg instead.If Huntington City Council had any creative backbone, we would have a 2500.00 license fee to own a Pit Bulldog and force all these blasted dope dealers to pay their fair share and register with the city so the cops would be able to know where they live. The money could be used to pay funeral expenses for mauled children and pay the medical bills for Huntington WV policemen who were bitten by dogs during drug raids.It would please me enormously to see the Circuit Court order the animal shelter destroy these animals upon arrival to reduce their numbers in the community. but that is an intelligent and creative thought. The Huntington housing authority could legally justify banning the breed from public housing projects due to the presence of children, I know that thought would displease the dope heads up in Marcum Terrace, but Frankly Scarlett.....In light of the fact that a policeman can be sued for shooting someones pet, I would like to see the legislature give police immunity from liability if they are required to shoot a malicious dog.There are more Pitbulls in this town than ever before, because there are more dope dealers than ever beforeand we need to be creative in our strategies to control them. There is a word for a worthless animal that constitutes a health hazard.....PEST.Pit Bulldog POLL No registration required to vote in the Pit Bulldog PollSHOULD Pit BulldogS BE BANNED? Creative Discussion and voting on message board.Chat Room Requires no registration (just a user name) and a Java capable computer.Stephanie HeckHuntington West Virginia 25701

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 07:25

Sunday, May 15, 2005

Car Wreck in Huntington

Friends:I was getting ready to go out to breakfast in Huntington this morning, when a sixteen year old girl came driving up the street like a proverbial bat out of hell, and hit my neighbors parked SUV.Between the two vehicles there is about \$ 20,000 in damages as best as I can see. The accident was only about forty feet from my car. Close call !!!! Although I got my first drivers license when I was 16, I don't think today's kids have the same respect for a vehicle that my generation did. I am now convinced that it is a matter of common sense that minors not be given a drivers license at age 16, unless it is deemed necessary by proper authorities that the minor needs to drive for a disabled parent who cannot drive.When I first got my drivers license at age 16, it was clearly understood that I was expected to help my grandmother get around if she needed transportation. Rights and privileges are not appreciated by youth unless coupled with responsibility. Stephanie HeckCabell County Huntington West Virginia

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 08:59

Thursday, May 5, 2005

City Of Huntington West Virginia Website

I have witnessed that the City of Huntington West Virginia has published the names of municipal fee deadbeats on the city of Huntington West Virginia website. When the global search engines index that website and your name becomes available as a deadbeat to the global internet, you will be upset with city hall. When you pay your fees they are supposed to remove your name from the deadbeats list. However when something is published online, it cannot be retracted. The City of Huntington did not think this through. This is the reason that the state of West Virginia does not put legal notices of tax delinquency on the internet. Because it cannot be retracted when the obligation is met. The internet has its drawbacks and it is not like a newspaper where an editor is in charge. There is no central authority on the internet to enforce the duty to retract once the obligation is met. The reason that the state of Florida put a list of convicted sex offenders online is because it is a permanent label for convicts that the state desires to be permanent and does not wish to retract. The newspaper is much better suited for notices of delinquency, and the internet is better suited for notices about convicted sex offenders. Simply because information that is published on the internet can never be retracted. I just hope nobody gets the City Of Huntington West Virginia list of tax and municipal fee deadbeats mixed up with the states sex offender list. That deadbeats list is a treasure trove for unscrupulous internet data mining companies who sell information about people. The law allows for publication of a tax deadbeats list in the newspaper located within the jurisdiction of the government making the publishing. There is no physical location for the internet. Legal notices of delinquency are properly published locally and not globally. I would be enormously pleased if the City of Huntington West Virginia were to think first before acting. When you start getting junk mail galore because Internet data mining companies have picked up that list. Maybe you can forward it all to city hall. Nobody seems to have thought about that... did they? Stephanie Heck Cabell County Huntington West Virginia

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 14:30

Wednesday, May 4, 2005

Huntington WV Potential Flooding Fourpole Creek

I am greatly concerned about the potential for drainage problems causing flash flooding along fourpole creek in the area of Huntington WV Known as Enslow Park. What has happened is that there have been several topographical modifications along the Hal Greer Blvd access corridor to I-64 that has adversely impacted the flood plain for Four Pole Creek. This substantially means that Four Pole Creek now handles the same amount of aquatic runoff in a much shorter time. This creates the potential for flooding such as what happened last year. I have lived in the area since I was a child and I am intimately familiar with the topography of the area within 1 square mile of here. I am now 45. The original construction plan for the I-64 access roads at Hal Greer Blvd. was well engineered with drainage management in mind in the mid 1960's. However the recent construction revisions did not take runoff drainage in mind to the point that the original engineers did. This impacted the potential for flooding to some degree. There is physical evidence to support this. I can show this to any Engineer that the city authorizes to make an inspection. Perhaps the Corps of Engineers can make an inspection. At one time there was a concrete tunnel that ran from Four Pole Creek under the access roads when there were two roads leading to and from I-64. The medium between the two access roads would flood during times of heavy rainfall because the original engineers designed it that way. The concrete tunnel carried excess water to the deeply constructed medium between the roads and that medium was designed as a spillage area in addition to serving as a road divider. The concrete retainer wall in Four Pole Creek along the Wilson Court area was installed at the same time as the original construction of the Hal Greer Blvd. access roads to I-64 (Circa 1966-67) The recent contraction of the access roads from four lanes to two removed (and filled in) the deep medium in the formerly 4 lane road and reduces the spillage / runoff area for Four Pole Creek substantially. The end result was merely the creation of about 2 acres of prime real estate across from Meadows School. The area occupied by the newly constructed industrial park adjacent to I-64 was formerly a low lying wooded area that frequently flooded during heavy rainfall. This slowed down the rate of rainfall drainage substantially. The flood plain was impacted by the industrial park topographical modifications but it is not the entire problem. Realistically this situation is a series of small problems that could be very well abated by a well engineered spillage reservoir to replace the spillage assets lost by recent construction that did not take the flood plane into account. There are some areas of Four Pole Creek that could benefit from more frequent dredging of a combination of trash, silt, and wood debris. I had a meeting with Councilman Cal Kent on this topic the last week of October 2004. We discussed in extensive detail, the potential short term, and long term potentials, for a flood reduction and aqua-diversion control plan for that particular area of Huntington WV known as "Enslow Addition" on the city Platte. We discussed the potential costs to use the old lake bed bed the shelter in Ritter Park for an overflow spillage and runoff basin for Four Pole Creek. A sixty foot section of 48 inch corrugated pipe could be installed by four men and a backhoe for a modest cost to create about an acre of spillage area 8 feet deep in the old lake bed. This could serve to slow down the speed of the rising water in the event of a summer cloudburst storm. The edge of the lake bed is about 20 yards from the creek bank. We also discussed the ramifications of this potential flood abatement plan, to reduce the insurance rates for homeowners in the 1400 block of Washington Blvd., in addition to the Wilson Court area. The number of claims filed in a particular zip code is the method of choice for actuarial calculation of rates by underwriters. This reduction in insurance rates in Huntington (within the 25701 zipcode) from a good flood control plan, would stricture insurance cash outflow from the area in insurance premiums. This would result in long-term economic benefit to the residents of the city, due to the fact that the aggregate monies saved by homeowners would circulate in the local economy several times before leaving the area. Pure economics. We discussed potential collaboration with the Park Board in reducing the potential for flooding in this part of Huntington. We discussed the impact on the Huntington park board, due to Huntington park board ownership of a dilapidated bridge at Twelfth Street at the area of Ritter Park commonly known to the public as the "Tennis Courts". We discussed the potential for an inspection by the bridge inspector from the Dept. of Highways in addition to the Corps of Engineers to determine to what degree the bridge impacted flooding potential. Currently there is a walkway under the bridges at 8th Street and 5th Street in Ritter Park that diminish the ability of the creek to drain properly during periods of high rainfall. We discussed the potential for a temporary bridge. Due to advances in metallurgy in the last forty years, a metal bridge would require less support structure than the current concrete+rebar bridge that dates back to the 1920's. The reduced size of the metal bridge support structures would result in a reduced impediment of aquatic flow in Four Pole Creek. We discussed the potential political ramifications of the park boards possible failure to collaborate, and expressed mutual hope that this would not be the case. I found Councilman Kent to be genuinely concerned but he did not seem to grasp the full extent of what I was saying. I think he tried. There was certainly a flooding problem in Huntington Last Year and much has been printed in the local media about it. If my home is flooded this year because nobody made a serious effort to abate the problem, then it cannot be said that I did not make the warning public that the problem has not yet been abated. Stephanie heckHuntington Cabell County West Virginia

Blog Export: Huntington West Virginia Blog, <http://www.sheck.com/serendipity/>

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 23:47

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Huntington City Council

Now that Tom McCallister is gone from Huntington City Council, it seems that Huntington City Council is no longer as entertaining as it once was. Watching Tom McCallister's latest rant at Huntington City Council was premium entertainment for Huntingtons citizens. The only reason that Tom was ever elected is because the citizens of Huntngton thought City Council deserved Tom. This message brought to you as a public service from the Tom McCallister Survivors Association

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 21:03

Saturday, April 16, 2005

Huntington West Virginia Resources

Hi This is Stephanie and I just wanted you to know that there are some new resources online for Huntington West Virginia people to communicate. There is the Huntington West Virginia Chat Room <http://sheck.com/chat/> Traffic will be sparse when it is just getting started but it will pick up in time. There is the Huntington West Virginia Message Board Forum at <http://sheck.com/forums/> This is what I hope to offer in the Huntington and surrounding Cabell and Wayne County West Virginia Area. As an Internet Server Programmer I do the more advanced aspects of internet design and implemetation. There are a lot of goods and services that could be sold online from this huntington WV area but there does not seem to be enough people with the technical know how to implement the digital solutions to the economic problem of making Huntington Area goods and services available to the world market that the online community is used to. I hope to change that to the best of my ability. I am the owner of <http://sheck.com/index.html>

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 02:09

Sunday, April 10, 2005

Seeking Work In Huntington WV

I am a web developer and programmer with commercial experience and references. I am looking to build e commerce web sites for local businesses. I live in Cabell County City of Huntington WV 25701 Stephanie Heck 304-617-9179

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 19:53

Saturday, April 9, 2005

Opening for Business in Huntington WV

Well I am going to take the plunge and try to develop a local clientele in Huntington WV. I have been hosting and programming for years but I never tried to do it in my hometown of Huntington West Virginia. I wonder if Huntington is ready for my level of geekdom. I have my own servers that are hosted in a professional data center in another state and I can host business web sites much cheaper than the so called local experts. I have excellent search engine position on the major search engines and carry top rank in a few different categories. I do a little bit of PHP programming and I am an HTML expert. I just re designed the front page of www.sheck.com in anticipation of expansion. Lets see if it works. Some of my regular readers send me mail and let me know what you think. I also updated my personal page at Marshall as I have had that page since the early days of the web. <http://webpages.marshall.edu/~sheck/> stephanie@sheck.com

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 18:00

Friday, April 1, 2005

Huntington WV Flooding

As we approach the time for spring rains in Huntington WV, I am seriously wondering what the city of Huntington will do to prevent flooding in the Enslow Park Area of Huntington. Dredgeing is fine but the delapidated bridge at four pole creek and twelfth street east in Huntington is an obstacle to rapid drainage. The bridge at Fifth Street and the other one at Eighth Street East that goes over Four Pole Creek has been equipped with walkways for joggers that go underneath the span. This will slow down the water flow during times of high water. Huntington WV has some severe issues with drainage that could be well served by working in close conjunction with the Army Corps Of Engineers. Stephanie HeckHuntington WV Send email to webmaster at sheck dot com

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 03:44

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Huntington Human Relations Commission

The Huntington Human Relations Commission announced yesterday its intention to lay off three employees unless it can secure emergency funding in short order, to avoid having the commission temporarily closing its office. The Huntington Human Relations Commission is what seems to be wrong with Huntington Government in general. It gives the appearance that department heads in municipal government think they can spend like there is no tomorrow and simply ask for more when the well runs dry. This situation gives the entire Huntington City Government a black eye. The fiscal year ends June 30th and the Huntington Human Relations Commission is already broke, and its 240,000-dollar budget for this year is gone. There is much to be said for the old clich'e "A fool and his money are soon parted". Sally Lind, in her capacity of executive director of the Human Relations Commission has a ethical and a professional responsibility to see to it that her subordinates conform to municipal standards of account management to the satisfaction of the city finance director. It is Sally Lind's responsibility to manage the commissions funding in such a professional manner that there is sufficient money to pay salaries and expenses throughout the entire fiscal year. She has failed to do so. If Huntington Human Relations Commission employees failed to notify or get approval from the city for purchases, then it is Sally Linds responsibility to ask the Mayor to fire the irresponsible employees who culpably fail to conform to the finance directors requisition procedures. She has failed to do so. The reason that the City of Huntington has established financial requisition controls is to make nonconformity a culpable act. I am certain the state auditor would agree. Failure to budget the money to last throughout the fiscal year when the city requires just that is a form of administrative negligence that well justifies termination of employment. She is responsible to keep her agency within budget as a professional, but far be it from me to accuse city hall of professionalism. There are only five employees within that office. Managing the budget is tantamount to managing a small business account. Not a hard job. Sally Lind claims this is a miscommunication with the cities finance department but in reality Mrs. Lind could have called the city finance director at any time to verify the balance of the commissions account and did not do so. The problem partially lies in the fact that Lind waited to the point of financial crisis to remind everyone who would listen that she was not capable of controlling the spending of her subordinates as though it was anyones fault but her own. Mrs. Lind has proven that she cannot stay within annual budget constraints; perhaps it is time for city council to put her on a weekly allowance. Why should the taxpayers pay a large salary to Sally Lind to run the budget into the dirt when there is no shortage of volunteers to do it for free. There is an office of the state human rights commission in Huntington; a redundant replication of services is a luxury the taxpayers cannot condone in austere times. I think perhaps I should apply for Sally Lind's job. I am not a bigot, nor am I a spendthrift, and I know how to manage a budget, and balance a checkbook. Am I over-qualified? Stephanie Heck

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 21:06

Huntington WV

I was born and raised in Huntington WV and attended school in Huntington and Ceredo-Kenova. I have been working on computers and websites for a long time and can do almost anything web related. I am in Huntington for the purpose of supporting my family here. stephanie@sheck.com

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 12:23

Sunday, January 2, 2005

Policeman Shot in Leg in Huntington WV

Huntington WV: An off duty Huntington police officer was shot in the leg by an unknown assailant about 7:30 PM on 12/29 after stopping his private motorcycle to warm up his hands. The policeman has a single bullet wound to the calf as of the time of this posting. He was treated at Cabell Huntington Hospital and is recovering at home from his injury. This shooting happened at the former Chevron Station on Hal Greer Blvd that is across the street from the housing project. The location is a high crime area that has been the scene of many arrests. The service station is now closed. It is unclear as to why the off duty officer was wearing a police motorcycle helmet on his private motorcycle. It is also unclear if the assailant knew for certain that his victim was a policeman. My heart goes out to any victim of a criminal act. If the policeman is going to continue to ride a Motorcycle in the winter time. I feel compelled to donate some thick leather gloves to the Police Department and hopefully this will not happen again.

Posted by Huntington West Virginia in Huntington WV at 23:09