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+198.46NASDAQ

DOW



+21.75S&P 500

+ 23.00



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COMING TOMORROW

River Road

DOH awards contract for much-needed repairs.



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40th anniversary Woodstock memories

www.dominionpost.com

Area residents share stories of historic concert

BY MICHELLE WOLFORD ■ THE DOMINION POST



ain and mud. More people than they'd seen before or since.

And some of the best music of their generation.

Those are just some of the memories shared by local residents who earned a lifetime of bragging rights 40 years ago they went to Woodstock.

The music festival was billed as an "Aquarian Exposition" featuring "three days of peace and music," Aug. 15-17, but ran from Friday through Monday. No one was prepared for the masses of people who found their way to the Sullivan County, N.Y., dairy farm of Max Yasgur. Consequently, the event lacked adequate food, water and sanitary facilities.

But at the time, none of that mattered. It was the summer of '69, and it was a tumultuous time in American history.

More than 400,000 Americans were fighting in Vietnam, and the conflict wasn't confined to Southeast Asia — it spilled over into America's streets and college campuses as protesters challenged the nation's involvement.

The year before, presidential candidate Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and civil

More Woodstock

SEE WOODSTOCK, 4-A

Inside

■ Woodstock facts

Coming up

■ More residents share their memories of the historic concert, **Friday and Saturday**

AP photo

Obama, Congress to-do list largely goes undone

Polls show voters are

\$787 billion economic

increasingly worried

recovery bill and

ANALYSIS

A LOOK AT WHAT Congress has done so far this year. Page 5-A.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Midway through their first year in power, President Barack Obama and Democrats in Congress can point to early signs the nation is beginning to shake off its worst recession in seven decades.

Yet there are glaring holes in their to-do list. The biggest and most difficult priorities had not been accomplished as Obama reached the six-month mark, ending the normal honeymoon period most new presidents enjoy.

While Obama and fellow Democrats did enact the \$787 billion economic stimulus, much remains undone:

- Health care. An expansion of coverage for most of the estimated 48 million people without it has failed to pass either the House or Senate despite a now-expired Obama deadline.
- Global warming. His initiative squeaked through the House, opening major rifts in the party. It arrived in the Senate as a dead letter.

■ Financial overhaul. Now on the back burner are a rewrite of lending and investing laws and a restructuring of government regulations. The goal is to prevent a repeat of last year's financial and credit market collapses. Obama and the Democrats did

push through a massive package of tax cuts, benefit increases and job-producing public works projects to help alleviate the recession. They

mushrooming debt. expanded health coverage millions more children, clamped down on cigarette producers and placed the first Hispanic on the Supreme

They bought some goodwill by

better mileage. health care overhaul will pass by

offering as much as \$3 billion in government rebates of \$3,500 and \$4,500 for people to trade in old gas guzzlers for new cars or trucks that get Democrats are confident their

vear's end. But it lost the aura of

inevitability that surrounded it

in the spring. It passed one House

committee only after moderate "Blue Dog" Democrats prevailed upon House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., to postpone a full House vote until the fall.

Many of them felt stung by their politically scorching votes to tackle global warming by raising peo-

bills, despite mounting evidence the Senlosing faith in Obama's ate probably won't vote on it this year. The House Appropriations about the government's

ple's electric

Committee

chairman, Rep.

David Obey, D-Wis., acknowledged recently the early vote on global warming made it more difficult to keep pace on health care.

Polls show voters are losing faith in Obama's \$787 billion economic recovery bill and increasingly worried about the government's mushrooming debt.

The president's overall approval rating is solid, in the mid-50s in most polls, including a 55 percent rating in an AP-Gfk poll conducted July 16-20. But it has slipped from the levels that for a time kept Republicans from criticizing

Obama directly. Now the gloves are off, and the tone in Washington is as partisan as ever.

Pollster Andrew Kohut of the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press said despite that slip, the ground hasn't fallen out from under him.

"Most importantly, the more general questions about confidence in him show no erosion," Kohut said. "People still think that he's going to fix the economy.'

A president's signature accomplishment typically occurs in his first year in office, before the August congressional recess. It was tax cuts for President Ronald Reagan and deficit reduction for President George W. Bush, though health care proved elusive for President Bill Clinton.

Obama's top accomplishment clearly is the \$787 billion measure blending federal spending and tax cuts to try to revive the economy. It was initially popular in public surveys, but 58 percent of those polled in the mid-July AP-Gfk poll said they were not confident it is helping the economy. Only 9 percent said they were very confident that it is.

"We're pointed in the right

SEE **LIST.** 5-A

Road Work ahead

205 STIP projects slated for Mon, Marion, Preston

WHAT IS a STIP?
MAP OF 2010 DOH District 4 projects. Page 2-A.

BY DAVID BEARD

The Dominion Post

A look at possible routes for a 705 Connector, new Hartman Run and Ices Ferry bridges and new turning lanes on University Avenue and Patteson drive are among a host of projects on the list for area roadway work in the near future.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation's Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) gives a six-year lookahead at road projects in every county.

The Fiscal Years 2009-'14 STIP includes 205 projects in the Monongalia-Preston-Marion counties area — 48 are combined federal-state projects; 157 are solely state funded. Some individual projects are various phases of one overall project.

705 Connector not dead in Mon County

Mon County has 87 road projects on the books between now and 2014— 59 call for state funds only; 28 use federal and state funds. In the vast majority of cases, said DOT spokesman Brent Walker, the federal funding covers 80 percent of the project. But even with federal funding, he

said, the state still has to fund 100 percent of a project up front through the Road Fund. Road Fund money comes from fuel taxes, vehicle registration fees and other fees and permits, federal aid and some other sources. Road Fund money doesn't come from income or property taxes. Rarely does the DOT sell bonds

to pay for projects, he said. ■ One phase of the long talked-

about W.Va. 705 connector is on the STIP. An environmental assessment of possible routes is under way. The cost is reported at \$300,000, with \$240,000 coming from the fed-

SEE **PROJECTS**, 2-A

Luxury resort offers \$19 room — minus bed Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — A luxury resort in San Diego is offering rooms for \$19 a night — if you don't mind sleeping in a tent. The Rancho Bernardo Inn

boasts three pools, a spa and golf course. It typically charges more than \$200 a room. But business is down. So from Aug. 16 to 31, guests can

get a "Survivor Package" that charges them less for each amenity they give up. For \$19, guests give up breakfast, air conditioning, lights, sheets and even the bed. Staff will remove the mat-

tress and headboard and leave

a small tent instead. Oh, and bring your own toilet paper.

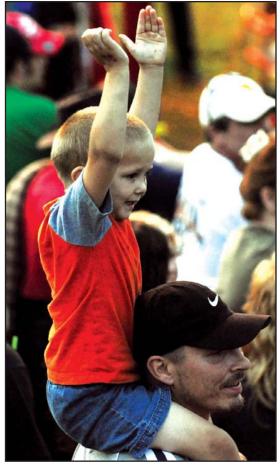
General manager John Gates said the hotel hopes people who try the promotion will return at full price.



A demolition derby driver of gets jacked up in 4 cylinder race at the 2009 Mannington District Fair, which ran from Aug. 3-8 at Huff Park. The week's activities opened Monday with a steer and heifer show, Junior Miss Mannington and Mannington District Fair Queen crownings, magic show, demolition derby, horse show, tractor pull contest, greased pig contest, horse pulling contest, strong man competition, lawnmower races and live entertainment.



2009 Junior Miss Mannington District Fair Queen Mariah Sides and Mannington District Fair Queen Taylor Hostuttler after their crownings.



Brenne Hayes watches the demolition derby and claps for the winner.



Preston Hillberry gets a candy apple as he smiles for the camera.

Fun at the Faik

Mannington District Fair at Huff Park features a week packed full of activities

photos by Ron Rittenhouse/The Dominion Post



Colorful rides (above) turn through the skies on the first night of the Mannington District Fair. The swing ride (below) for kids and adults offers a fast ride around the fair.



WOODSTOCK: 40TH ANNIVERSARY

WOODSTOCK

FROM PAGE 1-A

rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. had been assassinated.

Less than a month before, millions watched on TV as Neil Armstrong took "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind" on the moon.

And just days before the cream of the rock world gathered near the Catskill Mountains, members of the Manson family had murdered six people, including actress Sharon Tate, in Los Angeles.

The three-day festival — featuring The Who, Joan Baez, Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Jefferson Airplane and the Grateful Dead — was a way to escape all that, and a musiclovers dream.

For some, to this day, "I was at Woodstock" is an impressive claim

'It was like waking up in another world'

"Jimi Hendrix played 'The Star-Spangled Banner' and it left everybody shaking and in tears," Pam Brown said. "We were shaking and starved and covered in mud.'

In 1969, Pam Brown was 23 and living in Cambridge, Mass. Married to a musician, she was already connected to the local music scene. But she was also a feminist and active in the anti-war movement.

She saw Woodstock not only as a place to see top musicians, but also as a way to sort of practice what she preached.

"If people would just start cooperating and living in a loving environment," she said. "Woodstock was based on music, but I thought we'd all be together and there would be the opportunity to start that. And I thought everybody would think exactly the same way.'

She arrived in the late afternoon on the first day.

"When we got there, they were still building the stage and setting up the sound system. It was much later than when the music was to start," Brown said. "I thought there were

50,000-60,000 people. As the day went on, I thought, 'Anytime now they'll set up the concession stands and porta-potties. They put a few musicians out - acts we'd never heard of — at 1 or 2 in the morning, then said 'Good night.' Then we realized we hadn't eaten.

"The next morning, it was like waking up in another world. There were people as far as the eye could see - 200,000-300,000 people — and they just kept coming during the day until there were 500,000 — hungry and wet and muddy people. It was very uncomfortable, and I was glad I left my son with my mother. The music was fantastic that night, and I think they realized our discomfort and just played till 3 or 4 in the morning.'

Brown said anyone who brought food shared it with those around them. In the morning, Wavy Gravy (AKA Hugh Romney) and Hog Farm commune members "set up vats to cook brown rice and oatmeal and fed anybody that needed it.

'We didn't realize there was a pond there to get cleaned up in. Once they did, people were in better spirits. I had to get back, but a lot of people stayed to clean up the trash out of respect for Max Yasgur."

Yasgur saved the day, Brown

"They had had a commitment for one piece of land and it was pulled. Max came forward to offer his land" at the last minute.

"Woodstock was in a way the end of an era. It was for me, because within about a year and a half, I left Cambridge and moved to West Virginia as part of the back-to-the-land movement.'

Seven years later, she moved to Morgantown where she is now an associate center director at the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center, running prevention control programs, doing outreach to communities throughout the state and promoting screenings and clinical trials.

'Southern Comfort on the rocks'

"They said that anyone who went

Think you know everything there is to know about Woodstock '69? We'll see about that.

"Alice's Restaurant" singer Arlo Guthrie was fined for littering at the festival. He is also the person who said the famous line, "The New York State Throughway is closed, man. Isn't that far out?"

■ Though advertised as a three-day festival, from Friday-Sunday, the festivities actually continued until Monday morning.

■ Jimi Hendrix was the last act featured at Woodstock, where he performed his famous rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

■ A young Martin Scorsese worked as an editor on the film, "Woodstock, The Movie," which was directed by Michael Wadleigh and scored an Academy Award for Best Documentary.

■ Iron Butterfly was scheduled to perform at Woodstock, but didn't because they were

to Woodstock never came back the

same. I can attest to that. I grew up

ing college in Farmingdale, N.Y.

She and a group of friends decided

to meet at the concert — just an

it was already crowded, she said.

Like nearly everyone else, she had

that led to the hillside where the

concert was and seeing a moving

hillside. I have never seen so many

there was someone trying to collect

tickets," she recalled, "but there

were not any fences. It was a city

a long walk to the concert site.

She arrived Friday morning, and

"I won't forget going into the field

"We were early enough so that

hour's trip for Wilkins.

people," she said.

Monica Wilkins was 19 and attend-

in a weekend."

stuck at the airport.

mated \$30 million. ■ Woodstock received its name because it was originally supposed to be held in Woodstock, N.Y. It was instead held on a 600-acre farm in nearby

Bethel, N.Y. Organizers intended the festival to be attended by 50,000 people — in the end,

about 400,000 showed up. ■ The huge influx of people to Woodstock caused major highways to be shut down, with stand-stills up to 20 miles long.

■ There was no reported violence at the 1969 music festival, though two deaths — and two births — are on record.

■ The most-documented injuries at the festival were lacerations and/or puncture wounds to the feet.

■ The Doors first agreed to

Wilkins said she went for a hike

Saturday and "saw where the heli-

copter brought in the musicians.

As I was walking, the helicopter

landed and it was Janis Joplin,

and she proceeded to hike to the

stage with her wardrobe in hand.

I walked and talked to her for a

while and till this day my favorite

drink is what she drank, Southern

Comfort on the rocks with a wedge

ily Stone played and Melanie "and

everyone lighting their matches." She

ventured out to look for her friends

but "they were never to be found. But

without walls."

of lime.

Woodstock facts

perform at Woodstock because they thought the concert was to ■ The original Woodstock be held in Central Park. They cost an estimated \$2.4 million backed out when they learned it - Woodstock 1994, an estiwas to be in upstate New York.

> ■ When Melanie came onstage at the festival, just after a heavy rainstorm, she saw the area lit up by the thousands of candles people were lighting, which led her to write the song, "Lay Down (Candles in the Rain)." This began the practice of lighting candles and/or lighters at concerts.

■ An original program for the three-day music festival goes for \$499.95 on irocknroll.com, a rock 'n' roll memorabilia Web site. A ticket for the festival which cost \$24 in 1969, before the festival was declared free and ticket sales stopped goes for \$299.95.

■ The last words uttered at Woodstock, according to the "Woodstock Nation" LP and woodstock.com, were "Brother, this is far out."

there were lots of new friends." Food was scarce, and the port-a-

johns "were filling up fast," she said. And on Saturday, the rain came. "With that wet and the garbage that started to build up, the smell became annoying. Some fresh food had been brought in, so I was able to get some

As the smell grew, she knew it was time to go. She hitchhiked home, finding a ride with some folks who wanted to hear about the event.

and, of course, share with others."

'No doubt about it it was moving'

"Everybody felt safe. The camaraderie was fantastic and everybody felt a part of something special." David Berkey was 22 and had just

graduated from Hardwick College when he rode to Woodstock from upstate New York with eight friends in one of their father's stepside van. He didn't have time for the whole festival — he needed to get to Florida to begin a teaching job. But he had one day to spend at Woodstock, and it's an experience he remembers as "wild

and wonderful.' A friend heard about the concert and his father had the van — so a plan was made.

"We were a mixed group," Berkey recalled. "Some were in college, some were recent grads and there were a couple of townies.

"It was THE event. I was probably still a Republican. I hadn't grown up and wasn't able to think for myself yet. Woodstock was the start of the change — the start of the stimulation," he said.

He recalled Richie Havens opening the show at noon Aug. 15.

"There was heat and humidity and hundreds of thousands all around you," he said. Sitting just a couple hundred yards from the stage, Berkey said he was deeply moved by the performance. "He was so touched to be the first guy going off," Berkey said of Havens.

"There was so much going on, so much wrong with our country,' he said. "The Kennedys had been assassinated, Martin Luther King Jr. A lot of this formed the basis of the music we listened to and the thought that there's something wrong here. Let's get together to fix it. We were talking about what we could do and hearing the message. Some was frivolous and some was very, very heavy."

One song he recalled vividly — Country Joe McDonald singing, "Be the first one on your block to have your kid come home in a box." As someone who had friends serving in Vietnam, "No doubt about it — it was moving," Berkey said.

Berkey, who retired from a government job and now works for a nonprofit, said he had to leave Woodstock after just one day, "so I missed the mud." As he drove out at about noon, "there were still people coming in."

"I do remember sleeping and being stepped on ... because I was in the middle of a mass of people," she said. She remembers Sly and the Fam-