

## NICKERSON CROWNED QUEEN OF QUEENS



Photo by Nick Henthorn

Top finishers in the recent Queen of Queens pageant were crowned Saturday during halftime at the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game. From left are fourth runner-up Amanda Herndon (Linsly), Ms. Congeniality Jenna Anderson (Toronto), 2022 Queen of Queens Jordan Hiles (Indian Creek), 2023 Queen of Queens winner Payton Nickerson (Wheeling Park), first runner-up Lauren Riggenschach (John Marshall), second runner-up Abbey Berze (Buckeye Local), and third runner-up Kayla Beery (Martins Ferry).

## Manchin Faces Difficult Choice

U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin is between a rock and a hard place. I don't envy the choice he will ultimately have to make, likely as soon as the end of the year.

Manchin, D-W.Va., is up for reelection in 2024 for a third six-year term as the state's senior senator. He's been in the Senate since winning a special election to succeed the late Sen. Robert C. Byrd, who died in office.

While once one of West Virginia's most popular elected officials, things have changed for Manchin. When he first stepped down as governor halfway through his second term, most West Virginians were registered Democrats, the Legislature was firmly in Democratic hands, all of the Board of Public Works were Democrats, there was only one Republican in Congress and only one Republican on the state Supreme Court of Appeals.



FROM THE STATEHOUSE  
 Steven Allen Adams

That script has since flipped. Republicans have a majority in voter registration that keeps growing. The Legislature has Republican supermajorities in the House of Delegates and state Senate. The governor and the entire elected Board of Public Works are Republicans. All but two members of the Supreme Court are Republicans. And Manchin is the last Democrat representing the state on Capitol Hill.

Manchin barely won his 2018 reelection to the Senate against Republican Attorney General Patrick Morrisey. And now, nearly every poll that has come out since the beginning of the year shows Manchin losing in a scenario where Gov. Jim Justice becomes the Republican nominee for Senate next year. And not losing narrowly, but by a landslide.

Manchin is notorious for building anticipation for his election announcements. He famously said the Senate "sucks" after foundering in the minority, which called into question whether he would run for reelection to the Senate in 2018. And even in 2020, Manchin toyed with running for governor again, only to finally announce he would not do that.

And now, Manchin won't decide on reelection until the end of this year. So, what will he do? Manchin is on the record saying he will win any election he enters, but if his own internals show him losing to Justice or another Republican nominee, will he simply not run?

As I said in a previous column, it would be a mistake to underestimate Manchin and his ability to get reelected. He's the king of retail politics in West Virginia. But Manchin is also not an idiot or blind. But what is he to do?

Possibly run for president. There is a lot of chatter about Manchin making a run as part of an effort of the moderate political advocacy group No Labels. He was just in New Hampshire last week with former Republican Utah governor and failed presidential candidate Jon Huntsman. While he kept denying his being in New Hampshire, an early presidential primary state, was to test the waters on a presidential run, that didn't stop speculation.

There is a lot of pressure to keep Manchin out of the race. With No Labels trying to gain ballot access in key states, some believe Manchin could take votes away from the Democratic nominee (likely to be President Joe Biden, though some in that caucus would rather someone younger run). That could pave the way for former Republican president Donald Trump if he gets the GOP nomination.

But No Labels keeps talking about a unity ticket, meaning a Democrat and a Republican president/vice president ticket. That could pit Manchin against Biden himself for the Democratic nomination. No Labels has said they will only consider running their unity ticket if it looks like 2024 will be a Biden/Trump 2020 rematch. But Manchin is unpopular both in West Virginia and nation-

### WHEELING

## Boreman Statue Fundraising Continues

By SHELLEY HANSON  
 Staff Writer

As former West Virginia Gov. Arthur I. Boreman's 200th birthday comes today, nearly all of the money needed — about \$178,000 — for a statue in downtown Wheeling in his honor has been collected.

Margaret Brennan, a local historian and a member of the Gov. Arthur Boreman Statue Fund Committee, said fundraising still is underway for the bronze statue. She said money also is needed for the statue's base, estimated at about \$20,000, and preparation of the ground around it.

Donations are still being accepted via the Community Foundation for the Ohio Valley, 1226 Chapline St., Wheeling, WV, 26003; put "The Gov. Boreman Statue Fund" in the memo line.

The future statue, which is being created by artist and sculptor Jamie Lester of Morgantown, will depict Boreman during his June 20, 1863, inauguration speech. It will stand at 8 feet tall, weigh about 2,000 pounds and be situated beside the West Virginia Independence Hall Museum.

Brennan noted Boreman's 200th birthday anniversary is on Monday. Boreman was the first governor of the new state of West Virginia.

"He was an underrated man. I think he did his best work here in Wheeling," Brennan said. "If it weren't for him and (Virginia Gov. Francis Pierpont), there wouldn't be a West Virginia."



Photo Provided

Shown here is a miniature representation of the bronze statue of West Virginia Gov. Arthur Boreman that Jamie Lester, a Morgantown-based artist, will create for the grounds of West Virginia Independence Hall Museum in Wheeling.

Boreman took over as the new state's governor in 1863 just before the battle at Gettysburg and with the outcome of the Civil War unclear, she said.

The state had no money and other Union states were suspicious of the new West Virginia.

"Who would want such a job? Who could do such a job?" Brennan said.

"Arthur Boreman could and did — he held us together. We are here today because of this great forefather."

Brennan said Boreman was born July 24, 1823, in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. He was one of 10 children born to Sara and Kenner Boreman. In addition to Waynesburg, the family lived in Middlebourne and Moundsville.

His father was a merchant and Boreman learned the family business by working in their store, but he also spent time reading and studying as well. A separate room just for his studies was made at the Moundsville shop, Brennan said.

He eventually decided to become a lawyer, learning from his brother William. After being admitted to the bar, he and his brother-in-law opened a legal office in Parkersburg.

From 1855-1861, Boreman served in the Virginia Legislature. When he was 38 he was named president of the Second Wheeling Convention, which met at the now West Virginia Independence Hall Museum. He was 40 years old when he became governor of the new state of West Virginia, she said.

Brennan said some of the words used to describe Boreman during his time included "incorruptible, fair, energetic, scholarly, modest, direct and plain spoken, honest and with an indomitable will."

"We're looking forward to having it in place," Brennan said of the new statue.

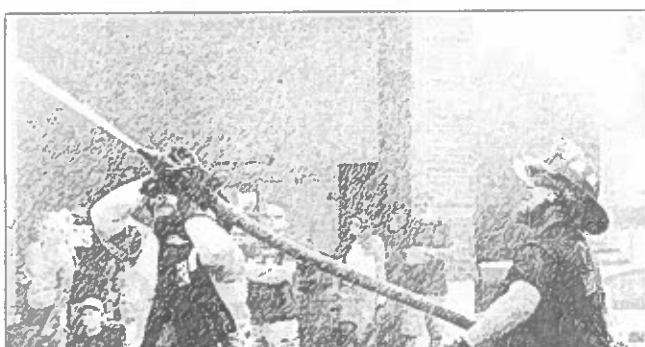
### MARTINS FERRY

## Ferry VFD Gears Up For Annual Betty Zane Days

By KAILEY CARPINO  
 For The Intelligencer

The Martins Ferry Volunteer Fire Department will host its annual Betty Zane Days from Aug. 2-5 in the City Park.

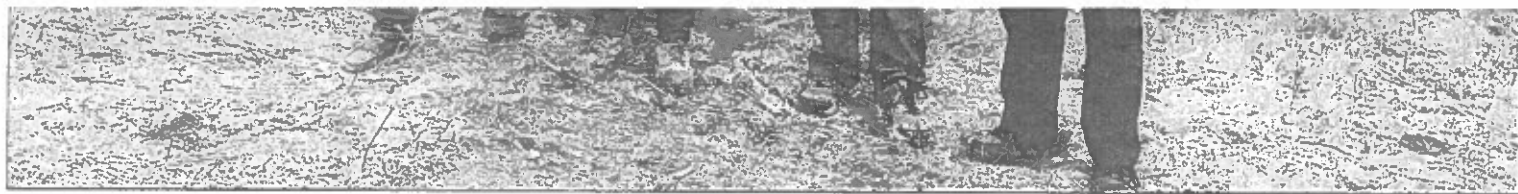
The park will be full of fun activities from 5-10 p.m. on Aug. 2-4 and from noon to 5 p.m. and 6-11 p.m. on Aug. 5, with all



all children 12 and under who attend the event from noon to 5 p.m.

Bedrock, a band from southern Florida, will be performing rock classics starting at 7 p.m. on Aug. 5. Fire Chief Tom Kelly said that he expects the park to be packed during their performance.

"They're a really great



T-L Photo/LENNY WITTENBROOK

**BARNESVILLE PARK** Director Rich Wells, from left, CCU Coal and Construction Supervisor Jeff Yoho, Mayor Dale Bunting and Village Administrator Roger Deal visit the 12-acre property off of Pultney Avenue that was recently donated to the village parks department by CCU Coal and Construction. The village plans to place two ball fields on the property.

# Barnesville council debates police levy, approves down payment on ladder truck

By **LENNY WITTENBROOK**  
For The Times Leader

**BARNESVILLE** — Village leaders last week debated placing a levy on the November ballot that would be used to fund raises for police department personnel.

Village Solicitor Adam Myser read a resolution he had prepared at the request of Police Chief Rocky Sirianni, explaining that it was the first of two resolutions that would be required to place a 1.5-mill levy on the Nov. 7 ballot.

In response to questions from Councilman Brian Yarnall, Sirianni said the five-year levy would be used for "payscale increases for police department members" that would amount to \$5 an hour increases for full-time officers, \$2 hourly increases

for dispatchers and unspecified raises for part-time officers.

Sirianni had reminded council as recently as the June 5 council meeting that he was still short two officers and that he felt their current pay scale was not high enough to attract the limited number of cadets completing their academy training.

Councilman Steve Hill expressed concern that placement of a police levy on the ballot could be detrimental to passage of the 0.5-mill replacement fire department levy that council had just approved placing before the voters.

When Hill proposed that Warren Township should help with a police levy of its own since Barnesville officers have constable status in the township, township Trustee James Greer said that while he wasn't

against the township helping, he wouldn't risk its own fire and road levies with a police levy at this time.

Sirianni said calls for service and investigations in Warren Township are handled by the Belmont County Sheriff's Department and that the village's agreement with the township is a matter of convenience.

Councilman Tim McKelvey said he didn't think the police levy would affect the fire department levy and a motion to proceed was eventually made, with Council President Les Tickhill and Councilman Terry McCort joining McKelvey with "yes" votes while Hill and Yarnall voted "no." Councilman Tony Johnson was absent from Monday's meeting.

See **BARNESVILLE**, Page A2



Photo by **CHRISTOPHER DACANAY**

**BILL WILLIAMS**, former owner of the Sleep Inn and Suites, second from right, shook hands with the Rev. Dave Pivonka, TOR, friar and president of Franciscan University, following signing of the purchase agreement that transferred the hotel's ownership to the university Thursday.

## Franciscan U. purchases Sleep Inn and Suites

• University plans to turn property into new men's residence

By **CHRISTOPHER DACANAY**  
For The Times Leader

**STUEBENVILLE** — Representatives of Franciscan University of Steubenville and the Sleep Inn and Suites signed a purchase agreement Thursday, transferring ownership of the hotel facility to the university, which announced plans to turn the property into a men's residence hall.

"This is another opportunity to be able to celebrate — celebrate growth, celebrate new life, celebrate conversion," said the Rev. Dave Pivonka, TOR, president of the university, who signed the agreement that transferred ownership of the building from its former owner, Bill Williams.

See **FRANCISCAN**, Page A2

## 'Mama bears' may be the 2024 race's soccer moms. But where the GOP seeks votes, some see extremism

By **SARA BURNETT**  
Associated Press

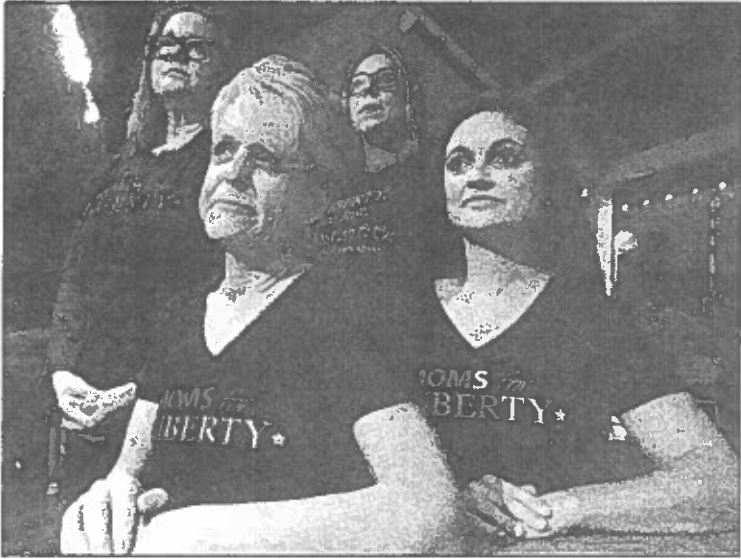
In many election cycles, there's a snappy shorthand used to describe the type of voters who may help decide the winner. Think soccer moms or security moms. Even NASCAR dads.

And now, the "mama bears."

These conservative mothers and grandmothers, who in recent years have organized for "parental rights," including banning discussion of gender identity in schools, have been classified as extremists by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

They have also been among the most coveted voters so far in the 2024 Republican presidential primary.

See **MOMS**, Page A2



AP Photo

**MOMS FOR** Liberty members, from left, Cheryl Bryant, Michelle Minella, Kelly Shilson and Jessica Tillmann pose for a portrait at Reiter Park on Thursday, Nov. 18, 2021 in Longwood, Fla.

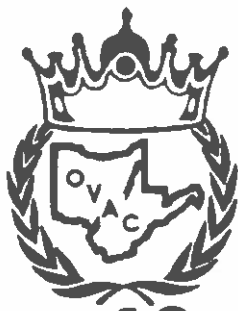
## Winner of Queen of Queens crowned



Photo by **NICK HENTHORN**

**FROM LEFT**, fourth runner-up Amanda Herndon (Linsly), Ms. Congeniality Jenna Anderson (Toronto), 2022 Queen of Queens Jordan Hiles (Indian Creek), 2023 Queen of Queens winner Payton Nickerson (Wheeling Park), first runner-up Lauren Riggerbach (John Marshall), second runner-up Abbey Berze (Buckeye Local), and third runner-up Kayla Beery (Martins Ferry).





# Queen of Queens



*Special Thanks to:*

- ★ Capitol Theatre Staff
- ★ Kozicki Hughes Tickerhoof, CPA
- ★ Osiris Shrine
- ★ Stifel Fine Arts Center
- ★ Wheeling Flower Shop
- ★ Later Alligator
- ★ C.A. House Music

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- The Health Plan • Huntington Bank • Project BEST
- WV Northern Community College • WVU Medicine

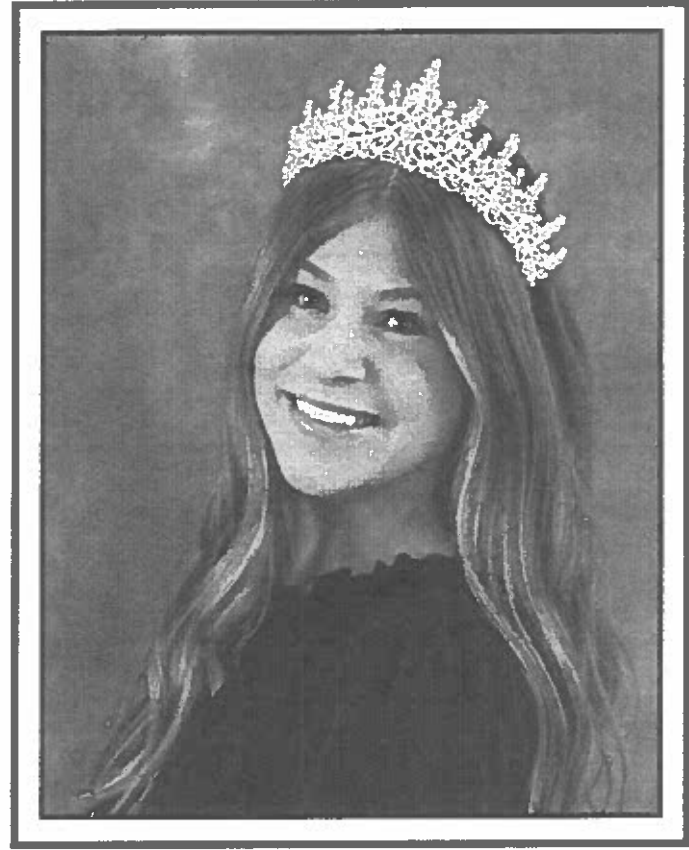
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2023



# Queen of Queens Talent Show



## 2022 Queen Jordan Hiles

Indian Creek High School  
Thursday, July 20, 2023 • 7:00 p.m.  
Capitol Theatre



# 2023 OVAC<sup>®</sup> Queen of Queens



## Talent Show

Thursday, July 20, 2023 • 7:00 p.m.

Capitol Theatre

### Production Staff for Queen of Queens Pageant

All-Star Game Director.....Corey Murphy  
Queen of Queens Director.....Joyce Jingle  
Master of Ceremonies.....Alexander Hill  
Choreography.....Cheryl Pompeo  
Sound System.....BG Audio  
Photography.....Kaleb Graham Photography

- 
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Haley Walton - Paden City High School<br>"Don't Stop the Music".....Pom Routine                                    | 11 Lauren Riegenbach - John Marshall High School<br>"I'm A Star".....Jazz Dance                                   |
| 2. Abbey Berze- Buckeye Local High School<br>"At Last".....Vocal Solo   | 12 Amanda Herndon - The Linsly School<br>"Hound Dog".....Tap Dance  |
| 3. Alexis Felton - River High School<br>"The Storm".....Original Monologue  | 13 Anna Wadas - Edison High School<br>"Rise Up".....Vocal Solo  |
| 4. Gina Crust - Steubenville Catholic Central High School<br>"Don't Stop Me Now".....Tap Dance                        | 14 Payton Nickerson - Wheeling Park High School<br>"The Winner Takes It All".....Contemporary Dance               |
| 5. Annie Martin - Cameron High School<br>"Bidi Bidi Bom".....Vocal Solo   | 15 Lilly Harbin - Madonna High School<br>"A Second Chance".....Original Poetry                                    |
| 6. Megan Gampolo - Indian Creek High School<br>"The Bride of the Waves".....Euphonium Solo                            | 16 Jenna Anderson - Toronto High School<br>"I Mean It".....Original Monologue                                     |
| 7. Kayla Beery - Martins Ferry High School<br>"There You'll Be".....Lyrical Dance                                     | 17 Abigail Kerns - Brooke High School<br>"U".....Vocal Solo   |
| 8. Lacy Tuttle - St. Clairsville High School<br>"The Star Within Me".....Original Anecdote                            | 18 Mia Yee - Barnesville High School<br>"Je Te Laisserai Des Mots".....Piano with monologue<br>from Love Actually |
| 9. Rylie Baker - Weir High School<br>Somewhere Over the Rainbow/<br>What A Wonderful World.....Vocal Solo and Ukulele | 19 Elizabeth McAninch - Bellaire High School<br>"Memory".....Vocal Solo   |
| 10. Elizabeth Doyle - Wheeling Catholic Central High School<br>"Goodbye Yellow Brick Road".....Vocal solo with Piano  | 20 Bayleigh Harman - Shadyside High School<br>"Shut Up and Dance".....Baton Solo                                  |
-



## Where Did 50 Years Go?

Fifty years ago, in the summer of 1973, I donned a graduation cap and gown and joined my fellow Wheeling Central High classmates as we gathered at Oglebay Park's outdoor amphitheater. Walking down those steep steps in platform sandals was just one of the challenges that we would face in years to come.

We would be the first graduating class in decades to graduate without the Vietnam War hanging over our futures. The United States began its pullout of troops in 1973, although it would take until 1975 for the full effect of the peace treaty to be realized.

Inflation was rearing its ugly head in 1973, jumping from 3.4 percent to 9.6 percent.

A gallon of gasoline was 40 cents and postage stamps were a whopping 8 cents each.

The price of a dozen eggs was 69 cents while a new car would set you back \$3,200.

If you were in the market for a house of your own, you would be shelling out around \$32,000 for an average American home.

Modern living in 1973 saw the invention of the first mobile and cell phones. It would take quite a few more years to get to where we are today with that technology. In 1973, we were happy to know how to operate a copier and electric typewriter.

Music in the 1970s was an eclectic mix of folk, rock, ballads and country. Song choices ranged from "Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round the Old Oak Tree" to "Bye, Bye, Miss American Pie."

Take your pick at the jukebox at Joe's Bar and Grill. There were some good memories of singing to those songs during a lunchtime rendezvous at that East Wheeling business just a few blocks from the high school.

In 1973, the sale of vodka outpaced whiskey sales for the first time in this country. In the year of our graduation, 18-year-olds were able to legally buy and consume alcohol.

However, beer and Boones Farm wine were more likely beverages of choice for young drinkers.

There were nearly as many bars in Wheeling



**HALEY WALTON**  
PADEN CITY



**ABBEY BERZE**  
BUCKEYE LOCAL



**ALEXUS FELTON**  
RIVER



**GINA CRUST**  
STEUBENVILLE  
CATHOLIC CENTRAL



**ANNIE MARTIN**  
CAMERON



**MEGAN GAMPO**  
INDIAN CREEK



**KAYLA BEERY**  
MARTINS FERRY



**LACY TUTTLE**  
ST. CLAIRSVILLE



**RYLIE BAKER**  
WEIR



**ELIZABETH DOYLE**  
WHEELING CENTRAL  
CATHOLIC



**LAUREN RIGGBACH**  
JOHN MARSHALL



**AMANDA HERNDON**  
THE LINSLEY SCHOOL



**ANNA WADAS**  
EDISON



**PAYTON NICKERSON**  
WHEELING PARK



**LILLY HARBIN**  
MADONNA



**JENNA ANDERSON**  
TORONTO



**ABIGAIL KERNS**  
BROOKE



**MIA YEE**  
BARNESVILLE



**ELIZABETH MCANINCH**  
BELLAIRE



**BAYLEIGH HARMAN**  
SHADYSIDE

# Queen of Queens Competition To Be Held Thursday

WHEELING — The Queen of Queens will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 20, at the Capitol Theatre in Wheeling.

The queen will be crowned at the OVAC Football Game on Saturday, July 22. Tickets for both events can be purchased through links found on the ovac.org website. Tickets will be \$7 each plus service charge if purchased before midnight prior to the event.

On the day of each event tickets will be \$10. There will be no tickets available at the door or the gate without going through the OVAC links.

Girls from 20 Ohio Valley Athletic Conference schools will be competing for the title of Queen of Queens. They will be judged on their interview, talent and poise/presentation. The interview takes place prior to the

beginning of the actual talent show itself.

"We are so excited to once again be able to hold the OVAC All Star Week activities and give all of our young people the platform to shine and share their abilities, whether it be football, band, cheerleading or Queen of Queens," said Joyce Jingle, Queen of Queens director. "The memories they make this week will last a lifetime."

## Shows Are Lining Up for Capitol Theatre

WHEELING — Wheeling's historic Capitol Theatre has been busy recently with shows such as The Bored Teachers Comedy Tour, PEO Speditions, and



# LIFESTYLES

# D

and Panorama

SUNDAY,  
JULY 16, 2023

DATEBOOK/D2  
PUZZLES/D3-4  
HOROSCOPE/D3-4  
ADVICE/D3



HALEY WALTON  
PADEN CITY



ABBEY BERZE  
BUCKEYE LOCAL



ALEXUS FELTON  
RIVER



GINA CRUST  
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### Bellaire Business Association car show set

By KAILEY CARPINO  
Times Leader Staff  
Writer

BELLAIRE — The Bellaire Business Association is hosting its second annual Bellaire Business Bash featuring a car, truck and bike show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Aug. 5 at Union Park.

The event will also feature games, inflatables, 50/50 raffles and food. A farmers' market will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the park.

Those who wish to enter a car, truck or bike into the show must register either online or at 10 a.m. at the event. Those who register online before Aug. 5 can pay a reduced fee per vehicle.

Trophies will be awarded in multiple categories by independent judges, and plaques will be awarded to the first 200 registrants.

All proceeds will benefit the Bellaire Business Alliance.

For more information about the car, truck and bike show, call Rick Eden, car show director and owner of Eden's Auto Ranch, at 304-215-0185 or visit the Experience Bellaire Facebook page.

Once Upon A Lifetime Photography in Bellaire will also host a 1950s-themed beauty pageant during the Bellaire Business Bash in Union Park.

The Bellaire Classic Miss and Mr. Greaser Contest will feature eight categories: Toddler Miss Bellaire Classic (1-5 years old), Toddler Mr. Greaser Bellaire Classic (1-5 years old), Junior Miss Bellaire Classic (6-12 years old), Junior Mr. Greaser Bellaire Classic (6-12 years old), Teen Miss Bellaire Classic (13-19 years old), Teen Mr. Greaser (13-19 years old), Ms. Bellaire Classic (20 years or older and not married) and Mrs. Bellaire Classic (20 years or older and married).

Contestants will be judged on appearance and personality.

One winner from each category will receive a Bellaire business gift card, a crown and sash and a free photo shoot at Once Upon A Lifetime Photography.

See SHOW, Page D2

## Hollywood's actors are joining screenwriters on strike. Here's why

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hollywood actors are streaming model that has



that income, with residual payments untethered be the responsibility of casting and productions.