Media Readiness

Amy Gannon, MS, RDN, LD

Traditional Forms of Media



Mingo deputies allegedly targeted

Reinstated officer claims firing was result of investigation into slain sheriff's drug activity

By DAVE BOUCHER DAILY MAIL CAPITOL REPORTER

WILLIAMSON - Mingo County deputies were systematically targeted, and at least one was fired earlier this year, after investigating allegations in 2012 that then Sheriff-elect Eugene Crum was peddling drugs. Details of Crum's alleged drug activity were not revealed until earlier this year, when federal investigators accused other Mingo County officials of helping Crum try to thwart an FBI investigation.

Crum, who was shot and killed in April, fired Sgt. Arthur Farra in February for "insubor-dination." But in September, then-Mingo County Prosecutor Michael Sparks said he'd heard new information that led him to believe there was a different reason Farra was let go. Sparks wouldn't elaborate at

the time, and Farra was rein-stated to his post with back pay last week. Recent interviews with

Sparks, new Sheriff James Smith and a transcript from a hearing where Farra tried to appeal his firing shed light on

Food program could go SNAP-Ed aims to Washington play out BNAT-EA durns to educate families, children on proper nutrition, faces cuts in federal funding rogram, commonly known as ever

By ZACK HAROLD DAILY MAIL CAPITOL REPORTER A nutrition education pro- result of federal budget negotigram aimed at West Virginia's ations.

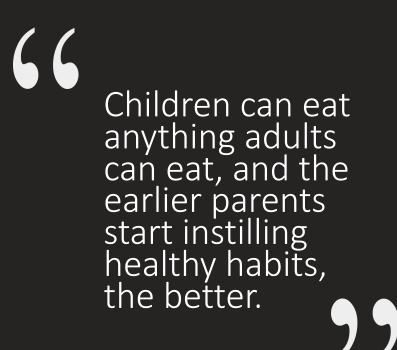
Democratic fundraiser a wrap

lees to families receiving asis-tance through the federal Sup-plemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly known as food stamps. "Maybe we'll make that up The program's funding was trut by 28 percent in 2013 as a result of federal budget negoti-budgeted for," said Cindy Filch

West Virginia's SNAP-Ed gram anned at west virginia's ations. Ilow-income families could wind And while West Virginia's gram director. "No con k up on the chopping block, de- SNAP-Ed was expecting \$3.3 what Congress will do' pending on how negotiations in million in federal funding for Members of Congress.

the 2014 fiscal year, it only will have so far failed to a month to pass a olution funding

It teaches SNAP families how to buy and prepare healthy food...and stretch their food dollar and get to the end of the month without running out of food.



Just say no to 'kid food'



WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY

to expose kids to as many healthy foods as possible during those early years. Young children are still form-

ing their taste preferences, and something that tastes too bitter to them th first time they try it could end up being something they love later on. Don't give up." — Amy Gannon, MS, RD, LD, assistan dictetics professor and director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics at Marshall Universi



those ads are for healthy foods. They're targeting kids with things like fast food restaurants, sugary drinks and cereals that come with a toy. Television has the power to change the way our kids — and we as adults think. Kids should be brought to the table out. Eating in front of the television at any age promotes overeating and can lead to obesity" — Dr. Jacquellem Ray, FAAP, assistant professor of pediatrics at the Joan C. Etwards School of Medicine and pediatrics at



to improve their eating habits — even if that's just touching or smelling a lood or the first time... On thing I've found helpful is mak a chart called Foods 1 Like' wi pictures of foods they have trif I kids start trying to eliminate food from their diet, the chart an easy reminder. You can say "See, you like this. It's on your food chart." — Julie Blake, M CCC-SLP, senior speech therspist at Mildersone Physical

Lori Wolfe/The Herald-Dispate

cil Butcher, ieft, and Hannah Butcher, both of Huntington, learn about cooking and kitchen safety while attending is in the Kitchen Cullinary Camp at Huntington is Kitchen in Huntington in 2015. Local experts advise that, while takes time to teach children to become healthy eaters, it's worth it, because the earlier parents start instilling althy eating habits, the better.

ocal experts share tips for raising a healthy eater

not sure where to begin, st	EX KATHERINE PYLES
with a few simple tips from lo	The Herald-Dispatch
	Despite what restaurant menus,
	grocery aisles and drive-thru toys
here's no Say goodbye to soda	would have you think, there's no
First, throw out the sug	such thing as "kid food."
mes we drinks. That includes juice, G	"I think a lot of times we
ly want non said.	assume that children only want
nly want "Children don't need spee	'kid food,' or that they only want
	things that are sugary, salty or
salty or drinks," she said. "They do	things that are sugary, saity or
on, MS, need caffeine. They don't ne	fatty," said Amy Gannon, MS,
	RD, LD, assistant dietetics pro-
	fessor and director of the Didactic
Marshall drinks like Capri Sun or Vitam	Program in Dietetics at Marshall
it's true water. They just need water a	University, "And while it's true
referred milk. Even when they're runn	that those flavors are preferred
	by humans in general, it's a mis-
	take to assume that just because
because to hydrate with water, not sug	take to assume that just because
on't like sports drinks."	they're children they don't like
illing to For some variety, try fruit-	healthy foods or aren't willing to
fused water with fresh orang	try new things."
wthing frozen nineannle or frozen b	Children can eat anything
aid, and ries, she said.	adults can eat, Gannon said, and
and, and ries, she said.	the earlier parents start instilling
usuning	healthy healthy the start instilling
If you're Please see HEALTHY/	healthy habits, the better. If you're

asy first step to a healthler diet for your kids is to eliminate sugary drinks, even juice and sports drinks. 6 Dietetics is such a diverse field...The more you know, the more you can help people.

State sees field of dietetics expand

"Dietetics is such a diverse

more you can help people."

field. The more you know, the

ized," Lodge said.

Distition says top specializations are in diabetes, renal diseases and cardiovascular health

By ELAINE MUMILLION FOR THE DRUY MAL

The field of dietetics is growing and becoming more diverse in the Mountain State.

Since the beginning of the year, 11 people have become registered and blogged distitians in West Virginia, said Helen Lotige, chairworsan of the West Virginia Board of Licensed Distitians. Carrently, there are 180 dietitians in the state.

"Just as physicians have spealized into the different disease tes, so have the dietitians," said tard McGinnis, a registered diian and certified disheter edu-

or at Thomas Health System. titians now work in specific discuss proper nutrition with the first lady. such as cardiology, diabetes, g disorders, exercise physiciastroenterology, geniatrics. maion, neonatal, oncology, rosis, pediatrics, pregnanbreast fooding, renal dis-

ports medicine, trauna

thi management. Poindexter, a registered ed dictitian at Charles-Metical Center's Memoal, equates the situation specializing in divorce

ental law. the 'Hs, specializaforefront," Paindeneach one is very ts own right." renal diseases and

izations in West tians from across

rith.

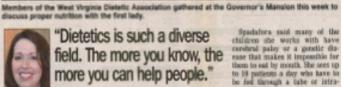
esident of the

to address and prevent nutrition tifled specialist in pediatrics. 'Dietetics is such a diverse the state.

you know, the more you can help dren from across the state at manula

is met with first state have four-year degrees and years. hin at the Gover- about half attain muster's degrees calabrate Na- in natrition before becoming speciplized in the workplace.

"We all have the same educa- exam. She faces a recertification tic Annoxia- tion, but some go a step further in process every five years.



venously. Spadafora said breakthroughs in medicine and nutrition have made it possible for children with costic fibrasis to live longer.

But treating children and adulta with the disease is complicated Amy Spadafora is a board-cer-Patients must consume more than 4,000 calories per day. They also In fact, she is the only one in must eat a high-fat diet, as well as plenty of enzymes to property

Spadafora has been beiping chil- break down the fail. She said working as a pediatric CAMC's Women and Children's distition is unlike helping adults. Ladge said all detitians in the Hospital for more than seven and specialization is necessary.

Kids are just 100 percent dif-To become certified, Spadafora ferent than adults," Spadafora completed 2,000 hours of practice said. "Their needs are different beyond her degree and passed an and they vary with their age

Turn to DIET/20

Arry Gannos President of the WVb. Dieteric Association tion, was among those who at- their career to become specialtended Wednesday's event." Gamon said specialization helps health are the top field," Gannon said. "The more

COMMENTARY Taking Small Steps Can Kick-Start a He

Midnight champagne toasts, watching the ball drop from Times Square and making New Year's Resolutions. All are wonderful tra-



If you blew your diet with appetizers at a college bowl game party, you may think you're too far off track to stick with your healthy plan. Don't be too hard on yourself. Take time to reflect on what went

tant memories by now.

wrong and set a few realistic goals to get back on track.

When trying to lose weight, don't go for a quick, easy fix. Avoiding crash diets that promise unrealistic outcomes is your best bet to staying healthy and keeping weight off for many months to come. Eating right will not only help you lose weight, but help you avoid long-term health problems such as high blood pressure, diabetes and high blood cholesterol.

Choose just a few of the top 10 New Year's Health Tips below, and you'll be well on your way to a healthier body in 2013.

When eating carbohydrates, choose wisely. Cakes, cookies, soda and sweetened breakfast cereal are bad for your waistline and your heart. Additionally, they provide few nutrients and are usually loaded with calories. Replace white breads, pastas and other refined flours with whole grains. Foods made from white flour are low in fiber and are more quickly digested than whole grains. Over time, this may cause your blood sugar and insulin levels to rise to unhealthy levels.

Don't drink your calories. Calories consumed from beverages won't fill you up. Go with a tall glass of water with lemon, low fat milk and other low-sugar beverages such as green tea or fruit spritzers.

Help reduce your body's inflammation level by choosing anti-inflammatory foods, including salmon, walnuts, tart cherries, olive oil, berries and freshly ground flax seeds.

■ Replace meat with vegetable-based proteins such as beans, several times per week. Beans are a good source of soluble fiber (the type that reduces cholesterol), protein, folate and saponins — a phytochemical that may protect

against cancer.

Load up on nutrierich from this and veggies, especially those of the dark green and orange variety. When used to replace higher calorie foods, all fruits and vegetables promote weight loss. However, those that are dark green and orange are jam-packed with antioxidants such as vitamins A and C and give our immune system the boost it needs during cold winter months.

Eat a nutritious breakfast, in-

EATUP

Want to incorporate some of these tips into New Year meal? Try the following recipe, co ments of the American Institute for Cancer F (http://www.aicr.org/).

Spinach and Clementine S

2 Ib. Clementines (8-12)
2 Ib. baby spinach, washed and dried
4 celery stalks, cut into thin diagonal slid
1/2 cup walnuts pieces, toasted
1 cup red onion, sliced thin
1/4 cup dried cherries or cranberries
2 Tbsp. red wine vinegar
Plinch of sugar
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
1 tsp. Dijon mustard
1 small clove garlic, minced
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Peel Clementines, removing all white pith. Separ segments. Put in a large salad bowl with spinact celery, nuts, onions and berries. Mix well.

Whisk together remaining ingredients in a small bowl. Drizzle over salad and serve. Makes 8 servings.

Per serving: 195 calories, 12 g. total fat (1 g. saturated fat), 19 g. carbohydrate, 6 g. protein, 6 g. dietary fiber, 120 mg. sodium

cluding at least three of the five food groups every day. People who eat breakfast everyday weigh less than their breakfast-skipping counterparts. Studies suggest that eating breakfast reduces your hunger throughout When trying to lose weight, don't go for a quick, easy fix. Avoiding crash diets that promise unrealistic outcomes is your best bet to staying healthy and keeping weight off for many months to come.

fresh, so they are mo nutrient-rich.

Amy Gannon is a registered dietician tension specialist for West Virginia Univertension Service's Family Nutrition Program

Dietician: Many don't know how to make healthy food choices

By George Hohmann Posted: Sep 26, 2014 1:18 PM EDT Updated: Oct 26, 2014 1:18 PM EDT

Registered dietician Amy Gannon sees obesity from two perspectives.

She administers federal grant programs that aim to educate low-income residents across the state to prevent obesity. She also works with Dr. Jamie Jeffrey in a private practice that treats obese children.

Gannon said a common denominator is many West Virginia children and parents don't know how to make healthy food choices.

Gannon is a West Virginia University extension specialist who administers programs in the WVU Extension Service's Family Nutrition Program. One of her biggest jobs is administering a \$3.3 million statewide nutrition education program for food stamp recipients. It is formally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education, or SNAP-Ed. She also administers a \$1.1 million program known as the Expanded Food Nutrition Education program. Both are funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

There are 50 instructors statewide who work in the SNAP-Ed program, which has youth, adult and public health components.

"The youth program educates about 20,000 low-income children a year all across the state on how to eat healthier and move more," she said. "You've heard of 'My Plate' dietary guidelines — they really teach good common-sense eating: choosing more whole grains; making half of your plate fruits and vegetables; choosing a wide variety of fruits and vegetables; lean proteins; low-fat dairy. That's basically what we teach.

"I always joke that I'm Appalachian born and bred, so I know what we eat and I like what we eat but what we eat isn't healthy. We like starchy vegetables. We often have a plate full of potatoes and corn."

Gannon said she tries to teach children to choose dark vegetables — dark green and dark orange vegetables that are richer in nutrition and lower in starch. She said she also tries to teach children to choose fruits and vegetables for snacks instead of cookies or snack cakes and to drink milk rather than sugar-sweetened beverages.

"We will have a whole generation of children who are not getting calcium, not building bone during those bone-growth years," she said. "So we focus on getting kids to reduce sugar-sweetened beverages and replacing that with low-fat milk and water.

"It's just good, common-sense nutrition that over several generations has somehow escaped us."

Every time the extension service teaches about nutrition, children are given foods to go along with the lesson.

"Lots of children in West Virginia don't know what whole grains are," Gannon said. "They've grown up eating white, refined grains. That's the Appalachian way.

"We let kids taste what whole grain crackers and bread taste like."

Gannon said children often tell the extension service instructors, "I've never tried carrots or spinach but now I'm going to go home and ask my Mom to buy them.

"I think obesogenic habits and behaviors people have make a big difference," Gannon said. "I hear this from patients all the time: 'I had a little bit of pop today, and I'll have a sundae tomorrow. It's not going to hurt me. It's not often.' But it's those small choices and small behaviors that add up over

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I think obesogenic habits and behaviors people have make a big difference. I hear this from patients all the time: 'I had a little pop today, and I'll have a sundae tomorrow. It's not going to hurt me.' But it's those choices and small behaviors that add up over time and make a tremendous difference.

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Patience, Persistence and Progress: Working with

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goals are the same as anyone else's: to eat a well-rounded, nourishing diet, but when there is not one but many cases, two or three conditions that can affect their ability to eat or digest food, to burn calories and to communicate, every case is like a puzzle.

In general my patients'

New Forms of Media

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Small changes throughout the day such as incorporating fruits and veggies, eliminating higher calorie foods and substituting more fruits and veggies and whole grains...Also amounts of physical activity National Nutrition Month Kicks Off in West Virginia

Posted Wednesday, March 3, 2010 ; 11:35 AM | View Comments | Post Comment Updated Wednesday, March 3, 2010; 11:59 AM

First Lady Gayle Manchin helped start the campaign at an event Wednesday.



CHARLESTON -- Dietitians across West Virginia are trying to educate young people about healthful eating.

March is National Nutrition Month and West Virginia First Lady Gayle Manchin was on hand Wednesday for an event at the Governor's Mansion to help kick-off the campaign in the Mountain state.

This year's theme focuses on getting back to the basics of healthful eating.

Dietitians say making small changes in what you eat can make a big difference.

Amy Gannon, Registered Dietitain WVU Extension Service, said, "Small changes throughout the day such as incorprating fruits and veggies, eliminating higher calorie foods and substituting more fruits and veggies and whole grains," Amy Gannon, Registered Dietitain WVU Extension Service. "Also, amounts of physical activity."

"

People were definitely glad that [Oliver's] show was happening...Dietitians in the area were happy. Even if it's negative publicity, if change happens and people become more aware of the obesity epidemic, it's good. I love the fact that he is teaching people how to cook.

Today's Dietitian The Magazine for Nutrition Professional

Dietitians React to Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution By Sharon Palmer, RD

This year, British chef Jamie Oliver stormed the nation with his ABC TV show Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution. Oliver is taking on America's obesity problem, honing in on Huntington, W.Va., dubbed throughout the show as "the unhealthiest city in America." Following the success of his British TV programs that improved the quality of school lunches. Oliver hopes to bring the same sort of change to America. He started a petition (<u>www.jan</u> that includes ideals such as American kids need better fo com) to support his revolution ind to develop cooking skills. At press time, nearly 600,000 people had signed the petition

Gannon to contribute to a weekly blog about the show. (View the blog at http://herald What is so special about Olive dispatchblogs18.blogspot.com.) hat Oliver has unleashed a v What's not to like about shining a public light on the nation's nutrition problems? It seems that

ood. His overriding philosop RDs aren't happy about one thing: the noticeable lack of nutrition professionals appearing on a show about food and nutrition. Dietitians in the community did offer Oliver their support and amilies watched as Oliver ba assistance, but he didn't take them up on it, according to Gannon. A group of West Virginia

akfast and daily French f dietitians even attended the thousand-people cook-off to show their support hicken and rainbow-colored hicken and rainbow-colored § But what went on behind the scenes? It does appear that the show's producers did their lassrooms, discovering that § hornework on the school lunch program. One year ago, Oliver's campaign manager contacted biver planned for a flash mog Dehra Eschmeyer, institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy and Kellogg Food & Society fellow Oliver planned for a flash mot

and outreach and communications director for the National Farm to School Network at Occidental um College in Los Angeles, to educate them on the 2010 Child Nutrition Reauthorization, which arents, he hauled out a di ome kids eat at school. He vi encompasses programs such as the National School Lunch Program. the backvard, piled their v Oliver's personal publicist, Kimberly Yorio, reports, "The school lunch program [Oliver] created for

checkup

the show was run through Sustainable Food Systems, [a consulting service that helps Oliver bet a local radio station foodservice operations integrate sustainability practices into their programs], and their menus exceed all of the federal nutritional standards. Jamie's emphasis was on getting processed food out, fresh food in, and removing the flavored milk.* the community to cook a me the West Virginia governor, an Oliver took the DJ on a field t Dietitians' complaints have also focused on how the show represents the school lunch program,

ession with teens affected by ou might say that Oliver has

Dietitians React

arrot," says Gannon, who ca clinic who weigh up to 300 lbs

resulting in massive complaints for the School Nutrition Association. "The school lunch program needs to improve, but Huntington schools have a higher percentage of free and reduced-price meals, and this is a poor community," says Gannon, who reports that for some children, the school lunch program is their primary source of nutrition. The truth is that many Huntington schoolchildren preferred their staple of chicken nuggets

Dietitians have voiced mostly French fries, and pizza over Oliver's dishes—a problem with which many dietitians are far too of the West Virginia Diletetic A French Ines, and pizza over Oliver's dishes—a problem with winch many dieutians are lar loo program at West Virginia Dinetetic A familiar. But no one, including Oliver, said fuñs ghe problem was going to be easy. After all, when program at West Virginia Univ Oliver asked school kids, while munching their Chicken nuggets in the cafeteria, what they had for Hunfington—was keenly infeer dinner the previous light, too many responded, "Chicken nuggets."

People were definitely glad th Some dietitians also point out that *Food Revolution* disregards countiess organizations across were happy. Even if it's negati the country that have tolied away at their own food revolutions. One dietitian wrote in a listserv the obesity epidemic, it's good discussion, '' it's more than slightly upsetting not to see or hear any mention of the amazing local, people that I work with don't a 'epional, and national organizations working on the 'food revolution' that Jamie says he is carrot, 'says Gannon, who can 'estimation'the U.S.'

Let the Revolution Continue

At the end of the day, there are far more reasons than not to be excited about *Food Revolution* Rumors are swirling that Oliver may produce a second season, and producers invited people to send in videos of how they are starting their own food revolution. Yorio urges dietilians to get volved in their community to help with the revolution by signing Oliver's petition and contributing to the Food Revolution Facebook page.

Let's face it: Oliver is getting the conversation started. And as Gannon says, as a high-profile personality, "Jamie Oliver can bring light to this issue in a way that a dietitian never could."

Sharon Palmer, RD, is a contributing editor at Today's Dietitian and a freelance food and nutrition writer in southern California.

TV, computers, video games, texting, iPods all these things are causing them to be sedentary and not outside playing, and a lot of it is food, fast food that is cheap, heavycalorie convenience food. It's often times a mix of all those things combined.

Behavior changes can help reverse costly problem of childhood obesity

For the Times West Virginian Oct 9, 2011

There is a problem in America that carries significant costs.

Statistics from the federal Centers for Dasase Control and Prevention (DCQ) indicate childhood cheals, has more than triplied in the past 30 years. The percentage of children aged 6-11 years in the United Statistes who were cobere increased from 7 percent in 1980 to nearly 20 percent in 2008. Similarly, the percentage of adolescents aged 2-11 typers who were chose increased from 5 percent to 18 percent ow the same percend.

in 2008, more than one third of children and adolescents were overweight or obese.

So often, the problem continues into adulthood. In West Virginia, nearly one-third of all adults – 32.5 percent – are considered obese. Only Mississippi, at 34 percent, exceeds that figure, with Alabama a close third at 32.2 percent.

The costs show up in significant health issues

Obese youth, according to the QCD, are more likely to have inits factors for cardiovascular disease, suc as high cholesteriol or high blood pressure. Obese adolescents are more likely to have prediabetes, a condition in which blood glucose levels indicate a high risk for development of diabetes. Children and adolescents who are obese are all greater risk for bone and joint problems, siege spress, and social and psychological problems such as signatization and poor safe team.

ger-term heath problems include heart disease, type 2 diabetes, stroke, several types of cancer and exarthritis.

That's the bad news.

The good news is that the problem can be attacked and risks lowered by making sound choices and changing behavior. Being active and eating a health diet are critical.

Amy Gannon, a registered dietitian with the West Virginia University Extension Service in Charleston why runs a weight-loss clinic for obese children and adolescents, said that "screen time"has contributed greatly to the epidemic of childhood obesity.

*TV, computers, video games, texting, iPods — all these things are causing them to be sedentary and not outside playing, "Gamon said. "And a lot of it is food, fast food that is cheap, heavy-calorie convenience food. It's often times a mix of all those things combined."

Parents, of course, are the first line of defense in promoting habits that give their children the best chance at a long, healthy life. The CDC also stressed that the school system is an area that can be a motivating force to reverse the obesity trend.

In Marion Country, for instance, and it breach has to be at least 51 percent whole wheat whether it is purchased or school market, and it hare has supervised or school mutation. Also, any chocolate milk othered is the school anystem will be skin milk, whereas the register variety can be skin or 1 percent. Students also cannot purchase soda during the school day, and freeh hults and vegetables are served every day.

Diet alone is not enough. Increased activity is essential.

Mary Weike, who promotes health in schools for the West Virginia Department of Education's Office of Healthy Schools, a said kindergarten students through eighth-graders will be targeted to get moving for 15 minutes a day in times that they probably would have been sedentary. According to state legislation, the assume days to be failed a between theme 30 minute schematic at unating ensurem. The year estimation and the same time state and the same failed and the same schema schematic at the same schematic at unating the same schematic at

Marshall Dietetics Cooking in a New Kitchen

By CLARK DAVIS + JAN 29, 2016



Marshall University Dietetics Students measure ingredients

"I think it will help us learn more because we have more time and space to do things and we have our, we have another classroom upstairs and there is just more space and we get to know the people more because we're around them more often in this part of town," Fletcher said.

The kitchen was originally a tool for community outreach – the intention was to help a community once labeled as the unhealthiest in the country learn how to eat better. Gannon thinks it's opportunity for the dietetics program to help in the fight for healthy eating.

"I think having us in this environment, in this kitchen and being able to do the outreach that we can will really enhance what we have always brought to the community, but will make it even better," Gaannon said. "We really didn't have the ability or space to do this type of education or outreach in the past."

The department of dietetics has been teaching healthy eating at Marshall since 1923.

I think having us in this environment, in this kitchen and being able to do the outreach that we can will really enhance what we have always brought to the community, but will make it even better.



