

Mountain messenger

December 25, 2021

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The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley - Lewisburg, West Virginia

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Starbucks announces Lewisburg branch opening for 2022

By Sarah Richardson

At the Dec. 21 Lewisburg City Council meeting, Planning and Zoning Officer Marsha Cunningham announced that Starbucks is coming to the Greenbrier Valley. Their new location will be in the left side of the Wal-Mart parking lot, in front of the tire and automotive section, and will offer a drive through as well as indoor and outdoor seating.

“We are getting a Starbucks,” she announced, “but it won’t be until the spring or the fall that they are working on it. They did everything they were supposed to, gave us all the legal parts that we needed, and Planning Commission looked at the plans and thought everything looked good. They discussed questions with the [Starbucks] gentlemen and they have recommended it to City Council for recommendation for approval.”

Jason Donahue, representing Starbucks, said, “We really appreciate the working relationship we’ve had with the city over the last couple of months. We look forward to being a part of your community, we are very excited.”

City Council approved the site plan, the preliminary plat, and the subdividing of the Wal-Mart parking lot.

The final plans will be presented at the February Planning Commission meeting.

WHO IS THE BEST OF THE BEST?



Greenbrier Valley nabs several wins in ‘Best of West Virginia’ contest

By: Adam Pack

West Virginia Living magazine’s annual “Best of West Virginia” contest has come to a close, and now that the final votes are in, the Greenbrier Valley seems to have been superbly represented in almost every category available. Finishing up in October, the contest breaks the amenities and attractions of the state into six categories: Travel, Culture, Drink, Food, Shopping & Services, and Towns. Thousands of voters from all over the state have participated.

With entrants in nearly every category, Lewisburg and the Greenbrier Valley have a great deal to be excited about. The specific placements that local businesses and purveyors achieved are as follows:

Towns:

- Best Downtown: First Place - Lewisburg
- Most Inclusive Town: First Place - Lewisburg

Travel:

- Best Campground: Third Place - Watoga State Park
- Best Casino: Second Place - The Greenbrier Casino
- Best Golf Course: First Place - The Greenbrier
- Best Resort: Third Place - The Greenbrier
- Best Spa: First Place - The Salt Cave and Spa, Second Runner Up - The Greenbrier
- Best Unique Tourist Attraction: First Place - Lost World Caverns

Culture:

- Best Fair/Festival/Event: First Place - The West Virginia State Fair

Drink:

- Best Brewery: Third Place - Greenbrier Valley Brewing Company
- Best Cidery: First Place - Hawk’s Knob
- Best Coffee House: Third Place - The Wild Bean
- Best Local Watering Hole: Third Place - Big Draft Brewing

Food:

- Best Barbeque: Third Place - Road Hog’s Barbeque
- Best Brunch: First Place - The French Goat, Second Place - The Humble Tomato
- Best Butcher: Third Place - Swift Levels Meats
- Best Chef: Second Place - Jared Masters (The French Goat)
- Best Fine Dining: First Place - The French Goat
- Best Pepperoni Roll: Third Place - The Humble Tomato

Shopping & Services:

- Best Antique/Vintage Store: Third Place - Patina
- Best Bank: First Place - Bank of Monroe
- Best Independent Bookshop: Third Place - A New Chapter
- Best Independent Jeweler: Second Place - Lewisburg Diamond and Gold
- Best Place to Buy Women’s Apparel: Third Place - Wolf Creek
- Best Real Estate Agency: First Place - Greenbrier Real Estate Services



2022 Shanghai Parade canceled

By: Adam Pack

The annual Shanghai Parade, scheduled for New Year’s Day every year, has been canceled due to concerns over rising Covid case numbers.

With the arrival of the Omicron variant in West Virginia, case numbers are expected to tick up, meaning this Lewisburg tradition will be on ice until next New Year’s Day.

Nature’s Way

By Karen Cohen
on page 4



Gov. Justice appoints Michael Honaker to 42nd District seat in House of Delegates

Gov. Jim Justice appointed Michael Honaker of Lewisburg to the West Virginia House of Delegates, representing the 42nd District. The district covers parts of Greenbrier, Summers, and Monroe counties.

“I know Michael is going to do a great job representing the people of the 42nd District and I am honored to make this appointment,” Gov. Justice said.

Honaker fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Barry Bruce earlier this month and will serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

“I am honored that Governor Justice has appointed me to this position and I look forward to fervently representing the citizens of the 42nd District in the Legislature of West Virginia,” Honaker said.

DMV announces alternatives for service during holidays

In keeping with the goal of providing excellent customer service, DMV Commissioner Everett Frazier would like to remind customers that many services will still be available during the upcoming holiday weekends.

“Our online services portal is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for anyone that wants to take advantage of our many transaction opportunities, such as driver’s license and vehicle registration renewal, at the WVDMV website, dmv.wv.gov.” Other online services

See “DMV Holiday Schedule” _____ Page 2

Dream Tree for Kids donates toys to Good Tidings for Kentucky

Celebrating its 11th season, The Greenbrier’s Dream Tree for Kids campaign distributed \$1 million worth of toys to more than 160 organizations on Dec. 14, helping to assure that children throughout West Virginia and beyond its borders have at least one gift to open on Christmas morning.

These gifts, purchased by the Justice family, are carefully selected to provide an educational or active component. More than 70 Team Members at The Greenbrier volunteered to help distribute the toys to organizations from six states during the distribution event. The organizations transported the gifts back to their locations and will distribute to children from newborns to 15-year-olds in need of assistance this holiday season.

At the end of the Distribution Day process, approximately 1,000 toys remained. These toys were donated to the Good Tidings for Kentucky to be distributed to children impacted by the tornadoes in

Kentucky earlier this month. White Sulphur Springs native Kimberly Lester created the organization, knowing the impact of natural disasters after losing her mother in the 2016 floods that devastated so much of Greenbrier County. The group will deliver toys and other items collected from the community to the small town of Bremen, Kentucky, where 12 residents lost their lives.

“The Dream Tree project has helped bring smiles to so many children over the past 11 years,” said Jill Justice, DO, President of The Greenbrier. “Those families trying to pick up their lives after the disaster in Kentucky have been through so much, and we’re hopeful that we can help give them at least one positive moment on Christmas morning as their recovery continues.”

To learn more about The Greenbrier’s Dream Tree for Kids project, visit Greenbrier.com/DreamTree.



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93

Your Classic
Hits Station

ROCK
WRB 95

Today's
Rock

DMV Holiday Schedule

Continued from Front Page

include the ability to pay your reinstatement fees, check your driver’s license status, change your address, apply for duplicates, and more.

Additionally, all regional offices have a drop box located outside of them for transactions like titling, registration renewals, and dealer work. Work dropped off at any of the drop box locations will be processed the following week. DMV also has several kiosks located around the state in Kroger and Sheetz locations that are available when the stores are open.

All DMV regional offices and Headquarters will be closed for in-person transactions beginning with a half day on Thursday, Dec. 23, at 12:30 p.m., and reopening on Monday, Dec. 27. Offices will close again on Thursday, Dec. 30, at 12:30 p.m., and will resume normal business hours on Monday, Jan. 3.

Please visit the DMV website for more information, including a list of kiosk locations and the online services portal.

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PICK OF THE LITTER



MONIKA

Monika is a three-year-old female pit bull terrier mix and weighs 70 pounds.



SUGAR

Sugar is a one-year-old female mixed breed and weighs 40 pounds.

These and other animals are available at the Greenbrier Humane Society, located at 151 Holiday Lane off of Rt. 60 West in Lewisburg. They are closed Sunday and Monday, and are open from 11 a.m. through 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Their cat adoption fee is \$65 and covers spay/neuter surgery, first kitty vaccinations, rabies vaccine, de-worming, toe nail trim and flea treatment.

Their dog adoption fee is \$85 and covers spay/neuter surgery, first dog vaccinations, rabies vaccine, de-worming, toe nail trim, flea bath and flea treatment.

They also offer donation-based spay/neuter vouchers, and clinics are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. They use a lot of vets in the area but the clinics fill up fast! Fill out an application to help prevent animal overpopulation! Call 304-645-4775 for more information.

DON'T SHOP • ADOPT!

★ Julie Sweet

★ Amanda Workman

★ Kathleen Stickley

★ Debra Smith

★ Michael Showell

★ Chris Kincaid

★ Naomi Smith

★ Sarah Richardson

★ Jeanette Albaugh

★ Kathy Hunter

★ Adam Pack

★ Mark Cunningham

Merry
Christmas!

To Our Valued Friends & Customers

Sending Our Best Wishes For A Merry and Bright Christmas.

Hope It Delivers Everything On Your Wish List!

From All of Us at Mountain Messenger

Briefly

Christmas Cantata

The 2021 Community Christmas Cantata is set for Dec. 18 at 8:30 p.m. in the Chapel of The Greenbrier and Dec. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of First Baptist Fairlea. As in the past, the cantata is under the direction of Jeff Bryant and will feature a live orchestra accompanying the choir. To receive more information on this year’s cantata or a full list of safety protocol measures to be followed, please email FBC’s church office at fbesharp@gmail.com or call 304-645-3533.

American Heritage Music Hall, Inc.

located at 496 Island Park, Ronceverte, is open to the public, all welcome, handicap accessible. Listeners and tourists welcome. Admission \$7 Tuesday nights, \$10 Saturday - Audience provides food. Doors open at 7 p.m. Jam & Dance every Tuesday 7 to 10 p.m. Friday New Year’s Eve Dance on Dec. 31 will also feature Ivan & the Outlaws from 7 to Midnight. The Music Hall is available for weddings and parties. For more information call the Music Hall at 304-645-4667; Bill Evans at 304-392-6079; Grace Poe at 304-992-5852.

100th Birthday Invitation

Clayton Tyree will celebrate his 100th birthday on Jan. 9, 2022! A birthday party in his honor will be held at the Dutch Haus Restaurant on Sunday, Jan. 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. All are welcome. No presents, please. In lieu of presents you may bring a donation or something the Animal Shelter can use.

Shepherd’s Center plans meetings for January, February 2022

The Shepherd’s Center of Greenbrier Valley is excited to announce that there will be several opportunities for virtual and in person meetings for the months of January and February. Events will include virtual Coffee Talk on Jan. 6, at 10 a.m. via Zoom, Book Group on Jan. 13, at 10 a.m. at the Lewisburg United Methodist Church Asbury Room, virtual Coffee Talk on Feb. 3, at 10 a.m. via Zoom, Book Group on Feb. 10, at 10 a.m. at the Lewisburg United Methodist Church Asbury Room, and a Lunch and Learn on Feb. 17, at 11:30 a.m. at the Lewisburg United Methodist Church. For the virtual events, zoom links will be sent out via email and through the Shepherd’s Center Facebook page. If you are interested in participating in the virtual or in person events, please contact our office at 304-645-4196 for more information.

Public Meetings

Gbr. Co. Farmland Protection Board

will meet Thursday, Dec. 9 at 10:30 a.m. at 804 Industrial Drive, Suite 5, in Maxwelton. The public is invited to attend. Call 304-520-3221 for more information.

Rainelle Town Council

meetings are held every second and fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Rainelle City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Greenbrier County Commission

will meet Tuesday, Dec. 28, at 10 a.m. in Room 132. LIVE STREAM from <https://www.facebook.com/gbrcourthouse/>
****PUBLIC HEARING on the possible changes to magisterial districts, precincts, and polling place locations.**
On the agenda:

- Approve Minutes - Dec. 14, 2021 regular meeting
- Settlements of Estates
- Exonerations/County Splits/Consolidations
- Financial Approvals
 - Arts & Recreation Transfer
 - Budget Revisions
 - Line Item Transfer
 - Pay Bills
- New Business
 - Consider signing the final order on election map changes presented to the Commission on Dec. 14 and Dec. 28
 - Consider new hire of Victim's Advocate for Sheriff's Dept. (grant funded)
 - Consider a lease purchase agreement for properties owned by Steve Morgan in Ronceverte
- Construction Project
 - Consideration of any necessary actions related to the design, acquisition, construction and equipping of the Greenbrier County Courthouse Project, specifically including, but not limited to, any aspects of the construction contract.
 - Consideration of one or more requisitions related to the Greenbrier County Courthouse Project.
 - Update on status of Greenbrier County Courthouse Project.
 - Consideration of any necessary actions related to financing for Greenbrier County Courthouse Project.
 - Consideration of any and all actions related to the foregoing.

For the Record

Deeds

Eleanor J. Markum and Tammy K. Washington to Lawrence Lee Arbaugh to Mildred Jean Arbaugh, 0.6 Acres, Old Brushy Ridge Road, Blue Sulphur Springs District
McKimmon Graham and Darlene C. Graham to Aaron Graham, 10 Acres, Anthony Creek District
Dreamland Acres, L.L.C., and Thomas A. Vance and Cynthia Lee Vance to Kathy Sue Alvis, James Aubrey Alvis IV, and Garret Michael Alvis, 574.45 Acres, Meadow Bluff District
Kevin L. McClintic and Marwa G. McClintic to Alfred A. Lierman and Ruta Lierman, 5,000 Sq. ft., City of Ronceverte
Kelly M. Lopez to Samuel Spottswood Taliaferro, III, Lot No. 8, Greenbrier Sporting Club, White Sulphur District
G. Hunt Rounsavall and Synthia R. Rounsavall to Michael Griffith and Kathleen Griffith, Lot No. 5, Meadows Estates Neighborhood, White Sulphur District
Tim D. Teelin and Torseth-Teelin to ATB Copeland, LLC., Lot No. 26, Copeland Hill Neighborhood, White Sulphur District
Tracy Evans to Kevin L. Sawyers and Angela Feamster, 26,712 Sq. ft., Smoot, Meadow Bluff District
Loretta Dodson Williams, Frances Dodson Alderson and Naoma Dodson McClung, to Frances Louis Dodson Alderson, 3.367 acres, Crawley, Meadow Bluff Dist.
Vikey Carnes and Douglas Preston Carnes to Adam B. Dolin and Shannon Elizabeth Dolin, 1.0 acre and 9.0 acres, White Sulphur District
David M. Moore to Ruh Roh LLC., 10.58 Acres, Meadow Bluff District
James Shulz to Bear Knob Holdings, LLC., 16 acres, Meadow Bluff District
Joseph M. Dean to Vicky Browning and Joda Browning, 1.01 Acres, Meadow Bluff District
Lisa Angle, Ester A. Roberts, Ernest Angle and Lynn Angle, Michael Brackenridge, to Elizabeth Verona, 0.64 Acres, Meadow Bluff District
Ralph Edwards Muhs and Martha K. Muhs to Angela Frisby and Erik Stapleton, Lot No. 5, The Woodlands, Fort Spring District and Lot No. 5A, 1.653 Acres, Meadow Bluff District
Darren Hanna and Heather Hanna to Darrin E. Cherry and Kelly Cherry, Lot No. 15, Addition Two, Echols Acres, Lewisburg District
Keith Katrie Straw and James B. Straw to Stuart Manor Family Limited Partnership, 26.37 acres, Fort Spring District
Norman L. Fleshman to David W. Harvey and Helen L. Harvey, Lots Nos. 48 and 49, Town of Rainelle, Rainelle Municipality
Donald L. Smith and Gloria Jean Smith to Stuart Donald (Rocky) Smith, 0.63 acres, Falling Springs District
Susan Simms Boehringer to John Michael Altizer and Tammy Stone Altizer, 74.857 acres, Parcel No. 17, Blue Sulphur District
The Greenbrier Sporting Club Development Comp., Inc., to Thomas J. Hartland, Lot No. 47, The Ridges on Greenbrier Mountain Phase Two, Greenbrier Sporting Club, White Sulphur District
Kimberly S. Honaker and Mark D. Honaker to Gregory Waugh, Lots Nos. 73 and 75 (part), Ronceverte Corporate District
Wayne F. Hoke to Elaine L. Hoke and Constance H. Reeves and Elliott W. Reeves, II to Berkley Farms, LLC, 78 acres, Lewisburg District
Douglas Warren and Patricia O. Warren and John E. Warren Jr. to Joseph L. Warren and Carolyn N. Warren, 22.074 acres, Fairview Road, Lewisburg District
Mary Ann Roberts to Kenneth D. Long and Kayla D. Long, 1.35 acres, Town of Rupert
Blue and Gold Properties, LLC., to Adam Whanger and Candance Whanger, Lot No. 79, City of Ronceverte
Ronald P. Brothers to JNT Holdings Inc., Lot No. 11, Price Run Crossing Subdivision, Lewisburg District

Ferguson selected for inaugural Emerging Leaders Scholarship to Davis & Elkins College

Willow Ferguson, a senior at Greenbrier East High School, has been awarded a \$10,000 per year Citizens Bank of West Virginia Emerging Leaders Scholarship to Davis & Elkins College for a total of \$40,000 over four years.

Davis & Elkins, Citizens Bank of West Virginia and WDTV partnered to offer the unique scholarship competition. All 2022 West Virginia high school graduates, whether attending a public, private or homeschool, with a 3.25 or higher GPA were eligible to apply. Impressed with the high caliber of applicants, College officials decided to offer multiple scholarships in addition to the selection of one student who received a full, four-year scholarship.

Applicants were required to submit a list of high school and community activities, along with an essay based on the topic, “If you receive this scholarship, how will you pay it forward to the state of West Virginia?”

Ferguson is the daughter of Shannon Murphy and Graham Ferguson of Monroe County. At Greenbrier East High School, she is a member of National Honor Society, student government and HOSA. She also has volunteered with blood drives and rabies clinics.

At Davis & Elkins College, Ferguson plans to major in biology and environmental science, and is considering other fields of study.

“One of my main goals, in whatever I go into, will be to create positive change and act as a steward and advocate for our Mountain State,” Ferguson wrote in her essay. “I want to continually learn and grow as a critical



Willow Ferguson

and innovative thinker who works for positive change in our state.”

Davis & Elkins College offers more than 45 academic programs. Multiple scholarship opportunities are available including the College’s annual \$5.4 million investment in West Virginia students. For additional information, call 304-637-1230 or visit www.dewv.edu/admissions.

New Year’s Eve Fireworks in Alderson

What better way to say goodbye to an old year and hello to a new one than fireworks! Sponsored by Alderson Main Street and the Town of Alderson and performed by the Alderson Volunteer Fire Department, a fireworks display can be seen at 9 p.m. on New Year’s Eve from the Alderson Memorial Bridge.

Supported by a grant from a local foundation, this family-friendly event allows family units to be outside and distance. There are plans for a couple of fire pits and some hot dogs, popcorn, and baked goods for sale. Proceeds benefit a woman who has cancer.

There is plenty of parking in the historic business dis-

trict on the Monroe County side of Alderson and in the parking lot of the Visitors Center/Fruits of Labor Café on the Greenbrier County side. It is only a short walk to the Alderson Memorial Bridge.

If the weather is rainy or snowy, the fireworks will be cancelled. Please check the Alderson Main Street Facebook page for the latest information. <https://www.facebook.com/Alderson-Main-Street-594432723925664/>

Outgoing Main Street President Judy Lohmeyer said, “What better way to end my tenure as president than fireworks! Please come and enjoy them!”

WISHING YOU

AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR

Mountain Messenger

The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley

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OPINION

Nature's Way

By Karen Cohen

Master Gardener/Photojournalist/Artist

Help Yourself

OK, get ready, I am going to use a cuss word: Ground-HOGS. There, I said it. I've spotted a few this year mostly sitting on the side of Rt. 219 about two feet from cars flying by them. I must say, they really are able to concentrate on what they are doing and lose all sense of reality. Like the reality of being smashed by a passing car. I guess they don't have a strong survival instinct like a deer who operate on the built in "flight" message. Even though they take a bit too long to get the heck out of the way: "Yo, yo, yo, I'm coming through Bambi in a big ole automobile!"

Groundhogs can be called cute. Maybe? They are furry and wiggle a bit when they scurry, that's cute, isn't it? Hunters, farmers, and country folk kill them and maybe even eat them.

Being a gardener, I admit that I don't want them around. They dig holes that can be ankle breaking; I've encountered my share of those. My left ankle still throbs a bit when the rains come. Darn groundhogs. You can't see their holes in a tall grassy field and so you may unexpectedly drop about one foot down and byoing, your ankle ligaments get torn. It hurts. Forever.

Years ago, I received enlightenment (at least in my mind), and conceded that the earth belongs to all creatures. My rationale was that they don't understand that I toil very hard on my land and I plant delicious vegetables just for my human family to consume. Being critters, they just don't know about boundary issues or reasonable thinking. I gave them a "pass" for what I considered deep down inside, trespassing.

Do I feel differently now? While I still don't condone vegetable eating critters moving into my precious garden area, (not that they care about my concerns), I still think that nature is nature. We all consume to live. If you study the food chain, we might be proud and righteous to be on the top but all creatures below us on this chain eat the same darn things we do, whether it be meat or plants or roots. Deny the "lower" creatures and they will take it anyway when you are not looking. They know when you are sleeping and they know when you're awake!

It boils down to: do you get what you want or they do? Isn't that everyone's conundrum in life? Hmmmm...is our ego involved in this scenario? Of course, as in all life experiences our ego is involved if we are acting consciously and even subconsciously. I can handle this garden theft or groundhog holes or deer invasion, as examples, in one of three ways.

1. Change my location entirely. Beachside dwellings



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don't have the same plant eating critters, maybe slugs and other leaf eating insects. Weeds still abound at shore homes. I like where I live, so that option is out.

2. Continue complaining about my situation. That gets boring, doesn't it? Nothing is accomplished except that I feel worse every time I start to focus my unhappiness on a situation which I cannot control.

3. Accept my plight with grace and humor. Hahaha. I'm laughing out loud now. Isn't it funny, those little varmints crawling under the electrified and barbed wires as if it is the limbo rock.

Well, number 3 is my choice. Nothing is gained but no sleep is lost either. Not being a quitter, I plant on and even have the courage to plan my garden for 2022!

(Karen Cohen is Master Gardener, photojournalist, DJ, and explorer. Please send your emails to: nature-swaykaren@gmail.com)

Commentary

Warner says over 169,000 confirmation postcards will be mailed to possible vacated or outdated voter registrations

Registered voters who have changed addresses with the DMV, post office or have not voted or updated their voter registration at any time in the past 4 years will soon receive a postcard in the mail to confirm that the voter is still a resident at their registered address on file with the County Clerk.

Warner encourages every voter who receives the confirmation postcard to confirm or update their registration by scanning the QR code on the postcard with a mobile device and follow the easy steps to keep their registration in "active" status. Voters can also check and update their registration information online at ovr.sos.wv.gov, or by simply mailing the completed pre-paid postage postcard to their county clerk.

Voters whose postcards are returned will remain "active." Voters whose postcards are not returned, or are returned by the USPS as "undeliverable," will be categorized as "inactive," which still permits the voters to remain eligible to vote in the next 2 federal election cycles. However, if a voter's registration address remains unconfirmed for the next 2 federal general elections after receipt of the confirmation notice, and the voter fails to vote in any state or local election during that time period, state law mandates that the registration be canceled.

Warner said that election officials will mail postcards this week to each of the 169,417 voters identified after the November 2020 General Election. The postcard asks the voter to confirm they are still a resident of the state and county at the address at which they are registered.

"The law requires election officials to send a postcard to each voter identified by the USPS as having signed up for mail forwarding service through the National Change of Address program, and data obtained from other states' Departments of Motor Vehicles showing voters may have moved to another state. The law is in place to make sure voters on West Virginia rolls are still residents of West Virginia at the address on file with the County Clerk," Warner said. "Since we have information from the voter that they may have moved or have had no contact with election officials by updating their registration or voting, many times we find that these voters moved and simply forgot to cancel their registration or are deceased."

A registered voter does not have to vote in any election to stay registered. However, after not participating for a period of 4 years or greater, or by not updating their voter registration after moving, election officials are required to attempt to confirm the voter's residential status to ensure that the voter is still a resident of West

Virginia in the address on file, confirming their eligibility to vote.

Regular maintenance on voter registration lists is mandated by the National Voter Registration Act and West Virginia law. The confirmation notice mailed to voters' addresses on file with their registration is the first step in the process, which was reviewed and approved in recent years by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Voter list maintenance has been a priority for the WV Secretary of State's Office since Warner first took office in 2017. By working closely with all 55 county clerks from January 2017 to July 1, 2021, Warner reports that a total of 364,301 abandoned, deceased, duplicate, out of state and convicted felon voter registration files have been canceled in the Statewide Voter Registration System. During the same period of time, a total of 255,888 new voters have been registered to vote, which included more than 67,000 high school students.

"If the voter moved to another county, we can help them update their voter registration here in West Virginia," Warner said. "If they moved out of state, they are no longer eligible to vote."

Warner said that a voter's registration will not be canceled if they do not respond to the postcard. However, if the voter's registration remains inactive for two additional consecutive federal general elections following receipt of the postcard, then and only then will the voter's registration be canceled according to the National Voter Registration Act.

For more information, please contact your county clerk or the WV Secretary of State's Office at (304) 558-8000.

OPED piece submission guidelines:

To submit an OPED piece to the *Mountain Messenger* it must comply with the following rules:

1) OPED pieces may contain constructive criticisms, thoughts, or observations, which we publish on an individually approved basis.

2) No name-calling, hate speech, or other derogatory language is permitted. We do not publish letters containing "bashing," personal attacks, and the like. However, we do appreciate mindful concerns, assessments, and thoughts.

3) All letters must be signed by the author and include the city in which they reside.

Please note all submissions are subject to individual editorial approval. Please do not mail or hand-deliver letters, email news@mountainmessenger.com.

Commentary

DHHR launches new electronic death registration system

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources' (DHHR) Health Statistics Center is launching a new Electronic Death Registration System that will allow deaths to be recorded and filed electronically.

WV DAVE, or Database Application for Vital Events, will be phased in on Jan. 1, 2022. To ease transition of death reporting to an electronic registration system, the Health Statistics Center will offer a 60-day grace period for medical providers with full transition on Mar. 1.

During this period, the Health Statistics Center will support both the new electronic death registration system as well as the paper process currently in place. Providers can begin using the system January 1 with the Health Statistics Center providing online training and technical support.

The current process for registering a West Virginia death certificate involves information to be completed on paper and filed through U.S. Mail between funeral homes, medical certifiers, or medical examiners, and the Health Statistics Center for registering records.

The electronic process reduces the time it takes to complete a record and transfer it to the next part of the process; however, this does not mean that deaths will be registered immediately. Under W. Va. State Code, a death certificate must be medically certified by a physician, but may not occur immediately by the physician.

"The electronic system will create efficiency, greatly reduce errors, and shorten the time it takes to register deaths in West Virginia," said Dr. Ayne Amjad, State Health Officer and Commissioner of DHHR's Bureau for Public Health. "The new electronic process will also improve timeliness and eliminate redundancies in COVID-19 death reporting, which will enhance the state's ability to monitor mortality trends. We would like to thank the funeral homes, medical certifiers, and medical examiners who participated in the pilot testing of the WV DAVE system in November."

The *Mountain Messenger* is rerouting the focus of our OPED page back into a more community-oriented publication.

We encourage positive communication between different viewpoints and wish to reject divisiveness and encourage letter writing, and we want that focus to revolve around community encouragement and growth.

When submitting an OPED, please refer to the following guidelines:

1) OPED pieces may contain constructive criticisms, thoughts, or observations, which we publish on an individually approved basis.

2) No name-calling, hate speech, or other derogatory language is permitted. We do not publish letters containing "bashing," personal attacks, and the like. However, we do appreciate mindful concerns, assessments, and thoughts.

3) All letters must be signed by the author and include the city in which they reside.

Please note all submissions are subject to individual editorial approval. Please do not mail or hand-deliver letters, email news@mountainmessenger.com.

We look forward to harboring a hyper-local forum that highlights ongoing situations in and around our county and home state.

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CLUB & CHURCH

General Andrew Lewis Chapter NSDAR donates to veterans



Judy Deegans (left), Carol Olson, and Suzanne Cronquist



Judy Deegans (left), Suzanne Cronquist, and Suzette Taylor

Each December, the members of the General Andrew Lewis Chapter of the NSDAR takes on the project of providing clothing and personal items to the veterans who are at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Beckley. Members purchase items to contribute. It

is collected by the Veterans Affairs Committee and delivered to the medical center.

The Committee is composed of Carol Olson, Suzanne Cronquist and Judy Deegans.

The Voluntary Service Coordinator, Suzette Taylor at the VA Medical Center was pleased to receive a phone call that the Chapter had again collect items for the veterans.

Taylor responded to the call saying, "We are so pleased you are coming. We are out of size large sweatpants and sweatshirts. This fills a real need."

The delivery was made on Dec. 6. The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is a nonprofit, non-political women's service organization whose main objectives are historic preservation, education and patriotism. Members are all lineal descendants of those who supported the cause of independence in the Revolutionary War back in 1776.

If you are interested in the Daughters of the American Revolution, call former Regent Sandra Cowan at 304-497-355

Church Bulletin

Christmas Worship Schedule at Christ Our Savior Lutheran

The Members of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, located at 103 Railroad Avenue in Alderson, invite you to join them in the following worship services. Christ Our Savior is located in the Historic District of Alderson just beyond the Fire Department.

- Christmas Eve, Dec. 24: 5 p.m., Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion, a dessert fellowship follows the worship service.

- Christmas Day, Dec. 25: 10 a.m., The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, The Day of Christ's Birth with Holy Communion.

- The First Sunday After Christmas, Dec. 26: Note: No Family Education Hour this Sunday.

Please note that Dec. 26 will be Pastor Lohmeyer's final service at Christ Our Savior Lutheran. He will be retiring on Dec. 31.

100th Birthday Invitation

Clayton Tyree will celebrate his 100th birthday on Jan. 9, 2022! A birthday party in his honor will be held at the Dutch Haus Restaurant at the Elks Country Club on Sunday, Jan. 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. All are welcome. No presents, please. In lieu of presents you may bring a donation or something the Animal Shelter can use.

Reunions

GEHS Class of 1972 50th Reunion

The Greenbrier East High School Class of 1972 is planning its 50th Class Reunion for next summer, June 24-25, 2022. The planning committee wants to invite all of the class's members, but we're missing addresses for several people. Are you in that class? Or know someone who is? If you would like to add names to the contact list, please send them to Ethel Detch at edetch@comcast.net

Communities In Schools of Greenbrier County receives Daywood Foundation, Inc. Grant

Communities In Schools of Greenbrier County (CISGC) is the proud recipient of the Daywood Foundation's 2021 grant award.

The grant award will assist in the continuation of free services CISGC provides to Greenbrier County's at-risk and disadvantaged youth in addition to whole school supports. More than 4,600 students benefit-

ed from services CISGC provided county-wide last school year and the number of students needing individualized case management services continues to grow.

CISGC is a 501(c)3 and relies on the generosity and support of foundations and community members. CISGC could not carry out our mission "to surround students with a

community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life" without partnerships such as this.

For more information about CISGC, please call 304-661-1018, email director@cisgc.org or visit www.cisgc.org. You can also stay up-to-date through our Facebook page.

A Look Back



Courtesy of the West Virginia Regional History Center.

By William "Skip" Deegans

For many folks from southern West Virginia, Christmas would not be complete without a trip to Charleston's The Diamond department store. With five floors, it was the state's largest store. During the holidays, the windows were elaborately decorated. For children, it was an opportunity to sit on Santa's lap and assure him they had been good boys and girls during

the year.

This week's photo from circa 1917 shows the the Diamond Shoe and Garment Company. Owned by Wehrle B. Geary, it began in 1906 as a shoe store and by 1917 it was a full department store. In 1926, Geary partnered with A. W. Cox who had a chain of stores in West Virginia. Together, they built The Diamond that opened in 1927. The store had

a modern ventilation system, three elevators, and a pneumatic tube system that allowed clerks to send money to the accounting department to be changed and charges to be posted. In 1949, the store expanded and added two more elevators and West Virginia's first escalators. The store included a cafeteria and lunch counter. Listeners to one of Charleston radio stations may recall: "The Diamond! Charleston built and Charleston owned and operated presents the West Virginia news."

The Diamond was one of the last stores in Charleston to integrate. While African Americans could purchase clothes, they could not try them on. They could not be served sitting down at the cafeteria or the lunch counter. In 1958, a group of black leaders began a twenty-two month campaign to integrate the store. In 1960, black and white students from West Virginia State College staged a sit-down at the lunch counter. Shortly afterwards, the store management agreed to integrate.

When the Charleston Town Center Mall opened in 1983, The Diamond closed its doors for good.

Sources: West Virginia Archives and History, West Virginia Public Radio, The WV Encyclopedia.org.



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OBITUARIES

Rebecca Louise Harrah Utterback



Ronceverte-Rebecca Louise Harrah Utterback, 108, passed away Friday, Dec. 17, 2021 at Stonerise Health Care Center in Ronceverte, WV.

She was born Mar. 18, 1913 in Blue Sulphur Springs, the daughter of the late Jesse and Emory Harrah and the wife of the late George Utterback.

She was preceded in death by her son, Mark; two sisters, Leah Fawcett and Alice McMeans; brother, James Harrah; and a dear niece, Elda Montgomery.

She is survived by three nieces, Sharon Morgan and Debbie Albertson, of Fairmont, WV and Evelyn Drake of Nashville, TN; two nephews, Terry and Tim McMeans; and several other nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held at The Old Greenbrier Baptist Church Cemetery in Alderson, on Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2022 at 11 a.m.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Maurice Edward Reed



Fairlea-Maurice Edward Reed, 93, passed away Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021 at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center, Ronceverte, WV.

He was born Jan. 29, 1928 in Monongah, WV, the son of the late Walter C. and Grace M. Gumm Reed.

Maurice was a retired carpenter, of the Methodist faith and was a Staff Sergeant with the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

He was an avid golfer and raised on the family farm in Neola, where he attended a one room school.

Other than his parents Mr. Reed was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Betty L. Kanipes Reed; and two brothers, Paul Buford Reed and James Delano Reed.

Those left to cherish his memory are his daughter, Sherry Altman of Fairlea; son, Edward (Judie) Reed of West Palm Beach, FL; grandchildren, Candace Giddens (Cecil) of Richmond Hill, GA, Andrea Romberg of Savannah, GA, Jimmy (Donna) Reed of West Palm Beach, FL, and Shanna (Adam) An-

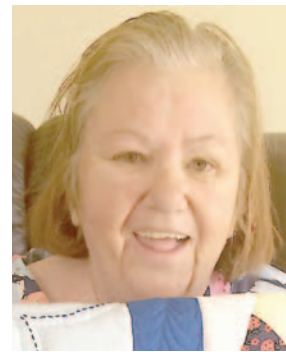
giel of West Palm Beach, FL; great-grandchildren, Brooke West of Richmond Hill, GA, Logan Reed, Cooper Reed, Beckett Reed, Ryder Angiel and Parker Angiel all of West Palm Beach, FL; great-great-grandson, Reece Rogers of Richmond Hill, GA.; sister, Shirley Griffith of White Sulphur Springs; sister-in-law, Bonnie (Jimmy) King of Fairlea; as well as several nieces and nephews.

The family is planning a memorial service at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes that memorial contributions be made to either your local food bank or to a Veterans organization of your choosing.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Wanda Marie Coldiron Snedegar



Henderson, NV-Wanda Marie Coldiron Snedegar 72, formerly of Anthony, WV, passed peacefully from this life on Saturday, Dec. 18, 2021, after an extended struggle with multiple health issues. She was a graduate of Frankford High School class of 1967.

She was preceded in death by her beloved grandmother, Myrtle Cline Salmon and her husband, Lafayette Salmon of Anthony, and her parents, Woodrow and Lucy Salmon Coldiron and her brother, Dennis Coldiron.

She is survived by her husband, Larry Snedegar, formerly of Frankford; and three children, Seeah Christina of Grass Valley, CA, Richard of Kansas City, MO, and Michael of Henderson, NV. She is blessed to have three grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Wanda is survived by six brothers and sisters and their families: Velvie Bennett of Richmond, VA, Howard Coldiron of Chicago, IL, Mary Kay Burns of Pueblo, CO, Debbie Windsor of Bradenton, FL, Matthew Burns of Rustburg, VA, and Mark Burns of Lynchburg, VA.

Wanda is also survived by her beloved Aunt Jane Copher of Owingsville, KY and Janes' children and their families.

Wanda was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was also a lover of music, having won several awards in her high school band and she loved to sing and play piano. She was a master of many creative arts including quilting, crochet, needlepoint, sewing, wreath making and flower arranging. She was a generous, kind and loving soul and will be greatly missed by her friends and family. We take comfort in knowing that her suffering is over

and that she is in a much more glorious place now.

Interment will take place at a later date following a private ceremony.

Stephanie Wood



Ronceverte-Stephanie Wood, 36, passed away Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021, at the Pikeville Medical Center.

Born Mar. 18, 1985, in Majuro, Marshall Islands, Stephanie was the daughter of Johnny Chong and the late Tammy Chong.

She attended the Zions Light Baptist Church where she enjoyed singing in the choir. Stephanie was a Photographer with R&S Photography. She was a loving devoted mommy to her children and her nieces and nephews.

Including her father, survivors are her husband of 16 years, Franklin Wood; children, Elijah Charles, Christopher James, JoyAnna Faith and Sophie Noelle Wood; special friends, Candice Thomas (Joey) of Lewisburg, and Amanda Bryant (Darrell) of Alderson; her "Nanny" and second mom, Crystal Byer of Friars Hill; as well as many other friends.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 28, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel, 252 Montvue Drive, Lewisburg, with Pastor Gary Baker officiating. Burial will follow in the McLean Cemetery, Ronceverte.

Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m., Monday, Dec. 27, at the funeral home.

Online guestbook may be signed at www.morganfh.net

Steven A. Issenberg, MD



Lewisburg-Steven A. Issenberg, MD, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on Aug. 12, 1940. Dr. Issenberg died on Dec. 20, 2021, at home in Lewisburg. He was the son of the late Benjamin and Rose Issenberg.

Left behind to cherish his memory are his wife, Nancy, four children, three grandchildren, his step-son, and brother Philip and family. His children are Jeff Issenberg, wife Verónica, and their son Ilan; Lisa Issenberg and husband, Jerry Roberts; Amy Issenberg; Rachel Hastings and husband Josh, and their children, Raelyn and Rhett. His step-son is Dave Haynes, wife Noriko, and sons William and Andrew.

Steve attended Boston Latin School, the oldest public school in Ameri-

ca, and played the saxophone in middle school. He always had an ear for music, and could play for hours from memory. As a teenager Steve moved with his family to South Florida. After graduating from Coral Gables High School, Steve completed degrees at the University of Florida, and the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami.

Steve served as a physician in the U.S. Air Force for two years, and then earned a degree in Otolaryngology. He had a private Ear, Nose and Throat surgery practice for over 30 years in Rhode Island, Georgia, and Lewisburg, WV. He loved being a doctor and helping people. He was fond of telling his patients "only put your elbow in your ear."

He was a black diamond skier, a 100 mile century bike rider, played tennis, and ran for fitness. In retirement his favorite sports were biking along country roads, double digging his backyard garden, and taking up running again.

Per his wishes, a private memorial service will be held at a later date.

Steve was a longtime supporter of many causes, including UNICEF. The family suggests making a donation to UNICEF, or to a local children's agency, in Steve's memory.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Bernard W. Shifflett



Lewisburg-Bernard W. "Jim" Shifflett, 95, passed away Monday, Dec. 13, 2021 at Beckley VA Medical Center.

He was born Feb. 9,

1926 at Cass, WV, a son of the late Jesse Warren Shifflett and Mary Ellen Hamrick Shifflett.

Jim was a retired time study engineer with B.F. Goodrich, was of the Methodist Faith, was a member of Lewisburg Masonic Lodge where he received his 50 year pin and was a WWII USCG-Merchant Marine veteran.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Hill Shifflett; a still born daughter, Elaine Shifflett; two sisters, Susan Nadine Haislip and Mary Imogene Minnix and two brothers, Jesse Warren Shifflett, Jr. and Donald Wilmont Shifflett.

Survivors include a son, Bernard W. Shifflett of Salisbury, MD and two grandchildren, Matthew Shifflett and Sarah Shifflett.

In keeping with Jim's wishes, he will be cremated and a graveside service will be held in the spring at Rosewood Cemetery in Lewisburg.

In lieu of flowers, donations of sympathy may be made to the Alzheimer's Association in memory of Jim and Ruth Shifflett.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Betty Virginia Lovelace

Ronceverte-Betty Virginia Lovelace, 76, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021.

Betty was born Oct. 15, 1945 in Ronceverte to the late Clarence Edward and Katherine Morgan Yates.

Betty was a 1963 graduate of Greenbrier High School in Ronceverte and loved her classmates. She was a member of the Greenbrier Valley Church of the Nazarene where she was a devout Christian and loved God, her family and church. Betty's most important job was to be a loving mother and grandmother. She was a retired

office assistant with the Probation and Parole office.

Other than her parents, Betty was preceded in death by brothers, Ralph, Charles and Basil Yates.

Survivors include her husband, Leon Pershing Lovelace of Ronceverte; daughters, Tracey Walker and husband Joe of Hill-sboro, Nikki Dolan and husband Mike of Ronceverte and Jaclyn Lea Adkins and husband Kenny of Caldwell; stepsons, David Leon Lovelace and wife Sherry and Donald Edward Lovelace and wife Kasie of Ronceverte; grandchildren, Jesse Walker, Dalton Walker and wife Melissa, Micah Pritt and husband Lance, Cryslyn Burdett and husband Tyler, Camryn Dolan, Makenna Dolan, Carter Elliott, Miriam Adkins, Malachi Adkins, Kenlea Adkins, Ken-nison Adkins, Keenan Adkins, Jessica Hambrick and husband Michael, Sammy Lovelace, Bethany Lovelace, Kacey Brant-Withrow; seven great-grandchildren; brother, Carl Yates of Fort Worth, TX; sisters-in-law, Dodie Yates of Azle, TX, Mozelle Yates of Bethany, OK and Donna Yates of Ronceverte; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 27, at the Greenbrier Valley Church of the Nazarene with Pastor Scott Buell and Pastor Terry Simpkins officiating. Burial will follow in Riverview Cemetery at Ronceverte.

The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 27, at the Greenbrier Valley Church of the Nazarene.

In lieu of flowers, it was Betty's wish for donations to be made to: Greenbrier Valley Church of the Nazarene, 167 Dawkins Drive, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Ronceverte is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

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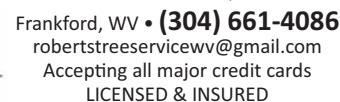
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STEPPIN' OUT

First Fridays after 5 in downtown Lewisburg on pause for January

There will be no First Fridays after 5 in downtown Lewisburg this January 2022, however, First Fridays will return on Feb. 4, 2022, and will continue throughout the year. Watch for event details in your local newspapers or on Facebook at "FirstFridaysAfterFive."

The Lewisburg merchants wish everyone a Happy New Year and thank you for your ongoing support of downtown Lewisburg.

For more information go to www.downtownlewisburg.com or call 304-645-4333.

Carnegie Hall Calendar of Events

• **Thursday, January 20: The Lady And The Empress** - Special Event in Carnegie Hall's Old Stone Room on Thursday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. "The Lady and the Empress" is a one-woman play written and performed by Doris Fields (Lady D) about jazz singer Bessie Smith. Tickets only \$10. To make reservations or for more information visit carnegiehallwv.org, call 304-645-7917, or stop by 611 Church Street, Lewisburg.

611 Church Street, Lewisburg.

• **Friday, January 21: Crys Matthews** - Mainstage Performance on Friday, Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Join us for an evening with "the next Woody Guthrie," Crys Matthews. Tickets start at only \$17. To make reservations or for more information visit carnegiehallwv.org, call 304-645-7917, or stop by 611 Church Street, Lewisburg.

• **Saturday, January 22: Calling Them In** - Special Workshop by Crys Matthews at The Wild Bean in downtown Lewisburg on Saturday, Jan. 22 at 11 a.m. Join Matthews in a frank discussion about challenges of activism in the 21st century. Free admission and open to the public. To make reservations or for more information visit carnegiehallwv.org, call 304-645-7917, or stop by 611 Church Street, Lewisburg.

Rotating Galleries:

Old Stone Room Gallery - Reflection In A Pool - Photography by Jesse Thornton. Carnegie Hall Galleries are open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and open to the public. Runs through Dec. 30, 2021. Next up: Jamal Hoskins

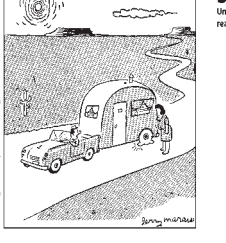
Museum Gallery - Lynn Davis Art Exhibit. Carnegie Hall Galleries are open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and open to the public. Runs through Dec. 30, 2021. Next up: Robbie Moore

Board Room Gallery - To be announced.

Lobby Gallery - Jorn Mork Art Exhibit. Carnegie Hall Galleries are open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and open to the public. Runs through Dec. 30, 2021. Next up: Doris Fields (Lady D)

Permanent Exhibit: Arts From The Ashes: The History Of Carnegie Hall - The exhibit features memorabilia, photographs, artifacts and more of Carnegie Hall since its construction in 1901. Located on the second floor. Free admission.

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SCRAMBLERS
Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Terrain
HATER _____

Rush
SLEUTH _____

Uniform
QUALE _____

Covert
PROM _____

"Taking care of the _____ is your job!"

TODAY'S WORD _____

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

4			8	6			7	
	8		5					3
9		2			1	6		
5				9		4		
			3	6				1
	2			7	4		6	
6				8	7		2	
		1			5	8		
	9		2					4

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

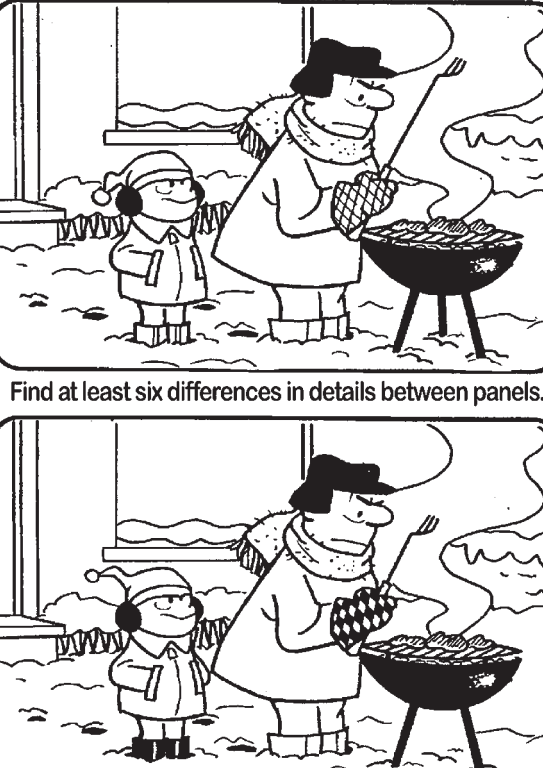
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Fork is showing. 5. Oven mitt is different. 6. Grill leg is removed. 4. Arm is showing. 2. Boots are different. 3. Hat is different. 12. Lt.'s inferior. 129 "Despicable Me" villain Dewy, e.g.

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Examined by touching

9 Smart — (know-it-all)

14 Alphas' opposites

20 All across the region

21 Indian city on the Yamuna River

22 "Gil Blas" novelist Alain-René —

23 Blemish-resistant bar seat?

25 Male flower part

26 Earth lighter

27 Autumn chill

28 Sentry allowing nobody to nap?

30 Monet, say

34 Interstices

36 — roll (hot)

37 Shoulder-hugging, horn-honking driver?

42 Thin and supple

47 Duck cousin

48 Actress Messing

49 More plucky

50 Lt.'s inferior

53 "I see mice!"

56 Ear-related

58 Indian city on the Yamuna River

59 Vehicle in a chase scene

63 Decorative pins worn by jockeys?

67 Yellow-and-black bird

68 16-Down, to Jacob

69 Flagged auto

70 Mao — -tung

71 Bit of pasta that's really hard to find?

77 Bodily pouch

79 Spanish for "that"

80 Big pet food brand

81 "Infinite" rapper

84 Have pain from bending forward too sharply?

89 Tire type

90 Tolkien terrorizers

91 Up — (stylish)

92 — Lanka

94 Butter holder

95 More hideous

97 — liver (meat product)

100 Harvestable

104 Work layoff, slangily

105 Dive to attack with perfect form?

111 Texter's "I think ..."

113 Neeson of "Darkman"

114 GMC pickup

115 Decide on Domino's for dinner?

122 Taylor of "Cleopatra," for short

124 Los Angeles' Playa — Rey

125 Regular practices

126 Botching an April 1 prank?

131 Crops up

132 Ickly sticky

133 Enlarge

134 Quick

135 In any way

136 Power-supplying socket

8 Blueprint

9 TV spots

10 "Show me"

11 College town in North Carolina

12 Toy train, when doubled

13 Quantity in a narc's bust

14 Former NFLer Merlin

15 Annual ritzy NYC fundraising event

16 Biblical birthright seller

17 Explorer Vasco da —

18 Antiquing aid

19 Ship off, say

24 Petty quarrel

29 Saldana of the screen

31 "— so you!"

32 Hem, e.g.

33 Lifted syllable

35 Prof's deg.

38 United

39 Israel's Abba

40 Opiate, e.g.

41 Raiment

43 Apple option

44 Close, as a community

45 "— to you!"

46 Rub out

49 Person rubbing it in

50 Prefix with warrior

51 And not

52 Final washer phase

54 Noted Deco master

55 Furry fruit

57 Rocket paths

60 Pigeon noise

61 Balm plants

62 Betelgeuse or Antares

64 Clangor

65 How balloons float

66 Trump replaced him

72 Thief's bagful

73 "Bali —"

74 Autos such as Gremlins and Pacers

75 Belgian river

76 Spain's EI —

77 Teapot part

78 "I'm so frustrated!"

82 Water, to Gigi

83 Rangers' and Rays' gp.

85 Brunel locale

86 Mean whale

87 High point

88 One-named sports legend

93 Lyric penner Gershwin

96 Lived

98 Ball of mashed chickpeas

99 — fi movie

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103 She baas

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106 Film score composer

107 Iago's wife

108 Hard trial

109 Bully's threat

110 Warehouse platform

112 Hardly tidy

115 Cartoonist Addams

116 Celestial instrument

117 Off-Broadway prize

118 French river or department

119 TV actress Swenson

120 — suit (1940s duds)

121 Reverse alphabetical order

123 Bronze metal

127 Olive of "Popeye"

128 Lt.'s inferior

129 "Despicable Me" villain

130 Dewy, e.g.

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BUSINESS

Greenbrier Valley Board of Realtors donates to local food pantries

The Greenbrier Valley Board of Realtors and Robert Bittinger, Jr., chairman of their Feed the Need Community Food Drive, held its annual meeting with local directors of the Greenbrier and Monroe County food pantries and the Wellspring of Greenbrier Inc. to discuss community and operational needs.

This year the Greenbrier Valley Board of Realtors raised \$20,050 through its very generous members, affiliates, and clients. Nine food pantries in Greenbrier and Monroe counties, plus Wellspring of Greenbrier Inc., were given \$1,650 each to assist our communities and those in need.

Bittinger states the Feed the Need Community Food Drive has raised over \$111,000 in the last 11 years. "We have been so blessed by the generosity of our members, affiliates, clients, our communities and local businesses. It's because of their tremendous generosity we are able to do what we have. A very sincere thank you to all of you!"



Front Row: Louise Feury, (left) director, Emmanuel United Methodist Church of White Sulphur Springs; Donna Boothe, assistant director, Peterstown United Methodist Church; Sandi Bowling, director, Peterstown United Methodist Church; Tina Noe, director, Greenbrier Community Services Williamsburg Pantry; Ann Thomas, director, First Baptist Church of Rainelle; Linda Trickett, assistant director, First Baptist Church of Rainelle; Scarlett Kellerman, co-director & president of Wellspring of Greenbrier Inc.; and Carolyn White, director, Quinwood Community Food Service Inc.; Back Row: Robert Bittinger, Jr. (left), chairman, Greenbrier Valley Board of Realtors, Feed The Need Community Food Drive; Tim McNair, director, Union United Methodist Church; and Reverend Kelly Martin, Union United Methodist Church

Dear Recycle Lady,

Dear Readers,

The Greenbrier Recycling Center and I send you best wishes and much joy. We greatly appreciate all your questions, comments and encouragement. Please keep them coming in 2022.



Southern WV Basket Weavers raise funds

Hand-woven baskets were featured in the window of Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Central's office throughout the month of November. During this time, approximately 35 baskets were sold and proceeds of \$2,560 were donated to the Children's Home Society in Rupert. The money will be used to purchase Christmas gifts and supplies for the children at the home.

Thank you goes to Donna Witt for the basket materials and leadership for the project, to the members of the Southern WV Basket Makers Guild for the time

and expertise to assemble the baskets, and Linda Rodgers, Realtor, Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Central Broker Josh Mcgrath for the display and sales area.



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		175 Mountain Ave. WSS, WV 304-536-1313

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Behold the Miracle

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6



May the miracle of His birth fill your heart with light at Christmastime and all year. Rejoice!

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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Coming Your Way: Our Best Wishes!

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For Unto Us A Child Is Born, And To Us A Son Is Given, Which Is Jesus Christ The Lord



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WISHING YOU

Happy Holidays

AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR

The origins of NYE traditions



Traditions are the glue that hold many celebrations together. Individuals and families embrace many customs that serve as the script for commemorating year-end holidays.

Some celebrants may adhere to traditions without really knowing how they began or why they continue. Here is a closer look at some of the most popular

traditions tied to New Year’s Eve, both domestically and around the world.

Drinking champagne

The use of champagne for celebrations is rooted in the Christian ritual of consuming wine during the Eucharist. In the year 496, a wine from the Champagne region of France was offered during the

baptism of the Frankish warrior Clovis, according to the Champagne Committee of France. It then became customary for champagne to be used at religious events like consecrations and at coronations or soirees. Eventually the tradition became associated with secular rituals, such as celebrating the new year.

Food

People of Japanese heritage might eat soba noodles on New Year’s Eve. The Toshikoshi Soba, which means ‘year crossing buckwheat noodle,’ denotes the crossing from one year to the next. Nibbling the noodles represent traveling from one year to the next as well as letting go of the previous year’s regrets.

In Spain, people gobble grapes to bring good luck in the coming year. The goal is to eat 12 green grapes during the 12 remaining seconds until the New Year.

Those able to do so will have 12 months of good fortune.

Dropping the ball

Revelers have long watched the giant ball drop in New York City’s Times Square in person and on television. This tradition may be rooted in the custom of sailors using òtime ballsÓ to set their own timepieces while at sea. These chronometers were employed by using a spyglass to scan the harbor looking for balls that were dropped into the water at certain times, PBS reports. The first ball was installed in 1829 in Portsmouth, England. The Times Square ball was first used in 1907, according to the Times Square Alliance.

Making resolutions

Historians trace the making of resolutions to the Ancient Babylonians. Citizens made spoken resolutions during their new year festival known as ÒAkutu.Ó This ritual required making an oath to the sitting or new king. Romans also swore oaths of loyalty to the emperor when the New Year started.

Fireworks and noisemakers

Fireworks are a big part of celebrations and are not to be outdone on New Year’s Eve. Fireworks were invented in the seventh century in China. According to Anthony Aveni, an astronomer and anthropologist at Colgate University, the fireworks were designed to ward off evil spirits. In cultures around the world, fireworks, banging drums and other efforts were used to chase away spooky creatures, especially during the transitional period that is the passing of the new year. Today fireworks and noisemakers are employed not for scaring away spirits, but rather to add to the revelry.

New Year’s Eve traditions abound, and many of these annual customs have interesting origin stories.

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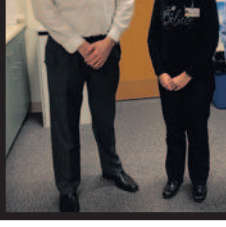
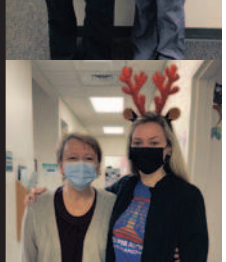
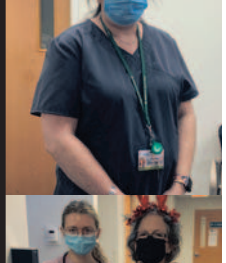
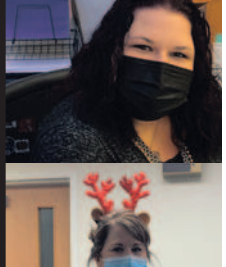
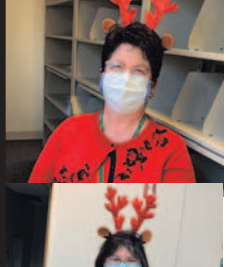
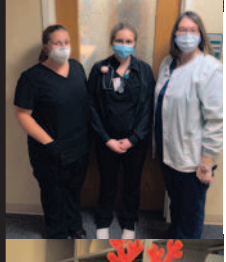
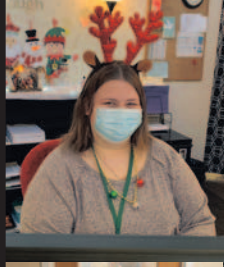
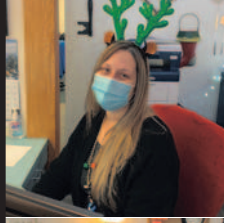
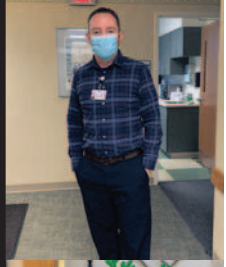
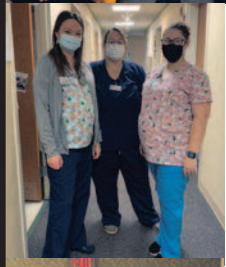
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Recipient of the 2021 Organizational Award for Excellence in Rural Health

Presented by the
West Virginia Rural Health Association



Thank you to the providers and staff at Robert C. Byrd Clinic for making a difference in our community. Your dedication to patients and commitment to quality is reflected in everything you do. In addition to receiving the WVRHA Organizational Award for Excellence in Rural Health, you have also achieved re-certification as a Patient Centered Medical Home.

Thank You & Happy Holidays

Center Photos Courtesy of Pat Bauserman, WVSOM

