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

February 25, 2023

Lewisburg City Council hears LDBA funding request, changes speed limit on McElhenny

By Sarah Richardson

At a lengthy meeting of the Lewisburg City Council on Tuesday, Feb. 21, councilmembers heard a financial request from the Lewisburg Downtown Business Association (LDBA), updated the speed limit on McElhenny Road, reappointed a Planning Commission member, and more.

President of the LDBA, Jill McIntyre, shared a presentation to the council to “make a case” to be included in the city budget. The LDBA requested \$50,000 from the city to be used for printing brochures, updating their website and social media platforms, taking new promotional photos, and updating and reprinting their visitor’s guide. The LDBA is a separate entity from the Greenbrier Valley Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, which already receives funding from the city through the hotel/motel tax. Fifty percent of the hotel/motel tax funds must be spent on the CVB, and the other half has several approved uses for allocating funds, including for a “tourist information center,” which McIntyre argued that the LDBA is.

City Manager Misty Hill explained that the other half of the hotel/motel tax is already allotted for public parks and beautification, one of the other approved funding uses. She stated that \$50,000 taken from this funding would be coming out of payroll and healthcare for parks employees.

Councilmember John Little said, “I don’t believe that marketing is a role of the government,” and stated that he does support the mission of the LDBA, but that he believes it is “disingenuous” to label the LDBA as a “tourism information center.” He added, “I’m really struggling to see how the City would be responsible for marketing a select group of businesses that only benefits people who pay dues to this organization and is limited by a geographical area.”

He also noted that he believed this would be “unfair to the other businesses,” but that he likes what the CVB does for marketing our entire region.

“We aren’t asking you to be our advertisers, we are



Lewisburg police officers S.T. Rodoussakis and D.B. Eggleston were both promoted to Sergeant at the latest Lewisburg City Council meeting. The officers are pictured here on either side of Mayor Beverly White (center), together with several councilmembers.

asking for you to help us draw visitors to downtown Lewisburg,” said McIntyre.

Councilmember Valerie Pritt said that she disagreed with that statement, “Only because you are asking this body to give you a share of money to market.”

Mayor Beverly White said that the city already helps local businesses by implementing a high threshold, \$15 million, for B&O tax. “We did that deliberately,” she said, “so it wouldn’t hurt the little guys.”

After reviewing the state constitution, Sarah Elkins said that she also agrees that funding for this sort of endeavor should not come from the City. “I do think that it is a valid organization, with a valid mission, but I think it [the funding] has to come from its own members,” said Elkins.

In other news:

• The speed limit for McElhenny Road has been changed to 25 mph following a vote by council. It was requested that the state place updated signage along McElhenny with this new speed limit.

• Valerie Pritt was appointed to another three-year term on the Planning Commission with a unanimous vote.

• Dr. Bonny Copenhaver, president of the New River Community and Technical College, gave a detailed report to council on the ongoing within the school. She announced that the Greenbrier Valley Campus is now the schools largest campus, beating the Raleigh County Campus by a number of students.

• After a lengthy executive session, council renewed the city employee health benefits for another year.

• A total of \$106,159.05 was approved in a change

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Airport Authority clears Director Brian Belcher for departure, retirement

By Adam Pack

The Greenbrier County Airport Authority met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Feb. 21. Amidst a busy schedule, the Authority took time out to consider a resignation request from Airport Director Brian Belcher. Belcher, having served in his current role since Nov. 14, 2019, will be moving on to retirement. The Authority very reluctantly accepted his resignation, with each member extending their thanks and gratitude for Belcher’s years of stellar performance, diligence, and dedication to the Greenbrier Valley Airport.

“I’ve always loved aviation, loved being around it, and this has just been the best place I’ve been,” said Belcher. “The staff here has been great, the employees we have always just go above and beyond and are some of the best I’ve ever had the pleasure of working with.”

The Authority is now in the process of hiring a new airport director, and appointed current Airport Financial Advisor Martha Livesay to the position on an interim basis until a new director is hired. Belcher’s resignation

takes effect Feb. 28, 2023.

In other news, Belcher informed the Authority

that the work on the entrance sign is complete, and that the components for the sign are to be delivered via truck sometime this week. He also gave a briefing regarding Contour’s service.

According to Belcher, “there have been 12 cancellations to date, since Jan. 1. That breaks down as four in January and eight in February. However, over the last ten days, we’ve seen Contour complete ten consecutive days of service, so we’re seeing them trend upwards.”

Contour has had issues since their start of service with LWB, due to factors both specific to Contour and some generally applicable to the industry, Belcher explained. “Contour right now has expanded to several cities alongside us, and perhaps too many too fast, so they’ll just need time to catch up, but we hope that they can get to terms with all the different markets they’ve added. Also, everyone right now in aviation is struggling with personnel issues, so that’s something to be considered.”

The Authority will meet again on Mar. 21 in the Administrative Building of the State Fairgrounds, at 2 p.m. Interested parties should call 304-645-3961 for information on Airport Authority meeting dates and times, as they are subject to change.

Rainelle woman arrested for murder

By Sarah Richardson

On Tuesday, Feb. 21, Lajuana Agripina Lopez, 46, of Rainelle, was arrested and charged with murder in the first degree following a homicide investigation.

According to a criminal complaint, on Tuesday, Feb. 7, an officer with the West Virginia State Police reported to a house in Rainelle belonging to Lorne Atkins in reference to his murder. “Mr. Atkins was located in an upstairs bedroom of the residence with severe head injuries. It was suspected these injuries occurred from blunt force trauma,” states the report. WVSP Crime Scene investigators found a “claw type hammer” just outside of the room, and it “had what appeared to be blood on several areas of the hammer.”

After interview Lopez on Feb. 21, she confessed to hitting Atkins “one or more times with a hammer, causing his death.”

Lopez is currently being held at Southern Regional Jail without bond.

Road plates installed after culvert fails

By Sarah Richardson

Lewisburg Public Works crews were busy last Friday afternoon after heavy rains led to the failure of a culvert at the bottom of Dogwood Heights on Judyville Road. “The culvert is under the road, and when it rains heavily it washes out the gravel out from around the culvert,” explained Public Works Director Tony Legg. “This last rain really washed out a lot of the rock, so we went in and cut it and put in bigger rock, but we will be working on permanent repairs soon.” For now,



a number of road plates have been placed over top of where the culvert runs.

To prevent any issues in the future, Legg said that engineers will be com-

ing in to do a stormwater study to ensure that the replacement culvert will

be appropriately sized for heavy storms.

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Officials release statement following McMillion’s indictment for murder

Prosecutor’s office say Dee Ann Keene’s body still not found, asks public to come forward if they have information

On Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023, the Grand Jury of Greenbrier County, West Virginia, returned an indictment against Ronald Ray McMillion, charging him with the murder of Dee Ann Keene. McMillion was arrested later the same day by members of the West Virginia State Police, pursuant to an arrest warrant issued by the Circuit Court of Greenbrier County upon the return of the indictment. McMillion is currently being held without bond in the custody of the Southern Regional Jail. An arraignment, when he is expected to enter a plea, is scheduled for Feb. 24, at 10:45 a.m.

The case has been the subject of a lengthy investigation by the West Virginia State Police, dating to Mar. 5, 2014, when Dee Ann Keene, a then 43-year-old resident of Renick was reported to be missing. The investigation revealed that no one has seen, or heard from Keene since Feb. 28, 2014. Since that time, despite having not yet recovered the body of Keene, the investigation evolved from a missing person investigation into a homicide investigation, culminating in a grand jury presentation and the issuance of an indictment against McMillion.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed one or more violations of West Virginia criminal law, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.

“The Greenbrier County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office is deeply appreciative of the ongoing, exhaustive investigatory efforts by several members of the West Virginia State Police culminating in the indictment and arrest of Mr. McMillion,” stated Patrick Via, prosecuting attorney of Greenbrier County. “While we stand committed to seeking justice for Dee Ann Keene in the prosecution of this case, we continue to encourage any member of the public who may have any information regarding this matter, including the possible whereabouts of Ms. Keene’s body, to please come forward to the Lewisburg Detachment of the West Virginia State Police.”

Robert C. Byrd Clinic to host low-cost Heart Health Clinic

February is American Heart Health Month. To celebrate and promote heart health in our community, Robert C. Byrd Clinic is offering a low-cost Heart Health Clinic so anyone can know their numbers! For a total of \$25 (no insurance needed), we will provide you with your blood pressure, HBA1c, and complete Lipid Panel (includes Triglyceride, HDL, LDL, and your Cholesterol). The event will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 28, from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. You do not have to be a regular Robert C. Byrd patient, and no appointment is necessary, just stop by on Tuesday morning! Since those who are being tested are not supposed to eat or drink after midnight the night before, we will provide coffee service and snacks as clinic guests leave.

City Council

Continued from Front Page

order to “relocate the structure” of the water pipe intake further onto the city’s property at the request of the DNR.

- An across-the-board fifty cent an hour raise was approved by council with a total annual cost of over \$89,000 annually to the city. The pay scale for city employees will be updated to reflect this amount.
- An automatic mutual aid agreement was approved at the request of Lewisburg Fire Chief Joey Thomas. This agreement has been in place for a number of years but is re-approved annually.

Sinkhole on Rt. 19 near Beckley



Sinkhole on North Eisenhower Drive in Beckley

The West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) has traffic control in place and is creating a proper plan of action after a hole appeared on US 19 near Beckley.

“Our first concern has been to provide traffic control so that traffic can continue to move smoothly in this area,” said Joe Pack, P.E., WVDOH chief engineer of district operations.

A 2-foot in diameter hole appeared in the southbound lane of N. Eisenhower Drive near King Tut Drive-In on Wednesday, Feb. 22.

There is no detour in place at this time. The south-

bound traffic impacted is using the middle turn lane to travel. Northbound traffic in this area is unaffected.

“It is a high-trafficked area and right now we are able to maintain traffic flow in both the northbound and southbound directions with reduced speeds, but no one is having to come to a stop.”

WVDOH is currently mobilizing equipment and coordinating with utility companies to determine the cause of the issue. WVDOH is also working with the Beckley Sanitary Board to develop a proper plan of action.

State Fair announces 2nd Annual Art Contest

The State Fair of West Virginia is excited to announce its Second Annual State Fair Art Contest. The winning entry will be featured as the 2023 State Fair Print of the Year, and will receive a cash prize, as well as a percentage of sales.

“We’ve been able to feature some amazing local artists over the last few years with the official fair portrait,” State Fair CEO Kelly Collins stated. “We are excited to continue to promote our local artists and can’t wait to see what folks come up with!”

The official State Fair print should portray a positive

image of the State Fair of West Virginia or reflect activities in anticipation or preparation of the annual event. Guidelines include:

- Image should be 11”x14”, or 11”x17” vertical or horizontal will be acceptable.
- Medium may include oil, acrylic, watercolor, or pastels. Must be able to copy for print production purposes.
- Both professional and amateur artists are permitted to enter.

To enter: Please submit a copy and/or picture of your work to Kellyt@statefairfwv.com by Apr. 7.

For more information, please contact the State Fair Office at 304-645-1090, or email kellyt@statefairfwv.com

Carnegie Hall seeks instructors and volunteers for Kids’ College July 2023

Do you practice a craft, make art, or love to teach? If so, Carnegie Hall wants to hear from you.

Carnegie Hall is looking for Instructors to participate in Kids’ College, our 2-week summer arts and science day camp. Kids’ College 2023 will be held July 10-14 and July 17-21 and offers up to 5 classes for students per day. Instructors can teach mornings, afternoons, or both. Instructors may also teach for just one class period. Pay for Kids’ College is based on a fixed per class rate, so income depends on the number of classes taught. Qualified applicants will have a love of what they do and a willingness to teach to others. No degree necessary.

This year, Carnegie Hall is looking for instructors to teach all art mediums, science labs and kitchen arts. Any artist or crafter is welcome to submit a proposal by following: <https://fs26.formsite.com/6usHp2/voiqx0qofp/index>, or by contacting Harmony Flora, Carnegie Hall’s education director, at 304-645-7917, or by email to education@carnegiehallwv.org. Interested instructors can also stop by the Carnegie Hall Business Office at 611 Church Street in Lewisburg.

Interested in volunteering for Kids’ College this year? Carnegie Hall also has opportunities for everyone, including students and retirees. Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Teri Hartford, at 304-645-7917, or by email to volunteer@carnegiehallwv.org

Registration for 2023 Kids’ College will begin April 2023.

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Briefly

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. **Dance on Feb. 25 will feature Thomas Taylor Band, 7 to 10:30.** 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.

Democratic Women to meet

The Greenbrier County Democratic Women’s Club will meet Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 5:30 p.m. at the Old Stone Church Fellowship Hall.

Williamsburg Shooting Match

The next Williamsburg Shooting Match will be held Saturday, Mar. 4 at the Williamsburg Community Building, 6571 Shoestring Trail, Williamsburg. Match starts at 7 p.m., but food concessions open at 6 p.m. Match will be eight rounds, 12-gauge guns only. First seven rounds are \$2 per shot, eighth round 50/50 at \$6 per shot. Shooters must compete in the first seven rounds in order to compete in the eighth round. 50/50 splatter match is \$1 per chance between rounds. Cash prizes will be awarded. You do not need to be a shooter to win! Delicious hot food and refreshments will be available starting at 6 p.m. Families are welcomed, you don’t have to shoot to come get a meal! Proceeds will benefit Williamsburg Community service projects. Sponsored by a joint effort of the Williamsburg Community Action and the Williamsburg Ruritans. For more information and directions visit website www.williamsburgwv.com, or call Bill Jarvis at 304-645-3690.

Democratic Executive Committee

will hold their next meeting on Mar. 8 at 5:30 p.m. at the Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate office in downtown Lewisburg. Folks interested in promoting Democratic values are welcome to attend.

Carnegie Hall Guild

The next Carnegie Hall Guild meeting is planned for Mar. 14 at 4:30 p.m.

Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Patrick C. Baldwin, Union, DUI, GP, fine \$100, jail 60 days - suspended and placed on 9 months unsuper-vised probation
Joshua Howard McCormick, Lewisburg, petit larceny, GP, jail 90 days suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation
Jack Riley Bostic, Alderson, 1) illegal possession of wildlife, GP, fine \$75; 2) no logging license, fine \$250
Brittany R. Groves, Rupert, reckless driving, GP, fine \$75
Teresa Lynne Peterson, Lewisburg, DUI with an alcohol concentration in blood >=.15, NCP, fine \$200, jail 120 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsuper-vised probation
Crystal Lea Vaughan, Frankford, possession of controlled substance, jail 90 days - suspended and placed on 9 months unsupervised probation
Robert Irving Boggs, White Sulphur Springs, person prohibited from possession firearms, NCP, fine \$100
Jetta Ann Elmore, Gap Mills, speeding, GP, fine \$46
Mary Susan Kinser, Nettie, driving while license sus-pended or revoked, GP, fine \$100
Keagen Roerig, Alderson, 1) reckless driving, GP, fine \$75; 2) speeding, fine \$36
Matthew Isaac Lemaster, Quinwood, assault on a gov-ernment employee and/or medical personnel, NCP, fine \$50
Gary William Simmons, Sr., Hines, no seatbelt, GP, fine \$25
Samuel Eric Lilly, Jr., Rainelle, domestic assault, NCP, fine \$50, jail 90 days - Home Confinement 71 days
William Dwayne Bowling, White Sulphur Springs, fail-ure to obey red light, NCP, fine \$50

Suits

In Re: The Marriage of: Daniel B. Compton and Kathleen L. Compton
In Re: The Marriage of: Ashley Dawn Gibson and Christopher Gibson
In Re: The Marriage of: Christina May McMillion and Gregory Allen McMillion
In Re: The Marriage of: Sandra Lynn Lovelace and Bryan Travis Humphreys

Marriages

Dereck Wayne Scott, Renick to Rhonda Marie Day, Marlinton
Hung Tien Pham, Lewisburg to Karla Munoz Villanero, Lewisburg
Woodson Doyle Giles, Raleigh, NC to Marlene Gay Cottrell, Rupert

For the Record

Deeds

Kristen Bryant and Aaron Bryant to Frances L. Alder-son, 3.34 Acres, Meadow Bluff District
Rosemary Godby to Brian K. Baker and Randolph M. Baker, Tract No. 2, 0.137 Acre, Fort Spring District
Gary W. Ramsey and Jennifer L. Ramsey to Jarred W. Ramsey, 0.4 Acre, Irish Corner District
Ream Interests, Inc. to Thomas M. Gannon and La-donna R. Gannon, Lot No. 18, Brookside Subdivision, City of Lewisburg
Henry K. Bivens and Mariann Bivens Cutlip to Eric S. Burns, 0.390 Acre, Meadow Bluff District
Ennis M. Allen to Barbera Withers and Gary Withers, 12.14 Acres, Meadow Bluff District
Patricia Kay Hoke to Sandra Kay Hoke, 227,500 Sq. Ft., White Sulphur Springs District

Public Meetings

Rainelle Town Council

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

Gbr. Co. Farmland Protection Board

meets on the fourth Thursday of each month 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.

Greenbrier County Commission

will meet Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m. in the Com-mission Meeting, Room 132. Available as LIVE STREAM FROM <https://www.facebook.com/gbrcourthouse/>. On the agenda

- Regular Business:
 - Approve Minutes - Feb. 9, 2023 regular meeting & Board of Equalization and Review
 - Settlements of Estates
 - Exonerations/County Splits/Consolidations
- Financial Approvals
 - Arts & Recreation Transfer
 - Budget Revisions
 - Line Item Transfer
 - Pay Bills
- New Business
 - 1. Consider Draw Request #4 pertaining to Greenbrier County Broadband Area project.
 - 2. Consider appointment and/or reappointment of Fiduciary Commissioner(s)
 - 3. Consider Motorola service agreement for VESTA 9-1-1-Analytics and Managed Service
 - 4. Consider signing grant agreement for DUI over-

WVDOH accepts bids for road striping, Lafayette Street sidewalk replacement

Projects to paint road stripes in 20 West Virginia counties are among seven projects included in a special bid letting conducted by the West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) on Thursday, Feb. 16.

When the WVDOH contracts to have roads paved, the contract usually includes painting the stripes down the middle of the road. However, those stripes wear and fade over time, so it’s necessary to restripe them periodi-cally.

When that happens, WVDOH accepts bids for countywide restriping contracts. The Feb. 16 bid letting includes the following striping projects:

- Roadway striping, Fayette, Greenbrier, Nicholas, and Summers counties.
- Roadway striping, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Ran-dolph, and Tucker counties.
- Roadway striping, McDowell, Mercer, Raleigh, and Wyoming counties.
- Roadway striping, Braxton, Gilmer, Lewis, and Upshur counties.
- Roadway striping, Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, and Ohio counties.

The WVDOH also accepted bids for two projects originally scheduled for a bid letting held on Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2022:

- US 60 (Lafayette Street) Lewisburg sidewalks. (Greenbrier County)
- Thomas Bridge cleaning and painting. (Tucker County)

Several factors are considered before awarding a bid, including whether a bid falls above or below the WVDOH Engineer’s Estimate and by what percentage. In cases where a bid is above the Engineer’s Estimate, WVDOH must consider the project need, repercussions of not awarding the project, additional funding sources, and whether sufficient reasons exist for the differences in estimates. Most projects are reviewed, analyzed, and awarded within a week of the bid letting, but the process can take longer.

When the Division of Highways has a project that is determined to be best constructed by a contractor, it is processed through the bid letting system. A letting is a scheduled opportunity for contractors to review and bid on several construction projects at one time. Lettings are held either once or twice per month and conducted through the Bid Express System online at www.bidx.com and handled through the Contract Administration Division. Contractors need to subscribe to Bid Express before bids can be accepted on any project.

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Office Hours: 10 AM - 6 PM

time with WV Commission on Drunk Driving Prevention

5. Consider resolution to submit application for WV Treatment Supervision Grant Program Applica-tion (JRI grant) and completion of associated materials.
6. Consider resolution to submit application Community Corrections grant and completion of associated application materials.
7. Consider resolution to submit application for Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and completion of associated application materials.
8. Consider request to approve hiring of 911 Center Center personnel to fill vacant telecommunicator positions.
9. Consider final payment by Greenbrier County Convention and Visitors Bureau in satisfaction of Loan Agreement and execution of Promissory Note as paid in full.
10. Consider resolution to approve settlement with additional respondents (Walgreens, “The” Phar-macy, Bypass Pharmacy, Rhonda’s Pharmacy, Clendenin Pharmacy and Fruth Pharmacy) and execution of Subdivision Settlement Participation Form and Election and Release documents in regard to national opioid litigation.
11. Discussion with legal counsel regarding resolu-tion of matters pertaining to Civil Action No. 21-C-102

- Construction Project
 1. Consideration of any necessary actions related to design, acquisition, construction and equipping of the Greenbrier County Courthouse Project, specifically including, but not limited to, any aspects of the construction contract.
 2. Consideration of one or more requisitions related to the Greenbrier County Courthouse Project.
 3. Update on status of Greenbrier County Courthouse Project.
 4. Consideration of any necessary actions related to the financing for Greenbrier County Courthouse Project.
 5. Consideration of any and all actions related to the foregoing.

Lewisburg Planning Commission

will meet in a working session Thursday, Mar. 2, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall in the Paul R. Cooley Council Chambers, 942 Washington Street, West to discuss the following agenda:

- Review, consider and discuss Permissible Use Table
- Comments from the Commissioners
- Comments from Zoning Officer

The next scheduled meeting of the Lewisburg Plan-ning Commission will be held Thursday, Apr. 6, with a working session at 5:30 p.m. and a regular meet-ing at 7 p.m.

Lewisburg Planning Commission

will meet Thursday, Mar. 2, at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 942 Washington Street, West. Also available via Tele-conference. For information on how to participate on ZOOM, contact Lewisburg City Hall at 304-645-2080 by 4 p.m. on Thursday, Mar. 2. On the agenda:

- Approval of Minutes - Feb. 2, 2023
- Comments from the Public
- Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permit, Chris Chanlett, 249 Maple Street - approval of three plus bedrooms for Air BNB
- Comments from Planning Commission Members
- Comments from Planning and Zoning Officer Marsha Cunningham

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, Apr. 6 with a deadline of NOON Mar. 17, 2023.

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The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1985

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OPINION

Nature’s Way

By Karen Cohen

Turn Turn Turn

So many people spend so much time trying to eradicate things, like weeds for instance. In some communities, you must remove weeds from your lawn to “keep up with the Jones.” I know, I know, a lawn full of tall, straggly unknown plants can be regarded as ugly and even a nuisance since some seeds may blow into neighboring yards and multiply.

As we continue as a species to seek ways to eradicate anything we don’t really like or understand or regard as valueless, sometimes decades later we regret it. Some of us believe that everything has purpose under heaven. There was even a rock and roll song about the Byrds in the 60’s.

Let’s chat about weeds and the deadly herbicides we spray on them. Anything sprayed outside does drift onto your skin, enter your orifices, and can end up damaging your health, too, along with the weeds and maybe some insects. We use these poisons to combat ugly weeds and then we find, oops, the frogs are disappearing along with the butterflies.

In 1916 someone somewhere in North America decided they were fed up with aphids on their pecan trees. Aphids can be destructive. The very simple way to remove them is to use a spray bottle filled with water and a bit of dish detergent and blast them with it. Every few days you will need to repeat that for any new bugs appearing or after a rain shower. Instead of that easy and natural method, someone somewhere opted to bring in ladybugs from Asia; they feed on aphids. You know how that story went!

The difference between North American ladybugs vs. Asian lady beetles is hard to differentiate. Look closely, get on the ground and pick one up. The ones from Asia do have one distinct feature. Notice a letter M under the head. Asian lady beetles are an invasive species and not insects; they are beetles. You might not want to know this but according to research, Asian lady beetles are the most invasive beetles on earth. Sad but true. Trying to get rid of one critter sometimes results in an overpopulation of a more destructive critter.

Ladybugs that inhabit our gardens are bright red and have black spots. Asian ladybugs can be red or orange and even spotless. The latter have taken over territory quickly and hence reduced the population of our friendly little ladybugs that we grew up loving.

Along with the stink bug, Asian lady beetles have invaded our homes coming in through cracks in windows, roofs, vent openings and ceilings searching for warmth. Here’s another disheartening fact. If you see them inside your house, they are not coming in from outside. They are already in the walls and emerging into your house. That’s why the windows will also end up with a swarm of them. Creepy.

How to get rid of them? Because beetles have a tough outer shell, they resist swatting. When you do manage to

Commentary

From the Legislature: WV House Committee on Economic Development and Tourism advances bills focused on attracting new businesses

By Autumn Shelton, WV Press Association

The legislature’s House Committee on Economic Development and Tourism advanced seven bills on Tuesday - most of which focus on attracting new businesses to the state through varying taxation laws.

The first bill advanced, House Bill 3403, would provide both personal income and corporate net income tax credits for employers who either provide or sponsor childcare facilities for their employees.

“The current child care tax credit allows for 50 percent of the cost of operation less any amounts paid by employees,” according to the fiscal note. “This bill simply increases the current credit for operating a childcare facility from 50 percent to 100 percent by offering a new alternative tax credit without removing existing tax credits.” HB 3403 is now headed to the House Finance Committee.

The next bill advanced, HB 3314, was introduced on Feb. 7 by lead sponsor Del. Joe Statler, R-Monongalia, and is designed to provide funding for localized infrastructure development projects through potential tax increases.

Statler explained that the bill would allow county commissions to increase any Economic Opportunity Development District excise tax to up to one percent above the consumer sales and services tax.

In response to questions regarding construction-related services, Statler said he doesn’t believe they would fall under this bill.

“It’s mainly on the sales and the tax that’s put upon the sales of goods in that district,” Statler said, adding that this does not apply to a TIF (tax increment financing) district.

The additional funding must then be used “for infrastructure within the district,” Statler continued. “It’s not like they (county commissions) are making money.”

Kurt Dettinger, representing the law firm Steptoe & Johnson on behalf of WestRidge in Monongalia County, testified that these types of developments (and tax districts) are located in Ohio, Monongalia and Harrison counties, with another being planned in Jefferson County, and can “attract a lot of private investment.” This bill is now headed before the House Finance Committee.

The third bill, HB 3417, would create a pilot program to allow Potomac State College of West Virginia University to participate in the “Learn and Earn Program.” The bill is now headed before the full House for further consideration.

Next up for discussion was the committee substitute for HB 2064, which would establish the “Tourism and Commercial Opportunity Zone Tax Credit Act” for the purpose of creating tax incentives to attract new businesses to the state.

Introduced by Del. Gary Howell, R-Mineral, the bill defines Tourism and Commercial Opportunity Zones as “locations designated by a selection panel of the Secretaries of Economic Development, Tourism and Commerce or their designees as 30 acres of property or land to be developed/improved per 1,000 people.”

Projects within these zones would be eligible for tax credits with a minimum investment of \$250,000 for a peri-



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squash them, like stink bugs, they emit an odor and a liquid which stains. I have read that white vinegar or citronella in a water spray bottle will kill them. I also read that lady beetles draw in carpenter ants. Oh boy, another invasive intruder.

Birds love eating insects and beetles. Bring a flock of birds inside maybe? Not practical and birds poop all over. The solution is “blowing in the wind;” that’s another way Bob Dylan explained, no one knows the answer! It is impossible to seal up every little crack in a home. We built a new home and within two years, lady beetles were inside.

So, the battle to control continues. Predators are around every corner. We humans qualify as such, too. If we chop off a finger, one does not grow back. We just end up with one less.

(Karen Cohen is a natural, organic gardener, photojournalist, and avid explorer. Email your tips and comments to natureswaykaren@gmail.com)

Commentary

Celebrating Black History Month

We have always honored those who have gone before We have thanked all of those who opened so many doors We have stayed true to our beliefs

Even when there was no relief

From prejudice and pain

We have fought the good fight

We have stood for what is right

We have given racism a voice

Because we had no choice

But to carry on

Today the war is still going on for equality

And yes it’s still up to you and me

To keep the battle going until the race is won

And racism is dead and gone

All that you’ve been asked to do

Is follow God’s law and to yourselves be true

To help our fellowman each day

And always, always show the way

That you are the better person

Today as we continue to celebrate

Things are better - however, we are aiming to be great

So that all of God’s children can honestly say

Yes, yes, we’ve come a long way

Beverly D. White, 2-16-12

Commentary

Call fentanyl what it is: Weapon of mass destruction

By Patrick Morrisey

Attorney General of WV

The United States had 107,622 drug deaths in 2021, a 15% increase of 13,967 from 93,655 in 2020. Almost the entirety of the increase is due to fentanyl. West Virginia had 1,194 fentanyl and other synthetic opioid deaths in 2021, up 10% from 1,083 in 2020.

This substance is now the No. 1 killer of adults aged 18-45.

There’s no question why state attorneys general are pushing the Biden administration to classify fentanyl as a Weapon of Mass Destruction. This deadly synthetic opioid is mainly being funneled through our unprotected southern border - Chinese chemical manufacturers are making and sending the raw ingredients to make fentanyl to Mexican drug cartels, which are in turn making and trafficking fentanyl on an industrial scale. But in the face of this evolving and significant problem, the federal government has seemed content to stand by. This is a matter of life or death and we need to treat it as such.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, powdered fentanyl looks just like many other drugs. It is commonly mixed with drugs like heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine and made into pills that resemble other prescription opioids.

And because of the low cost of production, inherent lethality and vast availability of the substance, fentanyl is an ideal choice for bad actors to use as a chemical weapon.

Classifying fentanyl as a WMD would require the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Drug Enforcement Administration to coordinate a response with other agencies, including the Department of Defense—as opposed to the federal government only treating the substance as a narcotics control problem.

Behind the statistics are stories of people who have lost loved ones to this menace. I was recently joined by eight of those families in calling for more action to curb the illicit flood of fentanyl into West Virginia and the nation. Their stories are what drives me to go the extra mile in doing everything I possibly can within the boundaries of the law to push the Biden administration to classify fentanyl as a Weapon of Mass Destruction.

Enough is enough. Far too many people are dying because of this menace. It is these families’ voices that must be heard, their warnings that we must hear and their calls to action that we must heed.

I will keep fighting for them. The stakes are too high and failure is not an option.



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OBITUARIES

Betty Jean Brown



Alderson-Betty Jean Brown, 67, passed away peacefully at her home on Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023.

She was born on Aug. 15, 1955, in Ardmore, TN, a daughter of the late Thomas Herman Andrews and Doris Louise (Durham) Andrews.

Mrs. Brown was a homemaker and of the Baptist faith. Betty was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. She will be remembered for her enjoyment of cooking, canning, gardening, quilting, and painting portraits of people, but most of all she cared deeply for her family and her fur baby, Toby.

She is survived by her daughter, Jeannie Anders, of Alderson; her sisters, Martha Kaye Peppers and husband Edward of Wetumpka, AL, and Rosemary Moyers and husband Rollie of Attalla, AL; her grandchildren, Isabella Martin and companion Tyler White of North Carolina, Megan Morgan of Ohio, Hunter Morgan of Leslie, Brandon Brown and Tommy Brown of Beckley, Alisha Rodriguez and husband Chris of Orlando, FL, Brittany Starcher and companion Trevor Thiesfeld of Lewisburg, Crystal Lease and husband Chris of Alderson, Jonathan Brown and companion Nikki Moyer of Quinwood, Jackie Garrison and husband Anthony of Lewisburg, Katie Hamrick of Ronceverte, Donte Haynes of Lewisburg, Kyle Rowe, Ashley Hamrick, and Eric Hamrick, all of Rupert; her 15 great-grandchildren; and her special caregiver, Amanda Sharp; and many loving nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Alvin Junior Brown; her son, Bobby Haynes Brown; her daughter, Rachiel Starcher; and her brothers, James and Dewayne Andrews.

In keeping with her wishes there will be no services. Burial will be at Sunset Memorial Park, in Beckley, WV.

Serving as pallbearers will be family and friends. Lobban Funeral Home is honored in being entrusted with the arrangements.

Condolences and memories may be shared with the Brown family online at www.lobbanfh.com

Roy Lee Copenhaver

Alderson-Roy Lee “Ross” Copenhaver, 76, of Alderson, passed away on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023, at home.

He was the son of the late Mollie Gale Copenhaver and “Mr. Fuller.” Ross was born on Nov. 8, 1946, in the Raiders Valley of Williamsburg, WV. Very few people except his family knew Roy was his real name. Ross was a nickname to him like nicknames he gave everyone else. He drove around a man named Ross all the time “when he had a little too much to drink.” So, Ross, underage, drove him home, a lot.

Ross was raised during hard times by “grandma,” Lota Copenhaver. He went to work “so they didn’t starve” and quit school in the eighth grade. During his life, he had a several nicknames based on different things. His uncle Llyod used to call him “Rock” because he worked for Rocco Feeds. He worked for Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Alderson for 17 years, so many people knew him by “Pepsi.”

He was a founding member of Tri-County Volunteer Fire Company. He served as Chief of the department many years until he opened his store. They were renegades because their firetrucks were yellow and Snoopy was their mascot. Tri-County was formed as a split over the decision to purchase a new pumper instead of a tanker in 1974-1975. Hence why Tri-County has the tankers and Alderson has only ever had pumpers. He was a member of Alderson Volunteer Fire Department before splitting to Tri-County. He later went back to Alderson and was a driver for Travis and others.

While he was not proud of not completing high school, he was proud of his accomplishments and his hometown. In fact, he was “Alderson Proud!” In the early 1980’s he revitalized the Alderson Business District by refurbishing the old Exxon station and opening Ross’s Express Mart. Soon after, he added a deli and car wash to the convenience store. Next, to fit the needs of visitors to the prison, he opened the first ten units of River-view Motel. Later adding another five units to the motel and Waterfront Sporting Goods Store. After selling the motel and sporting goods store, he and Travis opened R&T Feed and Supply.

Ross retired for six months. During that time, he moved back to the farm he loved, built a garage, and deck. Then he went back to work. He worked at True Value and then retired again from the hang-out for the old folks - the feedstore. Over the past few years, he has been a sworn member of the “Alderson Park Rangers.”

Although Sam Bennett put the “Alderson Proud!” words on his laundromat and barber shop, he and Ross were neck and neck to get the signs up. Ross was so proud of Alderson he used “Alderson Proud” on almost all of his advertisements and buildings. Over the past few years his health has declined and he enjoyed sitting and talking with his friends at the store. He was a friend and mentor to many over his years.

Anyone close knows that he reaffirmed his faith in the Lord and was a founding member of Cross River Country Church. His church family was so important to him. Especially the “Hoke boys.” Over the past couple of years Ross has started enjoying hunting more with Brayden. Peyton was his go getter and shopper. Bailey enjoyed his nightly calls starting out “hey, Roy!”

Ross was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents; brother, James Armentrout; sister, Linda Armentrout Haynes; his favorite Blue Heeler, Biscuit; and his beloved Percheron, John Boy.

Travis, Elizabeth, Brayden, Peyton, Bailey, Ally,

Alilah, and Brenda will have a huge hole in their hearts as they move forward. His brother Ray and sister Pattie will as well. The community will forever remember their friend and buddy.

Visitation was held Wednesday evening, Feb. 22, at Cross River Country Church, 511 Nash Lane (on the way to “the Red Barn”) on Route 3,” Alderson, WV. His funeral was on Thursday, Feb. 23, at the church.

In lieu of flowers the following groups would have been approved by him for contributions:

Alderson Main Street - Hanging Basket Flower Fund, PO Box 117, Alderson, WV 24910

Cross River Country Church, 511 Nash Lane, Alderson, WV 24910

National Barrel Horse Association WV-04, 816 Highland Park Road, Second Creek, WV 24974

Ross’s friends and family at Lantz Funeral Home will be taking care of all the arrangements.

The first obituary Travis wrote after he started mortuary school Ross was not pleased with. I am hopeful that this one would meet his approval.

David Lee Bailey



Lewisburg-David Lee Bailey, 76, passed away Thursday, Feb. 9, 2023, at CAMC General Division in Charleston.

Born Dec. 12, 1946, in Beckley, he was a son of the late John and Dorothy Hall Bailey.

David was a retired Safety Engineer with Maryland Casualty Insurance Company, was a member of Lewisburg United Methodist Church, Greenbrier Chapter 42 AF&AM Masonic Lodge, Greenbrier Valley Shrine Club, Lewisburg, Beni Kedem Shrine Temple, the C & O Historical Society of Clifton Forge, VA, and was a graduate of Marshall University.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Richard Bailey.

He is survived by his wife, Rebecca Fawcett Bailey; and brothers, Jim Bailey of Falmouth, VA, and Robert Bailey and wife Evelyn of Forest Hill, WV; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Feb. 14, at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Chapel in Lewisburg, where Rev. Bev. Columbo officiated. Burial followed in Mountain View Cemetery in Marlinton, WV. Visitation was one hour prior to the service on Tuesday.

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

John Edward Kelly



Lewisburg-John Edward Kelly, 79, passed away on Monday, Feb. 13, 2023, at Lewis-Gale Hospital - Montgomery, Blacksburg, VA, after a brief illness.

Born Nov. 1, 1943, to the late Cela L. Kelly and Imma V. Bryant, he grew up in Greenbrier County.

After graduating high school, he joined the United States Army and proudly served tours in Germany and Vietnam. He was a decorated Army Veteran, receiving a Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Expert Marksman, two Overseas Service Bars and a Bronze Service Star.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Loretta F. Kelly.

Survivors include his sons, Joe Kelly of New Gloucester, ME, and Christopher (Tina) Kelly of Dittelbrunn, Germany; daughters, Denise Endres of Lewisburg and Stephanie (Oliver) Kelly of Werneck, Germany; brothers, Calvin Kelly and Robert Sams, both of White Sulphur Springs and Jesse Sams, Jr. of Ronceverte; sisters, Elizabeth Feury of Lynchburg, VA, and Linda Napier of Leesville, LA; grandchildren, Steffen Endres, Markus Endres, Linus Kelly, Rachel Kelly, Kathleen Kelly, Zoe Kelly, Olivia Kelly and Talisha Franklin all of Germany and Lena Endres of Lewisburg. He is also survived by a host of nieces and nephews who adored him but none more than Angie Napier of Crestview, FL, Rhonda Napier of Gardner, LA, and Tony Napier of Wichita Falls, TX.

Funeral service will be at 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will be on Saturday one hour prior to the service.

Burial will follow the service at the Roach Cemetery, Lewisburg.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Dewey Milton Bennett



Alderson-Dewey Milton Bennett, 91, went home to be with the Lord and the love of his life, Mary.

Dewey was born in Pax, WV, on Oct. 12, 1931. He was the son of the late

Dewey Everett and Grace Elizabeth Elliot Bennett.

Dewey was a veteran of the Korean War serving in the United States Army. After serving in the Army, he returned to be a bottler with the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company of Alderson. Dewey is known for “his special mixture of Pepsi.”

If there was ever a man who loved hunting, it was Dewey. He was at home in the woods and loved hunting with his family. He killed his last deer at age 89.

Those left to cherish his memory are his son, Larry Bennett and wife Evelyn of Glace; his daughter, Brenda Hunter and husband Rick of Ronceverte; grandchildren, Jeremy Bennett and wife Amy, Shane Bennett and fiancé Carrie, Aaron Street and wife April, Kaitlin Loux and husband Aaron, Bethany Emery and husband Jack, and Olivia Hunter and her significant other, Justis.

Dewey had a special place in his life and heart for his great-grandchildren; Destiny Bennett, Trista Bennett, Hadley Bennett, Gage Bennett, Kynslee Bennett, Peyton Street, Noah Street, Preston Loux, Emilia Loux, Fiona Loux, and Finn Emery.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, Feb. 23, at Lantz Funeral Home, Alderson, where Pastor Randy Burdette officiated. Burial followed in the Alderson Cemetery. Visitation was at the funeral home on Thursday before the service.

In lieu of flowers, Dewey’s family appreciated the care Autumn Way Assisted Living of Rupert provided. They would appreciate donations to the facility.

Lantz Funeral Home is honored that Dewey’s family has trusted us with their needs during this time.



Linda Jean Honaker



Lewisburg-Linda Jean Honaker, 59, passed away after a long illness on Friday, Feb. 17, 2023, at MonGeneral Hospital in Morgantown, WV, with her family by her side.

She was born Feb. 1, 1964, in Ronceverte, the daughter of the late Leonard H. Honaker, Sr. and Patricia L. Braden Honaker.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers, Leonard H. Honaker, Jr. and Larry “King” R. Honaker; and sister, Cathy L. Martin.

She is survived by her son, Michael Honaker (Alison Montgomery) of Raleigh, NC; and her daughter, Becky Daniels (Kedrick Carter) of White Sulphur Springs; four grandchildren, Kadin Burris, Allie Hicks, Koah and Kennox Carter; sister, Debra Ramsey of Lewisburg; four brothers, Delbert “BooBoo” Honaker (Karen) of Centreville, VA, John “Bucky” Honaker and Cheyenne Honaker both of Glace, WV, and Melvin “Teedy” Honaker of Ronceverte; uncles, James Honaker of Lewisburg, Joe Braden of Crew, VA, and Donald Braden of Leonardtown, MD; and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family would like to express a heartfelt gratitude to Angel Totten and Vicki Sims, who were her caregivers along with Wanda Reed, Sherry Burns and all who loved her at the Lewisburg Manor.

There will be no service at this time, but a memorial service will be planned at a later date.

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

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

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NOTICE

NOTICE: Fundraiser Potato bar, soup & salad meal to benefit the children of Marissa Mann Bennett. February 25, 2023 from 1P.M.-5P.M., at Mt. Hermon Methodist Church in Renick, on Rt. 219. Donations are appreciated.

NOTICE

NOTICE: Michael C. Sheridan, wedding officiant. www.weddingman.com

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NOTICE

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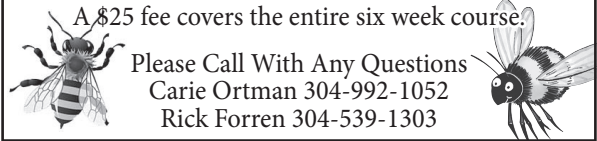
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Carie Ortman 304-992-1052
Rick Forren 304-539-1303



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Answers

1. Barry Bremen.
2. The Carolina Cougars.
3. Myron Rolle.
4. Ken Norton.
5. Clint Malarchuk.
6. The Boston College Eagles.
7. The Cleveland Spiders.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Asleep
2. Point;
3. Corset;
4. Paste

Today's Word

SISTER

Super Crossword

Answers

B	A	S	S	I	S	L	A	S	H	I	T	M	A	N	P	A	P
A	S	W	E	O	T	E	R	O	O	T	I	O	S	E	E	R	A
W	H	E	N	I	W	E	N	T	I	N	T	H	E	B	A	R	O
L	Y	E	S	O	A	P	M	A	R	A	T	P	O	O	R	A	T
T	O	N	O	F	A	V	O	C	A	L	C	I	N	E	C	I	N
A	N	D	R	E	Q	U	E	S	T	E	D	A	C	O	C	K	T
J	O	E	U	T	T	E	R	S	T	I	N	A	I	L	E	T	A
A	M	A	R	N	A	E	A	U	C	O	N	T	A	I	N	I	N
R	E	L	E	A	R	N	S	R	A	T	E	T	E	N	O	N	
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P	A	R	I	A	E	R	O	B	E	E	P	I					
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L	E	A	M	A	R	I	L	U	R	H	O	D	E	L	L	Y	
E	R	G	S	W	E	A	T	S	S	O	W	E	D	R	Y	E	S

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Dear Recycle Lady,

Dear Recycle Lady,

Today as I was driving to town, I saw an old stove that had been put out for the trash. Could that stove have been recycled? If so, does the Recycle Center provide pickup for large items?

Curious Recycler

Dear Curious Recycler,

Yes, the stove could have been recycled as scrap metal. Unfortunately, the Recycling Center doesn't provide pickup for large items. The amount of recyclable material that we receive at the Center every day requires that all staff be available to get materials processed in a timely manner.

Dear Recycle Lady,

Can zip-lock baggies be recycled? Must the zipper part of a zip-lock baggie be cut off before recycling it?

Zip It Shut

Dear Zip It Shut,

Zip-lock baggies are made from thin, flexible, polypropylene resin; the same product that makes milk jugs and trash bags. They are called "zip-lock" bags because their top is sealed together with an adhesive zipper or zip lock slider. These bags are recyclable at both Kroger and Wal-Mart in the plastic bag drop-off container. The zipper doesn't need

to be removed, but the bag must be clean and dry. Recycling these bags is definitely better than sending them to the landfill as they are not biodegradable, meaning they do not decompose. They only break down into small pieces of microplastic that are harmful to humans, animals, and the environment. Ziplock baggies can be washed and used again. Just be sure to use warm or cool soapy water as hot water would cause the plastic to melt. According to www.wideopeneats.com/reuse-plastic-bags, you should never reuse plastic bags that have had raw meat, poultry, or fish stored in them as there is a risk of spreading bacteria. The good news is that silicone reusable bags are now available in the same shapes and sizes as other zip-lock bags.

Dear Recycle Lady,

I have been tearing off the corner of stapled papers before putting them in recycling. Is it possible to recycle paper with staples in it?

Interested

Dear Interested,

Yes, paper can be recycled with staples left on it. Ordinary staples are made from 100% steel, which makes them easily recycled. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA),

"paper mills that process recovered paper are set up to remove common contaminants such as staples, from the pulped paper." Therefore, it is not necessary to remove staples before recycling the paper. However, all paper clips MUST be removed as they tear up the belt during processing.

Kudos to the Tongass National Forest, located in Southeast Alaska, that has now officially been reinstated with roadless forest protections. Consisting of 16.7 million acres, the Tongass National Forest is the largest of the U.S. National Forests. Protecting this forest helps absorb climate pollution, preserve sources of clean drinking water, and shield wildlife and fish habitat from harm. Most of the forest area is a temperate rain forest and home to many species of endangered and rare flora and fauna. (fto.com)

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.

A Look Back



By William "Skip" Deegans

Perhaps as a tonic for the winter blahs, comedian Stepin Fetchit and Aurora Wilson's Sunset Royal Entertainers Orchestra was booked into the Ronceverte Armory in February 1948 for a dance for the African American community. Labeled as the "World's Greatest Swing Show," it featured Betty Lutcher, a sensational boogie artist. While whites were allowed to attend, they were relegated to seating in the balcony.

Born Lincoln Perry in 1902, Stepin Fetchit is considered America's first black movie star. He adapted his stage name from a race horse, Step and Fetch It. Fetchit ran away from home when he was 12 to join a carnival. He appeared on the vaudeville stage and made his debut in a silent movie in 1927. He was cast in over 50 movies from 1927 to 1953 and in several television programs. He often appeared alongside his friend and fellow comedian, Will Rogers. He was the first black actor to become a millionaire and the first to receive screen credit. He fell into bankruptcy in 1947 which may account for his road tour to West Virginia.

In 1963, Fetchit collaborated with Barry Gordy and Ester Gordy Edwards of Motown Records to compose the song May What He Lived For Live to honor President Kennedy. Liz Lands, who recorded the song, sang it at the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s funeral. Fetchit died in 1985.

Photo from the cover of The Life and Times of Lincoln Perry by Mel Watkins.

Sources: West Virginia News, The Daily Review (Clifton Forge), NPR, Slate, Far Out.

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Learn how to make artistic soap with Tommye Rafes



Tommye Rafes Soaps

Carnegie Hall’s 2023 classes and workshops continue Saturday, Mar. 11, from 10 a.m. to noon, with an Appalachian Heritage Class - Beginner Soapmaking with Tommye Rafes. This class allows students to have a hands-on experience right away by participating in the introduction-style class followed by a design your own soap pour class on the same day.

“Beginning Soapmaking” gives the student information about oils, butters, fragrances, and essential oils so that students can create their own soaps. Rafes will demonstrate how to make your own all-natural soap from scratch using natural ingredients, how

to calculate how much soap is needed to fill a mold, and how to create your own recipes. Each student will go home with a beginner’s recipe for making soap and one bar of homemade soap.

Section 1 takes place on Saturday, Mar. 11, and Section 2 takes place on Saturday, Mar. 18. Both sections are from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$40 (\$35 for members). Class size is limited and students must be at least 18 years old.

Once students have taken the beginner class, there are four different pour technique hands-on workshops from which to choose. Two are on

the same day as the beginner classes, so students can do all in one day.

Classes include Learn the “Drop Swirl” technique on Saturday, Mar. 11, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., learn the “In the Pot Swirl” technique on Saturday, Mar. 18, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., learn the “One Pot Wonder” technique on Saturday, Apr. 1, from 9 a.m. to noon, and learn the “Tiger Swirl” technique on Saturday, Apr. 1, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Cost for all pour classes is \$90/\$95 each, with automatic scholarships available for students 50 years of age and over, who pay only \$65. Prices include all materials.

Real Estate pre-licensing class planned at NRCTC in March

New River Community and Technical College is offering a 90-hour real estate pre-licensing class at the Greenbrier Valley Campus in Lewisburg starting Mar. 28. The 10-week class will be held Tuesday through Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m.

Students in the class will be equipped to take the West Virginia Real Estate Licensure Examination upon completion of the course.

The cost for the class is \$500, plus the cost of the book, and registration is required by Mar. 17.

Visit <https://www.newriver.edu/workforce/> for information on upcoming classes or to register for the course or contact Gloria Kincaid (304-793-6101, gkincaid@newriver.edu).

New River CTC’s Workforce Education Division provides community education classes and employable educational opportunities including noncredit courses, workforce development programs and customized training.

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LEGAL

In the Circuit Court of Greenbrier County, West Virginia
BCS RENTALS, LLC,
Plaintiff,
v.
CYNTHIA SUE HOLLIDAY,
SKIPPER ZICKAFOOSE,
Defendants

Case N. CC-13-2022-C-117
Judge Jennifer P. Dent

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

To the above named Defendant: Skipper Zickafoose
5681 Midland Trl. W.
Charmco, WV 25958

The object of the above-entitled civil action is to obtain possession of a portable storage building located at 113 Highwood Lane, Charmco, West Virginia.

It appearing by Affidavit filed in this civil action that Plaintiff has used due diligence to ascertain the residence and whereabouts of Defendant, Skipper Zickafoose, without effect, it is hereby ordered that Skipper Zickafoose serve upon Marc. B. Lazenby, Plaintiff’s attorney, whose address is Lazenby Law Office, P.O. Box 4968, Princeton, West Virginia 24740, an Answer, including any related Counterclaim or defense which Skipper Zickafoose may have to the Complaint filed in this civil action, on or before thirty (30) days after the date of the first publication of this Order of Publication in a newspaper of general circulation in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. If Skipper Zickafoose fails to do so, judgment may be taken against him for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

A copy of the Complaint may be obtained from the office of the Greenbrier County, West Virginia Circuit Court Clerk.

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that PRINCESS POLLY ANNA & JCT ENTERPRISES, LLC, PO BOX 207, LEWISBURG WV 24901 has a permit on file with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the surface mining of approximately 287.26 acres and has submitted an application to the DEP, 1159 Nick Rahall Greenway, Fayetteville, WV 25840, for renewal of Article 3 Permit Number S300212 to operate a surface, auger and highwall mine and haulroad in the Sewell and splits there of, Castle and Hughes Ferry seam of coal.

The operation is discharging into unnamed tributaries of/and Mill Creek and Big Clear Creek of Meadow River of Gauley River of Kanawha River and is located 2.75 miles southeast of Quinwood in Meadow Bluff District of Greenbrier County, Longitude 80° 40’ 46” and Latitude 38° 1’ 36” (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

NAME	ADDRESS
Frederick J. Taylor	915 Clay Street, Rupert, WV 25984
Frank Spencer	106 Nicholas Ave, Rainelle, WV 25962
Weyerhaeuser Company	PO Box 89, Fairfield, ME 04937
Big Mountain McKenzie LLC	1013 Elm Crest Ct, Morgantown, WV 26508
Merry Gordon III & William	65 Oakwood Road, Huntington, WV 25701

*and the mineral associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Highland Mineral Resources, LLC	876 North Jefferson Street, Lewisburg, WV 24901
Frederick J. Taylor	915 Clay Street, Rupert, WV 25984

*and the mineral within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Orndorff Nolan Wayne Orndorff	595 Fullsweep E, Hardeeville, SC 29927
Jeffrey & Bruce	
Highland Mineral Resources, LLC	876 North Jefferson Street, Lewisburg, WV 24901

Surface of the area within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

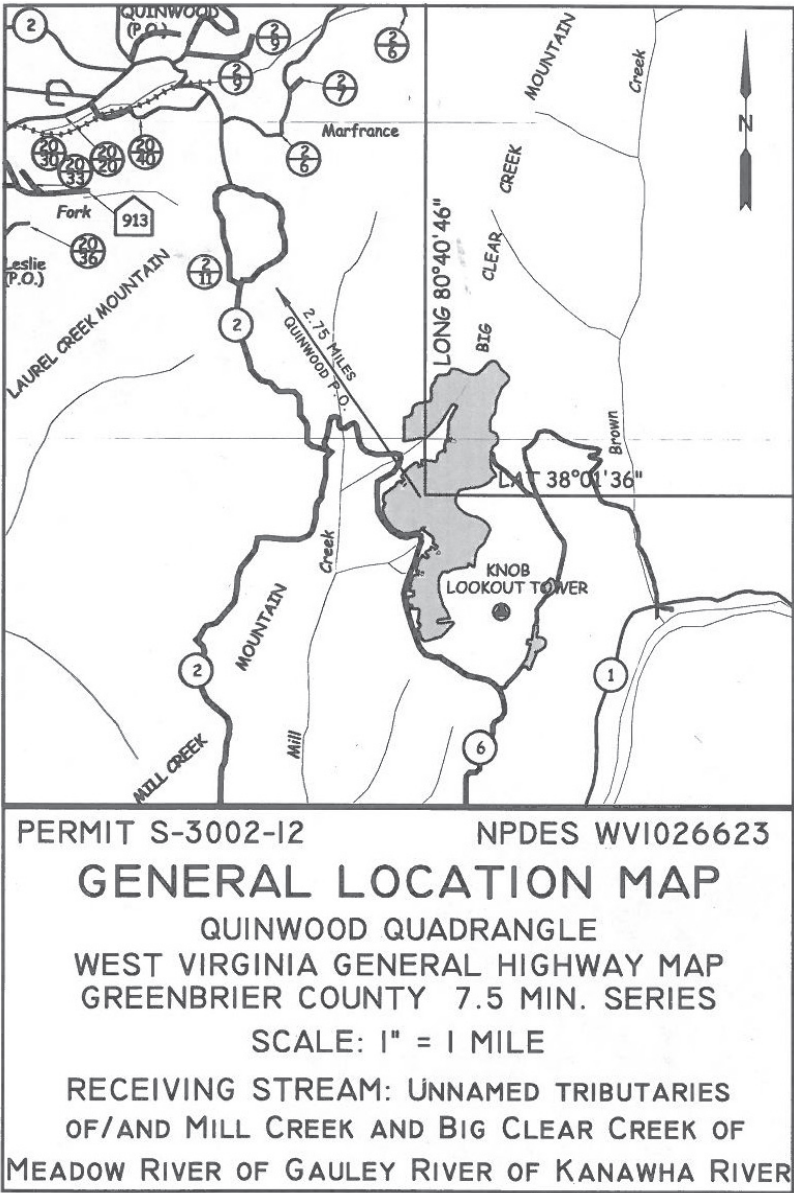
NAME	ADDRESS
Johnathon Fisher	PO Box 405, Rupert, WV 25984
Weyerhaeuser Company	PO Box 89, Fairfield, ME 04937
Frederick J. Taylor	915 Clay Street, Rupert, WV 25984
Harold McClung	c/o Crystal Deitz, HC 71 Box 137B, Crawley, WV 24931
Orndorff Nolan Wayne Orndorff	595 Fullsweep E, Hardeeville, SC 29927
Jeffrey & Bruce	
James Allen Facemire	c/o Sheila K Facemire, 2911 Firefly Lane, Albany, GA 31721
Mount Zion Cemetery Trustees	c/o Ronnie McClung, 143 Maple Drive, Rupert, WV 25984
Turley Joseph C III Revocable Trust	PO Box 10818, Blacksburg, VA 24062

Written comments and/or requests for an informal conference of the permit renewal application shall identify the applicant and application number and will be received by the Permit Supervisor at the DEP address above until April 3, 2023, or thirty (30) days from the date of **final publication**. A copy of the application will be available for review until April 3, 2023, or thirty (30) days from the date of final publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm

The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries.

DEP Telephone Number: 304-574-4465 Permit Number: S300212



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by Ryan A. Berenz

1. Nicknamed “The Great Imposter,” this man’s stunts included posing as baseball and basketball players, umpires, officials, the San Diego Chicken and a Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader during the 1970s and ‘80s. Who is he?
2. Brothers and businessmen Ozzie and Daniel Silna purchased what American Basketball Association franchise in 1974, then relocated the team and changed its name to Spirits of St. Louis?
3. What Florida State Seminoles defensive back was selected by the Tennessee Titans in the 2010 NFL Draft, but left football in 2012 to become a neurosurgeon?
4. What boxer fought a trilogy against Muhammad Ali from 1973-76 and held the World Boxing Council heavyweight championship in 1978? (Hint: His son played linebacker for three Super Bowl champions.)
5. What Buffalo Sabres goaltender was seriously injured when a skate blade severed his carotid artery and partially cut his jugular vein during a game vs. the St. Louis Blues in 1989?
6. What college basketball team had players involved in a point-shaving scheme orchestrated by members of the mafia during the 1978-79 season?
7. Name the team that finished its 13th and final Major League Baseball season with a record of 20-134 in 1899.



"What my _____ ever saw in you, I'll never know."

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!

Dormant

PLEASE

Target

PINTO

Cinch

SECTOR

Fasten

TAPES

TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Backpack is missing. 2. Bush is smaller. 3. Scarf is shorter. 4. Strap is moved. 5. Earlap is smaller. 6. Zipper is missing.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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ACROSS

- 1 Four-string guitar
5 Bits of land in el agua
10 Luca Brasi in “The Godfather,” e.g.
16 Soft infant food
19 Life — know it
20 New Mexico or Colorado county
21 Useless
22 Division of history
23 Start of a riddle
26 Mantra syllables
27 Old-time cleaning cake
28 Tennis’ Safin
29 Not skilled in at all
31 Heavy weight
32 All — sudden
35 Spoken
37 French movie theater
38 Riddle, part 2
44 President Biden
45 Speaks
46 Singer Turner
47 Tell el — (Nile excavation site)
50 It fills la mer
51 Riddle, part 3
57 Becomes familiar with anew
59 Per-unit price
60 Mortise insertion
61 Ambulance VIPs
62 Decorative dashboard finish
66 Chain in biology
67 Riddle, part 4
73 China’s Chou En- —
74 Like many soda bottles, volume-wise
75 Purposely ignore
76 Book of charts
79 IRS form IDs
80 “— is a virtue”
84 Riddle, part 5
87 In honor of
89 Small river
90 — -mutuel betting
91 Oxygen-requiring bacterium
93 Start for center or Pen
94 End of the riddle
102 Square yardage, e.g.
103 Instant replay option
104 Expressive rock genre
105 — Leppard (rock band)
106 Mythical man-goats
109 “In the red,” e.g.
111 Division of history
115 Concorde, e.g., in brief
116 Riddle’s answer
120 Grassland
121 Henner of “Taxi”
122 — Island (Providence’s state)
123 Old TV’s — May Clampett
124 Work unit
125 Workout wear
126 Planted
127 Some deli loaves

DOWN

- 6 Leave for a short time
7 Spy novelist Deighton
8 Exhibit works
9 “... or — told”
10 Drag racer
11 New York home of Cornell
12 Relative of a stickpin
13 Raging crowd
14 PDQ’s cousin
15 Emperor after Claudius I
16 City on the Illinois River
17 Ralph Lauren competitor
18 Pale hue
24 Actress Skye
25 Main parts of churches
30 Fuel rating
33 Galas
34 On the Red, e.g.
36 Former senator Trent
38 Open slightly
39 City in Alaska
40 Four-piece band
41 Writer Capote, to pals
42 Org. in many spy novels
43 Make a ski mask, maybe
48 Lagoon surrounder
49 Christen
51 Core group
52 Frisky swimmer
53 Uncool sort
54 About
55 Lower-class, to Brits
56 Growl threateningly
58 Warning initials above an internet link
59 Hair bases
62 Actress Kate of “Grey’s Anatomy”
63 Of sheep
64 “Casablanca” woman
65 Prized buy for a coin collector
67 Nail on a paw
68 Pledge
69 Brand of sneakers
70 Didn’t win
71 Hang it up
72 App that asks “Where to?”
77 Frolicking
78 Move back and forth
80 Open tourney, often
81 Necessarily
82 Sleeveless cloak
83 Arabian chief
85 Pooch noise
86 Misters
87 Agent’s cut
88 “... there — square”
91 Something hilarious
92 Fabric with raised designs
94 Grapple with, slangily
95 Slate clearer
96 Attachment to a dog or cat collar
97 “House” actress Wilde
98 Old-time Ford
99 NASA countdown term
100 Ferber of fiction
101 — regions (Hades)
107 Crater edges
108 Novelist Irwin
110 Corp. VIPs
112 Squeezed (out)
113 Be in power
114 Jubilant cries
117 Exist
118 “So that’s your trick!”
119 Wrecker’s job

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	14	15		16	17	18	
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120				121							122						123				
124				125							126						127				

Super Crossword

TOTALLY
OUT OF IT

CLUB & CHURCH

Bluebell members win Diamond Membership Award



Jan DeHaven, president of the Bluebell Garden Club, presents an honorary Diamond Membership Award from the West Virginia Garden Club Inc. to Brenda and Linda Spencer. The Award was established in 2023 to recognize members for their contribution to scholarship funds for West Virginia residents interested in advanced studies in conservation and allied fields.

Greenbrier Artists experiment with watercolors



Members of the Greenbrier Artists enjoyed an interesting class by Jeanne Brenneman recently. She demonstrated how to paint a simple landscape by using a minimum number of paint strokes on the paper. The class experimented by doing their own paintings using 100 brushstrokes or fewer. They were pleasantly surprised by the results. Greenbrier Artists, a non-profit art group, meets each week at Carnegie Hall to paint together, learn new techniques, and promote art in the community.

Denim Day donations made to FRC

You may have seen our RCBC clinic team wearing blue jeans on Fridays, but did you know they are doing so for a good cause? “Denim Day” is a fundraiser where our team has the chance to break our dress code policy if they donate \$2 to a local charity each Friday. Every year, we all vote to decide which charity receives these funds. Over the next few weeks, RCBC will be meeting with many of these local organizations who do so much for those in need.

Our spotlight this week is on the Family Refuge Center (FRC)! This private, nonprofit organization works to eliminate physical, sexual, and emotional violence in Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Monroe, and Mercer counties. Robert C. Byrd Clinic thanks you for the service you provide for those in desperate need of help in our community and we are excited to be able to help in any way we can!



Stephanie Moore (left) FRC Executive Director, Joshua Barclay, RCBC, Nicole Gabbert, RCBC, and Savannah Hendrix, STOP Victim Advocate

WSS Lions welcome new member



Past District Governor George Gillespie and Lion Roy Belcher welcomed new member Mikahla Mentz to the White Sulphur Springs Lions Club.

Lions’ of White Sulphur Springs were happy to welcome Mikahla Mentz as a new Lion recently. She was sponsored by Lion Roy Belcher and inducted into the club by Past District Governor, George Gillespie. Lion Mentz is excited to be a part of this service organization which helps provide eye exams and glasses, supports diabetes education, and helps with local blood drives and many other projects. New members are always welcome to serve the community. If you are interested, join them at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Main Street any second or fourth Monday at 7 p.m. Contact President Eric Dowdy at 304-536-2489 for more information.

Church Bulletin

Women’s ministry to hold spring Bible study

The women’s ministry of the First Baptist Church of Fairlea invites ladies of all ages to join them in their spring Bible study. This is a seven-session study, meeting on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. starting Mar. 6.

Henning Church of God Ladies hold February meeting

The Ladies of the Henning Church of God met on Tuesday, Feb. 14, in the church fellowship hall for their regular monthly meeting. President Carole Spencer presided and Angie Scott led in prayer.

Dyan Hefner presented the devotion, “Tent of Faith in the Storm.” There was a dad that loved everything about camping and camping materials. He purchased a very large tent that had cast arm poles as large as someone’s arm, no zippered doors and no wind, rain or hail could get in. The large family went camping and a storm came up. Everyone ran into this tent so they would be safe and dry. We each go through storms of life. Some are emotional and some are physical. We need to run to a sturdy tent and celebrate God in our storms. In John 6:16-19 and Mark 6:48, there was a storm in the middle of a lake. The disciples were in a small boat trying to get to the other side of the lake. They thought all was lost and saw Jesus walking on the water. They thought he was a ghost. He came when the storm was still happening and got in the boat and the storm calmed and they made it to the other side. Sometimes life is just too hard or scary. One instance, we all go through is getting older and the majority of people don’t enjoy it. Jesus comes during the storm, remember he is peace and will take care of you during the storm. He will help you.

Jamie Harvey gave the treasurer’s report and Pauline Perkins read last month’s minutes.

For our project next month, the group will be collecting cleaning and household items for the Greenbrier Valley Children’s Home Society located in Rainelle. This shelter was established in 2016 and provides shelter for 14 children, age 7-18. The group will be serving the Maxwelton Ruritans on Feb. 23. The group decided to keep the same officers and there will be no election in March. The group also voted to make a donation to the Church of God in Lebanon to be used for earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria.

The next meeting will be on Mar. 14 and Dyan Hefner dismissed in prayer.

Attending were: Alice Coff, Angie Scott, Carole Spencer, Christine Cullen, Cindy Fleshman, Donna Scott, Dyan Hefner, Jamie Harvey, Joan Vance, Marty Burns, Pauline Perkins, Patty Owens, Peggy Seldomridge, and Sue Hunt.

Tilapia Dinners return Feb. 24 for Lenten Season

The traditional Lenten fried or baked tilapia dinners, served in the White Sulphur Springs Community Center behind Emanuel United Methodist Church downtown, will begin on Feb. 24 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and each Friday through Mar. 31. The meal consists of tilapia, scalloped potatoes, cole slaw, hard rolls, and your choice of drinks and desserts.

“We held the price down as much as we could, considering inflation,” notes Andrew Wrzosek of Waitesville, grand knight of the Greenbrier Valley Council 8689 Knights of Columbus, the sponsoring organization.

Eat in or to-go dinners are available at \$15 for adults, \$8 for children 12 and under, and under 5 years old are free. “We are offering an extra piece of tilapia for an additional \$5,” he added. “This is the first time we have offered eat in dinners since the Lenten season in 2020, offering take out only for past two years and we are pleased to offer these methods of service once again.”

Proceeds from the dinners go to the community, youth, church, and service projects of the Greenbrier Valley Council.

For further information and directions to the dinners, telephone the office of the Catholic Churches of the Greenbrier Valley 304-536-1813 or Knights of Columbus 304-645-1373.

Free Community Dinner

There will be a free community dinner at the Ronceverte Presbyterian Church, 261 Locust Street in Ronceverte, on Saturday, Feb. 25, from 4 to 6 p.m. The menu consists of ham bean mac’ and cheese, with dine in and carry out options available. Call 304-647-4400 with any questions. evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. starting Mar. 6.

Women’s Bible Study

The women’s ministry of **First Baptist Church of Fairlea** invites ladies of all ages to join them in their spring Bible study.

We will be diving into God’s word with Priscilla Shirer’s Bible study “Gideon”.

“Instead of hiding from your weaknesses, find the God-given strength to face your fears and do what God is calling you to do!”

This seven-session study will meet Mondays from 6:30- 8:00 starting on March 6th.

STEPPIN' OUT



New Voices Appalachia Play Festival at GVT

GVT Produces Seven Brand New Short Plays

Greenbrier Valley Theatre (GVT) is preparing to host its first Voices of Appalachia Play Festival. Over 15 local performers will bring to life seven newly written one-act plays, all written by Appalachian playwrights. Jenna Sulecki, artistic associate at GVT, is happy to be bringing stories to the stage that will resonate with the area.

Work for the play festival began in late 2022, when the theatre opened submissions to Appalachian playwrights. Dozens of new plays were submitted before a panel of judges

narrowed the selections down to the seven being produced. Plays were selected based on their relevance to the region and the quality of their ability to tell a complete story.

Now entering its 56th season, Greenbrier Valley Theatre, is a mainstay and theatre destination located in Lewisburg. The arts organization has been further recognized as a "West Virginia Jewel of the Hills," awarded the Living the Dream Service Organization Honor Roll by The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, and is a multi-year recipient of

Non-Profit Business of the Year. GVT boasts a robust series of year-round programming and educational offers with the goal to enlighten, enrich, and enliven throughout the region.

"Voices of Appalachia" will run for two nights starting Feb. 24, with both performances beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for general seating and \$15 for students and seniors. For more information on tickets, shows, and the organization's history, visit the theatre's website: www.gvtheatre.org or call the box office at 304-645-3838.

Ludacris to perform at State Fair

Fair Officials are excited to announce that multi-talented artist Ludacris will appear at the State Fair of West Virginia on Saturday, Aug. 19. Tickets for the show will go on sale Friday, Feb. 24, at 10 a.m.

"We are extremely excited to add Ludacris to our 2023 lineup," State Fair CEO Kelly Collins said. "The Main Stage is going to be packed with awesome performances that we can't wait to share with you!"

Tickets will only be available via ETIX at <http://statefairfwwv.com/entertainment/> or by calling 1-800-514-ETIX (3849) Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., or Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets will not be sold at the State Fair Box Office until later this spring.

The career of the multi-talented Chris "Ludacris" Bridges can best be described as remarkable. As a recording artist, he has sold more than 24 million albums worldwide, thanks to the blockbuster success of such singles as "Stand Up," "Get Back," "Southern Hospitality," "Number One Spot," "Money Maker" and "My Chick Bad." All of these records were accompanied by ingenious videos that demonstrated Bridges' far-reaching imagination, and his willingness to stretch the boundaries of what rap videos should look and feel like.

His versatility and artistic complexity also enabled him to make a seamless transition to acting, including the fan favorite role of "Tej" in Universal Pictures' box office phenomenon Fast & Furious franchise where he was introduced for the first time in 2003 in 2 Fast 2 Furious. He will reprise his role of "Tej" for the seventh time in Fast X, which is set to release May 20, 2023.

His other notable feature film credits include Garry Marshall's ensemble comedy New Year's Eve, Ivan Reitman's romantic comedy, No Strings Attached, Paul Haggis' Crash which received an Academy Award for Best Picture in 2006 and Hustle & Flow which earned Bridges a SAG Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture.

As a father of four girls, his latest ventures fittingly include launching his educational platform devoted to the enrichment of children called "KidNation." In addition, Bridges created the animated series KARMA'S WORLD which launched in the Top 10 in 42 countries on Netflix, received two NAACP Award nominations and has already been picked up for a third season. Bridge's philanthropic efforts rival his entertainment accomplishments. He started The Ludacris Foundation in 2001 which focuses on helping the youth in his hometown of Atlanta and has partnered with No Kid Hungry and Feeding America.

The 10-day State Fair of West Virginia is celebrating 98 years on Aug. 10-19. The State Fair of West Virginia, with a \$13.8 million economic impact on the state of West Virginia, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation committed to the traditions of agriculture, family entertainment, and education. For more information, please visit www.statefairfwwv.com, or follow fair events on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and Twitter. Join the conversation by using #sfwv!



SCHOOL

JMHS wins first place at Academic Showdown



Concord University Mascot (left), Coach Mrs. Ashley Mann, Elizabeth Adkins, Team Captain Madison McMillion, Bryceson Whitt, Cole Thomas, and Concord University President Dr. Kendra Bogges

Two teams have advanced out of the fourth regional of the 2023 Academic Showdown. James Monroe High School Team 1, Monroe County, earned first place; and Ripley High School Team 1, Jackson County, earned second place recently

during the competition at Concord University in Athens. Both have earned a spot in the finale on Mar. 31, at the West Virginia Culture Center in Charleston.

The Showdown is an academic head-to-head competition testing stu-

dents' knowledge in subject areas including math, history, sports, fine arts and more. Students in grade 9-12 may participate, and schools may enter up to two teams to compete in the double elimination regionals. The 2023 field of competitors

includes 71 teams from 40 high schools representing 26 counties - an increase of 51 teams over last year.

Teams participating in the competition included Greenbrier East Team 1 & 2; Greenbrier West 1 & 2; Bridgeport Team 1 &

2; Bluefield; Mingo Central Team 1 & 2; Pikeview Team 1 & 2; Meadow Bridge; Ripley Team 1 & 2; and James Monroe Team 1 & 2.

The next regional is scheduled for Feb. 25, at West Virginia State Uni-

versity in Charleston, WV. The Academic Showdown is a partnership between the WVDE, the WV Higher Education Policy Commission, WV Public Broadcasting and the WV Department of Arts, Culture and History.

New River CTC offers free TEAS prep class

New River Community and Technical College is offering a free six-week class to prepare students to take the TEAS exam, a requirement for the college's nursing programs, starting Mar. 13.

The prep class consists of four modules combining self-study for the English and reading modules and faculty led review and tutoring for math and science through Zoom video conferencing. Students enrolled in New River CTC's prep class will also receive a free registration for the TEAS exam once they have completed

the review modules.

To register for the free TEAS prep class, visit <https://www.newriver.edu/workforce/> or contact Gloria Kincaid (304-793-6101, gkincaid@newriver.edu).

New River CTC offers the Certificate of Applied Science in Practical Nursing at the Greenbrier Valley Campus in Lewisburg, Nicholas County Campus in Summersville, Raleigh County Campus in Beaver and Summers County ARH Hospital in Hinton. The college

offers the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program in two tracks, LPN to ADN at the Greenbrier Valley Campus in Lewisburg and the Paramedic to ADN at the Raleigh County Campus in Beaver. The deadline to apply to New River CTC's nursing programs starting in the fall of 2023 is May 1.

For more information about programs offered at New River CTC, visit www.newriver.edu, email admissions@newriver.edu or call 866-349-3739.

STEPPIN’ OUT

Brand new season of ‘Barnwood Builders’ premieres on Magnolia Network



Barnwood Builders crew members Sherman Thompson (left), Graham Ferguson, Johnny Jett, host Mark Bowe, Ryan Franklin, and Evan Canterbury

The West Virginia-based hit TV show “Barnwood Builders” debuted a brand new season on the Magnolia Network on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 9 p.m. EST. New episodes will air in this new time slot every Thursday. The show features native West Virginian, Mark Bowe, and his crew of talented craftsmen, as they rescue antique log cabins and barns and breathe new life into the structures. Bowe has been the

host for 15 seasons and the show has been an international success airing around the world in millions of homes. “I might say this every year, but I think this is going to be our best season yet! Turn on Magnolia Network. Thursday is must-see TV with BWB!” Mark Bowe, host and owner of Barnwood Living. Thursday’s episode is “Legendary Log Homes”: The Barnwood Builders

build a custom log guest home in Dandridge, TN. As the cabin takes shape high in the hills of the Great Smoky Mountains, Mark visits one of the most famous log homes in the country. Johnny visits a candy store in Gatlinburg. Magnolia Network, the new network curated by Chip and Joanna Gaines, has expanded the viewership of the show. “Barnwood Builders,” is one of the handful of shows that

the Magnolia Network was brought over from DIY. Local viewers can find Mark, Sherman, Johnny, Graham, Ryan, and Evan on the following channels:

- DIRECTV Channel 230
- Suddenlink Channel 323
- Dish Channel 111

Support your local craftsmen and tune in on Thursdays at 9 p.m./8 central to watch the all new episodes!

Teaching artist Sean O’Connell’s spring clay series announced



Sean O’Connell

Carnegie Hall’s Spring Classes & Workshops Series offers arts and crafts educational opportunities to students of all ages. Teaching Artist Sean O’Connell will lead several hand-building and wheel pottery workshops beginning in February and running through June. Wheel Throwing Clay for Teens & Adults is a six-week course taught by O’Connell and begins Tuesday, Feb. 28, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. In this introduction to wheel-thrown ceramics, teens and adults will explore how to prepare clay for throwing, learn how to center clay on the potter’s wheel, and make simple vessel forms such as the cylinder, bowl, and plate. Through this process, students will get a feeling for working with earth-based clay and the many possibilities it offers for creativity. Students will also learn techniques for glazing and finishing their work. Other Section 1 class dates include Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28, and Apr. 11 (no class Apr. 4). Section 2 class dates include Apr.

25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, and Jun. 6 (no class May 30). Cost for the Wheel Throwing Clay for Teens & Adults series is \$250 (\$225 for Carnegie Hall members). Automatic scholarships are available for students 50 years of age and older, who pay only \$135. Class size is limited, and students must be at least 17 years old. All materials are provided. O’Connell’s second 6-class course is Hand Building for Adults. Section 1 takes place Thursdays, Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and Apr. 13 (no class Apr. 6), from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Section 2 dates include Apr. 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25, and Jun. 8 (no class Jun. 1). Hand Building for Adults explores a variety of form and design concepts combining several techniques in working clay by hand. Tap into creative problem solving in clay, using visual elements such as line, volume, balance, texture, proportion scale, and color in a three-dimensional design. Shape a lidded tripod ginger jar from

soft clay slabs or mold a full in-the-round sculptural figure. Sculpt a bas relief wall piece or garden muse. Come create objects of beauty, function, integrity, and spirit. All levels welcome. Cost for the Hand Building for Adults series is \$250 (\$225 for Carnegie Hall members). Automatic scholarships are available for students 50 years of age and older who pay only \$135. Class size is limited, and students must be at least 17 years old. All materials are provided. Sean O’Connell is a ceramic artist from upstate New York, who relocated to Greenbrier County in 2013. From 1995 to 2003, Sean studied all aspects of ceramic arts with Professor Regis Brodie at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY. To enroll or for a complete list of classes and workshops visit carnegiehallwv.org/classes-and-workshops or pick up a Classes & Workshops brochure at 611 Church Street, Lewisburg.

DINING & entertainment guide

Dutch Haus Restaurant

Lewisburg Elks Country Club at 368 Brush Rd., Lewisburg

BEST STEAKS IN TOWN

WEEKEND SPECIAL

Blackened Mahi Mahi

With Lemon Dill Compound Butter

Served with Rice Pilaf, Vegetable, Salad & Bread.

Open For Breakfast Saturday & Sunday 8:30-11:00

Mon - Fri 11 am-9 pm, Sat & Sun 8:30 am-9 pm • 304.645.2723

LENTEN FRIED OR BAKED TILAPIA DINNERS!

February 24
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

White Sulphur Springs Community Center

Behind Emmanuel United Methodist Church
One block south of Main St. in center of the city

Tilapia, Scalloped Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Hard Rolls, Desserts, Drinks

4:00P.M. - 7:00P.M.

Adults \$15 Children Under 12 \$8
Children 5 or Younger FREE
Extra Piece of Tilapia \$5

For the benefit of the community, youth, church, service projects of the Greenbrier Valley Council Knights of Columbus in cooperation with The Schoolhouse Hotel.

Same Menu! Same Great Culinary Staff!
Lots Of Great Volunteer Workers

Paid summer internships for high schoolers, conservation work in County

Appalachian Headwaters is offering paid high school internships this summer in Greenbrier County for rising 10th, 11th and 12th graders. This exciting 10-week internship program focuses on natural resources science and conservation work based at 334 Richland Lane, Lewisburg. Through their work at Appalachian Headwaters, interns will contribute to ongoing programs in pollinator conservation, native plant habitat improvement and community science. Interns will also gain valuable work experience, strong recommendation letters, and practical skills. Interns will work with other high school and college interns on a daily basis, supervised and mentored by highly qualified Headwaters fellows and staff. This internship will help students build a solid resume for college applications and other future opportunities. Internships run from Monday, Jun. 12 through Friday, Aug. 18. Interns will earn a stipend of \$3,500. The online application is available at <https://forms.office.com/r/Az7VvrwsAM>, and at www.appheadwaters.org. Applications will be reviewed after Friday, Mar. 10. Questions? Reach out to Kevin at kjohnson@appheadwaters.org

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

CARNEGIE HALL • LEWISBURG, WEST VIRGINIA

LEATHER WORKING

TAKE A WORKSHOP WITH LUKE DAVIS!

Intro to Leather Craft
Appalachian Heritage Class

Saturday, March 18: 11-2 p.m.

Make a Leather Belt

Saturday, March 25: 11-2 p.m.

Fringed Slouch Handbag or Crossbody Purse

(2-week series) NEW!

Saturdays, April 15 & 22: 11 - 2 p.m. daily

Stamped Journals and Book Covers NEW!

Saturday, April 29: 11 - 2 p.m.

Folding Wallets and Checkbook Covers

NEW!

Saturday, May 13: 11 - 2 p.m.

Leather Art Jewelry Set NEW!

Saturday, May 27: 11 - 2 p.m.

CARNEGIE HALL

611 CHURCH STREET, LEWISBURG, WV

304.645.7917