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\$1.00

Mountain messenger

Vol. XLI, No. 36 The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley - Lewisburg, West Virginia

September 7, 2024

Seagull Seafood restaurant opens at Greenbrier Valley Mall

By Sarah Richardson

The Greenbrier Valley is now home to a seafood restaurant, Seagull Seafood, after they opened for business earlier this week. Located in Greenbrier Valley Mall, in the old Carlito's location directly beside Advance Auto Parts, they are currently serving seafood platters including white fish, cod fish, fresh salmon, catfish, crab cakes, tilapia, flounder, and more. They also have oysters, shrimp, po-boys, and non-seafood items such as chicken strips, wings, burgers, salads, desserts, and a variety of appetizers.

The business states online that they plan to expand their menu after the initial opening period. They are open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays.

For more information, visit "Seagull Seafood" on Facebook, or call 681-318-3342 or 681-318-3343.

Fall Flea Market returns to State Fairgrounds



By Chelsea Blair

The heavily-anticipated Fall Flea Market is returning to the West Virginia State Fairgrounds this weekend, and will run from Friday, Sept. 6 through Sunday, Sept. 8. It will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

The Fair is anticipating a large turnout of vendors from near and far, both indoor and outdoor, following the spring flea market's success with around 200 vendors. Anticipate finding everything from antiques and décor to handcrafted items and more.

Those attending can enjoy food from vendors such as GH Concessions Steak Sandwiches, Coach's Dippin' Dots, Ben



Ellen Donuts, and Belt's Pizza, as well as The WV Pickle Guy, who will have a stand in the WV Building.

Entry to the event is free, and parking will be available in the free parking lot. For large purchases, such as furniture, assistance will be available to help haul and load items to your vehicle at the tunnel.

Lindsey Raines Memorial Scholarship Poker Run to be held this weekend

The 18th annual Lindsey Raines Memorial Scholarship Poker Run will be held on Saturday, Sept. 7. The event begins with registration at 9 a.m. at Spare Time Sports Bar and Grill in Lewisburg. A breakfast buffet will be served until noon. Participants can start their run any time after registering, with the final bike arriving at the Rainelle Moose Lodge by 4 p.m.

Each entry is \$30, and all types of vehicles are welcome to enter. Prizes will be awarded for the best and worst poker hands, and additional activities include door prizes, raffles, and an auction.

Scholarships funded by this event support students at several area high schools. For more information, contact Paul Raines at 304-438-7102 or Bruce Dowdy at 304-647-3155.

New brewery, Country Roads Beer Co., opens in White Sulphur

By Stephen Baldwin, RealWV

"Country roads, take me home, to the place I belong, West Virginia!"

Most every West Virginian has those John Denver lyrics memorized. But Sophia Hibbs and Frankie Weinberg took them to heart.

Frankie previously worked at Greenbrier Valley Brewing Company. His career in the brewing industry then took him to Charlottesville, Atlanta, and Peachtree City to a variety of small and large facilities.

But he and Sophia felt an itch to come back home to West Virginia and open their own brewery.

They mentioned their desire to Sophia's dad, who said, "Have you looked into the old Big Draft in White Sulphur?" He thought it might be an easier transition than starting from scratch as all the equipment was still in place.

"My dad knows the Rich family who own it, because he does their pest control, so we were able to get in touch with them and share our interest," Sophia shared. "They said, 'Come up with a business plan and get back to us.' So that's what we did."

"To our surprise, our vision for the brewery was the same as the Rich family," she said. "Over the summer, we've been able to flip it around and get it open."

They've taken a team approach, with Sophia leading operations, Frankie leading the brewery, and Chef Stephen Anderson leading the restaurant.

Beside the new beers, of course, customers can expect several other changes from the previous brewery, Big Draft.

"We rebuilt the bar," Sophia says. "It slanted a little bit, so we fixed that."

See "County Roads Beer Co." Page 5



Frankie Weinberg, Stephen Anderson, and Sophia Hibbs comprise the leadership team at Country Roads Beer Co located in downtown White Sulphur Springs, WV.

Nature's Way
By Karen Cohen
on page 4

Designs now being accepted for piano painting contest

The winning piano design will be placed outside of Lewisburg City Hall

Local artists will work with a different sort of canvas this fall with the Lewisburg in Bloom Committee's outdoor piano painting contest. This contest is for the painting of a new piano that will be installed outside of Lewisburg City Hall for the public's use.

Participating artists will need to submit a design to be chosen by Mayor Beverly White by Monday, Sept. 30. Artists need to paint and seal their designs. The keyboard and pedals cannot be painted.

The artists will create their artwork on the piano this fall. The winner will be awarded \$200 after the completion of the project.

Please contact Shannon Beatty at sbeatty@lewisburg-wv.org or call her at 304-645-2080 to enter the contest.



This piano is the template of the latest piano painting contest, and the winning entry will be selected by Mayor White to be painted and installed outside of Lewisburg City Hall this fall.

Visit us at —
www.mountainmessenger.com
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Commemorative event for Camp Union to be held by Historical Society

In two years, 2026, Americans will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of our nation. In some ways, that founding had roots here in the Greenbrier Valley in August and September 1774, with the gathering of the militia forces under Col. Andrew Lewis at Camp Union - now Lewisburg.

The Greenbrier Historical Society and a host of partners have planned a commemorative event of Camp Union for Sept. 27, 28, and 29 in Lewisburg. All events are free to the public.

Camp Union weekend will consist of living history re-enactments on the grounds of the Greenbrier Historical Society's Barracks and across from the Lewis Spring where the actual events took place; visits by all 8th grade students in Greenbrier County on Friday; open to the public on Saturday and on Sunday morning. Eighteenth century surveyors, fife and drum musicians, Native American interpreters, and militia reenactors will all bring this history to life. Space in Montwell Commons' Clingman Center will be available for any indoor needs.

The GHS's Barracks building will

host a new traveling exhibit about Camp Union/Lord Dunmore's War. The exhibit will later be loaned to libraries, schools, or other museums. The weekend will culminate in a keynote lecture by Alan Gutchess, Director of the Fort Pitt Museum, on Sunday, Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. at Lewisburg's Carnegie Hall. This lecture will provide insights on the settler-Native American conflicts that led to Lord Dunmore's War, and Native American perspectives. Following the lecture, attendees are invited to a reception at the North House Museum, where the Camp Union traveling exhibit will again be on view.

The fledgling union of American colonies did not have a professional army. However, the mustering of this militia, their march to Point Pleasant, their participation in battle, and the logistics required to support such a large force were excellent training opportunities for the frontiersmen.

Besides participating in Dunmore's War, men at Camp Union became prominent military leaders during the Revolutionary War, such as Brig. Gen. Andrew Lewis, Brig. Gen. George Mathews, and

See "Camp Union" — Page 3



The historical marker for the militia gathering in 1774 is in the foreground with the Barracks building, behind which the reenactments will be held, in the background of this photo.

Carnegie Hall's Taste Of Our Towns vendor registration ends Friday, September 13

On Saturday, Oct. 12, from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Carnegie Hall's Taste of Our Towns (TOOT) festival will bring thousands of visitors to downtown Lewisburg. TOOT is a fundraiser for Carnegie Hall, but also benefits local businesses and nonprofits that take advantage of this great opportunity. Not only is it profitable, with vendors keeping 100% of their sales, but it is also great exposure, as thousands of potential customers annually attend.

TOOT involves the closing of downtown Lewisburg on Washington, Court, and Church Streets and distribution of a map orienting patrons to vendor locations, Art Block, entertainment, and demonstrations. The festival strives to offer a food tasting adventure featuring the fare of southeastern West Virginia, including Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Webster, Nicholas, Fayette, Summers, and Monroe Counties.

This year will also in-



clude a TOOT after party from 4 to 8 p.m. on Church Street, with entertainment provided by The Davison Brothers Band, a genre-blurring mountain rock band formed in Clarksburg, WV. The band has created a uniquely authentic Appalachian country sound, which has helped them grow into one of the most successful independent acts in the world. Tickets for the outdoor concert go on sale Sept. 13.

Restaurants, businesses, and nonprofit organizations are invited to be a vendor at TOOT 2024. The non-refundable registration fee is \$300 (\$200 for nonprofits) and vendors keep 100% of their profits. Vendor registration ends Friday, Sept. 13.

Vendors set their own

item prices for the festival. The vendor's proposed menu is due Sept. 14.

Vendors are promoted on the official TOOT map during the four-hour, food-focused event and retain 100% of the proceeds. Vendors should plan now to be a part of this local tradition.

To register or for more information please visit www.carnegiehallwv.org/taste-of-our-towns. Booth location preferences are fulfilled on a first come, first served basis. Carnegie Hall reserves the right to decline an application or to require alternate food selections.

For more information contact Carnegie Hall Development Manager Kit Lindsey at 304-645-7917 or email devassociate@carnegiehallwv.org.

Back to School Safe Driving Tips: Keep Our Kids Safe

The West Virginia Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) reminds drivers to be on high alert as children head back to school.

Law enforcement officers will be targeting motorists who fail to follow all traffic laws, including, but not limited to, speed limits in school zones, yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks, and passing school buses when their lights are flashing and stop arms are extended.

To help keep students safer on West Virginia roadways, the GHSP reminds drivers of these tips:

- Slow down. Watch for children gathering near bus stops.
- Obey the speed limit around schools. Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood.
- When driving in neighborhoods with school zones, watch for students who may be focusing on

getting to school instead of focusing on where they are walking.

- Be alert. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.

- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch for students walking or bicycling to school.

- Yellow flashing lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload students. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop.

- Red flashing lights and/or extended stop arms signal that the bus has stopped and that students are getting on or off. Drivers MUST stop their vehicles and wait until the red lights stop flashing.

"We encourage motorists to be especially vigilant around school zones and stopped school buses in traffic," said GHSP Director Jack McNeely. "Illegally passing a school bus not only carries legal consequences, but it could

also be a matter of life and death for a child.

"Please slow down and exercise extreme caution when driving around schools or school buses. Remember: Red Means Stop. Be safe and know the danger zone," McNeely concluded.

New NHTSA data shows that 104 people died in school-transportation-related crashes in 2022. From 2013 to 2022 more than 1,000 people died in school-transportation-related crashes; 198 of those were children age 18 and younger. Of those children killed, 40% were occupants of other vehicles, 38% were pedestrians, 18% were occupants of school transportation vehicles, 3% were bicyclists, and 1% were using personal devices such as skateboards, scooters, and wheelchairs.

To contact the West Virginia Governor's Highway Safety Program, visit highwaysafety.wv.gov or call 304-926-2509.

WVDEP opens 2025 Roadsides in Bloom Photo Contest

The deadline for entries is September 13

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) is now taking submissions for the 22nd Annual 2025 "Roadsides in Bloom" calendar contest.

The deadline for entries is Friday, Sept. 13.

The following rules for the contest apply:

- Photographs must be taken in West Virginia.
- Entries must be submitted as an 8"x10" print in high resolution and must be landscape orientation (Portrait orientation will not be accepted). Print quality demands the photos have a resolution of 300 pixels per inch (ppi) or better. Low-resolution images may be inadequate and not considered.
- Entries must be in electronic format and submitted to dep.aah@wv.gov.
- Flowers must be growing along a road and the road must be prominently visible in the frame.
- Name, address, phone number, e-mail address (if you have one) and a short description of the most prominent flower depicted, including location and county of where the photo was taken, must appear in the upper left-hand corner on the back of the photo. Photos become property of the WVDEP and will not be returned.
- No more than three entries per person. Winners will be required to submit a digital copy of their photo.

12 winners will be selected to represent the months of the year. A grand-prize winner will be chosen to appear on the calendar cover.

PICK OF THE LITTER



ZEUS

Zeus is a five-year-old pit bull mix and weighs 89 pounds



JASMINE

Jasmine is a three-year-old female domestic shorthair

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.

Call 304-645-4775 for more information.

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!

Briefly

Blood Drive

The Greenbrier Valley Board of Realtors 5th sponsored Blood Drive will be held at the WVSOM Alumni Center on Tuesday, Sept. 3 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Alderson Farmers Market

is held each Tuesday from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. beginning May 7 - Oct. 29. They offer WIC, senior vouchers, carrot club for children, stretch, snap, and they accept credit cards (purchases must be \$5 or more).

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers available

The Greenbrier County Committee on Aging now has vouchers available for the 2024 Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Vouchers are available at the following locations:

- Western Greenbrier Senior Center, 284 Greenbrier Street Rupert 304-392-5138. Monday through Friday 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

- Eastern Greenbrier Senior Center, 150 Taylor Lane Fairlea 304-645-1978. Monday through Friday. 8 to 10 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

Must be at least 60 years of age and meet income guidelines. Bring ID with proof of age.

Veteran's Memorial Museum

of Southern West Virginia, 419 Ballangee Street, Hinton, WV, is open Saturdays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.. Call 304-466-4443 for more information or to schedule a tour.

Notice

West Virginia Statewide Independent Living Council
Quarterly Board meeting Oct. 2, 2024

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

6908 MacCorkle Ave.

St. Albans, WV 25177

To Join by ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82194833004?pwd=MitrVIVhSUI5RUNwL2Zibm02bUMOUT09>

We are a nonprofit organization.

Suits

New Cases from 8/28/24 to 9/4/24

New Civil Cases

Lovely Gardner v. Kroger Limited Partnership I, an Ohio Corporation
Allied First Bank, SB DBA Servbank, SB v. Patrick Murphy

New Divorces

Richard Wayne Bostic and Melissa Bernadine Bostic

Public Meetings

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 Farmland Protection Board

meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Greenbrier County Courthouse, 912 Court Street North, Lewisburg, WV 24901 in the County Commission Meeting Room. The public is invited to attend. Call 304-520-3221 for more information.

Historic Landmark Commission

will meet Monday, Sept. 9 at 5 p.m. in the Paul R. Cooley Council Chambers, City Hall, 942 Washington Street West Lewisburg to hear the following applications.

- Approval of July Minutes
- Jim Morgan, 140 Oak St - 6-foot deck extension
- Alex Smith, 180 Courtney Dr - replace roof (cedar composite)
- Stephanie Bachman, 163 Randolph St - replace roof
- Brandon Johnson, 914 Jefferson St - paint exterior of existing building
- Jody Wooton, 886 Washington St - submit drawings for fire door
- GVRP, 970 Jefferson St - add a 10'x30'x8' addition to back of the log structure
- Kahsyne LLC, 775 Court St - Remove N.E. corner stairwell & add stair to structure between building & church, cover stairs with material awning. Clad West & North side of building in hardy board & baton material, placement of windows and store front system
- Libby Tomar, 1505 Washington St East - remove existing driveway to create new driveway off Dwyer Lane
- Katie Kilcotlin-Jennifer Orr - construct new structure 161 Dwyer Lane
- Comments from the public
- Comments from the Commissioners
- Comments from the Planning and Zoning Officer

Next scheduled meeting of the Lewisburg Historic Landmark Commission, will be Monday, Oct. 7, at 5 p.m. with a deadline of Monday, Sept. 20 at 12 noon

Lewisburg Building Commission

will meet Wednesday, Sept. 11, at 5 p.m. in the Paul R. Cooley Council Chamber at the new Public Works Building on Stonehouse Road, Lewisburg. The items for discussion are:

- Public Works Building Change Order #
- Approval of Minutes - Aug. 20, 2024

Lewisburg Planning Commission

will meet Thursday, Sept. 12, at 5:30 p.m. in the Paul R. Cooley Council Chambers, 942 Washington Street W, Lewisburg. On the agenda:

- Discussion: Wayfinding signage

For the Record

Deeds

Jeffrey L. Thompson to Derek Thompson and Lindsey Thompson: 1.524 acres, Anthony Creek District, Map 54 Parcel 39.1. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Ironsides LLC to William E. Irons Jr. and Sara K. Irons: 1.65 acres, Fort Spring District, Map 6 Parcel 1.1. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Leonidas Martinez and Linda Martinez to Timothy Bailey, Victoria Zill, Jeff Thomas, and Rich Fullmer (trustee of the Mountain View Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists): 8.63 acres, Lewisburg District, Map 19 Parcel 6. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Said Raghep to Adam Whanger: ½ of lots 14-17, Rainelle District, Map 5 Parcel 461, 463, 465, 467. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

My Ruby Slippers LLC to Justin C. Darby and Myrtle C. Darby: lot 75, 0.26 acres, Meadow Bluff District, Map 55B Parcel 86. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Trevor M. Yale to William Z. Yale: 82.853 acre, Meadow Bluff District, Map 61 Parcel 87. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Trevor M. Yale to Deborah M. Yale: 18.22, 6, 36, and 29.99 acres, Meadow Bluff District, Map 65 Parcel 23, 24, 25, 13. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Danny A. and Lois S. Hall Family Land Trust to Jeffrey A. Hall Family LLC: lot 26 phase II, Lewisburg District, Map 26 Parcel 0093. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Stephen Hogset (executor of the Estate of John Bransford) to Luther J. McCoy: 16 acres, 40P, 43 acres, 98P, 39 acres, 20P, Williamsburg District, Map 9999 Parcel 23, 24, 25. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Richard Ruddle and Colleen E. Ruddle to Andrew C. Ruddle and Nicholas Ruddle: 25.21 acres, Irish Corner District, Map 20 Parcel 12. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Patricia E. Grafton to Raynette L. Harris: 28.03 acres, Fort Spring District, Map 17 Parcel 5. Filed Aug. 26, 2024.

Richard D. Keener and Shelby J. Keener to Johny R. Keener: lot 2 Meadow Bluff District, Map 22 Parcel 19. Filed Aug. 27, 2024.

Helen H. Baker to John H. Mooney: lot 14, block 4, Todd, Lewisburg District, Map 29 Parcel 90. Filed Aug. 27, 2024.

Stephan M. Hicks to Dale A. Brown: 0.49 acres, Meadow Bluff District, Map 56P Parcel 9. Filed Aug. 27, 2024.

Richard D. Keener and Shelby J. Keener, et al, to Johny Ray Keener, Lot 2, Meadow Bluff District. Filed Aug. 27, 2024.

Helen H. Baker to John H. Mooney, Lot 14, Blk 4 TODD District, Lewisburg Corp. Filed Aug. 27, 2024.

Stephan M. Hicks to Dale A. Brown, .49 acre, Meadow Bluff District. Filed Aug. 27, 2024.

Cathy Riffe Jones to AMSA Automotive, Inc., Lot 3 or .88 acre, Lewisburg Corp. Filed Aug. 27, 2024.

Teresa Kim Wolfe Flinn Living Trust (by trustee Teresa Kim Wolfe Flinn) and Raymond Dale Flinn to Teresa Kim Wolfe Flinn and Raymond Dale Flinn, 2.208 acres, Ronceverte Corp. Filed August 27, 2024.

Sharon A. Gabbert and Joseph C. Hassell, et al, to Billy McCarty and Tracey McCarty, et ux, Lot 5 and part of Lot 4, White Sulphur District. Filed August 27, 2024.

Robert L. Hughart and Martha J. Hughart to Robert Leigh Helzer, Sherry Renne Polhemus, William Patrick Marsh-sall, et al, 58.75 acres, Frankford District. Filed August 27, 2024.

Angela Boone to Justin Rich, 4.5 acres, Quinwood Corp. Filed August 28, 2024.

Johnnie F. Morrison Jr., Victoria D. Zeiner, James Morrison, and Jason Morrison, et al, to Johnnie F. Morrison Jr., Victoria D. Zeiner, James Morrison, and Jason Morrison, et al, 29.20 acres, Meadow Bluff District. Filed August 28, 2024.

Fleshman Brother Properties LLC to Dakota Smith, Lots 118, 119, and 120, Meadow Bluff District. Filed August 28, 2024.

Marriages

Philip Bryson Sloan to Karleigh Elisabeth Collins
Brandon Michael Gower to Crystal Joy Boyd Paxton Wade King to Hannah Marie Cochran Phillip Dwayne Clements to Kachina Marie Matheney
Michael Shawn Mitchem to Kimberly Dawn Cahill

Camp Union

Continued from Front Page

Brig. Gen. William Russell. Some were also prominent political leaders afterward, including Governor Isaac Shelby of Kentucky, acting Governor William Fleming of Virginia, and Governor George Mathews of Georgia, among others.

And, by all accounts, these soldiers were formidable men.

Regarding the Virginia militiamen of this campaign, Col. William Preston, County Lieutenant of Fincastle County stated on Oct. 13, 1774,

“This body of militia being mostly armed with rifle guns, and a great part of them good woodsmen, are looked upon to be at least equal to any troops for the number that have been raised in America.”

This assessment was echoed by U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, in his book, *The Winning of the West*, Volume I (p308).

“The backwoodsmen who were to form the army of Lewis had begun to gather at the Levels of Greenbrier before the 1st of September....it may be doubted if a braver or physically finer set of men were ever got together on this continent.”

During the Revolutionary War, George Washington is said to have responded to the revolutionary spirit of these counties: “Strip me of the dejected and suffering remnants of my army; take from me all that I have left; leave me but a banner; give me but the means to plant it upon the mountains of West Augusta, and I will yet draw around me the men who will lift up their bleeding country from the dust and set her free.”

Al Emch, President of the Greenbrier Historical Society, said, “The spirit of these men is unequalled. Imagine the difficult circumstances of their march to Point Pleasant and their worry for the families they left behind. No wonder George Washington applauded their courage.”

Emch went on to say, “We hope everyone will come out to see the reenactment of Camp Union, hear the lecture at Carnegie Hall and learn about the role the people of the Greenbrier Valley played in Dunmore’s War and the American Revolution.”

Ronald William Dolan to Channing B. Judy and Autumn S. Judy, et al, 1 acre, to Fort Spring District. Filed August 29, 2024.

Bonnie Marie Jennings to Channing B. Judy and Autumn S. Judy, et al, 1 acre, Fort Spring District. Filed August 29, 2024.

Lorene Pitsenbarger Billings McClung by attorney in fact, Sandra Joe Billings Sanders, and Darrell Leroy Sanders by attorney in fact, et al, to April Hager Taylor, Lots 17 and 18, Meadow Bluff District. Filed August 29, 2024.

American Heritage Music Hall fundraisers set

There will be a spaghetti dinner held on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 2 to 7 p.m. at the Asbury Community Center, 9818 Alta Drive, Asbury, as a fundraiser for the American Heritage Music Hall. The following weekend on Saturday, Sept. 14, will be the fourth annual Fall Craft and Vendor Show fundraiser, which will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Rhema Christian Life Center gym, 3584 Davis Stuart Road, Lewisburg.

Proceeds from these events go to the American Heritage Music Hall, a nonprofit organization. Please come out and support the American Heritage Music Hall and all the talented local area crafters.

Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Richard L. Sigley, Sinks Grove, leaving the scene of an accident, fine \$100, NCP

Jason Scott Hanna, Crawley, use of electronic device without hands-free equipment, GP

Robert Earl Quillin, Lewisburg, unlawful removal, injury to or destruction of property, fine \$100, NCP

Travis Wayne Wickline, Rupert, 1) unlawful removal, injury to or destruction of property, fine \$75, jail 30 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation; 2) battery, fine \$75, jail 60 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation, NCP

Melinda Donahue, Caldwell, possession of controlled substance without valid prescription, fine \$100, NCP

Shane Curtis Krebbeks, Rupert, shoplifting, fine \$100, NCP

Richard Arthur Coleman, Rupert, no insurance, fine \$200, GP

Jonathan Cales, Rainelle, fraudulent use of credit card, jail 30 days, GP

Tyler Treadwell, Shady Spring, speeding 10 mph or less in excess on highway, fine \$10, NCP

Brehana Raekell Scott, Ronceverte, 1) speeding - 85 in a 70 zone, fine \$30; 2) improper passing, fine \$25, NCP

Desiree Michelle Odell, Rainelle, 1) no operators, fine \$25; 2) improper lane change, fine \$25, NCP

Teresa A. Samscock, Renick, use of electronic device without hands-free equipment, fine \$100, NCP

Justin Robinson, Ronceverte, operating ATV on road or highway, fine \$100, community service: 10 hours, GP

Ernest Elton Bennett, Rainelle, 1) ginseng dealer permit required, fine \$500; 2) illegal possession of ginseng, fine \$500, GP

Benjamin Henry Sturgell, Lewisburg, improper disposal of solid waste, fine \$100, NCP

Steven F. Bahlmann, Seabrook, SC, speeding, fine \$24, GP

Eric S. Burdette, Lewisburg, possession of a controlled substance, fine \$100, GP

Stephanie Renea Osborne, Quinwood, obstructing an officer, fine \$150, NCP

Kevin Collins, Canton, OH, speeding, fine \$5, NCP

Jason Wade Scott, Renick, obscene, harassing, threatening phone calls, jail 120 days - suspended and placed on 18 months unsupervised probation, NCP

Mountain Messenger

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Strengthening Community and Promoting Diversity in the Greenbrier Valley

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How to Contact Us:

Phone (304) 647-5724
Fax (304) 647-5767
Mail P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901
Address 860 Court Street, N., Lewisburg
Web page mountainmessenger.com
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Mountain Messenger



By Karen Cohen

Easy Does It

Well, home gardeners, the growing season is certainly slowing down, down, down. I am still finding some tomatoes, cucumbers, and zucchini but no longer on a daily basis. That's sad because I managed to have a freshly made bowl of gazpacho for lunch every day for over a month. That really trims off some fat and calories along with roaming the mountains and hills, too!

We had a low of 48 degrees the other morning. Sweaters were donned for our early morning doggie walk. Fall is approaching and will hit mid September. Leaves are blanketing our long driveway and sometimes falling like rain in the forest. Autumn is the best season of the year, but I normally say that about every change of season. What's your favorite?

Fall veggie seeds directly planted in the soil have sprouted and have taken hold. Kale, cabbage, arugula, and chard are doing just fine after battling summer's heat and leaf chewing insects. With vigilant watering, these will keep growing right up and into the first frost and snowfall, too. Our garlic cloves will be planted around November or late October and then the garden

rests under chopped leaves, a few shovels full of horse manure, and a dusting of grass clippings. All those nutrients seep into the garden soil slowly over the months and reward us next year with abundance.

As I enter my own personal fall season of life, I tend to relax more. I don't rest but just once a day and that's at nighttime when I eagerly and quickly latch on to eight hours of shut eye. With exercise, wholesome food, one cup of coffee per day, daily nuts and fruits, I keep this body going. What do you do to keep your battery charged?

I strongly suggest the Ruth Stout no work gardening method. Ruth advises gardeners to not till your garden soil. Instead mulch with clumps of rotted hay which locks in the moisture and keeps out weeds, and plant seeds directly into the ground. I have followed her tips for over 50 years from her book called Ruth Stout No-work Garden book and highly recommend it. There are some videos you can find online to see the real Ruth Stout in action or kinda non-action! Search online: Interview and Garden Tour with Ruth Stout-Mulch Queen. Ruth lived to the

ripe old age of 96; may we all be that lucky!

Eliminating chemicals from your food and your garden has been my objective in writing this garden column. Organic simply means: relating to or derived from living matter. Strictly organic means: no round-up, no biocides, insecticides, or herbicides, and no chemical fertilizers. Use only living matter which is the same way our forests all over this planet are nourished. Gardens should and can pump with life, bugs, frogs, bees, hummingbirds, because they are alive and not poisonous to anything including humans and four-leggeds. With fall coming and winter not far behind, I put down my paper and pen and head out to explore the world beyond my garden. I hope you have the energy and curiosity to do the same even if you do it by reading books of adventure and travel.

For now and for the future, for your garden and for your spirit, I wish you happy growing!

(Karen Cohen is an organic grower of flowers, herbs and veggies. She can be reached at natureswaykaren@gmail.com)

OBITUARIES

Lula Faye Landis Rice



The sweetest gal around left to meet up with her husband, Joe, on September 3, 2024, just in time for supper.

Lula Faye Landis Rice was born on April 28, 1947, at the family farm in Falling Spring, VA. She was the youngest daughter of the late Emmett and Beulah Byer Landis. Lula was a 1966 graduate of Allegheny County High School (go Colts!) in Covington, VA, and was a standout player in the ladies' softball leagues of Allegheny and Greenbrier counties.

In 1972, Lula and Joe moved to Clintonville, eventually buying a small farm in Meadow Bluff where they raised pigs, sheep, ducks, goats, chickens, cows, two ornery girls, and one surly donkey.

Lula was a devoted volunteer at Greenbrier Valley Hospice, sewing bibs for the patients and making home visits to brighten their remaining days. She eventually became a home healthcare provider for various agencies. A born caregiver, Lula became a CNA and continued to lovingly assist nursing home patients in West Virginia and Virginia.

Known as Sweet Lula because of her sunny, loving disposition she shined even brighter after the arrival of her granddaughter, Sydney Bryant, in 1992. Lula was even in the delivery room "helpfully" giving suggestions to the doctors during Sydney's arrival. Lula enjoyed quilting, gardening, crocheting, family vacations, and reading. She will be loved and missed by so many.

In addition to her parents, nine brothers, and three sisters, Lula was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Hiawatha "Joe" Rice, in 2018.

Sweet Lula is survived by her daughters, Patty Bryant (Wes) of Lewisburg and Terri Reynolds (Mike) of Frankford; her

beloved granddaughter, Sydney Bryant, (Drew Dowdy) of Lewisburg; Terri's stepdaughters Rebecca DeHaven of Hedgessville, West Virginia and Caroline Thorne of Roanoke, Virginia; a sister, Mary Elizabeth Davis of Annapolis, Maryland; her dearest friends Pat Tabor of Covington, Virginia, Shirley Arnold of Rupert, and Linda Carter of the Brian Center in Low Moor, Virginia; numerous nieces and nephews and the best neighbors anyone could ask for, Brian and Crystal Baldwin of Crawley.

Please honor her memory with acts of everyday kindness, avid reading, and radiant smiles. That is the finest way to honor her precious life.

Following Lula's wish there will be no service at this time.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net. Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

James Edward Sizemore



James Edward Sizemore, 66, of Alderson, WV passed away Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at his home surrounded by his family. Born July 25, 1958, in Trout, WV he was the son of the late Samuel David and Theda Gray Scott Sizemore.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by sisters, Naomi Kincaid and Lottie Sizemore, half-brothers, Dale, Don and Ray Sizemore and half-sister, Dorothy Hunter.

Survivors include his loving wife of 30 years, Belinda Sizemore, daughter, Brittney Sizemore (David Holliday), stepsons, Michael Dailey (Brittney Boggs) and Lindsey Jones, stepdaughter, Amber Dailey, brother, Tucker Sizemore (Debbie) sisters, Lesa Fitzgerald, Delta Sizemore (Dwayne) and Jenny Sizemore (Jason), granddaughters, Har-

lie and Riley Harrah and grandsons, Adam Dylan and Parker Jones, several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be 12 noon, Tuesday, Sept. 10, at the Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service, Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial will follow the service in the New Salem Cemetery at Williamsburg, WV.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net. Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Betty Jane McVey Shields



Betty Jane McVey Shields went home to be with the Lord on August 28, 2024. She was born on September 30, 1930, and lived most of her life at the family homestead on Muddy Creek Mountain. She graduated from Ronceverte High School. Until her health declined, Betty was very active in her beloved Grace United Methodist Church in Fort Spring; serving in various volunteer capacities as well as teaching Sunday school for decades. She was also an active volunteer in the Farm Bureau, Farm Service Agency, and 4-H. Betty faithfully and selflessly cared for her elder siblings in their final years. She also served in various capacities in the U.S. Government in the 1960s. Above all, Betty loved Jesus and her family and her family loved her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elsie Coffman McVey and John H. McVey; her siblings, Eva C. McVey, John H. McVey, and V. Rodgers McVey (Gretis); nephews Howard Rogers McVey, Jr. (Jean), Marjorie Lobban (Charles), and Dr. James McVey (Charlotte); niece, Lois McVey; and nephew, Brian Anderson.

Betty is survived by

great-nephews, H.R. McVey (Detra), Charles M. Lobban, Jr., Dr. John Lobban (Krista), James H. McVey, Jr. (Stephanie), and Will McVey (Rachel); great-nieces, Melissa McVey Cranwell (Rick), Lizabeth Lobban Rogers, Greta McVey (Cindy), Gail McVey Taylor (Doug), Kathy McVey Arbaugh (Jack), and Lori Lobban Anderson; as well as many other great-great nieces and nephews and great-great-great nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at River of Life Church of God in Alderson on Monday, Sept. 9, at 12 noon. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 12, prior to the service. Burial will immediately follow in McVey-Stephens Cemetery in Fort Spring.

Lantz Funeral Home in Alderson is honored to serve the family. Online condolences may be made at Lantzfuneralhome.com

Angela Sue Ray



Angela Sue Ray, 73, of Frankford, WV, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2024, at her home. Born June 4, 1951, at South Charleston, WV, she was the daughter of the late Ralph Herman and Mary Madeline Hudson Ray.

Angie taught in Kanawha County Schools for over 35 years. She was a member of the Enon Baptist Church.

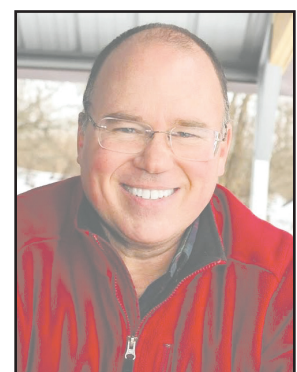
Survivors include her sisters, Valerie Lyons (Wayne), Verna Breaux (Dan) and Anita Ray Kirk (Jim), special cousin and faithful caregiver, Ronda Dolan (Tommy), several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m., Friday, Sept. 6 at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Sam

McClung officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home, Friday. Burial will follow the service in the Rosewood Cemetery, Lewisburg.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net. Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Steven Clark Gottshall



Steven Clark Gottshall, known affectionately as Steve, passed away on August 7, 2024, in Caldwell, WV, at the age of 63. Born in Springfield, MA, on October 8, 1960, Steve grew to embody a spirit of compassion and adventure, deeply rooted in his Christian faith.

Steve grew up in Bern Township, graduated from Bern Elementary, followed by Schuylkill Valley and Mt Penn High Schools. His academic journey continued at Penn State, Hahnemann University Hospital, and St. Joseph's University, shaping a career that would touch many lives. He dedicated nearly three decades to his vocation as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, with tenures at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital, Wilkes Medical Center, Hershey Medical Center, and most recently, Greenbrier Valley Medical Center/CAMC.

Achieving the rank of Captain, his years-long military service in the Army Nurse Corps Reserves exemplified his commitment to caring for others and duty to his country and community, values he carried throughout his life.

Steve was a member of First Baptist Church of Fairlea. He was a generous man, always willing to share his time and resources with the people he loved and those in need.

An avid outdoorsman, his hobbies included bicycling, hiking, camping, kayaking, canoeing, motorcycling, four-wheeling, and target shooting. Steve's love of travel took him to Canada, Germany, France, Spain, Ireland, Italy, Greece, Malta, Mexico, and Jamaica, as well as many states within the US, with his family. Upon moving to West Virginia in 2002, his childhood dreams of building a log home on acreage were realized. It was there that he and Connie raised their three beautiful daughters and built a loving home.

He is survived by his daughters Sarah, Abigail, and Amanda, brothers David (Beth) and Timothy (Angie) Gottshall, and a vast network of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews. He was preceded in death by his beloved parents, Donald and Karen Gottshall.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to St. Jude, honoring Steve's lifelong commitment to helping others.

Steve's life and legacy will be cherished and honored by all who had the privilege of knowing him. A Celebration of Life ceremony is being held on Saturday, Sept. 14, at First Baptist Church of Fairlea. Friends and family visitation starts at 10 a.m., with a service to follow at 11 a.m.

"Mountaineers are Always Free!"

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



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Club & Church

Stone bench to be dedicated at the North House Museum

The Sons of the American Revolution will host a ceremony dedicating a memorial stone bench in honor of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America at the North House Museum in Lewisburg on Sept. 7.

The Greenbrier Valley Chapter of the West Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution President Rhendal C. Butler will be present, and there will be an evocation by Rev. Ron Miller, the posting of the colors by General Hugh Mercer Chapter (Kevin Pruitt and Son, Greenbrier East High School ROTC), followed by the SAR Pledge and NSSAR Mission Statement.

Sarah Emch will be speaking on the march from Lewisburg to Point Pleasant.



A memorial stone bench will be dedicated at the North House Museum in Lewisburg.

Sponsors include the Greenbrier County Historical Society, NSSAR George Washington Endowment Fund, Lobban

Funeral Home, Rhendal C. Butler, James A. Talbert, and Tom A. Johnson. National Society Sons of the American Revolu-

tion on www.sar.org. West Virginia Society of the American Revolution www.wvssar.org.

Country Roads Beer Co.

Continued from Front Page

"We revamped the outdoor area," she notes. "Added some color and more family friendly things. We plan to have live music every weekend."

"It's a clean slate with a new staff," she says. "Everybody is really excited."

As for the menu, Country Roads Beer Co also takes a new approach in that department. "Beer fills you up," Sophia says. "You don't want a three-course meal. A lot of breweries do appetizers. We took it to the next level with shareable plates."

In a style she describes as gourmet bar food, Sophia says the menu will be rooted in fresh ingredients that provide customers flexible options. "Chef has done a great job even incorporating the beer into the food."

Sophia and Frankie feel fortunate to be in a town that is excited to see the brewery reopen. They plan to add to their menu over time, host release parties for new brews, open the community room in the coming months for special events, and open the cafe in the spring of 2025.

Country Roads Beer Co is open Wednesday and Thursday from 12 noon to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 12 noon to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 12 noon to 8 p.m. Visit their website at www.countryroadsbeerco.com for further information.



Photo RealWV



Flights are a popular option for those wanting to sample a selection of drinks.

Mercer awarded certificate by Committee on Aging



Larry Dean and Jeannie Hanna, site manager for the Greenbrier County Committee on Aging, award a certificate of appreciation to Eric Mercer who provided entertainment for the Fairlea Site of the Greenbrier County Committee on Aging. Everyone enjoyed his singing of gospel and country music and then joined in for karaoke. The center is open from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday through Friday, any person 60 or over is invited to participate in the activities. For more information check out the Facebook page at "Greenbrier County Committee on Aging."

THANK YOU FOR READING THE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER



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Church Bulletin

Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church Pie and Ice Cream Supper

There will be a Pie and Ice Cream Supper at Mount Vernon United Methodist Church Saturday, Sept. 7, at 5 p.m. The church is located between Fort Spring and Sinks Grove on Mt. Vernon Road. The menu will consist of pork barbecue, hot dogs, various side dishes, several types of desserts, including pie and ice cream. Proceeds will be used for the church ministries. Excess food items, including pies, will be auctioned after the meal.

Community Pentecostal Holiness Church Homecoming

Community Pentecostal Holiness Church on Brush Road in Lewisburg, will have their annual Homecoming on Sunday, Sept. 8 at 11 a.m. We will have special singing. Singers will be 3:16 Crossroads which consist of Johnny Shores, Bob Neff, and Jeff Bryant. Everyone is welcome to this special service.

St. James Episcopal Church Tailgate

Come join St. James Episcopal Church for good food and fun on Sunday, Sept. 8, for a Tailgate Celebration commemorating the start of our fall programming. St. James is a welcoming and inclusive community where people of all stripes come to have an experience of the sacred, to find healing and renewal, and to engage in the well-being of the wider Lewisburg area. Our Tailgate Celebration is an annual event where we showcase our various ministries and programs and where members and visitors alike chat and relax, learn more about the St. James community, and enjoy some good food and company. The Tailgate starts immediately following our 10:30 service (roughly 12 noon) and is held in the St. James' parking lot on Court Street.

St. Charles Borromeo Church Spaghetti Dinner

The World Famous St. Charles Borromeo Spaghetti Dinner will be served on Sunday, Oct. 6, from 4 to 6 p.m. at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 40798 Midland Trail E., White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986. Adult \$15, Children (under 12) \$5. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert, and a drink. Spaghetti with meat sauce or vegetarian options available. Dine in or Take out. 50/50 Raffle. For ticket reservations call the church office at 304-536-1813. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

Reunions

GEHS Class of 1969 55th Reunion

The first graduating class of Greenbrier East High School is holding a 55th Reunion picnic on Sept. 14, 2024. There is no cost to attend. In order to have an idea of how many to expect, classmates are asked to reply to the email address below.

When: September 14, 2024

Where: Organ Cave Community Center
2262 Seneca Trail South, Ronceverte, WV 24970

Details: Gather at 11 a.m. - Picnic at 1 p.m.

Dress - casual

Water & soft drinks provided - Venue does not allow alcoholic beverages

Bring a covered dish or other food item to share

RSVP: If you plan to attend, send an email to gehs69reunion@gmail.com including the name of the class member and number of attendees (1 or 2).



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Dear Recycle Lady,

Dear Recycle Lady,

Must beer cans be rinsed out before recycling them?

To Rinse or Not to Rinse

Dear To Rinse or Not to Rinse,

Yes, beer cans as well as soda cans must be rinsed out before recycling. Any beer or soda left in a can is a contaminant that can contaminate an entire batch of recyclables. It is important to rinse all cans that are recyclable, including steel cans. Also, be sure to remove the entire lid from steel cans and place the lid inside the can. Metals, including aluminum and steel, are considered a nonrenewable natural resource as they are limited in supply and can't be replaced as fast as they formerly have been. Plus, recycling metal cans lowers your carbon footprint, which is a good thing!

Dear Recycle Lady,

Why does the Recycle Center only take #1 and #2 bottles and jugs? How do you determine if a container is a bottle?

Is It a Bottle

Dear Is It a Bottle,

The Recycling Center accepts only bottles and jugs because currently, that is the only kind of #1 and #2 plastics for which there is a market. Unfortunately, only recyclables that have a buyer can be sold as we do not have the capacity to store recyclables for which there is no buyer. Glass is an excellent example of this. Although glass can be recycled over and over again, the Recycling Center is unable to collect glass as there is no local buyer for it. As to how to determine if a container is a bottle or a jug, here is a simple test. Look at the size of the top of the container and the bottom of the container. If the top is smaller than the bottom, the container is a bottle and can be recycled. If the top of the container is larger than the bottom of the container, the container is not a bottle and is not recyclable locally.



Dear Recycle Lady,

What is the difference between a landfill and a dump? I always thought they were the same thing.

Dumpster

Dear Dumpster,

A landfill and a dump are not the same thing. A landfill must meet strict state and federal requirements for safely isolating waste from the environment. It also must meet requirements for long-term management of the waste and restoration of the waste site. Any waste site that does not meet these state and federal criteria is a dump. In West Virginia, it is illegal to create an open dump, burn waste, or bury waste on your property. The Greenbrier County Landfill is overseen by the Greenbrier County Solid Waste Authority which meets all the criteria for landfill management. Locally, waste is picked up by Greenbrier Valley Solid Waste and taken to the Greenbrier County Landfill for proper disposal. Please note, the Greenbrier COUNTY Solid Waste Authority and the Greenbrier VALLEY Solid Waste are two distinct organizations. The Greenbrier COUNTY Solid Waste Authority is a branch of WV state government that oversees landfills and recycling. Greenbrier VALLEY Solid Waste is a privately owned garbage service and trash pickup business. Need a dumpster or trash pickup? Call

Greenbrier VALLEY Solid Waste. Have questions about the landfill or recycling? Call the Greenbrier COUNTY Solid Waste Authority.

Good News: Iran has introduced a plan to help protect three endangered species: Persian leopards, Gorgan Mountain salamanders, and saker falcons.

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to Recyclelady7@gmail.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.

A Look Back



By William "Skip" Deegans

Shown in this photo from the late 1800s is the first St. James Episcopal Church in Lewisburg. Due in large part to the largesse of Caroline Bloomer, a summer resident of Greenbrier County, the church was built in 1881. Bloomer of Washington, DC, spent her summers at Tuscowilla, her home in Fairlea, and later on the Creigh farm.

She was the daughter of James S. Craft, a wealthy Pittsburgh lawyer and real estate investor.

The church lay on Washington Street adjacent to what is now the Humble Tomato restaurant. A stained glass window in the front was installed in memory of the Rev. Thomas Hugo Lacy who was the first minister. Membership in the church dwindled, and in 1939 a petition to close it was granted by the bishop. Remaining members attended services in White Sulphur Springs or Ronceverte. That same year, the trustees leased the church and lot for a gasoline filling station. At some point, the church was razed and replaced with a building more functional as a service station.

Interest in the Episcopal Church was rekindled in the 1940s, and services were held from 1943-1949 in the John A. Preston Community House with students attending from Greenbrier College and Greenbrier Military School. The Washington Street property was sold in 1948 to Esso Standard Oil Company for \$20,000. For several years the property was known as Mays' Esso Service Station. In 1978, it was purchased by the Griffith-Bryant Ford dealership. The lot is now occupied by a municipal parking lot and the Del Sol restaurant.

Proceeds from the sale to Esso were used by the Episcopal Church to purchase property on Church Street for a new church. Ground was broken in 1951 for St. James, and it was dedicated in 1952.

Photo courtesy of the West Virginia University West Virginia & Regional History Center.

Sources: History of St. James Lewisburg by Julie Ford, Inventory of the Church Archives of WV, Staunton Spectator, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Droop Mountain Artisan Tour to be held for Sept. 14 and 15

On September 14 and 15, the Droop Mountain Artisans are hosting a two-day event where you can find local artisans and crafters gathered together to share their artwork and the process of bringing their creations to life. Please join us from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day where we will be at three different sites along Route 219: The Mountain Table in Renick, the Hillsboro library friends at the school cafeteria in Hillsboro, and a broom-making studio as well as a blacksmith studio at BrenWood

Forge and Broom near Hillsboro. Refreshments available for purchase as well.

Now an annual event, the Droop Mountain Artisan Tour started out as a creative concept by a broom maker and a blacksmith. It had a two-fold purpose. The first was to encourage local artists to share the beauty and creativity of the varied traditional arts and crafts found in the Droop Mountain area. The second purpose was to allow art enthusiasts to have a strong sense of connection with

the creator when purchasing artwork that they love. But best of all, a studio visit is a fun invite to see the conceptual parts of an artist's practice, as well as production specifics, as they make the work they do.

Make it a weekend you'll enjoy! Come discover new and old Appalachian crafts and the stories and people behind the crafts. We hope to see you in September.

For more information, find us on Facebook at Facebook.com/droop-artisans.

Rupert Country Fling set for next weekend

The Rupert Area Improvement Council will host their annual Country Fling at the Rupert Community Building on Sept. 13 and 14. The schedule of events is as follows:

- Friday, Sept. 13:
 - 5 p.m.: Pet Parade
 - 5:30 p.m.: Little Mister and Miss Country Fling Crowning
 - Saturday, Sept. 14:
 - 11:30 a.m./1 p.m./3 p.m.: 50/50 drawings
 - 9 a.m.: Parade lineup at the Rupert Service Center. Anything that rolls contest lineup at the Western Greenbrier Pharmacy
 - 10 a.m.: Parade
 - 11 a.m.: Car Show at City National Bank, \$20 per entry, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes. Judging at 1 p.m.
 - 11 a.m.: Games at the Community Building, inside and out. Tickets are five for \$1, wristbands for \$10, ends at 2 p.m. Outdoor craft vendors in the parking lot, \$15/vendor, must provide own table, limited availability, contact Sandi Davison at 304-392-5502. There will be hot dogs, chili, slaw, ketchup, mustard, and onions for \$3 each or two for \$5.
 - 12 noon: Cornhole tournament at Frontier Building and Handy Place, cash prizes, \$25 per team.
 - 1 p.m.: Mullet contest, \$10 per entry, prizes for longest, tallest, and curliest. All entries must be on site by 1 p.m. for the largest zucchini contest, most original fall arrangement contest, and the pie and cake contest followed by auction. Chair-i-ty auction event, raffle drawing, need not be present to win.
 - 4 p.m.: Baked steak dinner, \$14 per meal, served with mashed potatoes, green beans, dessert, and drink raffle.
- Ticket printing and car show sponsored by City National Bank.

More than 414,000 total transactions completed on WV Turnpike during Labor Day weekend

More than 414,000 total transactions were made on the West Virginia Turnpike during the Labor Day holiday weekend from Friday, Aug. 30, to Monday, Sept. 2.

The 414,212 total transactions among the three toll plazas on the Turnpike were only .19% off estimates released last week

by the West Virginia Parkways Authority.

"There was a difference of 788 transactions over four days compared to estimated traffic counts, Monday was slightly lower than estimated but overall, the weekend ran very smooth, and operations were very good for the West Virginia Turnpike,"

said Jeff Miller, Executive Director of the West Virginia Parkways Authority.

On Friday, 140,960 transactions took place on the Turnpike, the highest total of the weekend. Exactly 91,446 transactions took place on Saturday compared to 75,901 transactions on Sunday. On Monday, Labor Day,

105,905 total transactions took place.

"I commend everyone's hard work over the busy summer travel months, and we look forward to preparing for the next busy travel time of the year around Thanksgiving," said Miller. "We strive to provide a safe and enjoyable roadway, and we greatly appreciate all the patrons who use the WV Turnpike. We encourage everyone to enroll in our discounted unlimited use E-ZPass program today."

THANK YOU FOR READING THE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER

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!

Rule

VENGRO

Grand

REGAL

Deflect

TRIVED

Vivid

NONE

TODAY'S WORD

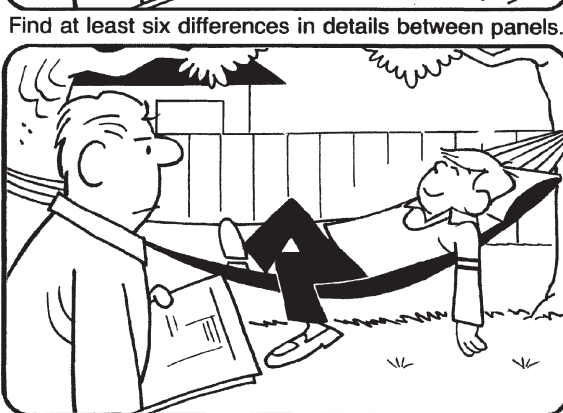
"The ladders are for the tourist trade. We use the _____."



"The ladders are for the tourist trade. We use the _____."

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Foot is moved. 3. Nose is smaller. 4. House is not as wide. 5. Leaves are missing. 6. Tree trunk is different.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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Super Crossword

STITCHWORK

ACROSS

- 1 Asteroid belt's largest body
- 6 Ooze
- 10 Lavish party
- 14 PC peripheral
- 19 "Halt!" at sea
- 20 Forearm bone
- 21 Nagging pain
- 22 Amtrak train
- 23 Part of a cylinder lock preventing motion
- 25 Lectures aided by blackboards
- 27 Concerning
- 28 Gigi's "yes"
- 29 Working stiff
- 30 "Bad Guy" singer Billie
- 31 Wrestler's leg lock
- 35 Pop rocker Turner
- 36 Co. big shot
- 37 Eye, to poets
- 38 — Dhabi
- 39 Egg-shaped
- 41 Instant lawn
- 44 Manor
- 46 Original name of the comic strip "Popeye"
- 49 French painter Camille

- 51 San Diego baseballer
- 52 Pulsate
- 53 Revered one
- 56 Arizona tribe
- 59 Burglarize
- 60 Twosome
- 62 Adhesive-roll containers
- 66 Study of light
- 67 Actor's signal
- 68 "Angel" singer Yoko
- 69 Simple chord
- 70 Flaky dessert
- 71 Bit of body art, informally
- 72 Being staked
- 74 Inoculation creation
- 77 Siblings' daughters
- 78 Noted coach Parseghian
- 79 Scientology's — Hubbard
- 80 With 84-Across, think piece in a newspaper
- 81 Lug along
- 82 — Taco (frozen treat)
- 84 See 80-Across
- 87 Edible fungus whose cap has not yet opened
- 92 Sunday paper extra

- 96 That, to Lucia
- 97 Forest, brush or desert
- 98 Pothole filler
- 99 Inclined (to)
- 100 "The Thinning" actress — Marie Johnson
- 101 — diagram (logic image)
- 102 Posting of off-topic replies on an internet forum
- 105 Wearable gift shop item
- 108 BLT spread
- 110 — -mo replay
- 111 Oklahoma tribe
- 112 Women's shoe parts that are wide at the top and bottom and narrower in the middle
- 114 Nine featured items in this puzzle may be found in these
- 117 Eyelike openings
- 118 Bill blocker
- 119 Omani, e.g.
- 120 Relative of largo
- 121 Clear kitchen wrap

- 122 British school since 1440
 - 123 Skillets, e.g.
 - 124 Lung or heart
- #### DOWN
- 1 "Ya get it?"
 - 2 Makes evident
 - 3 Went hogwild
 - 4 Eleanor of kiddie lit
 - 5 Erwin of early films
 - 6 District outside a city
 - 7 Novelist Bret Easton —
 - 8 Boise-to-Fargo dir.
 - 9 Golf target
 - 10 Confronted
 - 11 Reverberate
 - 12 Larger — life
 - 13 Moray, e.g.
 - 14 Day play, say
 - 15 City near Orlando
 - 16 Hoagie shop
 - 17 Deer cousins
 - 18 Make pulp of
 - 24 Boxer Michael
 - 26 Rock guitarist Richards
 - 29 Chubby
 - 32 Spain's Hernando de —
 - 33 "I knew it!"

- 34 Kimono sash
- 35 London art gallery
- 39 Like some strict Amish
- 40 "Come" and "go," e.g.
- 41 "Get the lead out!"
- 42 Tooth flossing, e.g.
- 43 Really hated
- 45 Stridex target
- 46 Sporty car roof option
- 47 Tell everything
- 48 Be next to
- 50 Really, really
- 53 "No way!"
- 54 Wary
- 55 Light musical work for the stage
- 57 Baseballer with a record 4,256 hits
- 58 Close enough to get
- 60 Penny, e.g.
- 61 Intl. oil group
- 63 Medicine amount
- 64 Pen fluids
- 65 PBS' "Science Kid"
- 70 Many groaners
- 73 "Power" rapper

- 74 Biblical book after Micah
- 75 Work in verse
- 76 Playthings
- 82 "Get the lead out!"
- 83 Big name in lawn products
- 85 Draw off via a tube
- 86 Oppositionist
- 88 Ohio city or college
- 89 Jazz chord
- 90 Boating tool
- 91 Mine metal
- 93 Giving a thrill
- 94 Manicotti cheese
- 95 Confronts
- 99 Does improv
- 101 Cello cousin
- 102 Boxer Mike
- 103 Egypt's — High Dam
- 104 Jesting sort
- 105 General — chicken
- 106 Stray-rescuing gp.
- 107 Part of mph
- 108 Confront
- 109 Choir voice
- 113 Actress Arden
- 114 Devitalize
- 115 Bit of history
- 116 Day- — paint

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BUSINESS

Robert C. Byrd Clinic names new executive director

The Robert C. Byrd Clinic - a Lewisburg-based comprehensive, not-for-profit rural health clinic located on the campus of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) - has a new executive director.

Mary Page Nemcik, the clinic's former chief operating officer, took on the executive director role in August. In this position, Nemcik is responsible for oversight and direction for all aspects of the clinic; pay or, provider and vendor contract negotiation and implementation; and serving as a liaison to the clinic's Board of Directors.

Nemcik joined the Robert C. Byrd Clinic as the facility's chief operating officer in 2021. She said she is honored to be chosen to serve in her new role.

"This is an exciting time of growth and change at the clinic," Nemcik said. "I'm surrounded by a team of talented providers and staff who are dedicated to serving our community, ensuring patients receive exceptional care and providing educational opportunities for resident physicians and medical students."

James W. Nemitz, Ph.D., WVSOM's president, pointed out the clinic's significance to both the community and the medical school and said he is pleased with Nemcik's selection.

"Besides its invaluable role in providing health care to the residents of Greenbrier County, the Robert C. Byrd Clinic is vital to the success of WVSOM, whose medical students gain important clinical experience there under the supervision of physicians," he said. "I'm appreciative for the excellent leadership Mary Page will

provide in her new position, helping to ensure the clinic is sustainable and successful in achieving its mission."

Nemcik earned a bachelor's degree in public relations from West Virginia University and a master's degree in journalism and communications from Marshall University. She began her career in health care as director of marketing for Greenbrier Valley Medical Center in Roncoveerte, W.Va., before spending more than 15 years as director of marketing and operations with Lewisburg's Greenbrier Medical Arts Pharmacy.

Before coming to the Robert C. Byrd Clinic, she was director of professional outreach for Community Health Systems, where she served two hospitals: Greenbrier Valley Medical Center in Roncoveerte and Plateau Medical Center in Oak Hill, WV.

During her time as the clinic's chief operating officer, Nemcik's accomplishments included evaluating and redesigning key work spaces to improve efficiencies and create a positive work environment for staff.

Drema Hill, Ph.D., WVSOM's chief operations officer, has served as the clinic's interim chief executive officer since February. She said she is confident that Nemcik is the right person to lead the organization to a successful future.

"I've had the pleasure of working closely with Mary Page Nemcik in the past months as we have stabilized and grown the Robert C. Byrd Clinic together," Hill said. "Our patients are fortunate to have someone with her intelligence, kindness and business sense at the helm of this patient-centered medical practice and teaching



Mary Page Nemcik

facility."

Nemcik said Hill - along with David Meadows, MBA, WVSOM's chief financial officer, who took on an additional role this year as the Robert C. Byrd Clinic's interim chief financial officer - were instrumental in maintaining its operations while new leadership was sought.

"We're grateful for our partnership with WVSOM, and I applaud the work that Dr. Hill and Mr. Meadows have provided during this time of transition," Nemcik said.

Mountain State Spotlight: Rural West Virginia health departments are struggling to stop the spread of HIV amidst restrictions and underfunding

The deadly infectious disease is spreading in rural counties, and local health departments don't have enough money and resources to find cases and connect people to treatment. State lawmakers have a big role in creating both problems.

by Allen Siegler

This story was originally published by Mountain State Spotlight. Get stories like this delivered to your email inbox once a week; sign up for the free newsletter at <https://mountainstatespotlight.org/newsletter>.

As West Virginia towns were dealing with the fallout of being flooded with prescription painkillers in the late 2010s, Dr. Anita Stewart recognized that people with opioid addictions were at risk of HIV.

Prescription pills became harder to get, leading many people to switch to injecting heroin and fentanyl. Stewart knew they needed clean syringes and needles to be protected from developing one of the deadliest infectious diseases in American history.

"Not having the supplies is why they're at risk of HIV," said Stewart, the top doctor at the Nicholas County Health Department.

And her fear appears to be coming to pass. Over the past 18 months, she said health workers have detected at least four

positive HIV cases in Nicholas County.

"We've never had a cluster here, and we haven't had a new case of HIV in several years," she said. "Until last year."

In 2021, epidemiologists warned of rural HIV spread after West Virginia lawmakers passed a bill restricting how harm reduction programs could operate, leading many syringe service programs to close. Now, another legislative decision — the low levels of state funding for local health departments — is making the ability to respond to that disease spread difficult.

Lawmakers have underfunded West Virginia's local health departments for years and made cuts earlier this year. Although the state health department recently restored the funds to last year's level, county health agencies are receiving around as much state budget money as they were 15 years ago.

That limited budget means that Stewart and the Nicholas County Health Department can no longer afford rapid HIV tests, which are important for identifying people with HIV and connecting them with treatment. She's now unsure of whether, like in other parts of the state, Nicholas County has more undiagnosed people with the disease.

"How many other cases are out there that you don't know about?" She asked.

Across the state, county health agencies already lacked the money needed to prevent and treat HIV, said Greg Puckett, a member of the West Virginia Public Health Advisory Committee and a Mercer County commissioner.

Combined with laws that give politicians more power to dictate health decisions, he said this is the opposite of what West Virginia needs to address the consequences of the overdose epidemic.

"We have massive amounts of HIV that is undocumented," Puckett said. "I'm 100% confident of it, because we are not testing enough."

But it could be difficult to convince lawmakers to address the situation. Sen. Tom Takubo, the Republican Senate Majority Leader and a Kanawha County pulmonologist, said local health departments running out of money to prevent and treat HIV needs to be fixed.

But he said not all his colleagues would agree with him.

"They just don't like public health or something," he said. "I can't speak for other legislators, but I think we really need a bigger vision of our public health."

A service hub for rural communities

County health departments aren't the only West Virginia organizations that focus on addressing HIV. Hospital systems like Charleston Area Medical Center run programs aimed at treating and preventing it, and the state health department has a division dedicated to responding to infectious diseases outbreaks.

But unlike some groups, local health departments are mandated by law to try to control HIV and prevent it from spreading in their communities.

William Cohen was the West Virginia health department's harm reduction program manager until last year. He said while he was there, the state's local health agencies were more involved in HIV prevention efforts than their counterparts in other states, especially in rural areas.

"Health departments in each area acted as that hub that provided all of those services," he said.

In Ohio County, health workers detected six new cases of HIV in the first half of 2024. It's a significant increase in a county that averaged just three cases a year from 2016 to 2020.

"Are there additional cases out there? Probably," said Howard Gamble, the Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department administrator.

Compared to some local health agencies, Gamble's department has advantages that are helping it respond to the county's cluster. It operates one of the few syringe service programs left in West Virginia, and it has a staff of about 30 people.

But only two of the health department's workers see patients, and Gamble says these workers must respond to outbreaks of other illnesses, like Legionnaires' disease.

Additionally, Gamble said that while his staff are doing what they can to increase HIV testing, the agency also struggles to afford rapid tests. His county's portion of the state's local health department funding isn't enough.

"That makes a huge impact on how we can respond to the everyday efforts," Gamble said.

"It's going to be up to the voters"

When state lawmakers were writing the 2025 state budget, they worried that West Virginia would have to return \$465 million to the federal government and made cuts. This included a 10% reduction in funding for local health departments, according to House Health and

Human Resources chair Amy Summers, R-Taylor.

Later in the spring, after lawmakers learned the state wouldn't lose that money, state delegates and senators allocated an additional \$5 million to the reserves for the Department of Health. Summers said this additional money was intended to help local health departments.

"After we found out there was no judgment against the state, we had a special session and replaced the funding," Summers wrote in an email.

But this money is unlikely to make its way to local health agencies. Gamble said he was told by the Department of Health that local departments could only access the \$5 million for emergencies, like if a county's building had water damage.

"I do not foresee that county health departments will be the recipients of that in any fashion," he said.

Earlier this summer, the Department of Health used money from a different source to restore local health department funding back to last year's level, according to department spokesperson Annie Moore. She added that the department hasn't received any funding requests related to HIV clusters.

"[The Department of Health] remains committed to supporting local health departments, particularly in HIV testing and response," Moore wrote in an email.

But even with funding restored, the state budget for local agencies is millions of dollars less than it was 15 years ago after adjusting for inflation. And the 2021 syringe service restrictions remain in effect.

"It's very obvious that the consequence of these particular situations is that HIV is going to increase," said Cohen, the former state health department harm reduction program manager.

Takubo, the West Virginia Senate Majority Leader, said if he hears that local health departments need more money for specific HIV prevention efforts, he and his colleagues could try to fund them.

But he said a lot of state lawmakers haven't wanted to increase health spending in the past, and he thinks it'll be hard to convince them of that now.

"Some legislators don't want to change and learn," he said. "It's going to be up to the voters."

Conversations with the community

Stewart, the Nicholas County health officer, knows that it can be difficult protecting West Virginians from HIV. Before starting in Summersville in 2023, she held the same position in Fayette County and helped run its harm reduction program.

Even as it got harder, Stewart continued the work. After the 2021 syringe service restrictions, she and her coworkers found a way to keep their program open within the stringent state rules.

In Nicholas County, elected officials seem willing to have discussions about how best to stop the spread of HIV. Stewart, who has sometimes struggled to have these conversations in Southern West Virginia in the past, is hopeful the county's commissioners will approve her department's recent syringe service program application.

Still, the application process and trying to find funds for a needle exchange can bring up a feeling in Stewart that's familiar to doctors across West Virginia.

"That's hard, knowing that there's something that could be done to make someone healthier, to make communities healthier, and then not being able to respond."

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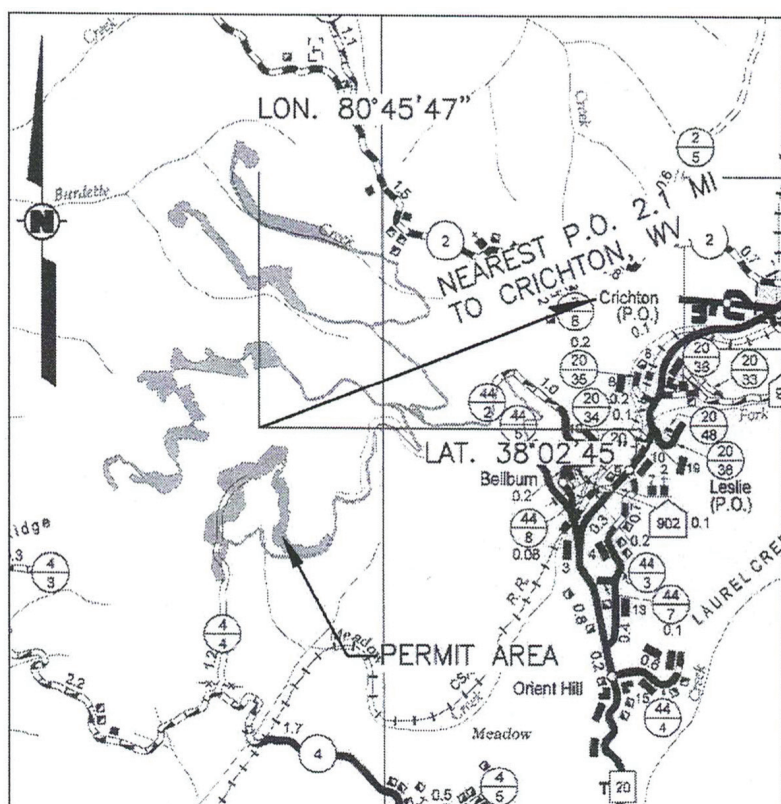
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The permit is located in Meadow Bluff District of Greenbrier County, 2.1 miles southwest of Crichton, on unnamed tributaries of/and Meadow Creek of Meadow River of Gauley River.

WARRIOR ENERGY RESOURCES, LLC completed backfilling and regrading on 11/19/2019 and is requesting release of 60 percent of the reclamation performance bond currently in the amount of \$57,960.00.

Written comments will be received at the DEP address above until 10/21/24, or thirty (30) days from date of **final publication**.



LOCATION MAP

PERMIT NO. S-3011-14 NPDES NO. WV1028685

TAKEN FROM WEST VIRGINIA DEPT. OF HIGHWAYS GREENBRIER COUNTY MAP 3 OF 5

NEAREST POST OFFICE: CRICHTON, WEST VIRGINIA

MEADOW BLUFF DISTRICT OF GREENBRIER COUNTY

CORLISS AND QUINWOOD 7.5' USGS QUADRANGLE

SCALE: 1" = 1 MILE

DRAINAGE RECEIVING STREAMS: UNNAMED TRIBUTARIES OF/AND MEADOW CREEK OF THE MEADOW RIVER OF THE GAULEY RIVER.

ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

September 6-15

Friday, September 6

Friday Night Community Market, Edgar Ave, Ronceverte, 5-7 p.m.
 Million Dollar Quartet, Greenbrier Valley Theatre, Lewisburg, 7:30 p.m.
 The Big Lebowski, the Lewis Theatre, Lewisburg, 6 p.m.
 Williamsburg Back Home Festival, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday
 Giant Fall Flea Market, State Fair of WV, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday
 Patrick O'Flaherty, Patina, Lewisburg, 4-8 p.m.
 Nathan Seldomridge live, Downtown Greenspace, Lewisburg, 6-9 p.m.
 Kyle Tipton, Country Roads Beer Co., WSS, 6-9 p.m.
 Western Greenbrier Farmer's Market, Rainelle, 3:30-6 p.m.

Saturday, September 7

Freshwater Folk Festival, White Sulphur Springs Fish Hatchery, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.
 Lewisburg Fairground Fall Flea Market, WV State Fairground, 10 a.m.
 WV Watermelon Festival, Sunset Berry Farm, Alderson, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.
 Pocahontas County Farmers Market, Discovery Junction, Marlinton, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Million Dollar Quartet, Greenbrier Valley Theatre, Lewisburg, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.
 Flea Market Fest, Midland Trail W, Charmco, 8 a.m.
 Historic Alderson Train Depot Tours and Open Mic Night, Alderson, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
 Kit Lindsey, Country Roads Beer Co., WSS, 6-9 p.m.
 The Courthouse Farmer's Market, Robert C. Byrd Clinic, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Sunday, September 8

Greenbrier Wedding Market, The Schoolhouse Hotel, WSS, 1 p.m.
 Flea Market, Pence Springs, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Marketfest at Sunset Farm, Alderson, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tuesday, September 10

Farmers Market, Alderson, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
 Farmer's Market, Mountain Table, 4-7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 11

Trivia Night, GVBC, Maxwelton, 7 p.m.
 Pocahontas County Farmers Market, Green Bank Fire Department, 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 12

White Sulphur Springs Farmer's Market, Main Street, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
 Second Stage Series: Long Point String Band, Carnegie Hall, Lewisburg, 7 p.m.

Adult Craft Night, Alderson Public Library, 5 p.m.
Friday, September 13
 Friday Night Community Market, Edgar Ave, Ronceverte, 5-7 p.m.
 Ronceverte Food Truck Festival, 12 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday
 2024 White Coat Ceremony, WVSOM Student Center, 2 p.m.
 Western Greenbrier Farmer's Market, Rainelle, 3:30-6 p.m.

Saturday, September 14

WV Sunflower Festival, Sunset Berry Farm, Alderson, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.
 Basic Tinctures and Salves, Primitive Goods, Ronceverte, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
 Pocahontas County Farmers Market, Discovery Junction, Marlinton, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Oktoberfest, Brier Garten, Lewisburg, 12 p.m.
 Mockingean live, Country Roads Beer Co., 6 p.m.
 Uncle G's Golden Jubilee, GVBC, 6 p.m.

Sunday, September 15

Flea Market, Pence Springs, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Marketfest at Sunset Farm, Alderson, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 To submit information to Mountain Messenger's Entertainment Calendar, email news@mountainmessenger.com. Information should be submitted two weeks in advance.



First Lady Cathy Justice honored for expanding Communities In Schools program statewide, celebrates 20th anniversary of CIS Greenbrier County

First Lady Cathy Justice and Gov. Jim Justice joined the 20th anniversary celebration of Communities In Schools in Greenbrier County last month. During the event at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine on Aug. 22, First Lady Justice was honored with an award of appreciation for being a driving force behind the success of the program, leading its statewide expansion. Under her leadership, CIS has grown from serving three pilot counties in 2018 to reaching every corner of West Virginia, providing essential resources to at-risk students, helping them stay in school and succeed. West Virginia is the only state in the country to have CIS operating in every county.

Communities In Schools West Virginia has had a significant impact, employing over 250 site coordinators who work in more than 270 schools and support over 114,000 students. Their combined salaries total over \$18 million annually, supporting hundreds of local families. "Communities In Schools has become a beacon of hope for so many students in West Virginia," First Lady Cathy Justice

said. "Jim and I are proud to celebrate this incredible milestone for Greenbrier County and to support an organization that is dedicated to taking care of our children. This program only works because of our amazing site coordinators, teachers, and administrators who deeply care about the well-being of each and every student. They are truly the ones guiding them through life's challenges to build a brighter future. I could not be more thankful for the people here tonight and those making an impact across the state. Thank you all for having me, because I am so honored to receive this award."

reaching and long-lasting. Because of First Lady Cathy Justice, hundreds of thousands of children in West Virginia will have hope." "The national conversation across all of education is how we can best support students," Rey Saldana said. "First Lady Cathy Justice has established not only a track record but a legacy in how to successfully accomplish this. She has set the standard for supporting students with her work here in West Virginia. We are thrilled that Communities In Schools can be behind the inspiring vision and leadership of the First Lady and the Governor leading the way in West Virginia. Their approach is effective, sustainable, and an incredible example for others to follow nationwide." First Lady Cathy Justice (second from right) was honored on Aug. 22 for her work with Communities In Schools.

SPORTS



Greenbrier East High School Golfer of the Week

Name: Issac Cantrell
 Grade: Senior
 G.P.A.: 3.75
 Parents: Matt and Debbie Cantrell
 Hometown: Ronceverte
 Favorite Golfer : Moe Norman
 Favorite Quote: "If you want to win, but think you can't, it's almost certain that you won't!"
 Began Golfing: "When I was three years old."
 Why he plays Golf: "I love to play and compete. Golf is a game that you never master. You can always get better if you try hard."
 Coach's Comments: We played the Top team in AA (Shady Spring) again. This time Issac stepped up and was our team's top Medalist. 'Big I' knows more about Golf than a lot of the Club professionals in the state. We are amazed at his knowledge and recollection of past Champions. He is now bringing his experience and technique to the course and succeeding at a high level. He plans to be at the Golf State Championships for the third year in a row. This time, he will be staying focused and bringing home some hardware.
 Miluk Golf Humor: "I told my buddy, I got a new set of clubs for my wife. He said, "Sounds like a good trade!" Ha!"

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2024 Droop Mountain Artisans Tour

Celebrating local artisans and crafters of the Droop Mountain community
**Saturday & Sunday
 September 14 & 15
 10 am - 5 pm**



Visit art studios and craft locations in the beautiful Droop Mountain region of Pocahontas County, WV, all located off Route 219. Watch demonstrations, and learn about the creation processes. Refreshments available.

Detailed information at www.facebook.com/droopartisans