



# Compass

**Discover something  
Wild and Wonderful  
in every direction in  
Pocahontas County**

**The Cocktail Hour**  
Live on the Opera House Stage, Page 7

■■■  
**The Shops at Rivertown**  
Shop, Eat and Be Merry, Page 12

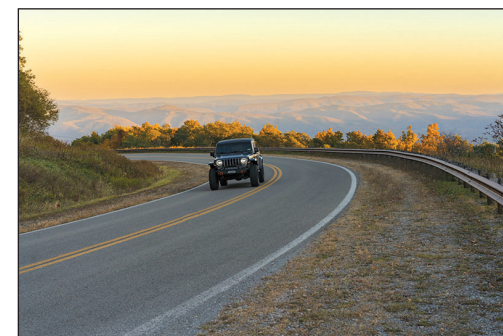
■■■  
**Apple Time in the Appalachians**  
'The Noblest of Fruits', Page 15



# Endless adventure and scenic beauty



**B**ike the rail trail of the West Fork or Greenbrier River State Park. Challenge yourself on miles of single track trails in the Monongahela National Forest, enjoy a drive on the Highland Scenic Highway or book a fall train excursion with Cass Scenic Railroad State Park or Mountain Rail Adventures. These are just some of the many ways to enjoy breathtaking fall foliage in Pocahontas County!



*Nature's*  
**MOUNTAIN  
PLAYGROUND**  
POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WV®



NaturesMountainPlayground.com

Call 800.336.7009

for a free Visitors Guide

For information on motorcycle touring,  
mountain biking and scenic routes, visit  
[pocahontascountywv.com](http://pocahontascountywv.com) or call

304-799-4636

• Pocahontas County Libraries and Visitor Information Centers in Marlinton, Hillsboro, Green Bank, Durbin and Linwood

# VISIT GREEN BANK OBSERVATORY



**COMING THIS FALL**  
**Family Science Day is back!**

Featuring  
Educational Opportunities,  
Special Tours, Star Parties  
and more!

Enjoy the Exhibit Hall and Galaxy Gift Shop, catch a Bus Tour of the site, then grab your lunch at the Starlight Café.

We're only 15 minutes from Cass, 25 minutes from Snowshoe!

Open Thursday to Monday from 9:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. -- Closed Tuesday & Wednesday

Visit us on the Web for updated event & tour schedule: [greenbankobservatory.org](http://greenbankobservatory.org)



Like us on Facebook

[facebook.com/GreenBankScienceCenter/](https://facebook.com/GreenBankScienceCenter/)



**GREEN BANK  
OBSERVATORY**

# Find Shakespeare, jazz and bluegrass at the Opera House

**Vanessa Collier**  
**Friday, September 29,**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**\$10**



Vanessa Collier

Pocahontas County Opera House is thrilled to announce the eagerly awaited return of the esteemed musician and multi-instrumentalist Vanessa Collier. This time, she will grace the Opera House Stage on Friday, September 29, at 7:30 p.m.

Collier is renowned for her exceptional ability to seamlessly weave funk, soul, rock and blues into her performances, creating an electrifying musical tapestry.

A true virtuoso, her performances are enhanced

by soulful vocals, masterful saxophone skills and innovative songwriting.

Beyond her musical achievements, Collier is deeply committed to inspiring others and actively engages in educational programs and community outreach initiatives.

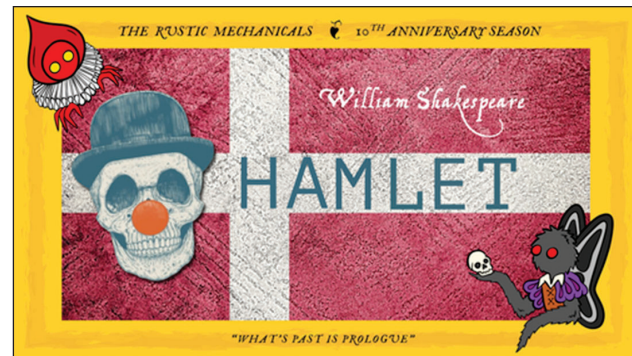
**The Rustic Mechanicals: The Age of Rebels and Revels (Henry IV, Part One)**  
**Friday, October 13,**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**\$10**

The renowned theater ensemble, The Rustic Mechanicals, is excited to an-

nounce their upcoming performances of two classic works by William Shakespeare: "The Age of Rebels and Revels" (Henry IV, Part One) and "Hamlet."

These captivating productions are scheduled for Friday, October 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the historic Pocahontas County Opera House.

"The Age of Rebels and Revels" brings to life the story of King Henry IV, who faces threats from both within and outside his kingdom. As he prepares for war, the fragility of his rule becomes evi-



The Rustic Mechanicals

See *HOUSE*, page 5

dent, given his own past rise to power.

In "Hamlet," the timeless tragedy unfolds the journey of Prince Hamlet, whose world is shattered by news of his father's

## IN THIS ISSUE

Pocahontas County Opera House .....	4
'The Cocktail Hour' .....	7
Literary Legends .....	8
What's with the Pumpkin? .....	9
The Shops at Rivertown .....	12
Apple Time in the Appalachians .....	15
Water Witching .....	21

Cover: The West Virginia Division of Tourism has placed 16 "selfie swings" at state parks and other scenic areas in the state as part of "West Virginia's Most Instagrammable Views" campaign. One of those swings is at Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park. The swings and accompanying signs were handcrafted by the Nicholas County Career and Technical Center. Photo by Suzanne Stewart



## Cass Scenic Railroad State Park Fall 2023 Schedule of Events

**Full Moon Hikes**  
 September 30th 7:30pm  
 October 28th 6:30pm\*  
 November 25th 6:30pm  
 December 23rd 6pm

\*also Wonderfall Hike

**Harvest Day**  
 September 16th 9am to 5pm  
 Vendors, Hayrides, activities for the kids, and live music!

**\*HALLOWEEN AT CASS**  
 October 27th 5 to 6:30pm  
 Costume Contest 5 to 5:30pm  
 Trick or Treat 5:30 to 6:30pm

**CHRISTMAS AT CASS**

December 1 - 3, 6 - 10, 13 - 17  
 Come ride the train, visit Santa and Santa's workshop, enjoy the Christmas Market (Date TBA), and Square dance (Date TBA).

For More Information  
 + Latest Schedule, Please Visit

FriendsOfCass.org  
 facebook.com/cassscenicrr

To Book Accommodations,  
 Please Visit

wwstateparks.com  
 304-456-4300



"THINGS YOU NEED, CLOSE TO HOME"  
**TRENT'S GENERAL STORES**

Gas and Diesel,  
 Groceries, Snacks,  
 USDA Fresh Meats,  
 Hardware,  
 Plumbing Supplies,  
 Hunting and Fishing Licenses and Supplies

Two locations serving the northern end of the county:

**ARBOVALE**  
 304-456-9906  
**BARTOW**  
 304-456-3228

death. Upon returning home, Hamlet finds his familiar surroundings drastically altered, leading him to question his place in this new reality.

**Dom Flemons**  
**Friday, October 20,**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**\$10**

Dom Flemons, a celebrated preservationist, storyteller and instrumentalist, will grace the Pocahontas County Opera House stage Friday, October 20, at 7:30 p.m.



Dom Flemons, above; Mike Gillispie and The DC Jazz Quartet, below.

Known for his remarkable ability to breathe life into forgotten folk songs, Flemons has garnered critical acclaim, including a Grammy Award, Two-Time EMMY Nomination, and the esteemed title of 2020 U.S. Artists Fellow.

Flemons exhibits virtuosity on instruments such as the banjo, guitar, harmonica, jug, percussion, quills, fife and rhythm bones.

He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Steve Martin Banjo Prize, Music Maker Relief Foundation, and holds a Governor position on the

Board of Directors for the Washington, D.C Chapter of the Recording Academy.

**Mike Gillispie and The DC Jazz Quartet**  
**Saturday, November 4,**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**\$10**

Mark your calendar for a night of exceptional jazz music as the Pocahontas County Opera House proudly presents Mike Gillispie and The DC Jazz Quartet Saturday, November 4, at 7:30 p.m.

This performance promises an evening of outstanding musical artistry that bridges generations and styles.

Led by accomplished flutist and bass flutist Mike Gillispie, the quartet brings a rich blend of musical experiences to the stage. With performances across continents and a unique blend of musical and photographic talents, Gillispie's ties to Pocahontas County run deep, as he spent formative summers here before embarking on his full-time music career.

Joining the quartet are accomplished guitarist Thomas Kitchen; Dan Griffin, a seasoned bassist; and drummer James Deshler, whose diverse musical upbringing in Los Angeles led him to a multifaceted journey that blends jazz with molecular and cellular biology.

See *HOUSE*, page 6

**LOCUST HILL INN, CABIN & RESTAURANT**

**RESTAURANT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 5 - 7:30 p.m.**

Our regular Entree menu served Friday and Saturday  
**Reservations recommended.**

Book a cozy room with breakfast provided; a private cabin; or just join us for dinner! Free Wi-Fi. *Just blocks from the Greenbrier River and Trail and a 30-minute drive to Snowshoe.*

304-799-5471 • Rt. 39, Marlinton • locusthillwv.com



**The Men's Shop**

*Carrying quality brands you know and trust – We're not just for men anymore!*

**ARIAT**

**Carhartt**

**CAROLINA**

**ROCKY SHOES AND BOOTS**

**DURANGO BOOTS**

**Georgia Boot**

**Wrangler**

*Stop in and shop our selection of new arrivals of clothing and footwear for the whole family!*

**Rt. 219 North, Marlinton**  
**304-799-6423**  
 Mon. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Sun. Noon - 5 p.m.

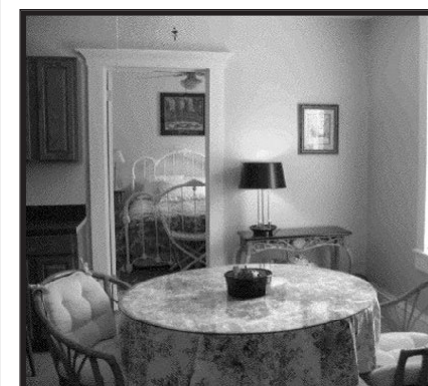
**Open Thursday - Saturday**  
**11 a.m. - 9 p.m.**  
 7847 Seneca Trail  
 Hillsboro  
 304-653-2646

**HILLSBORO PUBLIC HOUSE**  
 EST. 2023

Serving lunch and dinner, desserts, milkshakes, ice cream, lattes, espresso, and more.

~Dine in or carry out~

**Specials and menu posted on Facebook/HillsboroPublicHouse**



## Greenbrier Suites

**A bed and breakfast in historic Durbin, West Virginia.** Comfortable suites with kitchenette, private bath, dining room and parlor. Bedrooms are furnished with queen-sized or full-sized antique beds and ceiling fans. A non-smoking, no pets facility. COVID-19 precautions used in cleaning. Complimentary breakfast is available down the street at Station 2 Restaurant.

**Book online at [www.gbsuitesdurbin.com](http://www.gbsuitesdurbin.com)**  
 For information call 304-456-3298 • [gbsuites@yahoo.com](mailto:gbsuites@yahoo.com)

This engaging performance is a must-see event at the Pocahontas County Opera House

**Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys**  
**Saturday, November 18, 7:30 p.m.**

On Saturday, November 18, 2023, at 7:30 p.m., the historic Pocahontas County Opera House will resonate with the soulful melodies of the Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys. Led by Mill Point's own Richard Hefner. This West Virginia bluegrass ensemble, celebrating its enduring legacy of more than 50 years, is set to captivate audiences with another invigorating performance.

This year, Hefner, the seasoned bandleader and cherished local talent, has orchestrated a remarkable and diverse lineup for the group's appearance. Embracing the rhythmic pulse on the bass guitar is Hefner's fellow Mill Point resident Joanna Burt-Kinderman, while the esteemed West Virginian music ambassador Dave Bing will infuse his mastery on both fiddle and guitar. In addition, the gifted Danny Arthur will contribute his guitar prowess



**Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys**

to enhance the ensemble's sonic tapestry, ensuring an unforgettable musical journey for attendees.

**Greenbrier Valley Theater:**  
**'A Christmas Carol'**  
**Saturday, November 25, 7:30 p.m. \$10**

The cherished holiday tradition continues as Greenbrier Valley Theater (GVT) proudly presents "A Christmas Carol." The much-anticipated annual event, adapted by Catherine Bush from the cele-

brated novel by Charles Dickens, will take place Saturday, November 18, at 7:30 p.m.

Immerse yourself in the timeless narrative of Ebenezer Scrooge's transformation as he confronts the specters of his past, the realities of his present, and the ominous prospects of his future. This inventive and enchanting production promises to captivate audiences of all ages, resonating with both

the young and the young at heart throughout the holiday season.

Tickets for the upcoming performance at the Opera House are available for \$10 per adult, and admission is free for attendees aged 17 and younger. Tickets can be purchased at the 4th Avenue Gallery in Marlinton, through pocahontasoperahouse.org or at the venue's entrance on the evening of the performance.

These programs are reau- made possible by the support of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, with the endorsement of the West Virginia Commission on the Arts, Pocahontas County Dramas, Fairs and Festivals, Mid-Atlantic Arts, and the Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Bu-

Opera House performances are designed to be informal, family-friendly, and accessible to all. The venue ensures that individuals with disabilities can fully enjoy the experience, with tailored accommodations available upon request.

**2023 AUTUMN HARVEST FESTIVAL AND WV ROADKILL COOK-OFF**  
**SEPTEMBER 22 AND 23 - MARLINTON, WV**

**FRIDAY NIGHT**

- Rockin' Redneck Square Dance and beginner square dance lessons  
Pocahontas County Opera House

**SATURDAY**

- Craft and Food Vendors
- Mountain Heritage Music - all day
- Possum Trot 5K Walk/Run and of course,



**THE WV ROADKILL COOK-OFF!**

Enjoy a wild game cooking competition like no other!



visit [pccocwv.com](http://pccocwv.com) for complete details

**The Bear's Den**  
10811 Potomac Highlands Trail  
(Rt. 28/92) Boyer

**CONVENIENCE STORE • GAS**  
LOTTERY • KENO • GAME ROOM • COLD BEER

**FAMILY-STYLE RESTAURANT**  
Call for restaurant reservations and take-out  
**681-206-7973**

Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Saturday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. **Liberty**

Store and gas pumps open seven days a week

**VARNERS CONSTRUCTION**

**FOR ALL TYPES OF EXCAVATION:**  
Foundations, Roadways, Bridges  
Driveways • Gravel Delivery  
Certified Septic System Installation  
Licensed, bonded and insured.  
Call us for your next job! WV012079  
**304-456-4505**  
varnersconstruction@gmail.com

# 'The Cocktail Hour' ~ the Drama Workshop is back

After a two-year hiatus, A. R. Gurney's *The Cocktail Hour* will be performed on the stage of the Pocahontas County Opera House Friday and Saturday, September 15 and 16, at 7:30 p.m.

*The Cocktail Hour*, both funny and poignant, centers around a playwright in the mid-70s who is on the verge of producing a new work in the modern

blunt style. This form of gritty reality is at odds with his parents' vision of the light and amusing entertainments of their era.

To make matters worse, John has written a play about them.

He'd like their blessing to go forward but, as the martinis flow, resentments and revelations bubble to the surface.

Their reactions range from heartache to humor.

The play explores the way children must sometimes face down their parent's expectations to find their own way in the world.

Ann, his mother, wants him to write a book – hopefully one that will quickly be forgotten.

His sister, Nina, is miffed that her character in the play has such a minor role.

His father fears that he'll be the play's villain,



Cast members toast the beginning of "*The Cocktail Hour*" rehearsals, l to r: Rachel Fanning, Nathan Dameron, Janet Ghigo and Craig Goheen.

and John begins to doubt his own origins.

*The Cocktail Hour* is full of humor, bile, warmth

and a splash of that secret ingredient that unites even the most contentious of families.

The language in *The Cocktail Hour* may not be appropriate for all ages. PG 13.

## CARNEGIE HALL

2023-2024 SEASON



### September/October/November

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 • 6:30 P.M.  
**BIG SHOTS - IVY TERRACE SERIES**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 • 7 P.M.  
**ARTRAGEOUS! - MAINSTAGE SERIES**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5 • 7 P.M.  
**THE CHARLIE CHAPLIN PHENOMENON WITH DAN KAMIN - SECOND STAGE SERIES**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8 • 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.  
**TASTE OF OUR TOWNS (TOOT)**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 • 7 P.M.  
**HAUNTED ILLUSIONS - MAINSTAGE SERIES**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3 • 7 P.M.  
**REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY PRESENTS THE HISTORY OF COMEDY (ABRIDGED) - MAINSTAGE SERIES**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11 • 7 P.M.  
**ROCK WITH RACHMANINOFF! CLASSICS SERIES WITH BARBARA NISSMAN**



611 CHURCH STREET, LEWISBURG, WV  
(304) 645-7917 • www.carnegiehallwv.org



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS  
arts.gov

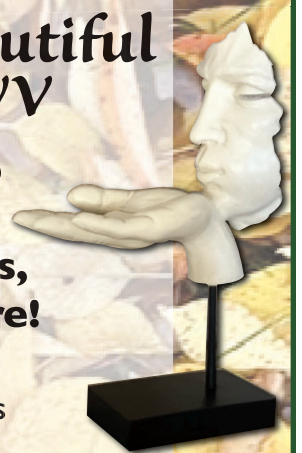


## In the heart of beautiful Green Bank, WV

**A unique shop offering home décor, antiques, gifts and more!**

- Local honey and maple syrup products
- Locally crafted gifts and toys
- Locally made baked goods - fresh daily!

Free fresh coffee, hot cocoa or tea while you shop!



THE MTN. SHOP  
Green Bank, WV

8075 Wesley Chapel Road • Green Bank  
(next to the Post Office) 240-217-4303  
Wednesday - Saturday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.



# Literary Legends

*Poll of West Virginians reveals Pearl S. Buck as the state's favorite author of all time*

Harper Lee, Ernest Hemingway, Mark Twain... These iconic names are among the luminaries hailing from the United States. However, more locally, each state has produced its own homegrown authors who have left an indelible mark on literature with their diverse and significant contributions. A survey\* of 3,000 respondents by StoicQuotes.com shed light on each state's most cherished authors, revealing some intriguing outcomes.

Consider Alabama. While many might presume Harper Lee, famed for "To Kill a Mockingbird," to be the state's fa-

vored author, it was Helen Keller who garnered the majority of votes.

Born in Tuscumbia in 1880, Keller's youth was overshadowed by an illness rendering her blind and deaf. Yet, under Anne Sullivan's unwavering mentorship, Keller transcended her adversities, evolving into a revered author and speaker.

Throughout her journey, Keller held a profound affection for Alabama, often alluding to it as her treasured homeland.

In a similar vein, despite F. Scott Fitzgerald penning "The Great Gatsby," he wasn't New Yorkers' top literary pick. That honor belonged to James Baldwin, renowned for "Go Tell It on the Mountain." This 1953 semi-autobiographical novel delves into intricate

subjects like religion, race and family dynamics, portraying the life of John Grimes, a young African American boy navigating his identity amidst a religious upbringing in Harlem.

New Hampshire's choice was also unexpected. J.D. Salinger, celebrated for "The Catcher in the Rye," was surpassed by Grace Metalious. Born in 1924, Metalious gained acclaim for "Peyton Place," a 1956 novel that boldly tackled taboo topics, juxtaposing them against the backdrop of a seemingly quaint New Hampshire



Pearl S. Buck

town.

However, some states made more predictable choices.

Nutmeggers [Connecticut], for example, cham-

ioned Mark Twain and his "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." Mississippi residents honored Tennessee Williams, the eminent playwright best known for "A Streetcar Named Desire." Ernest Hemingway, whose "The Old Man and the Sea" clinched the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1953 and paved the way for his Nobel Prize in Literature in 1954, was the unanimous choice for both Idaho and Florida.

Pearl S. Buck emerged as West Virginia's favorite author. The renowned author best known for her novel "The Good Earth" which won the Pulitzer

Prize, held a special connection to West Virginia. Born in Hillsboro in 1892, at four months old she moved with her missionary parents to China. Although much of her adult life and literary career was shaped by her experiences in China, her West Virginia roots grounded her American identity. The juxtaposition of these two cultures, the American Appalachia of her birth and the Chinese landscapes of her upbringing, endowed Buck with a unique perspective on cultural intersections and human universality.

West Virginians' second choice was Brece D'J Pancake, followed, in third place, by Louise McNeill.

Information provided by StoicQuotes.com

\*Living authors were not included in the survey.

**GRTM**  
Greenbrier River Trail Marathon

**6th Annual  
Greenbrier River Trail Marathon  
& 3rd Half-Marathon**

Sunday, October 8, 2023  
Pocahontas County, WV

Flat, Fast, Scenic, USATF-Certified Course  
Register Online  
<https://www.grtmarathon.com/>

Nature's MOUNTAIN PLAYGROUND

**Autumn Breeze  
STABLES**

Year-round guided trail rides and more at Snowshoe Mountain

Western-style trail riding for ages six and older - all skill levels.  
30-minute lake rides to three hour trail rides.  
Sleigh rides (depending on snow)!

**ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.**

**Open daily 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Visit our website for more information  
[wvtrailrides.com](http://wvtrailrides.com)  
304-572-2262 (Stables) or 800-759-7238

**2023 DROOP MOUNTAIN  
Studio Tour**

Celebrating local artisans and crafters of the Droop Mountain community

Saturday & Sunday  
September 9 & 10  
10 am - 5 pm

Nature's MOUNTAIN PLAYGROUND  
POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WV

Visit multiple art studios in the beautiful Droop Mountain region of Pocahontas County, WV, all located off Route 219. Watch demonstrations, and enjoy make-and-take activities for all ages. Refreshments available.

Detailed information at [www.facebook.com/droopartisans](http://www.facebook.com/droopartisans)



# Huntersville Traditions Days

## October 6 - 7

Spend a weekend back in time and enjoy demonstrations of traditional cultural skills of bygone days!



**October 6:  
Friday Evening  
at Huntersville  
Schoolhouse**

**Free Traditional Picnic  
Pie Auction**

**Old-Time Cakewalk**

**Musical entertainment by  
The Bing Brothers with Jake Krack**

**Saturday, October 7:**

**Live entertainment  
throughout the town**

**Shuttle wagon and horse-drawn  
wagon rides**

**Salt risin' bread and cornbread contest**

**Tours of the Huntersville  
Schoolhouse, Jail and**

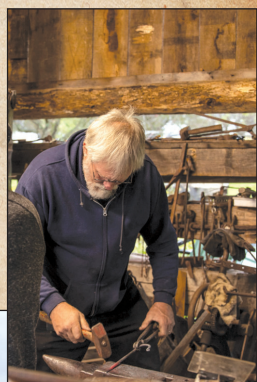
**Re-enactors' Camps  
Huntersville Museum**

**Traditional arts  
demonstrations**

**Quilt Show**

**Old-fashioned Bean Pot Meal**

**Cloggers**



Check for updates on our Facebook page or website:

**huntersvillehistorical.com**



The Kenova Pumpkin House attracts thousands of pumpkin fans each year during the Ceredo-Kenova AutumnFest. The house is decorated with 3,000 hand-carved pumpkins, illuminating the autumn evenings with a lovely glow.

## What's with the pumpkin?

**Carol Carrico  
Contributing Writer**

*"I would rather sit on a pumpkin and have it all to myself, than be crowded on a velvet cushion."*

~ Henry David Thoreau

**H**aving originated in North America nearly 9,000 years ago, pumpkins continue to grow in our neck of the woods for seasonal food and fun.

Pumpkins began being cultivated by indigenous North Americans who grew pumpkins even before they grew corn and beans. Later, they com-

bined all three crops, growing them together to protect the cornstalks from wind and its roots preventing weeds from taking hold.

The U.S produces 1.5 billion pounds of pumpkin yearly, with the state of Illinois being the largest producer.

Pumpkins are in the gourd family, which includes cucumbers and zucchini, watermelons and cantaloupe, but pumpkins are considered a fruit, not a vegetable.

While pumpkin pies are most everyone's favorite, every single part of the pumpkin is edible – skin,

stems, seeds, pulp, flowers and leaves. The fruit is an excellent source of potassium, vitamin A and beta carotene – an antioxidant that gives pumpkins their orange color.

Early American settlers made pumpkin pie much differently than today. They hollowed out the pumpkin, filled the shell with milk, honey and spices and baked it!

Native Americans taught the Pilgrims how to prepare the pumpkins, and they were probably a part of the first Thanksgiving dinner in 1621.

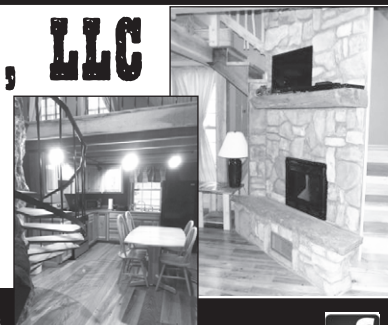
See **PUMPKIN**, page 10

## Country River Cabins, LLC

Three cabins nestled along the Greenbrier River and Trail, just 1.5 miles south of downtown Marlinton, between Marlinton and Buckeye. The River Trail runs through the property, and we offer very easy access to the trail and river. **Perfect location for hikers, bikers, birders, fishermen and hunters. Pet and horse friendly!**

Call **304-799-6948** for information and reservations

view online at [countryrivercabins.com](http://countryrivercabins.com) • [countryrivercabins/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/countryrivercabins)



**PUMPKIN** from pg 9

The pumpkin was associated with the harvest season long before it became a symbol of Halloween.

Ireland began the practice of carving vegetables (turnips and rutabaga) for the purpose of using them for lanterns. Later, folks realized that pumpkins were much larger and easier to carve and the jack-o-lantern was born.

Not until the mid 1800s were pumpkins even associated with Halloween. Jack-o-lanterns are said to have been named for a fellow named Stingy Jack from Ireland. Later, they became a way of scaring away evil spirits on Halloween and, now, carving pumpkins is just a fun way to celebrate the holiday carving faces, animals,



**Pumpkin Cake with Cream Cheese Icing**

cartoon characters or anything one can imagine. The international record for the heaviest pumpkin was set in 2021 in Italy where the pumpkin weighed an astounding 2,703 pounds. It might be noted that most pumpkins are a whopping 80 to 90 percent water. The West Virginia Pumpkin Festival, an annual event in Milton in Cabell County, will take place this year October 5-8, and will feature a parade, pageants, many carved and uncarved pumpkins as well as the heaviest pumpkin winner

and lots of great fall foods and pumpkin ice cream. Another fun fall event occurs around Halloween in Kenova, Wayne County, at the Pumpkin House where thousands of carved pumpkins are displayed at a family home. Volunteers begin weeks before, hand carving all sizes of pumpkins which are then lit up with lights and some are set to music. The event lasts several days and is free to the public. Whether for eating, carving or displaying, pumpkins are a good and fun staple for the upcoming fall season.

**Pumpkin Cake with Cream Cheese Icing**

- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups pumpkin
- 1 cup salad oil
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 cups flour
- 4 eggs
- 2 tsp. soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- Grease and flour a 9x13-inch pan.
- Preheat oven to 350°
- Beat the eggs and sugar together. Add oil and beat well.
- Mix together flour, spices, soda and salt and

See **PUMPKIN**, page 11

*When you want to get away*  
**YEAGER HOUSE**

**THE PERFECT PLACE TO STAY**

A charming house located on a Civil War battlefield.

Fully furnished with all amenities: Wi-Fi, Smart TV with Netflix, fully equipped kitchen, air conditioning, washer/dryer, linens, patio with table, chairs and grill.



**ENJOY**

Hiking, biking, birding, fishing, scenic train rides, Green Bank Observatory or just relaxing in our beautiful national forest.

**MOUNTAIN BIKERS AND SKIERS WELCOME!**



BOOK NOW at [airbnb.com](https://www.airbnb.com)  
(Two night minimum)  
[yeagerhousewv.com](https://www.yeagerhousewv.com)

Phone: 312-636-8188 or 312-636-8189

49 Old Pike Road, Bartow, WV 24920 • [YeagerHousespt@gmail.com](mailto:YeagerHousespt@gmail.com)



*Tune in to Allegheny Mountain Radio - your listener supported community radio station!*

- WVMR-FM 91.9 FM**  
Hillsboro, WV
- W278AL 103.5 FM**  
Durbin, WV
- WVMR 1370 AM**  
Frost, WV
- WNMP 88.5 FM**  
Marlinton, WV
- WDMT 106.3 FM**  
Marlinton, WV
- WVLS 89.7 FM**  
Monterey, VA
- WCHG 107.1 FM**  
Hot Springs, VA

There's an APP for that - Download now!



Streaming online at [alleghenymountainradio.org](https://www.alleghenymountainradio.org)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
STUART AND WATTS  
REAL ESTATE



**REAL ESTATE SERVICE IN POCAHONTAS AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES**

**TOM JOHNSON, BROKER 304-645-1242**

**174 NORTHRIDGE DR, LEWISBURG WV 24901**

**EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED**





**Eddie's Service Center**

• 24-Hour Wrecker Service • Tires  
Batteries • Lock-outs • Auto Repair  
• State Inspections

21217 Seneca Trail, Edray (Rt. 219 North)  
Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
After hours, call 304-799-4405  
Robbie Ramsey, Owner/Operator

**304-799-6651**



**The Yew MOUNTAIN CENTER**  
9494 LOBELIA RD  
HILLSBORO WV 24946

**FALL PROGRAMS**

**Sat./Sun. September 9-10: Droop Mountain Studio Tour**  
Visit us along the route of many other local artists' studios. Free make & take crafts, and food for sale.

**Sunday, Sept. 24: Pollinator Habitat Workshop, 1:30 - 4 p.m.**  
Build and take home a bee BnB for native bees, make an origami bee, identify regional pollinators and their food source and perform in a pollinator play! All ages welcome!

**Fri.-Sun., October 6-8: Women's Weekend**  
Unplug, Reconnect, Recharge. Take a weekend for yourself. Herbal infusions, yoga, forest walks & talks, delicious healthy meals, creative projects, and music...choose to do it all, or take this time to breathe, rest, and roam at your own pace.

Check our website/FB page for full details and more upcoming events.  
Please register in advance.  
[www.yewmountain.org](http://www.yewmountain.org)



**LITTLE MOUNTAIN RETREAT**



**POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WV  
RESTRICTED DEVELOPMENT  
OFFERING WOODED LOTS AND  
GREAT MOUNTAIN VIEWS**

Visit us at:  
[LITTLEMOUNTAINRETREAT.COM](http://LITTLEMOUNTAINRETREAT.COM)  
or call  
**304-360-5566**

**PUMPKIN** pg 10

add gradually to the wet mixture, beating until smooth.  
Add pumpkin, beating at low speed until thoroughly blended.

Pour into the prepared pan.  
Bake for 40 to 50 minutes or until done.  
Leave in pan until cold.  
Frost with the following icing:  
8 oz. pkg. cream cheese, room temperature  
1 stick butter, room temperature  
1 box confectioner's sugar

2 tsp. vanilla or lemon extract  
Combine all ingredients and beat until thoroughly blended.  
Spread evenly over the top of the cake.

**Pumpkin Cookies**

1 1/2 cups pumpkin  
1/2 cup butter  
1 cup sugar  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 cup chopped walnuts  
1 egg  
Mix together and add gradually:  
2 cups sifted flour  
1 tsp. soda



**Pumpkin Cookies**

1 tsp. baking powder  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
Stir in:  
1 pkg. butterscotch morsels  
Mix all ingredients in order given.  
Drop by spoonful onto greased cookie sheet.  
Bake at 375° for 12 to 14 minutes.  
Raisins, pecans or coconut may be substituted for the butterscotch chips.  
Yields 4 dozen.

**RIVERTOWN**

SHOP. EXPLORE. EXPERIENCE.  
MARLINTON, WEST VIRGINIA



An assortment of locally-made candies and chocolates



Classes Monday, Thursday and Saturday - check Facebook or Instagram for times.



Unique gifts, souvenirs, toys, snacks, apparel, stickers and more



Fine craft and art in a variety of media by some of the most talented artists in the region.  
@alisonpottery



A consortium of artistic talent under one roof - from print-making to fiber arts. Watch them as they work!



Opening in September! Breakfast, lunch and dinner. Featuring fresh, locally-sourced coffee and food; baked goods

in the historic CJ Richardson building, 309 Eighth Street, Marlinton  
Open 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thursday - Saturday and Monday, Noon - 5 p.m. Sunday

# The Shops at Rivertown

Suzanne Stewart  
Staff Writer

Everyone who has lived in, visited or simply driven through the town of Marlinton knows the aqua colored three-story building on Main Street. It was built in 1905 and was home to C.J. Richardson Hardware for more than 100 years.

In that time, it became a landmark – a welcome sight to those who held memories of dipping their hands into nail bins as children or the conversations they had with the late owners Charles “Googie” Richardson and his son, Terry.

When the hardware store closed in 2020, there was a fear that those memories would be lost, and new ones would never be made. Then, along came Revitalize Marlinton, LLC owners Daniel McKee and Bob Safrit. Though they were from North Carolina, Marlinton was a special place to them both.

Instead of tearing down the building and starting anew, the business partners saw the potential for revival. They have already put a lot of work into remodeling the building – now dubbed Rivertown – which has become home to several new businesses and artist studios.

On the second floor of the building, the wide open space was divided into five art studios, a yoga studio, art gallery, souvenir shop and candy shop.

At the top of the stairs, the first shop is Creekside Candy, owned by Lauren Bennett. Better known for her work as director of Pocahontas County Parks and Recreation, Bennett has been a candy maker for



Photos by Suzanne Stewart

**Making her dream come true, Lauren Bennet, director of Pocahontas County Parks and Recreation, has opened a candy shop on the second floor of Rivertown – formerly known as C.J. Richardson – in Marlinton. The shop, named Creekside Candy, is home to Bennett’s signature buttercream candies – in flavors like vanilla, chocolate, blueberry and raspberry – just to name a few of the delectable delights.**

many years and has always dreamed of opening a shop of her own.

“I have made candy since my last year of college, which was many, many moons ago,” she said, laughing. “That was when I first experimented with the vanilla buttercream. I started doing candy for Christmas gifts for folks and that kind of became my standard every year at Christmas.”

“For the past ten years, I’ve made candy at Christmas and dreamed about my candy shop.”

When the Rivertown shops opened, Bennett saw it as an opportunity to get her feet wet and see if she could make her candy shop a go. Bennett is known for her

vanilla buttercream dipped in chocolate, but she has expanded to include several different delectable flavors.

“The vanilla buttercream is what I would say is my specialty,” she said. “A lot of them are a similar recipe, but have been altered. So the coffee buttercream has been one of the most popular ones, and that’s essentially the vanilla buttercream, but I use coffee instead of water in the recipe.”

She does the same with either raspberry and blueberry buttercreams. She cooks down the berries and replaces the water with the juice. The blueberry, which is a seasonal treat, features berries picked at Frostmore Farms in Arbovale.

In addition to buttercream treats, Bennett has

other chocolates she produces, as well as a line of Creekside Creatures – gummy candy – she is working on.

“I have a nougat that I really like – a honey pecan nougat and some caramel,” Bennett said. “I’m working on my gummy bears. I’m hoping to have ‘Creekside Creatures,’ but humidity makes it difficult during the summertime.”

While most of her candies are a bon bon shape, with either milk, white or dark chocolate coating, Bennett also has molds she uses that she will alternate depending on the season. For summer, she has trout and sunflower shapes. In the winter, she will switch out to snowflakes and snowmen. Creekside Candy is open



**Being a third generation shop owner has become a reality for Makinsey Poeppel, who owns and operates Mountain Echo Souvenir and Gift Shop. The shop has a great combination of Pocahontas County and West Virginia specific souvenirs, as well as a children’s corner full of toys and clothing for young visitors.**

Thursdays and Fridays, noon to 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Next door to the candy shop is Mountain Echo Souvenir and Gift Shop, owned by Makinsey Poeppel.

The shop was the dream child of Poeppel and her mother, Brenda Cochran, who both wanted to have a souvenir and gift shop near the Greenbrier River Trail.

The idea was put on hold until after the COVID-19 pandemic, and until the mother/daughter team found the right spot with Rivertown.

“We just wanted to do this because there’s nothing like it in the entire county,” Poeppel said. “I used to work at the Visitor’s Center and we had tourists come in all the time looking for simple things like stickers and postcards, little gifts they could buy.”

The shop has a little something for everybody in-

cluding postcards, stickers, mugs, keepsakes, Nature’s Mountain Playground and West Virginia clothing and children’s clothing and toys.

Store ownership has been something of a tradition in the family, with Poeppel being the latest of the women in the family to join. Her mother also operates The Snowshoe Hare at Snowshoe and her grandmothers, Shirley Adams and Nancy Cochran, both had stores.

In fact, a remnant from Adams’ store is in use at Mountain Echo. The counter at the front of the store has a very special meaning and history.

“My dad and brother were going to build us a counter for the store, and we couldn’t really figure out how big we wanted it,” Poeppel explained. “He said, ‘I don’t know why you guys just won’t use your mom’s counter,’ and my mom was

confused. He said, ‘the counter she had at Cass. It’s in my mom’s basement.’”

Cochran and Poeppel had spent years looking for the counter everywhere and had no idea that it was in Nancy Cochran’s basement all that time.

“I guess when grandma’s store closed, my grandma Nancy bought this counter and she had it in her basement for twenty years,” Poeppel said.

“It’s super special to us because we have actively been looking for it,” she continued. “We all cried when we saw it. We cry all the time when we think about it because it’s just so crazy she had it.”

The front of the counter has a beautiful painting by Adams, featuring a cottage surrounded by flowers and two looming trees with a bright blue sky in the background.

It once again greets customers at its new location.

Mountain Echo is open Thursday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Sundays, when it is open noon to 5 p.m.

Safrit’s wife, Alison, has Alison Pottery Gallery and Studio and is one of two yoga instructors at Little Mountain Yoga.

In the gallery, Alison has artwork and jewelry crafted by Appalachian artists, including herself, her mother, Lou Burner, and her two-and-a-half year old daughter, Willow.

Paintings, drawings, jewelry, pottery, woodworking and more are available at the gallery, which is next to Alison’s pottery studio, where she demonstrates on the pottery wheel.

To watch Alison throw a pot or vase is like watching a ballet – her hands expertly shaping the clay into a delicate piece of art.

See **SHOPS**, page 14



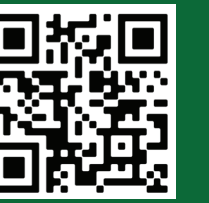
**Among the shops at Rivertown are artist studios where local artists can demonstrate and sell their wares. In a studio she shares with watercolorist Cyla Allison, Cris Bartlett is shown here working on her latest pottery creation – trout shaped zesters. She said she likes to use the tool to zest lemons when making salad dressing.**



## Fall into Rewards

Some banks make you pay for checking. PCB, however, pays you! Earn cash back or high interest on your debit card purchases with our Kasasa accounts– you choose the reward.

Ask Us About Kasasa!



Marlinton Financial Center  
19180 Seneca Trail  
www.yourbank.bank

Member FDIC  
Equal Housing Lender  
NMLS #403498



SHOPS from pg 13

In addition to Alison's studio, there are three open studios and one photography studio operated by Makinsey Poeppel.

One studio is home to Chaos Acres, owned by Peggy Owens who makes jewelry and glass art. Her pieces are vibrant and, well, chaotic, in design. Owens' work celebrates new life for broken glass and finds the beauty in piecing together the shards.

The next studio holds a pair of artists – Cris Bartlett and Cyla Allison. Bartlett is another clay artist and does hand builds as well as wheel work. She makes bowls, plates, mugs and her newest work – trout shaped zesters.

Bartlett's pieces borrow their color scheme from the countryside – earthy browns, blues from the sky and the river, and greens from the vast fields and mountains, with a little white mixed in to remind us of all of the snowy winters.

Allison is a skilled wa-



**Alison Pottery Gallery features art by three generations – owner Alison Safrit, her mother, Lou Burner, and her two-and-a-half year old daughter, Willow. Alison is a potter and also makes mala necklaces; while her mother and daughter make jewelry.**

Photos by Suzanne Stewart

tercolorist who draws what she sees all around her, from structures – abandoned or inhabited – to the flora, fauna and animals of Pocahontas County. She also offers custom

framing.

The last studio is operated by Bret and Lori Doolittle. Bret is an oil painter, Lori is a sculptor and both are printmakers.

With all the new activity

at this lovely old building, memories will continue to be shared and made as a new generation of businessowners serve the residents and visitors to the community of Marlinton.

**Weekly special posted on Facebook!**

**Dean's Den LC**  
Food - Grocery - Gifts - Arts  
Since 2018

Gourmet Grocery; Upscale fast food: starters, subs, salads, entrees, pizza, more!

**BREAKFAST/LUNCH/DINNER**

**DINE IN/TAKE OUT**  
WED. - SAT 8 A.M. - 8 P.M.  
SUN. 8 A.M. - 6 P.M.  
CLOSED MON./TUES.

**FROST INTERSECTION (Rts. 92 AND 84)**  
**304-799-4765**

**HELLO, FALL!**

**EMMA GRACE Foothills Boutique**

**Women's clothing, shoes and accessories**  
**Children's items**  
**Gifts and books**

Open Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Thursday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**5382 Potomac Highlands Trail**  
**Green Bank • 321-298-0760**  
**- in the Green Bank Gallery building**  
**Shop online - scan the QR code!**



**FREE WATER ANALYSIS!**

- **HARDNESS**
  - IRON
  - SULFUR
  - ODOR
- **ACID H2O**
  - TASTE
- **BACTERIAL**
- **CHLORINE**

**ECOWATER SYSTEMS**

Your Water. Perfected.

**YUCKY WATER? We Can Help!**

**Water Treatment Systems that Work... Guaranteed! (We put it in writing)**

Now available with Wi-Fi

- Sales and Service • Pumps
- We service most major brands!

**LICENSED WELL PUMP INSTALLERS**

**CITY & COUNTY WATER, WELLS, SPRINGS & CISTERNS**  
HOMES • BUSINESSES • CAMPS

**ECOWATER SYSTEMS USE 1/3 THE SALT AND 1/2 THE WATER OF OTHER WATER SYSTEMS, AND COST LESS THAN \$2 PER YEAR TO OPERATE.**

- **Bottled water quality, without the inconvenience of bottles**
- **100 % FINANCING**

**Advanced Water Treatment**

**VISA**  
**MARSHALLS DISCOVER**

WV contractors license WV#028787

**1-800-985-2000**  
**WWW.AWTECOWATER.COM**

# Apple time in the Appalachians

Laura Dean Bennett  
Staff Writer

"Surely the apple is the noblest of fruits."  
~ Henry David Thoreau

Apples are an ancient fruit, and one of the most prolific and popular fruits in the world.

They have been part of the American experience since its beginning.

September in Pocahontas County is harvest time. Time to get the gardens in and, if we didn't get a killing frost or late snow in the Spring, it's time to look to our apple trees.

A good apple harvest in the fall means an abun-

dance of apples carefully stored in the cool of the cellar for use during the coming winter months.

It's also time to process and pack away the sweet little globes in all their delicious forms for the long-term.

From apple juice and cider to applesauce, apple butter, apple jelly and apple pie filling, canning allows us to preserve our apple crop for use throughout the year.

Apples may now be thought of as "American as apple pie," but the domesticated apple – *Malus Domestica* – did not originate here.

It actually originated in what is now Kazakstan and neighboring Russia.

Apples were cultivated

there and the near East as early as 2,500 years ago and were brought home to Rome and Greece, where Romans were known to grow at least six varieties.

Odd as it may seem, the apple is a cousin of the rose, as apple trees are members of Rosaceae, the rose family.

Romans took seedlings with them as they traveled throughout Europe, Britain and North Africa.

From Europe and Britain, apple trees made their way to the New World, where crab apple trees had been the only apple species native to North America.

Today, there are more than 30,000 varieties of apples being produced around the world.



Photo by Laura Dean Bennett

See *APPLE*, page 16

Apples make an easy and practical addition to seasonal fall decor. A centerpiece featuring apples brings an artful autumn theme to any table, with the added advantage of being edible. Here, an antique ceramic quail poses beside a wooden bread bowl filled with Gala, Granny Smith and Fuji apples.



**POCAHONTAS VETERINARY SERVICES PLLC**

Open  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
for all your animal care needs!

Large and Small Animals • Farm Calls  
Stacy Tawney, DVM  
304-799-6803 150 Carl McCarty Drive

**24-Hour Wrecker & Rollback Service**

T-N-T  
Carports for Sale - Call for prices and sizes

**F&F Service Center LLC**  
Justin & Chase Fisher, owners

Rt. 39 at Beaver Creek Road, Huntersville

ARI Certified • Complete Auto Repair • New Tires • State and Modified Inspections  
Transmissions • Brakes • Exhausts • 2 & 4 Wheel Computer Alignments

**304-799-6431** Night 304-799-6079 or 304-799-7148

AAA  
All major credit cards accepted

**John Eilers, D.O.**  
BOARD CERTIFIED

**Family Practice**

**BIG SPRING CLINIC** 304-572-4410  
Monday & Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - Noon

**DEER CREEK CLINIC** 304-456-5050  
Tues & Thurs.  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Please call for an appointment

**We specialize in Residential and Commercial Construction**

- New Homes • Additions
- Porches & Decks • Vinyl Siding
- Garages & Buildings
- Window Replacement
- All Types Roofing

Let's get started on your project!

**BRYANT CONSTRUCTION, LLC**  
Alex E. Bryant Jr., Owner  
82 Angus Irvine Road, Marlinton  
**304-799-4399** License # WV026274

**MURPHY'S AUTO**  
QUALITY USED VEHICLES  
BODY & REPAIR SHOP  
WRECKER & ROLLBACK SERVICE

12745 Potomac Highlands Trail  
Durbin, WV 26264  
**304-456-4858**  
Michael Murphy, Owner

**MR. PAINTER**  
Residential and Commercial Painting  
Billy Dunz, Owner/Operator WV048559  
Over 25 Years' Experience

Interior and Exterior Painting  
Power Washing • Epoxy Garage Flooring

Phone 304-799-7152  
Cell 304-618-9420  
mrpainter25@frontier.com

French Jesuits are thought to have first brought domesticated apples to North America near the end of the 16th century.

When the Pilgrims landed early in the 17th century, they brought with them apple seeds and tree cuttings for grafting, as did the settlers of Jamestown before them.

A variety of apple trees thrived in the colonies thanks to the pollinating powers of the honey bee, which also had not previously existed here.

Honeybees had to be brought across the ocean to pollinate the fruit trees.

Colonists who wished to secure a land grant were required to clear and improve that land before ownership was conferred. Planting an apple orchard was a relatively simple way to do so.

Although most of these early species of American apples were prolific, they were not nearly as sweet as our apples of today. Those which were the most sour were commonly called "spitters," and were used for cider.

These days, apple cider is a special treat, usually enjoyed in the fall and during the holidays.

But in early America, fermented cider was commonly served at all meals, even to children, since reliably safe drinking water was often a rarity.

The legend of Johnny Appleseed is based on the life of a young man named John Chapman.

Having learned the apple business as a young man growing up in Massachusetts, Chapman started an apple tree business in 1801.

He brought his knowledge and his apple trees to western Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, planting seedlings near creeks and rivers close to new land grants where there was a burgeoning market for apple trees needed to improve the land.

Working for 50 years throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, Chapman planted so many apple trees, he earned the nickname, Johnny Appleseed.

By the mid-1800s, nearly 14,000 varieties of apples existed across the country.

When Johnny Appleseed is said to have crossed the northern panhandle of West Virginia in the early 1800s, he may have planted the seeds that developed into West Virginia's first successful and super sweet apple, the Grimes Golden.

The second apple "discovered" in West Virginia was the Golden Delicious, found in Clay County in



Photos by Laura Dean Bennett  
**Turns out, the old saying is true: "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." Eating apples has been linked to many health benefits, including lowering cholesterol, improving gut health and reducing the risk of stroke, high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, obesity and some cancers.**

1912. This popular cultivar was designated the state fruit in 1995.

Gradually, over ensuing decades, commercial growers concentrated on a handful of hardy hybrids which were most popular and marketable.

Apple varieties that ripen in late June and early July (Yellow Trans-

parent, for example) are usually not good candidates for storing.

Yellow Transparent apples, while seldom seen in supermarkets, are very popular here in Appalachia for making an incredibly delicious and smooth applesauce.

See **APPLE**, page 17

# STATION 2

## RESTAURANT AND LODGING



### FAMILY DINING

**BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER**

*Appetizers • Burgers • Subs • Pizza • Steak • Chops • Desserts • Soft Serve Ice Cream*

Hours and days of operation will vary during the fall – **Call! We don't want to miss you!**

Business opportunity available!  
 Restaurant/Lodging/Car Wash for sale. *Call for details!*

### ACCOMMODATIONS

Four rooms featuring queen size beds, separate baths, Wi-Fi, cable, big screen TV and a common lounge.

**LODGING INCLUDES BREAKFAST**

Call for pricing and availability.

**After hours: 304-456-4509**

**Main Street, Durbin • 304-456-4506 • station2restaurant.com**

**Farm ~ Home Auto**

**L. JAY KNICELEY INSURANCE**

STOP BY OUR OFFICE!  
 818A TENTH AVENUE  
 MARLINTON

**304-799-6243**

*For all your insurance needs*

Pocahontas County

# OPERA HOUSE

818 Third Avenue Marlinton, WV 24954

*The Cultural Heart of the Community*

SEPT. **29**

**Vanessa Collier**

OCT. **13**

**The Rustic Mechanicals:**  
**The Age of Rebels & Revels**  
**(Henry IV, Part One)**

OCT. **20**

**Dom Flemons**

NOV. **4**

**Mike Gillispie &**  
**The DC Jazz Quartet**

NOV. **18**

**Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys**

NOV. **25**

**Greenbrier Valley Theater**

TICKETS \$10 • DOORS 6:30 P.M. • SHOW 7:30 P.M.  
 COMPLETE EVENT DESCRIPTIONS ONLINE  
 CHILDREN 17 AND UNDER ADMITTED FREE  
 ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
 4TH AVENUE GALLERY • 304-799-6645  
 POCAHONTASOPERAHOUSE.ORG



But many apples that ripen in late autumn – Rome Beauties and Fall Rambos – may be stored for as long as one year.

For that kind of long-term storage, apples need to be kept completely dry and very cold – ideally, at temperatures slightly above freezing.

Apples vary greatly according to their size, color, aroma, crispness, sweetness and tanginess.

The three categories of apples are cider, cooking

and dessert.

For eating out of hand, it's hard to beat Gala, Fuji, Jonathan, Golden Delicious, Cortland, Empire, Red Delicious, McIntosh, Braeburn, Winesap or Pink Lady.

The best apples for applesauce are freshly-picked juicy varieties with smooth flesh that cook quickly such as Grimes Golden, Yellow Transparent, Golden Delicious, Fuji, Honeycrisp, McIntosh and Gala.

If you like baking apple pies, you'll want to can

apple pie filling to have on hand when a quick pie will come in handy.

You won't go wrong with these varieties: Golden Delicious, Pippin, Granny Smith, Pink Lady or Gravenstein apples.

Bakers are also fond of Rome, Jonagold, Gala, Braeburn, Northern Spy, York Imperial, Cortland and Winesap apples.

Winesaps are also good for appetizers. Their spicy, tart bite goes well with cheese and wine or cider and they store beautifully well into the holi-

days.

October brings frosty mornings and sometimes even an early snow or two.

It's time to savor the rich aroma of apple butter and the spicy tang of apple cider, served hot or cold.

Cider stores so well, by canning in a glass jar or freezing in an airtight container or freezer bag, it can then be used all year long.

And it's not too late to grill out a few more times. Try grilling apple slices with pork chops or assemble some chicken and apple kebabs for a healthy fall supper.

Use some of your fresh apples for baking some fall favorites.

After you've mastered apple pie, try some old fashioned apple desserts like Apple Brown Betty

See *APPLE*, page 16



Photo by Laura Dean Bennett


Make place cards for the table by cutting leaf shapes in construction paper, add guest's name and slip the "leaf" under the stem of an apple to hold it in place.

## Your health is our priority.

### Committed to Excellence in Community-Based Healthcare

- 24 hour Emergency Care and Ambulance Service
- Rural Health Clinic offering total family care
- CT scans, MRIs, diagnostic x-rays and ultrasounds
- Acute care
- Medical clinical lab with same-day test results
- Pulmonology Clinic
- Wound Care Clinic
- 24 hour Respiratory Services
- Behavioral Health Clinic
- Skilled rehabilitation service (Swing Bed)
- Outpatient Nursing Services
- Outpatient Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapies
- Retail Pharmacy and Coffee Shop



  
**POCAHONTAS  
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**  
US 219 North, 2 miles south of Marlinton, WV  
150 Duncan Road • Buckeye, WV 24924

**304-799-7400**

[www.pmhv.org](http://www.pmhv.org)



Check out our employment opportunities online.

## Happy Campers, Hikers, Bikers and Hunters shop here!

- Quality meats
- Deli/Bakery
- Groceries
- Specialty Trays
- Pizzas, Hot Subs
- Frozen Treats



**POCAHONTAS IGA HOMETOWN  
PROUD**  
Rt. 219 • Marlinton

304-799-6667 [pocahontas.iga.com](http://pocahontas.iga.com)

Monday - Saturday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. • Sunday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

View our weekly specials, download coupons, recipes and more online.



and apple dumplings.

Halloween brings out the little ghosts and goblins to bob for apples and enjoy traditional treats like candied or caramel apples.

As the calendar moves us into November, apples continue to shine.

Whether on the table in a centerpiece or in our cuisine, apples serve many purposes.

They partner well with game, chicken and pork dishes, and make a tasty addition to turkey dressing and countless delicious desserts.

Give your home an enticing aroma with a stove top apple potpourri.

Simmer the following in a pot on the stove; one cut up apple, the peel of an orange, one tablespoon of cloves, two cinnamon sticks, one tablespoon of vanilla, one tablespoon of almond extract and 1 1/2 cups of water.

Those not lucky enough to already have apple trees within their reach, may want to plant their own.

For gardeners interested in maintaining certain cultivars, like Golden Delicious, the trees must be asexually propagated by grafting or budding.



Photo by Southern Eats and Goodies  
**Apple Tansey**

Both grafting and budding involve combining the scion or upper portion of a tree with a rootstock, or root system. This ensures the new trees will always produce fruit with the specific characteristics of known varieties.

Budding, usually completed in the late summer, involves taking a single leaf bud from a healthy, growing twig and placing it in a similar sized cut made on the rootstock. If the bud is successful, the cut will heal, and the leaf bud will start sending out new growth.

Grafting can be completed by many different methods, but usually involves combining a rootstock and piece of scion wood of similar diameter.

Zigzag cuts are made into both the rootstock

and the scion wood, so they fit together to encourage the growth of a single tree.

The West Virginia Extension Service is an excellent source of advice on growing apple trees.

### Recipes

Perhaps you want to try your hand at the kinds of recipes Americans were baking in the 1800s.

Settlers in early Virginia would have been very familiar with Apple Tansey and Apple John. These popular apple desserts were brought to the colonies from England in the mid-18th century.

Apple Tansey is an old recipe, first published in London in 1754 in *The Compleat Housewife*; or, *Accomplished Gentlewoman's Companion*.

Recipes for Apple John – an upside-down cobbler made with shortcake dough – were passed down from mother to daughter for generations before a recipe appeared in *The Housewife's Cookbook*, by Lilla French, in 1917.

Here are modern updates of these colonial American favorites.

### Apple Tansey

2-3 apples  
3 Tbsp. unsalted butter  
4 large eggs  
2 Tbsp. heavy whipping cream  
2 tsp. rosewater/or vanilla extract  
1/4 tsp. nutmeg  
2 Tbsp. sugar  
Granulated or powdered sugar for garnish  
Fresh lemon wedges for garnish

You will also need: a seasoned cast iron or oven-proof nonstick skillet

Preheat your oven's broiler. Core the apples, then slice them into thin rounds. If you prefer, you

can peel the apples before slicing.

Melt the butter over medium heat until hot, being careful not to let the butter brown or burn. Add apple slices to the skillet. Fry them for about 5 minutes, turning once, until they soften and begin browning at the edges.

While apples fry, beat the eggs together with the cream, rosewater, nutmeg,

and 2 Tbsp. sugar. When apples are ready, pour the egg mixture evenly over the top of the apples. Cook the tansey for about 3 minutes until the bottom solidifies.

Place skillet in the oven under the broiler. Let it cook for 2-3 minutes longer until the egg mixture is cooked through. Use an oven mitt to re-

See **APPLE**, page 19

## Jack Horner's Corner



- Bike, canoe and tube rentals
- Pizza, Subs and more
- Soft-serve Ice Cream
- Provisions • Newspapers



Seebert • 304-653-4515

adjacent to the Greenbrier River Trail across from Watoga State Park  
Open seven days a week. Closing for season October 29.

## Hideaway at Snowshoe

Own A Piece Of Almost Heaven

Home & Land Packages

[www.hideawayatsnowshoe.com](http://www.hideawayatsnowshoe.com)

Lots starting  
at \$24,500.

Lot financing  
available.

**We make your life easier.**

### Buckeye Country Mart and Buckeye Home, Farm, Lawn and Garden

**Country Mart**  
Rt. 219, Buckeye  
304-799-6880

- Gas & Diesel • Groceries
- Snacks, Chips • Bulk Candy
- Ready-to-heat Sandwiches
- Produce • Lottery
- LP Fill and more!

*We accept EBT*

**OPEN MON. - SAT. 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.**  
**SUNDAY 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

**NOW AN  
AUTHORIZED  
STEHL  
DEALER!**

**Home Center**  
Old Drive-in location, Buckeye  
304-799-0860

- Hardware • Plumbing • Electrical
- Fencing • Storage Solutions
- Heaters • Pet Supplies / Pet Food
- Livestock and animal health products

**OPEN MON. - SAT. 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.**  
**SUNDAY Noon - 2 p.m.**

move the skillet.

Turn the apple tansy onto a large flat plate. Sprinkle it with sugar and splash it with fresh lemon juice. Serve garnished with lemon wedges or sliced lemon rounds, if desired.

**Spiced Hot Apple Cider**  
Serves 8 chilly guests

2 quarts apple cider  
1 orange, thinly sliced  
1 apple thinly sliced  
3 cinnamon sticks  
6-8 whole cloves  
2-3 allspice berries or 1/4 tsp. ground allspice  
Pinch of freshly grated nutmeg  
1 Tbsp. molasses  
Optional garnishes:  
apple slices, orange slices, whole cinnamon sticks, whipped cream

in a pot on the stove or in a slow cooker.

If using your stove, bring the cider to a boil in a large pot over high heat, then reduce to the lowest heat and allow it to gently cook for 30 to 40 minutes for the flavors to come together.

For an easy slow cooker method, combine all ingredients in a large slow

cooker. Set the slow cooker on high heat and cover. Leave it on high for at least one hour, or up to two hours. Reduce to the lowest heat setting to keep warm for up to four hours.

**Apple John Stewed Apples for Topping**

6 cups sliced apples  
1/3 cup water  
1/2 cup sugar (or to taste)  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
Shortcake  
2 cups flour

4 tsp. baking powder  
2 Tbsp. sugar  
3/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 cup shortening  
3/4 cup milk

To make stewed apples, place the sliced apples in a large saucepan, then add sugar, cinnamon and water. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat. Continue to simmer gently until the apples are soft (approximately 10-15 minutes).

If needed, add additional water. Remove from heat and put the stewed apples in a 9 X 9 X 3-inch or similar-sized greased

baking dish or pan. In the meantime, pre-heat oven to 425°. Put flour, baking powder, sugar and salt in a mixing bowl; stir to combine. Cut the shortening into the flour mixture. Add milk and stir just enough to combine using a fork.

Drop shortcake dough by spoonful on top of the stewed apples to cover them. Bake in the oven for 20-30 minutes or until the top is lightly browned.

Remove from oven and invert on serving plate.

# HMC

HIGHLAND MEDICAL CENTER  
*Caring for the health of the Highlands*

120 Jackson River Road, Monterey, VA 24465  
www.ourhmc.org

**540-468-6400**

**HOURS OF OPERATION**  
Mon., Wed., Fri. ♦ 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Tues., Thurs. ♦ 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

TOLL FREE: 844-468-6400  
AFTER HOURS: 540-468-6400  
FAX: 540-468-3301



PHYSICAL THERAPY



PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE



ENABLING SERVICES



DENTAL CARE

**PHARMACY: 540-468-6421**

PHARMACY FAX: 540-468-3318

**HOURS OF OPERATION**  
Mon., Wed., Fri. ♦ 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Tues., Thurs. ♦ 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.



## 4 UNIQUE TRAIN RIDES!

### WHITTAKER

Climb The Switchbacks To A Restored Logging Camp!



### BALD KNOB

Journey To The Second Highest Point In WV!



### GREENBRIER EXPRESS

Greenbrier River Wilderness Trips!



### NEW TYGART FLYER

See The High Falls Of Cheat!

WEST VIRGINIA  
**MTN RAIL**  
ADVENTURES  
- BLENDS • CASS • DURBIN -

mountainrail.com

# Local, handmade fine arts and crafts



Pocahontas  
County  
Artisan  
Co-op



**Handcrafted home décor,  
gifts and more!**



### 4th Avenue Gallery

in the historic Marlinton Depot on  
the Greenbrier River Trail  
Tuesday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
304-799-2550



### Shops at Leatherbark Ford

at Cass Scenic Railroad State Park  
Open 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
during train season  
304-456-5440

Join us at [pocahontasartistry.com](http://pocahontasartistry.com)

Special events on Facebook at Pocahontas County Artisans Co-op



**INDOOR &  
OUTDOOR  
SEATING  
FOOD MENU  
10+ CIDERS  
GROWLERS  
MERCH  
LIVE MUSIC**

**Open Thursday & Friday 3-9  
Saturday 12-9  
Sunday 10-7**

**Burger Night  
Every Friday  
Brunch Every  
Sunday**

**2245 BLUE SULPHUR PIKE  
LEWISBURG, WV 24901  
[www.hawknob.com](http://www.hawknob.com)**

**304-520-5477**

**JUST  
MINUTES  
FROM  
DOWNTOWN!**

# Your Community Connection Just the Way You Like It



Home Delivery in Pocahontas County **\$34 /year**

Home Delivery in West Virginia **\$42 /year**

Home Delivery Out-of-State **\$42 /year**

Six month subscriptions available.  
"Snow Bird" subscriptions available.  
Call for pricing.



eEdition Only  
**\$29 /year**

eEdition Plus  
Print edition  
**\$59 /year**

In Print and Online  
Subscribe Today!

**304-799-4973**

[www.pocahontastimes.com](http://www.pocahontastimes.com)



# Water Witching

The Pocahontas Times  
January 21, 1965

Water witching has bobbed up in conversations sev-

eral times the past few months, so we began to look for some information on the subject.

Did you know there is a fraternity of water witch-

ers, known as the American Society of Dowers with members in 30 states and Canada?

This art or gift of finding water is known variously as water witching, divining, dowsing and witch-wiggling.

Some people consider it a gift but some modern scientists, though they can't explain it yet, believe, almost anybody can get results.

They think there must be some peculiar reaction or current between a person and his hands and moving water under the earth. They also say it teaches humility to some budding scientists to find that the ancient art works.

A forked-slender twig is used, usually peach, but cherry, willow, apple and



Photo by USGS

This man is using a hazel twig to find water on the land around his farm.

others are also chosen; it field, a fork of the stick in the ground. That's the seems wire, even coat each hand, the stick pulls place to drill the well. hangers, may be used. As down, sometimes violently the witcher walks over a where there is water under

See WATER, page 22

THE  
**LEVELS  
DEPOT**

8905 SENECA TRAIL  
(RT. 219) HILLSBORO  
**304-653-4689**

Open seven days a week

- ATM • Gas, diesel, off-road and non-ethanol fuels
- Beer, wine, snacks • Organics and gluten-free options
- Groceries, local and regional meats and farm eggs
- Tinctures and High Quality CBD products
- Souvenirs • Live Bait



THE  
**LEVELS  
DEPOT**  
Cafe

**SERVING BREAKFAST AND LUNCH!**

Open Tues. - Sat. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m

**304-653-4111**

**RAKE IN THE SAVINGS!**  
**Tackle Fall Yard Work**

**Zero-turn Mowers in stock!**



**Simplicity**



**TROY-BILT**  
Push Mowers in stock

Inquire about weekly specials  
or specific inventory!

SHOP OUR LOCATION  
IN BEVERLY  
**304-637-7171**

Visit us online! [www.varnersllc.net](http://www.varnersllc.net)  
[varnersoutdoor.com](http://varnersoutdoor.com)

**Varner's**  
OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT



4645 Beverly Pike - on the Five-Lane • Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. - noon



**Come play in our  
backyard this fall!**

**We're right on the river!**

• Dine indoors or out and enjoy  
new menu items and daily specials

• Clean, affordable lodging

• Wine and beer served with meals  
with Wi-Fi and cable TV.

Just minutes away from canoeing or  
kayaking, fishing, mountain biking and  
hiking. Buses welcome!

**Greenbrier Grille  
& Lodge**

Open daily at 7 a.m.



At the bridge in Marlinton 304.799.7233 [greenbriergrille.com](http://greenbriergrille.com)

**WATER** from page 11  
 Well-drilling took us to the Pritt Brothers, of Droop, who do most of the well-drilling in Pocahontas County.

First we talked with Elbert Pritt, and he doesn't hold much stock in water-witching, but he said his son, Roger, and brother, Hill, both thought it worked and used it. But he did say they all worked together and had found good water several times after Hill had done some witching—and had missed some, too. They have a big book on water witching. But it has failed at his home. They have gone down 245 feet and haven't found water yet.

Talking then to Hill Pritt, we found he thinks it works very well.

He uses two bronze welding rods, one in each hand, and they turn together when he is over a stream of water. He can't get wood to work very well but they usually hit water when he uses the rods. And he finds the rods will work for anybody. They work in towns locating water lines, or over any moving water. He says water witching is something he has heard of all his life – the county was full of people doing it – and he didn't learn it from anyone in particular. He thinks that the water, being the only moving

thing under the ground, puts out some sort of current that causes the metal rod to pull down.

The Pritts drill about 150 wells a year, and they drill where the owners want them to. Some people want it at a convenient

spot; if they aren't successful there, they will take it where they can get it. Some people want to witch a spot, some people won't have anything to do with it.

Two notable successes lately have been at Joe

Smith's in the Brush Country, where a 200 foot well had gone dry. They found water at a little over 100 feet nearby. At Charlie Moore's place above Marvin Chapel, a 194 foot well dried up. Three hundred feet away, the rods

found abundant water not near as deep. Getting good water is mighty important and anything that helps is always tried.

Although it can't be explained, water witching seems to work.

*Find Compass online at:  
 pocahontastimes.com  
 The Pocahontas Times*

Pocahontas County Arts Council



**Find Art  
 this Fall**

**Watoga Art in the Park**

Join us September 2 and 3 for Make-and-Take activities and facepainting!

**After-School Drawing**

Thursdays, 4 pm. at Durbin Art Center

**Oil Painting**

Little Yellow House, Dunmore

Tuesdays starting September 12

Two sessions: 2 and 6 p.m.

**Adult Pottery Classes**

Third Ave. Studio, Marlinton

Saturday afternoons at 1 p.m., starting October 21

**An Artful Tarot Journal**

Location to be announced.

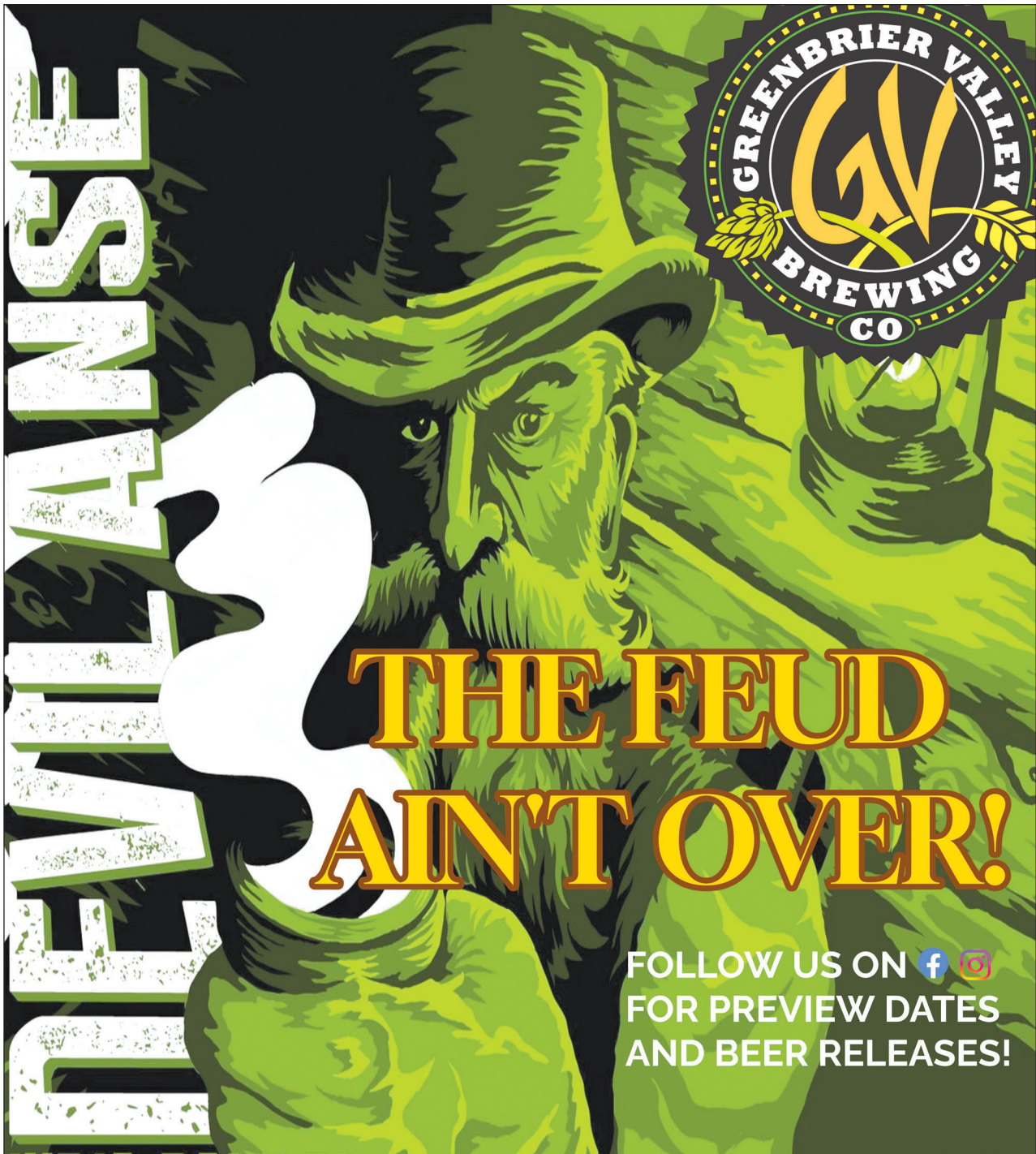
Mondays at 6 p.m.; 4-week session

**OCTOBER: Empty Bowls**

Halloween Trunk-or-Treat

with Dead Artists!

Call 304-456-4600 or text 304-997-2153 for more information or to register.



**THE FEUD  
 AIN'T OVER!**

FOLLOW US ON   
 FOR PREVIEW DATES  
 AND BEER RELEASES!

**GRAND OPENING SEPT 30TH**  
**LIVE MUSIC WITH CHANCE AND TESSA MCCOY**  
**6-8 PM**

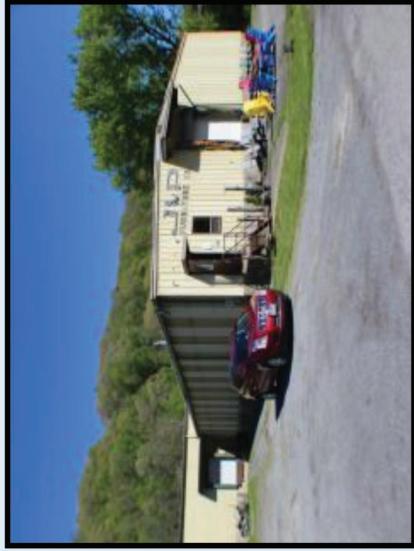
# For All Your Real Estate Info RemaxCountryWV.com



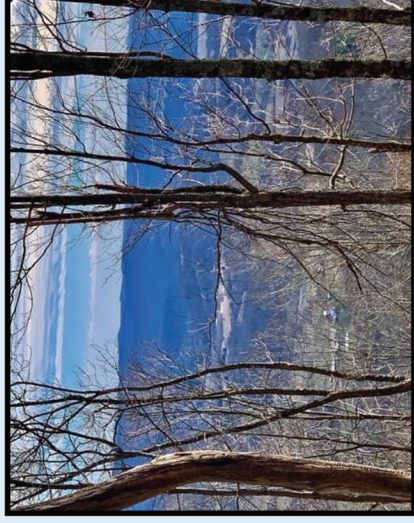
*Hunting Camps from \$49,900*



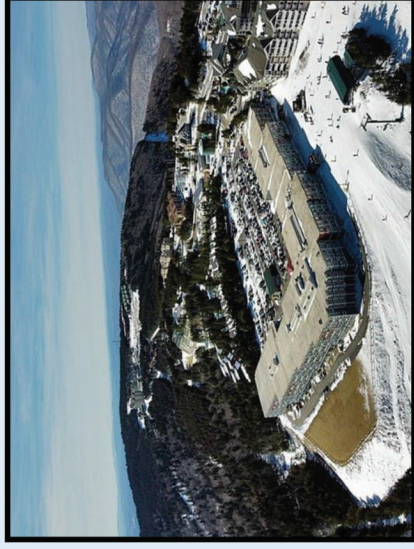
*Riverfront Lots from \$59,900*



*Commercial Buildings from \$299,000*



*50+ Acres from \$239,900*



*Resort Property from \$99,900*

**Martha Giddings-Broker/Owner 304.651.2099 [martygiddings@remax.net](mailto:martygiddings@remax.net)  
Michael Hughes-Agent/Owner 304.651.2100 [mhughes@remax.net](mailto:mhughes@remax.net)  
Cheryl D. Dean-Associate Broker 304.940.0607 [cheryl.dean@remax.net](mailto:cheryl.dean@remax.net)  
Heather Pace-Agent 434.953.7574 [heather.pace@remax.net](mailto:heather.pace@remax.net)**

**RE/MAX<sup>®</sup>**  
**Snowshoe Resort**  
Marty Giddings-Broker/Owner

570 Cass Rd Slatyfork, WV 26291  
304-572-2100

**RemaxCountryWV.com**

**RE/MAX<sup>®</sup>**  
**COUNTRY**  
Martha Giddings-Broker/Owner

# SNOWSHOE FALL EVENTS

SEPT 1 - 4 Labor Day Celebrations | SEPT 27 - OCT 1 UCI Mountain Bike World Series

OCT 14 - 15 WV Enduro Race | OCT 15 Summer Closing Day



Snowshoe

877.441.4386 | [snowshoemtn.com](http://snowshoemtn.com)