



Thank You, Veterans



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THE POCOHONTAS TIMES
(Post Office No. 436-640 - ISSN No. 07388373)

The Pocahontas Times

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Serving Pocahontas County in the Endless Mountains of Appalachia

MARLINTON, POCOHONTAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA 24954

NOVEMBER 9, 2023 VOL. 141 NO. 25

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Capitol Christmas Tree warmly welcomed to Marlinton

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

Christmas came very early to Pocahontas County with the National Christmas Tree – the “People’s Tree” making two stops Monday on its way to Washington, D.C.

The 63-foot Norway Spruce, hauled on a tractor trailer, made its first appearance Monday morning at Green Bank Elementary-Middle School where students and community members got a sneak peek at the tree through the see-through sides of the trailer.

The tree made its way to Marlinton Monday evening, where it was featured in a parade, led by bicyclists of all ages, through Main Street to Mitchell Chevrolet. News of the tree’s arrival was known all the way to the North Pole, prompting Santa and Mrs. Claus to join in the festivities, riding through the parade and visiting with the youngsters and not so youngsters.

Once the truck was parked, the large crowd gathered to see the tree and sign their names on the large banner on the side of the truck.

The lot at Mitchell Chevrolet was transformed into a mini Christmas village – minus the snow – with music performed by Mike and Mary Sue Burns and Trevor Hammons and activity stations offering treats and crafts.

Those with a sweet tooth



THE NATIONAL CHRISTMAS Tree made a stop in Marlinton Monday and attracted a large crowd who wanted to see the 63-foot Norway spruce on its way to Washington, D.C. The truck with the tree was parked at Mitchell Chevrolet, where people could get pictures and sign a banner on the side of the tractor trailer. See page 8 for more photos. S. Stewart photo

could get a caramel apple, decorate their own sugar cookie and sip hot cocoa, then head over to the ornament and Christmas card making stations.

Among those traveling with the tree on its long journey to Washington, D.C. is the tree’s official storyteller, James Edward Mills, of Madison, Wisconsin.

This is ninth national Christmas tree Mills has traveled with and he said he came by the job because he is friends with Choose Outdoors founder Bruce Ward. Choose Outdoors is the non-

see Tree pg 10

‘People’s Tree’ harvested from the Mon Forest

Heather Niday
AMR Director

Jon a very cold November morning and with a light snow falling, nearly 100 people, at least half of them U.S. Forest Service personnel, gathered in Randolph County at the Laurel Fork Campground in the Greenbrier Ranger District of the Monongahela National Forest to watch as the 2023

U.S. Capitol Christmas tree was harvested. Known as the “People’s Tree,” the 65-foot-tall Norway Spruce is destined to sit on the west lawn of the White House during this holiday season.

“They aged the tree at probably between 35 and 40 years old, so it’s relatively young,” forest service staff officer for natural resources Kirk Pieler said.

see Forest pg 10

In these uncertain times throughout the world, the United States must focus on peace

by Mac Warner
WV Secretary of State
United States Army
Lt. Colonel (Retired)

President George Washington said, “To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving the peace.”

Ever since the Garden of Eden and the Apple Tree, humankind has been infected with sin. When souls get consumed by sin, evil is apt to run rampant. Evil is alive and on the march; we need to look no further than the Middle East and October 7th to validate our worst fears. At the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus proclaims, “Blessed are the Peacemakers.” But in a fallen world prone to mass-scale violence, how is peace achieved; who are the Peacemakers?

In 1914, war descended upon and consumed an unprepared Europe. Military leaders fought with industrial-age lethality and efficiency using antiquated Napoleonic thinking. Newly added to their toolbox of weapons were machine guns, long-range artillery, airplanes, tanks and chemical weapons. The result

was a rapid mass slaughter of an entire generation of Germans, French, Brits, Russians, Slavs and Turks. In a very short time, much of the European countryside had been reduced to a moonscape – a quagmire of trenches. A hopeless war-weary stalemate gripped the continent.

When President Woodrow Wilson called on Congress in 1917 to declare war against the Central Powers and send American Doughboys “over there” to fight alongside the Allies, he justified it, in part, by stating this had to be “the war to end all wars,” – never again could we, as civilized people, allow such horrific conflict to occur. The magnitude of utter devastation would compel us to resolve international problems without resorting to warfare.

Under General “Blackjack” Pershing, American Doughboys stepped foot onto European battlefields for the very first time in history. Just one year later – 105 years ago this week – the Great War was over on November 11th, now known as Armistice see Peace pg 10

Nature's gifts



POCAHONTAS COUNTY RECEIVED a dusting of snow November 1. While it didn’t amount to much, it did provide a photo op for Arbovale resident Lori Salmon, who captured this mound of snow on a marigold – topped by a single, perfect flake.

State Fire Marshal recognizes HES student

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

West Virginia State Fire Marshal Ken Tyree made a special trip to Hillsboro Elementary School last Friday to present an award to Madison Scott, who won the sixth annual Fire Safety Poster contest.

Tyree explained that Fire Prevention Week was established in 1947 by President Harry Truman. The week was a way of reminding people to be cautious in their homes and businesses to prevent fires and be safe when a fire does occur.

“Eight years ago, I decided to establish this contest and program in hopes that at this level – elementary – that parents, teachers and the students would be involved in

the talk about fire safety, Tyree said.”

The national theme for this year’s Fire Prevention Week was Cooking Safety, as a reminder that it is important to use safe practices in the kitchen to avoid fires.

The poster contest was open to students – kindergarten through sixth grade – and Tyree said there were between 800 and 1,000 entries from students in the state this year.

Tyree presented Scott with a letter from Governor Jim Justice which congratulated her on winning the contest.

“As governor, I commend you for demonstrating the importance of fire safety and wish you the best for your future,” Tyree read from the letter.

see HES pg 10



HILLSBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL student Madison Scott received an award for winning the Fire Safety Poster contest sponsored by the State Fire Marshal’s office. The award was presented last Friday by State Fire Marshal Ken Tyree. S. Stewart photo

On Veterans Day, let's remember those who have served and those still serving our country today.

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We will be closed Saturday, November 11, in observance of Veterans Day

Enjoy a safe and successful hunting season!

Hunting leaves a large cultural and economic footprint in our state.

• In 2022, West Virginia saw more than \$32 million dollars in total license sales.

• In 2023, the WV Department of Natural Resources reported a 12.7% increase in deer harvested.

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Supporting 4-H



FIRST CITIZENS BANK, represented by Candy Harper, at left, presented a check to West Virginia Extension Agent Luci Mosesso for the 4-Hers who participated in the Youth Livestock Show and Sale. S. Stewart photo

Circuit Court

A two-day jury trial was held last week in the case the State vs Christopher Waybright 39, of Arbovale. The jury returned a verdict of guilty of the felony offense of grand larceny. Sentence and disposition is set for December 14. Waybright was remanded to custody.

The following hearings were recently held in Pocahontas County Circuit Court before the Honorable Judges Robert E. Richardson and Jennifer P. Dent:

In the case the State vs Stephanie Michelle Sharp, 38, of Hillsboro, defense counsel advised that they were in conversation with the state about a plea deal which would include the defendant entering an Adult Court Drug Program. Sharp was indicted on one count, grand larceny, a felony; one count, conspiracy, a felony; one count, child neglect creating risk of serious bodily injury, a felony.

A change of plea hearing was held in the case the State vs John Stull, 33, of Bartow, wherein the defendant tendered a plea agreement to the court in which he pleaded guilty to the misdemeanor offense of person prohibited from possessing a firearm. The Court did not accept the plea agreement as it contained conditions for sanction.

The court asked for a new agreement form to be provided removing the sanction portion. Stull signed the new agreement, and the court deferred acceptance of the plea until Stull has completed a substance abuse evaluation. The matter is set for acceptance of plea December 14.

A status hearing was held in the case the State vs An-

drew Baybutt, 49, of Mechanicsville, Virginia, wherein defense counsel advised the court that more time is needed to acquire sensitive records and the help of the court may be needed to obtain them. The State asks for the trial to be set in the April 2024 term.

Baybutt waived his right to a speedy trial in this term as well as the December term of court. Baybutt was indicted on two counts, sexual abuse by a parent of a child, a felony; two counts, sexual abuse in the first degree, a felony.

Joshua VanReenen, 36, of Hillsboro appeared by video from the Tygart Valley Jail after being picked up on a capias. Defense counsel asked for reinstatement of bond as the defendant is working in Virginia. The court denied the motion as the defendant was not approved to be out of state.

VanReenen was indicted on one count, malicious assault, a felony; one count, wanton endangerment involving a firearm, a felony; one count, use or presentation of a firearm during the commission of a felony, a felony.

Landon Matthew Gibson, 20, of Hillsboro, appeared by video from Tygart Valley Regional Jail, having been

see Court pg 11

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Specials and menu posted on Facebook/HillsboroPublicHouse

Proposed Safety Ordinance turned bone of contention

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

The hear callers portion of the Marlinton Town Council meeting Monday evening turned into a heated discussion when several town citizens shared their disapproval of the proposed municipal safety ordinance which, if passed, would impose a fee on properties in order to fund a town police department.

Although the ordinance had yet to be discussed at a council meeting, it was released in various ways to the public for review. While the ordinance is said to be for police and security, there were many other items such as "Street Cleaning, Lighting

and Maintenance, Parks and Recreation Maintenance and Improvement and other Municipal Services...."

Mayor Sam Felton said the ordinance needs a lot of amending, but reminded those in attendance that safety and security was the number one concern expressed by town residents surveyed for the town's comprehensive plan.

During the discussion, it was suggested the town look to grants to help offset the cost of a police department.

It was also asked if the town had too many employees and if there could be any downsizing to help reduce costs.

Felton said the town has

employee.

Crystal Dean asked if it was possible for the town to receive money from any of the festivals held in town and Felton quipped that it depended on how many hamburgers she could sell.

Dean added that it didn't make sense why the town was suggesting a municipal fee on one hand and then on the other hand, offering prize money for the Christmas decorating contest.

Felton's response was that he personally thought the council offered more than he thought was necessary in the contest.

Later in the meeting, when it was time for council to ap-

see Safety pg 10

Future of Solid Waste topic of special commission meeting

Tim Walker
AMR Reporter

At the request of the Pocahontas County Solid Waste Authority, the Pocahontas County Commission held a special meeting November 1 to discuss the future of Solid Waste in the county after the landfill is closed.

Commission President Walt Helmick explained some of the history of the landfill. He said it was established by the commission in the mid-1980s after the state forced the county to stop burning the county's trash.

Helmick said that, in 1989, the state legislature created Solid Waste Authorities in each county, so the commission's control of the landfill and solid waste ended, replaced by the new Pocahontas County Solid Waste Authority.

The commission appoints two of the five members on the board, while the other three members are appointed by the West Virginia Public Service Commission (PSC), the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency.

Solid Waste Authority Chairman Ed Riley explained the current situation. He said they will find out in January just how many years

are left at the landfill — which will likely be about two years.

Riley said, in 2017, the Authority negotiated a lease extension of 50 years with then property owner Jody Fertig, but Jody died before the lease was signed. He said, in July 2022, the Authority negotiated with Jody's daughter, Renee Hill, about buying the landfill, and they agreed to an acceptable price. Riley said that deal fell through be-

cause Renee thought she was selling only the fenced-in part of the landfill, but the Authority's lease includes additional property that was never fenced in. He said they were willing to leave out some areas of the property that she wanted to keep, but the negotiations stopped when the Fertig family hired Attorney Bob Martin, who told the Authority they could

see Topic pg 10

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POCAHONTAS COUNTY OPERA HOUSE

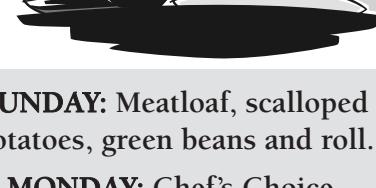
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Daily Specials
Nov. 9 - 15



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FRIDAY: Bleu cheese brisket burger with macaroni and cheese.

SATURDAY: Chef's Choice.

SUNDAY: Meatloaf, scalloped potatoes, green beans and roll.

MONDAY: Chef's Choice.

TUESDAY: Orange Chipotle Pork Bowl.

WEDNESDAY: Super stuffed baked potato.

BUD LIGHT MGD MELONI'S BUDWEISER BUDWEISER BUDWEISER

JOSH MELOMI'S

BIOTIMBER

BUCKLEY'S



THE POCAHONTAS COUNTY Veterans Honor Corps set the stage for the 160th anniversary of the Battle of Droop Mountain Monday afternoon with a 21-gun salute, the playing of Taps and even firing a shot from the cannon.

Students step back in time at Droop

Joanna Cordell
Contributing Writer

It was 160 years ago that the infamous Battle of Droop Mountain was fought, North versus South, brother fighting brother, in the bloodiest war America has experienced. The fallen soldiers are now simply names on a plaque attached to a monument in Droop Mountain Battlefield State park. Most of those ill fated

men and boys had been residents of the Virginias, their surnames still carried by their descendants who live among us. The American Civil War's death toll is comparable to the combined casualties of all our subsequent wars.

On Monday, the children of Hillsboro Elementary School rode their big yellow school bus to the battlefield where, for a time, they were teleported back to the

see Droop pg 11

Golf tournament supports Michael J. Porter STEM scholarship

Chris Mishoe
Campaign Coordinator

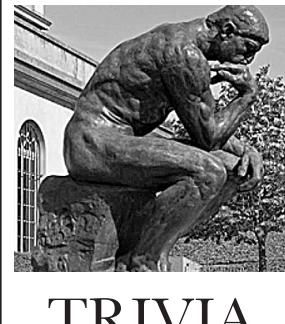
It happens in the course of a lifetime – people come and go. There are some, however, that leave their mark on us, and we forever retain the memories, the lessons and the life they led.

Michael Porter was one of those people. He left the banking world to become an educator. He loved being a positive influence on young people and a role model that they could look up to. He battled COVID for a short period of time and, in January 2022, he was gone. Before he left us, he established a STEM scholarship through the Greenbrier Valley Community Foundation (GVCF). This foundation serves Pocahontas, Monroe and Green-

brier counties, and this particular scholarship serves the students of Pocahontas County High School.

We knew we had to do something to keep this scholarship moving forward and enable the GVCF to keep awarding monies to students who were looking to pursue careers in the STEM fields. Science, technology, engineering and mathematics were a passion of Michael's, and so it became our passion to keep this opportunity growing for the students in the area. This past summer, a

see Golf pg 13



TRIVIA
— a little something to think about

Courtesy of Chuck Cornell

1. What is the oldest song of the branches of the U. S. Military?

2. What is the oldest branch of the U. S. Military?

3. What is the youngest branch of the U. S. Military?

4. What is the smallest branch of the U. S. Military?

Burma-Shave

A Blast from the Past

Courtesy of the Ruth Friel Estate

Diplomacy is...
To do and say...
The nastiest things...
In the nicest way.
Burma Shave

Soap may do...
For lads with fuzz...
But, sir, you ain't...
The kid you wuz.
Burma Shave

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THE BLACK MOUNTAIN Bluegrass Boys, from left: Danny Arthur, Richard Hefner, Joanna Burt-Kinderman and Dave Bing.

Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys return to the Opera House

The historic Pocahontas County Opera House will resonate with the soulful melodies of the Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys Saturday, November 18, at 7:30 p.m.

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 an outstanding 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 am-

bassador Dave Bing will infuse his mastery on both fiddle and guitar. Additionally, the gifted Danny Arthur will contribute his guitar prowess to enhance the ensemble's sonic tapestry, ensuring an unforgettable musical journey for attendees.

Admission to the Opera House performance is affordably priced at \$10 for adults, and children aged 17 and younger can enjoy the performance free of charge.

Tickets can be conveniently acquired at the 4th Avenue Gallery in Marlinton, via pocahontasoperahouse.org or at the door the evening of the performance.

The Opera House Performance Series is made possible through the generous financial support of a grant from the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture,



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Shop online - scan the QR code!

NCWVCA Forgotten Angel Project

North Central West Virginia Community Action will accept applications for the Forgotten Angel Project through November 30.

This program was designed to assist a limited amount of families in our community in obtaining holiday gifts for children ages infant to 17. Qualifying applicants must meet income guidelines for the family size.

Applications are available at the Pocahontas County Community Action office located at 818 B 10th Avenue in Marlinton.

Applications are evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact your local office for application requirements. Submission of application does not guarantee acceptance to



the program.

Applications must be returned no later than 4 p.m. Friday, November 30.

Please contact Stephanie Bennett at 304-799-4082 for more information.

NCWVCA is also accepting toy donations from the community for this program. All toys must be new and in the original package. Toys can be dropped off at your local Community Action office, please contact the number above for more information.

Poetry Corner

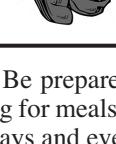
DROOP MOUNTAIN

Hills blue and silent
Behind this old battleground;
Hills that once rang the cries of dying men,
And with the guns' resound.

Once on this cool mountain slope,
Where grasses green and trees now wave,
Brothers were enemies, friends were foes,
Who now sleep here in one great, silent grave.

Dusk – falling o'er the battlefield,
Shadows lengthening o'er the hilltops, night –
Sleep on, O gallant men, both blue and gray
You gave your all for what you thought was right.

*Louise McNeill
From Confederate Veteran, November 1928*



Our Daily Bread

Be prepared with a blessing for meals during the holidays and every day.

Lord Jesus, be our holy guest.
Our morning joy, our

evening rest,
and with our daily bread
impart
your love and peace to
every heart.
Amen.



What's Cookin'?

With Sally Cobb

Holiday Cranberry Bread

Helen Nottingham

Sift together:
2 cups flour
1 cup sugar
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. soda
1 tsp. salt
Combine juice and grated rind of one orange, 2 Tbsp. shortening and enough boiling water to make a total of 3/4 cup.
Add 1 egg, well beaten.
Stir liquid into dry ingredients until flour is dampened.

Add:
1 cup chopped nuts
1 cup raw cranberries, halved.
Pour into a greased 8 1/2 x 4 1/2 pan.

Bake at 350° for 60 to 70 minutes.

Scalloped Oysters

Helen Nottingham

1 pint oysters
4 Tbsp. oyster liquor
2 Tbsp. cream
1/2 cup stale bread crumb
1 cup cracker crumbs
1/2 cup melted butter

Salt and pepper
Mix bread and cracker crumbs and stir in butter.

Put a thin layer in bottom of shallow, buttered baking dish, cover with oysters, and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Add half, each, of oyster liquor and cream.

Repeat and cover top with remaining crumbs.

Bake 30 minutes in 450° oven.

Never allow more than two layers of oysters for scalloped oysters.

Serves 4.

Vaccines available at the Pocahontas County Health Department:

2023-2024 updated COVID-19; RSV for ages 60 and older; Flu Vaccines; and High Dose Flu Vaccines for ages 65 and older. Call 304-799-4154 for more information.

Space is available for vendors for the Holiday Craft Show

at the Opera House to be held Friday and Saturday, December 1 and 2.

To reserve a space, call Lauren at 304-799-4009 or 304-799-7386.

Events

Jansky Lecture: "Space Molecules to Solar Systems – Five decades of discoveries,"

Thursday, November 9,

7 p.m. in the Green Bank Observatory Science Center Auditorium.

Postmaster:

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The Pocahontas Times

206 Eighth Street

Marlinton, WV 24954

Telephone 304-799-4973

Fax 304-799-6466

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16th ANNUAL TURKEY TROT

In Person and Virtual Race Options

Virtual Race: November 1-25

In person race:

Sat., November 25

Green Bank Observatory

1K Gobble Wobble for kids

aged 8 years and younger at 1 p.m.

Followed by 10K Trail Race

and 5K Run/Walk.

The Trot benefits the William Dilley Scholarship and the PCHS Track Team. Register online at www.runreg.com/gbturkeytrot23 Visit the Facebook Group: 2023 Green Bank Turkey Trot.

For more information, contact Mali Minter 304-456-4460.

Marlinton Mayor's Corner

By Sam Felton

2023 October activity report

Much of this week's Mayor's Corner comes from the October Mayor's Report to Town Council and is a collage of various meetings and topics. There is too much work going on to be specific about any one thing.

Lots of effort is going into the Home Rule application before it can be presented to the public. Requests for water service seems routine.

Some services take time.

During October, I toured the town with a mural artist; attended county commission meetings and GO402 Public Training; met with the Conservation Agency for a team inspection at Smith Lake and follow-up on Marlin Run; calls, emails, contracts and communications on various code issues; and heard and followed up on Greenbrier River Trail complaints; Broadband Zoom and Share zoom meeting, Monday Lick program discussions; com-

municated and coordinated with volunteers on Discovery Junction garden cleanup; attended a Housing Task Force meeting. Communicated with CWPO on EPA's Compliance Advisor program; met with the contractor at the Greenbrier Hill water tank for a plan to complete Overlook Trail project. Forgot the Auditor Training in Beckley. Did I mention tree-trimming and cutting of problem trees?

Mon Forest Town Partnership Executive Board via zoom, to prep for the November 6 Capital Christmas Tree visit; Special Day Report Meeting; represented Mon-Forest Town Partnership at presentation to Durbin Town Council; traveled

to Richwood for MFT Quarterly Board meeting, followed by a tour of new businesses in Richwood. The recreation economy is working throughout the region.

The Mountain Transit Authority coordinated bus shuttles for the Monday Lick Ribbon Cutting event. I inspected trail work around the Greenbrier Hill water tank. Another contractor has worked on the municipal building doing follow-up roof work. A USDA Rural Tourism webinar and other routine activities have been a part of October activity.

A meeting with Mon-Power lighting designer will have to be rescheduled due to an unforeseen emergency.

Community Calendar

OPERA HOUSE

Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys Saturday, November 18, 7:30 p.m. Tickets, \$10, are available in advance at the 4th Avenue Gallery and online at pocahontasoperahouse.org or at the door the night of the show.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Green Box sites have changed to winter hours: Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. and Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Marlinton Town Office will be closed Friday, November 10, in observance of Veterans Day.

Pocahontas County Landfill and the Solid Waste Office will be closed on Friday, November 10, in observance of Veterans Day. The Green Boxes will be open 1 to 4 p.m.

Pocahontas Producers Regular Sale Saturday, November 11, 2 p.m.

Marlinton Presbyterian Church is a drop-off location for shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, during National Collection Week, November 13-20. Drop-off hours are 4 to 6 p.m., Monday - Friday, November 13-17; 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, November 18; noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, November 19 and 9 to 11 a.m. Monday, November 20. For more information or to pick up boxes, call Lauren at 304-799-4009 or leave a message at the church, 304-799-6145.

Space is available for vendors for the Holiday Craft Show at the Opera House to be held Friday and Saturday, December 1 and 2. To reserve a space, call Lauren at 304-799-4009 or 304-799-7386.

Meetings

NA meeting Tuesdays, 6 to 7 p.m. at Hillsboro Library. Call 681-418-1484 for more information. Everyone welcome.

Parks and Rec

All activities are at the Community Wellness Center, unless otherwise noted.

Friday Fun

4 to 5 p.m. at Durbin Library will focus on fall foliage with crafts, activities and books. Ages three to 10 are welcome, no charge.

Zumba

Dance and enjoy a fun, high-energy workout with Instructor Kelly Shifflett, Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 5 p.m.

Taekwondo

Korean martial arts focusing on non-aggressive self-defense. All levels welcome. \$3 per class, Wednesdays at 6 p.m. with Instructor Nathaniel Sizer.

Yoga

Enjoy relaxing yoga at Durbin Library, Tuesdays at 5 p.m., Linwood Center, Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. and Cass Community Center Fridays at 5:30 p.m.

Community Thanksgiving Service

Community Thanksgiving Service, hosted by Marlinton United Methodist Church, Sunday, November 19, 6 p.m. Pastor David

Events

Jansky Lecture: "Space

Molecules to Solar Systems – Five decades of discoveries,"

Thursday, November 9,

7 p.m. in the Green Bank Observatory Science Center Auditorium.

Postmaster:

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SUBSCRIPTIONS,

Obituaries



Steve Babich

Steve Joseph Babich, Sr., passed away Wednesday, November 1, 2023.

Born September 2, 1934, in Fayette City, Pennsylvania, he was a son of the late John and Mary Stayer Babich.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, sweetheart and soulmate of 66 years, Dixie Lee McCrory Babich; brother, John; and sister, Joanna.

As a young man, Steve loved baseball, and was the catcher for the Charleroi Merchants. Quite the talented catcher, he traveled to play and was scouted for his talent. He began work at the Allegheny Steel mill working on the blast furnace known as "Big Jane." A hard worker and not afraid of challenges Steve then joined Prudential Insurance and quickly became a success for 30 years, receiving promotions and numerous accolades and rewards as the top agent locally, regionally and nationally.

Steve and Dixie's life to-

gether was an example of love at its finest. Dixie and Steve had four children, Victoria, Steve (Dolly), Edward (Liliana), and James (Gloria).

Steve loved his role as father, uncle, grandfather and great-grandfather. His grandchildren Steve III (Rebekah), Richard (Rachel), James (Ashley), Jonathan and Tabetha, owned a piece of his heart. The great-grandchildren, Emily Grace, Gabriela Rosalee and Maddox joined that special category of the little ones he adored, and two more great-grandchildren are on the way.

Steve is also survived by his beloved sister, Mary Marcini (Richard); his brother, Richard Babich, Daniel Babich (Judy) and sister-in-law, Delores Babich; as well as nieces and nephews. And lest we forget – the family furbabies. A small pack of Babich pups met Steve in heaven – Maggie, Goldfeet, Blackfoot, Willie, Scamp and Brownie. Steve and Dixie's living furbaby, Molly, is grieving with all of us.

A nice long chat with Steve would reveal the vast extent of his adventurous life. As a young man, he took on challenges and mastered every one of them. A candy maker, a roofer, an alter boy, a steel mill worker, plumber, house builder, carpenter, electrician, farmer and truck driver. Honestly, he could do just about everything. When a pretty woman named Dixie came into his life, he became a proud husband who provided for his family with a sense of pride. He also cared about his com-

munity, and was on the Charleroi Youth Commission, an organization that helps troubled youths.

Steve and Dixie set goals that the ocean and mountains were in their future. Moving to South Florida in the late 1970s, Steve quickly established himself as a top-selling insurance agent. He and Dixie began their love for the ocean and became semi-residents of the Florida Keys for more than 40 years. There he added another talent to his portfolio. He became the captain of his ship, the Steve and Dixie, a classic Bertram boat that must hold the record for most fish caught. He shared this love for the Florida Keys with his family, who all embraced the activities of being on the open ocean.

Then it was time to realize the goal of the mountains. Steve and Dixie explored West Virginia, and after years of looking, found the perfect cabin on the hill. Growing a garden, harvesting fruit trees, and taking in the peacefulness of this oasis were the norm. Of course, the rest of the family followed suit, and all came to love this hidden little gem that relaxed and renewed the soul.

Steve embraced life and its challenges, triumphs and love. He did it all, with strength and tenderness, guided by a heart that would put a sparkle in his eye when he smiled at you. A gentle man, yet a man of so much strength.

Steve's passing has left a void for the family. We love him and miss our Pap Pap. But he is now with his

sweetheart, Dixie. And as much as his life on Earth was an adventure, a new one begins in Heaven with his forever beautiful bride, Dixie. May those of us remaining always have fond memories of Steve, keep him alive in our hearts, and be thankful we were part of his fantastic 89-year venture.

Mass was held Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at Nativity Catholic Church in Hollywood, Florida.

Steve will go to his final resting place next to his beloved wife at the cabin on the hill in Frank.

A viewing will be held Sunday, November 12, 2023, from noon to 2 p.m. at Wallace and Wallace Chapel in Arbovale followed by a final goodbye at Babich Family cemetery.

Hilda Meeks

Hilda Phillips Meeks, 86, of Durbin, passed away Friday, November 3, 2023, at West Virginia Caring Center in Elkins.

Born April 1, 1937, at Slaty Fork, she was a daughter of the late Clark and Mary Janice Sage Phillips.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Bennett Meeks; and three siblings, Elva Ray, Glenda P. Long and Clark Phillips, Jr.

She and Donald were married for 39 years and had four children, David (Pamela), of Colorado, Don (Michelle), of Minnesota, Donna (David) Warner, of Durbin, and Duane (Yvette), of Louisiana; 19 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Their life began with the fate of a truck taking a fork in the road that led to her eloping, at age 17, with her high-school sweetheart.

As a young family they got to travel the world on many adventures. Her greatest adventure was being with her family.

She loved the culture and history of the land in West Virginia. Her father Clark served as one of the original engineers running lumber off the mountain on old Shay #5. Years later, Hilda served as a brakeman on the Cass Scenic Railroad running tourists up the same mountain.

A memorial service was held Monday, November 6, 2023, at Wallace and Wallace Funeral Home in Arbovale with Pastor David Rittenhouse officiating.

Online condolences may be shared at WallaceandWalaceFH.com

na Moore; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held 1 p.m. Saturday, November 25, 2023, at Cooktown Community Church with Pastor David McCall officiating.

With the blessing of God, may Ricky rest in peace.

Online condolences may be shared at Lantzfuneralhome.com

Shelia Robinson

Shelia Ann Robinson, peacefully passed away at Wheeling Hospital Thursday, November 2, 2023, with all of her children by her side.

Born April 28, 1961, she was a daughter of the late Merle Andrew Robinson and Frances Elizabeth Brown Robinson.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by a brother, Charles Robinson.

She is survived by four siblings, Betty Cochran, of White Sulphur Springs, Thomas Robinson, of Marlinton, Doug Robinson, of Roanoke, Virginia, and Gerald Robinson, of Wytheville, Virginia; sons, Brian Robinson, and wife, Tara, and grandchildren, Olivia and Ava, of Fraizers Bottom; Jason Robinson, and wife, Sharon, and grandchildren, Lakin, Avory and Owen, of Talbott, Tennessee; and Coy Beverage, of Shepherdstown; and daughter, Nebraska Scotchie, and husband, Jason, and grandchildren, Simon and Micah, of Slaty Fork.

Graveside service was held Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at Oak Grove Cemetery in Hillsboro.

Four years into a class-action foster care lawsuit, DHHR struggles to produce key documents

The agency has repeatedly asked for more time to provide records and other documents in a class-action lawsuit

La Shawn Pagán
Mountain State Spotlight
mountainstatespotlight.org

When a massive lawsuit over West Virginia's foster care system was first filed in 2019, lawyers representing former foster kids asked the state Department of Health and Human Resources for some information they assumed the agency would have, like the number of cases each social worker handles and copies of the federally-required 60-day plans for kids entering the system.

Four years later, DHHR has continued to delay and lawyers still haven't gotten most of the information they've requested.

"How can you run an agency of this magnitude if you don't know what is happening within it?" asked Marcia Lowry, the attorney representing West Virginia's former foster children suing the state.

The class action lawsuit against DHHR filed in September 2019 — which stemmed from allegations of severe neglect and abuse — is asking for more manageable caseloads for social workers, greater overall accountability for the foster care system and proper investigation of allegations of abuse and neglect.

Over the last few years, a district court judge dismissed the lawsuit and a panel of appellate judges reversed the dismissal, sending the case back to the district court. Earlier this year, U.S. District Judge Thomas Johnston recused himself after reporting from Mountain State Spotlight revealed he had involved state lawmakers in settlement talks.

With a trial date set for

June 2024, Lowry said that the information her team has requested should be readily available from DHHR, however, the response she has received by the agency is that they "don't have that aggregate information."

"On behalf of all kids in foster care... we have asked the state for a great deal of information and discovery, to see what is actually happening in the system," Lowry said. "One of the things that has become clear is that the state, basically has a primitive computer information system, and some of the information we want, are registered with a form that is not usable to us."

A DHHR spokesperson did not respond to an inquiry on the lawsuit, the filing process of the agency, or general record accessibility within the agency.

The agency has been slow to produce any discovery in the case, according to Lowry, and court records show that the first of eight requests was made on December 3, 2019. Most of these requests have been followed with DHHR requests for more time to respond.

Recently, Lowry filed a motion to compel, or oblige, the DHHR to produce the material requested. But there has yet to be a ruling on the motion or a response by the agency, according to court records.

As Lowry takes the state to court to make changes within the foster care system

in West Virginia, legislators have attempted and failed to make changes that would have met some of the demands in the lawsuit.

In 2022, HB 4344 would have improved what Del. Mike Pushkin, D-Kanawha, called the "bare minimum" of communication between the DHHR, state lawmakers, foster and kinship families.

"That should be a top priority for the state taking care, taking care of people who have nobody else to take care of them, and foster children should be at the top of that list," Pushkin said in an interview.

Though that bill died in the final hours of the regular

session, lawmakers focused more recently on splitting up the agency in hopes of fixing its problems. Earlier this year lawmakers passed a bill that split the agency into three new departments, or bureaus, as of January 1, 2024. The goal is to make administration of the foster care system and other systems easier.

"It just seemed like there were problems everywhere across the board," Del. Don Forsht, R-Berkeley said, about the move to split DHHR. "There were just too many problems, and it was hard to hold anyone accountable."

Under the new structure that will take place on New Year's, the foster care system would be a branch under Human Resources, according to Forsht, who said, there are hopes that people focused on making the system

better will come onboard.

For Lowry that's the point.

"The state has not tried to develop appropriate foster homes or support services for foster homes... because

some of these kids come into care with terrible problems, their home situation has not been good. And the state has not tried to deal with that at all, it just shuts kids out," Lowry said.

The deadline for Letters to the Editor is Monday at noon. Writers may use a maximum of 600 words. Letters should be issue-oriented and never personal.

Send letters to

jsgraham@pocahontastimes.com

Questions? Call 304-799-4973

Thank You

I would like to thank my friends and neighbors for the prayers and many acts of kindness shown to me during my illness. They were very much appreciated.

—April Lynn Lester

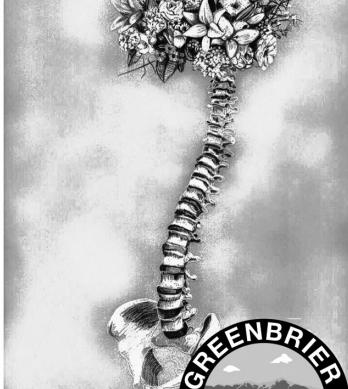
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Homemade Dog Food

Melody Phillips
Staff Writer

In light of numerous pet food recalls, and rumors of other issues surrounding pet foods in the last several years, many people have turned to making their own.

It was around 2015 when I first started making homemade dog food. I am in no way an animal nutritionist, so I am only writing about my personal experience and what I use.

Over the years, due to researching pet nutrition, I have altered my recipe from time to time. The last several batches that I made even appealed to my finicky cat that hates tuna fish and bacon: what a strange cat! But like people, all animals have their own taste preference so adjustments may be needed for flavor as well as nutrition.

The base of this recipe is chicken, beef and brown rice. I don't use white rice due to the higher level of carbohydrates.

In recent years, this recipe has become quite expensive; however, the cost is greatly reduced when I grow my own vegetables. Another cost drop is to raise my own chickens and to hunt for deer and turkey. These meats can be substituted for the beef and chicken. By doing all this, the cost may be mere pennies a day, depending on the size of the dog.

Like people, animals have different nutritional needs, which can vary based on age, breed and activity level. One example of this: Many livestock guardian dogs (LGDs) in other countries are feed a mix of boiled bones, in the bone broth, with some barley cooked into it. This is all the nutrients those dogs need as they also feed off of critters, such as rabbits, which they kill while out in the fields protecting their herd.

In general, PetMD.com suggests the following guidelines for adult dogs:

- about 18% protein and 5.5% fat
- Minerals such as calcium, phosphorus, potassium, sodium, chloride,

magnesium, iron, copper, manganese, zinc, iodine and selenium

- Vitamins such as vitamin A, vitamin D, vitamin E, thiamine, riboflavin, pantothenic acid, niacin, pyridoxine, folic acid, vitamin B12 and choline

From there, you may decide to look for other ingredients that you wish to feed your dog:

- Some adult dog formulas contain omega-3 fatty acids, which help support healthy skin and joints.

- Other formulas have glucosamine for joint health or probiotics for gut health.

- Some dogs are sensitive to chicken and do better on beef- or salmon-based formulas.

Working dogs and dogs that engage in agility work or endurance activities may require more calories and more fat (up to 10-20%) in their adult dog formulas. They can also make do with less fiber (around 5%) in their food.

On the other hand, most dogs kept as pets may be minimally active and can be fed the "standard" adult dog food diet as described above. They may also benefit from diets with at least 10% fiber on a dry matter basis. This will help ensure gut regularity with less physical activity.

The following is a list of foods that should not be fed to dogs:

Baking powder

- acidic salts and sodium bicarbonate may cause gastrointestinal issues such as diarrhea, vomiting, seizures, abdominal pain and possibly death

- may cause an electrolyte imbalance
- when used in baked goods, the chemistry changes so that it may be safe for dogs

Chicken bones and cooked dry bones:

- can splinter or shatter which may get lodged into animal's throat, stomach or intestines (there are exceptions to this)

Cherries

- pits may cause a choking hazard
- large quantities of cherry pits may lead to cyanide poisoning (the cyanide in certain seeds is a different subject I may cover in a later article, along with my personal experience with it)

Candy, cookies, sweets

Chicken/turkey skin

- the high fat content of chicken skin may cause upset stomach or pancreatitis in some dogs

Chili pepper

- chili peppers are not toxic
- may cause severe stomach pains and other issues in dogs due to high levels of capsaicin

Chocolate

- dogs cannot process the chemical theobromine in chocolate which can lead to trembling, elevated heart rate, seizures and death

- dark chocolate and cocoa powder have higher levels of theobromine

Citrus fruit

- can cause vomiting and diarrhea in some dogs
- oranges are considered safe in small amounts

Chives and other allium family (leeks, garlic, onions)

- can lead to hemolytic anemia, damage to the red blood cells, preventing them from carrying oxygen

Coffee

- high levels of caffeine

Corn on the cob

- large chunks of the cob can cause a blockage in throat or intestines

Fats/grease

- too much can irritate the digestive tract

Hops

- may increase body temperature to dangerous or deadly levels

Ice cream/dairy

- some dogs have trouble

GOLDEN STATE GIRLS

ACROSS	49	Continuously	90	Gore—	(rainwear fabric)	37	Puppies	79	Test
1 Requested	50	Cruel	91	Get a lock on	39 Boatloads	80	versions of smartphone programs, e.g.		
6 Mass helpers	51	emperor	92	Milan's La —	42 Piece of tile art	81	vacant political position		
15 Foil maker	52	Troop's group	93	Gold purity	43 Zoo dweller	82	Oil, in slang		
20 Empathetic declaration	53	Partners	94	competitor	44 Eyeball part	83	High-speed		
21 Steak lover, e.g.	54	Title sorority in a 1985 film	95	1996-2002	45 India's Gandhi	84	A Great Lake		
22 Lounges idly	55	Turkish cap	96	"Saturday Night Live"	46 Be wobbly	85	Military post		
23 Italian developer of an educational method	56	French friends	97	cast member	47 Fog or steam	86	Scans again		
25 Third month	57	Smithereens	98	Apparel	48 Lounge around	87	Artisans' club		
26 "Two Years Before the Masi" star	58	Onewtime rival of Steffi Graf	99	100 Band's job	50 Fishnet stuff	88	Rails in ballet		
27 Film director Craven	59	Swimmer Thorpe	100	Guarantee	51 Oven brand	89	Invited one		
28 Family-style Chinese dish	60	Farm female	101	The to Henri	52 Deep-voiced singer	90	Actress Page		
29 Body design, in brief	61	Red Cross founder	102	"Velvet Fog"	53 Criticized	91	Ducks —		
30 The new girl on "New Girl"	62	Therefore	103	vocalist	54 tribesperson	92	"Duck —" (Warner Bros. short)		
32 French painter of "The Horse Fair"	63	Fix, as a pet	104	105	12 Siouan tribesperson	93	Zellweger of the screen		
36 Commotion	64	Frigid	106	"Velvet Fog"	13 —out!"	94	Body part often pulled by an athlete		
38 The "N" of USNA: Abbr.	65	House pests	107	Actor Fall	14 —out!"	95	Gives assent		
40 "never believe me!"	66	Spirited	108	Comedian with the 1990 HBO special	15 Some hardwoods	96	Speed-of-sound ratio		
41 Rap's "Dr."	67	Flub up	109	110 Band's job	16 Averse	97	Green stuff		
42 She played Abby Parker on HBO's "The Deuce"	68	Sense by touch	111	112 Comedian with the 1990 HBO special	17 Criticized	98	Paddle crop		
48 Cut with a light beam	69	Zeus' wife	113	114 Engulfed by fire	18 No question"	99	Like a tiny recording		
	70	Singer Delta	114	115 Resistance to alternating current	19 Some hardwoods	100	Body part often pulled by an athlete		
	71	Fencing sword	115	116 Hunter	20 Part of MLB constellation	101	102 "Hero" actress Davis		
	72	She played Miss Ellie Ewing on "Dallas"	117	118 Engulfed by fire	21 Boxer Oscar de la Hoya	103	Emailed junk		
	73		119	It can precede eight first names in this puzzle to form the names of California cities	22 Add while mixing	104	107 General — chicken		
	74		120	35 Flock of quail	23 Throat-clearing noise	105	108 Other, in Oviedo		
	75		121	36 Dancer de Mille	24 Clearing noise	106	110 More, in a music score		
	76		122		25	128 Get set for surgery	111	Band blaster	
	77		123		26	129 Vocalist Yoko Ono	112	News svc.	
	78		124		27	130	113 Vocalist Yoko Ono		
	79		125		28	131			
	80		126		29	132			
	81		127		30	133			
	82		128		31	134			
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	115		161		64	167			</



Preserving Pocahontas

B. J. Gudmundsson, Preservation Officer

Buford V. Doyle – circa 1944



BUFORD V. DOYLE, in World War II Uniform, pictured at home in Mace, West Virginia. Doyle entered service October 11, 1943 and fought at Normandy. (World War II Collection, Photo Courtesy of Ellen Friel Doyle; ID: PHP000534)

Access the "Preserving Pocahontas" Digital Library at <http://pocahontaspreservation.org/omeka/>

If you have photographs or documents to be scanned for the county Historical Archive contact Preservation Officer B. J. Gudmundsson at 304-799-3989 or email info@pocahontaspreservation.org. Prints of photographs are available.

Footsteps through History

The Pocahontas Times
Andrew Price, Editor

Thursday,
November 10, 1898

One of the most statesmanlike and judicious speeches made during the campaign just closed was delivered by Hon. H. G. Davis at Piedmont. It deserves to become historical and adopted as a model of public addresses. It concludes with these sentiments, worthy of permanent remembrance by our young men.

"Our Republic is based upon self-government. It is a principle which the founders charged us to guard well. As long as the Government remains of the people, it is safe. When it drifts into the hands of the few, it has lost its anchorage and is in danger."

Rome, the greatest republic the world has ever seen, prospered and grew as long as local self-government was practiced. When the control of her affairs passed into the hands of selfish and ambitious men, her strength was weakened. They sought to enlarge their power by conquering and governing other countries, but the citizen was no longer independent and free. His rights and liberties were usurped and the principle of self-government was gone. The nation tottered and fell, destroyed by the want of vigilance of the people in preserving their liberties as free and independent citizens.

Remember to keep well within your control the right of representation and taxation, to hold your representatives accountable to you for their stewardship and to preserve inviolate the principles of free government.

PERSONAL NOTES

H. A. Yeager has been in Marlinton a few days and arranged to make Huttonsville his place of business for the fall and winter establishing a plant for the manufacture of staves and barrel headers between Huttonsville and Beverly.

Married — at the Bird Hotel November 2, 1898, by W. T. Price, Mr. Dock Sheets and Miss Nannie A. Tacey. The parties are from the vicinity of Green Bank, and were attended by James Tacey, brother of the bride, and Miss Sheets, sister of the groom.

T. F. Callison sold his lot of three year old cattle to S. J. Payne last Wednesday.

There were 16 head which averaged 1,460 pounds. A yoke of oxen sold with them, weighing 4,080 pounds. This was considered the top bunch of cattle in the Greenbrier Valley.

A flourishing lyceum has been organized at Pine Grove and some spirited discussions have been held on questions of current interest.

Some of the brightest names in the history of American statesmanship attribute their earliest inspiration to the influence of the country lyceum, or debating club. It affords the education that educates, when properly conducted.

BIOGRAPHIC NOTE

Nathan Burgess married Martha Kinnison, of Charles Kinnison, the pioneer, and settled on lands now in the possession of the Payne Family. He was a skillful gunsmith. Late in the previous century and for a number of the earlier years of the current century, many of the older hunters were supplied by him with rifles. Some of

his rifles were used by riflemen in military service. One of the best specimens of his workmanship was made for the late William McNeil, of Buckeye. When last heard of, it was the property of James Moore. It was reported to be one of the most accurate in aim and far reaching of mountain rifles ever in the county. It would be well if it could be gotten and deposited in the Museum of the West Virginia Historical Society at Charleston...

CHORUS OF WOMEN

They're always abusing the women

As a terrible plague to men;

They say we're the root of all evil,

And repeat it again and again;

Of war and quarrels and bloodshed,

All mischief, be what it may —

And, pray then, why do you marry us

If we're all the plagues you say?

And why do you take such care of us

And keep us so safe at home;

And are never easy a moment,

If ever we chance to roam?

When you ought to be thanking heaven

That your plague is out of the way,

You all keep fussing and fretting

Where is my plague today?

If a plague peeps out of the window,

Up go the eyes of the men;

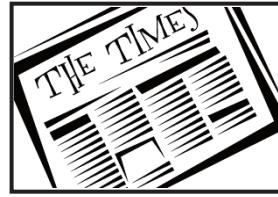
If she hides, then they all keep staring

Until she looks out again.

~ Aritophanes

BIOGRAPHIC NOTE

Nathan Burgess married Martha Kinnison, of Charles Kinnison, the pioneer, and settled on lands now in the possession of the Payne Family. He was a skillful gunsmith. Late in the previous century and for a number of the earlier years of the current century, many of the older hunters were supplied by him with rifles. Some of



Fifty Years Ago

Jane Price Sharp, Editor

Thursday,
November 8, 1973

A FIRST

For the first time in the memory of those at the Courthouse, there was no sale of land for delinquent taxes. Every tract was redeemed prior to the sale.

FLYING SAUCERS

The UFO fever is contagious and spreading rapidly. On October 24, many people watched a lighted object in the sky to the north, lights going from red to blue to white like a Christmas tree. A call to Green Bank said it was a star, with unusual turbulence in the atmosphere making it twinkle much more than ordinary. Some girls at Hillsboro had a more frightening experience of

lights and a flying something, and their mother saw it, too. Several were seen at Frost the same night. No explanation yet for those.

FIRST TRAIN

In reference to the people that are around since the first train arrived in Marlinton:

I remember very well, as I

was standing on the porch at the square house in front of the Methodist church with mother and some others, when the whistle blew as the train was crossing the bridge; it scared me so bad I fell off the porch.

Also, my dad was at the depot with the rest of Pocahontas county people all shoving and looking at the new show. All very suddenly, the Engineer yelled out that he was going to turn

the train around, and, at that, there was a stampede; they were knocking people down like ten pins.

Yours Sincerely,
Claude McLaughlin

WEATHER

October 1973

Minimum temperature: 23 degrees on the 18th.

Maximum temperature: 79 degrees on the 4th.

Average high temperature: 67.2 degrees

Average low: 36.6.

Rainfall: 4.66 inches

Mr. and Miss Red Devil

The Mr. and Miss Red Devil Contest for this year at Hillsboro Junior High School was won by Debra Pritt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Pritt, of Droop Mountain and Tony Wiley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wiley, also of Droop Mountain. They will be crowned at the first home basketball game at Hillsboro.

see 50 pg 13

shot them out. The way they read the sign, these bears were just passing through the country, from the Alleghany to Black Mountain.

Last week, Austin and Oscar Sharp checked in on three bears — one on Kennison Mountain; one on Black Mountain; and one on Cranberry. I have lost account, but this is around 20 head of bears for these hunters since April.

One day last week, Raymond and Glenn Shrader went a grouse hunting in Marlin Mountain. They put up a bird, and he kept flying by spurts down a long hollow. As the grouse flew by a pine tree, it was just too much for a hungry old owl to stand — he darted out on silent wings to fly him down. About then, Glenn went into action to blow the life out of the great horned owl. The grouse got away, but it was a good day's work to rid the range of such a bad game killer.

Upon the Jerico Road, Lewis Sharp heard dogs a baying. Grabbing a gun, he went for to see. Milburn Sharp's hounds had an old bear and cub up a tree. Lewis

Jordon, at Cass, November 5, 1923.

DIED

A. K. Dysard died at his home in Greenbrier county last week at an advanced age. For many years, he was a prominent citizen of Pocahontas county.

DEER KILLED

Among the hunters getting a deer since the report in last week's paper are J. B. Nottingham, Dewey Burr, Wellington Ruckman, H. L. Kincaid, E. M. Johnson, Moses Underwood, Henry Waugh and Dexter Sharp.

WEDDINGS

Married, at the First Presbyterian Church of Catlettsburg, Kentucky, October 23,

James M. Bear and Mrs.

Minnie B. Cochran. The

bride is a daughter of Mr.

and Mrs. William McClure,

of Hillsboro, and has been a

popular operator at the Mar-

lington telephone central. Mr.

Bear is the efficient manager

of the Pocahontas Telephone

Company. He is a veteran of

the World War, and saw

much service in Europe.

Married, James Lee Hart-

ley and Miss Ponsy Leone

Married, James Lee Hart-

ley and Miss Ponsy Leone

Married, James Lee Hart-

ley and Miss Ponsy Leone

Married, James Lee Hart-

ley and Miss Ponsy Leone

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ley and Miss Ponsy Leone

Married, James Lee Hart-



WHILE THE NATIONAL Christmas Tree was on display at Mitchell Chevrolet, there were multiple stations to visit to gather information and enjoy sweets and crafts. At the U.S. Forest Service tent, education specialist Amy Coleman Lovell, right, shows the cookie cut from the stump of the Norway spruce. The cookie revealed that the tree was 38-years old when it was harvested. *S. Stewart photos*



THE MONONGAHELA NATIONAL Forest has a special history with the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree, as it was the first national forest selected to provide the People's Tree.

That first tree was harvested from the Greenbrier Ranger District in 1970. The 55-foot Norway spruce was cut and loaded onto a Burns Motor Freight tractor trailer.

Burns Motor Freight employees wrapped the tree in plastic; Bob McCarty designed the banner; and Burns truck driver G. C. McNeil delivered the People's Tree to Washington, D. C.

Six years later, in 1976, Monongahela National Forest provided the nation's Bicentennial People's Tree, cut from the Gauley Ranger District.

Of all the trees in the country, only one is selected each year. This year, a 63-foot Norway spruce from the Greenbrier Ranger District of the Mon Forest received the honor. *Photo courtesy of Fred Burns, Jr.*



EVERYONE HAD AN opportunity to be part of the National Christmas Tree's journey by adding their name to the banner on the side of the tractor trailer hauling the tree to Washington, D.C. U.S. Forest Service employees were on hand with markers and step ladders to ensure everyone found a spot for their name. At right, the tree was escorted through Marlinton by a parade of youngsters on their bicycles. The parade also included an appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus.



THE U.S. FOREST Service had tree replicas, made by Harper's Ferry Job Corps, at the event. People were asked to tell what they loved about the forest and public lands and to write their thoughts on leaves. The leaves were then hung on the trees to be displayed later at the Forest Service office in Elkins.

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The Marines' Hymn

The Marines' Hymn is one of the most readily recognized songs in the world today and is the oldest of the service songs of our country. The history of the hymn has been clouded by the passing of time and confused by oral tradition. But there is no confusion on the part of the listener when The Marines' Hymn is heard. It is as easily identified with the Marine Corps as "The Star-Spangled Banner" is with our nation. To all Marines it has become a sacred symbol of the pride and professionalism of a Marine and you will find them standing straight and tall at the position of attention when it is performed.

In 1929 the Commandant of the Marine Corps authorized the first official version of the The Marines' Hymn, in which the fourth line of the first verse originally read "On the land as on the sea." This was revised to its present version on November 21, 1942, when the Commandant of the Marine Corps approved changing this line to "In the air, on land, and sea," acknowledging the important role of aviation within the Corps:

"From the Halls of Montezuma
To the shores of Tripoli;
We fight our country's battles

In the air, on land, and sea;
First to fight for right and freedom
And to keep our honor clean;

We are proud to claim the title
Of United States Marine.
Our flag's unfurled to every breeze

From dawn to setting sun;
We have fought in ev'ry clime and place
Where we could take a gun;

In the snow of far-off Northern lands
And in sunny tropic scenes;

You will find us always on the job

The United States Marines
Here's health to you and to our Corps

Which we are proud to serve;

In many a strife we've fought for life

And never lost our nerve;
If the Army and the Navy
Ever look on Heaven's scenes;

They will find the streets are guarded
By United States Marines."



The Army Goes Rolling Along Library of Congress

"The Army Goes Rolling Along" was designated the official song of the United States Army in 1956. Yet its history goes back to March 1908 when Brigadier General Edmund Louis "Snitz" Gruber, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, wrote "The Caissons Go Rolling Along."

Early in his Army career Gruber, a descendent of Franz Gruber, the composer of "Silent Night," was stationed in the Philippines. During a difficult march through the Zambales Mountains on Luzon island Gruber went ahead with a small detachment to select the best route for his battalion. He climbed to higher ground to get an overview and to look back down on the marching companies and artillery. As they rattled nearer Gruber heard one of the section chiefs shout out to his drivers, "Come on! Keep 'em rolling!"

Months later, with lyrical assistance from a number of his fellow lieutenants, Gruber came up with a tune that grew from that experience. Gradually, their song became popular throughout the Army's ranks:

"Over hill, over dale
As we hit the dusty trail,
And those caissons go rolling along.

In and out, hear them shout,

Counter march and right about,

And those caissons go rolling along.

Refrain:

Then it's hi! hi! hee!
In the field artillery,

Shout out your numbers loud and strong,

For where e'er you go,
You will always know

That those caissons go rolling along."

Off we go into the wild blue yonder

Climbing high into the sun...

Brigadier General H.

"Hap" Arnold proposed a song-writing contest to help give the Air Corps its own musical identity. Established as the Aeronautical Division of the Army Signal Corps in 1907, just four years after the Wright Brothers' first flight, and renamed the Air Corps in 1926, it remained throughout World War II a combat arm of the U.S. Army, although the Navy and the Marine Corps also had pilots on active duty.

In 1917, he was Captain of the Port in Philadelphia and

we sail at break of day-ay-ay."

"Anchors Aweigh," the official song of the Navy, was first sung publicly in Philadelphia's Franklin Field at the December 1, 1906 Army-Navy football game. The rousing song helped the Midshipmen shut out the Cadets with a 10 to 0 victory. Lieutenant Charles A. Zimmerman, a graduate of the Peabody Conservatory and director of the Naval Academy Band, composed the song's music, and Midshipman Alfred H. Miles supplied its words.

In 1926 George D. Lottman added the most familiar verse, and the remaining lyrics were revised in 1997 by John Hagen, USN (Ret).

"Anchors Aweigh, my boys, Anchors Aweigh.
Farewell to college joys, we sail at break of day-ay-ay.

Through our last night on shore, drink to the foam,
Until we meet once more:

Here's wishing you a happy voyage home.
Stand Navy out to sea,

Fight our battle cry;
We'll never change our course,

So vicious foe steer shy-y-y.

Roll out the TNT,
Anchors Aweigh.

Sail on to victory
And sink their bones to Davy Jones, hooray!

Anchors Aweigh, my boys,
Anchors Aweigh.

Farewell to foreign shores,

We sail at break of day-ay-ay.

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by Liberty magazine in 1938 and more than 600 entries were submitted. Among the applicant composers were such names as Meredith Willson, who went on to Broadway fame as the author of *The Music Man* and Irving Berlin, whom the Air Corps flew in a B-18 bomber to spark his creativity. Neither of their proposals won, but the fruits of Berlin's labor were later planted in Moss Hart's Broadway show *Winged Victory*.

The winning entry was a last-minute submission from Yukon-born Robert Crawford, an amateur pilot. "Off we go into the wild blue yonder,
Climbing high into the sun;
Here they come zooming to meet our thunder,
At 'em, boys, Give 'er the gun now!"

Down we dive, spouting our flame from under,

Off with one helluva roar!

We live in fame or go down in flame. Hey!

Nothing will stop the U.S. Air Force!

Minds of men fashioned a crate of thunder,

Sent it high into the blue;

Hands of men blasted the world asunder;

How they lived God only knew then!

Souls of men dreaming of skies to conquer

Gave us wings, ever to soar!

With scouts before And bombers galore. Hey!

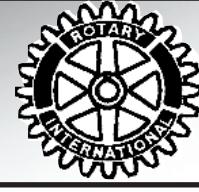
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!"

No one seems to know exactly how Semper Paratus was chosen as the Coast Guard's motto. But there is no doubt as to who put the famous motto to words and music. Captain Francis Saltus Van Boskerck wrote the words in the cabin of the cutter Yamacraw in Savannah, Georgia, in 1922. He wrote the music five years later on a "beat-up old piano" in Unalaska, Alaska. At that time, it was probably the only piano in the whole long chain of Aleutian Islands. Van Boskerck received his commission in the Revenue Cutter Service May 20, 1891.

In 1917, he was Captain of the Port in Philadelphia and

Congratulations, Kenny Woods!

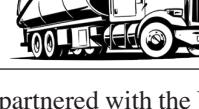
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Tree, from page 1

profit partner of the U.S. Forest Service that organizes the delivery of the National Christmas tree each year.

"Primarily, I populate our Facebook and Instagram pages with photographs and also with a little bit of interpretation with regard to what the Capitol Christmas tree is about," he said. "Not very many people know or understand that it is a non-funded federal mandate, meaning that no taxpayer dollars go into this enterprise."

"It's important that people understand that it is done through everything from corporate donations to non-profit organizations and a variety of other forms of financial propriety that makes this possible," he added.

Mills will travel with the tree all the way to Washington, D.C., making stops in West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

How long will he be with the tree?

"From the moment it is harvested to the moment it is put in the ground in Washington," he said.

Also traveling with the tree for the entire journey is U.S. Forest Service Natural Resource Specialist Julie Fosbender, of Elkins.

The very top of the tree and a "cookie," or slice of the trunk, were on display at

the forest service table Monday.

"They didn't feel like [the top] would be strong enough," Fosbender said. "This was taken off the stump, so we were able to tell how old it is by counting the rings – thirty-eight years. It's kind of like we have the bottom and the top and everything in between is on the trailer."

As for tracking the tree, Fosbender explained that the trailer has a GPS tracker on it and people can log on to chooseoutdoors.com to see the journey it will take.

"The other cool thing that is totally awesome is there's a GPS tracker on the trailer so you can watch it travel," she said. "When we came through Bartow this morning, there were people on the side of the road because they knew it was coming through."

The Forest Service has been preparing for the Christmas tree's journey for months. From the Marlinton office, Amy Coleman Lovell has been the education specialist and has worked with students to make ornaments and educate them about the forest service in general.

"We've been going in and doing presentations about the Forest Service, about the project and making ornaments with the children," she said. "We started in March or April and we focus on the ten counties where we have national forest. We reached

more than 20,000 people this year."

Lovell explained that 14,000 large ornaments from all over the state were submitted to be on the tree and 1,800 of those are on the main tree. The others, as well as the school children's ornaments will be on the other Christmas trees in D.C.

"We have what are called companion trees that go in the USDA building, the Forest Service building and the Congressional offices and a lot of those smaller ornaments will decorate those trees," she said. "These [already on the tree] had to be weather proofed."

The Forest Service also had several wooden tree replicas where visitors could answer the question "What do you love about West Virginia forests and public lands." Answers were written on a leaf and placed on the wooden trees.

"Those were made by Harper's Ferry Job Corp," Lovell said. "I think after the tour, we'll display them all together, probably in our supervisor's office in Elkins."

The 2023 "People's Tree" was harvested at the Laurel Fork Campground in Randolph County and will make several more stops in West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania before it arrives in Washington, D.C. November 17.

Suzanne Stewart may be contacted at sastewart@pocahontastimes.com

fire safety and fire prevention, we had the award put on a Maltese Cross plaque," Tyree said.

Tyree thanked all the students at HES who participated in the contest and congratulated Scott again for her winning poster.

"It is so important to us to be able to help get our mes-

sage out and for you all to help create messaging that your community and other communities throughout the state can adhere to, so keep up the good work," he said.

Scott's poster will be printed in a calendar along with 11 other posters which were runners-up in the contest.

rected. Meck said he has and he held up the original of a current valid lease for the landfill between the authority and Jody Fertig which was signed in 2013. The lease includes 44.01 acres of land for 20 years, with a right of first refusal to extend it for another 20 years when it expires in 2033. The lease payment is \$18,000 per year. He also held up a deed which was made out for the sale of the property. He said the authority's attorney made 41 changes to the deed, of which Renee has accepted all but two. One of those two involved having the authority fence both sides of Landfill Road from the scales to Route 28, and the other one she wanted to remain unchanged was that the authority agreed to never use Eminent Domain to seize any of her property.

Authority Member David Henderson, as well as Riley, said they would never use Eminent Domain on the landfill property, but they do not want to include the rest of her property in any such agreement. He also said it

would cost \$84,000 to fence both sides of Landfill Road, which is too expensive. Member David McLaughlin disputed Henderson's high estimate of the cost of fencing.

There was also a dispute over the exact property boundaries, with Commissioner (and also Authority Member) Jamie Walker saying he would never agree to purchase any property until the property lines are clearly set and marked. Everyone agreed that a full survey would be needed before any sale agreement could be signed.

Helmick said the commission needed some time to study all of this, and while not committing any financial support to the Authority at this time, he said it might possibly happen. He said that the issue is of such importance to the community that the commission wants to be involved in any further financial discussions about all of this.

The meeting was adjourned without the commission taking any action.

Riley went on to explain that the Authority is spending 15 percent more than their budget to operate the landfill, but since they raised their Green Box fees from \$107 a year to \$115, and are in the process of raising their commercial tipping fees from \$72.75 per ton to \$95 per ton, their losses will be only three percent above their budget, rather than the current 15 percent.

He said they have two escrow accounts with the State Public Service Commission. A construction account for creating a new cell into which they are required to deposit \$82,000 a year, and which now has \$732,000 in it; and a landfill closing and capping escrow account which now has about \$1.25 million of the estimated \$1.6 million needed to cap and close the landfill when it is full. He said they intend to ask the PSC to allow them to spend the construction account for other construction projects, not for just creating new cells, since they will not be adding any new cells to the landfill. He said a new cell would now cost more than \$1 million but, in any event, they do not have enough land on which to create a new one.

Jacob Meck told the commission he was contacted by Bob Martin a couple of months ago. Martin asked him to contact Renee and see if the sale could be resur-

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Forest, from page 1

"And it was planted about the same time as the first Capitol Christmas tree was harvested in the same county, relatively close to here on the Greenbrier Ranger District."

After a photo op with the tree and all the forest personnel, one of the members climbed near the top of the tree to attach a line from one of two large cranes onsite. Once that was secured, it was time to cut the tree. Amy Albright, U.S. Capitol Tree Project Manager, introduced the two men selected for the honor.

"We're going to have a two-person team using a cross-cut saw this year," she said. "So Ron Polgar is a long time employee on the Monongahela National Forest; he is an expert botanist and he has taught and certified many sawyers here on the Monongahela."

Peace, from page 1

Day. American involvement and sacrifice had made the difference, tipped the balance, and the Allied Powers were victorious. But, what happened?

• Wilson's effort did not end wars; they remain an ugly staple of human existence. We are not that civilized, after all. Misguided evil entities would continue to find excuses to engage in warfare.

• The utter devastation of The Great War spawned two totalitarian menaces: fascism and communism, and these would precipitate bloody conflict for the rest of the 20th century

• As "wars and rumors of war" sadly continued during

"Our second Sawyer is Arden Cogar, Jr. He is an attorney here in West Virginia and a world champion lumberjack from a family whose history is deeply rooted in the timber industry. His father harvested the 1976 tree, so passing it down in the family."

Once they were suited up, it took them a very short time to cut through the large trunk of the tree which seemed to float in the air as it was separated from the stump. Another tether line from the second crane was attached to the trunk so the tree could be turned horizontally in preparation for placing on the truck bed that will take it to Washington, D.C.

Monongahela National Forest Supervisor Shawn Cochran thanked all those who attended the harvest, as well as Senator Joe Manchin and Shelly Moore-Capito for their support of the program and the forest.

Cochran also had thanks for the Shawnee Tribe, who

have partnered with the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree for decades.

"I also want to thank the Shawnee Tribe who has provided support through naming the tree "wa'feem'tekwi" which means 'bright tree' in the Shawnee language," Cochran said. "They also sent handmade ornaments for the tree and contributed to the interpretive exhibit that will go with the tree. Once the tree has completed its mission, the tree's wood will be milled and provided back to the tribe to be used on their ceremonial grounds in White Oak, Oklahoma."

Erin Paden, from the Shawnee Tribe was also on hand to witness the harvest.

Ethan Reese, a fourth grade student at Beverly Elementary school and winner of the 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Essay contest will have the honor of throwing the switch to light the tree to officially kick off the holiday season in Washington.

the Cold War. The Armistice Day of World War I was re-cast by Congress in 1954 as Veterans Day, a day to honor all those who continued to step forward and deter war or, as necessary, fight them.

But what are we to learn from all this; what is the take-away?

By being prepared for war, we do keep the peace. Given our nature and human proclivity to engage in war, George Washington was exactly right: deterrence works – it is the only thing that keeps the peace. In greater numbers than most, West Virginia citizens have routinely stepped forward and volunteered to train as soldiers. With our investment of human capital, the country remains free and

safe. We Mountaineers continue to be a key asset in the arsenal of democracy.

This Veterans Day, November 11th, we will once again honor our military veterans, all those living who have raised their right hands and sworn to defend us and our Constitution. They deserve our appreciation and utmost respect; they are the real Peacemakers. We thank God for them.

West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and spent 23 years in the United States Army. He retired at the rank of Lt. Colonel. He spent 2011 through 2015 in Afghanistan working with the U.S. State Department.

Marlinton Town Council

meets the first Monday of each month, excluding holidays, at 7 p.m. at the town of Marlinton municipal building auditorium. The public is welcome to attend in person or online through a Zoom link.

The amended ordinance will be provided to the public after the second reading.

In other action, council:

• discussed the application for Home Rule and Town Recorder Mary Clendenin said there is too much information that needs to be compiled to meet the November 17 deadline for application.

She said the town will work on the application and submit it by the April 2024 deadline.

• approved the third and final reading of the Ordinance for Purchasing without Competitive Bidding.

• discussed the annual donation to WVMR radio station.

A motion was made to make the donation, but it died for the lack of a second.

Safety, from page 2

prove the first reading of the ordinance, Felton said it needed a lot of adjustments.

"We've already discussed this enough that, immediately, there is a lot of amending that has to be done," he said. "It's a municipal fee – maybe we need to change the name of it – because obviously we're talking about it primarily for a police department and security."

"A police department is expensive, there's no question about that," he continued.

Council struck several items from the ordinance, including the mention of fire, street cleaning, other municipal services, parks and recreation maintenance and street improvements. Council also said there needed to be a more specific outline concerning properties that have second buildings on them and whether or not the fee will be by building or by

property.

While he mentioned the suggested fee of \$12.50 a month during the hear callers portion of the meeting, Felton did not add it to the discussion with council. A fee amount was not added to the ordinance before the first reading was approved by council.

The amended ordinance

will be provided to the public after the second reading.

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Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday by appointment

Food, from page 6

crystals which may lead to bloody urine, tremoring, diarrhea, vomiting and acute kidney failure

Yeast, raw

- can ferment inside intestines causing severe bloating and an issue called gastric dilatation-volvulus (GDV) which is a life-threatening twist in the stomach

Xylitol

- causes the pancreas to release a large amount of insulin which can result in hypoglycemia

- may also cause tremoring, pale gums, increased heart rate, seizures and even liver failure and death

There are times when I get the idea my doggies may have eaten something they shouldn't have, so whenever I notice one of them showing any signs of stomach discomfort, I give them some activated charcoal. Activated charcoal is a mega absorber of toxins and can be used in some cases of poisoning. The easiest way I have found to administer this is to mix several tablespoons full into some melted bacon grease or tallow to make a thick paste. Usually, within just a few moments of ingesting it, they seem to feel better. The FDA has even approved activated charcoal for veterinary use. Although activated charcoal is considered safe, the recommended dose for all species is

about 1-5 g/kg body weight. It is best to administer activated charcoal as quickly as possible, while the toxins are still in the digestive tract.

My homemade dogfood recipe (quarts and pints are home canned sizes):

2 lbs. raw beef chunks, hamburger or venison

6 lbs. raw chicken or turkey

3 cups uncooked brown rice

1/2 head of broccoli (this may cause gas or bloating in some dogs)

1 qt. pumpkin cubes or 1 pint puree

3 qt. sweet potato cubes

1 pint green beans or peas

6 diced or pureed apples

2-3 lbs. diced carrots

Place everything in large pot and cover just to the top with water. Bring up slowly to a boil, boil about 5 minutes, turn off heat, then cover with a lid. Allow it to cool completely in the pot, stirring occasionally to be sure the rice stays moist and cooks completely.

In the meantime, hard-boil two dozen eggs, remove the shells, and dice (I crush the shells and add them back in, as well).

Add the cooked eggs (and shells if desired) and 1-2 pounds of cottage cheese or yogurt into the cooled food. Stir well.

This can be frozen in portion sizes, canned (for those comfortable with "rebel canning," or freeze dried.

Please note: This is what I do; it is not a recommendation for anyone else.

Do your own research.

Court, from page 2

November 7. Mace was indicted on three counts, strangulation; and two counts, wanton endangerment involving a firearm.

A hearing to revoke deferred adjudication was held in the case the State vs Adam Harwell, 36, of Buckeye, wherein the court sentenced the defendant, for the offense of wanton endangerment involving a firearm, to a

definite period of two years in the state penitentiary, fined him \$1,000 and taxed court costs against him. Harwell was given 63 days' credit for time service. He was remanded to custody.

Citing a conflict in that the assistant prosecuting attorney was a former law clerk for one of the circuit judges, defense counsel for Tanner Lee Moore, 26, of Marlinton, asked that the matter be transferred to the other division of the court. A status/evidentiary hearing is set for November 29. Jury Trial is scheduled for March 25, 2024.

Moore was indicted on one count, first degree murder; one count, use or presentation of a firearm during the commission of a felony.

Steven K. Bennett, 48, of Green Bank, tendered a written plea agreement to the court wherein he pleaded guilty to the lesser included misdemeanor offense of driving while license revoked for driving under the influence of alcohol, second offense. He was sentenced to one year monitored home confinement and fined the minimum fine of \$1,000.

Droop, from page 3

The Honor Corps had set the mood for what was to be three hours of a living history lesson taught by locals who each had a story to tell. Helena Gondry, with the help of Janet Barker, had created mustaches and paper horses to give the kids an interactive experience in the poem she read by our erstwhile West Virginia poet laureate Louise McNeill. The props helped the children dramatize the poem, and although a very sad topic, the poem was read by Helena in such a way as to not be frightening.

Mike Smith, former park superintendent at Droop and consummate storyteller, made the battle come to life by regaling the children with vignettes of what actually happened, and the rugged life they experienced in the Civil War camps. He guided the children through the Droop Battlefield museum to explain the histori-

cal artifacts there, including the mouth bits used to control the horses. Speaking of horses, singer/songwriter Kate Long had written a song called *Eighty-Five Horses* that paid homage to their sacrifice as collateral damage in that battle. Greg Morgan, beloved music teacher at HES, taught the kids the song from a recording that was made as Kate sat in a coffee shop in Charleston. Like many folk songs, this was never written as sheet music. The school children sang the song after the 21-gun salute, and it was a truly moving experience.

Mr. Morgan also had the children in a large drum circle where they were able to play various rhythms and "go crazy" with beating their own drums. The reason for the drums was to explain the importance and bravery of the young drummer boys, some as young as nine years old, who stealthily beat out the orders for the soldiers to turn left flank, or right flank, or stay

still, or maybe run. The enemy could not decode these instructions, and the soldiers marching way back in the line could hear the drums.

Blair Campbell, chef at The Hillsboro Public House, was on hand to build a campfire and demonstrate how the Civil War soldiers and their wives could eat by cooking over these flames.

The kids enjoyed delicious chicken cooked by threading the meat on the end of a stick. Blair led them in a discussion of what sorts of food they were likely to find in the lush forests of our region.

Park superintendent Jim Weber took the kids on a short hike toward the trenches that had been dug by the Confederate soldiers

in an attempt to have some protection from the Union soldiers. Walking through these trenches was sad and somewhat eerie. On the way, they passed the stump of the ancient fallen tree that had survived the battle only to be struck down by the derecho of 2012. Oh, if that tree could talk, just imagine what it could teach us.

This was a truly beautiful autumn day, and the best kind of history lesson that a group of children can experience. We owe many thanks to the organizers, Susan Arbogast and Helena Gondry, for creating this collaboration among the state park system, Hillsboro Elementary School, Hillsboro Library Friends, and community volunteers.

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Golf, from page 3

their support by sponsoring holes, and the outpouring of support from local businesses was overwhelming. More than 65 players took part in the scramble, more than 30 people were hole sponsors, and more businesses donated silent auction prizes – the community showed its support of the scholarship and the lasting impression Michael had on his community, raising in more than \$10,000 for the fund.

The GVCF has been so good to work with. Not only did they offer to pay for the lunch for all the golfers, but they have also agreed to be an integral part of this campaign moving forward for years to come. Anne and her Board of Directors, as busy as they are with all the funds they deal with daily, recognized that we wanted to help the Michael J. Porter STEM Scholarship grow and be something that will have a

major impact on a local student's educational future.

Michael's hope was that he could have enough influence to encourage and challenge his students to go out and get the education they needed to achieve their goals but not forget about the community that they came from. Always holding family and friends close, Michael knew the importance of community, and he wanted to make his little piece of Pocahontas County a better place for his students to come back to. We are holding fast to the same ideas as we move forward with our campaign to build a better community in this piece of West Virginia.

The Michael J. Porter STEM Scholarship Golf Classic will take place again next summer. The date will be announced sometime soon, and I will make sure it is published so everyone reading this will be able to either participate as a golfer, sponsor a hole, or become a business sponsor, as several levels of sponsorship are available. Please know that even though this will be a

yearly event, donations are always welcome. You can send your check to:

Greenbrier Valley Community Foundation
PO Box 1682
Lewisburg, WV 24901
Please indicate MJP STEM in the memo line.

Or visit www.gvfoundation.org

Again, I would like to thank Anne and the GVCF for everything that they have done for us. I would also like to thank Philip and his staff at the Pocahontas County Country Club for their willingness to host our event, and most of all I would like to thank all those area businesses for getting behind our campaign to help raise money for those students looking to make a difference in the STEM fields.

As an educator myself in West Virginia, I know the challenges that our students face daily. Michael did, too. He left for work each morning with the hope of reaching just one. To the world, he was just a teacher, but to that one student, he was the world.

50, from page 7

HOMECOMING QUEEN

Karen Galford was revealed as Queen during half-time activities at the first Annual Homecoming game of the Marlinton Copperheads.

The Queen, escorted by Ronnie Dean, was crowned by Robert Kessee, principal of Marlinton Elementary School.

The Queen's Court was composed of: Eighth Grade: Vickie Shearer and Larry Ryder and Karen Brown and Arthur Sayre. Seventh Grade: Pam Mace and Jeff Barb. Sixth Grade: Karen Buchanan and John Friel. Fifth Grade: Sandy Brown and Sam Helmick. Fourth Grade: Lisa VanReenen and Brett Withers. Third Grade: Brenda Ricottilli and David Michael. Second Grade: Becky Shelton and Tim Helmick. First Grade:

Rhonda Maddy and Herbie Barlow. Kindergarten Crown Bearer Lisa McComb and Jeff Robertson. Flower Girl, Angela Wilson and Kenneth Ervine.

Special Education: Patty Oscar and Ray Oscar.

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Burks, Jr., of Mill Point, a daughter.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Workman, of Hillsboro, a son, named Matthew Thomas.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Sheets of Richmond, Virginia, a son, named William Wetzel.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Hurst, of Mineral Wells, a son, named Jason Edward. Mrs. Hurst is the former Maybell Kelley.

DEATHS

John Leslie Kennedy, 76, of Marlinton; born in Albemarle County, Virginia, a son of the late Kawse Coleman and Anna Kirby

Kennedy. Burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

Miss Lillian M. Cleek, 93, of Hillsboro; born at Huntersville a daughter of the late Peter Cleek and Effie Amos Cleek. Burial in Oak Grove Cemetery.

Mrs. Marie Curry Witt, of Maitland, Florida; a daughter of Meade Curry, of Frost, and the late Ada Hamrick Curry. Burial in Maitland.

Mrs. Ida S. Collins Miller, 85, of Elkins; a native of Mount Sterling, Kentucky, and a member of the Durbin United Methodist Church.

Burial in the Arbovale Cemetery.

Mrs. Mae W. Crigger, of Huntersville; born near Clendenin, a daughter of the late Edward Johnson and Sarah Elizabeth Pickering Schoolcraft. Burial in the Beaver Creek Cemetery.

William Keith Sebert, 62, of Lewisburg; born in Nicholas County, a son of the late Kyle and Minnie Harold Sebert. Burial in Rosewood Cemetery.

Calendar, from page 4

Liberty Presbyterian, Green Bank – Worship at 11 a.m.

Dunmore United Methodist Church – Worship 10 a.m. Adult Bible Study via Zoom 8 a.m.

Marlinton First Church of the Nazarene – Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.; Wednesday night Bible Study 7 p.m.

Marlinton United Methodist Church – Worship at 11 a.m. Parking lot service

on 90.3 FM radio, or join us on Facebook.

New Hope Church of the Brethren, Worship at 9:30 a.m. and Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Pine Grove Church of the Brethren, Arbovale – Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship 11 a.m.; Bible Study, Thursday, 7 p.m.

Cochran Creek Baptist Church, Rimel – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

Campbelltown Church, Marlinton – Worship 10 a.m.; Sunday School 11 a.m.

Cook Town Community Church, Rt. 219 – Sunday

Service 10 a.m.

Edray United Church – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

Marlinton Church of God, Beard Heights – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study 4 p.m.

Marlinton Church of Christ, Lakeview – Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Worship 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Trinity Baptist Church, Rt. 219 Buckeye Hill – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m. Pastor David Moore.

75, from page 7

BIRTH

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith, a daughter, named Dolly deKraft.

ADVERTISEMENTS FUN FOR YOU

Marlinton High School

Sponsored by the Lions Club

Curtain Time: 7:47 p.m.

CAST

Rev. E. Carlson.....Harry von Sell

H. A. Yeager.....Joe Kelly

H. K. Nicholson.....Duke of Paducah

Edward Wilson.....Uncle Ezra Watters

Mabel Lang.....Minnie Pearl

Kerth Nottingham....Tom Brenneman

Marvin Wimer.....Dr. I. Q.

James Bear.....Betty Grable

Bill Bob Meadows....Lana Turner

John Hayslett.....Mae West
Percy Moses.....Marlene Dietrich
Leslie Gehauf.....Gravel Gertie
H. A. Yeager.....Frank Sinatra

THANKSGIVING DANCE

Wednesday, November 24th
Marlinton High School Gym.
For your Dancing and Listening Pleasure

WALTER COOL

His Piano and 10-Piece Orchestra
DANCING FROM 9 p.m. to 1:15 a.m.

\$1.50 each

SQUARE DANCE AT KING'S CABIN

Near Marlinton
FRIDAY NIGHT, November 12th
STRING MUSIC
Frank Deputy, Caller

Beaver Creek, suffered a re-fracture of the leg Monday. A buck sheep knocked him down. The leg was fractured in an automobile accident in Marlinton last August, during the fair.

Moses Underwood killed a large and active black rattlesnake, with 12 rattles, which establishes a record for late snakes. A few minutes of the killing of the snake, a fine three-prong buck came through the stand on Brushy Lick Mountain and was killed by Mr. Underwood.

The following prizes were won: 18 championships; 56 firsts; 20 seconds; 14 thirds; 10 fourths; 2 fifths; 2 sevenths.

The cattle were shown against some of the best herds in America and got much better rating in the big fairs with expert judges than in the little fairs...

100, from page 7

Clenston, Edith, Ethel and Lucile Hannah.

WEATHER

S. L. Brown, local weather observer, reports as follows on the October weather:

Hottest, 74 degrees on the 13th; coldest, 20 degrees on the 21st; mean temperature for the month, 46 degrees. Total rainfall, 1.53 inches. Killing frost on the 21st.

PERSONALS

Oliver Underwood, son of Moses Underwood, on

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11/2/2c

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED - Looking for a Correctional Officer job? Testing will be offered at the Denmar Correctional Center, Hillsboro, WV, on a daily basis. Interested parties should contact Human Resources at the facility at 304-653-4201 to schedule an appointment.

11/19/tfnc

HOUSES AND REAL ESTATE

HOUSES AND REAL ESTATE - Hillsboro, Brushy Mountain

NOW HIRING

Casago Snowshoe is a local company seeking hard-working professional employees to work at Snowshoe. We are looking for dependable people with positive attitudes and an eye for detail.

We are a high growth company that offers both year-round and seasonal work with pay \$15.50 to \$17.50 per hour. We offer benefits to full-time, year-round employees and have immediate openings in our housekeeping department.

All applicants must consent to and pass a pre-employment criminal background check and drug screening, if requested. MUST HAVE RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION!

To apply, call Casago Snowshoe 304-924-7054 to speak with Vanessa, or stop by our office at 562 Cass Road, Slaty Fork to apply in person.

Road, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, modular home, fully furnished, on +/-1.5 acres, barn, outbuildings, large rear deck, central heat and air. \$325,000. Call 304-844-2327.

11/2/2p

WANTED - Secluded acreage, cabin or house in Pocahontas County. Reasonable/cash. 252-675-3869.

11/2/tfnc

POSITION AVAILABLE

POSITION AVAILABLE - The Town of Hillsboro is accepting applications for a water meter reader. This job requires reading of meters at the end of every month. Applicant needs to have a vehicle as well as reading and math skills. Applications can be found in the box to the left of the Town Office door.

Applications must be returned to the Town Office no later than noon November 20, 2023. If no one is there they can be placed in the slot in the door. For more information, call the

Town Office at 304-653-4005.

11/9/2c

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY - Ginseng and other roots and herbs. Fridays, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at IGA, Marlinton.

New River Trading.

1-855-SENG-MAN.

9/21/tfnc

WANTED TO BUY - Ginseng roots and tops, Golden Seal roots

and tops, all other roots and deer horns. Buying Tuesdays and Saturdays at IGA, Marlinton, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. 304-645-4047 or 304-667-6398.

11/2/5p

FREE

FREE - GE chest freezer; GE washer. Call 304-799-2516, leave message.

11/9/2p

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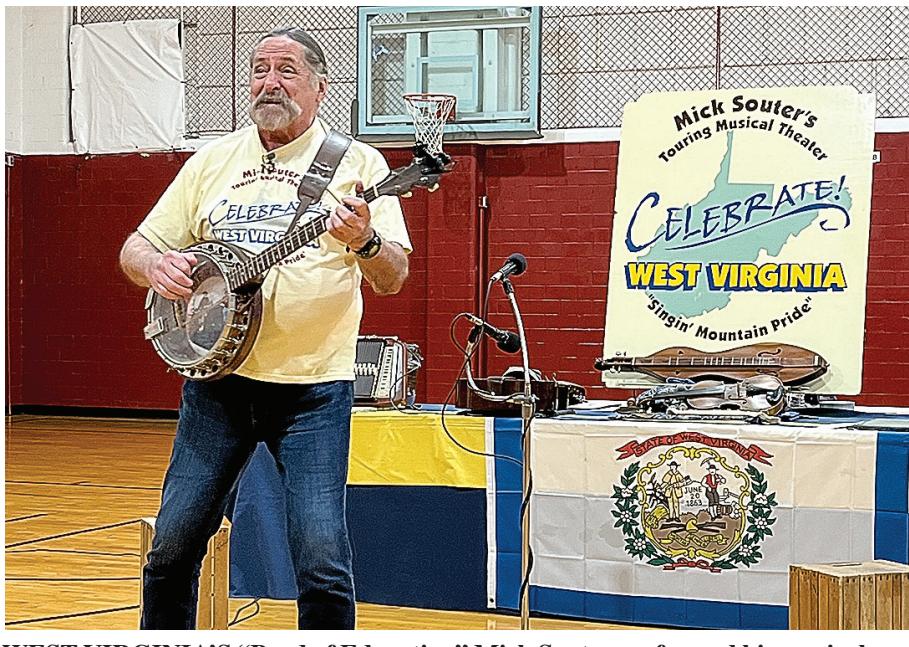
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'Singin' Mountain Pride'



WEST VIRGINIA'S "Bard of Education" Mick Souter performed his musical program, "Celebrate West Virginia," Friday at Hillsboro Elementary School. Souter performed original and well-known songs about the Mountain State while teaching the students about the history of West Virginia. He used a wide selection of instruments – banjo, guitar, fiddle, Indian flute, dulcimer, mandolin and autoharp.

S. Stewart photo

Shelter News

If anyone has room in their heart and home for an extra feline or two, now is a good time to visit the animal shelter. There are some truly beautiful bundles of fur waiting to be adopted there.



LITTLE DEWEY IS a perky ginger tabby male – a little guy with a big personality – about a year old. He is as outgoing and affectionate as they come, with a bit of white on the tip of his tail and a dab of white under his chin.



MEET MR. WHISKERS, a four-to-six-month old gray tabby male with lots



HERE WE HAVE four of the cutest gray kittens you ever saw – two gray and two gray tabbies – three brothers and one sister. They are six-to-seven-weeks old – and have just been weaned. These little charmers are very friendly and playful, guaranteed to put a smile on anyone's face. The boys have medium length fur, but their sister (third from the left in the photo) will have a long, luxurious coat.

of white markings. He wants to make friends, but he's still very shy and will need someone with patience to help him get over being afraid of people.

white with tan tabby markings on his head, across his back and on his tail. He loves to play ball and to be held. He'll leap into your arms and into your heart before you can say, "What a pretty boy!"

The Pocahontas County Animal Shelter is located in Marlinton at 300 Second Avenue. Their hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday – Friday. The phone number is 304-799-4209.

Coast Guard
TRIVIA ANSWERS: (1). The Marines' Hymn (2). Army (3). U.S. Space Force (4).

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All wheel drive, 2.0L 4cyl, 9-speed automatic, remote start, keyless entry, XM, rear cameras. Up to 27 mpg. Great looking Blazer.

MSRP \$40,840

Rebate – \$500

Sale Price = \$40,340



2024 Chevy BLAZER EV RS

All wheel drive, all electric, alloy wheels, heated and cooled seats, heated steering wheel, rear camera.

Let's test drive!



2023 Chevy SILVERADO 1500 TRAIL BOSS

Custom, crew cab, 4x4, 5.3 V8, keyless start, rear camera.

MSRP \$56,235

Mitchell Price \$54,011

Rebate – \$750

Sale Price = \$53,261



2024 Chevy SILVERADO 2500HD LTZ

Crew cab, 4x4, leather, 6.6 Duramax Diesel, spray in liner, power lift and lower tailgate. Loaded.

MSRP \$78,825



2022 Toyota TACOMA TRD SPORT

Double cab, 4x4, V6, automatic.

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Office Assistant: Charles Malcom

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Agents Wanted, NO MLS FEES. Call Oak Hall to apply.

NEW LISTING



6609 – Rainelle. Fenced lot. Shell of a house with metal roof and an outbuilding – \$12,500

MORE LISTINGS



6557 – Green Bank. 5BR/4BA mountain retreat with manufactured log home, cabin, picnic pavilion, outbuildings and serene views. Just steps to national forest. Near the Greenbrier River and Trail. – \$334,000



6581 – Arbovale. 3BR/1.5BA farmhouse on two semi-private acres. Nice sized yard; two outbuildings. Easy access to national forest. Close to GBO, Cass Scenic Railroad and Greenbrier River. – \$160,000



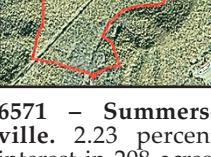
6415 – Huntersville. This property offers a unique 4BR/1BA home and 5BR/2BA lodge on 1.5 acres bordering national forest. Great Recreational business opportunity, close to hiking, fishing and hunting. – \$159,900



5531 – Rimel. 9BR/4BA home on 20.59 acres bordering national forest. Perfect for hunting, corporate or family retreat. – \$599,000



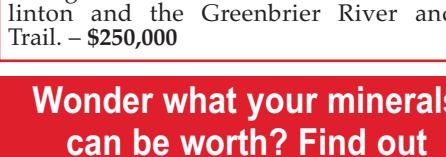
6591 – White Sulphur Springs. Small lot, approximately 0.33 acres, bordering one-lane paved road. Well and city water. – \$14,900



6571 – Summersville. 2.23 percent interest in 208 acres. Used for hunting, 4-wheeling, etc. Partial ownership only. – \$11,000



6587 – Charmco, Greenbrier County. 2BR/1BA home in need of repair. Sits on 1.43 acres. – \$27,900



6045 – Edray/Cass. 87.55 mostly wooded acres with small clearing and spring bordering national forest. Private. Near Marlinton and the Greenbrier River and Trail. – \$250,000

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