



## Library Lines

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## Warrior Sports

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# The Pocahontas Times \$1<sup>00</sup>

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MARLINTON, POCOHONTAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA 24954

OCTOBER 24, 2024 VOL. 142 NO. 23

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## Cass provides backdrop for music retreat

Suzanne Stewart  
Staff Writer

**T**he sounds of leaves crunching underfoot and the whistle of the steam engine were joined by the sounds of old-time tunes at Cass Scenic Railroad State Park last week with the return of the Augusta Heritage Center Old-Time Retreat.

The five-day event included classes in fiddle, banjo, guitar, mandolin and singing, as well as special programs showcasing the history of old-time music and the songs that have stood the test of time.

When they weren't in class, the musicians were spending time in the Cass Company Houses, or in the front yards, in a jam circle.

Last Friday, during one of those jam circle sessions, the musicians shared why they chose old-time music and how they learned about the retreat.

First time attendee Catherine Janky, of northern New York, by way of New Orleans, said she ran into Augusta staff member Rachel Eddy at another music camp and was inspired to make the trek to Cass for a new experience.

"It fell on my October break, so I thought I would come down," she said. "It's



PARTICIPATING IN THE annual Augusta Heritage Center Old-Time Music Retreat at Cass Scenic Railroad State Park last week were, from left: Ken May, Chris Stinson, Casey Mullen, Mary Sue Burns and Jim. S. Stewart photo

just wonderful. It's so much fun to meet up with people and play music together. It's a very welcoming community."

Janky began playing music as a child, but didn't pick up old-time until 12 years ago. She started playing fiddle seven years ago. She said she loves the community aspect of the genre and how it brings people together.

"When you're all coming together and trying to sync up and play together to cre-

ate this sound – this groove – when everyone is together," she said, "I really love the community aspect of it."

The other musicians agreed that the feeling of community is prevalent at retreats such as this. And having the beautiful backdrop of West Virginia mountains and the historic town of Cass as the setting was a great draw, as well.

Casey Mullen, of Downington, Pennsylvania, said she loves driving through the fall colors in the mountains

as she travels to the retreat. "I've come every year that it's been here in Cass."

Mullen has played fiddle for 15 years and used to play Irish music until he attended an old-time jam.

"I thought it would be good for ear training and fell in love with the music and the community aspect of it," he said. "The people and the music go together."

Banjo player Ken May, of Columbia, South Carolina,

see Music pg 10



POCAHONTAS COUNTY 911/Emergency Management Director Michael O'Brien visited Green Bank Elementary-Middle School last week to talk to the fifth grade students about his life after an accident left him with partial use of his legs. Photo courtesy of Marsha Beverage

## O'Brien visits GBEMS for National Disability Employment Month

Suzanne Stewart  
Staff Writer

Director Michael O'Brien spoke to the class about his life before and after he had a dirt bike accident in 2011.

Communities In Schools coordinator Marsha Beverage helped Kelley by reaching out to O'Brien, who said he would be happy to talk to the students.

Pocahontas County 911/Emergency Management

see Month pg 8

## Nightmare Weekend makes dream come true

Suzanne Stewart  
Staff Writer

**J**can't remember how old I was when I became a fan of horror movies. I do know I was a late bloomer. I'd say it wasn't until I was in college that I really started to explore the genre and found out that I loved the rollercoaster of emotions you experience with horror.

There are so many sub-genres, and I can't pick just one. Slashers, supernatural, sci-fi, apocalyptic, zombie, revenge and even comedy. I love them all.

Something that comes with being a horror fan is the convention scene. We've all heard of the big conventions – San Diego Comic Con and New York Comic Con, but those encompass all the fandoms. Whether you love sci-fi and the debate about *Star Wars* versus *Star Trek* or you're a fantasy fiend who knows their Hogwarts house, all the *Game of Thrones* sigils and how to speak Elvish – there's something for

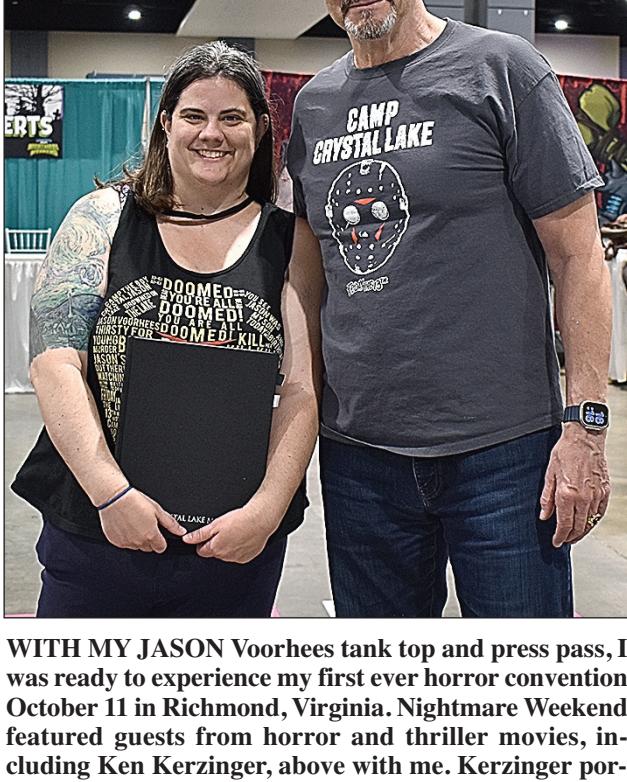
everyone at those cons. What I didn't know for a long time was that there are a series of horror specific conventions all around the world, character actors, stunt performers and the main actors who brought all those great slashers to life on the big screen gather for the fans.

It became a dream of mine to attend a horror convention and meet my favorites, which turns out to be a lot of different actors who brought to life Jason Voorhees in the "Friday the 13th" films.

That dream came true October 11, when I jumped in the car with my friend, Tony Blackstock, and headed to Richmond, Virginia, for Nightmare Weekend, hosted by GalaxyCon.

I was like a kid on Christmas morning, filled with a happy, nervous energy. Tony has been to a lot of conventions through the years, so I called him my horror con sherpa.

Prior to attending, we checked out the website which gave a list of all the



WITH MY JASON Voorhees tank top and press pass, I was ready to experience my first ever horror convention October 11 in Richmond, Virginia. Nightmare Weekend featured guests from horror and thriller movies, including Ken Kerzinger, above with me. Kerzinger portrayed Jason Voorhees in "Freddy vs. Jason."

celebrities who would be there. I was stoked! There were going to be four Jasons

Hodder had to cancel, but that didn't dampen my spirits. There were still three, and so many more people that I recognized from different movies and shows.

The main cast from 1979's "The Warriors," was there, as well as Kristy Swanson, who was Buffy in the movie version of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer." Devon Sawa and Kerr Smith, of "Final Destination" were also on hand as well as many others.

The biggest draw was David Howard Thornton, who portrays Art the Clown in the "Terrifier" series. "Terrifier 3" came out in theaters that weekend, so the line to see him was really long.

I focused on the Jasons and got a chance to chat with all three of them.

Ken Kerzinger was a stunt coordinator and double and one of Jason's victims in "Friday the 13th: Jason Takes Manhattan," the eighth film in the series. He then donned the hockey mask as the slasher himself in "Freddy vs. Jason," which

pitted him against Robert Englund's Freddy Krueger.

Kerzinger said he was surprised he was asked to be Jason in the 2003 flick, assuming Kane Hodder would continue the role. Hodder has portrayed Jason in four films. The producers explained they wanted a taller Jason who resembled the comic book character.

"They put two-inch lifts on me and I'm 6'6" so I was 6'8" with the boots on," Kerzinger said. "When I got it, I was like, 'wow.' I didn't know what a big deal it was, and my family started getting a hold of me and asked if I looked at the internet. It was blowing up over me playing Jason in 'Freddy vs. Jason.'"

Fans of the "Friday the 13th" films know that it was initially hinted that a

"Freddy vs. Jason" film was in the works at the end of "Jason Goes to Hell" when Freddy's gloved hand comes out of the ground and pulls Jason's hockey mask down into the depths below.

see Dream pg 8

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## Trick-or-Treat... Enjoy these events before the end of October!

- Cass Scenic Railroad State Park: Costume Contest and Trick-or-Treat, Friday, Oct. 25, 5 - 7 p.m., Haunted House, Friday, Oct. 25 (7:30 - 10 p.m.) and Saturday, Oct. 26 (7 - 10 p.m.)
  - Halloween in Durbin, Thursday, Oct. 31: Trick-or-Treat, 5 - 7 p.m., Activities at BDF Firehall at 7 p.m.
  - Nature's Mountain Playground: open through Sunday, Oct. 27
  - Marlinton: Trick-or-Treat and Trunk-or-Treat Thursday, Oct. 31, from 5 - 7 p.m., with costume judging and activities to follow at Dari-Land
  - Hillsboro: Trick-or-Treat in town and Trunk-or-Treat at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, 6 - 8 p.m.
- 304-799-4636 • naturesmountainplayground.com

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## Commission discusses funding options for new 911 Center

**Tim Walker**  
AMR Reporter

**A**t its October 15 meeting, the Pocahontas County Commission discussed applying for an approximate \$5 million U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) loan to build a new 911 Center.

Commissioner John Rebinski explained that the bids they received exceeded the money the commission has available for the project by

about \$5 million, so the USDA loan appears to be the best solution to finance the project. Pocahontas Memorial Hospital (PMH) and the county recently financed the hospital expansion using, in part, a \$7 million USDA loan.

Rebinski pointed out that a new 911 Center is critical to maintaining public safety through emergency dispatches. He also said that he has put a lot of thought and reasoning into this project

and has already scaled it back as much as he can. He also said they might not need to borrow the full \$5 million — that is just a worst-case scenario.

It could take 18 months or longer to get any USDA loan approved.

Two Pocahontas County seniors, Noah Nutter and Bailey Zickefoose, appeared before the commission to ask that the commission of-

see Center pg 11

## Deskins: Labor force participation remains state's 'biggest economic challenge'

**Charles Young**  
Senior Staff Writer  
*The Exponent Telegram*

**L**ow labor force participation — the percentage of the population working or currently looking for work — is one of West Virginia's long-standing economic impediments.

Mississippi is the only state in the nation with lower labor force participation than West Virginia, Dr. John Deskins, director of the West Virginia University Bureau

of Business and Economic Research, said.

"It's better than last," he said to attendees of the North Central West Virginia Business Summit. "This is our problem in West Virginia. Our problem isn't unemployment."

The unemployment rate only shows, among those who want to work, how many people have a job versus how many people are looking for work.

The labor force participation rate, on the other hand,

is a more accurate gauge of whether an economy is actually healthy, Deskins said.

"This figure captures what is the share of the adult population that wants to work in the first place, never mind if they have a job or are just looking for a job — it's what share of the adult population wants to work," he said.

West Virginia's labor force participation rate was 55.1% as of September 20, according to data from the Federal

see Labor pg 11

## AFNHA awards grants to local organizations

**A**ppalachian Forest National Heritage Area (AFNHA) announced that it has awarded \$201,972 in grants to 15 area organizations through the second year of its Appalachian Forest Grants program. These projects will support preservation, interpretation and tourism development projects by government and non-profits partners throughout the region. This year's grant program emphasized projects related to collections management, America250 stories, and Indigenous Appalachians. These projects are expected to produce an additional \$265,000 in matching and leveraged funds in local communities.

Included among the award recipients:

Greenbrier River Trail Foundation — Greenbrier Ri-

ver Trail: Origin Stories Shared and Archived

High Rocks Educational Corporation — Richwood Building Repairs

Yew Mountain Center — Indigenous Voices on the Mountain Medicine Trail

The awards range from \$3,000 to \$20,000 and will fund projects in Alleghany, Greenbrier, Hardy, Morgan, Nicholas, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Preston, Randolph and Tucker counties. These grants were made possible by funding from the National Park Service's Heritage Partnership Program. AFNHA is a member of the National Heritage Area System.

The Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area conserves, interprets, and promotes forest heritage to enhance landscapes and communities in the highlands of West Virginia and

Maryland. AFNHA works with partners to accomplish this through community development, conservation, celebrating cultural heritage, and creating opportunities for transformational experiences.

To learn more, see [www.appalachianforesnha.org](http://www.appalachianforesnha.org)

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The deadline to request an application for an Absentee Ballot by Mail is Wednesday, October 30.

Contact the Pocahontas County Clerk's Office at 304-799-4549 or visit the office Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

see BOE pg 6

## Circuit Court

The following hearings were recently held in Pocahontas County Circuit Court before the Honorable Jennifer P. Dent:

Mason Slava Walker, 24, of Hillsboro, appeared by video for a status hearing wherein he waived his right to a speedy trial in this term of court. The matter is continued to February 6, 2025. Defense counsel advised the court that Walker has security concerns at Tygart Valley Regional Jail and would like to be transferred to the Southern Regional Jail. The court would like the jail commission to hear the matter before any court order is entered. Walker was indicted on one count, murder in the first degree; one count, use or presentment of a firearm during the commission of a felony; and one count, person prohibited from possessing a firearm.

Randall Moore, 44, of Arbovale, waived his right to a speedy trial in this term of court. The matter is set for a

status hearing February 6, 2025. Moore was indicted on one count, murder in the first degree.

Roy Lambert, JR., 56, of Bartow, waived his right to a speedy trial during this term of court. Pre-trial hearing is set for February 6, 2025, and an in-person jury trial is set for February 13, 2025. Lambert was indicted on one count, sexual abuse in the first degree.

## EARLY VOTING

Early voting for the November 5, 2024 General Election: Wednesday, October 23 through Saturday, November 2, in the Commission Room at the Pocahontas County Courthouse.

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

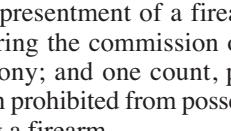
Saturdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Enter by way of the handicapped entrance on the right side of the courthouse.



see BOE pg 6

## HIDDEN CREEK



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see BOE pg 6



**POCAHONTAS TRAILS SECRETARY C.J. Peterson and treasurer Erica Engquist presented a check to Salamanders Head Coach Chad Baldwin. This donation is much needed and will allow the team to pay race fees next season.**

## Salamanders receive donation

Pocahontas Trails, the local chapter of the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA), recently made a generous donation to the Cheat Mountain Salamanders Youth Mountain Bike Team.

The Salamanders have always been appreciative of the work Pocahontas Trails does in the county, keeping the trails practice-ready and helping develop new trails. For them to also offer financial support is extremely appreciated.

In thanking Pocahontas Trails for the donation, Coach Baldwin said, "working with the kids is easy – getting money to support the kids is difficult."

This week's post comes from Trisha Barb, librarian at the Linwood branch. Trisha explains that being a librarian in Pocahontas County isn't just sitting behind a desk checking out books.

When you mention the word "librarian," most people will picture someone wearing glasses and a cardigan, sitting behind a desk, shushing patrons, then going home to spend every evening in front of a big book.

I don't quite fit those stereotypes.

To be fair, I do wear a lot of cardigans. And I do love literature and helping my community.

I also love spending time outdoors. And if you've ever stopped by the Linwood branch on a Thursday when the Linwood Little Librarians are visiting, then you'll know that I'm not one for insisting on silence in the library!



**TRIVIA**  
— a little something to think about

1. He had a 56-game winning streak in baseball but failed to go 57. That one game cost him a promised \$10,000 from Heinz 57 Ketchup if he matched their label. Who was the player?

2. One Californian said to the other, "DYFI." What does that mean?

3. Immigrants from what country brought kindergarten to the U.S.?

4. This baseball player's father emigrated from Sicily, made his living as a fisherman, and was made legendary by Ernest Hemingway's novel, *The Old Man and the Sea*."

**Burma-Shave**  
A Blast from the Past

Courtesy of the Ruth Friel Estate

Ben...  
Met Anna...  
Made a hit...  
Neglected beard...  
Ben-Anna split.  
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Statistics prove...  
Near and far...  
That folks who...  
Drive like crazy...  
— Are!  
Burma-Shave

## Library Lines

by Joe Miller,  
Director of Development

While I may not fit the stereotypes, I do love being a librarian.

My job is sublime for a multitude of reasons. I have great coworkers. I get to see the smiling faces of library patrons when they find the perfect book. I love seeing kids discover new places in the pages of a story.

My favorite part of working as a librarian in Pocahontas County is that so much of the job takes place out from behind the circulation desk.

Over the summer, the library set up a booth at First Fridays in Marlinton. I loved volunteering to cover the booth because it offered the chance to do fun activities with the community—things like making buttons and face painting—while also sharing information about our Summer Reading Program.

I've also gotten to do things like host story time during the Capitol Christmas Tree Celebration. I loved getting to see some of my favorite young patrons outside the library, taking in all the excitement and festivities with their parents.

My favorite adventures outside the library are the

days I get to assist Nature's Mountain Classroom.

If you're not familiar with it, Nature's Mountain Classroom is an experiential learning program for kids in second through fifth grades. Kids get the chance to learn about Pocahontas County—both its natural and cultural beauty—while adventuring in it.

In the coming days, I'll be hosting "Pop-Up Story Time" at the Snowshoe Hare coffee shop. Keep an eye out for additional "Pop-Up Story Time" sessions in the future near you.

What truly makes all these events magical are the com-

munities and people who make them possible. Seeing

ians as people who simply sat behind desks.

My hope—my goal each day—is to ensure that they remember someone reading them a story at a nature center or a coffee shop. Someone helping them put their favorite literary character on a button. Someone teaching them to write haikus after a hike.

Who knows. Maybe some of those memories will turn into stories that another librarian will read to another generation of kids who are on a whole new adventure.

That librarian will probably be wearing a comfy cardigan, too.



**DAWN BALDWIN BARRETT**

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**Sunday, Nov. 3 • 6 p.m.**

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New River CTC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission ([www.hlccommission.org](http://www.hlccommission.org)), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. New River CTC is an equal opportunity institution.

## Seneca Health Services achieves CCBHC status

**S**eneca Health Services is one of six Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) in West Virginia. The West Virginia Bureau for Behavioral Health and Bureau for Medical Services have established CCBHCs to provide timely access to quality treatment for behavioral health needs. Seneca joins FMRS Health Systems, Prestera Health Services, Southern Highlands CMHC, Valley Healthcare and Westbrook Health Services as the first CCBHCs in the state.

The requirements to be a CCBHC are extensive to meet the objective of increased access and quality care. Seneca will be expanding evening and weekend hours, offering additional programs for individuals with serious mental health issues – such as assistance in securing employment, housing and intensive therapy. We will

coordinate care with physical health care providers, education and legal systems, and be available 24/7 for crisis services. Seneca has a mobile crisis team that can respond to individuals in crisis who want to be seen outside of the traditional office setting.

Other states who have CCBHCs report an average increase of 33% in individuals served, most notably children, youth, uninsured individuals, and those without a prior relationship with a provider. CCBHCs also have reported expanded access to treatment for substance use disorder care.

Seneca employs 245 local individuals at present and will soon be hiring over one hundred additional staff to meet the needs of individuals and the community. Seneca provides responsible behavioral health care, accessible to all individuals in our community, with progressive service delivery.



## Marlinton Mayor's Corner

By Sam Felton

**M**r. G.E. McCabe, Director of West Virginia Emergency Management Division, is responsible for overseeing the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in West Virginia. Mr. McCabe is aware the Town of Marlinton takes the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) very seriously. If you are a citizen of Marlinton, I want you to understand, as well.

To a large extent, the eco-

nomic future of Marlinton depends on maintaining member eligibility for coverage (the NFIP) program provides. The proof of the Town's commitment to the (NFIP) program can be understood by considering one simple fact. Many towns the size of Marlinton do not employ a full-time Flood Plain Manager (FPM). We do.

Some property owners may say "my home is paid for, why should I be concerned about flood insurance

coverage?" Or, "I have never had flood insurance coverage and do not intend to ever have flood insurance coverage." Others may be in a position to pay cash for any property purchased in the Town's flood plain areas and do not need homeowner's or flood insurance coverage. That is good for you.

But, one day your heirs may want to sell your property. The potential new owner may not have the ability to pay cash. If a sale is necessary, your heirs will want to sell as soon as possible. An interested buyer may want your property but have to seek outside financing to complete the purchase. This is when some buyers will

find out that all lenders require flood insurance coverage. Suddenly, sellers realize that having access to National Flood Insurance becomes very important.

In years past, the Town of Marlinton tried to save expense by trying to maintain compliance with part-time people on a part-time basis. For the same reasons, I admit trying to continue with the same practice. It does not work. To the best of my recollection, I hired four others, before hiring our current full-time FPM.

Part-time employees are like mayors. They come and go. When any employee

see Mayor's pg 13

## Letter to the Editor

### Open letter

Green Bank's donation station

It is known by many names, the stage, Goodwill box, donation box and probably more. What it is though, is a community treasure. History from Tom Sharp tells me that it started as a 6-foot-tall recycling box for glass. Later as we stopped recycling the glass it was shortened, and its charitable life began. The tall stairs were cut into 3 pieces, 1 used to access the now shorter stage, 1 to get into the shelter the employees use during inclement weather and the final to get into a storage shed on the property.

Just this week, someone donated several leather coats. I looked and did not see what I wanted. Another local looked and did, but did not want the lining. Great, I have a coat that needs a lining, and this will work. Two

However, that is just the beginning of this box's useful life. While the box began as a recycling spot for glass, it is now a community effort to help each other. We all have things we no longer use but still have useful life.

There are commercial industries built on this fact. Yet, in Green Bank, we donate these items freely to the donation station, and, sometimes we also receive from this donation station.

Just this week, someone donated several leather coats. I looked and did not see what I wanted. Another local looked and did, but did not want the lining. Great, I have a coat that needs a lining, and this will work. Two

people got the use of one donation. 2 months ago, I found a leather vest from a Vietnam Veteran that had died and the family donated the vest. It belonged to my friend and fellow Honor Guard member Homer Hunter. I returned it to VVA, and it has been forwarded to a friend of Homers who is also a VV member. Another local told me that she had donated several unique pairs of pants from her mother after she died, and that every time she saw them around town, she thought of her for a long time with a smile. There are more stories. They are all in danger of disappearing!

The solid waste district wants to remove this cost-

free treasure. I have heard rumors about why, but no definitive answers. This Donation Station Box helps locals in several ways, it shares stories, it saves money, it helps the needy, and it reduces refuse to an already overburdened landfill.

I do not know all the Pocahontas County sites and if this exists at all of them. I hear it does at some of them. Maybe they have a problem. If so, address that problem. Please do not remove a local treasure.

It would diminish the community.

Thank you.  
Benjamin Lukacek  
Green Bank, WV

## Community Calendar

### OPERA HOUSE

**The Onlies** will bring their unique blend of fiddles, guitars and banjos to the historic stage Friday, October 25, at 7 p.m. Tickets, \$10, are available in advance from the 4th Avenue Gallery and online at pocahontasoperahouse.org or at the door the evening of the event. Ages 17 and younger are admitted free.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**Steve Williams, Democratic candidate for Governor of West Virginia, and Patrick Morrisey, Republican candidate, will participate in a debate, hosted by Hoppy Kercheval, Tuesday, October 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. on WV MetroNews.**

### EVENTS

**FREE Community Dinner Thursday, October 24, 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Marlinton Presbyterian Church. Sponsored by area churches and**

### MEETINGS

**Pocahontas County Solid Waste Authority regular meeting Wednesday, October 30, 7 p.m. at the courthouse.**

**Open Sew with Library Quilters of Marlinton, second Monday of each month 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at McClintic Library. Everyone welcome.**

**Upper Pocahontas Community Cooperative Second Monday of each month 6:30 p.m. at Durbin Community Library.**

### EVENTS

**FREE Community Dinner Thursday, October 24, 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Marlinton Presbyterian Church. Sponsored by area churches and**

community volunteers. On the menu: Beans and Cornbread.

**Mulligan Stew Friday, October 25, 4 to 6 p.m. at Arbovale Community Center. Carry-out only. Bring quart jars if you have them.**

### HALLOWEEN EVENTS

**Family-friendly Trunk or Treat in the parking lot at Pocahontas Memorial Hospital Wednesday, October 30, 5 to 7 p.m. The community is invited.**

**Durbin's Halloween Night Party, Thursday, October 31, Trick or Treat 5 to 7 p.m.**

p.m. Food and drink and fun and games at the BFD Firehall at 7 p.m.

**Trick or Treat and Trunk or Treat in the Town of Marlinton Thursday, October 31, from 5 to 7 p.m.**

**Trick or Treat in the town of Hillsboro and Trunk or Treat at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church Thursday, October 31, 6 to 8 p.m.**

**LIBRARY EVENTS Budding Bookworms at Green Bank Library Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. beginning September 11. Story**

see Calendar pg 13



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**MICHAEL SHOWELL,**

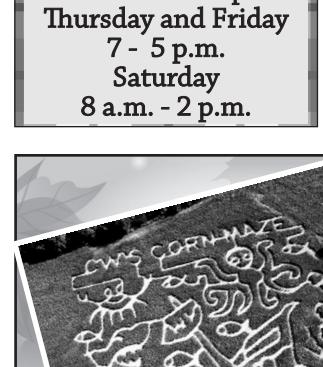
General Manager

**JAYNELL S. GRAHAM,**

Editor

**WILLIAM P. MCNEEL,**

Editor Emeritus



## Obituaries



Keith and Tom.

He is survived by one sister, Mary Pat Bundrum, of Jacksonville, Alabama; stepdaughter, Kim Johns (Gary); stepson, James Vandevenner; and several nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life was held Sunday, October 20, 2024, at Wallace and Wallace Funeral Home in Arbovale with Pastor Amy Paul and Pastor David Rittenhouse officiating. Burial was in Arbovale Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Northern Pocahontas County Community Assistance Inc (NPCCA) c/o Tony Byrd, 6224 Potomac Highlands Trail, Green Bank, WV 24944. This is an affiliate of the Green Bank Senior Center, which was a place Wayne enjoyed going to for great meals and fellowship with friends that were like loving family.

Donations can also be made to Allegheny Mountain Radio, 9836 Browns Creek Rd, Dunmore, WV 24934. Wayne faithfully listened to this radio station when he was home. He enjoyed hearing the music, news and community events.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Pocahontas Center for the care, love, compassion, kindness and support shown to Wayne while he was a resident there.

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

Online condolences may be shared at WallaceandWallaceFH.com

**Sue Peck**

Sue Ann Peck, 70, of Durbin, passed away Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at the Davis Medical Center in Elkins.

Born April 26, 1954, in Bethesda, Maryland, she was a daughter of the late Jackson George Sr. and Janet Lou Snyder Marshall.

Sue was a homemaker.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Jack, Jerry and Robert.

She is survived by her husband, Donald Peck; daughter, Kandi Wolf; grandchildren, Justice, Kristen and Loreli Wolf; great-grandchildren, Leonidas Lambert and Cooper Yoa-kum; sisters, Becky Vandever, Pam Friel, Cathy Birely and Charlene Tomlinson; brothers, Samuel Birely and George Marshall; and many nieces and nephews.

In keeping with Sue's wishes the body was cremated.

There was no service.

Online condolences may be shared at Lantzfuneralhome.com

### Wayne Brown

Wayne C. Brown, 88, of Arbovale, peacefully passed away at Pocahontas Center Tuesday, October 15, 2024.

Born May 5, 1936, at Arbovale, he was a son of the late Warren E. and Grace Johnson Brown.

Wayne was a lifelong resident of Arbovale.

He attended Arbovale United Methodist Church and Pine Grove Church of the Brethren. He faithfully played his harmonica at church and loved to play it for friends and family. Wayne was a hard worker. When he was younger, he dug graves by hand at Arbovale Cemetery. He was also a timber cutter, and later worked and retired from Interstate Hardwoods. He also worked at Cass Scenic Railroad as a brakeman and at a green box site for Pocahontas County Solid Waste.

In addition to his parents, Wayne was preceded in death by his beloved wife and soulmate, Sadie Nelson Vandevender; sister, Betty Mullenax; and four brothers, Bob, John Glenville, Hunter

## God placed a dream in your heart

**By R.A. Mathews**

I knew who she was.

She sat cross-legged in a restaurant booth, headphones over her ears, typing away on her laptop. She then absently reached for a bagel; her eyes fixed on the computer screen.

I was on my way out of the restaurant, sliding my laptop to the edge of the table.

"You are so focused," I said, as she glanced toward me. "What kind of work do you do?"

But I already knew the answer.

As I said, I knew this twenty-something the minute I saw her—a much younger me.

"I'm an author," she said, joy tugging at the corner of her mouth.

"An indie?"

"Yes." The smile spread across her face.

Indies, independent writers, choose this wonderful life. Not just writing. Oh, no. Indies form publishing companies; hire cover artists, editors, marketing pros; and constantly gather together to learn.

From that moment on, Kaitryn Sullivan became my friend and colleague.

Yesterday, she told me an amazing story.

Katie was reared in California and worked one summer as a counselor at a Christian camp. Her family then moved to Texas.

Longing for a mate who also loved the Lord, she joined a Christian dating service. Her soon-to-be husband, pilot Rick Sullivan, was stationed four hours away at Fort Hood, Texas. He had also contacted that dating service, desiring a Christian wife.

The two met and married three months later.

"When you know, you know," she said to me. They now have two children.

But here's the amazing part of their story—when she was the counselor in California, he was also at that camp. "We didn't know each other," she said, "but he was right there at the same time!"

Was God trying to bring them together?

Then, in Texas, was God still trying, determined for them to meet?

I am not married but I pray earnestly for God to keep trying with me. Scripture has

such a story of a righteous man, who asked God for the right girl.

But the passage has a bit of a twist—the man was acting for someone else.

It seems that Abraham was old, his wife had died, and his son Isaac was 40 and single. God had brought them to what would become Israel, but there were only ungodly women there.

So, Abraham sent his oldest servant, probably Eliezer, to his faraway family to find a wife for Isaac. Eliezer made the long journey with his men. When they arrived, as they stood near the well, he prayed, "O Lord, God, let the young woman to whom I shall say, 'Please let down your jar that I may drink,' be the one whom you have appointed for your servant Isaac. By this I shall know that you have shown steadfast love to my master." Before he had finished speaking, behold, Rebekah went down to the spring and filled her jar and came up.

(Genesis 24:14-17, ESV)

Isn't that amazing? God knew this was a big deal and acted before Eliezer could finish his prayer.

"Then the servant ran to meet her and said, 'Please give me a little water.' And she quickly let down her jar."

(Genesis 24:17-18, ESV)

The old servant explained his mission to her and her family, and Rebekah returned with him and married Isaac.

As God kept trying with Rick and Katie, He seeks to guide you, too. The question is whether you will follow Him. That's always the question.

Lift your heart in prayer, telling God your heart's desire, and let Him lead.

Writing is now Katie's dream.

Just as I pray to be the Lord's voice for my generation, I pray for Katie every

**R.A. Mathews**

day, that she'll write God's truth for her generation. I hope her children will proudly hold her books one day and know that their mom's characters inspired millions to live closer to the Lord.

Your guidance from the Lord may be to the person you are meant to marry, or the job you are meant to have, or both. It may be the healing that your body needs or about your finances or a wayward child.

Believe.

Scripture says, "I waited patiently for the Lord, and He inclined to me and heard my cry and He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm." (Psalm 40:1-2, NASB, 1995)

Know that God is with you, listen patiently for His guidance, and follow Him. Do not give up on the dream God has placed in your heart.

Believe.

The Rev. Mathews (BA, MDiv, JD) is a newspaper author columnist and the author of the Reaching to God series and Emerald Coast: The Vendetta. Write to her at Hello@RAMathews.com. (just one t in Mathews)

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### Obituary Policy:

Obituaries are published free of charge up to three column inches with a \$5 per column inch charge thereafter.

Arbovale • 304-456-4277

J. L. "Rusty" Arnold, Licensee-in-Charge



## Senior Legal Aid

Deb Miller, JD Volunteer

"Not again," Marlene thought to herself.

Her daughter, Wendy, was asking her for another \$1,000 loan—the eighth in recent months. It had become a regular habit, leaving Marlene feeling upset and frustrated. She had them marked on her wall calendar.

She would never think of doing that to her daughter. Besides, she had other children and grandchildren, and her own needs to consider.

To date, Wendy had not paid back a single penny from any of the earlier loans and had flippantly commented more than once that she just saw it as her future inheritance received now.

Like others in the same situation, Marlene was upset that Wendy couldn't handle money better and didn't mind waltzing in to request more from her mom. Marlene's own budget was always stretched thin.

With a sense of dread, Marlene also wondered who else she was taking money from. Wendy had probably not repaid them either. She could be sweet and charming when it suited

and

</

# Worst Times in history ~ Part 1

Melondy Phillips  
Staff Writer

The world seems to be getting stranger, darker and more difficult these days, leaving many to reminisce about the “good old’ days.”

When we talk about the good old days, it’s usually a reference to our youth. As the world smacks you in the face with everything it has, it is natural to think “when I was [fill in the blank], times were easier.” It refers to a time when our parents, or caregivers, dealt with the major stresses of daily life while protecting their children the best they could, allowing the children to be children and remain innocent to the evils of the outside world.

While the world has experienced many times of good health, provision, comfort and, perhaps, even financial stability, it hasn’t always been the “good old days.” Many past events were thought to be “the worst in history,” especially by those suffering through them. Countries throughout the world have been brought to their knees. Some events lasted only a few months or years while others crushed societies for more than a thousand years, or out of existence altogether. Those who survived these ordeals experienced inevitable changes, from governing bodies, food availability and weather patterns to an everyday quality of life.

This article is a little different since it is mainly a list of some of those events throughout history. Even though this list gives only a few examples of major historical events, it needs to be broken into three parts. Part one will cover worldwide natural disasters and illnesses over the last 2,000 years. Part two will be wars and invasions, while the third part breaks down famines, political issues and economic hardships.

## Natural disasters/illnesses

536 AD – The Volcanic Winter: “According to historians, the absolute worst time to have been alive was 536-550 AD, when three different volcanic eruptions blotted out the sun across most of the planet. During the first one, the sky went dark for 18 months. It snowed in the summer. An ash sky lit a cycle of droughts and floods that upended agriculture. Crops failed all over the world, and then starvation began. Societies collapsed. Records from Rome to Japan reference the events. Archaeologists have found a layer of ash virtually everywhere. They’ve also discovered abnormalities in tree rings around the world during that period.”

okdoomer.io, a volcano in Iceland, Rabaul in Papua, New Guinea, Tierra Blanca Joven in El Salvador, or Krakatoa in Indonesia are all possible culprits of the massive eruption which resulted in an ash cloud that kept the northern hemisphere in the dark for 18 months. Temperatures dropped approximately 4-5 degrees colder than average for 18 months. The lack of adequate sunlight, resulting colder temperatures, massive crop failures, and starvation also spawned deadly diseases in the coming years.

Procopius wrote that “the sun gave forth its light without brightness...like the sun in eclipse.” There are even reports of snow during the summer in China. Reports of the anomaly spread from Europe to the Middle East. It took more than a century for the climate to return to normal.

The exact date of the eruption is in question and might suggest that it wasn’t just a single volcano, but multiple eruptions. Tree ring tests indicate possible eruptions in 431, 540 and 547 AD; however, ice samples reveal an event around 534 AD.

541 - 542 – The Plague of Justinian: The plague of Justinian is recorded as one of

the deadliest plagues in history. At that time, it decimated about 25 to 60 percent of Europe’s population, an estimated 15 to 100 million deaths. The sickness took off across the Roman Empire from Egypt to Europe. In 2013, researchers confirmed that the cause of the plague of Justinian was Yersinia pestis, the same bacterium responsible for the Black Death in 1346. It took more than fifty years for life to begin to normalize after this catastrophic event. Some scholars speculate that this plague was somewhat responsible for the collapse of the Eastern Roman Empire.

1346 – The Black Death: The Black Death was the deadliest of three pandemics caused by the Bubonic plague; which results from the bacterium Yersinia pestis. Experts believe the bacterium was most likely transmitted from rodents to humans by the bite of infected fleas. An estimated 75 to 200 million people worldwide died from the Black Death: about 30 to 65 percent of Europe’s population.

According to cleveland clinic.org: “Bubonic plague still occurs throughout the world and in the U.S., with cases in Africa, Asia, South America and the western areas of North America. About seven cases of plague happen on average in the U.S. every year. Half of the U.S. cases involve people aged 12 to 45 years.”

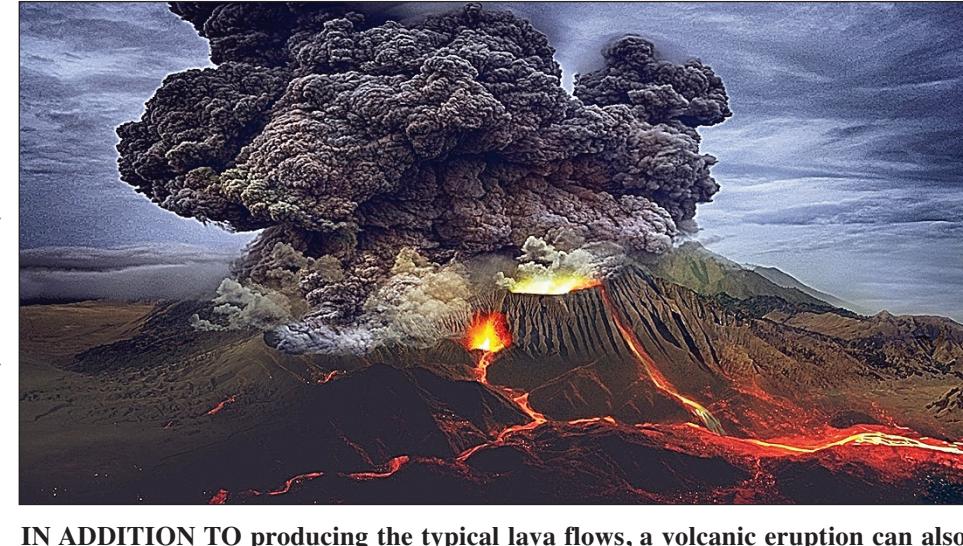
1556 – China Earthquake:

An earthquake, with a mag-

nitude of 8.0 to 8.3, struck Shaanxi province in China. It is estimated to have directly killed 100,000 people. An additional population loss of about 730,000 was due to people migrating away and/or dying from famine and plagues of the aftermath. This came to a total loss of 830,000 people in the Imperial records.

1779 – Smallpox in West America: The disease broke out in Mexico and traveled north into Eastern Canada in 1784 - The overall death toll from the North American smallpox epidemic from 1775-1782 is estimated at 130,000, but it is believed that many more Native Americans died than were accounted for. Estimates suggest that up to 95 percent of Indians died from smallpox in one region alone.

1815 – Volcanic Eruptions of Mount Tambora: Mount Tambora had the largest volcanic eruption in recorded history. The reverberation of which caused worldwide devastation, including the event known as “The Year Without a Summer.” Pyroclastic flows caused an estimated 11,000 immediate deaths and more than 100,000 deaths from the resulting food shortages over the following decade. The paper, “Tambora” and the “Year Without a Summer” reads, “For most people living on the peninsula, there was no escape. The three kingdoms Tambora, Sanggar and Pekat on the Sanggar Peninsula vanished. Thou-



IN ADDITION TO producing the typical lava flows, a volcanic eruption can also launch melted rock, ash and noxious fumes up to 30,000 feet into the atmosphere — some of which can travel for thousands of miles around the globe. Photo courtesy of pixabay.com

sands of people died immediately during the eruption, tens of thousands in the following weeks and months as the ash fall destroyed agricultural production and poisoned the drinking water by changing the acidity and due to its fluoride content. A year later, half of the population on Sumbawa was dead, most of the other half had migrated to the neighboring islands. But, also, on the islands Lombok and Bali, thousands died, and in their desperation many ended in slavery. In total, an estimated 90,000 to 117,000 people died on the main islands of Indonesia due to the Tambora eruption.”

1816 – The Year Without a Summer: The eruption of Mount Tambora the year before caused a volcanic winter when it threw an estimated 150 cubic kilometers of ash and rock into the atmosphere, blocking out the sun. Global tempera-

tures dropped significantly, making 1816 one of the coldest years of the last 250 years. Monsoon precipitations decreased causing droughts worldwide while other areas received endless rains and flooding. Switzerland was among the most severely affected regions. The darkened, cold and rainy summer led to desperation, severe famine, and cost countless of lives. Mary Shelley wrote “Frankenstein” during that summer in Switzerland.

1883 – Volcanic Eruptions of Krakatoa: One of the

deadliest volcanic eruptions in modern history, Krakatoa, exploded with the force of approximately 200 megatons of TNT; which could be heard almost two thousand miles away. This massive volcano continued to produce from May 20 until October 21. The northern two-thirds of the island collapsed beneath the sea, gen-

erating a series of lava, pumice, and ash flows as well as immense tsunamis. About thirty-six thousand people were killed. The eruption caused volcanic ash to fall, which damaged crops and livestock, broke down communication, hindered travel and destroyed buildings. And, once again, the average temperature of the entire world fell.

1918 - 1920 – Spanish Flu Pandemic: estimated 50 million people worldwide died

>2000 – AIDS Epidemic: more than 21.8 million deaths

2008 – China earthquake: nearly 100,000 people killed, millions homeless, and an estimated \$86 billion in damages

2020 – COVID Pandemic: ranked sixth in Bloom’s survey

Currently – Mosquitoes kill nearly 725,000 people each year



## POCAHONTAS COUNTY

# Hometown Agent!



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We would love to list your Property!  
Call for a FREE Property Evaluation

**Buckeye**  
\$229,000 MLS# 24-839



5 BR, 2 bath home, 2.83 acres, new front porch, stainless steel appliances

**Marlinton**  
\$109,000 MLS# 24-1283



2 story, 4 BR 1.5 bath home, 2 lots, walking distance to Gbr River & trail

**Seebert**  
\$185,000 MLS# 24-1323



50+ acres on the Greenbrier River & Trail, building sites, RVing, hunting

**Marlinton**  
\$139,000 MLS# 24-1290

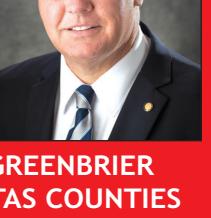


3 BR, 2 Bath, 1+/- acre, covered front (handicapped accessible) and back porch

**RE/MAX**  
LIFESTYLE REALTY

Alinda Perrine Broker | 135 Bicycle Lane Caldwell WV 24925





**JEFF CAMPBELL**  
House of Delegates

DISTRICT 46 - EASTERN GREENBRIER AND SOUTHERN POCOHONTAS COUNTIES

Proudly Endorsed by

**West Virginia Farm Bureau, National Rifle Association and WV Citizens Defense League**

The only candidate Endorsed and A-Rated, based on MY legislative voting record.

I ask for your vote November 5 or in Early Voting, starting October 23

Paid for by Jeff Campbell for West Virginia, Bob Haas, Treasurer

**ELECT TROY McCOY SHERIFF**

35 Years of Law Enforcement Experience

- Lifelong resident of Pocahontas County
- 1980 Graduate of Pocahontas County High School
- Served as an Emergency Medical Technician and Volunteer Firefighter
- Criminal Justice education, Bluefield State College, Marshall University
- WV State Police Academy graduate, 1990
- Certified by WV Division of Justice and Community Services, Law Enforcement Professional Standards, as WV Law Enforcement Instructor since 1995
- As of November 1, 2024, I will have served 35 years in the Sheriff Department
- Will provide a highly trained, professional Sheriff Department
- Will work to bring drug education programs into our schools
- Will maintain a good working relationship with all law enforcement, judicial and community service agencies, working together in an effort to reduce the drug problems and other issues facing our county
- Will make the Sheriff Department more “visible” in our communities and schools

I ask for your vote November 5 to make me the next Sheriff of Pocahontas County.

Paid for by candidate



## Elect Buster VARNER<sup>(R)</sup> SHERIFF

*My opponent is correct - there is NO substitute for experience and education. But let's set the record straight - I'm far from unqualified.*

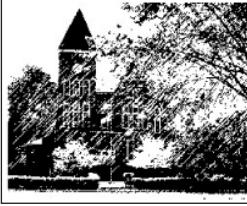
**Here is just a partial list of current training and certifications that will allow me to handle the office of Sheriff effectively :**

- 40+ years EMT, BLS and Firemanship/ Fire Officer training
- Hazmat Awareness
- Critical Incident Stress and Preventing PTSD
- Building a Training Program for Your Department
- Leadership, Accountability, Culture, Knowledge
- Financial Management
- Incident Command
- Documentation and Communication
- Emergency Response to Suicide
- Bomb Threat Management
- Understanding Rapid Intervention
- No Shift is Routine

**Vote for a successful multi-business man with 40+ years' experience and an on-going working relationship with all levels of law enforcement. What counts is what I've accomplished. RESULTS MATTER!**

**Your vote November 5 is appreciated!**

Paid for by candidate



# Preserving Pocahontas

B. J. Gudmundsson, Preservation Officer

## Home Economics Class at MHS – circa 1954



**YEARBOOK PHOTOGRAPH OF the Home Economics Class in the kitchen at Marlinton High School, ca. 1954.** The teacher, Leeta Killingsworth, is standing in front of the window on the right. Mrs. Killingsworth taught at MHS for more than 40 years. (Leeta Beard Killingsworth Collection, Courtesy of Tom Walker; ID: PHP008062)

Access the "Preserving Pocahontas" Digital Library at [www.pocahontaspreservation.org](http://www.pocahontaspreservation.org) or [www.preservingpocahontas.org](http://www.preservingpocahontas.org)

If you have historical records or photographs to be scanned for the county Historical Archive contact Preservation Officer B. J. Gudmundsson at 304-799-3989 or email [info@pocahontaspreservation.org](mailto:info@pocahontaspreservation.org). Prints of photographs are available.

## Seventy-Five Years Ago

Calvin W. Price, Editor

Thursday, October 29, 1949

### BEARS

Carl and Keith Wooddell and some of the neighbors on Elk killed about the biggest bear of the woods on Slaty Fork Monday. Not overly fat, this bear was lumped off at 400 pounds. This was a sheep thief.

On Monday, bears were reported killed at Riders Gap, at Minnehaha Springs and in Norman Shaw's fields at Edray.

### BIRTHDAY PARTY

Buckeye – Don Rogers was honored with a birthday party on October 18, by his sister, Mrs. Dempsey Carpenter. A house full of his friends attended. Delicious refreshments were served. It was a joyful social event.

### WEDDING

Ellen Louise Swecker, daughter of Mrs. Carrie

Swecker and the late Floyd Swecker, of Huttonsville, and George Andrew Gibson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Gibson, of Marlinton, were united in marriage Thursday, October 6, 1949, by Rev. Pugh, of Mill Creek.

### BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Preston McLaughlin, of Hillsboro, a daughter.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Leroy Pugh, of Arbovalle, a son, Ellis Leroy.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Merle Faulkner, a daughter, Alcinda Merle.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. William Forrest Lowe, of Marlinton, a daughter, Gatha Pearl.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hunter Terry, a son, Daniel Lee.

### MORE HISTORY FIRST HOMES

By Mrs. Reed Davis  
Jacob Marlin and Stephen

Sewell built the first cabin and lived here in 1750-51. Following a dispute, Sewell moved into a hollow tree located where the James Bear house now stands.

The second home was built about 1800 by Col. Wm. T. Poage, who owned all of Marlin's Bottom plantation. His wife was Col. Jacob Warwick's widow. Warwick obtained the land by a grant from England prior to 1776. This house was located on Hamilton Field near where the Al Jack home stands.

Col. Poage built a new home and moved to the present site of the Cal Price and Clyde Moore homes.

The fourth house was the Price homestead built on the west side of the river next to my present home. It was the home of Atley Price, James A. Price and Woodsey Price. The original chimney and kitchen were restored and built in a modern residence

built in a modern residence owned by Mrs. Anna V. Hunter – now occupied by the Bob Fitzgerald family.

The fifth home is the one generally known as the first home in Marlinton. The



## Fifty Years Ago

Jane Price Sharp, Editor

Thursday, October 24, 1974

Richard Reigel, Bill McCloud and Elvin McQuain are among Forest Service personnel going to Allegheny National Forest in Pennsylvania to assist in estimating timber volume. On June 30, a storm caused approximately nine million board feet of saw timber and 10,000 cords of pulpwood to be blown down.

Spec. 4 Whiting attended Marlinton High School. He is presently assigned to the 4th Psychological Operations Group as a printing platemaker. His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation and Good Conduct Medal.

Specialist 4 Harlan L. Whiting, formerly of Marlinton, was recently promoted to his present rank.

Spec. 4 Whiting attended Marlinton High School. He is presently assigned to the 4th Psychological Operations Group as a printing platemaker. His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation and Good Conduct Medal.

Marla will be escorted by Mike Scott, son of Mrs. Halie Mae Scott, of Marlinton;

Betty Jo Gum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Basil Gum, of Cass; and Cheryl Wade, daughter of Mrs. Betty J. Wade, of Hillsboro.

Vying for the royal title will be Marla Chestnut, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murl Chestnut, of Dunmore; Betty Jo Gum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Basil Gum, of Cass; and Cheryl Wade, daughter of Mrs. Betty J. Wade, of Hillsboro.

Marla will be escorted by Mike Scott, son of Mrs. Halie Mae Scott, of Marlinton; Betty Jo's escort will be Tim Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard T. Brown, of Clover Lick; and Cheryl will be escorted by Kenneth Pritt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hill Pritt, of Droop.

The Queen's Court will consist of senior attendant Peggy Rosencrance; junior attendant, Virginia Cloonan; sophomore Joyce Simmons; and freshman Teresa Rose.

Miss Bobby Jo McLaughlin will serve as crown bearer and Phillip McMillion will be scepter bearer.

The occasion, a press preview of the exciting new ski resort due to open here this winter. The opening is just one month before Killy ex-

pects to make his comeback debut on the World Professional Skiing Tour...

**PCHS Homecoming**

The Queen of the fifth Annual Homecoming of Pocahontas County High school will be chosen from among three girls during the half time ceremonies of the PCHS vs Webster County game.

Vying for the royal title will be Marla Chestnut, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murl Chestnut, of Dunmore; Betty Jo Gum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Basil Gum, of Cass; and Cheryl Wade, daughter of Mrs. Betty J. Wade, of Hillsboro.

Marla will be escorted by Mike Scott, son of Mrs. Halie Mae Scott, of Marlinton; Betty Jo's escort will be Tim Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard T. Brown, of Clover Lick; and Cheryl will be escorted by Kenneth Pritt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hill Pritt, of Droop.

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pects to make his comeback debut on the World Professional Skiing Tour...

**SNOWSHOE**

Jean Claude Killy, the Frenchman whose skiing performance at the 1968 Winter Olympics has never been equaled, is returning to Snowshoe, his American resort home, for a brief visit.

The occasion, a press preview of the exciting new ski resort due to open here this winter. The opening is just one month before Killy ex-

pects to make his comeback debut on the World Professional Skiing Tour...

**see 50 pg 14**

## Footsteps through History

The Pocahontas Times  
Andrew Price, Editor

Thursday, October 26, 1899

between Huntersville and Marlinton.

Kenny Kennison, aided by a number of railroad hands, succeeded in protecting Dr. Cunningham's "Moore place" from the fire that has been ravishing the surrounding forests.

The reviewers, Messrs Bird, B. M. Yeager and Curry, relocated the road last week between Marlinton and Huntersville on a grade so nearly level that the water will hardly know which way to run.

There was a fire alarm raised in the vicinity of Edray last Friday evening. Mr. Yeager fired around his farm and made it safe. Saturday morning early, some of our citizens whose property was in the most danger raised the cry of fire again and began firing against the destructive enemy on both sides of the pike leading from Stony Creek to Edray.

By nightfall they had succeeded in making themselves to all appearances safe.

The Webster Echo publishes the shame of Webster county when it says twelve divorce suits have been brought in that county since August court. Pocahontas, a more populous county, averages about one divorce suit a year.

The late forest fires damaged Messrs Ginger and Messer considerably in Buckley mountain, destroying corn in the shock and fencing.

The telephone wires and poles were wrecked by burning trees for near a half mile from the upper end of Spice Island to the falling rocks

**SUNSET**

We are having terrible fires in the Alleghenies at present. The lumbermen are having some trouble in saving their logs.

Considerable excitement was occasioned by a fire breaking out in Newton

**see History pg 14**

## 100-Years-Ago in The Pocahontas Times

Calvin W. Price, Editor

Thursday, October 23, 1924

### COUNTRY LIFE CONFERENCE

Last Saturday, the second Annual Country Life Conference was held for the people of Brownsburg.

This community consists of fifteen families in an area of seven miles. Most of these citizens are landowners. Most of them take pride in their farms. At the recent State Fair at Charleston, the community was given an Award of Merit on their farm work...

The Community Club is composed of practically everyone in the community.

The president is my friend, Moody Wilson, son of Uncle Billy and Aunt Susie Wheeler Wilson. He is a powerful man of about 230 pounds of bone and muscle and smile. He is 32 years old, has a wife and three children, and sticks to his farm. He is a veteran of the World War and has to his credit nearly two years of service, nine months of which was with the A. E. F. in the 543rd Engineers and Service Battalion...

The Community Club is composed of practically everyone in the community.

The president is my friend, Moody Wilson, son of Uncle Billy and Aunt Susie Wheeler Wilson. He is a powerful man of about 230 pounds of bone and muscle and smile. He is 32 years old, has a wife and three children, and sticks to his farm. He is a veteran of the World War and has to his credit nearly two years of service, nine months of which was with the A. E. F. in the 543rd Engineers and Service Battalion...

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# Jay Miller for County Commissioner

## *Restore sanity to the budget and spending process*

Paid for by Jay Miller for County Commission

### Dream, from page 1

"I was one of those people who saw the glove come out of the ground and grab the mask and pull it under, and go, 'oh, wow, they're going to do a 'Freddy vs. Jason' movie someday,'" Kerzinger said. "And, lo and behold, I got the part."

Kerzinger has been in the horror industry his whole career, working on TV shows such as "X-Files" and "Twilight Zone Outer Limits," as well as dozens of films.

After the chat, I got an autograph and photo with Kerzinger, who didn't have his lifts on, but was still a towering presence.

The next Jason I spoke to was Derek Mears, who took the mantle for the 2009 reboot/remake of "Friday the 13th." Mears declined to do an interview, but was very personable and spoke to us for a bit about his career in the horror industry and what it was like to play Jason.

When Tony told him it was my first convention, he grinned and said welcome to the family. He said that's what he loved about the horror genre, that the fanbase is passionate about the genre and they treat each other like family, even if they just met minutes prior.

Mears, another towering figure at 6'5" also has a long career in film and brought back to life a classic horror character – Swamp Thing – for a TV series in 2019.

Mears gladly signed my

copy of "Crystal Lake Memories," an anthology book about the making of the "Friday the 13th" films, even though the one he was in wasn't included in the book. He was a good sport about it, and I told him that maybe he should write a book about it himself and he enthusiastically agreed.

The final Jason I met at the con was C.J. Graham, who brought Jason to life in "Friday the 13th Part VI: Jason Lives."

Graham is a boisterous character and spent a lot of time with each person who stopped to meet him at his table. He took selfies and videos with people and gave each conversation a personal touch that the fans will never forget.

I asked Graham how he got in the business, and he said it just kind of fell in his lap. Although he didn't attend stunt school or have any training, he quickly found himself doing his own stunts in movies like "Friday the 13th."

"When you see me on fire, underwater, going through doors, windows, walls – never done it in my life – until I did the movie," he said. "Everything is OJT, On the Job Training, and it wasn't my intent."

Graham went to L.A. to either join the LAPD or the sheriff's department, but ended up running nightclubs, including one owned by Jackie Collins. He went on to run casinos and resorts, a job he retired from seven years ago.

He still takes acting jobs from time to time, and enjoys going to conventions, but is also content to be on his ranch in Montana.

"It's never been my intent, but it's fun now," he said of acting. "I don't really rely on it for income. I have a ranch. I live in Montana, so I've got horses, alpacas, bees. I got honey last week. You always take honey in September, and I got stung a couple times. They got me."

The biggest question then became – what hurts more, going through a window or getting stung by bees.

"Getting stung by a freaking bee," Graham said, laughing. "It hurts."

The most famous actor in attendance, at least in my opinion, was Clint Howard. Yes, the Clint Howard – son of Rance and brother to Ron.

Howard began his career as a child actor on Uncle Ben and The Andy Griffith Show. He's been acting so long, he can't really remember how he got started.

"I honestly do not remember," he said. "It's been in the family. My dad was an actor. My mom was an actor. My big brother is an actor and filmmaker, so it's just sort of something I've never known the difference. I'm so grateful that I'm in the position I'm in, to be part of the magic trick; to understand fundamentally what it is and to get to participate in it."

Howard said he has been acting for 62 years and is happy to now share the craft with his daughter, Raffi, who he will soon share the

big screen with, as well.

In 1995, Howard starred in "The Ice Cream Man" and now there is a sequel in the works. Howard will return as the title character and Raffi will have a scene in which all she wants to do is get an ice cream cone, but there's a "Karen" who won't leave the ice cream man alone and causes a big scene.

"Raffi is just trying to get ice cream while this Karen is climbing into my grill and she meets her fate," he said.

"At the end of the day, we're going to understand why somebody puts body parts in ice cream. We answer that question. The world needs to know what it takes for somebody to decide to start putting body parts in ice cream."

Howard's decades of work have spanned all genres, including horror. The funny thing is, he's not that big a fan of the genre.

"It's fun to do," he said, of acting in horror. "There's a

fanbase. There's a loyal fanbase for horror movies. It's not my favorite genre, but I do understand it. We just went to see "Terrifier 3." I'm in "Terrifier 3" and we saw it at the premier in New York last Tuesday, and it's great to see the envelope get pushed.

"I end up telling people who think it's too gruesome, 'guy's, it's just a movie,'" he said.

As we were talking, Howard pointed to his wife, Kat, who laughed and said that when they met, he told her he was a snow globe maker. While true, she thought it was funny he didn't mention the laundry list of TV shows and movies he'd appeared in.

I was on Cloud 9 after talking to Howard and may have done a few hops up and down saying, "I just interviewed Clint Howard!" It was surreal to me.

The celebrities are just part of a convention. The rest of the convention hall

was filled with vendors – artists, businesses and clubs – with items for sale, from movie merchandise and collectibles to original artwork and comic books.

There was also a section with tattoo artists who were doing tattoos all weekend and had a special for those wanting their favorite actor's autographs immortalized on their skin. Next to the tattoo section was a photo-op section with props including the aliens from "Mars Attack!" characters from "Killer Klowns from Outer Space." and more.

There were also a lot of attendees dressed as their favorite characters, interacting with everyone. It was a blast to say the least.

It was so exciting and fun that I'm ready for the next convention.

Hopefully, next time, Kane Hodder will be able to make it.

Suzanne Stewart may be contacted at [sastewart@pocahontastimes.com](mailto:sastewart@pocahontastimes.com)

### Month, from page 1

"He talked about his life before and his life after and how it had changed," Beverage said. "He made sure to highlight that he still has a very fulfilling life and has a

good job."

O'Brien has regained use of his legs but spends most of his time using a wheelchair. He explained to the students that although his life has changed, he has a normal and active life.

Once the students learned what his job title was, Bev-

erage said the questions and stories started pouring out. Students shared their own experiences with needing to call 911 for emergencies and asked questions about what it is like to work at 911.

"He stayed over an hour," Beverage said. "He was a great visitor."

## VOTE ANDREW "Frosty" McNABB FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Hi there, Pocahontas County. Although I go by Frosty most of the time, my real name is Andrew Forrest "Frosty" McNabb, and I'm a candidate for the Pocahontas County Board of Education. I was born, raised, and attended school in our county, and I reside in Slaty Fork with Julie, my wife of 41 years. We have two children and four grandchildren, two of which attend school in the county. Many of you I met during my time working as a lineman and, later, as a regional manager for Mon Power and many of you I have known for a long time and know me and what I stand for. My values are simple. Your children's education, safety and future are top priority should I be elected to the Board of Education in November. These kids should be given every chance to be successful and have a bright and fulfilling future.

I am not a politician, so I won't make you empty promises or hang signs in your yard or along the sides of the road. Although I am not too lazy to go outside and post signs, you can be sure that your child's welfare, safety and education come first. I believe that focusing on the needs of the kids in this county is a better use of my time as I had the good fortune to be chosen to serve as Rebecca Campbell's temporary board replacement until the election in November.

As many of you know, I had a near-death experience almost six years ago. God decided to spare me and keep me alive, and I knew that he kept me here for a reason. Prior to my illness, I frequently told my wife that I believed God's intent for me was to work with the young people, which is what I did for several years as a coach and mentor in a variety of sports. I've often questioned why God kept me here after my illness, and I've thought that maybe my role is to serve this community as a member of the Board of Education to give back to the community that supported me throughout my illness. If elected, I will do my best to represent this county and its youth.

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# WARRIOR SPORTS



**DEFENSIVE COACH MATT** Buzzard makes adjustments at half-time. The Wildcats could not run on the Warriors all night but relied on a big first half passing game. *M. Koerber photo*

## Warriors mauled by Wildcats

**Mitchell B. Koerber**  
Student Sports Journalist

Rivalry tends to give courage to those who want a battle. It builds aggression, needing to be released in a manner of blows, shouts and hits – all of which are left on the field.

Week 8 against the Pendleton High School Wildcats would be a disappointing loss in this match between rivals as the Pocahontas County High School Warriors were defeated 42-6.

The Wildcats dominated the game with a pass heavy offensive plan that the Warriors were unable to stop.

Going into halftime, Pocahontas was down 35-0. After making adjustments during

halftime, the Warriors were able to slow the bleeding and held the Wildcats to just one touchdown for the remainder of the game. Coach Matt Buzzard shifted star defensive back Sophomore, #3 Morgan Beverage to cover Wildcat Senior, #14 receiver Josiah Kimble. This limited Pendleton's pass attack in the second half. Pendleton could not run on the Warriors, mainly due to the interior defensive line made up by Senior, #71 DJ Wilfong and Junior, #77 Jacob Bennett, which is why they relied so heavily on their passing game.

The only Warrior touchdown of the night was made with 5:14 left in the third quarter by Sophomore, #3

Morgan Beverage. From the Pocahontas 46-yard line, Beverage would catch a 5-yard hitch pass and break free of three tackles at the Wildcats' 44-yard line and squirt out the back all the way to the end zone. The extra point attempt failed.

After the game, Coach Doug Burns said to the team, "I like your fight. You never give up. That's Pocahontas

see Warriors pg 13

## Young Warriors beat by Vikings

**Mitchell B. Koerber**  
Student Sports Journalist

Going into week 8, the Pocahontas County Middle School Football Team was looking for a big win for its final home game of the season. It would have been a great way to celebrate Eighth Grade Night in front of the home crowd.

The Young Warriors were not so lucky, as they fell to the Petersburg Middle School Vikings by a score of 40-8.

The Vikings came in strong and fast with a heavy pass game that the Warriors could not answer. The Warrior defense was steadfast as eighth grader, #5 Liam Burdette would intercept the Vikings two times, however, the offense was never able to convert those into points on the scoreboard.

In the final seconds of the game, eighth grader, #45 Noah Foe had an extraordinary run of 40-yards for the only Warrior touch-

down of the night, with a successful two-point conversion. After the game, Coach Graae told the players, "Petersburg is a good team, and you all fought hard on Eighth Grade Night. It just wasn't our night tonight."

Eighth Grade Night was a great success in other ways as Green Bank Middle School and Marlinton Middle School bands came together to play at the game. Pocahontas County High School Football coaches were also in attendance to show their support for their upcoming players. The Young Warriors were also supported by the PCHS Cheerleaders as they were there to form the opening tunnel and cheered for the first portion of the game. Eighth graders were joined by parents and relatives for their Eighth Grade Walk and received gifts at their final home game as middle school athletes.

see Young pg 13

## School Menus

**October 28-November 1**

**Monday, 28:** Oatmeal, cheese stick and fruit. Chicken potpie, whole grain biscuit, 5-way mixed vegetables, red bell pepper strips, fruit cup and milk.

**Tuesday, 29:** Sausage, egg and cheese wrap and fruit. Taco salad with meat, corn chips, romaine lettuce, shredded cheese, sour cream, refried beans and Mexicali corn, pears and milk.

**Wednesday, 30:** Pumpkin

muffin square and fruit cup. milk.

**Friday, 1:** Sausage and cheese biscuit and fruit. Diced chicken nachos with corn, tortillas, salsa, sour cream, marinated black beans, roasted broccoli, fruit and milk.

**Thursday, 31:** Whole grain bagel with cream cheese, BooNana (banana). Meatloaf, whole grain roll, mashed potatoes, orange glazed carrots, fruit cup and milk.

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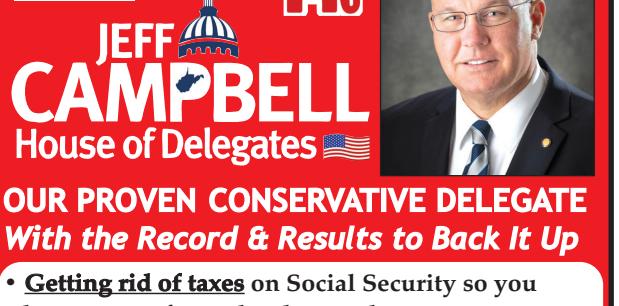
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## Music, from page 1

has attended the Cass retreat every year, as well as several events in Elkins hosted by Augusta. May said he enjoyed the atmosphere and history surrounding Cass that lends itself so well to the retreat.

"This is the birthplace of a lot of this music, and it's so

cool to come here and play it," he said.

May has been a lifelong musician and was in a band right after college. He took a break from music for a while and a year before he retired, he picked up where he left off after he purchased a banjo.

"I bought this banjo and started playing," he said. "It's sort of become my obsession."

Chris Stienon, of North-

ern Virginia, has also attended several Augusta events in Elkins, as well as this retreat in Cass. He was drawn to old-time music because of the unity he feels with fellow musicians as they play.

"Old-time, to me, is community music," he said. "You just get together and play together for yourselves, principally. Of course, you can play at dances and in front of other people, but

that's kind of the appeal to me with old-time. It's very inclusive and everyone gets a chance to play regardless of level and you don't have to put on a solo."

Stienon added that attending retreats and music camps like this has become something of a reunion through the years.

"I start seeing the same people and you develop connections at every camp," he said. "It's all part of the ex-

perience."

Also taking part in the experience as a student was Pocahontas County's own Mary Sue Burns, who is well known as the banjo player for Juanita Fireball and the Continental Drifters – among other things – but at the retreat, she was a fiddle player.

Burns has attended the Cass retreat for several years to hone her fiddle skills and spend time with fellow musicians. Although she lives a

half hour away, Burns said she likes to stay at the company houses with the other attendees because it's part of the retreat.

Augusta Heritage Center is located on the Davis & Elkins College campus in Elkins and focuses on educational events that celebrate the history and culture of West Virginia.

For more information, visit [augustaartsandculture.org](http://augustaartsandculture.org)

## Tourism, from page 2

seen a daily uptick of visitors since the pandemic brought people from urban areas to the state.

"We're just average-Joe people living in a tourist town," said Anne Walker, owner of the Handmade WV Market.

In the back of her store, displays house colorful artwork, patterned quilts and tie-dyed shirts from local artisans. Near the entrance, handmade beaded bracelets and jewelry sit adjacent to fresh vegetables and jars of jam.

Walker said business has been steady since the market opened three years ago, but that changes with tourism seasons. Most tourists visiting are stragglers from Snowshoe Mountain Resort or bikers on the 77-mile Greenbrier River Trail.

Next door at Greenbrier Bikes, owner Scott Guyette sees bike riders from all over the country who come to town for biking gear or repairs at his shop.

With new bikes lining both corners of the shop, Guyette said that since moving to the area in 2011, he's seen the town transform. Many new businesses opened following the pandemic.

"We're trying to be a destination for people to come and spend their tourism dollars," he said. "And it's working."

Nicknamed "Nature's Mountain

Playground," Pocahontas County boasts activities including riding the Cass Scenic Railroad, skiing at Snowshoe Mountain Resort and hiking at Watoga State Park or the Cranberry Glades.

However, like in nearby counties, the strong tourism investment has led to a housing shortage and rising prices for residents.

### Housing prices, available inventory remain an issue for many

Back at the market, Walker assisted her next customer and said finding housing has been a big issue for people in the area.

She said local landlords are turning rental properties into Airbnbs as demand has grown, further limiting supply for long-term rentals.

"The price of land has gone up, while the availability of housing has gone down since the pandemic," she said. "Rural areas have become a sanctuary, and we've become a sanctuary for people living in the cities."

Her customer, Marty Giddings, who is a real estate broker from Slaty Fork, added that the housing market atop Snowshoe Mountain has affected other markets across the county. She said she most recently closed on a \$1.8 million listing there.

"Housing is incredibly difficult because of Snowshoe," she said. "Landlords can get residual income from the resort through rentals. So,

locals end up not being able to afford to buy something because the prices are crazy."

Twenty minutes south in Hillsboro, at the Hillsboro Public House, visitors are enjoying a menu of salads, burgers and desserts. The pandemic-born eatery had three years of extensive renovations but was opened last year.

Owner Terrell McSweeney Burns moved to the area in the late 1990s and owns rental properties and businesses in town.

She said she's struggled to find skilled labor like culinary chefs and the housing market has hindered her search.

"I could recruit from further away if I had housing to offer people, but I can't," she said. "I'm limited because there's not enough housing here."

Last year, Pocahontas County was designated as a Build WV zone, which is a state initiative to build more affordable housing. Developers can apply, and projects that are approved receive a sales tax exemption on building materials and property tax credits.

McSweeney Burns said she's struggled with making rent prices of her properties affordable while also receiving returns on investments and figuring out how to develop land she owns.

"This tax credit thing they passed is a great start," she said. "But, it's not even close to trying to figure out the economics of some-

one like me actually developing properties."

### County public schools need more funding, resources for students

With a population of a little more than 7,800, the county only has one high school but several elementary schools.

As a mom of two teenage kids, McSweeney Burns said there needs to be more resources for the school system and more pay for teachers.

"We don't even have a scoreboard on our baseball field for the high school," she said. "If we could invest more in the schools so that the kids felt more support and had real sports programs and real music programs, that would be great."

In March, high school students walked out of classes in protest of proposed budget cuts that would've eliminated multiple teaching positions.

The county Board of Education voted to save a position in April but cited rising costs and decreased federal and state funding as reasons for the cuts.

On the northern end of the county, Dunmore resident Teresa Lambert works as a culinary arts teacher at the high school and runs the Mountain State Cakes Bakery.

She said the school system could use more supportive programs for struggling students as more than half of them do not live with their parents.

"It's sad because we have lots of students who could do a lot of wonderful things, but when you have that kind of home life, that's your focus," she said.

### More grocery stores, places to shop in the county

Residents also said they'd like more local places to shop or pick up household supplies and groceries instead of driving out of the county.

Up north in Cass, the scenic railroad gift shop features a range of items for thousands of visitors riding the train every year. From branded baseball caps to toy train whistles and playing cards, new souvenirs are stocked daily.

Amanda Bennett, who works as the receptionist for tickets, said she lives in Bartow but doesn't mind making the 25-minute commute for work as she makes an even longer one just to pick up a loaf of bread.

"It's not very crowded here, and it's peaceful, but the worst part is going to buy groceries," she said. "I have to go almost an hour away to Elkins."

Even in Marlinton, resident and local craftmaker Cheryl [Cain] said she loves where she lives and how close-knit the community is but wishes she didn't have to travel so far for her essentials. It would be nice to have some of the stores in the cities, she said.

"We have one grocery store, one Dollar Store and one pharmacy."

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### Veterinarian

## Center, from page 2

ficially recognize the school's Purple Star Club and issue an official proclamation "recognizing November as 'Military Veteran and Active Service Personnel Month,' and encourage citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of our veterans and active service personnel and their commitment to our nation and its citizens, their service and sacrifice, particularly as we head into

the holiday season."

The students said the Purple Star Club will be sending care packages to our active service members this holiday season.

- In other matters the commission approved:

- the following requests from the 911/Emergency Management Director, Mike O'Brien:

- a) WV Division of Emergency Management Sub-Grant adjustment of an additional \$1,000.

- b) to sell on Gov.Deal, a 911 Tahoe, with a reserve price of \$1,500; a 16 KW

LP generator; and four old Motorola MTR Repeaters.

c) the proposal by Vigilant Technology Group for server management services for the 911 Center and the sheriff's Office, which will provide the same service at half the cost as their old Motorola Service Contract.

d) an MOU between the Emergency Management Facilities Grant by the

and the Snowshoe Highlands Area Recreation Collaborative Trail Team regarding maintenance of an ATV do-

nated by the Mon Forest.

- Resolution #4 to use \$72,721 out of the EPA Tan-

nerry Grant to pay invoices related to the project.

- to issue a resolution in

d) an MOU between the support of the Courthouse

Emergency Management Facilities Grant by the

County Clerk and the Circuit Clerk for a new scanner and overtime pay to scan records.

Prior to the meeting they

held a special work session

about the demolition of five

buildings at the former

Howes Tannery site. They

proceed after receiving

identified the buildings,

which do not include the old

office building or the former

garage, which will have to be

done separately. It was agreed that they will ask several contractors, including

ReClaim which just did the

demolition of the former

BOE Office building in Mar-

lington, for estimates, and will

identify the buildings,

which have already been removed

and disposed of from these

buildings.

## Open Letter to Pocahontas County Voters - Part 5

Should the county commission proceed with plans to borrow up to \$5 million which, combined with federal covid relief funds from the American Rescue Plan and potential grants, would provide about \$7 million to build a combined 911 and Emergency Management Center? I don't think so, but why?

The county's 911 operation is currently in an old house next to the courthouse and needs to be extensively refurbished or replaced. More than a year ago, using a grant for 911 planning, a member of the county commission began developing blueprints with WYK, an architectural firm with long experience working with the county commission. What began as designing a new 911 center quickly expanded to include facilities for the county's growing ambulance service - which overwhelmed the 911 requirements. By the time blueprints were put out for bid last spring the combined project was called the EMS/911 Center. The tail was wagging the dog.

At the end of June, two bids were received from credible and experienced contractors. The bids were very close to each other and both were more than \$6.5 million - dwarfing the amount of funds earmarked for the project - about \$1.5 million. No contract was awarded; the bids expired after 60 days. Initially, there was discussion of reducing the scope of work and rebidding the contract after securing additional funding from grants and other imagined sources. Concern was also voiced by the 911 director that the needs of the 911 center had become secondary to the desire to build a large garage for ambulances.

By the end of the summer, however, the county commission reverted to the original approach and said plans would not be changed - and that a \$5 million loan would be sought from the USDA Rural Development program - using the recently closed 35-year loan for \$5.7 million to finance major improvements to Pocahontas Memorial Hospital as a model. The county commission would be the guarantor for both loans. But, there is a big difference between the two projects. PMH uses reimbursements from Medicare, Medicaid, and private health insurance to support its operations - and, over time, those payments will increase with inflation while the monthly loan payment will remain constant - thereby reducing the risk that county funds will ever be used for loan payments. Even so, USDA required the county commission to escrow \$200,000 (approximately a year's worth of loan payments) before closing the loan.

Regarding the EMS/911 Center, current USDA interest rates would require county taxpayers to pay most of the \$261,000 annual cost because the 911 and EMS programs do not generate sufficient surplus funds needed to make monthly payments. A \$5 million loan would end up costing more than \$9.1 million. Such a loan would be considered a general obligation bond which means that it must be paid before the county pays salaries and other expenses - for 35 years.

I don't believe most Pocahontas County voters think this is a good idea. I need the support of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents on November 5th so I can help resolve this and other budget and spending issues confronting the county commission.

Paid for by Jay Miller for County Commissioner

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## VOTE FOR GLENN ELLIOTT - NOVEMBER 5TH



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**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS****LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS****LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS****ADMINISTRATION TO CREDITORS,  
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Notice is hereby given that the following estate(s) have been opened for probate in the Pocahontas County Clerk's Office at P.O. Box 209, 900 Tenth Avenue, Suite C, Marlinton, WV 24954-0209. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provisions of West Virginia Code 41-5-11 through 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court, shall file written notice of an objection with the County Commission within 60 days after the date of the first publication or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later.

If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred. Any claims against an estate must be filed within 60 days of the first publication of this notice in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-2 and 44-3A.

Settlement of the estate(s) of the following named decedent(s) will proceed without reference to a fiduciary commissioner unless within 60 days from the first publication of this notice a reference is requested by a party of interest or an unpaid creditor files a claim and good cause is shown to support reference to a fiduciary commission.

**First Publication Date: Thursday, October 24, 2024**

**Claim Deadline: Monday, December 23, 2024**

**ESTATE NUMBER: 14605**

**ESTATE OF: BRYAN HAROLD BURKE**

ADMINISTRATOR: William G. Burke  
Harthausner Strasse 3  
94368 Perkam, Germany

**ESTATE NUMBER: 14675**

**ESTATE OF: ROGER LEE TRUSLER**

ADMINISTRATOR: Arthur Gordon Trusler  
79 S Florida Street  
Buckhannon, WV 26201-2658

**ESTATE NUMBER: 14677**

**ESTATE OF: SONDRAGE COCHRAN**

EXECUTOR: Jeffrey Shaw  
63 Sawdust Lane  
Marlinton, WV 24954-6723

Subscribed and sworn to before me on October 18, 2024.  
Melissa L. Bennett  
Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission  
10/24/24

**NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT****TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF****JAMES MICHAEL NORBURY, DECEASED**

Notice is hereby given that the Final Settlement for the following estate was filed in the office of the Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission on Monday, October 21, 2024.

If no objections or exceptions are filed with the Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission, the Final Settlement will be presented to the Pocahontas County Commission Tuesday, November 12, 2024, for approval.

**ESTATE NUMBER: 14643**

**ESTATE NAME: James Michael Norbury, Deceased**

ADMINISTRATOR: Bonnie C. Taylor  
1525 Pocahontas Highway  
Marlinton, WV 24954

Subscribed and sworn to before me on October 21, 2024.  
Melissa L. Bennett  
Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission  
10/24/24

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE**

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE is hereby given pursuant to and by virtue of the authority vested in the Trustee, Pill & Pill, PLLC, by that certain Deed of Trust dated July 30, 2021, executed by the Borrower, Joshua A. Hoffmann, to Pill & Pill, PLLC, the Trustee, of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, in Book 400, at Page 413. At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have a mailing address of 10612 Frost Rd., Marlinton, WV 24954. The Borrower defaulted under the Note and Deed of Trust and the Trustee has been instructed to foreclose under the Deed of Trust. Accordingly, the Trustee will sell the following described property to the highest bidder at the front door of the Courthouse of Pocahontas County, in Marlinton, West Virginia, on the following date: November 18, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF Pocahontas, STATE OF WV, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

All of those three (3) certain tracts or parcels of real estate, including the improvements, appurtenances and easements thereto belonging, on the east side of West Virginia State Route 28 one (1) mile north of the Village of Frost, Huntersville District of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

**Tract No. I:** "Beginning at a stake on the east side of State Route 28 and running in an easterly direction and approximately perpendicular to the said State Route 286 feet to a stake; thence running perpendicular to the former line and in a northerly direction 139 feet to a stake; thence running perpendicular to the former line and in a westerly direction 286 feet to the right-of-way line of the said State Route; thence running with the right-of-way line in a southerly direction 100 feet to the point of beginning, and containing one-half (1/2) acre, more or less."

**Tract No. II:** Being a strip land approximately 345 feet long and 12 to 16 feet wide and bounded on the north by the lands of John G. Sharp; on the east by the lands of the United States of America; and on the south by the lands of Lester Tennant; and on the west by State Route No. 28; and being a part of what was formerly known as the Preston-Dreppard Farm.

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**Tract No. III:** All of that certain parcel of land designated by the United States Forest Service as Tract 377a-1, containing 0.14 acre, more or less, located in the Huntersville District of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, being a portion of U.S. Tract No 377a, conveyed by deed from Warn Lumber Company to the United States of America dated February 21, 1937, and of record in the Deed Book 71, at Page 335, and further acquired by Berlin N. Galford, by the United States of America, by Deed dated March 20, 1998, and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, In Deed Book 302, at Page 522.

AND BEING the same real estate conveyed unto Joshua A. Hoffmann by the Deed dated the 1st day of March, 2019, from Douglas Grimes and Connie Grimes, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 377, at Page 275.

**TERMS OF SALE:**

1) The property will be conveyed in an "AS IS" physical condition by Deed containing no warranty, express or implied, subject to the Internal Revenue Service right of redemption, all property taxes, prior Deeds, liens, reservations, encumbrances, restrictions, rights-of-ways, easements, covenants, conveyances and conditions of record in the Clerk's office or affecting the subject property.

2) The Purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the transfer taxes imposed by the West Virginia Code § 11-22-1.

3) The Beneficiary and/or the Servicer of the Deed of Trust and Note reserve the right to submit a bid for the property at sale.

4) The Trustee reserves the right to continue sale of the subject property from time to time by written or oral proclamation, which continuance shall be in the sole discretion of the Trustee.

5) The Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the property to vacate said property, and any personal property and/or belongings remaining at the property after the foreclosure sale will be deemed to constitute ABANDONED PROPERTY AND WILL BE DISPOSED OF ACCORDINGLY.

6) The total purchase price is payable to the Trustee within thirty (30) days of the date of sale, with ten (10%) of the total purchase price payable to the Trustee at sale.

Pill & Pill, PLLC, Trustee

BY: Jonathan L. Wertman, Esq.

Pill & Pill, PLLC

85 Aikens Center

Martinsburg, WV 25404

(304) 263-4971

foreclosures@pillwvlaw.com

10/17/4c

**NOTICE OF REDEMPTION**

2022-C-000044-POCAHONTAS COUNTY-WVTA LLC

To: ULRIC ALDERMAN, WAYNE NEIL ALDERMAN, WAYNE

NEIL ALDERMAN, WILMA UNDERWOOD, JANET BECK,

SHELBY JEAN RYDER, ALONZO GEORGE DEAN JR., HAROLD

SAWYERS, MELVIN HILL, BESSIE HILL, NORMAN ALDERMAN,

CHARLOTTE ALDERMAN, PAULINE NEVADA HANSFORD,

LEONARD GEORGE UNDERWOOD, ANNA MARY ROBIN-

SON, JANET LEE BECK, MILDRED LOUISE SYMES, SHELBY

JEAN RYDER, LAWRENCE ALDERMAN, JOEL HILL, PAUL

HILL, RUTH WRIGHT, RUTH WRIGHT, WOOD HILL, MURL HILL,

MURL HILL, MADELINE HILL, MADELINE HILL, DOROTHY

TEELIZZI, BETTY SILVA, BETTY SILVA, BETTY SILVA, MARY IN-

SEEU, MARY INESEU, IRS, ATTN: ADVISORY CONSOLIDATED

RECEIPTS, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, or heirs at law, de-

visees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known

heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders,

co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the

delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in

the subject property.

**DISTRICT: HUNTERSVILLE MAP: 9999**

**PARCEL 0600 0030 0000**

You will take notice that WVTA LLC, the purchaser of the follow-

ing real estate, Cert. No. 2022-C-000044, located in HUNTERSVILLE District, BEAVER CREEK MINERALS 100 AC, which was returned delinquent or non-entered in the name of ALDERMAN ULRIC, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of

delinquent and non-entered lands of POCAHONTAS County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 11, 2023, WVTA LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2025, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2021-11374.

\$ 93.90

Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number.

\$ 0.00

Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest for tax year 2022-11390.

\$ 5.07

Additional taxes with interest.

\$ 0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus in-

\$ 107.97

Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication,

personal service, Secretary of State, with interest.

\$ 1,045.42

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.

\$ 2,022.89

Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor – cashier

check, money order, certified or personal check.

\$ 3,275.25

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2024 by

paying the above total less any unearned interest.

Please return this letter and payment to the

West Virginia State Auditor's Office

County Collections Division

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East

Building 1 Room W-114

Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Question, please call 1-888-509-6568

Given under my hand October 4, 2024

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WV#54-93-0015

## Mayor's, from page 4

leaves, all the experience they have gained leaves with them, and the Town is forced to start all over again. It has not been an easy process.

We appreciate the NFIP State Coordinator and Project Officer. Both have worked closely with our

FPM. Community education is a huge part of understanding the need. Ultimately, our goal is to keep coverage available, save lives and lessen property damage, if confronted with any future event. We welcome other information related to assess, technical assistance or other floodplain management practices.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sam

## Young, from page 9

The Middle School Warriors will travel to Clay Bat-

telle Middle School Cee Bees Thursday, October 24. Kickoff is at 6:30 p.m.

The stadium is located at 6226 Mason-Dixon Highway in Blacksville, WV.

## Warriors, from page 9

County Football – we never give up!"

A team made up of mainly sophomores carried most of the load during the game versus Pendleton County, whose team was led by nine seniors. Pendleton's Head Coach even remarked, "This year's team is the best team I have ever coached!"

Everyone knew this was a

building year for the Warriors, and it is games like this that add the experience this young team needs. Can you imagine what this team will be capable of when all these sophomores are seniors?

The Warriors get to lick their wounds as they have a bye-week this week.

Their next game will be at home – last home game of the season – celebrating Senior Night. The Warriors will face-off against the 2-6 Tygart's Valley Bulldogs at Warrior Field at 7:30 p.m.

## Calendar, from page 4

time and play group for children ages five and younger, accompanied by a grown up. Cancelled when schools are closed.

### PARKS AND REC

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

**Cardio/toning class.** New session in progress now.

Low impact aerobics plus core/major muscle group strengthening, Mondays and Wednesdays 5 to 6 p.m.

**Zumba** Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 5 p.m.

**Yoga** at Durbin Library Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and at Linwood Center Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

**Taekwondo**, Wednesdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

### CHURCH NOTICES

**Central Union United Methodist Church**, Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Bible Study Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Led by Pastor Tim Scott.

**Marlinton United Methodist Church** – Worship at 11 a.m. Parking lot service on 90.3 FM radio or

join us on Facebook. Bible

Study Thursdays 1 p.m.

**Marlinton Presbyterian Church** – Bible Study 9 a.m.

Worship 10 a.m.

**Arbovale United Methodist** – Worship 11:15 a.m.

Sundays; Bible Study 6 p.m.

Thursdays.

**New Hope Lutheran – Minnehaha Springs** – Wor-

ship 8:45 a.m.

**First Baptist Church – Huntersville** – Sunday

School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:45 a.m. Wednesday night

service 7 p.m.

**Marlinton Seventh-day Adventist Church**, 16741

Seneca Trail, Marlinton,

Bible Study Saturday 9:30 a.m. Church service, 11 a.m.

**Seebert United Methodist Church** – Sunday

School every Sunday 9:20 a.m.; Worship second and fourth Sundays at 10 a.m.

**Catholic Mass: St. John, Marlinton** – Sunday 9 a.m.; St. Mark, Bartow – Sunday 11:30 a.m.

**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.

**New Hope Church of the Brethren**, Worship at 9:30 a.m. and Bible Study Wed-

nights at 7:30 p.m.

**Pine Grove Church of the Brethren**, Arbovale –

Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship

11 a.m.; Preaching and

Teaching 11 a.m.

**Trinity Baptist Church, Rt. 219 Buckeye Hill** – Sun-

day School 10 a.m.; Worship

11 a.m.; Wednesday Bible

Study 7 p.m.

**Marlinton Church of God, Beard Heights** – Sun-

day School 10 a.m.; Worship

11 a.m. Wednesday Night

Bible Study 5 p.m. Book of

Church, Rt. 219 – Sunday Daniel.

Service 10 a.m.

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

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

**New Vision Praise and Worship**, 215 Fifth Street, Marlinton – Praise and Worship 10 a.m.; Preaching and

Teaching 11 a.m.

**Rt. 219 Buckeye Hill** – Sun-

day School 10 a.m.; Worship

11 a.m.; Wednesday Bible

Study 7 p.m.

**Marlinton Church of**

**God, Beard Heights** – Sun-

day School 10 a.m.; Worship

11 a.m. Wednesday Night

Bible Study 5 p.m. Book of

Church, Rt. 219 – Sunday Daniel.

## SHOOTING MATCH

Saturday, Oct. 26 • 6 p.m.

I.O.O.F. Lobelia Lodge #386, Lobelia Road, Hillsboro

No choke tubes or sleeves.

Not responsible for accidents. No alcohol allowed on premises.

## AUCTION SALE

Saturday, October 26 • 10 a.m.

986 Monroe Draft Road, Ronceverte, WV.

From Union, take Rt. 219 north to Organ Cave and Rt. 63 toward Caldwell about 1.5 miles. From Lewisburg, take Rt. 219 South to Organ Cave.

Lot of crocks from 1 - 10 gal., rocking churn, large dough bowl, lot of Blue Willow dishes, Carnival glass, quilts, various old churns, large collection of Capodimonte dishes, Gone With The Wind oil lamps, many other lamps, mantle clocks, pocket knives, corner cabinet, antique sideboard, hall tree, pie safe, china hutch, large secretary, oak table and 4 chairs, spinning wheel, refrigerator, Husqvarna riding mower, curved glass oak hutch, approx. 15 guns (shotguns and rifles) - all guns will be registered.

This is only a portion of the personal property of the estate of Thomas B. and Drema Lucas, Jim Lewis, Executor. Food available.

Terms: Cash settlement day of sale

Auctioneers: Kermit (#479), Billy (#605) and Ben Morgan (#2196)

Phone 304-667-6849 or 304-647-5970

### END-OF-OCTOBER OPTIONS

## Super Crossword

ACROSS	47	Rolled the dice at a casino, say	92	Messes (Up)	127	Part of SSE	33	Go left, e.g.	83	Big drink
	94	Procedure to evaluate heart health	128	String after Q	129	Ia. neighbor	38	Libyan cash	89	Tusked beast
	51	Seal of films	130	Plug tightly			39	Skiing stuff		"That so?"
	52	Dressed in	98	Roughly shaped			41	Frozen drink brand	93	Brunch staple
	53	Singer Lana Del —	99	K.P. veggie	42	Vodka brand	43	Sediments	95	Proficient
	54	French composer Edouard	100	La Forge of "Star Trek: The Next Generation"	44	It's north of Nevada	45	— wrench	96	Fail to win
	55	Purview	101	Clock datum	45	Water in Lille	46	Copying a cat	97	Farm vehicle
	56	1860s White House nickname	102	Bife (with Gasol)	6	Wonderwork	47	Small British cafe	98	Easily deceived sort
	57	Oprah of TV	103	Nauseous from motion, to Brits	7	It's north of Nevada	48	Actor Close	101	"That's what I'm — about!"
	58	Statement that might follow "Come on in"	104	Barfyle brew	8	Basketball player Gasol	49	Capitol body	103	Skip over, as a syllable
	59	Divided at the starts and ends of nine answers in this puzzle	105	Steve of country rock	9	"Peer ..." (Ibsen play)	51	Politico Ross	104	Newspapers, TV, etc.
	60	1920s White House nickname	112	Look at yet again to make sure	10	Situated on both sides of	55	Scarlet, say	107	Oven shelf
	61	70s	116	Barley brew	11	Bordeline of bushes	58	Lover boy	108	Indian wraps
	62	Statement that might follow "Come on in"	117	Couturier Cassini	12	Couturier	59	Heartfelt	109	With
	63	Divided at the starts and ends of nine answers in this puzzle	118	"Clever plan!"	13	Duel sword	61	Suddenly worsen	35	Across, player of Granny on "The Beverly Hillbillies"
	64	Answers in this puzzle	119	What is found divided at the starts and ends of nine answers in this puzzle	14	Admission	63	Harmonious union	111	One (vodka brand)
	65		120	Answers in this puzzle	15	Dueler with Alexander Hamilton	64	Look awed	112	Certain bolt holder
	66		121	Answers in this puzzle	16	Project detail	65	Makes docile	113	Many a seized auto
	67		122	Former Fox competitor	17	Search out	70	Drinking site	114	Co. honchos
	68		123	Pop diva Celine	20	"Easy there!"	72	Second-century pope	115	Reality TV's Jenner
	69		124	Copying a pig	21	One looting	73	Lot divisions	116	Abbr. of primary colors
	70		125	Regarding Lean — (crude sheds)	22	Thrash about	74	Teensy bit	117	
	71		126	Lean — (crude sheds)	23	Where Is the Life That Late — ?	75	Former Laker Lamar	118	
	72		127	Warn like a snake or cat						

## 50, from page 7

### BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Madison, of Marlinton, a son, Samuel Lee.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Warren Dale McKenney, of Marlinton a daughter, Susan Raye.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Lance Kelly, of Hillsboro, a son, Dulaney Nicolas.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Karol Puffenbarger, of Hillsboro, a daughter, Cristi Anne.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. William O. Taylor, Jr., of

Dunmore, a son, William Orville Taylor, III.

### DEATHS

Mrs. Carrie Jane Selmon, 66, of Bartow; born in Highland County, a daughter of the late Charlie and Sally Sponaugle Barkley. Burial in the Monterey Cemetery in Monterey, Virginia.

Mrs. Mary E. Simmons Fertig, 36, of Eleanor; born at Stony Bottom, a daughter of Mrs. Alma Simmons and the late Charles Simmons. A graduate of Green Bank High School. Her husband, Winfred Fertig, and one daughter preceded her in death. Funeral service from the Edray church with burial

in Mountain View Cemetery. Mrs. Dona L. Cottrell, of Marlinton, a daughter of Salem and Maxine Jordan Elza. Funeral service from the Marlinton Methodist Church with burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

**A BIT OF HUMOR**  
A hypocrite is a man who prays on Sunday, and preys on his fellowmen the rest of the week.

The most desirable quality in a nose is not its length or shape, but that it is not found in other people's business.

America: a place where we jump traffic lights to save seconds and wait patiently for hours on the first tee.

## 75, from page 7

John Moss built a home where the Bank of Marlinton stands. He operated a barber shop there.

When Marlinton became the county seat in 1892, many families moved here from Huntersville.

Some of the first homes to be built about this time were:

The Lock McClintic residence, now occupied by his widow and daughter.

Uriah Bird home, now Miss Pearl Carter's reconstructed home.

S. L. Brown home, located on the corner near John

Sydenstricker.

Capt. A. E. Smith home, owned by Eugene Daetwyler.

Scott Rucker home, owned by Mrs. Eskridge.

Clawson McNeill home across the corner from Lock McClintic residence, owned by G. D. Wooddell.

The Boyd Bartlett home near the Clark Hotel.

The King home, occupied

by the Richard Currence family.

When the brick courthouse was built, the bricks were burned on Hamilton Field. The remaining bricks went in to Marlinton's first brick home. It was built by Capt. Smith and is now owned by Genevieve and Arnout Yeager and is occupied by Mrs. Grace Yeager and her son, Arnout.

## History, from page 7

Moore's house. A panther attacked some boys one night long since opposite Hugh Dever's on the spruce bank.

### DUNMORE

Keep your smokehouses and granaries locked. A lot of dogs have been shot about Dunmore.

Very dry and smokey. It has been trying to rain for several days, and the smoke is so thick that the rain cannot get through.

There is enough rock in the road between Dunmore and Frost to build a wall around Jericho 40 feet high.

### RAILROAD WORK

Pitts Camp is working about 120 hands, divided into five gangs, working on the hillside opposite the mouth of Stony Creek. While there are a few teams and carts at work, most of the force is employed in pick and shovel work. A large force of men and teams worked several days in breaking up the surface soil two hundred feet through a

dense thicket of small laurel and other brush. This is where the road emerges into the bottomland and the fill commences.

Solid rock, covered with a thin layer of soil was struck above Colonel Gay's fields. Here the rock is broken up by blasting, and the debris removed by crowbar, pick and shovel. The work is interesting to watch. After a shot, the air is full of small stones for a hundred feet around, and large rocks are blown into the middle of the river...

### DIED CAPTAIN WILLIAM L. MCNEEL

It becomes our mournful duty to announce the death of this distinguished citizen of our county, which occurred at his residence near Hillsboro Friday, October 13, 1899, aged about 78 years.

For more than fifty years, he was a prominent busy man of affairs on various lines of business endeavor, merchandising, farming, grazing, and dealing in livestock on an extended scale.

In the War Between the States, his lot was with the Confederate cause, and he

made a distinguished record for fidelity to duty, unflinching judicious bravery in battle and extraordinary kindness and consideration for the soldiers under his command. Since the war, his fellow citizens were ever ready to honor him by any means in their gift. He represented his senatorial district in the West Virginia Legislature.

He was a well-informed person and was a friend of good moral, honorable business methods and liberal education, and would rank anywhere as a model citizen, and a high-toned West Virginia gentleman. From early youth to the present time, the writer has known and esteemed this lamented man as a special friend and feels this to be a notice by no means such as his true worth deserves...

When the supreme moment came, this good, brave and honored man went to rest, gently as a little child, and now bivouacs in his silent tent in dreamless repose. — W. T. P.



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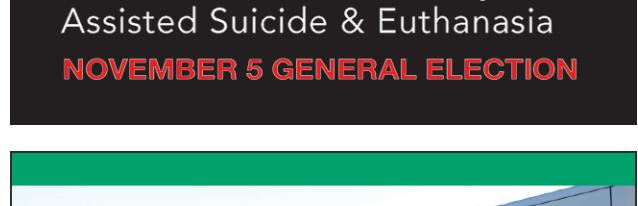
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- Sick Visits - Adult and Children
- Women's Health Services
- Chronic Disease Management
- Immunizations
- CDL/DOT Physicals
- Child Psychiatry
- Behavioral Health Services
- Podiatry - monthly specialty clinic

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