

Snowshoe dedicates sculpture ~ ‘Heart of the Mountain’

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

Tucked inside a stand of fir trees at Snowshoe Mountain Resort, at the head of a trail near Shavers Lake, is a breathtaking and thought-provoking sculpture titled “Heart of the Mountain.”

The sculpture was dedicated last Friday with the help of its creator, Jamie Lester, of Oceana, and members of the Snowshoe Sustainable Action Committee.

Snowshoe’s parent company, Alterra, commissioned the sculpture and Lester brought forth the company’s vision with his steel and fiberglass piece.

“Alterra wanted to do a piece about global warming and how it affects everybody, how it affects the Earth even more,” Lester said. “We just wanted to make a statement about that. It’s tough to do that in sculpture form, but what I came up with was a figurative solution with a

personification of Mother Nature.”

The fiberglass element is a beautiful and strong female face – Mother Nature – and at the center is an anatomically correct heart being protected by spikes.

“She is the mountain and inside of the mountain is her heart, so she has armored her heart against forces that are coming in to take her heart away from the mountain,” Lester said. “That’s what the spikes represent.”

Lester explained that the piece was somewhat bitter-sweet because he was raised in coal country and his father was a coal miner, so he is a proud supporter of coal miners, but at the same time, he knows there needs to be a change in finding more sustainable resources for energy.

“My dad was a coal miner and so it’s kind of near to my heart,” he said. “It’s part of our heritage, but I have misgivings about it, too, because

see Sculpture pg 5



ARTIST JAMIE LESTER, of Oceana, stands in front of his sculpture “Heart of the Mountain” as he describes his process in creating the striking piece for Snowshoe Mountain Resort. S. Stewart photo



THE POTOMAC EAGLE Scenic Railroad in Romney had a special North Pole Excursion which featured a reimagining of *The Nutcracker*. S. Stewart photo

A marvelous, magical, Christmas train ride

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

The tale of *The Nutcracker* has been a Christmas staple since it was first written in 1816 by E.T.A. Hoffmann under the name of “The Nutcracker and the Mouse King.”

It has been retold and reimagined in many ways – by Alexandre Dumas in

1844; as a two-act classical ballet by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky in 1892; and in numerous films from 1940’s *Fantasia* to 1986’s *Nutcracker: The Motion Picture*; to 2018’s *The Nutcracker and the Four Realms*.

It’s been experienced on stages and screens all over the world, but who would

see Ride pg 5

Justice awards \$40 million in Rural Hospital Grant funding



GOVERNOR JIM JUSTICE announced the distribution of \$40 million in Rural Hospital Grant funding during a ceremony recently held at Boone Memorial Hospital. The program, which launched in October following the appropriation of funds by the West Virginia Legislature, will improve healthcare infrastructure and services at rural hospitals across West Virginia.

“Our rural hospitals are truly the lifeblood of our state,” Justice said. “So many of us depend on the care, compassion and love you all provide to our neighbors, friends and families. You don’t just show up for work—you answer the call daily. With these funds, we’re putting a stake in the ground and saying we stand with our rural hospitals. We’re so thankful for the doctors, nurses and staff who show up and care for us every day. You all are the center of everything we do. Congratulations to all of our recipients—you’ve earned every bit of it.”

Included in the recipients was Pocahontas Memorial Hospital, which received \$1,978,000. The grant funding will be used to modernize communications systems and infrastructure upgrades including a new roof and HVAC system.



THE POCAHONTAS COUNTY Veterans Honor Corps participated in the nationwide Wreath Across America ceremony last Saturday at the Arbore Cemetery. From left: Steve Fierbaugh places the U.S. Air Force wreath, as Ben Luckacek, John Sparks, George Fleck and Sollie Workman stand at attention as they wait to place wreaths honoring other branches as well as POW/MIA. S. Stewart photo

Wreaths to honor their service

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

Standing stoically against the cold air, eight members of the Pocahontas County Veterans Honor Corps circled the flagpole at the Arbore Cemetery last Saturday for the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony.

As those eight men held wreaths representing each

branch of the military and the POW/MIA, Honor Corps Commander Rick Wooddell led the ceremony which took place promptly at noon.

This gathering was one of 4,800 across the country that participated that day in the remembrance ceremony.

Three million wreaths – including 400,000 at Arlington National Cemetery – were placed to honor the men and women who served

or are currently serving in the American Armed Forces.

“Today, there are millions of Americans gathering safely as one nation to Remember, Honor and Teach,” Wooddell said. “We are all proud to be Americans that live in a free society made up of many people, from many walks of life. The freedoms we enjoy today have not

see Wreaths pg 10



Christmas Open House

Friday, December 20
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Electric Magic

Charlotte Lane
PSC Chairman

Could anything be more important to us, or less thought of, than the supply of electricity we use everywhere and every day? Electricity transformed humankind. It lengthened our days for both leisure and work. It has made it infinitely easier to prepare food, while making food so much tastier. It warms us and cools us. It allowed for truly miraculous progress in medicine, science, and exploration. It revolutionized engineering and made the computer, telephones, television, and airplanes possible. It has allowed us to reach for the stars and beyond. It expanded our ability to obtain an education. It has drawn the world much closer and, sadly, allowed it to become far more dangerous.

The prestigious National Academy of Engineering chose electricity as mankind's single greatest engineering achievement of the 20th Century. And no wonder – or perhaps it is a wonder. But I certainly endorse the academy's choice.

Just take a moment to think of the ways electricity has improved your life. The number of things that come to mind is colossal.

Can you envision a world



Charlotte Lane

in which you cook your food on an open fire, use candles to light your dwelling, and draw your water from the nearby stream before you go to bed at dark?

In West Virginia we are fortunate to have two major electrical systems serving our state. Those systems are backed up by a regional transmission system that allows us to share electric power generated and transmitted through 13 states and the District of Columbia.

While we are discomfited at times by storms that down power lines, it is rare that any of us is out of electric power for a very long period of time. We do not suffer the electric brownouts

or blackouts that plague so many urban landscapes in the United States because the supply of power cannot keep up with their heavy demands.

While our power sources are not perfect, I would put them up against just about any other system in the nation. I think for reliability our power companies, backed by the regional grid, generally provide a good product.

So, as you drive around and see the colorful, twinkling lights that make this season so delightful, give a thought to that magical power that is so helpful to all of us and makes such a difference in our lives.

Grand Jury indicts 14 individuals

Jaynell Graham
Editor

The December Grand Jury convened on two separate days in the Pocahontas County Circuit Courtroom and returned indictments against 14 individuals.

Arraignments will be held December 17 before the Honorable Judge Jennifer P. Dent.

Mary Ellen Pauley, 20, of Marlinton – One count, burglary, a felony; and one count, conspiracy, a felony.

Journey E. Robinson, 24, of Marlinton – One count, shoplifting, third offense, a felony.

Hunter G. Grimes, 30, of Marlinton – One count, burglary, a felony; one count, trespassing, a misdemeanor; one count, assault, a misdemeanor; one count, destruction of property, a misdemeanor; and one count, battery, a misdemeanor.

Jeremiah B. Powell, 43, of Marlinton – One count, burglary, a felony; one

count, trespassing, a misdemeanor.

Justin Adam Cutlip, 44, of Marlinton – Four counts, sexual abuse in the first degree, a felony; four counts, sexual abuse by a parent, guardian, custodian or person in position of trust of a child, a felony.

Jonathan K. Bennett, 34, of Marlinton – One count, burglary, a felony; one count, trespassing, a misdemeanor; one count, stalking, a misdemeanor; one count, harassment, a misdemeanor.

Matthew R. Anderson, 28, hometown unknown – One count, driving under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances or drugs causing death, a felony; one count, negligent homicide, a felony.

Philip C. Leone, 40, of Elkins – One count, grand larceny, a felony.

Jesse G. Feury, 34, of Marlinton – One count, conspiracy, a felony; one count, entry of a building other than a dwelling, a felony; one count, grand larceny, a

felony.

Thomas M. Webb, 35, of Marlinton – One count, sexual assault in the first degree, a felony; one count, strangulation, a felony.

Chelsea Ryder, 35, of Dunmore – One count, burglary, a felony; one count, petit larceny, a misdemeanor.

Evan M. Hamrick, 19, of Marlinton – One count, driving under the influence-impaired driving causing injury; one count, reckless driving, a misdemeanor; one count, leaving scene of cash causing injury, a misdemeanor; one count, assault, a misdemeanor; one count, battery, a misdemeanor.

Brandon A. Waddell, 38, of Durbin – One count, domestic battery, second offense, a misdemeanor.

There was one sealed indictment.

An indictment is not proof of guilt. A person is considered innocent until proven otherwise by a jury of their peers.

Spreading Christmas Joy

The Shaggin' Wagon Crew, proudly representing WVU, turned out in full force again this year distributing Christmas gifts at the Marlinton and Durbin Christmas parades.

"This year was extra special as the Shaggin' Wagon was featured in a West Virginia University televised promotional advertisement, aired nationally during half-time of WVU football and basketball games," said Tom Sanders, one of the or-

ganizers. "What an incredible honor to share our Mountaineer pride on such a grand stage."

We couldn't have made this season magical without the generous support of our amazing contributors: Appalachian Sport, Delana Armstrong, Samuel Bostic, Kathleen Brumbaugh, Jamie and Lisa Burke, Nick Carr, Jerry Gum and Family, Tim Henry, Ryan and Sarah Holcomb, Adam Irvine, Lauren French and family, Alice Irvine, David

Irvine and Julie Shiflet, Eileen Irvine, Aylah Armstrong, Roy Lee and Susie Landis, John Martin and Amy Mayo, Dave and Mary Morris, Don and Donna Nicely, Frank and Brooke Pennington, Phil Pritchard, New Hope Lutheran Church, Matt and Morgan Rayo, Cara Rose, Judd Walther, Mary Sue White, Chuck Workman, Tom and Sarah Sanders, Scott and Cindi Sanders, and our many wonderful WVU Tailgate friends.

PEIA Finance Board approves increases

The Public Employees Insurance Agency finance board has approved a series of cost increases for state workers and retirees, in addition to the modification of some earlier proposals.

Financial assistance rates for retirees will remain unchanged, though retirees will still see premium increases next year.

The approved changes are being made to help offset a projected \$113 million funding gap for the upcoming fiscal year, caused by rising

medical and pharmaceutical costs.

State employees covered by the plan will see premium increases of 14% for the state fund or 16% for local government plans. Retirees face a 12% increase in premiums.

Deductibles will rise by an average of 40%, or more than \$300; and the surcharge for spouses will increase from \$147 to \$350.

Other proposed increases include higher copays for some medical services, including inpatient care and emergency department vis-

its.

These changes will help but will not resolve the shortfall in the insurance program.

Governor Jim Justice offered temporary relief by way of a Rainy-Day Fund for PEIA, but more sustainable solutions must be found.

Incoming Governor Patrick Morrissey and his administration will face appeals from various organizations representing public employees and or retirees regarding the proposed increases.

Record amount of unclaimed property returned in November

State Treasurer Riley Moore announced his Office's Unclaimed Property Division returned more than \$8.5 million worth of funds to individuals, businesses and other organizations during the month of November.

"This month's total beats the previous record of \$6.2 million that my Office set in September," Moore said. "I am proud we have reunited West Virginia citizens with their money at the fastest pace in state history."

The Unclaimed Property Division returned a total of \$8,560,669 paid out across 1,739 claims representing 4,639 individual properties during the month of November. One check totaling more than \$6.96 million was issued by State Tax and was claimed back as reimbursement.

Nearly \$1.8 million in unclaimed property was returned in October. Since the fiscal year began on July 1, the Office's Unclaimed Property Division has returned more than \$20.6 million to rightful owners.

The Office currently has \$472 million worth of listings in its unclaimed property database.

Treasurer Moore is also encouraging West Virginia Cash Now recipients to deposit their unclaimed prop-

erty checks before the checks stale-date in March 2025. The program launched in 2022 as a new, automated system for sending unclaimed property to its rightful owners – without the need for those individuals to file paperwork with the State Treasurer's Office.

"I want to encourage individuals and other organizations to keep checking our unclaimed property database because you never know if there may be unclaimed funds in your name," Moore said.

For more information about the unclaimed property program or to find out if the Office is holding any

money for you or your family, visit www.WVUnclaimedProperty.gov

How Can I Find Unclaimed Property in My Name?

West Virginians searching for lost financial assets can go to www.WVUnclaimedProperty.gov

In addition to finding property, the website will also help you track a claim.

A demonstration of how to use the Unclaimed Property search site is available on the Treasury's YouTube page, at: <https://youtu.be/K09yQ7YNKIE>

To search for lost financial assets outside West Virginia, visit www.MissingMoney.com

Clarification

In last week's report of the Special Town Council Meeting concerning the Diane Apartment issue, a quote by Town Recorder Mary Kay Clendenin was paraphrased as:

Clendenin said she was not aware the state police had been called and said Dean and Akers were within their rights to do what they did.

For clarification, her exact quote is as follows:

"It sheds a little more light if law enforcement was there

and did advise them they were doing the proper thing. I would like to know a little bit more about that before Council makes a final deci-

sion about this.

"I wasn't aware that law enforcement had told them that's what they were supposed to do."

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Let Us Celebrate

Christmas Caroling at Discovery Junction Sunday, December 22, 6 to 7 p.m. Hosted by Marlinton United Methodist Church. Everyone welcome.

Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service Tuesday, December 24, 7 p.m. at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in Hillsboro

Christmas Eve Service Tuesday, December 24, 5 p.m. at Marlinton Presbyterian Church.

Christmas Eve Service Tuesday, December 24, 5:30 p.m. at New Hope Lutheran Church in Minnehaha.

Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service Tuesday, December 24, 7 p.m. at Liberty Presbyterian Church in Green Bank.

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER
Thursday, Dec. 19,
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Ham and side dishes, dessert
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Library Lines

by Joe Miller,
Director of Development

Last week, I looked at some poll findings showing that Americans want libraries to help them find reliable sources of information. It's not hard to understand why. The task has gotten much harder.

I'm old enough to remember the world before the web.

As a kid, all the way into my undergraduate years, information was scarce. Finding it took work. You had to track down a phone book, an encyclopedia, a TV Guide. Or make a trip to the library, the record store, Blockbuster.

That was often inconvenient enough that we just went without knowing something—or argued about it. Indeed, the Guinness Book of World Records was created to help settle arguments in bars.

The web made it a whole lot easier to find information.

But in the process, it created an entirely new problem. Now there's too much information. In 2023, the world created 120 zettabytes of data. A zettabyte is a sextillion bytes. That's a 1 followed by 21 zeroes.

I can't really grasp a number that big, so I looked up a few comparisons. A typical 2-hour movie shot in 4K is around 14 gigabytes; 120 zettabytes could hold 3.6 trillion of them. Or how about this: there are an estimated 7.5 sextillion grains of sand on earth. 120 sextillion is all the grains of sand on 16 earths.

It's effectively an infinite amount of data, most of which we can access from a little computer we carry in our pockets.

Searching for information is worse than finding a needle in a haystack. It's worse than finding a grain of sand on a beach. It's like trying to find a specific handful of sand from among all the beaches on 16 different planets.

If you read this column regularly, you know that I used to work for FactCheck.org, a nonpartisan organization dedicated to reducing "the level of deception and confusion in U.S. politics." FactCheck's writers spend most of their time there

looking for credible evidence to either confirm or debunk claims being made by politicians.

I figured I'd pass along some of the rules-of-thumb we used for finding reliable information.

Peer-reviewed studies

These are things written by experts. But importantly, they are also reviewed by other experts. That peer review process helps to weed out errors and to ensure that the methods and arguments are rigorous and fully supported. The fastest way to find peer-reviewed sources is through Google Scholar (scholar.google.com).

Non-partisan government agencies

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO), Congressional Research Service (CRS) and Government Accountability Office (GAO) are all formally nonpartisan. The directors of each are chosen by both Republicans and Democrats in Congress and serve terms that don't coincide with elections. Information from any of these agencies was our gold standard for reliability. (Disclosure: I left FactCheck.org to take a job with the CBO).

Official government statistics

Several federal agencies are explicitly charged with gathering and reporting specific types of data. It includes things like the Census Bureau, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Energy Information Administration and the Bureau of Economic Analysis. These days, most of the data these organizations collect is available through a central portal: Data.gov

Recognized experts

This one starts to get a little trickier. There are lots of people billing themselves as experts. Most of the time, we found experts by first looking at peer-reviewed studies, then contacting the authors of those studies for follow-up.

see Library pg 12

Marlinton ~ The Way We Were

Rivard Dwain Wilcox
Contributing Writer
Written in 1990

Marlinton, the county seat of Pocahontas County was established in 1749 as Marlin's Bottom. In 1887, it was named Marlinton for Jacob Marlin, one the first settlers to spend a winter in Pocahontas County. The other settler was Stephen Sewell. The population of Marlinton is now 1,352 of the total county population of 9,919 (1980 Census).

This township has a spirited history, steeped in time, spurred by its splendiferous people, and it spawns a beautiful scenic view of the lovely Greenbrier Valley as it nestles along the Greenbrier River. The lazy, majestic Greenbrier River flows along the edge of town. However, the river was not so lazy the day of the "great flood" in November 1985, which wreaked havoc on the townspeople. A sign on Don Rogers' Service Station reflected their intent, "Come hell or high water, we'll be back." This slogan emphasized the strong fortitude of the people. And the town came back fully restored after the flood. However, the river's main claim to fame is that it is one of the foremost fishing areas in West Virginia and on the eastern seaboard. Marlinton is home to many fine fishing streams and is known for having some of the best hunting places anywhere. It became a focal point for Cal Price's famous panther stories in *The Pocahontas Times* and for many revelations of wildlife stories by Skip Johnson of *The Charleston Gazette*.

This article takes a reminiscing path back in time to the period of 1953 through the early 1960s in Marlinton, and it epitomizes Saturday night. Most of the people can remember a Marlinton where a hot dog at the local pool room—Moses/ Meadows—was a delicacy to behold and the toasted sandwiches were a treat, as well. During this time, the Chesapeake and Ohio freight cars hummed from north to south on a busy railroad.



MAIN STREET MARLINTON in 1982 was a hub of activity. Not an empty storefront could be found at that time. A close look reveals a Grand Opening sign in the window of the new Family Dollar. Established businesses such as J&P Furniture, AJAD's, the Royal Drug Store, Dollar General, Seneca Floral and Gifts, French's Diner, Western Auto and C. J. Richardson added to the vitality of the downtown area. The three-story First National Bank on the right and Bank of Marlinton on the left stood catty-corner and anchored the intersection of Main Street and Third Avenue. Photo courtesy of Mayor Joe Smith and Norris Long

Burns Motor Freight's green trucks with red logos roared across the railroad tracks on their way throughout the southern and eastern states and the C.J. Richardson Hardware Store sold everything imaginable in the household line.

Early Marlinton, on Saturday, found pool players playing from daylight to midnight for ten cents a game. The local Rexall Drugstore, where huge ice cream cones and tables with marble tops awaited, and Sharp's Newsstand, where an ice cream soda was yummy, were surrounded with droves of friendly people. Also, some people might opt for a plate dinner at French's Diner or Kelly's Restaurant. A dollar was worth a dollar then, a smile was forever, a comic book was ten cents, and good-natured people were everywhere. It seemed that life stood still for an eternity on Saturday night until all the people were in town; then it became a huge "social" one night a week, a "happening."

In this hamlet, life was so pure, so free, so simple and so heartwarming. For entertainment on Saturday night,

kids enjoyed a double feature at the Alpine Theatre, an ice cream cone, and a funny book on a Saturday night on the town. Stories, news and gossip were gathered for the ensuing week; and if one met someone he or she hadn't seen for two or three weeks, it was considered a real treat. Some people sat in their cars parked on the main street of town just to see other people in town on this festive night. They would arrive at 3 or 4 p.m. just to find a parking space, and the fellowship flowed.

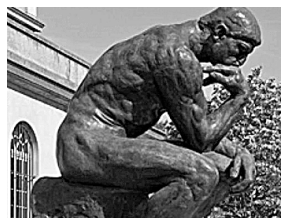
When people gossiped, tall tales took their seed, and the people would gather them to return with another story the next Saturday—only the next Saturday night the story was bigger, compounded by additions. One hundred bales of hay became two hundred; a small deer became a large buck, and a panther lurked in every community. Over a cup of coffee or a fountain coke in the pool room, in the ice cream parlor or the newsstand, various story lines were possible. During this time period everyone was a friend, and everyone knew everyone else, and everything about

him or her. The rich, middle and poor were one class, for pride was number one. Pride was infinite and immortal. Making something of one's life really counted; and an academic goal was to see one's name in *The Pocahontas Times* as a "Top-Notcher."

On Saturday night, people wore their finest clothes to town, and they washed and waxed their cars for that one glorious night. A fancy car, decorated with animal stick-ons, mud flaps, lights in the rear glass, loud pipes and white-wall tires drew many stares of approval. Locals from Hillsboro, Campbelltown, Huntersville, Minnehaha Springs, Green Bank, Dunmore, Cass, Bartow and Mountain Grove, Virginia, streamed into town on Saturday night. They drove to the Chic-Inn on Beard Heights, a quaint little drive-in restaurant with booths in the back, and Graham's Drive-In at Buckeye, just to have something to do.

Furthermore, Marlinton's lifestyle was puristic, its people were so sincere, and life was pleasurable and very

see Were pg 11



TRIVIA

— a little something to

1. What 1961 Elvis movie soundtrack LP contained the hits "Can't Help Falling in Love" and "Rock-a-Hula Baby?"
2. What singer had a #1 hit in each year of the '90s—"she" was the only singer to do so.
3. Published in 1783, his American Spelling Book preceded his famous dictionary by 45 years. Who was he?
4. In 1817, Congress divided a territory into two states that are practically mirror images of each other. What states are they?

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the silent tears still flow
you're thought of and so sadly missed
more than you'll ever know
But now you're with the Angels
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we hold on to the memories
and treasure them with love
Yet special times like Christmas
often make us wonder why
God took you from this world
it was too soon to say goodbye
But memories are precious
they will last a lifetime through
we know that God has chosen you
to be his Angel too

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Marlinton Mayor's Corner

By Sam Felton

Nothing seems to happen as quickly as we would desire – except life itself. Time is relentless. It keeps moving regardless. The young among us would agree that time just drags by. Those of us with gray in our hair know better. Truly, the older we become, the faster the days seem to pass by. I trust I am not at the end of my days (yet), but I can see them from here.

So, as I close in on the end of 2024, there are so many things that have taken longer than I expected. So much more to do. God always has the last word, but 2025 looks to be lining up as a very busy and eventful year. Some of the business that is finally coming into view made me revisit the Town's Comprehensive Plan. It was adopted in August 2019 and is ready for an update. The good news is, I was pleasantly surprised to see the many items that have already become reality. Not only changes and things built and bought but abandoned properties that have been removed and trash that has been cleaned up. YES – there is lots more to do, but progress has been made.

When the plan was developed, The Town of Marlinton Planning Commission wanted to highlight the best things about the town. One of the themes that kept surfacing during the initial discussions of the comprehensive plan was that Marlinton and the surrounding area are beautiful in every season of the year. That was the catalyst for the comprehensive plan having four chapters. Each chapter could have a theme that coincides with the various seasons. One chapter for winter, spring, summer and fall.

That way the comprehensive plan could not only serve as a blueprint for the community, but the plan could also serve as a marketing tool – and it has. The planning commission wanted to highlight the fact that Marlinton and Pocahontas County are for all seasons, not just a certain time of year.

With that being said, my last Mayor's Corner before Christmas, I mainly wanted to Wish All a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Remember JESUS IS The Reason for The Season.

Sam



What's Cookin'?

With Sally Cobb

Easy Creamed Spinach

2 Tbsp. unsalted butter, softened
1 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
2 Tbsp. unsalted butter
1 shallot, minced (or 1/4 cup onion)
1 garlic clove, minced
1-pound fresh baby spinach
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 cup heavy cream
2 oz. Parmesan cheese, grated (1 cup)
1/2 tsp. pepper
Pinch ground nutmeg

Using a fork, mash 2 Tbsp. softened butter and flour in small bowl to form a smooth paste; set aside. Melt remaining butter in Dutch oven over medium heat. Add shallot and garlic and cook until shallot is translucent, 1-2 minutes. Add spinach and salt and turn spinach with tongs to coat with butter, shallot and garlic. Cook until spinach wilts, about 4 minutes. Add cream and bring to a simmer. Stir in butter-flour mixture until incorporated. Cook until cream thickens and clings to spinach, about 3 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in Parmesan, pepper and nutmeg. Check seasonings.

Transfer to warm shallow dish and serve.
Serves 4-6.

Skillet Squash Casserole

2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
3 cups thinly sliced onion
1/4 tsp. salt
2 pounds yellow squash, halved lengthwise and sliced 1/4 inch thick
2 cloves garlic, minced
3/4 tsp. salt

6 oz. sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
1/2 cup American cheese, cubed
1/2 cup mayonnaise
4 scallions, sliced thin
1/2 tsp. black pepper
Pinch cayenne pepper
30 Ritz crackers, coarsely crushed

Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 375 degrees. Heat oil in a 12-inch oven-safe skillet over medium high heat until shimmering. Add onion and 1/4 tsp. salt and cook until onion is lightly browned, about 6 minutes. Add squash, garlic, 3/4 tsp. salt and cook until any liquid exuded by squash has evaporated and squash is tender, about 10 minutes.

Reduce heat to low and stir in cheddar cheese, American cheese, mayo, scallions, pepper and cayenne until fully combined, about 2 minutes.

At this point, you can 1) remove pan from heat, use rubber spatula to scrape down sides of skillet and scatter crackers over top. Move skillet to oven and bake until bubbling around edges and hot throughout, about 18 minutes; OR 2) transfer mixture to an 8-inch square baking dish and let cool completely. Cover with aluminum foil and refrigerate up to 24 hours. To serve, keep covered and bake until casserole is heated through, about 20 minutes. Uncover, top with crackers, and continue to bake 15 minutes longer
Serves 6-8.

Support Local Businesses!

Letter to the Editor

Editor;

Drones

More than one thing can be true at the same time, and I think this statement applies to the recent concern over "Drone Sightings." Most of these sightings appear to be aircraft and most reports are by folks that until recently have never looked up at night. I suspect several others are drone hobbyists that want to get foolishly in on the action and are laughing.

We also know that Chinese spies have flown drones over sensitive locations to collect intelligence

in the past so the current situation could be good cover for this type of activity. Another possibility is that some could be satellites or meteors.

Many of the images of these objects have been taken with cameras that have poor night capability causing images to bloom and appear as out of focus orbs. Some sightings by commercial pilots in the west appear to be actual UAPS. These are phenomena or objects that we cannot explain with our current knowledge of science or

technology. These reports have been made by trained flight crew and include some contacts by the collision avoidance system, TCAS.

The fact that this phenomenon showed up on TCAS infers that the object had a transponder so the explanation might be it was an aircraft and weather phenomena caused an optical illusion causing it to appear to be operating erratically.

So, what to do against a drone hovering over your house?

Shooting one down is a

felony since it is classified as an aircraft and if the battery is hit it may also cause a hot fire that could fall on private property.

Calls to do this are best not acted upon. Although most of these sightings have simple explanations reports and imagery from military pilots of UAPS also exist that remain completely unexplained.

Of course, I think we cannot discount Santa and Rudolph's red nose at this point.

Joe Kaffl
Hillsboro

Community Calendar

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Pocahontas Times office will close at 11 a.m. Tuesday, December 24, and will reopen Thursday, December 26. The newspaper will be available at the office until 11 a.m. Tuesday and at vendors throughout the county.

The Green Boxes will be closed Wednesday, December 25, for Christmas and Wednesday, January 1, for New Year's Day. All Green Box sites will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, December 26, and Thursday, January 2.

The Marlinton Town Office will close at noon Tuesday, December 24, and reopen Thursday, December 27. Garbage pickup for Tuesday and Wednesday will be December 27.

The Marlinton Town Office will close at noon Tuesday, December 31, and reopen Thursday, January 2. Garbage pickup will be January 2.

Pocahontas County Landfill and the Solid Waste Office will close at noon Christmas Eve and will be closed Christmas Day. The landfill and office will also close at noon on New Year's Eve and remain closed New Year's Day.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:

The Pocahontas Times

206 Eighth Street

Marlinton, WV 24954

Telephone 304-799-4973

Fax 304-799-6466

www.pocahontastimes.com

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DISPLAY ADVERTISING:

shgiven@pocahontastimes.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS, LEGAL ADVERTISING, OBITUARIES AND COMMUNITY NOTICES:

jsgraham@pocahontastimes.com

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING:

ACCOUNTING:

clj@pocahontastimes.com

Published every Thursday.

Entered at the Post Office at Marlinton, West Virginia 24954

as periodicals ISSN 0738-8373

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION CHARGES

In county \$35

In state \$45

Out-of-state \$45

Online \$29

Online/In Print \$59

ADVERTISING RATES

Display: \$6 per column inch

Contract Rates Available

Classified: 35¢ per word

MICHAEL SHOWELL,

General Manager

JAYNELL S. GRAHAM,

Editor

WILLIAM P. MCNEEL,

Editor Emeritus

The Pocahontas County

Solid Waste Authority reminds all Pocahontas County residential property owners that the 2024 Green Box Fee must be paid by December 31, 2024 to avoid the 10% late fee.

Free Day at Pocahontas County Landfill for disposal of up to one pickup truck load of residential garbage will be Monday, December 30. Landfill hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both dates.

Green Boxes winter hours: Sundays 1 to 4 p.m. and Wednesdays and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MEETINGS

Vietnam Veterans of America scheduled for Wednesday, December 25, has been cancelled.

EVENTS

FREE Community Dinner Thursday, December 19, 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Marlinton Presbyterian Church. Sponsored by area churches and

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ACROSS

1 NATO has a special one for spelling out words
62 Admonish
65 "Hello" singer
66 Cast off skin
68 1992 Guns N' Roses hit
70 Extermination target
73 Civil rights icon
76 Hoagies
77 Extermination targets
78 Method of measuring ocean depth
25 Dig up
26 Apt. overseer
27 Yoko of music and art
28 Singer
30 Puente of mambo
31 Road coater
34 Weed B- —
36 Marriott, e.g.
39 Doesn't lack
42 Often-dried fruit
44 Dierik Anais
46 "Caveman" diet
47 Messy roommate on "The Odd Couple"
51 Dune locale
56 Chicago hub

DOWN

1 Deadly vipers
2 Island feast
3 Musical mark for "extremely softly"
4 "Drive South" singer
107 — Zedong

5 Le Duc — (1992-97 president of Vietnam)
6 Nectar lover
7 Sailors' saint
8 Knotting up
9 Ovary
10 Actor Rob
11 Averse (to)
12 Whale's half-rise out of the water
13 Island guitar
14 "Sn" element
15 Suffix with prop-
16 Shrubland
17 Sunny lobbies
18 Mafia's Frank
19 "Danke —"
24 Around 12 p.m.
29 Greek H's
32 In a new way
33 Backboard attachment
35 Sentra maker
37 Grasslands
38 Actor sharing top billing
39 Backboard attachment
40 Tennis' Arthur
41 Injury vestige
43 Yak it up
45 "That's false!"
48 Pupil of Plato

49 French noble
50 Rule for homework time, perhaps
52 Operated by water under pressure
53 Brand of fat substitute
54 Ignited anew
55 Blissful sites
58 Bakery buys
61 Hoagie
63 Coll. in Dallas
64 Wanes
67 Football's flutie
69 Hollywood's Morales
70 Praline bit
71 Cut-rate, in ad-speak
72 Thick carpets
74 Show filmed at 30 Rock
75 Hebrew month
79 Daytime nap
80 "How — Your Mother"
81 Pitcher Ryan
82 African nation whose capital is Conakry
84 Boil briefly
87 Very angry
88 — Caps

ACROSS

90 Hat edge
91 Italian peak
92 African nation whose capital is Lomé
94 Lava or Dial
96 NFL scores
99 Stymied
100 Sticky stuff
102 Some small batteries
104 Japanese green tea
108 "Veni," translated
109 Monikers
110 Skillful feats
111 Naval type
112 Fixed-up building
114 Brittle
116 Arm bones
119 Like giraffes
121 Emmy winner
123 "Sometimes you feel like —"
124 African nation whose capital is Bamako
125 Coll. hotshot
127 Football's Marino
128 Lister's abbr.
130 Caviar source
131 "Yoo —!"
132 1995-2006 TV channel

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Obituaries

Karen McKenney

Karen Eileen McKenney, 82, of Slaty Fork, died Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at Davis Medical Center in Elkins.

Born December 5, 1942, at Marlinton, she was a daughter of the late Clarence Clyde and Zella Dove Duskey Galford.

Karen was a retired cashier.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Warren Dale McKenney; and daughter, Joyce McKenney.

She is survived by her daughter, Susan Morrison; sons, Allen, Jerry, Tony and Billy McKenney; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren and one on the way.

The family will receive friends Saturday, December 21, 2024, at VanReenen Funeral Home from noon to 1 p.m.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, December 21, 2024, at 2 p.m. at McKenney Cemetery at Indian Draft with Pastor Sam

Felton officiating.

Susan Shaw

Susan Simpson Shaw, 79, peacefully passed away Sunday, November 24, 2024, in Lake Wylie, South Carolina.

Born April 16, 1945, in Marlinton, she was a daughter of the late Helen Spitzer and John R. “Jack” Simpson.

Susan spent most of her life in Charlotte, North Carolina, and Lake Wylie, South Carolina.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her grandparents, Pete and Trudie Spitzer; her youngest son, William Blake Shaw; and her aunt, Dotty Hiner Mitchell.

She is survived by her sons, Lawrence M. Shaw, Jr (Karen), of Charlotte, North Carolina, and John P. Shaw (Wanda), of Lake Wylie, Clover, South Carolina; granddaughters, Avery Shaw Rogers (Patrick) and Julia E. Shaw, all of Charlotte, North Carolina; sister, Cynthia S. Hattersley, of Statesville, North Carolina; niece, Patri-

cia Pettengill (Michael), of Statesville, North Carolina; and many dear cousins.

A celebration of her life will take place in the spring.



Walter Warder

Walter Paul Warder, 82, of Slaty Fork, passed away Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in Mon General Hospital.

Born October 2, 1942, he was a son of the late Paul and Audra Warder.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, December 28, 2024, at 1 p.m. at Campbelltown Church with Pastor Sam Felton officiating.

The World’s Greatest Treasure Hunt

By R.A. Mathews

He was a fun-loving angel—and a bit of a trickster! Don’t take my word for it. I’ll show you. This is one of my favorite discoveries in Scripture.

Certain events in history look like angels having fun. There’s the angel who ran a lottery, the one who toyed with Samson’s parents, and then this trickster—the Christmas Angel. I will cover every angel in the Bible in my “Reaching to God” series, and this one is in “The Christmas Edition,” which will be available this week on Amazon in every format: e-book, paperback and large print.

It was the Christmas Angel who decided to have the world’s greatest treasure hunt, choosing only a select group of shepherds to play.

Who were these shepherds? Scripture tells us shepherds could be girls, boys, or old men.

For instance, young Rachel was a shepherd. “While he was still talking with them, Rachel came with her father’s sheep, for she was a shepherd.” (Genesis 29:9, NIV)

David was also a shepherd as a teen. (1 Samuel 17:33, NASB)

And Moses tended sheep when he was 80. (Exodus 3:1-2, NIV)

So, the possibilities are endless, but I think they were kids. Let me show you why, and you can decide.

Scripture says the Christmas Angel appeared to the shepherds and then handed out clues.

“...there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock at night. And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood near them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. And so, the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior,

who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.’” (Luke 2:8-12, NASB)

The angel obviously knew where Jesus was. The angel could have said, “He’s at Jimmy Blake’s house, corner of East and Main.” Why not?

Some may say the angel was testing their faith. I agree. But it also seems like he was having some fun. Look at the clues.

Three clues: “City of David,” “baby wrapped in swaddling cloth,” “lying in a manger.” That’s it. That’s all they get. No star. The Wise Men got the star. But that’s later on.

So, the world’s greatest treasure hunt begins.

“City of David” is easy. That’s Bethlehem, right?

Uh, no.

David lived in Bethlehem as a boy, but “City of David” is “Jerusalem” in the Old Testament, and, frankly, why even say “City of David”? Why not just say “Bethlehem”?

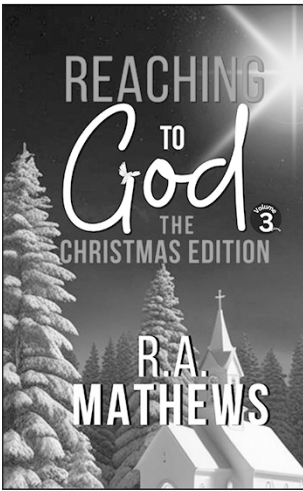
See what I mean? It looks like this angel is playing. And not just that, he’s also deliberately trying to throw the shepherds off.

But out of all the shepherds in the world, these were Bethlehem shepherds. The people of Bethlehem knew the prophecy – some 700 years old – because it was about them.

“But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah... from you One will come forth for Me to be ruler in Israel.” (Micah 5:2, NASB)

Jerusalem was where David ruled and the “City of David” for all the other Israelites, but not for those in Bethlehem. David belonged to them, and the upcoming birth of the Messiah was their claim to fame. So, that’s where they went.

Scholars think there were about 300 to 1,000 people



R.A. MATHEWS’ NEW book “Reaching to God, The Christmas Edition,” is available on Amazon.com

living in Bethlehem at that time. What do the shepherds do when they get there?

They remember another clue: the manger.

That narrows things down. Not some sweet baby crib—it was a feeding trough for animals. And not everyone had livestock.

The shepherds would have gone from one owner of livestock to the next. Remember, the Christmas Angel knew where Jesus was, but isn’t this more fun? That’s why I think the angel chose young shepherds.

Last clue: A baby wrapped in swaddling cloths.

Could it possibly be true?

This wasn’t the boy Jesus or a full-grown man. They were looking for a baby. And you know the shepherds were thinking about that manger the whole time. The long-awaited Messiah, the one destined to lead Israel, in a food trough?

But they find baby Jesus just exactly as the angel said. And thus ends the world’s greatest treasure hunt.

We are made in the image of a God of joy. Know that He loves you and will care for you.

This abridged chapter is from “Reaching to God: The Christmas Edition,” available this week on Amazon.

Ride, from page 1

have thought it could be performed on a moving train?

The Potomac Eagle Scenic Railroad in Romney thought it could be done and made it a reality for this year’s North Pole Express.

I was lucky to get two tickets for the excursion and took my mom for a journey to the North Pole, which is surprisingly close to Romney.

We arrived early since we’ve never been on the Potomac Eagle and wanted extra time to take in all the extras involved in the Christmas train. At the barn, I went to the stables to “chat with” and pet the camels, goats, sheep and donkey and then we went inside to warm up and listen to live music.

Outside, there was a fire pit where visitors could roast marshmallows and warm themselves.

When we went to line up for the train, the earlier excursion returned, and we watched as happy guests spilled out of the cars to

make room for us.

A young rider of about five or six years of age came over to me and excitedly told me all about the trip and showed me the bell he got from Santa Claus. He wished me a Merry Christmas as his mom swept him away to get warm.

The excitement of the families and children around us filled Mom and me with warmth, although we were more than a bit chilled in the night air.

We quickly boarded the train and as we took off for the North Pole, the tale of *The Nutcracker* was read to us over the speaker. Each car had a porter with a copy of the book and he or she walked up and down the aisle to show the colorful illustrations of the story as it unfolded.

We were also joined by live characters from the book who danced up and down the aisle and from car to car.

After the story, we sang Christmas songs as we neared the North Pole, which was easy to see because of all the lights wrapped around trees and in the yard of –

gasp – Santa’s house!

Santa and Mrs. Claus waved to the train from the front porch as elves waved and danced in the front yard.

Now, I’m not exactly sure how it happened, but Santa Claus magically left his front porch and managed to board the train.

As the train made its return to the station, Santa traveled through the cars and handed out gifts to all the children.

It was an exciting and heartwarming sight to behold as the children on board reached toward Santa and all the characters to give hugs.

No Christmas train would be complete without milk and cookies, which were devoured by all as we shared the holiday spirit.

I have personally seen *The Nutcracker* performed on stage at Davis & Elkins College and in several iterations of film. Now, I am counted among one of the lucky ones who has experienced it on a train.

To learn more about Potomac Eagle Scenic Railroad, visit potomaceagle.com

Sculpture, from page 1

my dad died at age sixty from lung cancer. I’m a proud West Virginian, but I hope in the future in West Virginia we have new opportunities and new ways of creating energy.”

On the shoulders of Mother Nature are oil and gas drilling towers, representing other natural resources being taken out of the Earth.

“In the top of her hair, there are real saw blades that were welded into the piece,” he said. “These towers represent oil and gas drilling down into the mountain to

try to suck that life out.”

As for his process, Lester explained that the face was sculpted in clay and molded with rubber molds. Fiberglass was laid into the molds to create the final piece. The rest of the sculpture is plasma cut steel, welded in place.

Lester was joined by his oldest daughter, Hannah, in working on the piece, which made it an even more special project to him.

“She was able to be my assistant on this which really meant a lot,” he said.

After Lester’s presentation, he was joined by members of the Snowshoe SAC team in the official ribbon cutting.

Pocahontas County
Catholic Churches

Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE
Tues., Dec. 24
St. Mark, Bartow
5 p.m.

St. Bernard, Snowshoe
9 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY
Wed., Dec. 25
St. John Neumann, Marlinton
10 a.m.

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Thank You

Thanks to the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital Emergency Department staff for the exceptional and professional care I received on December 5.

Thanks to everyone for their love, prayers, support, flowers and cards. I am truly blessed to have such a wonderful circle of family and friends.

– Debbie Walker

THANK YOU

The family of Peggy McCarty would like to thank everyone for the condolences, flowers, food, cards and calls and those who came to the homes and those who attended the service.

Thank you, Lantz Funeral Home and Libby Gasko, for the wonderful job you did.

Thank you, Faye McCarty, for the beautiful music; Adam Taylor for digging the grave; Clyde McCarty for furnishing the backhoe; and Nancy Kirk for sitting by her side the entire last two weeks of her life and bringing her smoothies every day.

Steve, Sue, Rick, Debbie and families

thankyou

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Christmas Eve Service
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Buckeye Winners step up



The Buckeye Winners 4-H Club blessed many children, near and far, in November and December by filling 40 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child and adopting 10 Angels from the annual Angel Christmas Tree, sponsored by the Pocahontas County Family Resource Network.

Front row, from left: Grayson Barlow, Michael Friel, Eden Smith, Riley Pollack, Victor Dean, Olivia Shoemaker, Amelia Rogers, Savannah Shoemaker, Natalie Irvine, Makiya Burns, Kinsley Wilfong, Lane Wilfong, Ryan Burns and Colton Wilfong. Back row, from left: Lillie Cassell, Kirsten Friel, Victor Dean, Silas Dean, Jaryd Wilfong, and Colton Cassell.



Front row, from left: Eden Smith, Natalie Irvine, Iris Krack, Kinley Beverage, Savannah Shoemaker, Adalyn Beverage, Aubrey Evans, Olivia Shoemaker, Amelia Rogers, Makiya Burns, Anistyn King, Riley Pollack, Logan Miller, Lane Wilfong and Ryan Burns. Back row, Kirsten Friel, Jaryd Wilfong, Silas Dean, Ezra Bond, Tyler Friel, and Victor Dean.

Lady Eagles win at home

Todd E. Jones
Contributing Writer

The Lady Eagles opened their home slate December 6 and defeated Highland, Virginia, 55-13.

The Lady Eagles had eight players in the scoring column led by Kendall Taylor with 19; Karliana Boyd added 14; Haven Brown tossed in 12 points; Harlow Brown netted three points; Ryley Kerr, Skylar Bernarding and Candan Lambert each added 2; and Madelyn Rittenhouse rounded out the scoring with a point.

Liz Dickenson and Arianna Cassell were tough on the boards. Gabby Lawson played a solid all-around game and Rayna Kerr played aggressive defense. The Lady Eagles next

scheduled game is Friday, January 3, at 6 p.m. when they square off against Kasson in the Second Annual Belington Holiday Classic.

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Greenbrier Valley Council 8689 Knights of Columbus presented 12 new coats – six for girls and six for boys – to each elementary school in Pocahontas, Monroe and Greenbrier counties, as well as the town of Meadow Bridge, to be distributed to children in need. In addition, the Family Resource Center and other similar charitable groups each received 12 new coats for distribution through their organizations. The money for this project was raised through the Knights of Columbus Tilapia dinners offered in White Sulphur Springs each Friday during the Lenten season.

MES Students of the Month



MARLINTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL congratulates its Students of the Month for November. They are: front row, l to r: Braelyn Hensler, kindergarten, and Amelia Herold, kindergarten. Second row: Mazey Goldizen, first grade; Channing Dean, second grade; and Karsyn Cummins, first grade. Back row: Addison Pritt, third grade; Marcie Goldizen, fourth grade; Mason Markl, fourth grade; and Avery Smith, third grade.

At right: Penelope Buzzard fifth grade; and Iris Krack, second grade.



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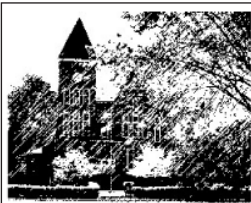
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Preserving Pocahontas

B. J. Gudmundsson, Preservation Officer

Winter Carriage Ride at Dunmore – circa 1918



ODIE SMITH, LOLA McLaughlin Sharp, Charles McLaughlin and Jettie Smith (Batkins) riding through the snow in horse-drawn carriages at Dunmore, W.Va. (Courtesy of Kay Miller Bosquet; ID: PHP007579)

Photographs in the “Preserving Pocahontas” Digital Library may be found at www.pocahontaspreservation.org or www.preservingpocahontas.org

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

Seventy-Five Years Ago

Calvin W. Price, Editor

Thursday,
December 22, 1949

FIELD NOTES

The other night, the dogs at the home of W. O. Ruckman, near Mill Point, sounded an alarm. On investigation, it was found to be baying a coon. Catching the coon, it was found the varmint had its head fast in a tin can. It took two persons to pull the can off, and it looked like the animal's head was in danger of coming off, too. The coon was about half grown and thin in flesh. After a few days in a cage, the door was purposely left open. It disappeared, evidently returning to the forest.

The can was that of a favorite brand of meat. Presumably, it had been left in the woods by a hunter and the curious coon had proceeded to investigate.

Theodore McMillion of near Lobelia was a visitor in town last Saturday. Somehow or other, the topic of conversation turned to farm

fences, and then from wire to rails. From a hundred to 150 rails in oak was always considered a good day's splitting when the timber was in oak. When it was chestnut and the cuts were big and of straight grain, a thousand or more was not an uncommon day's splitting. I asked Mr. McMillion for his record day at rail splitting and he said 1,400. The timber was big and of finest quality; the cuts had been assembled on good ground, and it was all in the nature of a race, too. One brother was to do the splitting and the other was to build the rails into fence. Theodore was able to split faster than his brother could haul and lay up. I do not know whether that experience had anything to do with the brother quitting the farm, but I do know he went to California and is there now, a successful building contractor.

One cold night last week, Norman Alderman, of Beaver Creek, saw in the

light of his automobile a big crane – blue heron – humped up beside the road. The car was stopped, and the great bird raised and flew away into the night. It is unusual for this summer visitor in these parts to remain so late into the cold season.

Over at Harry Cochran's log camp at the head of Hills Creek, there was panther sign last week. In the dark of one early morning, a teamster was in the barn making ready his team for the day in the woods. He heard mournful sounds like a woman screaming not far away back in the forest on the mountainside. The man paid no mind as he figured the joker of the crew was just pulling another one over on him. Back in the camp, he found his friend had never been way from the fire. Then he knew he had heard a panther. Came the weekend and the crew all cleared out for their homes, on their return, there were big cat tracks in the snow where a varmint larger than a dog and smaller than a bear had visited the camp.

BIRTHDAY PARTY

Buckeye – On last Wednesday night a number

of friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Howard for a surprise party. The occasion was the nineteenth birthday of Miss Juanita Howard. She received a lovely chest of silver, fifteen pieces of Fostoria glassware, and many other presents. The beautiful cake was baked by her grandmother, Mrs. J. L. Howard.

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. David W. Sparks, a son, Paul Jackson.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. William Barrett, a daughter, Carmen.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Imon Walton, a son, Winters Charles.

DEATHS

Mrs. Eleanor Leona Davis Slaven, aged 50 years, wife of John K. Slaven, died at her home in Cass December 18, 1949. Her body was laid to rest in the family plot in Arbovale Cemetery, the service being held from the Cass Methodist church. Mrs. Slaven is survived by her husband and their ten children... She was a daughter of the late Lorenza and Chilla Ann Shiflett Davis, of Rockingham, County. Va.

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Shiflett, of Marlinton, a son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Simon Schuchat, of Marlinton, a son.

DIED

James A. Bright died at his home in the Flatwoods Friday, December 12, 1924. His age was about 75 years.

Mr. Bright is survived by his wife who before marriage was a Miss Dorman. Their three children are Noah Bright, Mrs. Ressie Wilfong and Mrs. George Wheeler.

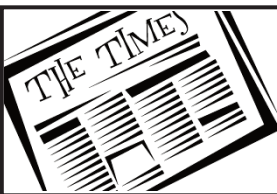
Mr. Bright was a native of Bath county. He came to Pocahontas about 40 years ago. He was an industrious man, and he was a noted clearer of land.

Ruby Gray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Ford, of South Brownsville, Pa., died in Pittsburgh General Hospital December 11, 1924 of kidney trouble, aged 4 years, 9 months and 8 days. She had infantile paralysis when 6 months old and had never walked. Mrs. Ford's father, Harry Thompson, of Marlinton, is with her.

Yours very sincerely
IRAD D. BRILL

MARRIAGE

Married at the Methodist parsonage December 1, 1924, by Rev. Palmer Eubank, Mr. Clarence Mc-



Fifty Years Ago

Jane Price Sharp, Editor

Thursday,
December 19, 1974

We are getting more snow on Back Mountain this week. We just had 18 inches of snow last week. The school bus didn't get off the mountain until Thursday.

REBELLION IN THE HOME

The tendency to rebel against authority is certainly evident in many homes today. Rebellious young people defy their parents and do as they please. Home rule or order seems to mean little to them. Many children even ignore their parents' rules about drinking, drugs and smoking. But at this point, it should be observed that the fault for this situation is not altogether traceable to the young people themselves. First, the father and mother should remove the bottle from the shelf or refrigerator, discard the tobacco and start setting the right examples before the children at home. Contrary to popular opinion, most young people feel that their parents should keep them from getting too far out of line by setting reasonable and right standards and then enforcing them. Many parents, however, seem to be

afraid of their children when those orders are not carried out. This kind of hesitation encourages children to think that they can get by with disobedience, so they rebel. Why? Due to a lack of firm parental discipline, an attitude of resistance toward authority is developed...

This is from a boy, 19 years old:

"In a recent letter you told a parent that his sassy teenager really wanted to be hauled up short and disciplined. You never wrote truer words. I am a boy almost 19, and I understand things a lot better than I used to. I know from experience that there were times when I talked terrible to my folks and did things that I shouldn't have done because I wanted them to move in on me. Instead, they let me do anything. When I got in trouble, they made excuses for me and got me off. A high school teacher saved me from becoming a delinquent and a bum. She told me I had too good a brain and too much ability to waste it on nonsense and that I had better discipline myself because it was apparent that nobody at home was going to do it."

see 50 pg 12

Footsteps through History

The Pocahontas Times
Andrew Price, Editor

Thursday,
December 21, 1899

UNDER A CLOUD

A few weeks since, a stranger appeared in the county and spent some time looking at large tracts of land with a view of purchasing them for a syndicate, for which he represented himself as a buyer. He was a man, apparently thirty years of age, smooth shaven, and of that intelligence which marks alike the millionaire and the bunco man. He was regarded as a man of importance until the last day or two of his stay here, after which he disappeared, owing various small sums and it is now supposed that he was a rank impostor, here trying to work some scheme...

THE ROBERTS CASE

The Right Rev. James Cardinal Gibbons, of Baltimore, has added his written protest against the admission of Brigham H. Roberts to a seat in Congress. The church and church people are almost unanimous in opposing him, and the country in general is opposed to Mormonism, but the trouble is that Roberts has the law on his side. This is not questioned by any man free from bias and competent to judge. If Roberts has the constitution on his side, then he should win. When the constitution becomes a dead letter, its county is in danger. The committee, not one of whom is friendly to Roberts, having voted against him succeeded in getting some witnesses before it from Utah. They proved very conclusively that Roberts was maintaining several establishments in Centreville in which the children called him "pa."

DANGER OF A PANIC

Wall Street had a narrow escape last week from a money panic, and there is reason to believe it was averted only because the Administration and the money powers are so nearly allied, and that money was furnished in abundance to save all large concerns except the

Produce Exchange. It is certain that Secretary of the Treasury Gage made a special trip to New York to examine into the state of the finances of the businessmen of that city...

To Ride and Tie

"To ride and tie" is an expression which is commonly heard. It means that two men have but one horse which they ride alternately. The expression is rarely used however, but what it gives rise to a hoary headed joke which has become the chestnut of all chestnuts, which is the slang name for a worn-out joke, one which has become stale and flat. The owner of the horse, when he finds a footman is going the same way, remarks: "Well, we'll ride and tie," and then he will add in explanation: "I'll do the riding and you can do the tying," and thinks he has been exceedingly jocose. The derivation of the expression is from a practice which robs the joke of its fitness. It means for the rider to go a certain distance and there hitch the horse and go on on foot. The one following comes up and takes the horse and passes his friend on foot and goes on to the end of the journey.

SCOTT-YEAGER

A very interesting and auspicious society happening transpired at the Marlinton Presbyterian church at 7 p.m. December 20th, when Mr. Samuel Burke Scott and Miss Sallie Glen Yeager were joined in the bonds of holy matrimony, Rev. W. T. Price officiating minister. Mrs. W. A. Bratton presided at the organ with the skill and taste for which she is so widely known. The groom is a popular member of the Pocahontas bar. The bride is the youngest daughter of Henry A. Yeager, of Marlinton...

Immediately after the service, the bridal party started for Huntersville, where an elegant reception awaited them at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Rucker. Mrs. Rucker being a sister of the groom. The reception was a very enjoyable affair,

see History pg 12

100-Years-Ago

in The Pocahontas Times

Calvin W. Price, Editor

Thursday,
December 18, 1924

James Loury, of Huntersville, was in our village the latter part of last week seeing some of his old friends. Mr. Loury carried the mail from Huntersville to Warm Springs 30 years ago when horseback was the way of transportation. This method is impossible now since parcel post is so heavy. – Bath Enterprise

Braeside Farm, Hillsboro, owns Reclaim Sensation, a son of the greatest boar ever bred, Great Orion Sensation, that was bred and owned by Ed Kern, of Stanton, Nebraska. This boar is the product of Mr. Kern's breeding and is a magnificent specimen. Reclaim Sensation has been in the shows of W. Va. three falls and has never been defeated by a W. Va. boar in his class. Service to this boar is reasonable. Everyone who has a Duroc sow should avail himself of this opportunity to get the top in Duroc blood.

THE BOND ISSUE

Taxpayer;
I am somewhat of the same opinion you are in regard to the Bond Issue, it reads:

"For a system for pumping the water from Knapps Creek into the City Mains.

To install a Filtration or Chlorination Plant."

The above indicated that the water is not fit for drinking or domestic purposes until treated.

The source of the water supply should be pure.

Shallow wells, streams to which the drainage of barnyards, newly manured fields or to which sewerage gains access are to be avoided.

Filtration of water will not take out the bacteria.

Proper chlorination plants, if properly erected, are costly, but if attended to will purify polluted water, destroying disease bearing germs such as those of typhoid and dysentery. If not attended to by competent men, it would be a waste of money, as it requires constant and careful attention... The present plant can be

put in good repair at small expense, if necessary, the water aerated removing any gas or odor. The iron, if objectionable, filtered out, iron purifies water from organic matter.

How much land and rights of way will the town have to purchase to build the plant on? What is the price? Who are the owners? ...

"Is it better to bear the burdens we have or rush into others we know not of?"

Another Taxpayer

Taxpayer,

Let's give the town officials the means to do something and then hold them responsible. Let's boost and not knock. Let's help and not hinder those who are trying to do the best they can for us. Whatever the course they may decide upon, I feel sure that they will welcome a friendly word of advice, and you are again protected in this as you can know just where your money is going. I am strong for MARLINTON and when I cannot be, my property is for sale.

Yours very sincerely
IRAD D. BRILL

MARRIAGE

Married at the Methodist parsonage December 1, 1924, by Rev. Palmer Eubank, Mr. Clarence Mc-

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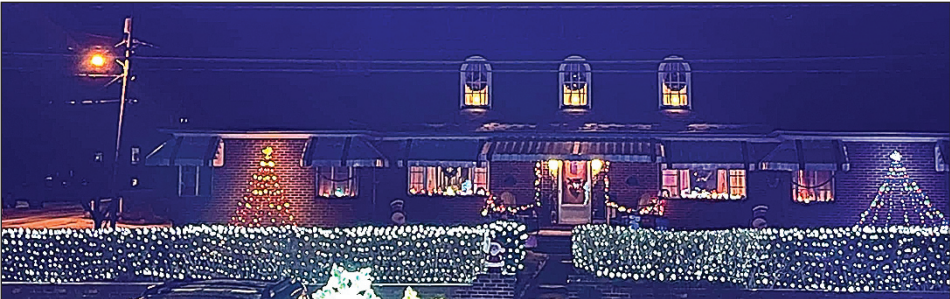
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Second place ~ 1101 10th Avenue



Third place ~ Headwaters Spa and Salon



Third place ~ 193 Fourth Avenue

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Wreaths, from page 1

we enjoy today have not come without a price. Lying here before us and in cemeteries throughout this nation are men and women who gave their lives so that we can live in freedom and without fear.

“We can worship as we see fit,” he continued. “We can raise our children to believe as we do. We are free to vote for the leaders of our choosing. We have the ability to prosper, and we have

the right to fail at whatever endeavor we wish to pursue.”

America is a country founded on freedom, justice and equality and stands on the shining beacon of liberty and a free world, Wooddell stated, adding that 2024 is the 80th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge which were both part of the effort to liberate Europe from the Nazis.

There have been many fights for freedom and Wooddell quoted 40th U.S. President Ronald Reagan, stating “Freedom is never

more than one generation away from extinction. We don’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what it was once like in the United States where men were free around the world.”

“Today, we show a united front of gratitude and respect across the United States of America as we follow the three main tenants of this day – Remember the

Fallen; Honor those who serve and their families; and Teach the next generation the value of freedom,” Wooddell said.

The wreaths were placed one by one, in remembrance of those who served and are serving.

Army Specialist 4 Donnie Waybright – U.S. Army.

Navy Seaman Rob Curry – U.S. Navy.

Marine Sergeant Duke Fry – U.S. Marine Corps.

Air Force A1C Steve Fierbaugh – U.S. Air Force.

Army Specialist 4 Ben Luckacek – U.S. Space

Force.

Army Sergeant John Sparks –U.S. Coast Guard.

Retired Captain George Fleck of the Merchant Marines – U.S. Merchant Marines.

Retired Army Sergeant Major Sollie Workman – the 81,000 U.S. servicemen and women from all branches of the services whose last known status was either Prisoner of War or Missing in Action.

In closing, Wooddell said these wreaths are not for decoration. They are placed to show appreciation from a

grateful nation and to remember those who are no longer here to celebrate holidays with us.

“These live balsam firs symbolize our honor to those who have served and are serving in the armed forces of our great nation and to their families who endure sacrifices every day on our behalf,” he said.

The Honor Corps ended the ceremony with a 21-gun salute and the playing of Taps.

Suzanne Stewart may be contacted at sastewart@pocahontastimes.com

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

ADMINISTRATION TO CREDITORS, DISTRIBUTEES & LEGATEES

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, December 19, 2024
Claim Deadline: Monday, February 17, 2025

ESTATE NUMBER: **14696**
ESTATE OF: **SAMUEL SHERMAN GIBSON II**
EXECUTOR: Gregory Hamons
818 Callison Road
Hillsboro, WV 24946-8542

ESTATE NUMBER: **14712**
ESTATE OF: **PEGGY ANN MCCARTY**
CO-EXECUTRIX: Christine S. Puffenbarger
P. O. Box 442
Marlinton, WV 24954-0442
CO-EXECUTOR: Ricky Lee McCarty
87 Old Route 39 Road
Marlinton, WV 24954-5855

ESTATE NUMBER: **14713**
ESTATE OF: **ZONA LEE HOOVER**
EXECUTOR: Roger Ober
324 Beaver Creek Road
Marlinton, WV 24954-5918

ESTATE NUMBER: **14714**
ESTATE OF: **RICKY EUGENE MILLER**
EXECUTRIX: Donna Sollday Miller
1428 Seebert Wilfong Road
Marlinton, WV 24954-9735

ESTATE NUMBER **14715**
ESTATE OF: **LANCE AUSTIN EADS**
ADMINISTRATRIX: Jasmine Shearer
1423 Stamping Creek Road
Hillsboro, WV 24946-8785

Subscribed and sworn to before me on December 13, 2024.

Melissa L. Bennett
Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission
12/19/2c

NOTICE OF ANCILLARY FILING WITHOUT ANY ADMINISTRATION TO CREDITORS, DISTRIBUTEES AND LEGATEES

Notice is hereby given that the following foreign will or affidavit of heirs has been filed in the Pocahontas County Clerk’s Office at 900

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Tenth Avenue Suite C; P. O. Box 209, Marlinton, WV 24954-0209.

An interested person(s) objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this state must file a statement with the Pocahontas County Commission through the County Clerk’s Office at the address listed above within 60 days after the date of first publication or 30 days of service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not timely filed, the objection is forever barred. The Pocahontas County Commission, upon receiving any timely objection thereto, shall schedule a hearing or hearings thereon and order relief, if any, it considers proper including, but not limited to, an order directing that full and complete ancillary administration of the estate of the nonresident decedent be made in this state.

ESTATE NAME: **FRANKLIN JAY WIDNEY II**
P. O. Box 511
Huddleston, VA 24104-0511
ANCILLARY ADMINISTRATOR:
Doreen Widney
P. O. Box 511
Huddleston, VA 24104-0511

Subscribed and sworn to before me on December 16, 2024.

Melissa L. Bennett
Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission
12/19/2c

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

24-D-34
IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF MINOR FROM: N. T. W. TO: N. T. F.

CHANGE OF NAME PROCEEDING

Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of February 2025, at 1:00 o’clock p.m. at Family Court, 818 C 10th Avenue, Marlinton, WV, on said day or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard before the Honorable Joyce H. Carpenter, the Petitioner, Dwana Fitzgerald, will apply by petition to the Family Court of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, for the entry of an order by said court, changing her child’s name from N. T. W. to N. T. F. at which time and place any interested party may appear and be heard if they so desire.

You are hereby notified that this matter may be rescheduled without further notice or publication.

A copy of said petition can be obtained from the Clerk of the Circuit/Family Court, Connie M. Carr, at her office at 900 D 10th Avenue, Marlinton, West Virginia, 24954.

Dated this 10th day of December 2024.

Connie M. Carr
Pocahontas County Circuit Clerk
By Cindy D. Beverage, Deputy
12/19/2c

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, MICHAEL C. DOSS, Trustee, by virtue of that certain Deed of Trust executed by New AA & R, LLC dba Lucy’s Grocery, for the benefit of John D. Moore, said Deed of Trust bearing date the 3rd day of August, 2022, and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 409, at page 573, the makers, having defaulted in payment of the note secured by said Deed of Trust as provided by the terms thereof, and the beneficial holder of the said note, John D. Moore, having declared the whole of the indebtedness thereunder to be due and payable; and having demanded the undersigned in writing to make sale of the real estate described in said Deed of Trust, the undersigned **Trustee will offer for sale and sell at public auction to the highest responsible bidder on the 6th day of January, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.,**

ADVERTISEMENT MR-34-BR

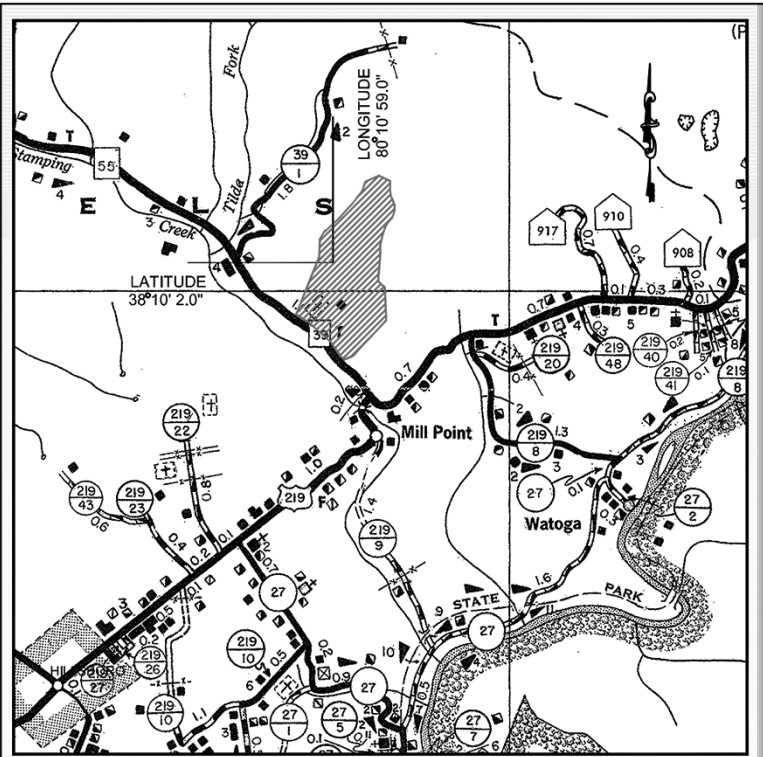
Notice is hereby given that APPALACHIAN AGGREGATES, LLC 171 ST CLAIRS CROSSING BLUEFIELD, VA 24605 has submitted an application for the reissuance of Article 11/WVNPDES Permit No. WV0092339 to the Department of Environmental Protection, 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV 26416-1150 in order to maintain, monitor and operate a Conveyor, Haulroad, Office or Shop Area and Quarry Surface Mine in the Greenbrier limestone seam/mineral bed. The operation will discharge Treated Storm water into an unnamed tributary of Stamping Creek of Greenbrier River and is located 2.65 miles, northeast of Hillsboro, in Little Levels District of Pocahontas County, Longitude 80° 10’59.0000” and Latitude 38°10’2.0000” (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

The Department of Environmental Protection is seeking information on private surface water intakes for human consumption located in the above listed receiving streams and located down stream of this operation. Please provide your name, phone number, mailing address, the name of the stream being with the intake, and the physical location of the intake. This information needs to be submitted to the address above.

An anti-degradation review has been conducted. Tier 1 protection is afforded because effluent limitations ensure compliance with water quality criteria for all designated uses. Where applicable, a full Tier 2 anti-degradation review has been conducted.

Comments on the Article 11 WV/NPDES application or requests for a public hearing regarding the Article 11/NPDES application shall be in writing and if a public hearing is requested shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Such written comments or requests should be sent to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) at the address above, and must also reference the Article 11/NPDES permit number shown above. Comments received by 1/17/2025, or thirty (30) days from date of publication, will be considered. A copy of the Article 11/WVNPDES application, draft permit, rationale page, and fact sheet (if required) will be available for inspection and obtaining copies during normal business hours at the DEP Regional Office located at the address above.

DEP Telephone No. 304-457-3219
Article 11/NPDES Permit No. WV0092339



LOCATION MAP
NPDES NO. WV0092339
WV Highway Map - Scale 1”=1 Mile
Little Levels District, Pocahontas County, West Virginia
WVDEP Permit No. Q2006-98
Hillsboro, WV 7.5 USGS Quadrangle

12/19/1nc

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

at the front steps of the Pocahontas County Courthouse in the City of Marlinton, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, the premises, being and consisting of the following:

All of those certain tracts or parcels of real estate, including the improvements, appurtenances and easements thereunto belonging, situate in the Town of Marlinton, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, known as Lots 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, Block 44.

And being the same lots, tracts or parcels of real estate that were acquired by New AA & R, LLC, a West Virginia Limited Liability Company, by the provisions of a Deed of Conveyance from John D. Moore, said Deed bearing date the 3rd day of August, 2022, and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 403, at page 95.

The above-described real estate shall be sold subject to any claims, liens, assessments, taxes, restrictions, covenants, conditions, and encumbrances against the same.

The Trustee shall convey title with covenants of Special Warranty. The purchaser shall pay all taxes due and payable against the said property, the cost of the preparation of the Deed of Conveyance from the Trustee, the cost of any transfer tax and recording fees due upon the recordation of the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: 10% of bid payable to the Trustee on the day of sale and the balance within thirty (30) days.

CONDITION OF SALE: Said property shall be sold to the highest responsible bidder, with the right reserved to the said John D. Moore, to bid at said sale and to continue the said sale by declaration from time to time, as they may choose.

Given unto my hand this the 9th day of December, 2024.

Michael C. Doss, Trustee
12/19/3c

NOTICE OF THIRD AND FINAL READING

The Marlinton Town Council will hold the third and final reading of Revisions to an Ordinance to Implement a **Municipal Sales and Service Tax and Municipal Use Tax** Monday, December 30, 2024, at 4:15 p.m. at the Marlinton Municipal Building Auditorium.

The proposed revised ordinance is available to the public at the Town Hall Office, Marlinton Municipal Building, 709 Second Avenue, Marlinton, WV 24954 Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting to be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance revisions.

Mary K. Clendenen
Recorder, Town of Marlinton
12/19/2c

Pocahontas County 911 Online Sale

Pocahontas County 911 will offer the following items for sale on GovDeals.com beginning December 20, 2024:

- 2011 Chevrolet Tahoe
- 12kw Briggs & Stratton LP Generator

For additional information, please contact:
Michael O'Brien, 911 Director
Email: mobrien@pocahontasemergency.com
Phone: 304-799-3985

12/12/2c

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Pocahontas County Commission is accepting applications for the following part-time and full-time positions for Pocahontas County Ambulance:

West Virginia Certified EMTs West Virginia Certified Medics

Please contact Commissioner John Rebinski at 304-456-3244 or the Pocahontas County Clerk’s Office at 304-799-4549 for an application.

The deadline to receive applications will be December 31, 2024.

EOE

12/12/3c

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia, until **JANUARY 14, 2025 10:00 A.M.** (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project (s):

CALL: 008; CONTRACT: 2021000722; STATE PROJECT: S388-STRIP-25 00; FEDERAL PROJECT: STP-2025(013)D; DESCRIPTION: PAVEMENT MARKINGS ROADWAY STRIPING, DISTRICT WIDE; COUNTY: PENDLETON, POCAHONTAS, RANDOLPH, TUCKER.

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractor’s license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must include one of the following forms properly executed with each proposal: Proposal Guaranty Bond, Cashier’s Check or Certified Check for \$500.00 or 5% of total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

West Virginia Department of Transportation
12/19/2c

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The Pocahontas Times Advertising Deadline for the next two weeks is 3 p.m. Friday

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Calendar, from page 4

New! Budding Bookworms Playgroups at McClintic Library, Thursdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and at Hillsboro Library, Saturdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

“Hello Universe” Book Club for fifth through seventh graders. After school until 6 p.m. Hillsboro Library on Tuesdays and McClintic Library on Thursdays.

“Paper Towns” Book Club for eighth through 10th graders at McClintic Library. Wednesdays, after school, until 6 p.m.

Friday Fun at the Durbin Community Library Fridays from 4 to 5 p.m. for ages three to 10.

Budding Bookworms at Green Bank Library Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Story time and play group for children ages five and younger, accompanied by a grown up. Cancelled when schools are closed.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS
Drive-through Christmas Lights display at Boyer Campground, Fridays through December 21. Displays by the campground and area businesses.

Christmas Open House at Pocahontas Memorial Hospital Thursday, December 19, 6 to 8 p.m. Tour the newly renovated departments and review future expansion plans. Refreshments served.

Santa Run Saturday, December 21: Par Mar at Green Bank 1 p.m.; Trent’s in Arbovale 1:15; Bears Den at Boyer 1:40; Thornwood Loop 2 p.m.; BFD Parking Lot in Durbin 2:20. Sponsored by the Durbin Lions Club.

Community Christmas in Dunmore, Saturday, December 21, 4 to 6 p.m. at the Dunmore Community Center. Children must be accompanied by parent or guardian.

Christmas Caroling at

Discovery Junction Sunday, December 22, 6 to 7 p.m. Hosted by Marlinton United Methodist Church. Everyone welcome.

Christmas Eve Service Tuesday, December 24, 5 p.m. at Marlinton Presbyterian Church.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Tuesday, December 24, 7 p.m. at Liberty Presbyterian Church in Green Bank.

PARKS AND REC

Candy House Workshop Friday, December 20, at the Wellness Center after school until 4 p.m. Cost, \$3. Children ages 5 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required. To register or for more information, call 304-799-7386.

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

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

Central Union United Methodist Church, Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.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 – Worship 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 Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

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

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

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

Cook Town Community Church, Rt. 219 – Sunday Service 10 a.m.

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

Marlinton Church of 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.

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

Marlinton Church of God, Beard Heights – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study 5 p.m. Book of Revelation.



THE CHIC-INN was a favorite hangout for young people in the 50s and 60s. Booths were filled with teenagers, or at least those who wanted to mingle. Curb service was also an option. Photos courtesy of the Keith Moore collection

Were, from page 3

simplistic. Sons and daughters tried, in some minuscule way, to say thanks. Nicknames seemed to stay forever, even though time rushed by, and the southern drawl instilled by Marlinton’s geographic proximity to Virginia, lasted a lifetime.

Marlinton High School – Notre Dame Fight Song “Cheer, cheer for old Marlinton High” – traditional, value-oriented, standards/principles stressed, trust/caring featured, discipline concepts, positive feelings, happy days, excellent county administration, excellent school administration – teachers and staff – strong academics, superior community support, good athletic teams, and factual information on the people who have walked the hallowed halls will indicate – Marlinton High School – “a legend in its time” – one of the very best.

Boy Scout Troop 33 attained immeasurable heights in each summer camp in Williamsburg. The competition between troops from



“MARLINTON, OUR ALMA Mater...”

throughout West Virginia was very keen. Scouts from the larger populated areas of Charleston, St. Albans and South Charleston were intent on winning the “team trophy” but Troop 33 [13] usually came in first.

Time has passed, but the pride in Marlinton still remains. Its current citizens project this same prideful self-respect. No matter how life changes, the sons and daughters who have called Marlinton home still share its values, its love, its devotion and its respect. Pioneer Days held in July brings them back for the biggest social of the year.

The main things most peo-

ple remember of this picturesque town are its fine people and its scenic beauty, which is unsurpassed. The people are down-to-earth, home-spun, very friendly, very positive and extremely proud. They have sent through the hollowed tunnels of life many fine young men and women who have been outstanding in their chosen occupations and communities.

That’s Marlinton. That’s our hometown – extraordinary, marvelous and prominent in “Almost Heaven – West Virginia.”

Written by Rivard Dwain Wilcox and published in The Pocahontas Times, 1990

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- Contact our office at 304-572-2100 or apply in person at 562 Cass Rd, Slaty Fork, WV. Ask for Vanessa Taylor, but any staff member can help you if she is unavailable!

Casago Snowshoe is an equal-opportunity employer and encourages all qualified individuals to apply. Let’s make this season unforgettable together!

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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED - Looking for a Correctional Officer job? Testing will be offered at the Denmar Correctional Center, Hillsboro, WV, on a daily basis. Interested parties should contact Human Resources at the facility at 304-653-4201 to schedule an appointment. 1/19/tfnc

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Library,
from page 3

When we needed to go to experts directly, we started with people working at credible institutions—large research universities or think tanks that hire across the ideological spectrum. Places like the Brookings Institution, RAND Corporation, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and the National Bureau of Economic Research all fall into this category.

We would also talk to experts from organizations that

had more explicit political leanings. Think tanks like the Center for American Progress (liberal leaning) and the Heritage Foundation (conservative leaning) employ smart people who approach various topics from a particular perspective. When consulting an expert from an organization with a particular leaning, it's important to counterbalance with experts who lean in the opposite direction.

Professional fact checkers
This is the easiest one. As my former FactCheck.org colleague, Lori Robertson, wrote back in 2008: "We know you're busy, and some

of this debunking takes time. But we get paid to do this kind of work." FactCheck, Politifact, the Washington Post's Fact Checker and Snopes have been around for a long time. There's a good chance that they've already looked into whatever you're researching. You can always just start there.

And if you don't see your question, you can always ask. FactCheck has been running a feature called, appropriately enough, Ask FactCheck since 2007. If you crawl back far enough through the archives, you might recognize the author of the very first one.

50, from
page 7

DEATHS
Mason M. May, 77, of Marlinton, a son of the late Samuel and Alice May. Funeral service from the VanReenen Funeral Home Chapel with burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

Roy Brown Landis, 76, of Mill Point, a son of the late Emory Harlan and Alice Nevada Landis. Funeral service from the Marvin Chapel United Methodist Church with burial in the Ruckman Cemetery.

Jesse A. Moore, 73, of Buckeye, a son of the late Nelson and Elsie Moore. Funeral from the Marlinton United Methodist Church with burial in the Mountain View Cemetery.

Mrs. Lottie M. Martin, of

Marlinton, a native of Judson. Funeral from the VanReenen Funeral Home Chapel with burial at Dawson.

Dr. Ligon Price, 80, of Aspen, Colorado; born at Clover Lick, a son of the late John C. and Mary Ann Williams Price. Service was held in the Episcopal church in Aspen with interment with Masonic honors in Denver.

Mrs. Jeanne Whitt May, of Willowick, Ohio; born at Minnehaha Springs, a daughter of the late Chester and Florna Whitt. Funeral service from the VanReenen Funeral Home Chapel with burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

Ray Franklin Scott, 74, of Buckeye. Funeral service from the Wallace and Wal-

lace Funeral Home in Lewisburg with burial in the Old Brick Church Cemetery in Hillsboro.

Hazel Burton Fowler, 65, of Hillsboro, a veteran of World War II and a native of Hillsboro. Funeral from the Hillsboro United Methodist Church with burial in Oak Grove Cemetery.

A BIT OF HUMOR
He who believes that the past cannot be changed has not yet written his memoirs. The guy whose troubles are all behind him is probably a school bus driver. People seem to get nostalgic about a lot of things they weren't crazy about the first time around. A road map tells a motorist everything he wants to know except how to fold it up again.

History,
from page 7

and so these popular young people begin their new life under delightful auspices, having the best wishes of their many friends.

OBITUARY
W. C. Mann, who met an appalling death by a falling stone near Fairview Church November 23, was born in Alleghany County, Virginia, December 26, 1845. He entered the holy union with Miss Phoebe McAllister in

the autumn of 1865. They were playmates, which enabled them to be acquainted with each other's disposition. After marriage, they lived on Jackson's River in Bath County, from where they removed to the old homestead, northeast of Edray.

At the tender age of seventeen, Mr. Mann entered the Confederate service of the Civil War. With this part of his life are connected many thrilling scenes which mark the career of a true soldier. All that is past, and another veteran has sunk to that sleep over which the South-

ern willows mourn and the Northern roses weep.

He was a member of the M. E. Church South and possessed that gentle spirit which makes a good husband, loving father and a generous neighbor who is worthy of the admiration of his fellow men...

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

Send letters to
jsgraham@pocahontastimes.com

For further information, please contact
The Pocahontas Times
at 304-799-4973.

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6714 - Marlinton. Tract 15. The Pines Estates. 5.44-acre property with open meadow and farm homestead views. Property is close to town, rivers, hike and bike trails, national forest, state parks and Snowshoe. - \$136,000



6686 - Marlinton. Great lots in town. Ready to build - \$35,000



6628 - Marlinton. Well-maintained, 3BR/2BA home with large front porch on 0.22 acre. Handicapped accessible. Just minutes to restaurants, recreation and entertainment. - \$150,000



6530 - Slaty Fork. Four wooded acres in Eagles Nest Subdivision, within a mile of the eastern entrance to Snowshoe. Near Cass Scenic Railroad, Greenbrier River and Trail. - \$49,700



6687 - Marlinton. Great lots in town with potential. - \$35,000



6577 - Marlinton. Great home on 2.08 acres - \$189,000



6640 - Cass. 3BR/2BA home with huge garage on two acres. - \$249,000

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“And the angel said to them, ‘Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: For today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you, who is Christ the Lord.’”

Luke 2:10-11



Wishing you the gifts of peace, faith and enlightenment throughout this holy season ~ From all of us at Mitchell Chevrolet