



Highland
Maple Festival
page 3



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MARLINTON, POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA 24954

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Remijan named interim director of GBO

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

When the director position at the Green Bank Observatory became available, Tony Remijan saw it as a new challenge and another great opportunity in his long career in astronomy.

Remijan was serving as assistant director for science support and research for the National Radio Astronomy Observatory when he was named interim director February 10.

"I really love and enjoy new challenges," he said. "My career at NRAO has kind of moved around where I was given an opportunity to challenge myself and be successful. I look for opportunities that challenge me to grow as a scientist, as a manager, as a person and this was a great opportunity to do all those things."

From a young age, Remijan knew astronomy was his future. He says his parents were always supportive of his pursuit of the path.

"My dad asked, 'can you make any money doing this' and I'm like, 'I don't know, but I really love doing it,'" he said. "They were all very, very supportive in giving me what I needed to be successful in astronomy."

Remijan, who was born and raised just outside of



THE NEW INTERIM director of Green Bank Observatory, Tony Remijan, was no stranger to the facility as he has been an employee of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory for decades. He has even done research with the Green Bank Telescope. Now, he is eager to fill the director position and make plans for the future of the facility. Photo courtesy of Paul Vosteen

Chicago, Illinois, received his astronomy degree from the University of Illinois. He got a master's in astrophysics from Iowa State and returned to UI to get his PhD in astronomy and astrochemistry.

He worked at the NASA Goddard Spaceflight Center with Mike Hollis before he joined the NRAO and became very familiar with the

Green Bank Telescope.

"That's when we first started coming to the GBT," he said of his time working with Hollis. "It was about 2004, and we had a bunch of time on the GBT. It's been incredible ever since. Twenty years of just coming out here and working on the GBT, doing my science."

Most of this time was spent in Charlottesville, Vir-

ginia, where he was based with the NRAO, but he also traveled a lot for research, including to Chile to work on the ALMA - Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array.

During those many visits to Green Bank to do research on the GBT, Remijan was joined by his two children, a

see Director pg 9

BOE gets clarification on state of emergency

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

and Superintendent [Michele] Blatt read the declaration."

At the February 17 Pocahontas County Board of Education meeting, superintendent Lynne Bostic shared the results of the West Virginia Department of Education's Special Circumstance On-Site Review Report and the Declaration made by the West Virginia Board of Education regarding the state of emergency status of Pocahontas County Schools.

It was released on February 12 that the WVBOE declared a state of emergency at Pocahontas County High School and Bostic said she was in attendance at the meeting when the decision was made.

"They went into an executive session to discuss our report," she said. "I was not included in the executive session. They came back

Before sharing the declaration, Bostic gave a bit of history about how the review transpired. Last spring, Bostic made a request to the WVDE to assist in reviewing the master schedule at PCHS to help inform staffing decisions.

In August 2024, the WVDE office of PK to 12 academic support personnel conducted training on Policy 2510 and master scheduling. It was during that training that concern arose regarding the school's master schedule, grade transcription process and counseling program.

Bostic then asked the state to conduct a review of the school's procedures, which led to the decision that was made last week.

see BOE pg 5

From 1914 to 1999: The Opera House's Journey

Caroline Hanson
Pocahontas County
Opera House

Hello, friends! As part of our ongoing series delving into the rich history of the Pocahontas County Opera House, today we're exploring what happened to the building during the 85 years between its closure in 1914 and its grand reopening in 1999. While the stage fell silent during this period, the Opera House found new purposes and played a significant role in the community's evolving story.

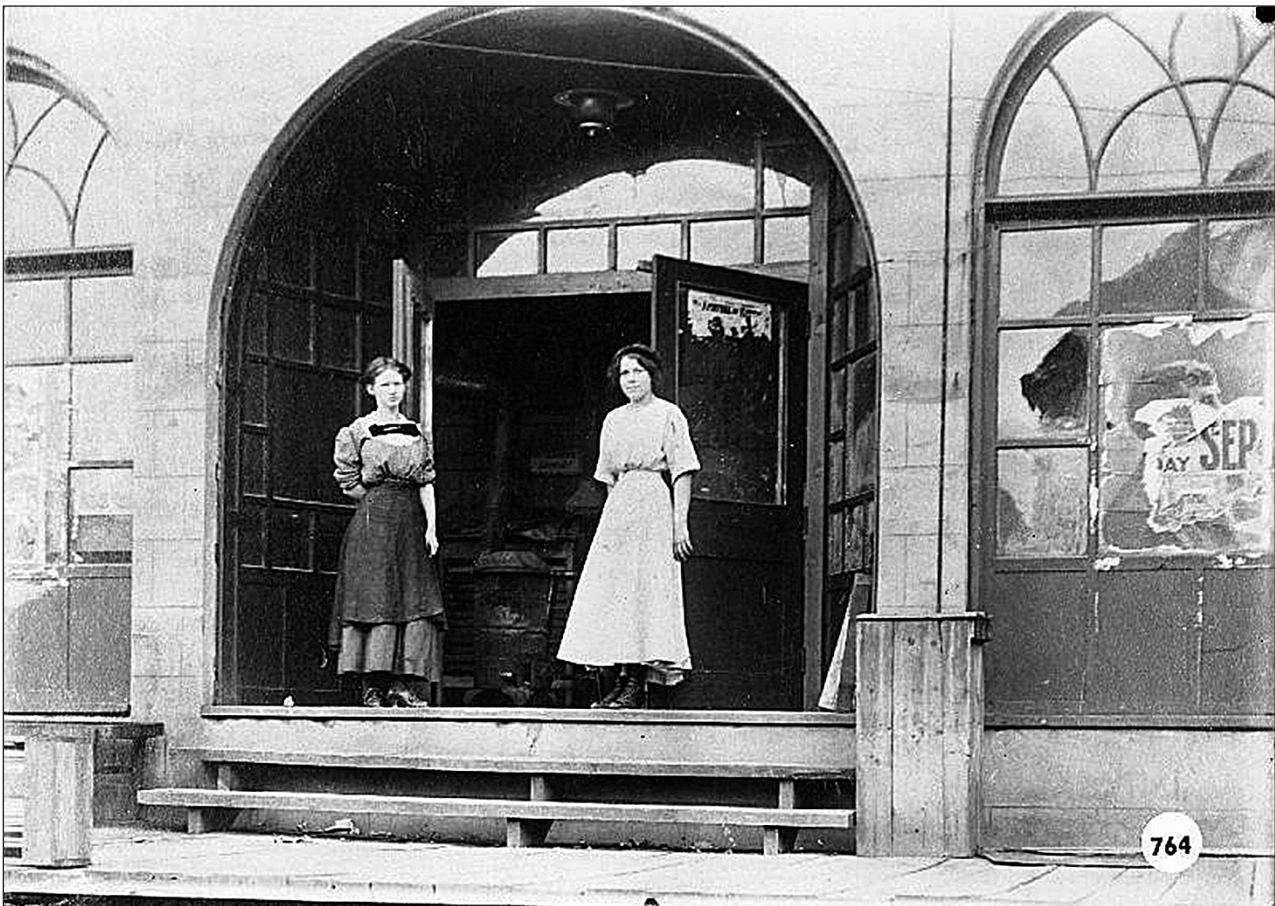
A New Home for the Local Newspaper

After its closure as an entertainment venue, the Opera House became home to the The Pocahontas County News printing press and office. The echoes of vaudeville and early motion pictures gave way to the industrious hum of the press, as the building served as the hub for disseminating the latest happenings in Pocahontas County.

Basketball Games and Community Sports

For a time, the Opera House was transformed into a basketball court. Marlinton's first basketball team played their games here, bringing life and energy to the old stage. The team included Paul Overholt (substitute center), Arden Killingsworth (center), Drew Rucker and Orion Gum (guards), Clayborne Nelson and Henry Hiner (forwards), and Leland Shoemaker (manager). Notably, Paul Yeager, a star from Hampton Sydney College, joined the Marlinton team to compete with the best. The Opera House provided a gathering place for fans to cheer on their local heroes.

see Journey pg 9



VIEW OF FRONT entrance of the Marlinton Opera House, which was location of The Pocahontas County News, previously The Marlinton Messenger, run by Opera House owner J. G. Tilton. Standing at the door are two young ladies who worked in the printing office. Left, Lena Briggs; right Grace Kellison. Preserving Pocahontas photo

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In This Issue

Local News2
Calendar4

Opinion4
Crossword4

Obituaries6
Preserving Pocahontas7

Legals8
Classifieds9

Governor announces actions to speed up illegal immigrant deportations

Governor Patrick Morrisey has announced that West Virginia has signed a letter of intent to join the 287(g) program under President Donald Trump. This program will allow West Virginia state correctional officers to transport criminal aliens into federal custody without the direct supervision of an ICE agent, speeding up the deportation process.

“West Virginia stands ready to carry out President Trump’s anti-illegal immigration agenda,” Morrisey said. “These actions will ensure that criminal aliens can be expeditiously deported from our country.”

Earlier this month, Morrisey signed an executive order directing West Virginia law enforcement to fully cooperate with President Trump’s immigration agenda and perform the duties of immigration officers as necessary and as allowed by law. Morrisey also sent a letter to local law enforcement officials ensuring that all agencies are aware that they must take every effort to support ICE and President Trump’s directives on illegal immigration.



Morrisey

In the House of Delegates ~ Week ending February 21

Ann Ali
Deputy Chief of Staff

In addition to carrying out their legislative work, members of the West Virginia House of Delegates joined members of the Senate to collect donations for West Virginians affected by recent flooding.

“We’ve had record-setting flood waters, three feet higher than historic records, with county-wide damage,” Delegate David Green, R-McDowell, said during the February 21 floor session before requesting a moment of

silence. “There was no community in McDowell County that did not feel the impact of the flood. Sadly, our greatest loss is that we have lost four community members: three in the flood itself, a couple and their 2-year-old grandchild, as well as a seasoned firefighter.”

Delegate Green said 75 percent of McDowell County residents were left without power or water and roadways were so heavily impacted more than half the county had been heavily restricted from accessing its only hospital.

“Many residents are currently stranded, even today with their personal access bridge or roads washed away completely,” he said. “We have residents in our county that have lost their homes and some who are living in emergency shelters throughout the county.”

Green explained that the county’s schools are on “temporary hold,” and the state superintendent is working with the county superintendent to craft a plan for students to be able to finish the school year.

see House pg 10

It’s officially SCAM season

Rarely a day goes by without someone reporting that they have received a scam letter, email or phone call. And not a day goes by that we don’t get scam calls at *The Pocahontas Times* office.

There’s no way to stop them, so you have to protect yourself and your personal information.

For the record:

If you get a call from Social Security – it’s not Social Security. Hang up.

No one from Social Security is going to call you.

If you get a call or email from Amazon advising that there are charges on your

Amazon account or a delivery is pending – it’s not Amazon. Hang up and/or delete.

Never press a number on the phone nor click on a link or attachment in an email.

If you get a random bill from a long-distance company and it’s not your phone service provider – pitch it.

If your “grandson” calls and says he in another state or country and has had an accident and needs money fast – it’s not your grandson. Hang up.

If you receive a call advising that there is a problem with your taxes – hang-up. It’s a scam. No one from the IRS is going to call you and

no one else knows anything about your taxes.

Social Security put out the following information to help Slam the Scam:

Learn all you can about the latest scams. Information can empower you to quickly recognize a scam.

Signs include:

- An unexpected problem or offer of a prize or benefit increase,
- Pressure to act immediately, and
- A request for an unusual payment like cryptocurrency, gift cards, gold bars, and wire transfers, even with the promise of keeping your money “safe.”

Magistrate Court

According to Magistrate Court records, the following individuals had activity in their cases:

In Magistrate Cynthia Broce-Kelley’s court:

Matthew A. Short, 35, of Camden on Gauley, pleaded guilty January 27 to a charge of motorized vehicle on closed road. Short was assessed \$201.48 in court costs and fines.

Ronald L. Moyers, 65, of High Town, Virginia, pleaded guilty January 9 to a charge of motor vehicle in closed area – U.S. Forest. Moyers was assessed \$201.48 in court costs and fines.

Jill Elizabeth Warner, 52, of Riverton, pleaded no contest January 8 to a charge of hunting, trapping or fishing on lands of another. Warner was assessed \$201.48 in court costs and fines.

Sarah Nicole Wickline, 37, of Lewisburg, pleaded guilty January 21 to a charge of illegal possession of wildlife. Wickline was assessed \$201.48 in court costs

and fines.

Stephen Milburn Sharp, 64, of Valley Head, pleaded no contest February 10 to a charge of operation of vehicle without evidence of registration. Sharp was assessed \$201.48 in court costs and fines.

see Court pg 11

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

Thursday, Feb. 27,

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Commission will hold public meeting on possible ambulance fee

Tim Walker
AMR Reporter

The proposed Emergency Ambulance Fee County Ordinance which would charge a fee on all purchases made in Pocahontas County was discussed again at the February 18 county commission meeting.

Commission President John Rebinski explained that the fee is needed to provide proper paid ambulance service to the entire county. He said that because tourists and other people visiting the county account for a portion of ambulance usage, it would not be fair to only charge county residents, so he favors a user fee that will

look like and be collected in the same way as the state retail sales tax. He said it will simply add a percentage fee to all purchases made in the county. Rebinski explained he is still not sure if one-percent would generate enough income, or if a two-percent fee would be needed.

Travis Cook from the Shavers Fork Fire and Rescue said he favors the fee but feels sales within the RAD area at Snowshoe should not be exempt as suggested earlier by Rebinski. Cook said that while the RAD fee supports Shavers Fork Fire and Rescue providing paid ambulance service in the RAD area, that fee also is used to sup-

port a number of other things, not just emergency services. He said that perhaps the way to go is to charge the fee and Shavers Fork would receive their ambulance financial support from the county fee instead of from the RAD.

Herbie Barlow of the Marlinton VFD said the commission should also discuss this with Marlinton. Barlow said that the southern area of the county will definitely need a 24/7 paid ambulance service.

Commissioner Thane Ryder said he believes no areas of the county should be exempt from the fee. He also said that before they pass such a fee, they should

see Fee pg 10

Psst? Heard of data centers?

Charlotte Lane, Chair
Public Service Commission

If you haven’t heard the term yet, I would like to introduce you to the phrase data centers.

This is a concept that will have great meaning for us all in the future. It’s something you are going to be hearing much more about.

Data centers are for information, what a barn is for a farmer, or a warehouse is for a manufacturer.

A data center is a centralized physical building inside of which electronic information and data that is critical

to businesses are stored.

It’s a fact. Almost everything we do these days is digital. We live by our phones. We read books and watch movies on iPads or tablets. Watching TV is largely digital. Many of us even watch football and basketball on our phones.

It would be hard to imagine any business that could exist today without some major component, or all of its efforts and correspondence, being done electronically. And so many of us communicate only on our phones – and not by talking, either. Life without a phone would be hard to imagine.

So, someplace must act as the electronic traffic cop in all of this. And that’s where data centers come in. As we use more digital devices as means for communicating, the need for data centers is expected to grow dramatically in the future.

We want more storage and faster transmission of information, so nothing is going to slow down this development.

As the need for more and faster information increases, so will the demand for the growth of more energy-consuming data centers to meet those demands.

see Data pg 10

Supreme Court announces launch date to access Circuit Court Records System online

The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia announced Monday that a new online system to search and access circuit court records in all 55 counties will go live and be available to the public beginning March 10.

The West Virginia Public Access Search System, or WVPASS, will provide online access to all publicly available circuit court documents dating back to 1999. Registration to use the new system is free to the user and documents can be downloaded for a small charge.

“The Court is proud to announce the launch of this

long-awaited system that will bring county circuit court records into the digital age,” said Chief Justice William R. “Bill” Wooton. “This launch is the culmination of an extended, monumental effort on the part of the Supreme Court’s Administrative Office, our outside vendor and staff from all 55 county courthouses. Online access to court records is an essential public service, and I want to thank all parties involved for their commitment to making this a reality.”

Access to the new system will be available on the Court’s website, www.courts.wv.gov

This online circuit courts

record system follows last year’s launch of the Court’s Magistrate Case Record System, which is currently available on the Court’s website. An additional records system for the appellate case level is also anticipated in the near future.

“The WVPASS circuit courts records search system demonstrates our Court’s commitment to make West Virginia’s judicial system as transparent and accessible to the public as possible,” said Justice C. Haley Bunn, who has taken the lead on the project for the Court in recent years. “Beginning next

see Supreme pg 10

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West Virginia’s Premier Raffle Returns: Tickets Now Available for Snowshoe Foundation’s Treasure on The Mountain

The Snowshoe Foundation has announced the return of its highly anticipated summer raffle event, Treasure on The Mountain, which helps raise nearly a half-million in funds to support local grants, scholarships and other initiatives.

Treasure on The Mountain 2025 is scheduled for Saturday, August 2, and promises to be an unforgettable day of incredible raffles, live entertainment and activities. As the Snowshoe Foundation’s largest annual fundraiser, the proceeds directly benefit children, families, and community organizations in Pocahontas, Randolph and

Webster counties. Treasure on The Mountain is a one-of-a-kind experience that allows patrons to enjoy a day of fun with the community, all while making a positive difference.

In addition to the main raffle, participants can take part in the exclusive second-annual Progressive 50/50 Raffle, where the jackpot will grow with each ticket sold until the drawing at 1:30 p.m. on August 2. Last year’s Progressive 50/50 winner took home more than \$40,000!

Additionally, an Early Bird drawing offers a special chance to win a cash prize for those who purchase their

tickets in advance. All tickets to Treasure on the Mountain 2025 purchased by February 27 will be entered for a chance to win \$2,000 in an Early Bird drawing that will take place on February 28. The winner will be announced on social media.

Tickets are available for purchase online at the Snowshoe Foundation’s website. A limited number of physical tickets can be obtained through local partners. Visit SnowshoeFoundation.org or contact local sales partners to purchase your tickets today. Early ticket purchase is encouraged.

Ticket-holders do not need to be present at TOTM 2025

to win. Winners will be announced via the Snowshoe Foundation website and on social media.

About Snowshoe Foundation

The Snowshoe Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to providing financial support to children, families, and local community-based organizations whose activities provide benefits to the communities of Webster, Pocahontas, and Randolph Counties in Central West Virginia.

The Snowshoe Foundation is a distinct entity from Snowshoe Mountain Resort. To learn more, visit: <https://snowshoefoundation.org/>

The 64th Highland County Maple Festival

Virginia’s Sweetest Event of the Year returns. Nestled in the peaceful, rural mountains on the western border of the Commonwealth, travelers can take a step back in time for a cultural and culinary adventure at the county-wide Highland County Maple Festival during the second and third weekends of March. This year marks the 65th event, set for March 8 and 9 and 15 and 16.

Highland County is Virginia’s least populous county but has been drawing tens of thousands of visitors to the community since 1959 to celebrate the “opening” of the trees and to observe the process of making delicious, pure maple syrup. Free “sugar camp” tours provide a unique and educational experience for the entire family. Local sugar camps have even expanded to include syrups infused with fruits and spices or even aged in



spirit barrels. Other tree syrups can be found at the festival as well, including hickory, birch, and black walnut. Ten local sugar camps will be open on Saturdays and eight on Sundays this year.

Local civic clubs and or-

ganizations will be bringing back their delicious food offerings, including those famous fresh maple doughnuts, pancake and buckwheat cake meals with country side dishes, trout, pork rinds, and just about anything maple-flavored! Local

restaurants are ready to serve with special menus of savory and sweet treats. Food vendors on North Water Street in

see Maple pg 11



Library Lines

by Joe Miller,
Director of Development

“Hey, I’ve got a story to tell you.”

It was my first day back at McClintic Library after several weeks in DC. Librarian Pam Johnson spotted me from the stacks and hurried over. I knew what kind of story was coming.

In mid-December, Pam received a call from a woman in California who was looking for information about her family.

The caller had a name – Caesar Freeman – and a vague sense that he had lived somewhere in this area.

That’s when Pam began her detective work. She found a record of a slave named Caesar in an old Census record. She then tracked Caesar’s family to what became Greenbrier and then Pocahontas County.

Caesar began his life as a slave, but he and his family were freed – that’s the point at which he took the surname Freeman.

Later, the family, who had once owned Caesar, fell on hard times and attempted to re-enslave Caesar. The residents of Hillsboro were not having it. They helped Caesar go to court. Eventually, Caesar prevailed. He retained his freedom and was awarded 413 acres of land for his troubles.

That land included much of what we know today as Caesar Mountain.

Pam’s excitement was on full display as she walked me through the steps she took in tracking down Caesar – a search that included calls for records in Bath, Highland and Augusta counties, as well as to the Library of Virginia.

Tracking down Caesar was far from Pam’s first genealogy mission.

I took my parents to visit McClintic shortly after I joined the library team. Within minutes of meeting, Pam had helped my dad

solve a long-standing family mystery – the year of birth of my great-grandfather.

The Roane County Courthouse burned in his youth, destroying the copy of his birth certificate. In later years, no one could agree on the year of his birth.

Once again, Census records held the answer. Pam knew exactly where to look.

Ever since, Pam shares all her genealogy missions with me. It’s one of my favorite parts of visiting McClintic.

Pam’s love of genealogy predates the current McClintic building.

“I helped carry all the books in the history room from the old library and cataloged the new history room,” Pam tells me.

Pam is referring to the special climate-controlled room at McClintic that houses the rarer and more fragile items in the Pocahontas County Library’s West Virginia Collection.

The collection is largely built from gifts – a patron left a sizable collection of books on his passing. Realizing that these books would need special care, the Sharp and McNeel families donated funds to create a purpose-built history room as part of the original construction of the current McClintic Library.

The collection continues to grow, sometimes through direct purchases, but often through the community itself. Patrons and benefactors have donated old family papers, books uncovered in grandparents’ attics and business records – all of which Pam lovingly catalogs and stores.

But it’s not just a room full of old books. A generous donation enabled the library to purchase a computerized microfiche reader. Now you can create new digital copies of old microfiche records.

see Library pg 11

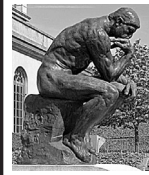
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TRIVIA – a little something to think about

Courtesy of Chuck Cornell

1. Which scientist patented new ballet shoes to protect dancers’ feet?
2. Where in the United States is coffee grown?
3. What is the highest point in the United States?
4. What is the lowest point in the United States?

Lent begins Wednesday, March 5



Congratulations on your retirement, LAUREN BENNETT!

A sincere THANK YOU from everyone! 35+ years of pumpkin pies, chalking soccer fields, candy houses, love, laughter, river time and more fun than you could load on an elephant! Cheers to the next chapter.



A Blast from the Past

Courtesy of the Ruth Friel Estate

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EXPLORE RIDGE® CREW



Marlinton Mayor's Corner

By Sam Felton

At the January Mon-Forest Towns Board Meeting in Elkins, a new initiative was discussed to highlight the region's gravel and road bicycling opportunities. Proposals have been received and selected regarding this project. The plan is to create a gravel cycling and bikepacking route network. The community approach is to develop routes which showcase existing community trails. These routes will highlight the best of our region's natural beauty.

MFTP and our partners will work together to promote the MFT Gravel and Bikepacking Route Net-

work. This initiative will reach new audiences and bring more people into our towns. More people create more economic opportunity. Next steps for the project are what this Mayor's Corner is all about. Spreading the word and informing community members, businesses and other stakeholders of the project and its goals. A series of community meetings is to be announced.

The new pickup and snowplow is in service – almost! The mount brackets for the plow are too low to the ground when the plow is in the raised position. A lift kit will be installed to increase ground clearance.

Sam

Letters to the Editor

Editor:

The County Commission should stop thinking about adding a sales tax surcharge to pay for ambulance services. Under West Virginia law, county commissions do not have the authority to impose an additional sales tax on top of the state's 6% sales tax. The power to levy local sales taxes is granted exclusively to municipalities, which can impose up to a 1% local sales tax, resulting in a combined rate of 7% in those areas.

Regarding funding for county-wide ambulance services, West Virginia Code §7-15-17 permits county commissions to establish a "special emergency ambulance service fee" which can be imposed on users of emergency ambulance serv-

ices within the county. The collected funds must be allocated exclusively to cover expenses related to providing these services, including costs for buildings and equipment. Several counties in West Virginia have implemented such fees to support their emergency medical services, including Jefferson and Berkeley.

As County Commission president, John Rebinski should do his homework before discussing ideas about raising money for a county-wide ambulance service. At a recent meeting, when discussing a possible sales tax surcharge of one or two percent, he didn't know how much money might be raised in either case. And he did not know how much money is needed to support the am-

balance service in its current or future form.

It may be that an annual fee for county residents is needed to cover fixed costs for buildings, equipment, and personnel for a county-wide ambulance service – in a manner similar to the solid waste fee. And it may be desirable to bill out-of-county visitors on a fee for service basis. But public discussion of such financial matters should start with realistic estimates of the costs involved. Continuing to raid hotel/motel tax receipts to pay for an ambulance service is not a tenable alternative.

Jay Miller
Hillsboro

Dear Editor,

Donald Trump won the White House by convincing

enough ordinary citizens that he would improve their lives. So far, the President's hatchet man, with reckless disregard, has turned the lives of thousands of ordinary citizens upside down.

What's more, some of the axed agencies existed to protect ordinary citizens from the excesses of powerful individuals and corporations.

Donald Trump's 2017 tax cut was a gift to the ultra-rich and corporations. As a result, the U.S. Treasury lost over 100 billion dollars in revenue every year since (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, June 2024). And now the President is slashing programs that help ordinary people.

It's not right.

Bob Must
Hillsboro



The Wholesome Kitchen: Healthy twists on modern food

by Addy Hayes

Everyone has a bit of a sweet tooth, but why eat sugary hydrogenated sweets when you can make your own healthy treats that are totally worth eating?

Follow me through many recipes as the culinary world paves the way for simply good food.

For years, the kitchen has been the heart of a home for everyone, a place for family time and homemade food. But, due to the increase in processed food, the kitchen is no longer thought of as the beautiful room it once was.

Healthy food can be truly amazing. Not only is healthy food good for you but it also can be delicious. The more that people come to recognize that, the healthier we all will be.

Wondering how?

Not only does processed food have bad effects on the soil it's grown in but according to multiple websites including *Wicked Leeks*, processed food is responsi-

ble for one-third of Earth's greenhouse gas submissions. My hope is that when we realize this, we will all become healthier, not only for ourselves but for the next generations and the world.

It all starts with you – right here, right now.

Need a satisfying treat? Try this twist on a Reese's that is gluten and dairy free. This recipe is a family favorite and is good for any special occasion – or none at all. With a peanut butter filled center and a rich chocolate coating this treat is perfect. So, grab the ingredients and meet me in the kitchen.

see Kitchen pg 12

OPERA HOUSE

The Bing Brothers, alongside fiddler Jake Krack, Saturday, March 1, at 7 p.m. Featuring authentic strains of old-time, bluegrass, and traditional Irish tunes, this event is not to be missed. Tickets, \$10, are available in advance at 4th Avenue Gallery and online at pocahontasopera.house.org and at the door the night of the performance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

EVENTS

FREE Community Dinner at Marlinton Presbyterian Church Thursday, February 27, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Menu: Chili and Cornbread.

Team KID and Youth

Impact Christian learning and activities for youth and teens at First Baptist Church-Huntersville, Sundays from 5 to 7 p.m. Dinner included. Transportation available by calling Thomas Barnisky.

Highland County Maple Festival Fridays and Saturdays, March 8 and 9 and 15 and 16.

Mountain State Maple Days, Saturday, March 15. Sugar camp tours, special maple menus at restaurants and lodging specials.

MEETINGS

West Virginia Prayer Alliance Thursday, March 20, 6:30 p.m. at the Community Wellness Center in Marlinton. Non-denominational. Everyone welcome. Gather to pray for our community

and our country. For more information, call Kim at 304-439-0593.

Open Sew with Library Quilters of Marlinton, first Monday of each month 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at McClintic Library. Everyone welcome.

Upper Pocahontas Community Cooperative second Monday of each month 6:30 p.m. at Durbin Community Library. Call 304-456-4994 for more info.

LIBRARY EVENTS

Durbin Community Library Book Sale Wednesday – Friday, March 12-14, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 15, 10 a.m. to

4 p.m.

Linwood Little Librarians Playgroup Fridays at Linwood Library, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Friday Fun at 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.

Budding Bookworms Playgroup at McClintic see Calendar pg 11

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Super Crossword

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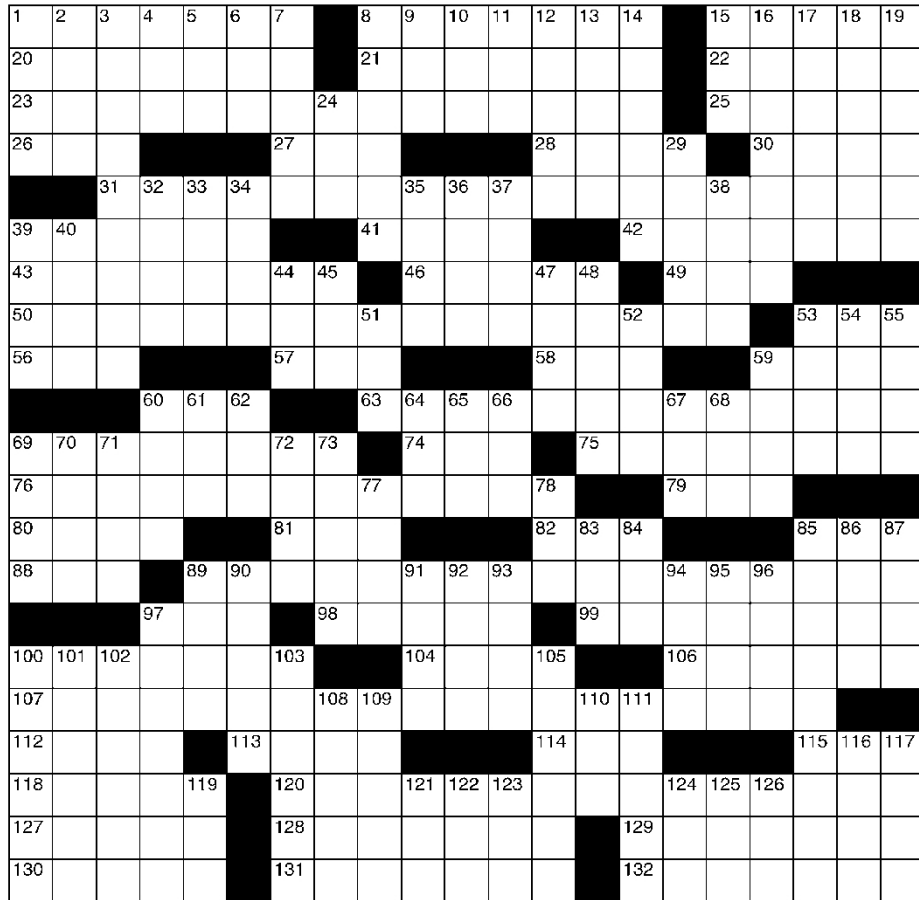
ACROSS

- Teenage witch played by Melissa Joan Hart
- Breakwater embankment
- Nintendo title plumber
- Germ-free zone
- Singer with the 2018 hit "Boo'd Up"
- Put up, as a building
- Patti Smith
- Flat, as cola
- One of the two Pro Bowl gps.
- Rankle
- Notices
- Hero type
- Nina Simone
- Napoli's nation
- Alien-seeking proj.
- City near Disney World
- Manicure tool
- Oxidizes
- Put the kibosh on
- Missy Elliott
- Dir. from Miss. to Mich.
- Pre-CIA gp.
- Ad featuring Smokey Bear, e.g.
- "Science Guy" with multiple Emnys
- Honorable
- Busy airport
- George Strait
- World capital in the Andes
- '60s war
- 2010-14 Mets member
- Britney Spears
- Plane ticket detail
- Large musical disk
- Encyc. unit
- Tosses out of the game, for short
- "Law & Order" spinoff, in brief
- Busy insect
- Bessie Smith
- Plane ticket detail, for short
- Mafioso John
- Narrates
- Running rather quickly
- "This Is Life" journalist Lisa
- Totally in favor of
- Chuck Berry

DOWN

- Very long tale
- Dating from
- Furniture pieces for lying or sitting
- Tach abbr.
- Judge Lance
- Petty peeve
- Have — on one's shoulder
- "Black Panther" actor Andy
- "Xanadu" gp.
- Sitcom ET
- "679" rapper Felty —
- Make laugh
- Thin streets
- "In this way"
- Spanish for "month"
- Skilled crafter
- Go further in the book, say
- Apple digital storage service
- Verdi opera
- Mess up
- Hercules player Kevin
- Affictions
- Natural talent
- Greot loudly
- Architect Saarinen
- Double — (Oreo option)
- Wife on "The Addams Family," casually
- Big to-do
- Lowdown
- Mai — (rum drinks)
- Track circuit
- Mag staffers of a yr.
- Ex-Yankee Martinez
- James Bond genre, in brief
- Ox of Tibet
- "Doggone it!"
- Punishment for a tube watcher
- "Me neither"

- Rival of Ben & Jerry's
- Nibble (on)
- Suspend
- Scanned
- market ID
- Busy insect
- With one flat, musically
- Brief snooze
- Biotech-created food
- Alop, in verse
- Japanese salad green
- Links gp. for women
- Club for a 89-Down member
- Small fortune
- Letters of invitation?
- American assn.
- Margarine, quaintly
- Acrobat
- Fourth of a yr.
- That girl
- Large yellow bloom
- Put the kibosh on
- KGB's land
- Parée "to be"
- Native New Zealander
- WWII battle town in France
- Nibble (on)
- Tesla glue — (brand of adhesive in a tube)
- Hog sound
- Tesla auto, e.g.
- String necktie
- Quiet stretch
- Fuel gases
- Off-track
- New film type in the 1920s
- What "@ " is
- Rotational force
- Big blunders
- Man-goat
- Marsh plants
- Capture
- Campus buildings
- Have the guts
- Made blond, suffix
- Test for college srs.
- Prior to, in sonnets
- Indian flatbread
- Not closed, in verse
- pah band
- Heady brew
- Day, to Diego



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Micro invaders are everywhere

Melondy Phillips
Staff Writer

The discovery of microplastics within the human body has only recently been uncovered. With the ever-increasing popularity of plastic bags, bottles, containers and even toothbrushes, just how bad are microplastics for the body and can they be eliminated. Because this field of research is so new, those questions are difficult to answer. Plastic is not a natural material that the body can use for building blocks or health, which means, they don't appear be to a positive thing. So, are they a negative presence? If the body has a difficult time expelling these foreign particles, then it might be assumed that the accumulation of microplastic could eventually lead to health concerns.

An August 2024 article at theguardian.com stated, "Twenty-four brain samples collected in early 2024 measured on average about 0.5% plastic by weight. A growing body of scientific evidence shows that microplastics are accumulating in critical human organs, in-

cluding the brain, leading researchers to call for more urgent actions to rein in plastic pollution. Studies have detected tiny shards and specks of plastics in human lungs, placentas, reproductive organs, livers, kidneys, knee and elbow joints, blood vessels and bone marrow."

The Association of American Medical Colleges posted an article in June of 2024 about a neuroscientist's experiment with microplastics in mice. The article states, "... decided to study how contaminating the drinking water of mice with tiny fragments of plastic might affect their cognitive function, she didn't expect the experiment to yield much. But in just three weeks, Ross and her team found microplastics had made their way into the mice's brains, passing the robust defenses of the blood-brain barrier. The researchers performed a variety of tests and found that the microplastic-exposed mice started exhibiting signs of cognitive decline similar to dementia. 'I didn't really think we were going to see anything,' Ross says. But when they examined the

mice's tissues, they were shocked. 'Every one we looked at we found the microplastics. It was surprising, especially finding them in the brain. Things are not supposed to go there!'"

Observations of the effects of microplastics in the body have shown the following effects: hormonal metabolism imbalance, cell death, an imbalance of gut biome



IT IS PROJECTED that about 11 billion tons of plastic will have accumulated in the environment by this year.

(PET) was also detected. This might be expected, since PET is used to make bottles for water, soda and many other drinks and foods. ... The method identified millions of additional particles that did not match the seven categories of plastic. It's not yet clear if these tiny particles are nanoplastics or other substances."

Contaminated water is not limited to the commercially bottled kind but flows in our streams and other waterways affecting everything it touches.

see Micro pg 6

BOE, from page 1

Bostic read the declaration which is as follows:

"Having heard and considered the results of the Pocahontas County Schools Special Circumstance Review, I move that:

1) The WVBOE declares that a state of emergency exists in Pocahontas County Schools under W.Va. Code 18-2E-5(m)(2);

2) The WVBOE establish a six-month period for Pocahontas County Schools to correct identified deficiencies with prioritized support from the WVDE;

3) The WVDE Office of Special Education conduct a comprehensive monitoring and review to ensure all policies and procedures regarding the provision of special education services comply with state and federal regulations;

4) Pocahontas County Schools continues to investigate the unauthorized transcription of inaccurate credits and grades and take personnel action based on the results of the investigation;

5) Pocahontas County Schools contract a WVDE-approved consultant to provide support and build leadership capacity at the central office and schools;

6) The WVDE Office of School Finance conduct a comprehensive review of local accounting practices and financial transactions including, but not limited to, compliance with local procedures regarding employee contracts and stipends; and,

7) The WVBOE receive a six-month progress update from the WVDE and Pocahontas County Schools at the August 2025 meeting and take action based on the report including, but not limited to, an extension of the State of Emergency or immediate intervention in the operation of the Pocahontas County school system."

Bostic then explained that any funding that goes toward the plan is at the cost of the county and will not be reimbursed by the state education department.

She added that she did not receive a copy of the review report until the day of the meeting when it was released to the public.

"Since you brought that up, I'm upset because all this stuff took place," board member Frosty McNabb said. "We were elected by the citizens of the county to represent their children and do the best for them, and I have to find out off the street or off social media of this.

That's not right. We're getting blamed for everything, and we don't even know about it."

McNabb added that all the board members have been getting calls from concerned parents and were not well enough informed to explain what was happening. Bostic told him to direct people to contact her directly with any of their concerns regarding the issue.

One of the problematic areas that arose in the study was the way transcripts were being entered and handled at PCHS. Assistant principal Chris Campbell and dean of students Casey Griffith gave an update on the transcripts issue and how the process was going in making changes.

Campbell explained that work began on fixing the transcripts before the review was done and continues to make progress.

Campbell and Griffith explained that the system in which they enter grades – WVEIS, West Virginia Education Information System – was upgraded and due to the upgrades, some of the transcripts had issues that are being fixed now.

"Let me clarify here," Campbell said. "It's not that their grades are incorrect. Those aren't the revisions that need to be made. It's what something was called and making sure that all those things are in place."

The grades are entered as quality points, so if a student has a 95, it is entered as an A which has a point of 4. The points are then added and averaged to find the student's grade point average.

With the way grades are done at PCHS, the students get half grades per semester. So, the first semester point and second semester point are added and averaged to find the final grade or point for that class.

Campbell explained those points were not entered correctly. What was incorrect were the codes for the classes the students were enrolled in. Those are being updated, but it takes time, and they are trying to find a way to make those changes by class instead of by individual student.

The board said parents are concerned about transcripts getting sent to colleges and asked if there is an issue with this now.

Griffith said she has been working with colleges and is making sure that the correct transcripts are sent for the students.

The board thanked both Campbell and Griffith for the update and their work on fixing the issue.

In financial management, the board approved: payment of vendor listing; payment of local government purchasing card, employee payroll, grant awards, schedule of revenues and expenditures on a cash basis and budget adjustments.

In miscellaneous management, the board approved the following:

- Pocahontas County Schools Management Representation Letter – Single Audit as of June 30, 2024, fee being \$26,170.

- Contract with Deirdre Cline and the Pocahontas County Board of Education and the West Virginia Department of Education, effective February 18. Contract services expire June 30.

- Contract with Dodi Slaughter, counselor at the Fred W. Eberle Tech Center and Pocahontas County Board of Education as mentor for Casondra Griffith, dean of students, at Pocahontas County High School, effective February 19 through January 1, 2026.

- Pocahontas County Schools to place extracurricular physical education policy on public comment. This policy would allow students to earn one graduation requirement of physical education for two seasons of a WVSSAC approved activity.

- Justin Kerr, Jonathan Taylor and Sarah Cover to take approximately 20 students from Pocahontas County High School to Skills State Leadership and Skills Conference at Fairmont State College on March 27-29. Transportation will be provided by one bus.

- Courtney Curran to take four students from Pocahontas County High School

Grow Your Own Project to the Grow Your Own and Milken Educators Symposium in Morgantown on April 7-8. Transportation will be provided by private vehicle.

- Andy Friel to take four students to WVU Reedsville Farm in Arthurdale March 7. Transportation provided by private vehicle.

- Rick McLaughlin and parents to transport three students to Philip Barbour High School for the Region 8 Middle School Honor Band February 21-22.

In personnel management, the board approved the following:

- Resignation of Erin Baldwin as English/language arts teacher at Green Bank Elementary-Middle School, effective February 18.

- Dillion Vandevandar as volunteer coach for the fifth-grade basketball team at Green Bank Elementary-Middle School, effective for the 2024-2025 athletic season.

- Allen Taylor as volunteer coach for the fourth-grade basketball team at Green Bank Elementary-Middle School, effective for the 2024-2025 athletic season.

- Todd Jones as volunteer coach for the fourth-grade basketball team at Green Bank Elementary-Middle

School, effective for the 2024-2025 athletic season.

- Retirement of Virginia Calhoun, effective June 30.

- Jessica Jones as volunteer coach for the fourth and fifth grade basketball team at Hillsboro Elementary School, effective for the 2024-2025 athletic season.

- Doug Jones as volunteer assistant coach for the fourth and fifth grade basketball team at Hillsboro Elementary School, effective for the 2024-2025 athletic season.

- Nebraska Scotchie as volunteer assistant coach for the fourth and fifth grade basketball team at Hillsboro Elementary School, effective for the 2024-2025 athletic season.

- Unpaid medical leave for Erin Murphy at Marlinton Middle School, effective February 15, for a period of up to 12 weeks through May 20.

- Retirement of Diane L. Nelson, effective June 30.

- Requested transfer of Jeanette Wagner from teacher of special education/autism at Marlinton Middle School to teacher of CTE business management/administration at Pocahontas County High School, effective February, for 71 days for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year and will be 200 days each year thereafter.

- Peter Monico as volun-

teer head golf coach for the Pocahontas County High School golf team for the 2024-2025 athletic season.

- Earl "Doug" Friel as volunteer assistant golf coach for the Pocahontas County High School golf team for the 2024-2025 athletic season.

- Employment of Karen O'Neil as head track coach for the boys and girls track teams at Pocahontas County High School, for the 2024-2025 athletic season, supplement being \$1,125.

- Appointment of Christine Campbell as interim/acting principal for Pocahontas County High School, beginning February 17.

- Resignation of Robert Jordan as custodian III, at Pocahontas County High School, effective February 13.

- Retirement of superintendent Lynne Bostic, effective June 30.

- Employment of Coty S. Rexrode as substitute school bus operator for Pocahontas County Schools, at state minimum professional salary for the 2024-2025 school year.

- Employment of Sherry Radcliff as substitute secretary/accountant, emergency only, for Pocahontas County Schools, at state minimum professional salary for the 2024-2025 school year.

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Obituaries



Eleanor Stankevich
Eleanor Jean Gay Stankevich, age 88, passed away Saturday, January 4, 2025. Born August 27, 1936, in Edray, she was a daughter of the late Cecil and Stella Waugh Gay. She was a graduate of Marlinton High School, Class of 1955. Jean, as she preferred to be called, married Louis Joseph Stankevich in June 1963, in Levittown, Pennsylvania, the place she called home for the next 62 years. Lou passed away in 1983, but they were both blessed with their beautiful daughter, Deborah, to complete their family. Jean worked more than 45 years as an Instructional Assistant at Walter Miller Elementary School, retiring in

2018. She was loved and respected by students, staff and parents. In addition to her instructional role, she supervised the school's Safety Patrol. Jean also worked as a Shift Manager for Rite Aid Corp. in its Yardley and Levittown stores, retiring in 2021 after 40 plus years. When Jean was not working at her jobs, she was a Junior Bowling coach and a secretary for the Women's Bowling Leagues. She loved her Salties. In addition to her parents and husband, Jean was preceded in death by her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Peter and Mary Kushmeder Filipek; and 10 siblings: Ruth Gay, Edith Stafford, Samuel Gay, Albert Gay, Madge Fair, Merl Gay, Opal Byrd, Grace Mynuk, Jimmie Gay and Stearl Gay. She is survived by her devoted daughter, Deborah Stankevich, with whom she resided; sister, Pat Sharp, of Burgaw, North Carolina; her beloved dog, Charlie; and many nieces and nephews. A short gathering was held Thursday, January 9, 2025, at the James J. Dougherty Funeral Home in Levittown, Pennsylvania, with burial in Resurrection Cemetery in Bensalem, Pennsylvania. Memorial contributions may be made in Jean's memory to Alzheimer's Association, American Heart Association or S. P. C. A.

Nellie Moore
Nellie Virginia Moore, 87, of Marlinton, died Friday, February 21, 2025, at her home. Born May 15, 1937, at Marlinton, she was a daughter of the late Harry Robert and Maggie Myrtle Mace Cain. Nellie worked as a nurse's aide. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, William Howard Moore; son, Archibald W. Moore; and brothers, Leo Cain and Roy Cain. She is survived by her daughter, Cathy E. Akins, and husband, John, of Murfreesboro, Tennessee; sons, Robert C. Moore, of Dundalk, Maryland, and William L. Moore, and wife, Rhonda, of Pasadena, Maryland; sister, Susie Friel, of Marlinton; five grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren. Funeral service was held Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at Central Union United Methodist Church with Lay Minister Carmen LaRue officiating. Burial was in Mt. Zion Cemetery.

Storms of all kinds

by Dawn Reed

The word storm is used 42 times in the NIV Bible, 19 in the New King James, 17 in the King James. No matter how many times the word is written, we know storms are a part of our everyday life. One of the best-known storm stories is found in Luke 8 and Mark 4. The disciples were following Jesus' instructions. They got in the boat and set out. Jesus fell asleep. Out of nowhere, a storm came. When things got out of hand, they fell apart – fearful and doubting, even though Jesus was with them the whole time. On an ordinary day, trouble came for the disciples. Both accounts report that a furious squall came up. It's fair to say something like a furious squall came up in eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia a few days ago. Rivers overflowed their banks, plowing a path in places it never had before. Luke 8:23 tells us the boat was being swamped and they were in great danger. This week here in the mountains, people's homes were being swamped with dark brown flood water. Many were surrounded, trapped inside. They, too, were in danger. We are no stranger to storms. We live in the valleys, by the creeks, by the rivers. When the water begins to rise, so does the level

of fear. Fear of losing homes. Fear of death. Outsiders often wonder why those who have been flooded choose to stay. People stay because it's the property they or their family own. Most have no other options. They survive and rebuild as best they can. On Saturday night, a small army from our church made hundreds of sandbags to help one of our families protect their home from the raging water. We fell asleep praying the river would crest lower than expected. It did not. On Sunday, some of the water had receded. We helped other friends clean up the aftermath. The flood mud that remained was a cross between fudge and chocolate pudding – hard to get up with a shop vac. My beloved sloshed buckets of water to loosen the thick sludge. We shop vac-ed the first layer, squeegeed, mopped, changed the bleach water, and mopped again. The process was repeated over and over. (I was reminded why Clorox is always requested after floods.) We worked for hours clearing a few feet at a time. Every paper, every possession had to be looked at and decided upon. Flood recovery is overwhelming and too much to do alone. Family, friends, even strangers rally to help, clean, encourage. In Isaiah 43:2-3, we can be



Dawn Reed
reminded of God's promise and presence even when we can't see it, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you..." It doesn't say if we will pass through the waters, but when. The disciples woke Jesus in a panic, "Don't you care if we drown?" Of course He cared. They were just scared and cried out. There were two storms going on: the one outside and the one inside the disciples. Jesus got up and calmed them both. He can still do that today. As we prayed for the rain to stop this week, I thought of those in California who were affected by the wildfires and then the hurricane damage in North Carolina and Tennessee. Just this morning, it has snowed three inches, hindering the flood cleanup. Wildfires, hurricanes, floods, heavy snow. Storms of all kinds, but God will help us through each one.

Breaking the Rules

By Bryan Golden

We all grow up being indoctrinated with rules that limit us. The purveyors of this information are not malicious. They are simply passing along what they themselves have been taught. You are probably aware of one or more of the following rules. Decide for yourself if you have been limited by any of them. **Don't rock the boat** – This rule encourages conformity. Conformity offers a protection from criticism. But those who succeed don't care about criticism. They become adept at new or better ways of doing things in spite of opinions. **Nice guys finish last** – According to this maxim, being nice is a recipe for failure. Therefore, if you want to succeed you may have to compromise your ethics. In actuality, those who consistently do the best are nice, considerate, and concerned about the well-being of others. **It takes money to make money** – There are so many examples of wealthy individuals who have started from scratch, that it's odd this rule still persists at all. It's not what you know but who you know – Granted, networking with the right people can accelerate goal achievement. However, if you connect with the right people but have no expertise, any edge will be lost, and you will develop a reputation as a fraud. You don't have to start with connections. With persistence, you will meet the right people. **Be concerned about**

what others think – You have to do what is right for you. It doesn't matter what others say, think, or do. Follow your own path. **Don't take chances** – Living is taking a chance. Nothing is guaranteed. If something doesn't work out as desired, adjust your strategy and keep going. Virtually all achievement is the result of taking chances. **It's the way things have always been done** – If mankind had followed this rule, we would still be living in the Stone Age. Doing things differently leads to improvements. Ask questions. Don't perpetuate behavior that makes no sense. **Good things never last** – Life has its ups and downs. With the right attitude, effort, action and perseverance, you can have a lot more good than bad. Take an active role in what happens to you. Don't settle for what you don't want. **Don't put all your eggs in one basket** – This isn't necessarily a bad rule. The danger is that it detracts from your focus. Often it is better to put your eggs in one basket and then put all of your energy into guarding that basket. **You have to be lucky to succeed** – Of course luck

helps. But the harder you work, the more luck you'll have. Luck determines lottery winners. Effort determines success in life. Passively sitting around waiting for circumstances to improve won't yield any positive results. **Money is the root of all evil** – People use this one to justify why they are not earning as much as they would like. The original statement is that love of money is the root of all evil. Money is simply a tool that can be used for constructive or destructive purposes. Money is earned as a result of one's service to others. **Don't daydream** – Dreams are the foundation for all accomplishment. Thoughts of situations that don't yet exist are a great motivator. Dreams give a person a vision of what could be. All that has been accomplished throughout history started with a dream. Don't hesitate to break any rules that limit your success. If a rule doesn't help you or someone else, ignore it. Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com

Micro, from page 5

The Water Research Foundation (WRF) has found microplastic in fish and other marine animals. They reported that wastewater treatment plants and recovery facilities "are the largest sources of MPs (microplastics) into aquatic systems in the United States." One study showed facilities that could filter up to 98% of the microplastics out of the water still released an estimated 65 million particles back into the receiving waters every day. With this amount of microplastics being released into the ecosystem every day, other possible issues arising from them are being looked at. The discovery that microplastics are able to absorb and transport ambient pollutants such as PBDEs (flame retardants), PCBs (coolants), and other persistent organic pollutants is another reason for the growing concerns surrounding the massive plastic pollution happening now. Much like human skin, plastic can shed. Everything from plastic wrapped cheese, store bought salads, and our

favorite bottled water and sodas contain microplastics. But it goes much farther than that. Because of the tiny size of microplastics getting into the soil, even fruits and vegetables can absorb them up through the root system. Food sources are only one area of study. A study of how exposure to sunlight affects contact lens revealed shocking data. Out of 6 different types of contact lens from different sources, when worn 10 hours per day, the study showed a staggering 90,000 plastic particles could shed from lens in only one year. The effects of these microplastics being deposited directly into the eyes is yet unknown. Personal opinion: it doesn't sound great! Microplastics are able to enter through our mouth, skin, eyes and even the lungs. The manufacturing of certain products and even washing those soft fleece (plastic) sweaters, can release microplastics into the air we breathe. These tiny particles can linger in the air while traveling great distances. The air borne particles can seed cloud formations,

sometimes powerfully, and may have the potential to impact weather, temperature and, perhaps, even the climate. Some nanoplastics can be smaller than a virus, making it very difficult to block. Plastic is everywhere, including containers which store the foods we eat, clothes, car parts and medical devices. Avoiding them all is nearly impossible. Projections say that around 11 billion tons of plastic will have accumulated in the environment by this year. As this plastic waste breaks down into tiny particles, they begin infiltrating our bodies, maybe even taking up permanent residence. It is yet uncertain if microplastics can be removed from the body as easily as other toxins. The first step is by reducing as much exposure to plastic as we can. Try storing food and drinks in glass, such as high-quality canning jars. Avoid eating foods or drinking liquids that have been stored or prepared in plastic, eat fresh organic local produce, and using high quality water filters and HEPA air filters, especially when in high pollutant areas.

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WV TIER II Manager
EPCRA's Hazardous Chemical Inventory

WHO MUST FILE
Facilities must file a TIER II report that meet the reporting requirements established under Section 312 of SARA Title III, 40 CFR 370.
Facilities are required to report their Inventory of Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) stored at 500 pounds or the Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ), whichever is less.
Facilities must report any hazardous chemical for which a Safety Data Sheet is required under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, and which is stored in the amount of 10,000 pounds or more.

Due March 1

WV TIER II Manager
The State of West Virginia requires you to submit your TIER II reports online using "TIER II Manager".
https://westvirginia.hazconnect.com

WV State Emergency Response Commission
WVSERC
serc@wv.gov
(304) 957-8367

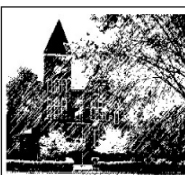
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16792 Seneca Trail, Buckeye **304-799-4171**

Midweek Lenten Services
Marlinton Presbyterian Church
Gather at noon for a 30-minute service each Wednesday during Lent. Pastors from local churches will be the guest speakers. Brown bag lunch and conversation following the service. Everyone welcome.

March 5 • David Moore, Young Life
March 12 • Pastor Carmen LaRue, United Methodist Parish
March 19 • Pastor Paul Schaffer, Mountain Lutheran Parish
March 26 • Pastor Angela Lambert, Mountain Lutheran Parish
April 2 • Fr. Arturo Bufogle, Jr., Pocahontas Roman Catholic Parish
April 9 • Pastor David Lee, Marlinton Presbyterian Church
April 16: Pastor Lee Bailey, First Baptist Church, Huntersville

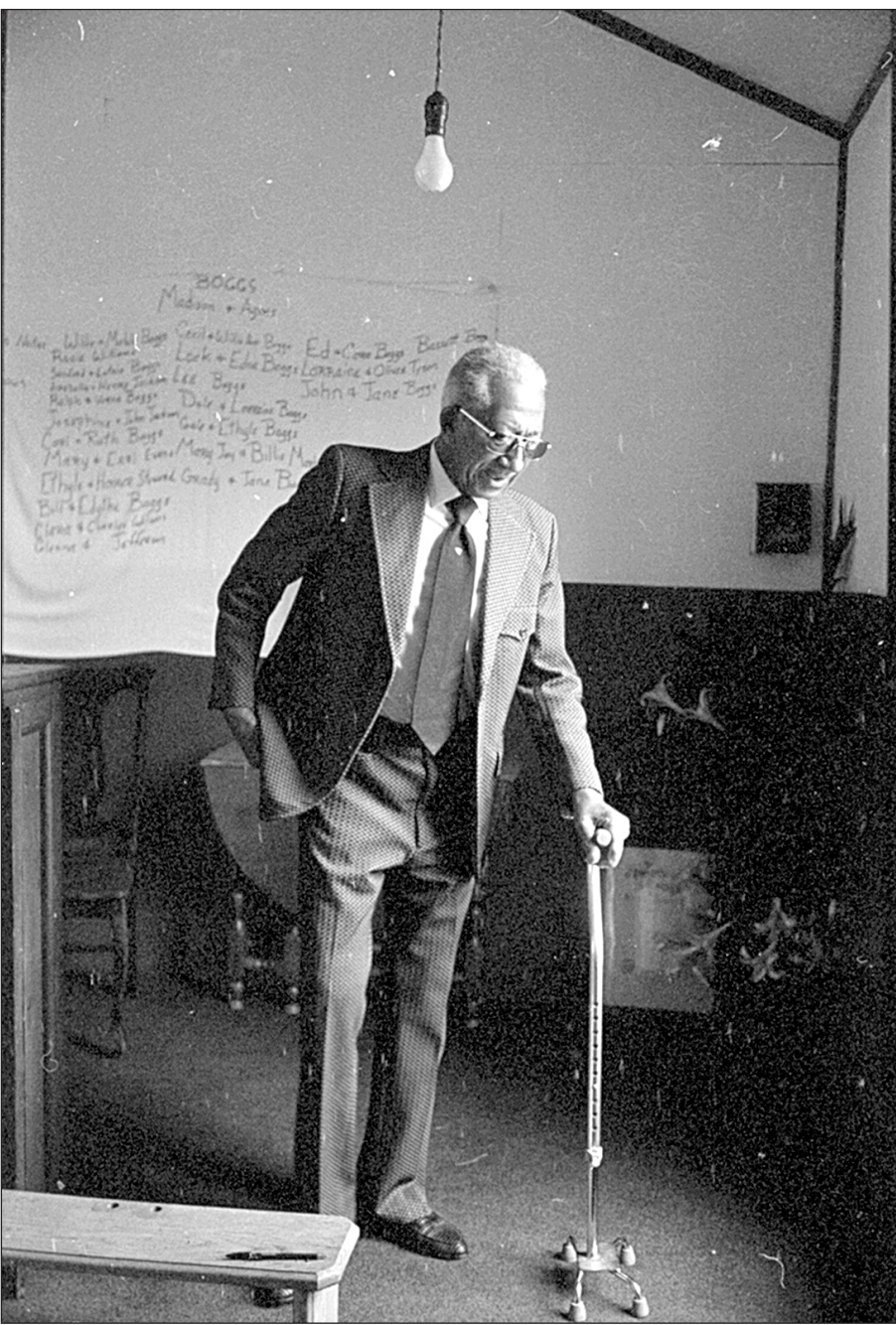
March 5 • 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday service, Marlinton Presbyterian Church
April 10 • 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion Service, Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro.



Preserving Pocahontas

B. J. Gudmundsson, Preservation Officer

Sanford Boggs at Wilson Chapel - 1996



CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY Month. On October 23, 1996, Rev. Sanford Boggs and local photographer Doug Chadwick visited Wilson Chapel Methodist Church at Brownsburg, three miles northeast of Marlinton. The church was started in 1905 on land deeded to the congregation by Joseph Wilson. The building was originally an old school which was moved to the present site. The church is no longer active.

This photograph was taken as Rev. Boggs steps away from the pulpit of his old home church where he pastored for many years. Behind him, on the wall, is a hand-written list of family members who attended Wilson Chapel over the years:

Madison and Agnes Boggs. Willie and Mable Boggs. Rosie Williams. Sanford and Lutica Boggs. Arabella and Henry Jackson. Ralph and Verna Boggs. Josephine and John Jackson. Carl and Ruth Boggs. Mary and Earl Evans. Ethyle and Homer Stewart. Bill and Edythe Boggs. Clara and Charles Wilson. Glenna Jefferson. Cecil and Willie Ann Boggs. Lock and Edna Boggs. Dale and Lorraine Boggs. Gale and Ethyle Boggs. Mary Joy and Billie Martin. Grady and Jane Boggs. Ed and Cora Boggs. Lorraine and Oliver Tyson. John and Jane Boggs. Bassett Boggs.

(The Douglas B. Chadwick Collection, Courtesy of Deborah Clearman and the Doug Chadwick Estate; ID: PHP010068)

Access the “Preserving Pocahontas” Digital Library at www.pocahontaspreservation.org or www.preservingpocahontas.org

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

Footsteps through History

The Pocahontas Times
Andrew Price, Editor

Thursday,
March 1, 1900

Mrs. Mary Ruckman, an aged lady living near Edray, met with a serious accident last Thursday. She was feeding some sheep, and they crowded around her so closely that she was knocked down and so severely injured that she could not get up. She lay upon the ground for an hour or so before she was found. She has been dangerously ill from the effects of the hurt and exposure.

Miss Mary I. McNeel and sisters, Misses Pauline and Maggie, daughters of the late Captain William L. McNeel, will leave for the State of Washington about March 20th to make their home with their uncle Henry McNeel.

The Brownstown correspondent of the West Virginia News says that the tunnel near that town is something aver 400 feet in length. The work is about half done and will be completed on the time limit.

MAIL CARRIERS

The decisive action taken by the 2nd Assistant Postmaster General under which he will not accept bids from syndicates or anyone for a star route mail contract who does not live near the route will meet with decided approval all over the country.

Of late years, when the mail routes of this section were to be let to contract, the notices were posted in the post offices here, but they attracted but little attention for it was a foregone conclusion that some foreigner would bid it in at a starvation price, and come on here to look for a subcontractor to take it at something less than the bid...

Very often a good service would be given but usually the mail boys are poorly paid, and the stock used on the mail route are sorry specimens of horse flesh...

FROST

Very cold weather at present with about 12 inches of snow.

Mumps and measles are plentiful in this part and some people seem to be scared quite a bit over the smallpox.

How many people in the Frost community will throw in and buy a lounge for the Frost loafers to lie on in the store? They are getting tired hanging up against the wall.

Mrs. Jennie Williams, wife of T. J. Williams died at her home in this place Saturday morning about 3 o'clock. She had been a long sufferer.

Mrs. John Wanless died at her home about 3 miles from this place of pneumonia. She had been sick about 15 days before medical aid was called and then it was too

late, as she was dying when the doctor arrived.

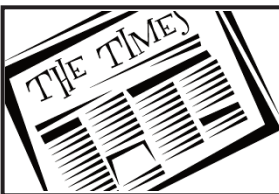
Mrs. Williams Bussard has been postmistress at this place for several days owing to the measles striking our postmistress.

The reported case of mumps at Gilmore Sharp's has proven to be a gumboil on the back of the neck.

The people at Monterey are so badly frightened that you hardly ever see a professional man on the streets. It is reported that they are preparing dugouts for them on Lawyer Square. They have quarantined against Pocahontas before ascertaining whether or not Pocahontas has the smallpox, while at the same time there are two cases in Crabbottom. We hardly believe there is a case of smallpox in Pocahontas, but a genuine case of Cuban Chicken pox. They should ascertain to a certainty whether or not Pocahontas has the dreaded disease before tearing their shirts and not let one man worth his millions frighten the whole town.

We send the following nut for the teachers to crack: a mother gave to each of her sons 30 apples to sell. Johnny sold his at two for a cent and brought home 15 cents. Clark disposed of his lot at three for a cent, returning 10 cents; their combined sales amounting to 25 cents. On the following day, the mother went out with 60 apples and sold them at the rate of five for two cents, receiving 24 cents, for the lot. Where is the missing one cent?

see History pg 12



Fifty Years Ago

Jane Price Sharp, Editor

Thursday,
February 27, 1975

Thunder and lightning early Sunday morning. The thunder and the mild weather woke up the frogs for a few croaks. Snow again Tuesday.

NEW RECORD

“Bill Hefner Picks Mill Point” is a new recording just out, the first featuring Bill by himself. Accompanying him are the Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys and they have three records. The man on the fiddle is Joe Meadows, who is now playing with Jim and Jessie on the Grand Ole Opry.

BASKETBALL

The Warriors traveled to Wardsville and upset the home team in overtime by the score of 85-83. The PCHS five trailed the whole game but managed to fight for a tie 76-76 at the end of regular time. The Warriors proved to be the better team in the next three minutes however, outhitting War-

densville 9-7. Coming through in the overtime period were Ryder with 1 point, Cassell and Cutlip with 4 points each. Ryder and Jones each had a steal and Jones claimed a blocked shot in the overtime battle.

Four Warriors hit in double figures, Gary Sharp tallied 11, Richy Doyle 17, Gary Cassell 24 and Jim Cutlip 28.

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry White, of Marlinton, a son, Olie Wade.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bennett, of Slaty Fork, a son, Steven Kelley.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Paul Ottaviano, of Webster, New York, a son, Richard Paul, Jr. The mother is the former Harriet Johnson.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. David Mallow, of Circleville, a son, Jared David. The mother is the former Shirley Shinaberry.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. William R. Murphy, of Har-

risonburg, Virginia, a son, Christopher Patrick. The mother is the former Vicki Hensil.

DEATHS

Callis “Skip” Hoover, 63, of Marlinton, a son of the late James A. and Mary F. Kee Hoover. Funeral service held from the VanReenen Funeral Home Chapel with burial in the Mountain View Cemetery.

Lonnie C. Burns, 87, of Hillsboro; born at Little Valley, Virginia, a son of the late George C. and Mary Etta Trainer Burns. Funeral service from the Hamilton Chapel at Bolar, Virginia with burial in the Bolar Cemetery.

Clyde Wright McDowell, 83, of Marlinton; born at Brownsburg, a son of the late Harry and Sallie McDowell. Funeral service from the Wilson Chapel United Methodist Church with burial in the Brownsburg Cemetery.

James E. White, 55, of Renick, a son of Blaine White and the late Keturah White. Funeral service from the Jack K. Wallace Funeral Home Chapel with burial in the Rosewood Cemetery.

Seventy-Five Years Ago

Calvin W. Price, Editor

Thursday, March 9, 1950

Last Friday was another day down in the settlement. The trip was once upon a time a 10-day journey over and back to Fairmont. The occasion was a party and a bit of pageantry in connection with groundbreaking for a twelve million dollar addition by the Monongahela Power Company to their plant in Riversville.

The mayors and the editors of almost a score of communities were invited in, and most of us came. In the mid forenoon, we all stepped from chariots by the banks of the Monongahela. It had come on to rain. There on a plot between railroad and river, were a goodly company gathered for ceremonial breaking of ground...

The unusual happened up at the farm home of neighbor Forest Underwood on Beaver Creek. On March 1, it was their good luck to have their good young Guernsey cow bring twins – both heifers. They are of average size, rich cream yellow with white faces and are doing fine. They have been named Dawn and Dreama.

Over in Grant County, the report comes that foxes are afflicted with mange. Out of 23 recently trapped, only six were in good physical condition. This is one of the ways in which nature cuts down wildlife populations when it becomes too heavy.

FIELD NOTES

Here it is Friday morning again, with the thermometer on the zero mark. Ten days ago, farmers were bringing in word of hearing grouse drumming and other signs of spring.

Turk McLaughlin, Harry King and the rest make report of eleven foxes killed on Red Lick and Gay Knob. The estimate is there are fully a hundred foxes remaining. This report is from a single pack of hounds. Several other packs have been operating on Elk Mountain, with good success.

Last Tuesday afternoon, Fred Trainer, of Rider Gap, was in town with three head of wildcats. He had been down the National Forest road beyond High Top and got the cats on the head of Meadow Creek. One was a

big tom, weighing 27 pounds; the other two were females and much smaller. The week before he got a bobcat which had fed heavily on fresh deer meat.

Recently Mr. Trainer put his hounds on a smart old bobcat. The dogs would put him up a tree, and then he would jump out ahead of the hunter. This was kept up until some eight miles of forest was traveled before he was brought down.

Neighbor Clark Young said his interest was aroused by reference in last week's paper to the ghosts of Droop Mountain. In his young days these were common topics of conversation. He mentioned a big old farmhouse, occupied by a prosperous family. The length of the threshold of the front door was an almost solid row of the old time cut nails. The big idea was to keep out ghosts. That it worked is well proven by the fact that ghosts no longer pester there. I take no stock in the belief that a mere row of rusty nails would keep out a ghost which could pass through solid walls regardless. However, cut nails properly driven, in the dark of the moon as token of words fitly spoken, by a man born with a veil, is something else again

see 75 pg 12

100-Years-Ago in The Pocahontas Times

Calvin W. Price, Editor

Thursday,
February 26, 1925

G. M. S. BURNS

On last Saturday morning, two large buildings of the Greenbrier Military School were destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at \$200,000, partially covered by insurance. It is not known how the fire started. The new barracks, gymnasium and infirmary building were saved. This is one of the best preparatory schools in the country. The cadets have been sent home for a few weeks.

FISHING

And Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, we also go with thee. They went forth and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.

That fish story is from the Bible. The next morning, through a miracle, they caught one hundred and fifty-three great fishes at one haul.

Note that from the ancient translation that one does not go fishing. He goes a fishing. There is a difference. Fishing is fishing, but “a fishing,” is much more. To say it another way, it is not all of fishing to

fish. A fishing includes the long period of planning, the going, the getting the feet and other portions wet, the coming home and the accounting. It is a perfect part of a life.

The other day, I saw two men slipping away toward the mouth of the creek with a load of cane poles and hope. This is a harbinger of spring. It was the beginning of the sucker fishing. The mild indulgence of this form of dissipation. Some call it pegged down fishing, for it is a waiting game. Patience and yet more patience.

As I look back over a mis-spent life, of all the bad habits that I acquired, I think that fishing is the most tolerable. The disease ran its course in a period of 37 years. The sporadic outbreaks have become fewer until fishing has of life become a thing apart, and not its whole existence.

The sucker was the first fish that I caught that was big enough to bring home and I think it was at the age

of seven years that I was first able to bring in enough for a mess. I do not think I can be mistaken about that age, though when I look at a seven-year-old these days, I cannot imagine him being a source of supply. But they sent boys to mill mighty young in those days...

FROM FLORIDA

Dear Editor;
The Times has just been received and it is like getting a letter from home.

On Wednesday, the 11th, we started on a touring trip; we went from Orlando, 100 miles to Tampa. On our way we saw some very reckless driving; two big motor trucks ran together, and one knocked a wheel off the other and sent about 100 orange boxes into the air, but the drivers were not seriously hurt. Farther on, a big truck struck our car in the rear and bent a fender for us, but fortunately we pulled ahead without being run over...

On going across to the Gulf coast, we traveled through a great strawberry section. Every quarter or half mile we would see boys standing by the roadside

see 100 pg 12



THE LAW OFFICE OF

MICHAEL C. DOSS

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

ADMINISTRATION TO CREDITORS, DISTRIBUTIBLES & 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 commissione.

First Publication Date: Thursday, February 27, 2025
Claim Deadline: Monday, April 28, 2025

ESTATE NUMBER: **14659**
ESTATE OF: **JOHN MICHEAL KINNISON**
ADMINSTRATRIX: Kathryn Mikaela Kinnison
153 Canterbury Drive
Martinsburg, WV 25403

ESTATE NUMBER: **14697**
ESTATE OF: **PATRICIA SUE KERNS**
CO-EXECUTRIX: Stevie Jean Loftis
P. O. Box 239
Bryson City, NC 28713-0239
CO-EXECUTRIX: Jessica Loftis Camacho
2522 Balltown Road
Bryson City, NC 28713-9735

ESTATE NUMBER: **14723**
ESTATE OF: **RANDALL L. JOHNSON**
ADMINISTRATRIX: Amber Sharp
1161 Jerico Road
Marlinton, WV 24954-6858

ESTATE NUMBER: **14733**
ESTATE OF: **BRENT ALLEN LUCABAUGH**
ADMINISTRATRIX: Kristi Lynn Dinkins
9558 Seneca Trail
Hillsboro, WV 24946-8781

ESTATE NUMBER: **14734**
ESTATE OF: **WAYNE CURTIS BROWN**
EXECUTRIX: Debbie Ervine
1788 Buffalo Mountain Road
Arbovale, WV 24915-5525

Subscribed and sworn to before me on February 21, 2025.
Melissa L. Bennett
Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission
2/27/2c

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 Craig A. Gilson and bearing date the 11th day of March, 2022, and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 406, at page 164, the maker, 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, Pendleton Community Bank, Inc., having

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

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 10th day of March, 2025, at 1:30 p.m., at the front steps of the Pocahontas County Courthouse in the Town of Marlinton, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, the premises, being and consisting of the following:**

All of that certain tract or parcel of real estate, including the improvements, appurtenances and easements thereunto belonging, situate in the Edray District of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, in the Erehwon Subdivision, situated on the waters of Clover Creek, and on Secondary Route 9, better known as the Linwood Road or Clover Creek Road and being more particularly described as follows:

PROUD FEATHER
BEGINNING at a ½ inch iron pipe set in a hollow, on the west side of a run, and a corner to Lots White Fox and Dream Weaver, thence leaving White Fox and with Dream Weaver for the next 2 lines

S 27-29-42 E 276.07 feet to a ½ inch iron pipe set, on the bank below the road by a Thorn tree, thence

S 19-17-35 W 54.13 feet to a point in the center of two 40 foot wide right of ways, thence leaving Dream Weaver and with the center of a 40 foot wide right of way and running with land still owned by Jonathan and Sandra Ridley

N 67-31-12 W 214.42 feet to a point in C/L, thence
N 65-04-13 W 132.94 feet to a point in C/L, thence
N 55-06-16 W 69.18 feet to a point in C/L, thence
N 60-58-54 W 113.96 feet to a point in C/L, thence
N 53-57-15 W 89.47 feet to a point in C/L, thence
N 55-42-20 W 152.16 feet to a point in C/L, thence
N 46-05-55 W 21.71 feet to a point in C/L, thence
N 15-40-27 W 16.82 feet to a point in C/L, thence leaving the center line of said 40 foot right of way and cutting through the lands of Jonathan and Sandra Ridley

N 58-46-53 W 67.01 feet to a ½ inch iron pipe set in a hollow on the east side of a run, from which a 7 inch Locust bears N 41 E 1.20 feet, thence

N 45-58-03 W 685.03 feet to a ½ inch pipe found in a fence corner, on top of a ridge, a corner to Beckwith Lumber Co., Inc., thence leaving Ridley and with Beckwith Lumber Co., Inc., and running along a fence line for 1 line

N 28-11-09 E 347.22 feet crossing a deep hollow to a ½ inch iron pipe set on the east side of hollow of the hillside, a corner to Lot Stone Heart, thence leaving Beckwith Lumber Co., and with Lot Stone for 1 line

S 75-57-52 E 362.56 feet to a ½ inch iron pipe set on the east side of a run on a little point, a corner to Lot White Fox, from which a 7 inch Buckeye bears N 11 E 11.0 feet, thence leaving Stone Heart and with White Fox for the next 3 lines running down the hollow

S 40-13-37 E 452.83 feet to a ½ inch iron pipe set on the west side of the run, thence

N 34-19-15 E 255.42 feet to a ½ inch iron pipe set on the west side of the run, thence

S 33-02-29 E 332.63 feet to the point of beginning containing 13.59 acres, more or less, as surveyed by William E. Dilley, LLS of Dunmore, West Virginia, in December 2000.

And being the same tract or parcel of real estate as acquired by Craig A. Gilson, by the provisions of a Deed of Conveyance from

Pocahontas County Board of Education Surplus Sale

The Pocahontas County Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for the sale of several **items listed on Pocahontas County Schools website at https://5il.co/38if**

Call Patrick Gibson or Sherry Radcliff, 304-799-4505, for more information and to schedule an appointment to see items between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. March 3-7 and March 10-14, 2025.

Bids are to be sent to Pocahontas County Board of Education, Attn: Sherry Radcliff, 404 Old Buckeye Road, Buckeye, WV 24924 by 2 p.m. Monday, March 17, 2025.

Bids may be mailed, delivered by courier or hand delivered. Faxed and emailed bids will not be accepted. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that bids arrive prior to deadline.

Mark envelope "Surplus".
The Pocahontas County Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject bids in whole or in part.

The items are sold as is, at their locations without liability to the Board.

2/27/2c

ACCEPTING BIDS 2025 OR NEWER VEHICLE

The Pocahontas County Commission will be accepting bids for a vehicle for Process Service for use by the Pocahontas County Sheriff's Department.

All bids should be submitted in writing and placed in a sealed envelope marked "Sealed Bid – Pocahontas County Sheriff's Department Vehicle" and delivered by mail or in person to the Pocahontas County Commission, 900 Tenth Ave, Marlinton, WV 24954 **no later than March 14, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.**

Bid Specifications for the vehicle are as follows:
2025 or newer vehicle; Black; Four Door; Four Wheel Drive; Jet Black, Cloth; Remote Keyless Entry; Transmission: 8-Speed Automatic; Rear Axle: 3.42 Ratio; Engine: 310 HP 430 lb. Ft Torque; Tires: 255/65R17 All-Season, Blackwall; Wheels: 17" x 8.0", Ultra Silver Metallic Steel; Spare Wheel: 17" x 8.0" Steel; Spare Tire: 255/65R17 All-Season, Blackwall; Cruise Control; Safety Package; Floor Covering, Carpet; Electric Rear Window Defogger; Single-Zone Manual Air Conditioning; Interior Rearview Tilt Mirror; Automatic Emergency Braking; Blind Zone Steering Assist; Audio System Feature, 6-Speaker System; HD Rear Vision Camera; Front Recovery Hooks; Communication Equip Mobile Internet Connectivity; Deep Tinted Glass; 6250 GVWR.

Bids will be opened in the Office of the County Commission located in the Pocahontas County Courthouse, on Tuesday March 18, 2025, at 5:45 p.m.

For further information, please inquire at the Pocahontas County Clerk's Office at 304-799-4549, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The Pocahontas County Commission reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to continue this matter from time to time as may be necessary.

John Rebinski, President
Pocahontas County Commission
2/27/2c

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Stephen K. Reed and Teresa S. Reed, husband and wife, said Deed bearing date the 20th day of October, 2021, and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 397, at page 35.

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 Pendleton Community Bank, Inc. 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 5th day of February, 2025.
Michael C. Doss, Trustee
2/13/3c

ARE YOU SUBJECT TO HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX?

Notice is hereby given of the Hotel Occupancy Tax for Pocahontas County, West Virginia.

The Hotel Occupancy tax applies to "any person who offers to the public for consideration sleeping accommodations which includes but is not limited to boarding houses, hotels, motels, inns, courts, condominiums, lodges, cabins, tourist homes, and private homes providing three (3) or more rooms or private homes, providing less than three (3) rooms for more than ten (10) days in a calendar year."

All persons subject to hotel occupancy tax shall bear the legal responsibility to properly and timely register with the Sheriff of Pocahontas County; to properly and timely file with the Sheriff the monthly return established by the Assessor; and, to properly and timely remit all hotel occupancy tax due to Pocahontas County as required.

In the event the Sheriff shall determine by investigation any willful violation of the hotel occupancy stature or the Order of the Pocahontas County Commission, the Sheriff shall forthwith provide such information and investigation to the Prosecuting Attorney for prosecution of such person under West Virginia Law and the Prosecuting Attorney shall pursue all appropriate criminal penalties. Such prosecution shall be in addition to any and all fines and monetary penalties.

A copy of the Pocahontas County Hotel Occupancy Tax Order can be obtained by calling the Pocahontas County Assessor's office at 304-799-4750 or by going to its website: www.pocahontascountyassessor.com

2/27/2c

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 **MARCH 11, 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: 014; CONTRACT: 2024380014; STATE PROJECT: S338-219-22.43 00; FEDERAL PROJECT: NFA-0219(435)D; DESCRIPTION: SLIDE REPAIR W/PILING; ELK MTN. PILING WALL; ENDING POINT OF PILING WALL & RESURFACING PROJECT ON CENTERLINE; COUNTY: POCAHONTAS.

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
2/20/2c

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Answers

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Director, from page 1

daughter and a son, who have enjoyed experiencing the attractions of Pocahontas County, including the telescopes, but haven't been inspired to follow in their dad's footsteps.

"It's incredible to watch them pursue a completely different path than I did and that's great," he said. "I did something completely different from what my parents did and so that's what they want to pursue. That's their passion. I'm supportive of that."

They are both into the arts with one looking at interior design and architecture, while the other is interested in game art and design.

Remijan has been at Green Bank for just two weeks now, but he hit the

ground running and is focused on setting goals for the future.

"We're coming into an interesting time where we're looking at what our next decade is of what we want to do as an observatory," he said. "We have some strategic initiatives that we're looking at — scientifically and technically."

"We have Breakthrough Listen which was a great initiative to kind of advance that search for techno-signatures; we have the astrochemistry that was really important to my science, but the question is — are those things going to take us into the next ten years?" he continued. "They've done well for the observatory in the past, but what are we looking for toward the future."

Since he is still evaluating and learning more about the observatory, Remijan said he doesn't have any specific

goals in mind, but he knows he wants to reach out to the scientific community as well as the local community.

"That's my big goal here," he said. "We want to get people excited about science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and we want to get as many folks here as we can to see what we do here and see that it's important, not just for science — it brings jobs to the area; it brings new opportunities to the area."

"My goals are to really look at the next ten years of what the GBT is going to do scientifically and technically," he continued. "We're going to reach out more to the scientific community — get them interested in our new initiatives and what we're going to do; and then be a good steward to the community here in Pocahontas County."

Remijan said he is always

open to talk to anyone about the observatory and his job there.

"My door is open," he said. "I'm happy to talk to people as they want to know more about me or about the observatory. If anyone is interested, they can feel free to come and talk to me, especially about science. I think that some of the science that we do and some of the science that I do — even if you don't understand all the technicalities of everything — it's just interesting that we do it here at Green Bank."

"It's unique and it's not done anywhere else," he continued. "I think that we, as an observatory, are very proud of what we do here, and I think West Virginia should be really proud of what we do here."

Suzanne Stewart may be contacted at sastewart@pocahontastimes.com

Journey, from page 1

Temporary High School Classrooms

In 1918, when Marlinton High School burned down, the Opera House stepped in to provide a temporary home for the school's classes. The building became an impromptu educational space, ensuring that students could continue their studies amidst the challenges of rebuilding.

A Place for Worship

The Opera House also served as a place of worship in 1915. While the old Presbyterian Church in Marlinton was torn down and a new one was being constructed, the congregation held services in the Opera House. This period of transition highlighted the building's versatility and importance to the community.

Storage and Business Ventures

Over the years, the Opera House's spacious interior was repurposed in various ways. It stored feed and later became a Ford dealership, with cars displayed inside

the historic building. In 1977, it was purchased by Glades Building Supply and used as a storage facility for lumber, reflecting the area's ongoing ties to the timber industry.

A New Chapter Begins

In 1991, the Pocahontas County Historic Landmarks Commission purchased the Opera House with the dream of restoring it to its former glory. This marked the beginning of an ambitious renovation effort to transform the building back into a cultural hub. After years of hard work and dedication, the Opera House reopened in 1999, once again hosting performances and bringing the arts to the heart of Marlinton.

From its days as a basketball court to its role as a Ford dealership, the Opera House has worn many hats over the years.

These chapters of its history remind us of the resilience and adaptability of both the building and the community it serves. Stay tuned as we continue to share more stories from the past and celebrate the enduring legacy of the Pocahontas County Opera House!

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dependable, able to work 48 hours per week, drug free, and have reliable transportation. Experience wanted but willing to train. If interested contact Ed Bryant at 304-799-4399 after 6 p.m. 2/27/2p

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FREE - Old newspapers to start your fireplace or woodstove. The Pocahontas Times office. 9/26/tfn

CHIEF RANGER POSITION

The Snowshoe Resort Community District (SRCD) Ranger Department is currently accepting applications for Chief Ranger. All certified, experienced law enforcement officers are encouraged to apply. The SRCD is an equal opportunity employer. This position offers competitive salary, vacation and paid medical benefits. Interested, qualified candidates should submit their résumé to the SRCD District Manager, Lisa Cutlip, at lisa.cutlip@snowshoedistrict.com



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https://www.dvauction.com/video_catalogs/11354-genetic-alliance-bull-22nd-annual-3-8-25

Emergency Management Specialist

Pocahontas County Emergency Management Office is seeking a part-time Emergency Management Specialist to assist with projects supporting emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts. This position involves administrative, logistical, and operational duties.

Requirements:

- Strong organizational and communication skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office & Google Apps
- Valid driver's license required
- Background check required

Preferred candidates will have knowledge of emergency management principles and be willing to complete required FEMA online courses within six months of employment.

For more details, contact Michael O'Brien, Director, mobrien@pocahontascountywv.gov

To apply, mail résumé and three references to: Director Michael O'Brien, Pocahontas County EM/911 Center, 1008 Jury Street Marlinton, WV 24954 or email to mobrien@pocahontascountywv.gov

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Join us in making a difference in our community!

Walgreens

NOTICE - PHARMACY CLOSURES

Walgreens at 173 Main Street, Clay
closed February 18, 2025.

Prescription records will be available at all Walgreens including our location at 8 Elk Drive, Elkview, WV 25071

Walgreens at 19258 Seneca Trail,
Marlinton closed February 20, 2025.

Prescription records will be available at all Walgreens including our location at 18116 Webster Road, Craigsville, WV 26205

If you have questions before April 3, 2025, please contact the Walgreens Pharmacy staff at 732-364-5121. Patients have the right to obtain copies of prescriptions and/or patient profile.

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Calendar, from page 4

Public Library Thursdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. fo ages five and younger.

PARKS AND REC
Pickleball Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Wellness Center.

Yoga at Durbin Library, Tuesdays through March 11, 5 p.m. \$7/class or \$35/6-week series. Call 304-799-7386 to register.

Jiggle, Wiggle and Giggle, Creative Movement in two locations: Linwood Center Wednesdays and the Community Wellness Center on Fridays. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. both locations. Call 304-799-7386.

Dance Class with instructor Adrienne Cedarleaf. Thursdays, February 27 to May 1, at Hillsboro School, ages 4 and 5 from 4 to 5:45 p.m.; ages 6 to 10 from 5 to 6 p.m. Fridays, February 28 to May 2, at the Wellness Center, ages 5 to 8 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., ages 9 to 12 from 4:45 to 6 p.m. Class size limited. Registration required. Call 304-799-7386.

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

LENTEN SERVICES
Ash Wednesday Service March 5, 7 p.m. at Marlinton Presbyterian Church. Everyone welcome.

Midweek Lenten Services Wednesdays at Marlinton Presbyterian Church; 30-minute service begins at noon. March 5, Guest Speaker David Moore, of Young Life. March 12, Pastor Carmen LaRue, of Marlinton United Methodist

Church. March 19, Pastor Paul Schaffer, Mountain Lutheran Parish. March 26, Pastor Angela Lambert, Mountain Lutheran Parish. April 2 Fr. Arturo Bufogle, Jr. Pocahontas Catholic Parish. April 9, Pastor David Lee, Marlinton Presbyterian Church April 16, Pastor Lee Bailey, First Baptist Church – Huntersville.

CHURCH NOTICES
Grace and Truth Home Fellowship – Sunday, Worship 11 a.m. Tuesday, Prayer 7 p.m. Located in Arbovale. Call Jim at 304-456-3255 for directions.

Marlinton United Methodist Church – Worship at 11 a.m. Parking lot service on 90.3 FM radio or join us on Facebook. Office hours, Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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.

Library, from page 3

(For the youngsters out there – microfiche is an old analog way of preserving information. Documents would be photographed, with the photos reduced to a tiny size and printed on transparent sheets. A microfiche reader enlarged the photos to usable size. Many of the library's older records are stored this way.)

Maple, from page 3

Monterey offer additional meal options.

More than 100 juried arts and crafts vendors will be in Monterey and McDowell, providing one-of-a-kind treasures, tasty food, and special gifts. Admission to access vendors at the Highland County Public School Gyms and The Highland Center will be \$5 purchased onsite (children 12 and under are free). That \$5 payment comes with a collectible

It's Pam's knowledge of the collection that is the key that unlocks their real value. If we don't have the answers in our collection, she'll track them down elsewhere. Where possible, we'll add what she finds to our own collection. Right now, we're waiting on the arrival of a short book titled *Caesar Mountain: Slavery and Freedom in Western Virginia*.

Pam's prowess as a genealogy sleuth is well-known outside the library, as

well. "People just call me up," she says. "They start by calling the museum or the newspaper, and they always tell everyone 'call the library and ask for Pam.'" Helping people make use of our history collection is the best part of the job, Pam tells me. And of helping track down Caesar? "It's my favorite thing I've done this whole year," Pam said.

maple leaf keychain that also provides access to 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. entertainment at The Highland Center.

Each day of the festival will also feature at least two live shows at The Highland Center.

This year, a shuttle service in Monterey will be expanded to all four days of the festival to help reduce traffic congestion. B & L's Mountain Safe Transportation will provide a complimentary shuttle service from the Monterey Stockyard to near the Highland County Public Schools, a new stop near the Mill Gap Ruritan Doughnut

trailer, and a stop at The Highland Center.

Traditional hours of the festival are Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., though visitors can get a jumpstart to the day with maple doughnuts being served at 6 a.m. and pancake meals starting as early as 7 a.m. Full details on all the festival happenings can be found at www.highlandcounty.org/maple-festival, with posts highlighting the festival available at www.facebook.com/HighlandCounty and www.instagram.com/highland_county_va.

Court, from page 2

Joshua Devore Kincaid, 39, of Marlinton, pleaded no contest February 18 to a charge of driving while license suspended or revoked. Kincaid was assessed \$281.48 in court costs and fines.

Sylvia A. Amos, 51, of Marlinton, pleaded guilty February 20 to a charge of possession of a controlled substance without a valid

prescription. Amos was assessed \$281.48 in court costs and fines.

In Magistrate Jennifer Dunz's court:

Christopher J. Morrison, 22, of Marlinton, pleaded guilty January 30 to a charge of unsafe and improperly equipped vehicle. Morrison was assessed \$191.48 in court costs and fines.

Jacob N. Smith, 26, of Ar-

lington, Virginia, pleaded guilty January 3 to a charge of speeding. Smith was assessed \$201.48 in court costs and fines.

Cara Elizabeth Bias, 21, of Ona, pleaded no contest to a charge of operation without certificate of inspection or failure to produce certificate. Bias was assessed \$191.48 in court costs and fines.

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100, from page 7

with a basket of strawberries in their hands. They would even venture out in the road to get cars to stop. We called at one place to see what the berries were worth, and the little boy, about 10 years of age, said that just a few minutes before that, his brother had stepped out too far in the road and was knocked down and turned over three or four times. They had taken him home. I asked the boy if his brother was much hurt, and he said he did not know. He seemed to think nothing of it, and was staying with his job, selling strawberries. We could buy the finest strawberries along the road for 10 cents a quart. In the cities they are selling for 40 cents. We bought several quarts, brought them home with us and Mrs. Sharp is

L. D. Sharp, Orlando, Fla.

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

A goodly number of persons attended the Parent-Teacher Association at the High School last Friday. The Woman's Club and the Kiwanis Club were both present in a body. The object of the meeting was to acquaint people with the problems which now confront our District High School. Professor G. D. McNeill, the principal, gave a clear and detailed outline of the work of his school; how it was already handicapped for room and equipment, with 169 pupils in a plant which was designed to adequately care for 100 pupils...

The above refers to the present requirements but what of the future? Last fall about a score of students were discouraged from coming to the Edray District High School because there was no place for them...

DEATH

James Buchanon Galford, 78, died at his home near Cass February 17, 1925. Burial in the Wanless Cemetery, the service being conducted by Rev. L. S. Shires.

COW NOTICE

Notice is given to all persons having cows with horns running at large in Marlinton, that there is an ordinance prohibiting horned cows at large in the town. This ordinance will be enforced. The owner of any horned cow will please have her dehorned.

By Order of Town Council

75, from page 7

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Leonard Moses, a daughter Linda Zora. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Moore, of Marlinton, a daughter, Dorrine Sue. Born to Mr. and Mrs. William Sherman Beard, of Hillsboro, a daughter, Katherine Ann. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Lester Stonewall Turner, of Cass, a son.

DEATHS

James Webster "Webb" Palmer, aged 55, of Marlinton; funeral held from the home of his sister, Mrs. Edd

Jackson; burial in Mountain View Cemetery. The deceased was a son of Mrs. Rosa Palmer, of Marlinton, and the late George William Palmer.

George W. Lytton, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Z. M. Hanks, at Covington, Virginia. The funeral was conducted in the Loving Funeral Home at Covington with graveside service at Arbovale by the Rev. Harry Blackhurst, of Cass, who has been a friend of the family for many years... Mr. Lytton was one of the early bench carpenters and many of the buildings, both in his former home and in the county, stand as monuments to his skill.

Bedford W. Alderman, aged 67 years, died at his home on Anthony's Creek. Burial was in the Alderman family cemetery on Douthards Creek, the service being conducted from Cochran Creek church. The deceased is survived by his wife and 10 children. Thus, note is made of the passing of an upright, industrious useful citizen.

News has been received of the recent death of John Howard, aged 86 years, at Foundford, Michigan. He was a brother of the late Judson Howard, of Buckeye, whom he used to visit. He was a newspaper writer and the author of several books.

History, from page 7

INIDAN DRAFT

The measles are still a legal tender in this part. Billy Gay is just recovering from a dose of measles and all of his family have it. Several others in this neighborhood have been exposed. The smallpox scare in this part was huge but seems to be subsiding a little now.

BROWNS CREEK

We had a regular snow blizzard here Saturday and the thermometer registered 9 below zero Sunday morning. Pole cat hunting is the order of the day up here. A good many have been

caught. If all the people of the county would get vaccinated, smallpox would not do much harm if it did get a start in our county. It is not that the disease is so dangerous to life that it is so dreaded but if it gets started, it spreads so rapidly. Everybody should get vaccinated without delay.

DIED

At Irvine's camp on Knapps Creek February 10, 1900, John Randolph Tacy, aged 24. His parents are George and Caroline Tacy, of Back Alleghany... It was his wish to be buried near his home where his grave could be often seen and thus his parents and all others would be reminded of his being in

heaven and would be waiting for them there.

February 12, 1900 at Ronceverte, Mrs. Rebecca Auldridge, aged 90 years, relict of the late John Auldridge, of Laurel Run. She was a daughter of John Smith, a pioneer settler of the head of Stony Creek.

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On-site Ag Repair for Smooth Operations 540-815-8159

TRIVIA ANSWERS: (1). Bill Nye (2). California and Hawaii (3). Denali - Formerly Mount McKinley (4). Death Valley



PMH Rural Health Clinic Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Our team can provide the primary care services your entire family needs, right here at home. Accepting New Patients - Easy Transfers Call 304-799-6200. PMH Snowshoe Clinic Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Providing primary and urgent care for both local residents and guests on the mountain. Accepting new patients - Call 304-799-1072. Located in the Inn at Snowshoe, 565 Cass Road, Slaty Fork. POCAHONTAS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Kitchen, from page 4

Frozen Peanut Butter Cups ~ Peanut Butter Layer 1 cup oats 1/4 cup maple syrup or honey 1 tsp. vanilla 1/2 cup peanut butter 1/4 cup protein powder 1 Tbsp. chia seeds Chocolate Layer 1 cup chocolate chips 2 Tbsp. coconut oil Directions: In a sauce pan, combine peanut butter, vanilla and maple syrup - melt until combined. Stir in protein powder, chia seeds and oats until they form a dough. Place dough into 12 lined muffin tins and flatten the tops and put it in the freezer

while you make the chocolate layer. Melt chocolate and coconut oil in the microwave or in a double boiler over low heat. Spoon the chocolate over the frozen peanut butter layer and place back in the freezer until solid. Enjoy Addy Hayes is a local homeschooled 9th grader. She began writing The Wholesome Kitchen because

she is very passionate about healthy food and wants to share that passion. Her hope is to make you more conscious about what you put into your body and inspire you to become healthier for yourself and the earth. She has previously written newsletter articles for her local homeschool group and lives in northern Pocahontas County where she writes and cooks healthy treats for her friends and family.

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.

MITCHELL CHEVROLET February Winter Close Out Call for more information on these fine preowned vehicles. 2024 Chevy Traverse LT New Body Style \$46,995. 2019 Chevy Colorado ZR2 White. Leather \$25,995. 2018 Chevy Colorado ZR2 Black with black wheels \$33,995. 2019 Chevy Cruze LS 38 mpg highway \$12,995. 2024 Chevy Equinox AWD Iridescent Pearl \$23,995. 2016 Chevy Impala LTZ Local trade \$14,995. 2017 Chevy Malibu LT Manager's special! \$10,995. 2020 Chevy Silverado 1500 LTZ Crew cab \$24,995. 2022 Chevy Silverado 1500 Low miles \$35,995. 2020 Chevy Sonic LT 34 mph highway \$11,995. 2020 Chevy Sonic LT One owner. Red \$13,495. 2023 Buick Encore GX Preferred. Low miles \$22,995. 2022 GMC Sierra 3500 Denali Duramax \$54,595. 2015 Jeep Cherokee Priced to move \$11,995. 2019 Jeep Cherokee Limited Leather \$19,995. 2017 Jeep Renegade Latitude 14,100 miles \$17,995. 2020 Jeep Renegade Upland 38,000 miles \$17,995. 2022 Nissan Rogue SV All-wheel drive. One owner \$23,495. 2020 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sport Hardtop \$28,495. Sales Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. FIND NEW ROADS 304-799-6388 • 800-799-6388 www.mitchellchevrolet.com

MARLINTON OFFICE 304-799-4440 18102 Seneca Trail, Rt. 219 Marlinton, WV 24954 www.property4u.com. RED OAK REALTY. Oak Hall, Broker Sales Associates: Kathy Owens, Lisa Circle, Kathryn Stauffer. Agents Wanted. Call Oak Hall to apply. LISTINGS. 6714 - Marlinton. Tract 15. The Pines Estates. 5.44-acre property with open meadow and farm home-stead views. Property is close to town, rivers, hike and bike trails, national forest, state parks and Snowshoe. - \$89,800. 6736 - Lewisburg. 1.5-acre private wooded lot. End of the lane location waiting for your dream home. Just 11 minutes from the charming town of Lewisburg with its top notch dining and shopping. - \$54,000. 6715 - Dunmore. 3BR cozy cabin with one full and two half baths on 9.72 acres. Located in a quiet wooded area. Steps from state forest and near Greenbrier River and Trail. - \$495,000. 6325 - Rainelle. 92 acres of woodland with some timber. The property is located at the end of a peaceful farm valley and backs up against the Meadow River Wildlife Management Area. - \$255,000. 6671 - Marlinton. 3BR/2BA home in close proximity to all Pocahontas County has to offer. Town living. Great starter, vacation or permanent home. - \$92,000. 6672 - Huntersville. Beautiful 3BR/2BA home on 27+/- rolling acres. Majority is woodland with 1.5 acre pasture. Spacious home with additional family room/ sun-room. - \$269,000. 6577 - Marlinton. Great home on 2.08 acres - \$189,000.

Wonder what your minerals can be worth? Find out BEFORE you lease. Call us TODAY about how you can join. wvminerals.com