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MARLINTON, POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA 24954

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Hometown fun at Durbin Days

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

Most festivalgoers know what to expect when they attend Durbin Days Heritage Festival. They know there is going to be a carnival full of fun rides, lots of food, musical entertainment, Bingo and parades.

This year, the festival had the added bonus of two outrageous reality TV stars, Turtleman and Swamp Man. The pair were on hand to judge the greased pig contest, as well as add some color to the already fun nearly week-long event.

Turtleman, Ernie Brown, Jr., is the star of the show, “Call of the Wildman” which follows Brown on his adventures as he catches “critters” who have become a nuisance to residents of Kentucky.

Swamp Man, Shelby Stanga, first rose to fame as one of the subjects of the show “Ax Men.” He went on to get his own show, “The Legend of Shelby the Swamp Man,” which follows Stanga on his down time from his job as a logger in Louisiana.

In addition to judging the greased pig contest, the pair posed for pictures and took part in the grand parade, sharing their unique southern charm with everyone they



A TRIO OF friends have some high flying fun on one of the carnival rides at Durbin Days Heritage Festival Saturday. The sky was blue for most of the day – excluding a fast downpour of rain. Festivalgoers enjoyed an entertaining day with rides, food and the grand parade. S. Stewart photo

met.

They were a draw, but they were only part of the festivities. There was music by The Crooked Roots, Evie Shaffer, Tupelo Drive, Non-Friction, as well as a performance by

the Little Switzerland Cloggers.

Contest entries were on display in the former Emma Grace Boutique on Main Street, with quilts, afghans, photographs and even silly

decorated potatoes, showcasing the multitude of talents of local residents.

The festival culminated on Saturday with a crowd-gathering parade on Main Street, a little rain and a fireworks display that has been called the best in the county.

Festival results are:

- Photography contest**
- Queen’s choice: Jessica Varner, “Calf.”
- People – first, second and third place, Jessica Varner, “Girl with bird;” “Girl with four-wheeler;” and “Girl in carseat.”
- Animals – first place, Ben Poscover, “Indigo Bunting;” and second place, Jessica Varner, “Calf.”
- Silly Potato Contest – first place, Annabelle DiStefano, “Butterfly Store;” second place and Queen’s Choice, Harlynn Reed, “Angel Kitty;” and third place, Bryce Taylor, “Airport with Jet.”
- Quilted items – first place, Cheryl Dean, Autumn Cabins wall hanging; second place, Carol Barlow, Patriotic wall hanging; and third place, Cheryl Dean, Fall table runner.
- Full-size quilts – first place and Queen’s Choice, Sandy Irvine, West Virginia Birds; and second place, Cheryl Dean, Pioneer Braid.
- see Durbin pg 6

Archaeologists uncover secrets of Fort Warwick

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

Since 1990, when they began a survey and research, Drs. Stephen and Kim McBride have been helping the Sheets family of Green Bank piece together the puzzle that is the pre-Revolutionary War fort on their land.

Countless hours have been spent on-site by countless volunteers and students, who have helped with excavations and digs at Fort Warwick, in hopes they will find artifacts and stains in the dirt that will reveal the past.

On July 15, the McBrides gave a presentation at the Green Bank Observatory about the findings at the fort, including the mysterious shape of the structure.

“There are many things we can talk to you about, but we’re really focusing on one of the main questions from this recent grant, which is the structure of Fort Warwick,” Kim said. “It’s something that’s puz-

zled us for a long time, especially as we compared Fort Warwick to some other forts that we’ve excavated further down in the Greenbrier Valley.”

In her slide presentation, Kim shared diagrams and aerial photos of other forts in the Greenbrier Valley which are rectangular with two bastions on opposite corners. The bastions were built so that militiamen could cover two sides of the fort if it was attacked.

There are also forts in other areas where a house was used as part of the structure, with the stockade built around it.

“[Pictures show that] they are much more irregular, and irregular is kind of a good word to warn you about what you’ll learn about Warwick’s Fort,” she said. “It’s really taught us to not have too many preconceived ideas about these forts.”

Through research done at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., the McBrides learned that Fort

see Fort pg 6

Diabetes Support Group releases cookbook

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

It’s been three years in the making, but all the hard work and collaboration has paid off for members of the Pocahontas County Diabetes Support Group. With the help of Dr. Samantha Minc and then medical student Jordan O’Dell, the group and its educator, Terry Wagner, have published and are releasing a diabetes and heart healthy cookbook featuring local recipes.

Oddly enough, the name of the book is “Pocahontas County Diabetes and Heart Healthy Cookbook.”

The endeavor began in 2023 when Minc and O’Dell joined Wagner in providing educational programs for the group and they decided to make a cookbook of what they’d learned.

At first, the group planned to just share recipes with

each other, but it quickly grew to include so much more.

“We have the recipes on one page and the modified recipe on the next page with an explanation,” Minc said. “There were a bunch from the culinary medical program at WVU that kind of added to fill out the cookbook.”

“Then at the back is a conversation about how to make a healthy meal and what is your key to success, an example grocery list and diet rules,” she added.

The book also features information about foot health, which is one of the reasons Minc got involved in the program.

In 2017, WVU did a state level analysis concerning diabetes and access to medical treatment. Minc, a vascular surgeon, is focused on prevention of amputations due to diabetes and vascular disease and so she wanted to

provide education concerning foot health which is directly affected by diabetes.

“We did focus groups across the state, spoke to people with diabetes or people who were taking care of people with diabetes about amputations and tried to understand their barriers and challenges,” she said.

Using the findings from that research, Minc started working with doctors in Pocahontas County to ensure foot examinations were being done on patients with diabetes.

“We came up with this trio of interventions and one of which was implementing high quality diabetic exams in clinics and connecting people to pediatricist, so they can get care,” she said. “Another was making multi-disciplinary limb preservation teams and making them available to rural patients in a project called Echo.”

Echo is a teleconferencing



THE POCAHONTAS COUNTY Diabetes Support Group celebrated the release of its new cookbook last Monday with a picnic featuring diabetes friendly and heart healthy fare at Stillwell Park. Posing with the book are, from left: diabetes educator Terry Wagner, Dr. Samantha Minc and vascular surgery resident Jordan O’Dell. The book will soon be available from Amazon. S. Stewart photo

medical platform that allows rural patients to meet with pediatricist to ensure they have preventative care and be less likely to need an amputation.

The third was meeting with the diabetes support group and creating the cookbook.

Minc enlisted O’Dell, who

is now a vascular surgery resident at Duke University. At the time of the project, O’Dell was a medical student at WVU and was part of the new culinary medical track.

“WVU offers an additional learning track that you can do within medical school

that’s called a culinary track,” O’Dell said. “We have to do community teaching kitchens. We do different modules. We learn how to prescribe diets for different chronic illnesses, such as cancer, diabetes, chronic heart failure.”

see Group pg 6



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Commission approves bid for broadband project

Tim Walker
AMR Reporter

The Pocahontas County Commission opened two bids at its July 8 meeting that were received for the construction of the Appalachian Regional Commission’s (ARC) Broadband Grant Project. One was from the New River Electrical Company in the amount of \$2,307,597.76 while the other was from Quanta Telecommunications Solutions LLC (Quanta) in the amount of \$1,800,000. They did not award either bid at the time because the project’s engineering firm,

Thompson and Litton, needed to review the details of both bids to ensure the bids met all of the requirements. At the July 15 commission meeting, Region 4’s Amanda Smarr reported to the commission that both bids met the required specifications. She also advised the commission that the project’s law firm still had some questions about the project and whether the winning bidder would be willing to meet those legal obligations if any are identified by the lawyers. She did say the commission could approve one of the bids, and if for some reason

another requirement was needed for the construction, and if the winning bidder refuses to comply with that, the bid approval can then be revisited by the commission. She said it is highly unlikely that will happen because if any requirements need to be added, they will be very minor. The commission then awarded the bid to the lowest bidder, Quanta, with the understanding that possible minor requirements could be added by the project’s law firm.

see Bid pg 5

Solid Waste Authority offered possible option

Tim Walker
AMR Reporter

The Pocahontas County Solid Waste Authority (SWA) held a special meeting July 16 with Jacob Meck, of Allegheny Disposal LLC, who presented a viable option for the SWA to continue solid waste collection and disposal in the county after the county landfill closes in the fall of 2026. The county SWA has been criticized by the West Virginia Solid Waste Board because they have not yet developed nor started on a

practical plan to operate after the landfill is closed. SWA members have discussed some options in the past, but most of those have been seen as being impractical or just too expensive to work. The board members all realize how critically important it is to maintain viable garbage disposal in the county; however they have not as yet selected an alternative garbage collection and disposal method, other than they agree that the green box system will need to play a major role in the future. They also recognize

that, unfortunately, the costs to the citizens will have to be raised significantly since the relatively inexpensive local landfill option will be gone. At the special meeting, Meck presented a Power Point program that explained his options of building a transfer station either near his office in Green Bank for the exclusive use of his company or, if the SWA agrees, to build one on the site of the county landfill which would serve both his company’s clients and the public at large

see Option pg 5

Cardinal Institute calls for overhaul of Civics Standards

The Cardinal Institute for West Virginia Policy has announced the release of a new policy paper calling for a comprehensive revitalization of West Virginia’s K-12 civic education standards. The paper, titled “Reviving the American Civic Tradition in West Virginia,” is authored by Cardinal Institute’s Director of Education Partnerships and Strategy, Tiffany Hoben. “Civic education is not just about learning how a bill becomes a law – it’s about cultivating informed, engaged citizens who understand and cherish our constitutional republic,” said Hoben. “West Virginia has a proud history and a strong sense of community, and we owe it to our students to equip them with the knowledge and tools to uphold that legacy.” Hoben contends that the long-term strength of the American republic depends on an educated citizenry, one that understands the structure and purpose of its government, embraces shared civic ideals and possesses the character necessary to preserve liberty across generations. The report finds that West Virginia’s current standards fall far short of this mission. Instead of forming a coherent civic education, the standards are described as fragmented, historically shallow, and ideologically inconsistent, leaving students unprepared to engage meaning-

fully in democratic life. The key findings include a lack of philosophical grounding, the isolation of civics from history, and the emphasis on political activism over civic literacy. “West Virginia has a chance to lead the nation by restoring rigor and purpose to civic education,” said Garrett Ballengee, President & CEO of the Cardinal Institute. “This report is not just a critique – it’s a blueprint for renewal. If we want to preserve a free society, we must begin by teaching students what that freedom entails.” The report makes clear that isolated revisions are insufficient. Hoben calls for a complete rewrite of West Virginia’s social studies standards – from elementary through high school – to integrate U.S. History, Civics, and Government into a unified, content-rich civic education. “Civic education should shape stewards of the republic, not merely critics of it,” Hoben writes. The newly released paper comes amid national concerns about declining civic knowledge among youth and reduced emphasis on social studies in K-12 education. The Cardinal Institute views this as a pivotal moment to ensure West Virginia students are prepared for the responsibilities of citizenship. To view the full report, visit www.cardinalinstitute.com/research/

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BOE discusses plans for renovations, intervention

Suzanne Stewart
Staff Writer

Since Pocahontas County High School was placed under a state of emergency by the State Department of Education in January, high school staff has been diligently working, with the help of consultant Deirdre Cline, to address the issues highlighted in the comprehensive plan. While there has been a lot of progress on the academic side, there are renovations that need to take place next. At the Pocahontas County Board of Education meeting July 15, superintendent Dr. Leatha Williams explained that she discussed the state of the school with director of maintenance Duane Gibson and they both came up with several areas that need attention. Williams said that the bathrooms are in bad shape and need to be upgraded, as well as the main office. She added the special education room needs to be moved out of the art room and into the main building. Williams also said that

since the gym floor is being replaced, it would be nice to paint the entire gym to add to the facelift. In the discussion about renovations, Williams added that the central office needed some upgrades due to changes in staff. She assured the board that there is funding in the budget to make the renovations, and the jobs would all be put out to bid in a proper manner. The board agreed that renovations needed to be made and approved for Williams and Gibson to move forward with plans for both PCHS and the central office. Williams also discussed the progress made with the state of emergency plan and said all PCHS student schedules were mailed out and students were given information on how to make changes prior to the school year, if needed. One area that still needs intervention is the special education department, county-wide. Williams said there was monitoring done and the county has several areas in which it is in non-compliance.

It was on the agenda for the board to approve contracted services with Lydia Young, who will work with the special education teachers and principals in getting back into compliance in all areas. The board approved the contract. In miscellaneous management, the board approved: • hiring Doug Clemons with Education Consulting Team, LLC, for Clerk of the Works mentoring and assistance for Duane Gibson. • to pursue a JROTC program at PCHS. • to post and hire summer groundskeepers. • to post and hire student workers to assist with painting and groundskeeping. In personnel management, the board approved: • employment of Duane Williams, as teacher of fifth grade at Marlinton Elementary School, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, for 200 days. • requested transfer of Darlene Arbogast from teacher of special education/

see BOE pg 5

Emergency Energy Assistance Program

The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) has announced that applications for the Emergency Low Income Energy Assistance Program (E-LIEAP) will be accepted from Monday, July 28, through Friday, August 8, 2025, or until funds are exhausted. This program helps low-income families in West Virginia who are facing an energy emergency. E-LIEAP may also help with cooling costs in some situations. Each application is reviewed individually, and some types of cooling sources may require approval before assistance can be given. To qualify: • Households using gas or electric must present a termination notice when applying. • Households using bulk fuels like propane, fuel oil, kerosene, wood, or coal

must show that their supply is low when you apply. • Households that have already received a regular LIEAP payment for bulk fuel (such as propane, fuel oil, kerosene, wood, or coal), must provide a receipt or proof showing that the LIEAP payment was used to purchase fuel. Applications for E-LIEAP assistance may

be denied without this documentation. Eligibility for E-LIEAP is determined based on household income, household size, and whether the household is responsible for paying utility costs. In emergency situations, all applicants must meet in person with a DoHS worker.

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The Third Man Factor
“Don’t get your knickers in a twist”

If not for a seismic tremor, Andy would have crossed the traverse without a hitch. As it were, he was halfway across the steep rock face when an avalanche from above swept him down the mountainside and into a deep crevasse.

A few days earlier, Andy announced to his fiancée, Katy, that he was going to solo the North Face route on the Grand Teton; one he had climbed many times before with climbing partners.

Andy knew that Katy disapproved of his plans to climb such a demanding route without a partner. It didn’t sway Katy’s opinion when he told her that he had climbed the North Face route so many times he knew by rote every move to the sum-

mit—a flagrant exaggeration to be sure, as Katy knew that the North Face Route held many dangers from rockfall to its notorious wet surfaces. Katy was an excellent

climber in her own right; her numerous “first ascents” of extreme routes earned her the title of elite rock climber. But after Katy’s sister, Emily, was killed in 2014 on K2 in the Karakoram Range, she decided to abstain from climbing any alpine routes.

Katy just shrugged her shoulders in resignation; she knew that once Andy made up his mind to do something, any further protests were in vain.

Andy heard the roar of the snow above as it picked up speed and volume before it lifted him up and carried him

like a rag doll a hundred yards or so down the mountain before depositing him in a crevasse. Andy landed flat on his back on an icy ledge with a thud, abruptly halting his fall. Fortunately, his pack, containing a sleeping bag and a rappelling rope, absorbed much of the impact.

Wilderness Medical Training courses are a necessity for anyone climbing in the backcountry, so Andy began a thorough check of his body to determine if he had sustained any injuries. He felt

see Your pg 8



GRAND TETON NORTH Face, photo courtesy of Summitpost.org



Reason and Romanticism
by Joe Miller

Captain Jean-Luc Picard: The economics of the future are somewhat different. You see, money doesn’t exist in the 24th century.

Lily Sloane: No money? You mean you don’t get paid?

Captain Jean-Luc Picard: The acquisition of wealth is no longer the driving force in our lives. We work to better ourselves and the rest of humanity.

ture. They’re able to pursue a life of exploration and the arts because much of life’s drudgery is performed by machines.

Replicators provide food and freshly laundered uniforms. Robots build starships. Nanobots repair damaged cells and deliver bespoke cures for diseases.

Freed from material wants, the people of the Federation spend their time ex-

ploring strange new worlds, seeking out new life and new civilizations and boldly going where no one has gone before.

While I doubt that the actual world will move past scarcity – and thus the need for money – in the next 300 years, it’s absolutely the state we should be trying to bring about.

That’s why I find the use of machines – specifically the new generation of artificial intelligence, or AI – to make art so puzzling.

Sam Altman – founder of OpenAI, the company behind ChatGPT – says that AI is “democratizing” art, by allowing people of “differential abilities” to create it.

AI has certainly enabled more people to create stuff.

Social media is overrun with AI-generated images and memes. An Amazon search for books authored by

ChatGPT turned up 400 pages of results. That’s just from people honest enough to list AI as a co-author!

The hype for AI-generated art is so intense – particularly on Twitter (aka, X) – that its boosters have their own nickname – AI art bros.

Involving AI in art is a step in the wrong direction. As one novelist quipped, “I want AI to do my laundry and dishes so that I can do art and writing, not for AI to do my art and writing so that I can do my laundry and dishes.”

Full disclosure: that same

see Reason pg 9

This exchange – which occurs about midway through the film *Star Trek: First Contact* – sums up why I prefer *Star Trek* to *Star Wars*. (Trek vs Wars is, of course, the nerd equivalent of Beatles vs Stones or Nirvana vs Pearl Jam.)

Star Trek is ‘60s hippie utopianism triumphant. The bridge of the Enterprise is a melting pot of species, races, genders and ideologies all coming together to engage in peaceful exploration. Each member of the crew is motivated by their own passions, both on and off the bridge. Crew members’ hobbies include learning musical instruments, painting, gardening, cooking and reading classical poetry and litera-

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TRIVIA

– a little something to think about

1. At what Ohio university were four students shot to death during a 1970 anti-war demonstration?
2. Who was the first Western explorer to reach China?
3. What European conflict lasted 116 years?
4. Who was the first American to orbit the Earth?



A Blast from the Past

Courtesy of the Ruth Friel Estate

Soap...
May do...
For lads with fuzz...
But sir, you ain’t...
The kid you wuz.
Burma-Shave

Just this once...
And just for fun...
We’ll let you...
Finish...
What we’ve begun.

Blues and Brews and more at Snowshoe ~ July 25-27

By Ben Simmons

Snowshoe Mountain will be buzzing this weekend as the mountain top resort hosts its annual Blues and Brews Festival Friday and Saturday. Guests can enjoy cold beers, amazing music and some of the most beautiful scenery West Virginia has to offer – all while celebrating Miller Lite Beer’s 50th Anniversary.

The good times get rolling on Friday at 7 p.m. with the Alex Lopez Band. Lopez plays traditional blues that honors the founding fathers yet creates tunes that moves the genre into the future.

Following Lopez, Australian guitarist Taj Farrant is set to rock the stage at 8:45 p.m. Farrant is sure to wow the audience with his

impressive guitar covers and original compositions. He gained popularity through his social media platform and has a wide following around the world.

The brews get flowing again Saturday at 5 p.m. South Florida’s Jake Walden band will take the stage and give the audience a powerful taste of blues rock that draws from legends such as Stevie Ray Vaughn, Eric Clapton and Warren Hayes.

The evening will rock into the sunset with Robert Jon and the Wreck performing at 7 p.m. The Southern California band has been captivating audiences since it began in 2011 with its mix of southern rock sounds infused with a modern edge.

see Blues pg 9

Backpack Give-Away



**Saturday,
July 26,**

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Gazebo Park in Marlinton

Sponsored by Kidz Closet, First Baptist Church, Huntersville.

Questions? Call 304-799-4099 and leave a message for Jessica Bailey or Anita Hall.

RAIN DATE: SATURDAY, AUG. 2 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

3rd ANNUAL FIRST FRIDAY BLOCK PARTY

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Marlinton Mayor's Corner

By Sam Felton

The Town receives an assortment of complaints. They come at various times and in numerous ways. In most cases, it has to do with individuals who refuse to take personal responsibility for their actions. Often issues arise between people, when one or the other shows no respect for their neighbors. The Town is tasked with dealing with situations that violate particular ordinances. Ordinance complaints that should be straight-forward seem to take longer.

From that standpoint, water and sewer issues are actually easier to deal with. The complaint comes in, and the office creates a work-order and sends someone out to identify and correct the problem.

Some complaints come in without names or addresses. Anonymous complaints are

a waste of everyone's time. The Town cannot do anything to help until we know who you are and where you are located. However, since we have received a similar complaint from those who identified themselves, we will address another who did not identify themselves. The following is a response from Sam Dunn, CWPO & CWVO. It reads as follows:

Dear Resident,

I understand your concerns, and I realize that as a paying customer you are automatically going to assume the problem is with the water and may not consider that the problem can actually be in the plumbing of your home. I assure you the water produced and put out of this water plant either meets or exceeds the Water Quality Standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the WV Department

of Health. In fact, I can prove every step of the treatment process is documented either daily, hourly, and in some parameters every 5 minutes.

Samples are routinely taken from the raw untreated water as it enters the plant. The finished water is tested before in leaves the plant. The testing checks for Turbidity, PH, Alkalinity, Hardness and Chlorine. Results from these tests are recorded and used for calculating the disinfection rate and corrosive factors of the water. All of these results are logged and submitted to the WV Department of Health in the Operational Report at the end of each month. In addition, we are required by the Health Department to take two (2) Bacteriological samples a month, quarterly disinfection biproduct samples, quarterly Total Organic Compound sample, and yearly samples for Inorganic/Volatile/Synthetic compounds, Arsenic, and Nitrate/Nitrite.

see Mayor's pg 9

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

My family is not from your area, but we were there July 9 and 10 for the funeral service for my late husband, William Donald Howes.

My husband's large extended family lives in the area, and he spent all the summers of his youth and many weekends there.

We are writing particularly to acknowledge the kind, caring volunteers at the Dunmore Community Center who graciously provided an amazing luncheon to about 40 of us from Virginia, Missouri, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, California and Pennsylvania, as well as the family here in West Virginia.

Your communities stepped up to welcome and comfort

us in a difficult time and we are grateful.

Sincerely,
Paula Howes and family
Haymarket, Virginia

To the Editor:

Here in Pocahontas County, we are so lucky to have a wonderful community radio network. Just last week it ran a program giving health advice for diabetics – very important in our area – as well as a warning of potential floods due to heavy rain. There were discussions on solid waste disposal and the expansion of broadband internet. The network also covered a County Commission meeting, local church events, a swap shop, and reported live from Durbin

Days. And I can't forget music: gospel music, country music, rock, bluegrass, music of all sorts.

By coincidence, last week was also when our elected representatives in Washington, Republican Senators Capito and Justice, and Republican Representative Miller, voted to cut off support for our radio network. I thought that they would have their hands full, what with slashing funding for public schools, throwing people off Medicaid, and screwing up veterans' services but no, they took out time to stick it to rural radio stations.

The Federal bill for operations of Allegheny Mountain

see Letters pg 9



What's Cookin'?

With Sally Cobb

Vegetable Medley Toss
2 cups broccoli florets
2 cups cauliflower florets
2 cups thinly sliced carrots
2 Tbsp. butter, melted
1 Tbsp. lemon pepper seasoning
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
1 Tbsp. fresh parsley, chopped or 1 tsp dried parsley
Steam the vegetables, covered for 5 minutes; set aside and keep warm.

Combine melted butter and seasonings in a large bowl; stir well.
Add vegetables and toss gently to coat. Serves 4-6.

Squash Casserole
1 medium yellow squash, sliced
1 medium zucchini, sliced
1 Vidalia onion, thinly sliced
3-4 Roma tomatoes, sliced
1 cup shredded cheddar

cheese
1/2 cup plain bread-crumbs
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. dried oregano
1/2 tsp. dried basil
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
Olive oil to drizzle
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a 9x9 glass baking dish, layer 1/2 of the squash, onion, zucchini, tomatoes, breadcrumbs and cheese. Sprinkle with 1/2 of the salt, herbs and garlic powder. Drizzle with olive oil. Repeat layer. Drizzle with olive oil.
Cover with foil, bake 40 minutes.
Serves 6-8



Library Lines

by Hallie Herold, Director

In partnership with Pocahontas County Historical Society, McClintic Library welcomed the West Virginia History Contest and Old-Time Spelling Bee during the Pioneer Days celebration in Marlinton, the county seat of Pocahontas.

These events have been happening at the Museum in Marlinton for more than 45 years under the direction of Dr. Denise McNeel. Over the years, the contest quizzed on a variety of local history knowledge including familiarity with the eclectic collection of artifacts housed in the Museum. In an effort to continue this honored tradition, the librarians put their heads together to create new questions on county and state history. We had a great time drawing from audio-visual materials available in the libraries as well as our vast nonfiction sections. The process was humbling as we only skimmed the surface of information on the shelves

Civilian Conservation Corps projects, geological regions of our county, inventions, legislation and much more!

Did you know that the Rural Route postal delivery system was the brain child of a West Virginian with the first rural delivery taking place within the state? Or, that the Great Seal of West Virginia has a reverse side known as the Less Seal? Of course, details won't be divulged here, but come out next year to learn more. Start preparing now by visiting the libraries' West Virginia sections, stop by McClintic Library for a tour of the history room from our very own historian librarian, Pam Johnson, and contact the Pocahontas County Historical Society to schedule a tour of the Museum in Marlinton.

Community Calendar

OPERA HOUSE
The Children's Theatre Camp will present "Black Beard the Pirate" Friday, July 25, at 5 p.m. and Saturday, July 26, at 2 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Red Cross Bloodmobile Tuesday, August 5, noon to 6 p.m. at the Community Wellness Center. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org

Testing for Amateur Radio licenses including upgrades will be held Tuesday, August 12, at 7 p.m. at the Cass Firehouse. All test levels will be offered free of charge. Sponsored by Laurel Volunteer Examiner Coordinators and facilitated by 8 Rivers Amateur Radio Club.

Pocahontas Producers will not have a livestock sale in July or August. Sales will resume in September. Customers will receive postcards with the upcoming Fall Sale Schedule.

Contact the WVU Extension Office at 304-799-4852 for more information.

Kevin Cox MD has closed his ophthalmology office in Elkins. Patient records can be sent electronically to a new provider. Call 304-636-4021 for more information.

EVENTS
FREE Community Dinner, Thursday, July 24, 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Marlinton Presbyterian Church. Sponsored by area churches and community volunteers.

Guided tours of Cranberry Glades Friday, July 25. Meet at Cranberry Mountain Nature Center at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. for tours

and celebrate Smokey Bear's 81st birthday with birthday cake and some Smokey swag.

Treasure on the Mountain, Saturday, August 2, on Snowshoe Mountain. Enter for a chance to win more than \$300,000 in prizes including cars, vacations, campers, cash and more all while raising money for the Snowshoe Foundation.

The Fort Warwick Project, Saturday, August 9, 1 p.m. at Hillsboro Library. Light Refreshments. History- Artifacts- Personalities, with presenter Bob Sheets.

REUNIONS
Schoolcraft/Auldrige Saturday, July 26, at Watoga State Park picnic shelter, noon to 4 p.m. Contact jan icegurley41@gmail.com for more info.

Charles J. and Ora Thompson Sharp Family – 2658 Brownsburg Road, Sharp Pavilion. Friday – Sunday, July 25 – 27. Family and friends welcome.

Wilfong Family – Saturday, August 2, 11 a.m. at Stillwell Park. Bring a covered dish and your own drinks.

Ryder Family – Saturday, August 9, noon, Stillwell Park large pavilion. Covered dish. Everyone welcome.

PCHS Class of 1975, Saturday, September 27, 6 p.m. at Allegheny Lodge. For more information or to RSVP, call or text 304-646-6686.

county solid waste program.

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

WV Prayer Alliance Thursday, August 21, 6:30 p.m. at the Community Wellness Center in Marlinton. We meet to pray for revival, the community and the country.

Open Sew with Library Quilters of Marlinton, first Monday of each month 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at McClintic Library. Note time change. Everyone welcome.

LIBRARY EVENTS
"Color Our World" four-week summer reading program at Pocahontas County Libraries. Events on Mondays at McClintic, Tuesdays at Hillsboro, Wednesdays at Green Bank, Thursdays at Linwood, Fridays at Durbin.

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 Playgroup at McClintic Public Library Thursdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Story time and play for children five and younger.

see Calendar pg 8

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EDITORIAL:
jsgraham@pocahontastimes.com
sastewart@pocahontastimes.com

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DONATIONS ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT FUTURE YOUTH PROGRAMS

FRIDAY, JULY 25TH AT 5 P.M.
SATURDAY, JULY 26TH AT 2 P.M.

Experience two enchanting performances of Blackbeard the Pirate by the Missoula Children's Theater's Touring Program. Celebrating over 40 years of captivating audiences, this year they'll visit around 1,200 communities. These shows are the grand finale of a week-long summer camp where local kids collaborated in a fun and supportive environment for an unforgettable experience.

These programs are presented with financial assistance from the following:



CVB BOARD SEAT OPENING

The Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Bureau has an immediate Board of Director seat opening for the Little Levels District to run through June 2027. The successful candidate must be a resident of Pocahontas County, WV, and registered to vote in the district they represent and have an interest in promoting and developing tourism in Pocahontas County. Nominee must be knowledgeable about the specific area they represent and must be able to attend monthly board meetings and contribute to committees on which they serve. This is a volunteer position.

Those interested may submit a letter of interest including details on the applicant's background, relationship to Pocahontas County tourism industry and why they are interested in serving on the PCCVB Board of Directors. Individuals may also be nominated by another individual registered to vote in Pocahontas County.

Nomination letters must be received by Thursday, August 14, and the applicant must be present at the PCCVB Board of Directors meeting, held at the CVB office in Marlinton, on Wednesday, August 20, at 6 p.m.

Mail nomination letters to: Pocahontas County CVB, PO Box 275, Marlinton, WV 24954. Email letters to cfaulknierr@pocahontascountywv.com

For questions, please call 304-799-4636.

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Obituaries



Lois Ann Beverage

Lois Ann Barlow Beverage, of Marlinton, peacefully passed away at her home Thursday, July 17, 2025, with family by her side.

Born November 29, 1945, she was the daughter of the late Ward and Louise Barlow.

Lois Ann never knew a stranger and always had a door open to her home for anyone who wanted to stop by for conversation. She was selflessly devoted to all in her family and gave every ounce of her being to ensure they were taken care of. Lois Ann was active in the school system as a cook and fed many in Pocahontas County. She was famous for her beautiful handsewn quilts, her salt-rising bread and mouthwatering cinnamon rolls. If she was coming to Thanksgiving dinner, the table was never without her homemade rolls or bread.

She was a member of Eastern Star, Modern Woodmen and the church organi-

zations she was affiliated with over the years. She loved camping and always looked forward to sitting around a campfire with those close to her. She was active in 4-H – a proud Delaware – and fully embraced Head, Heart, Hands and Health. Her involvement in 4-H spread to her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and her message of humility, kindness, gentleness and compassion will be forever remembered. Lois Ann was an excellent human being and an exceptional example to those around her.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by brothers, Bob Barlow and Richard Barlow; and son, Richard Albert Beverage.

She is survived by her beloved husband of 62 years, Marvin, and was holding his hand throughout her last breath. She also leaves behind her son, Gray Beverage, of Cass, (Autumn, Melinda and Mary); grandsons, Brian Robinson, of Fraziers Bottom, (Tara, Olivia, Ava), Jason Robinson, of Talbott, Tennessee, (Sharon, Lakin, Avory, Owen), Coy Beverage, of Shepherdstown, Colt Beverage and Preston Beverage, both of Edray; granddaughter, Nebraska Scotchie, of Slaty Fork, (Jason, Simon, Micah); nephews, Herby Barlow, of Edray, (Jennifer, Nicole, Grayson), Rick Barlow, of Seattle Washington, (Steve); and Jeff Barlow, of Edray, (Star, Britney, Lyndsey); and niece, Tammi Bar-

low, of Edray, (Joni).

A graveside service will be held Sunday, July 27, 2025, at 1 p.m. at Cochran Cemetery with Carmen LaRue officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Pocahontas County 4-H Foundation, 900 E 10th Avenue, Marlinton, WV 24954.

Arrangements are being handled by VanReenen Funeral Home.



Shawn Dunbrack

Shawn Dunbrack, 56, of Marlinton, passed away Saturday, July 19, 2025, after a courageous battle with colorectal cancer.

Born January 26, 1969, he was the son of Tom and Pat Dunbrack, of Marlinton.

Shawn spent his life in Marlinton.

He attended Marlinton schools and graduated from Pocahontas County High School in 1987. He worked as Director of Operations for Burns Motor Freight for 23 years before serving as 911/OEM Director of Pocahontas County from 2011 to 2015. Shawn then briefly served as EMS Chief for

Pocahontas Memorial Hospital before becoming Regional Liaison Officer for the West Virginia Department of Homeland Security, a position he held from September 2015 until his passing. As a Regional Liaison, Shawn served 10 counties across northeastern West Virginia.

Shawn was a dedicated volunteer firefighter and EMT with Marlinton Fire-Rescue from 1984 to 2012, retiring at the rank of EMS Captain.

His passion for public service and helping those in need was evident throughout his career.

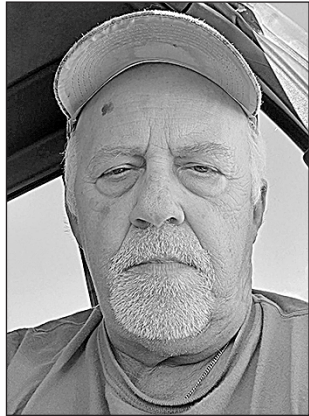
Shawn married Karen Maddy Kiner on April 12, 2002.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife and their children, Derek Kiner, and wife, Rachel, of Martinsburg, and David Kiner, and partner, Muriah Nutter, of Spencer; and Ally Dunbrack Arrington, and husband, Evan, of Morgantown; and two grandsons, Ezekiel and Zayne Arrington.

Funeral service was held Tuesday July 22, 2025, at Trinity Baptist Church, in Buckeye with Pastor John Paul Burks officiating. Interment was in Mountain View Cemetery.

Alderson Funeral Services and Smathers Funeral Chapel is honored to care for Shawn's family during their great time of need.

Online condolences may be shared at smathersfuneralchapelinc.com



Timothy Mann

Timothy Ray Mann, 63, of Scott Depot, passed away Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at Hubbard Hospice House in Charleston.

Born July 16, 1961, at Marlinton, he was a son of Barbara Annalee Sutton Mann, of St. Albans, and the late Ray Junior Mann.

Tim was a Veteran, having served in the U.S. Marines. He worked as a heavy equipment operator and an over-the-road truck driver.

On July 6, 1999, he married Teliesa Louise Jones Mann, who survives.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by a sister, Judith Ann Wanless; and a stepdaughter.

In addition to his wife and mother, he is survived by a daughter, Rae Marie Boyd, and husband, Zack, of Madison; sisters, Tammy Frances Carper, of Marlinton, and Cynthia Leigh Fields of Summersville; brother, Michael Burke Mann, of St. Albans; and three grandchildren, Ryah, Mackenna and Ella

A graveside service will be held Thursday, July 24, 2025, at Beaver Creek Cemetery with Richard Wanless II officiating.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at kimblefuneralhome.com

Funeral arrangements are entrusted to the Kimble Funeral Home in Marlinton.

Jane Sharp Memorial

Jane Rutledge Jesse Sharp passed away Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at the age of 83. On Saturday, August 16, 2025, we will remember and celebrate a life full of love, creativity and adventure, according to her specific wishes.

Jane asked that there be no formal service. Rather, she asked that family and friends be given the opportunity to quietly remember their time with her while her favorite music plays.

From 1 to 3 p.m., the urn containing her ashes will lie in front of the altar of the Marlinton Presbyterian Church as the music of Bach, Pachelbel, Handel, Brahms and Mendelssohn plays. All are welcome to visit at any time during the two hours and stay as long as you would like. Refreshments will be available.

Following the time of remembrance at the church, we will visit several locations around Marlinton of particular importance to Jane. All are welcome to join us for this trek, as well.

Fort, from page 1

Warwick was built in June of 1774 during the conflict called Lord Dunmore's War. The fort was used throughout the American Revolutionary War.

Also included in those records was an early census, or tax list, that had a list of households in the area. There were 43 households, which could have represented between four and six individuals living in each household.

There were about 18 families that lived in the Fort Warwick area and would have used the fort for safety.

The first dig at Fort Warwick was in 2004 and the McBrides have returned every couple of years, as they get grant funding, to expand the dig to fully understand the structure and the people who built and used the fort.

"I want you to get a sense of what is our evidence in the ground," Kim said. "Of course, we're always looking for artifacts, and they're very informative, but the main thing that we're looking for to understand the structure of the forts are stains in the ground."

"We're looking for different colors of dirt and also different textures," she added.

As they were digging for stains, the excavators came across a cellar, a hearth and a bastion with stockade trenches on either end. But those trenches ended abruptly, which puzzled the McBrides.

"This is really odd how the stockade trench just stops right there," Kim said. "It doesn't match anything we have found on other fort sites, so Captain Moffett, Captain Matthews, they were doing some original thinking at Warwick's Fort."

The digs continued to reveal interesting and odd sections of the fort and in 2017, a circular brown stain was found.

"To be honest with you, we're like, 'wow, do we have a Native American house here on this fort site?'" Kim said. "We did a carbon dating, and it dates to the colonial era, so we were a little bit confused. Then Bob Sheets came to the rescue with a combination of oral history and documentary."

Kim explained that Sheets shared a story that was passed down through the

family and was published in *The Pocahontas Times* in 1934, that the fort was in a circular form and the roof was covered with sod and dirt to prevent fire from the enemy.

"This was really, really interesting to us," Kim said. "Also in 2017, we found a little bit more stockade trenching at one of the other ends of the fort, so this was really great progress."

With what they had at that point, the McBrides thought they knew where the section bastion would be located, but they were in for a shock.

This fort was unlike any other.

Stephen fast forwarded to the dig that was done in 2024 and shared what was found and more importantly, where it was found.

"We had this bastion and this stretch, and some funniness up here," he said, pointing to a map. "Then even more exciting, we found a corner and a gate. We kept on doing the track hoe between those two points and found some isolated posts. It's hard to determine whether these are part of the fort or just fence posts."

"We found these and then we expanded a little bit more and we got another bastion," he continued. "The southern bastion, it's right along the creek. These little stains are part of the bastion. Again, it kind of comes and goes."

What was interesting about that bastion is that it was not opposite the one found earlier. It had a more centralized location along the south wall of the stockade.

Although it didn't entirely make sense, the McBrides were still excited they finally found the second bastion.

They continued the digs and found posts that could have been used to fortify the forts walls, which would have been built differently than those found flanking the first bastion. Since there wasn't a trench between those post holes, they concluded that the walls were not uniform.

They also concluded that the fort was built in an L shape, which is very unique and uncommon.

"It looked like, in a way, there are two halves of the fort with this western half being somewhat more strongly built than the eastern half," Stephen said. "Before we came back, we were just scratching our heads

with what was going on with these discontinuous stockade trenches. There were post holes in the gaps. We also had the building with the cellar and circular structure."

"We had two good bastions, and we had these two different paths of the fort, at least, that's what it looked like," he added.

Along with the odd shape, the fort was also larger than most. From east to west, the structure is 138 feet, which is larger than any other fort the McBrides have seen in the Greenbrier Valley. The north to south was 98 feet, which is closer to that of other forts.

Possible explanations for the discrepancies is that they changed the construction of the stockade and didn't need to excavate trenches. It is also possible that individual buildings were built along the stockade wall and that would account for the lack of trenches between the posts.

"If you've ever been to Prickett's Fort in Marion County or Boonesboro in Kentucky, there are log cabins that are built along the walls and sometimes they actually are part of the wall, so that's another possibility," Stephen said. "Or it could be a combination of all of those."

Stephen added that the fort could have been built in two sections, which would explain the L shape.

In 2025, there was another revelation – a third bastion.

"We have three bastions," Stephen said. "They're not in opposite corners. There's a mid-wall. [The third] bastion would have protected a wall and also given extra protection to people coming in the gate."

"That's what the fort looks like now," he continued, showing the most recent map. "It's kind of rectangular with an L shape over here and again, there's a mystery as to what is in these gaps. We don't know."

They will just have to continue digging to find the rest of the puzzle.

After sharing the discoveries about the structure of the fort, Stephen shared photos of some of the artifacts found, including ceramics, glass, buttons, pipes and more.

The McBrides also had a booklet for attendees that is a summary of the history of the fort and the work they have done thus far with the archaeological digs.

Cemetery Donations

Donations for the upkeep of the following cemeteries may be made to:

Arbovale Cemetery – Daniel Solliday, 1754 North Fork Loop, Green Bank, WV 24944

Beaver Creek Cemetery – Nancy McComb Smithson, 641 Violet Road, Marlinton, WV 24954

Bethel Cemetery on Back Mountain Road, Durbin – Jean Taylor, 13453 Back Mountain Road, Durbin, WV 26264-9012.

Boyer Cemetery Trust – Joan Barkley, 14 Alleghany Mountain View Trail, Arbovale, WV 24915

Bruffey Creek Cemetery – Dennis Vaughan, 4108 Lobelia Road, Hillsboro, WV 24946.

Buckeye Chapel Cemetery – Juanita McNeill, 243 Waugh/Walnut Street, Marlinton, WV 24954.

Cochran Cemetery – Charlotte Alderman, treasurer, 63 Farmhouse Lane, Marlinton, WV 24954.

Dunmore Cemetery – Greg Pritchard, 15249 Browns Creek Road, Dunmore, WV 24934.

Edray Cemetery – Ben Gay, 87 Edray Road, Marlinton, WV 24954.

Durbin, from page 1

Baby quilts – first place, Cheryl Dean, Dragon Dreams; and second place and Queen's Choice, Cheryl Dean, I Spy.

Crocheted afghans – first and second place, Carole Kyle.

Cross Stitch – Queen's Choice, first, second and third place, Carole Kyle.

Needlepoint – first place, Karen Chesek.

Grand Parade results

Horses – first place, Kooper Brock; second place, Madalynn Brock; and third place, Mike Brock.

Individual/single vehicle division – first place, RJ Nelson Memorial; second place, Braelynn Peteete Memorial/Heart Disease Awareness; and third place, James DeHaven Memorial.

Emmanuel Cemetery,

Bruffeys Creek – Dennis Vaughan, 4108 Lobelia Road, Hillsboro, WV 24946

Fairview Cemetery – Barbara Campbell, PO Box 11, Marlinton, WV 24954.

Grogg Cemetery on Pine Grove Road – Joseph and Doris Reed, 26 Lambs Run Road, Arbovale, WV 24915.

Gum Cemetery, Back Mountain Road – Alan Wright, 14640 Back Mountain Road, Durbin, WV 26264

Hill Top Cemetery, Cass – Richard Ryder, 707 Chert Lane, Beckley, WV 25801

Kee Cemetery – Tink Gum, 713 Spruce Flat Road, Buckeye, WV 24924; or Mike Hollandsworth, 26 Lonesome Hollow Lane, Marlinton, WV 24954.

Kellison Cemetery, Jacox – Timothy W. VanReenen, 758 Denmar Road, Hillsboro, WV 24946.

McNeel Cemetery – Skeeter Workman, 841 Rose Road, Hillsboro, WV 24946

Oak Grove Cemetery – Timothy W. VanReenen, 758 Denmar Road, Hillsboro, WV 24946.

Old Droop Cemetery – David B. Cochran, 27192 Oriole Road, Princess Anne,

MD 21853.

Huntersville Cemetery – Samuel A. Sheets, 444 Sheets Lane, Marlinton, WV 24954;

Richard Hill Cemetery – Mr. Melvin Hill, 1815 Selvin Dr. Unit 203, Bel Air, MD 21015-1693

Sharp Cemetery on Stamping Creek – Donald K. Sharp, 2703 Locust Creek Road, Hillsboro, WV 24946

Sunset Cemetery – Lyle Ware, 752 Jacox Road, Hillsboro, WV 24946

Wanless Cemetery – Margaret Cassell, 4232 Back Mountain Road, Cass, WV 24927.

Wesley Chapel Cemetery on Galford Run Road – Nancy Rexrode, 4949 Wesley Chapel Road, Green Bank, WV 24944.

Wilfong Cemetery – Kay Wilfong King, 211 Caribbean Lane, Marlinton, WV 24954

William Sharp, Jr. Cemetery, Back Mountain Road near Fairview – Tommy D. Sharp, 2744 Brownsburg Road, Marlinton, WV 24954.

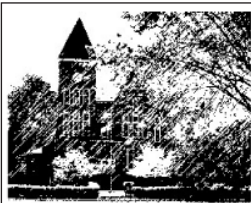
Wilmoth Cemetery, Allegheny Mountain, Bartow – Bill Kramer, 305 Valley Pike, Lexington, Va. 24450

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Preserving Pocahontas

B. J. Gudmundsson, Preservation Officer

Underwood School on Beaver Creek - 1916



Students and their teacher in front of the Underwood School on Beaver Creek near Huntersville, West Virginia. According to the sign, this photograph was taken on November 13, 1916.

1st Row, L-R: Amy Pyles, Crystal Pyles, Ottie Wanless, Hubert Porterfield, Norman Wanless, Oliver Underwood, Estelle Wanless.

2nd Row, L-R: Elma Underwood, Glen Pyles, Oakie Porterfield, Lois Kellison, Charlie Porterfield, Dennis Underwood, Lula Underwood, Grace Porterfield, Origin Underwood.

3rd Row, L-R: Delsie Underwood, Leo Underwood, Denver Underwood, Merle Pyles, Earl Kellison, Selma Kellison, Nettie Gaylor, Earl Wanless, Woods Gaylor, Odel Underwood, Merritt Kellison.

The teacher, Frank Totten, is standing in the back. (Pocahontas County Historical Society Collection, Photo courtesy of Nettie Gaylor; ID: PHS002280)

Access the “Preserving Pocahontas” Digital Library at pocahontaspreservation.org/omeka or 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.

Seventy-Five Years Ago

Calvin W. Price, Editor

Thursday, July 27, 1950

LOCAL MENTION

Rev. J. C. McLaughlin and son, William, of Keyser, are camping at the Buckley Rocks, on their annual fishing trip. William is headed for Germany this fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe McKenney, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Skaggs and Miss Norma Sue McKenney were in Beckley Sunday.

Mrs. Lura M. Brill and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edward McElwee were in Charleston last Thursday.

Little Miss Wenona Shue successfully underwent a tonsillectomy Thursday at the Grace Hospital in Richmond, Virginia. Miss Shue is

vacationing with relatives in Richmond.

The Busy Beavers 4-H Club and their leader, Mrs. Dewey Burr, enjoyed a wiener roast at Watoga State Park last Monday night. Lil Dawson was with them. Everyone had a nice time.

HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENTS

Green Bank: Virgil B. Harris, Principal; Verna Dean Sheets, W. E. Blackhurst, Rosemary Coyner, John Townsend, A. S. Hill, Charles R. McElwee, Harold C. Mouser, Minnie B. Parg, Flora Lee Post, June Riley, David W. Smith, Raymond L. Swadley.

Hillsboro: Edmond J. Fogg, Principal. Virginia Callison, Mary Louise

Dolinger, LeeRoy P. Hanna, LeRoy D. Jeffreys, Hattie J. Sheets, Ida Gay Hiner, Thelma W. Weber, Bennett Stump.

Marlinton: H. A. Yeager, Principal; Emery L. Anderson, Jr., Priscilla Collins, Joan Sharp Bell, Leslie Gehauf, Leeta B. Killingsworth, Edith May, Orr Lee McMann, Alice McClintic Moore, Charles Edward McElwee, Pauline Reynolds, Glenna Sharp Moses, Anna Madge Shiffler, Mary Skaggs, Helen Smith, Peggy Smith, Juanita Spencer, John V. White, Sam Brill.

FIELD NOTES

Reports of a mysterious animal which recently killed a 200-pound calf in Webster County have been received by the conservation commission from Conservation Officers Hilleary, Greagory and H. H. Meador, who investigated the killing.

The calf was killed, they said, on the farm of Tom John near the head of Camp

Run. The only marks on it were claw marks on the back and hips and a hole eaten in its stomach. No tracks could be found, but on a rail fence where the predator apparently left the field were claw marks. The killer almost certainly was not a bear, bobcat or dog, said the officers but was a member of the cat family. Old timers in the area were quoted as saying it was a panther, and, with this conclusion, Meador was inclined to agree.

Robert Pyles, of Seebert, had the unusual experience of catching a couple of minks at the same time in one steel trap. Each was caught by a front foot. The minks had been in the trap only a few minutes when found. The Pyles family had been losing a lot of chickens, so Mr. Pyles made a blind set beside a wire fence, where he had an idea the varmints would travel.

see 75 pg 11

100-Years-Ago in The Pocahontas Times

Calvin W. Price, Editor

Thursday, July 23, 1925

OVER ON CRANBERRY

Last week I went to the Glades of Cranberry River. The orchids were in bloom. It was a wonderful sight. Acres and acres of soft pink flowers on a carpet of moss. I came back full of skeeter bites, bog water and enthusiasm and strength renewed.

In my time, I have had many a camping trip in the glades. I have always carried a gun or a fishing pole. In the days before the game laws, I usually took both. This time I had neither hook and line nor gun. It was the best trip in the woods I ever had. I learned a lot about plants and flowers, birds and bugs, but the most I learned is that after a life in the woods, I am densely ignorant of the works of creation. My spirit is chastened, my heart contrite and humble, and an inferior complex is painfully apparent...

I will not write anything about the trip home. We expected to return by way of

the High Rocks above Stamping Creek, but the last person there must have misplaced them, as they were not where we expected to find them.

NAZARENES

The Nazarene Tent meeting at Marlinton closed last Wednesday night. There were more than 130 conversions. The evangelists both endeared themselves to the town and community. The result of the meeting was the organization of a Nazarene Church with 48 members. A beautiful corner lot on Court Street has been purchased for the erection of a church. The pastor from Woodrow is supplying the new church until the arrival of the permanent pastor, which will be about the middle of September. The new church coming to town will be an asset to the entire community.

GREENBRIER VALLEY

Having just returned from a 10-day sojourn in the beautiful and historic Greenbrier

Valley, I thought some of your readers might be interested in a few observations of a traveler. While it seems away over east of the mountain, you can eat breakfast in Fairmont, dinner in Elkins and supper in Ronceverte and enjoy a day of delightful sightseeing. From Elkins to Durbin is wild enough for the most ardent lover of majestic grandeur; and the 100 miles from Durbin to Ronceverte is a vale of surpassing beauty, with a new vista at every one of the thousand turns in the road. Road, mountain, peak and wooded slope, towns and villages and fertile fields and stately homes.

Marlinton, the county seat of Pocahontas County, is situated on a pretty little plain at the confluence of Knapp Creek with the Greenbrier River. While there are only about 2,000 persons living there now, there is ample room for a city of 10,000 population, all on perfectly level ground. They have splendid grade and high school buildings, many beautiful homes and at least two fine churches, one of them costing \$75,000...

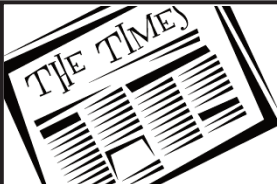
While in Marlinton, I was a dinner guest in the home of Editor Price of The Pocahontas Times and his delightful family. The office of the Times is a veritable museum of pioneer relics. Here is the finest private collection of arrow heads, spearheads, axes, pottery and other Indian artifacts that I have seen anywhere. There are some interesting geological formations in this region. There are mountains of solid limestone from 500 to 1,000 feet high, and mountains not far away in which there is no limestone at all. The uplands around Hillsboro are a beautiful and fertile farming plateau, while Droop Mountain, of solid limestone, lifts its head above the clouds 2,000 feet from the river at its base. I stopped to rest awhile in the very lap of old Droop and eat a fine dinner of stewed chicken, honey and biscuits. (Don't tell this to Larry Boggs.)

There are springs issuing from some of these limestone mountains large enough to turn a mill wheel. One spring, near Buckeye, issues from a cave in which there are plenty of brook trout, and a mile below the spring is an old mill that used to be run by the stream from this and a smaller

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see 100 pg 11



Fifty Years Ago

Jane Price Sharp, Editor

Thursday, July 24, 1975

STATE MINIMUM WAGE

Effective July 1, 1975, employers covered by West Virginia's minimum wage law must pay their workers \$2 per hour and overtime pay after 44 hours in a single work week. The law applies to businesses employing six or more full-time employees at one location with gross annual business of \$250,000 or less.

Forest Festival Princess

Genevieve Anne Mitchell, 19, of Marlinton, has been named a princess for the 39th Annual Mountain State Forest Festival to be held in Elkins in October. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Reid Mitchell, of Marlinton.

Class of 1925

The Edray District High School Class of 1925 met for their 50-year reunion July 11, 1975. Thirteen of the 17 surviving class of 29 students were present at a dinner held at the home of Mrs. Walter Shafer on Jerico Road.

In order to attend high school in the early 20s, young people who lived in the country found transportation a problem. Roads were bad. There were no school buses and very few cars. Livery stable service was available and a few rode horseback.

Others walked as long as weather permitted, and some rode the train. Many homes in Marlinton provided room and board for students and some paid for it by working in the homes. Attending high school was a privilege not to

be taken lightly.

Two of the former teachers, Mrs. Mary Frances Overholt and Mrs. Mildred Yeager Seagraves, joined the students at the dinner.

Members of the class attending were, Jake McClure, of Charleston, Jack Richardson, of Lewisburg, Juanita Shinaberry Dille, of Stony Bottom, Ruby Barlow Cochran of Roanoke, Virginia, Mary M. Price Barlow, of Marlinton, Betsy Price Green, of Richmond, Virginia, Francis E. "Bus" Smith, of Hot Springs, North Carolina, Madge Eskridge Shepherd, of Covington, Virginia, Frances O'Farrell, Trainer, of Portsmouth, Virginia, Frances Hill Bankhead, of Elkins, Erma McCarty Johnson, of Marlinton, Beulah Palmer Johnson, of Marlinton, and Ward M. Sharp of Russell, Pennsylvania.

Letters were read from three other class members: Joe C. Graves, of Detroit, Michigan, Mary Kenney Shaw, of St. Petersburg, Florida, and Ethel Hannah High, of Mustoe, Virginia. Lilyan Wiley Breakwell, of Palo Alto, California, was also a member of this class.

WEDDING

Wedding vows were exchanged by Miss Debrah Lynn Mace and William Ray Umstot on May 17. The double ring ceremony was performed in the Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Mace, of Short Gap, are the parents of the bride. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Umstot, of Keyser.

see 50 pg 11

Footsteps through History

The Pocahontas Times
Price Brothers

Thursday, July 26, 1900

LOCAL ITEMS

We now come to the beginning of the 20th century, but to fully understand the events transpiring in the first part of that century we must consider the cause which led up to them. We therefore review part of the history of the 19th century.

Learning became general; all classes of people could and did read; the newspapers became very cheap; all men could afford it and became enlightened. The railroad and the telegraph penetrated every part of the country. There were no rural communities shut in from the evil influences of the cities — all classes became in a manner urban. The Bible was universally read. All men pretended to follow its teaching of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God therein inculcated was at variance with the practice of so-called Christianity.

The great civil war of secession had been fought. The North was for years dominant in the nation's politics. The Republican party triumphed in almost every national election, and its doctrine of protection became the policy of the nation.

This policy was a form of socialism, which by means of a prohibitive tariff kept out foreign competition in certain lines of manufacture. This led to the investment of capital in those lines to such an extent that those industries would soon have fallen to their natural productive capacity. But to crush out competition, those who were engaged in the protected industries inaugurated a form of socialism, called trusts, which crushed out competition and regulated wages and controlled the prices of both raw and manufactured materials...

Why mow with an old rusty scythe when you can get the best scythe that is made for 88¢ and the patent snaths for 60¢; also hay rakes for 18¢ at A. Harrison & Co.

A party of about 20 young ladies and gentlemen from Marlinton went to the Meadows of Williams River Thursday on a fishing excursion and returned Friday. Mrs. B. M. Yeager accompanied the party.

Miss Zoe Irvine, daughter of Captain William Irvine, one of Marlinton's charming young ladies fell out of an apple tree last Monday morning breaking one of the bones in her leg below the knee. Dr. Price reduced the fracture, and she is doing as well as could be expected.

One of the sensations of the day occurs when a blast is set off to displace material for grading the railroad. A hole 10 or 12 feet is bored on the hillside, a half bushel of powder poured in and rammed, a signal is given and the fuse ignited.

For five or 10 minutes there is breathless expectancy. Something subterranean and invisible at length seems to give a hoarse grunt and hump its back. Thereupon many tons of earth are displayed and slide down ready for the carts, and that is about all there is of it.

TRAVELERS REPOSE

We have been having some fine rains for the past few days which was badly needed.

Mrs. Walter Bird and Miss Maud McLaughlin, of Huntersville, have been visiting in this neighborhood for the past week.

see History pg 11



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Blues, from page 3

The weekend concludes on Sunday with the Hot Dogs and Handlebars race beginning at 11 a.m. on the Right-Side Blue Trails of Western Territory. The

mountain bike race is the third in the series that runs throughout the summer. Stick around after the race for hot dogs, prizes and a party atmosphere.

Several beer samples will be available and BBQ vendors will be on site with delicious food offerings. The weekend pass gets

you into the Village events with a souvenir glass and a tear-tab wrist band for beer samples. Tickets are \$50 and Non-Drinker tickets are available for \$15 (and required for children six and older).

For more information and to book your getaway visit www.snowshoemtn.com

Mayor's, from page 4

Lead and Copper are taken every three years and were taken last September. When or if requested, copies of any of this information will be made available upon request, or may view them at any time on the WV Health Department website wvdwv.gecsws.com

The Consumer Confidence Report is a summary of the entire year's results of water production and Water Quality. The current CCR is posted on the Town of Marlinton website under the Consumer Confidence Report tab, a printed copy is available upon request.

We used three chemicals during the process of treating water, Sodium Bicarbonate (baking soda) for PH and Alkalinity adjustment, DEL-PAC 2020 (poly aluminum sulfate) is a coagulant that binds solids and particulates together and causes them to settle, and Chlorine – for disinfection. Fluoride is added to the water after treatment for the benefit of the dental health of the children in this town. These chemicals in the raw state are extremely hazardous,

however the amounts we use in plant operation are kept to the minimum amount required to effectively do their job and levels remain well within the standard limits set by the government agencies.

To address the issues in your initial email, there is nothing in our water that will produce a sulfur/rotten eggs smell, produce chemical burns, or bleach your clothes. Chlorine obviously would do it but not at the level we maintain in the system, with minimum level a .2 ppm (parts per million) and the max level at 4.0 ppm, we keep it between 1.5-2.0 ppm. Even at the Max level of 4.0 ppm it's not concentrated enough to bleach out clothes.

Believe it or not, the cause of certain issues is most likely the hot water heater. The hot water tank is basically a collection point in house plumbing. Manufacturers suggest that you turn them off and flush them out, at least once a year. Most people don't. Because we don't think about it or even know to do it. Inside water heaters is a cathode rod. It protects the tank from corrosion... until it doesn't. With age the rod breaks down, the tank starts to oxidize and rust

inside, and when it's not flushed out all that stuff builds up to the bottom heating element. As the heating element gets hot it heats up the rust and deposits in the bottom of the tank and creates Hydrogen Sulfide, which is the rotten egg/sulfur smell and likely the cause of the skin irritation and the ruining of your laundry.

I have had one other complaint called in recently similar to yours, I can offer you the same thing that I have been instructed to do for that customer.

I have been instructed by the WV Public Service Commission to flush the fire hydrants closest to the residence and to give them a 1,000 gallons water to flush the plumbing in the house.

If that it is something you would like to do I will need you to contact me and set up a time and date, and I will come and pull your meter and put in one of mine so that that 1,000 gallons does not go on your bill, and you will have to shut off your water heater and drain it, take all the screens out of your faucets and remove any filters or screen you may have in place, and open anything else attached to your plumbing that may need to be flushed out.

Reason, from page 3

author has self-published nine novels and five nonfiction books since the start of 2021. That's a book roughly every 104 days. I've read only a few excerpts, but I respectfully suggest that the author spend more of that free time editing.

And yet, she has the right idea.

The act of creating is what gives art its value.

If only the output mattered, then a print of Vincent Van Gogh's Orchard with Cypressess should sell for roughly the same amount as the original painting. They are, after all, identical images. And yet I can pick up the print for \$32 on art.com. The original last sold at auc-

tion for \$117 million.

And, yes, prints are a different medium from paintings. Nevertheless, a great forgery of Orchard would also sell for a lot less than \$117 million.

This is not to say that an artist's output is completely irrelevant. Van Gogh's work sells for lots of money because he is an important artist. His innovations with color and his distinctive brushwork inspired multiple movements in modern art. The act of creative genius and the output itself are inextricably bound.

But you don't get that value without the creative act. The struggle to express an artistic vision is what makes art worth pursuing. It's the reason actors rehearse, musicians practice and painters sketch.

When *Star Trek's* Com-

mander Riker performs with a jazz ensemble, the point is not that his trombone playing is perfect. Indeed, in one episode, Riker's inability to hit a particular note despite years of practice is an important plot point. Trying to master the song is the point. If the goal were merely to produce great jazz trombone sounds, then Riker could simply play a recording of Tommy Dorsey or Glenn Miller.

The best-case scenario for AI – the *Star Trek* utopian vision – is that it moves us toward a post-scarcity world – one in which humans are freed from material wants and can dedicate themselves to making art.

A world in which machines make art while humans do drudgery? That's way too *Star Wars* for my taste.

Letters, from page 4

tain Radio was originally passed with broad support from Republicans and Democrats alike, but last week only the Republicans moved to revoke it. The vote in the Senate was actually quite close: if Capito and Justice had voted to continue support for community radio, the attempts to shut it down would have failed. Instead, they voted to cut us off.

Politicians love events where they can appear standing next to public works like a new bridge or a big hole in the ground. If we lose our community radio network because of their actions we

should invite Capito, Justice and Miller to the closing ceremony. They can help power down the transmitter, turn off the lights, and lock the doors.

It would be a dandy photograph.

F.J. Lockman
Cass

Editor,

The Locust Creek covered bridge is a major historic landmark in the county. Built by R. N. Bruce in 1870 for \$1,250.

In 1888, the original bridge was burned and replaced.

In 1904, it was rebuilt again by W. M. Irvine and has been repaired several times since then.

Although most of the

structure is in good condition, a section of the roof has been blown off; this started as a small area peeling off several months ago and has been growing after each major windstorm. Covered bridges are built like barns with open ends to prevent damage from rain. Unless this is repaired the damage will grow and water damage to the structure will take place.

My online searches have not identified who would be responsible for or could make what at this point is still a simple repair.

I am writing this letter to the editor in the hopes that it will lead to parties that can address this problem.

Joe Kaffl
Hillsboro

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ADMINISTRATION TO CREDITORS,
DISTRIBUTEES & LEGATEES

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

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

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

First Publication Date: July 17, 2025
Claim Deadline: Monday, September 15, 2025

ESTATE NUMBER 14791
ESTATE OF LARKEN D. DEAN
ADMINISTRATOR: Timothy Dean
142 North Church Street
Craigsville, VA 24430-2152

Subscribed and sworn to before me on July 11, 2025.
Melissa L. Bennett
Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission
7/17/2c

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

Notice is hereby given that the following foreign will or affidavit of heirs has been filed in the Pocahontas County Clerk's Office at 900 Tenth Avenue Suite C; P. O. Box 209, Marlinton, WV 24954-0209.

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

First Publication Date: Thursday, July 17, 2025

ESTATE NAME: CAROL WASHBURN DALTON
1826 Cherokee Road
Waynesboro, VA 22980-2229
ADMINISTRATOR CTA: William W. Dalton
1826 Cherokee Road
Waynesboro, VA 22980-2229

Subscribed and sworn to before me on July 9, 2025
Melissa L. Bennett
Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission
7/17/2c

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WITHOUT ANY ADMINISTRATION
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First Publication Date: Thursday, July 10, 2025

ESTATE NAME: ROSE MARIE JAUREGUI
113 PINE TREE ROAD
OCEAN CITY, MD 21842-4645
ADMINISTRATOR CTA: Christopher S. Robins
128 East Main Street
Salisbury, MD 21801-5043

Subscribed and sworn to before me on July 2, 2025.
Melissa L. Bennett
Clerk of the Pocahontas County Commission
7/10/2c

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

2024-C-000017-POCAHONTAS COUNTY- WVTB LLC

To: TIMOTHY HOOVER, CASSANDRA HOOVER, BETHANY HOOVER, DAN KENNEDY, TRUSTEE, TODD TAYLOR, TRUSTEE, BETTY HOOVER, CITY NATIONAL BANK OF WEST VIRGINIA, MARLINTON BRANCH, CITY NATIONAL BANK OF WEST VIRGINIA, MARLINTON BRANCH, CITY NATIONAL BANK RETAIL PRODUCTION, TIMOTHY HOOVER, TIMOTHY HOOVER, MEGAN RENEE HOOVER, ELAINA MAE FAITH HOOVER, AT-TALYNNE BREANNA PAIGE HOOVER, ROBERT MARSHALL ALLEN HOOVER, OCCUPANT, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE C/O ADVISORY CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, IRS ATTN: ADVISORY CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT: EDRAY MAP: 34 PARCEL 0013 0000 0000

You will take notice that WVTB LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, CERT NO. 2024-C-000017, located in Edray District, School Lot .50 AC 171x182 IRR, which was returned delinquent or non-entered in the name of HOOVER TIMOTHY (LIFE) CASSANDRA; BE, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Pocahontas County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 23, 2025.

WVTB LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2025 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023-2687.

\$ 244.10

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

\$ 0.00

Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest for tax

U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of Surface Mining
Reclamation and Enforcement
Notice of Decision
for Determination of Valid Existing Rights
Monongahela National Forest
Pocahontas County, West Virginia

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) received a request by letter dated September 18, 2024, for a determination as to whether South Fork Coal Company (SFCC) has Valid Existing Rights (VER) to use an existing United States Forest Service (USFS) road as a coal mine access and haul road across Federal lands within the Monongahela National Forest in Pocahontas County, West Virginia.

By this notice, OSMRE is announcing the publication of the Notice of Decision on this VER determination.

SFCC alleged that it possesses VER to use a 1.2-mile portion of road located within the Monongahela National Forest, known as USFS Road 249, either through a road use permit issued by the USFS (Permit No. FS-7700-41) on September 29, 2021, or in the alternative, through mineral rights it had acquired. The subject portion of USFS Road 249 is located approximately 7 miles west of Hillsboro, West Virginia, northwest of Briery Knob, and east of the South Fork of Cherry River. USFS Road 249 begins at an intersection with Pocahontas County Route 29/4, also known as Briary Knob Road, and runs 1.2 miles west and south towards the border of Greenbrier County.

Pursuant to the VER regulations, OSMRE opened the application to a 30-day public comment period by publishing notices in the Federal Register on March 20, 2025 (90 FR 13194) and in The Pocahontas Times beginning on March 27, 2025.

We reviewed the materials submitted with the request, all comments received in response to this VER and other notices, and other relevant, reasonably available information and determined that the record was sufficiently complete and adequate to support a decision on the merits of the request.

We have determined that SFCC does have valid existing rights to use for surface coal mining operations the 1.2-mile portion of USFS Road 249, across a portion of the Monongahela National Forest. This decision is based solely on the finding that the road was in existence at this location and within the Monongahela National Forest prior to August 3, 1977, the effective date of the SMCRA, and that the applicant does have a legal right to use this road for surface coal mining operations under the road use permit issued by USFS (Permit No. FS-7700-41) on September 29, 2021.

More information regarding the VER determination and how we arrived at our decision is available in the Notice of Decision published in the Federal Register on July 18, 2025. Records on this determination are available for inspection at the Charleston Field Office, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1027 Virginia Street East, Charleston, West Virginia 25301.

You may request a review of records by calling 304-977-7177 or e-mailing osm-chofo@osmre.gov

7/24/1c

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

year 2024-2708. \$ 151.64
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 179.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State, with interest. \$ 1,114.99
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor – cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 1,690.68
You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2025 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand July 9, 2025.

Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of Pocahontas County,
State of West Virginia.

see Legal Advertisements pg 11

NOTICE TO BID

The Pocahontas County Commission will receive bids for upgrading the Pocahontas County Courthouse surveillance system.

Quote must contain design, purchase of all cameras, monitors and other equipment necessary for installation of the systems, including all electrical wiring as required for installation and monitoring by the Pocahontas County Sheriff's Office and the Pocahontas County 911 Center. System must be compatible with existing surveillance system and have a response time of not more than 45 minutes for service calls. Successful bidder must possess valid West Virginia contractor's license and liability insurance.

Specifications of Bid:

Optiview IP digital video surveillance system consisting of:
(1) 32 channel 4K network video recorder (NVR) with 24TB of hard drive storage

(1) 24 port POE network switch
(24) 8-mega-pixel varifocal color armor dome IP cameras
(15) existing analog cameras will be replaced with the new Optiview cameras.

(9) additional cameras will be added at the following locations:

- courthouse outside main entry
- outside at handicap entry door
- outside corner of the building facing the 911 Center
- outside at alley entry door
- outside Health Department entry door
- outside at the front stairwell exit door
- outside main floor hallway exit door next to Sheriff's office
- main floor exit stairwell next to elevator
- 2nd floor exit stairwell backside of court room

All existing coax cabling connecting the current analog cameras will be replaced with Cat6 network cabling.

Optiview monitoring software and smart phone applications to be installed on customer-provided computers and smart phones.

Training and operation of the system to be provided by successful bid.

All Optiview equipment requires a 24-month manufacturer's warranty.

For additional information and/or arrangements for an inspection of the premises may be made by contacting Melissa Bennett, Pocahontas County Clerk at (304) 799-4549 or by email to pocacik@clerk.state.wv.us

All bids should be submitted in writing and placed in a sealed envelope marked "Sealed Bid – Pocahontas County Courthouse Surveillance System" and delivered by mail or in person to:

Pocahontas County Commission
c/o Melissa Bennett, County Clerk
900 Tenth Avenue, Marlinton, WV 24954

no later than the 4th day of August, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.

Bids will be opened in the Office of the Pocahontas County Commission on Tuesday, the 5th day of August, 2025, at 8:45 a.m.

For further information, please contact the County Commission Office (304) 799-6063 Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. – 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
7/24/2c

POCAHONTAS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT EXPANSION

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

1.1 PROJECT INFORMATION

A. Notice to Bidders: Qualified bidders may submit bids for project as described in this Document. Submit bids according to the Instructions to Bidders.

B. Project Identification: Pocahontas Memorial Hospital – Emergency Department Expansion.

1. Project Location: 150 Duncan Road, Buckeye, West Virginia 24924.

C. Owner: Pocahontas Memorial Hospital.

1. Owner's Representative: Rebecca Hammer – rhammer@pmhvv.org : 304-799-1024

D. Architect: Becker Morgan Group, Inc.

1. Architect's Representative: Kelsey S. Fields, AIA, kfields@beckermorgan.com : 410-546-9100

E. Project Description: Project consists of renovations and addition to the emergency departments, and associated sitework to the existing Pocahontas Memorial Hospital.

F. Construction Contract: Bids will be received for the following Work:

1. General Contract (all trades).

1.2 BID SUBMITTAL AND OPENING

A. Owner will receive sealed lump sum bids until the bid time and date at the location given below. Owner will consider bids prepared in compliance with the Instructions to Bidders issued by Owner, and delivered as follows:

1. Bid Date: August 12, 2025

2. Bid Time: 10:00 a.m., local time.

3. Location: Pocahontas Memorial Hospital

a. 150 Duncan Road, Buckeye, West Virginia 24924.

b. Bids shall be addressed to attention of Rebecca Hammer.

B. Bids will be thereafter publicly opened and read aloud.

1.3 BID SECURITY

A. Bid security shall be submitted with each bid in the amount of 5 percent of the bid amount. No bids may be withdrawn for a period of 60 days after opening of bids. Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities and irregularities.

1.4 PREBID MEETING

A. Prebid Meeting: A Prebid meeting for all bidders will be held at Pocahontas Memorial Hospital, 150 Duncan Road, Buckeye, West Virginia 24924 – Board Room on July 22, 2025 at 10 a.m., local time.

Prospective prime bidders are required to attend.

1.5 DOCUMENTS

A. Online Procurement and Contracting Documents: Obtain access on or after July 9, 2025, by contacting Architect, Becker Morgan Group, Inc. – Kelsey S. Fields, AIA by email, kfields@beckermorgan.com.

Online access will be provided to prime bidders only.

B. Requests for clarification or interpretation (RFI) shall be submitted by email with an attached pdf of the RFI with the company name and address, the project name and project number, cross reference to pertinent Drawings and/or Specification. And shall be submitted to Kelsey S. Fields (kfields@beckermorgan.com) and Brenden D. Frederick (bfrederick@beckermorgan.com).

1.6 TIME OF COMPLETION AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

A. Successful bidder shall begin the Work on receipt of the Notice to Proceed and shall complete the Work within the Contract Time. Work is subject to liquidated damages.

1.7 BIDDER'S QUALIFICATIONS

A. Bidders must be properly licensed under the laws governing their respective trades and be able to obtain insurance and bonds required for the Work. A Performance Bond, separate Labor and Material Payment Bond, and Insurance in a form acceptable to Owner will be required of the successful Bidder.

Pocahontas Memorial Hospital
Rebecca Hammer
7/24/1nc

Advertising
Deadline
is Monday
at noon.
Call
304-799-4973

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

6	9	7	4	1	3	8	5	2
8	5	3	9	6	2	1	4	7
2	4	1	8	7	5	3	6	9
4	1	5	7	3	8	9	2	6
3	8	2	6	9	4	5	7	1
9	7	6	5	2	1	4	3	8
7	3	8	2	5	9	6	1	4
1	2	4	3	8	6	7	9	5
5	6	9	1	4	7	2	8	3

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ACROSS FROM TUDOR'S BISCUIT WORLD
Lewisburg, WV

2025 ASSESSMENT

July 1, 2025 is the beginning of the new assessment year.
This assessment will make up the 2026 taxes (tax ticket).

Real estate – Real estate is valued by three methods; farmland, managed timberland and market value.

Farmland – Farm land value is based on the income it produces. In order to have your land valued as farm, you or someone else, must qualify it as a farm or part of a farm operation. If claimed by someone else, you need to ensure that they have your property listed on their farm application. We must have a completed form signed and on file before we can qualify your real estate as a farm. This form must be completed on a yearly basis and is due no later than September 1, 2025. Any applications received after this date will be denied in accordance with West Virginia Legislative Rule 110 C.S.R. 1A. In an effort to expedite the return of the farm form, we will mail an advance copy to those who qualified last year. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call or stop by the office and someone here will assist you. Failure to meet the September 1, 2025 deadline will cause your property to be valued at market value which is a drastic increase over farm value. If you are a new applicant, please contact us prior to this date. If you purchased new land or rented new farm property, make sure it is added to your farm form. If you have been approved/qualified for the farm rate and plan to timber/log your property, please contact our office. Land that is timbered/ logged and is part of a qualified farm, can result in your property being appraised at market value and increasing your taxes on the property. If you contact this office, we can provide information and other options that may save you money.

Managed Timberland – The initial contract for Managed Timberland property must be applied for by July 1. Once approved, you must submit an application annually, between March 1st and September 1st every year in order to remain in the program. The Assessor does not approve or deny any Managed Timberland applications. All approvals or denials are done by the West Virginia Division of Forestry. If you have any questions, please call (304) 558-2788 option 2, or write the West Virginia Division of Forestry, 7 Players Club Dr. Charleston, WV 25311. To ensure your application was received, I recommend you call the West Virginia Division of Forestry prior to the deadlines shown above. Applications for this program are available at the West Virginia Division of Forestry website at www.wvforestry.com Applications can also be obtained at the Assessor's office.

Market Value – Market Value of real estate is the value your property would expect to bring, if sold.

Homestead Exemption – If you are 65 years of age or permanently and totally disabled and have been a resident of West Virginia for two full calendar years, you can qualify. This exemption will give you \$20,000 assessed value exemption on your real estate. This exemption will save you at least \$135.00 or as much as \$185.00 for those who live within corporations. In order to receive this exemption, you must complete the application not later than December 1, 2025. This exemption once approved, will remain in effect. To qualify for disability exemption, you must provide proof of disability in addition to completing the application. This office has the application and will assist you in completing the required form.

Personal Property – The assessment of personal property, will be the same as last year. Vehicles will be assessed at 60% of NADA loan value. The value is based on vehicle identification numbers. Big trucks with non-apportioned license are to be reported on your assessment form. Trucks with apportioned license plates will still be reported to the Public Service Commission. All other property will be assessed at 60% of market value. We charge a \$25.00 fee on all supplemental tax tickets. These supplemental tax tickets are changes made because of incorrect information or lack thereof. To avoid the additional charge, please help us make sure you are assessed correctly. This can be done by contacting our office if you have not already been contacted by the Assessor, or a Deputy Assessor.

Dogs – State law requires that a tax be collected on all dogs in the county, which are at least six months old on July 1, or within ten days of the dog becoming six months of age during the assessment year. The dog tax is \$3.00 per dog for those who reside outside of corporations. If you reside within the corporations of Marlinton, Hillsboro or Durbin the dog tax is \$6.00 per dog. Dog tags can also be paid/purchased on-line at our website pocahontascountyassessor.com

Sheep & Goats – There is also a \$1.00 per head assessment on all sheep and goats of breeding age, for those electing to participate in this program. This assessment is to be collected by the Assessor or deputies and submitted to the Department of Agriculture for the Coyote Control Program.

If you have any questions, need assistance, or just feel more comfortable in person, please call or stop by our office. We are here to assist you. We want your assessment to be as easy and as convenient as possible for you to complete. The assessor and/or the deputy assessors, will attempt to contact everyone at their residence, please understand that this is not always possible. We appreciate your support and cooperation in ensuring we have a fair and accurate assessment of our county. If you have any questions, or need assistance, please call or stop by our office.

Sincerely,
Johnny A. Pritt
Pocahontas County Assessor
7/17/2c

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office
County Collections Division
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1 Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Question, please call 1-888-509-6568

7/17/3c

Forest Service Seeks Feedback on the Issuance of a Special Use Permit for Forest Road 249

The Forest Service is preparing a NEPA analysis considering the environmental impacts of issuing a special use permit on Monongahela National Forest's Gauley Ranger District in Pocahontas County, WV. The permit would authorize the use and maintenance of an existing National Forest System road (Forest Road 249) to South Fork Coal Company, LCC to facilitate hauling coal and other supplies from their Rocky Run mine to the processing plant. Both

the mine and processing plant are located on private land.

This permit would authorize a ten-year term to use and maintain 8.7 acres of National Forest System land (1.2 miles of FR 249 from the intersection of County Route 29/4 to its terminus, with a 60' maintenance width). Commercial trucks (up to 125-ton gross vehicle weight) would haul coal daily and haul supplies (e.g. fuels, stone) intermittently. Maintenance could include regrading towards the ditch line to maintain positive drainage, adding aggregate, cleaning culverts, and plowing snow. In a separate but connected action, the permittee is also requesting re-issuance of their commercial road use permit to operate vehicles under the WVDOT standard legal load limit (less than 44 tons) on the existing 3.8-mile Forest Road 223.

The Responsible Official, Cynthia Sandeno, expects to make a determination on the issuance of a special use permit for Forest Road 249 in September 2025. We are seeking feedback on this proposal from July 25 to August 7. Written comments with the subject line "Special Use Permit for Forest Road 249" can be submitted to:

comments-eastern-monongahela-gauley@usda.gov, or mailed to: Attn: Amy Albright, 2499 North Fork Hwy, Petersburg, WV 26847. A map can be found on the Monongahela National Forest project webpage at https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/monongahela/projects under the project name "Special Use Permit for Forest Road 249." For more information, contact Amy Albright at amy.albright2@usda.gov or call (304) 257-4488 extension 7128.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.
7/24/1c

Contribution Requests

Requests for contributions to be placed on the agenda for the August session of the Pocahontas County Commission must be made no later than 12:00 noon Wednesday, July 30, 2025.

Please contact 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. or by email to pocack@clerk.state.wv.us for further information and guidelines for contributions.

7/24/1c

50, from page 7

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Goldizen, of Marlinton, a daughter, Leslie Kay.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond G. Carr, of Moorefield, a daughter, Crystal Ann. The mother is the former Charlotte Ann Beverage.

DEATHS

100, from page 7

County, I drank from an alum spring that seemed capable of supplying all the people of West Virginia with alum. Some of these springs contain almost every soluble mineral. This is especially true of the Blue and White Sulphur Springs of Greenbrier County. Four or five miles east of Renick, on a limestone upland, is the finest view that I have ever looked upon, and I have looked over Uncle Sam's farm from Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts to the border of Texas. I wish I could describe it that you might see it through my eyes.

Both Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties are raising a great many fine sheep, and on these limestone uplands they are growing as fine of wheat as one could wish to see. The large tanneries and lumber mills

Robert "Bob" Curry, 55, of Frost, a son of Meade Curry and the late Ada Hamrick Curry. He was a county road foreman, a member of the Masonic Lodge and a veteran of World War II. Funeral service from the Frost United Methodist Church with burial in Mountain View Cemetery...

Mrs. Juanita Pearl Lovelace, 67, of Ronceverte, a member of the First Church

along the river furnish employment to many men and the people seem to be prosperous and happy...

MARRIED

July 1, 1925, at the Methodist Parsonage at White Sulphur Springs, Miss Amanda Susan Taylor and Mr. Pinkney Edwin Doyle, of Stony Bottom.

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Oley Jackson, near Marlinton, July 1, a daughter.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard McNeill, of Onoto, July 17, a son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Vaughan, at Raywood, July 16, 1925, a 10-pound boy.

DIED

Thomas Houchin died at a hospital in Ronceverte Monday evening, July 13, 1925. His age was 67 years. On Tuesday his body was buried at the cemetery near his late

of God. Funeral service at the church with burial in the Dunmore Cemetery...

Mrs. Hattie Jane Rhodes, 77; born at Renick a daughter of the late Alvon Preston and Chrissie Mae Pritt. She was a member of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in Hillsboro. Funeral service from Shanklin Funeral Home with burial in Oak Grove Cemetery.

home on Back Alleghany Mountain. Mr. Houchin is survived by his wife who was Miss Mary McNeill, a sister of Joe B. McNeill, near Marlinton. Their children are Mrs. Walter Beverage, of Hosterman; Mrs. Clara Ronner, of Salty Fork; Cecil, Elmer and Harper. One son, Ward, was killed in France in the World War as a member of the American Expedition Forces.

Infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Irvine, July 17, 1925, aged six weeks.

Elijah Cogar, 81, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Fred Galford, July 17, 1925. The funeral service was conducted from the West Union Church with burial in the Cochran Graveyard.

Miss Ethel Dean, aged about 22 years, died at the home of her father, Issac Dean, near Rimel.

daughter, Sharon Louise.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Tempest Hill, of Huntersville, a son, Kenneth Allen.

DEATHS

Kenneth A. Wilfong, aged 75 years, died July 24, 1950 at the home of his sister, Mrs. Abbie Arbogast. Funeral service was held from the Arbovale Church.

Margaret Daughtery Jackson, aged about 30 years, daughter of Boyd Daughtery, died in Boston, Mass. Burial in Mt. View Cemetery, the service being held from Smith's Funeral Home by Rev. I. H. Goodwyn.

George Patrick McLaughlin, aged 69 years, of Stony Bottom, died July 19, 1950. On Friday the funeral was held from Alexander Memorial Church with interment in Stony Bottom Cemetery. This well-known citizen of Pocahontas County is survived by his wife, Mrs. Cordie Townsend McLaughlin and their four sons...

Mrs. Flora Mae Sheets Grogg, 51, of Green Bank, daughter of Mrs. Addie Gum Sheets and the late David L. Sheets, died July 21, 1950, at her home. Funeral service was held at the home by Rev. Q. R Arbogast with interment in Abovale cemetery.

Mrs. Susie Smith Mayo, wife of O. H. Mayo, aged 60, died suddenly of a heart attack July 24, 1950. No

arrangements have been made pending arrival of near relatives from Erie, Penn. Interment will be made in Buckeye Cemetery. The deceased was a daughter of the late B. F. Smith.

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Program & Event Coordinator

Part-time position will report to the Board of Directors and assist in the coordination of performances, workshops, camps and other special events. Visit www.highlandcountyartscouncil.org for full job description. Questions can also be directed to highlandcoarts@gmail.com.

Classifieds

GET THE JOB DONE!
Buy • Sell • Trade • Rent • Hire

Advertising deadline is Monday at noon.
Call 304-799-4973 to place yours now.

FOR SALE

rooms. Jay Kniceley, 304-799-6243.
7/10/4c

HOUSES AND REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE - Eight acres, Town of Marlinton. Scenic views. Borders national forest and hike/bike trail. Call 304-799-6312 after 6 p.m.
7/10/4pc

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

POSITIONS AVAILABLE - Part-time and Full-time Cook and Dietary aide at Pocahontas Center, 15 Everett Tibbs Road, Marlinton. No experience required. Offers benefits. Background check required. Contact Robert at 304-992-6124.
7/10/3p

History, from page 7

We wonder why it is some people can't go a short distance without passing Durbin without lying down in the shade. There must be some very fatal bug juice in that place.

We are in favor of the county court issuing license. Perhaps someone would have to pay something for selling liquor then, but the way it is now the county does not get one cent from that source. A man can come in here and sell whiskeys six or eight months and leave, taking with him several hundred dollars out of our county. Give us license and make the men who want it pay what it is worth. — MISSES SWINDHAMMER

McCLINTIC'S CAMP

The recent rains did not make driving water in the Middle Fork.

Harry Luzier has come back again. He is an all-right cook, and only weighs 240, but he is a hustler just the same. His wife and five children are staying at McClintic's.

tic's.

There are about 65 men here and are doing a good business skidding and building slide.

Mr. Samuel Rankin is the woods boss. He is about 70 years of age, but he is as active and gets around as well as many of the younger men. He is a fine woodsman and has spent several years on the water.

Six teams are at work in the woods, and two teams

are kept busy hauling supplies from Cowen.

Peter Hammons has a job of road making; he will work about 25 hands. His contract is about five miles. W. McClintic is having the road made.

There will soon be a good road from Marlinton to Cowen.

Edden Hammons can play the fiddle, fish and dig ramps all at the same time.

WE KEEP YOUR EQUIPMENT RUNNING!

You've got jobs to do - keep your small engine equipment in shape all summer!

RIDING OR PUSH MOWERS, WEEDEATERS, PRESSURE WASHERS, GENERATORS AND MORE

POPE'S Pocahontas Outdoor Power Equipment Service
1/4 mile east of Rt. 218 on Denmar Road, Hillsboro

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday by appointment **304-653-4988**

LABORERS AND CARPENTERS NEEDED

Location: Snowshoe, WV. Starting pay is \$18/hour. MUST have dependable transportation and be able to get up and down Snowshoe Mountain year-round, regardless of weather. Opportunity for pay raise depending on experience and work ethic. 40-hour work week with opportunities for overtime. There is a 60-day probationary period.

Call or text Carlton, 304-642-5039, for more information if interested.

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Seeking Assistant General Manager of Operations

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Open House at Humane Society

The Humane Society of Pocahontas County invites the public to tour the “Cat House” Saturday, August 2, from noon to 2 p.m.

Add this event to your calendar and take some time to meet their adoptable kittens.

Whether you’re looking to adopt a kitten, volunteer, or just visit — everyone is welcome.

Learn about the important work of the HSPC and how you can help.

There will be drawings for gift certificates generously donated by local businesses in appreciation of the HSPC’s mission.

Tickets for the drawing may be purchased at the event, bundles of 10 and 20 tickets for \$10 and \$20. (cash only).

You must be present to win.

The HSPC is located at 410 Second Avenue in Marlinton.



YOU MAY RECOGNIZE Romeo, left photo, the cat model whose photos have accompanied a few stories in *The Pocahontas Times* over the years. He’s pictured here making an earnest appeal for support of the animal shelter and the humane society. Romeo is a perfect example of the benefits of adoption — not just for the animals, but for their human families, too. Adopted from the animal shelter, Romeo became an extraordinarily faithful friend to his grateful mistress.

ROMEO’S SOMEWHAT PESKY little sister, Rafi, was adopted two years ago from the HSPC Cat House as a kitten. Her inexhaustible antics are a constant source of entertainment and amusement. She took a break from her “paperwork” to urge the public to come to HSPC’s Open House on August 2.

TRIVIA ANSWERS: (1). Kent State (2). Marco Polo (3). The Hundred Years’ War (4). John Glenn



NEW EXTENDED HOURS!

Community Care of Marlinton

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Friday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday : 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

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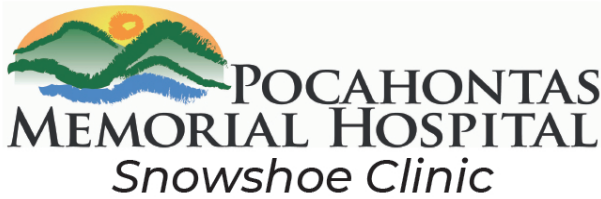
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Now Accepting Appointments! Chance Walther, FNP

Chance Walther, FNP has joined our Snowshoe Clinic team and is accepting patients of all ages by appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Chance received his Master of Science in Nursing, with a specialization as a Family Nurse Practitioner from West Virginia Wesleyan College. Chance has been a Registered Nurse for 15 years, working 14 of those in PMH's Emergency Department.

Chance is a Pocahontas County native and resides in the county with his wife and children.

The Snowshoe Clinic is now open Monday - Friday, 8am - 6pm.

“It has always been an honor to serve the people of Pocahontas County in their time of need as an ER nurse. I am excited to continue serving the community as an advanced practice nurse and meet the unique needs of our patients.”



**Call Now to Make an Appointment:
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located inside the Inn at Snowshoe on Cass Road, Slatyfork



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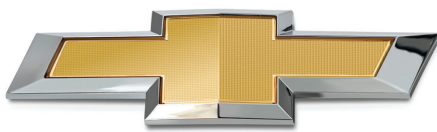
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