



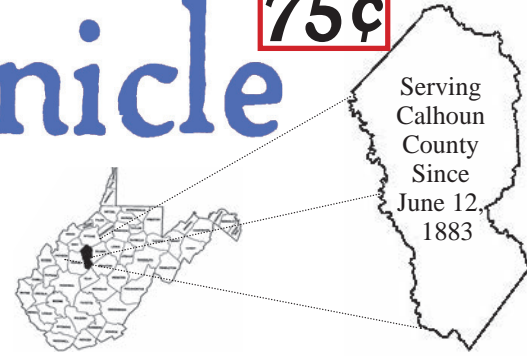
The Calhoun Chronicle

75¢



and The Grantsville News

"Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts"



Whole Number 6895

Grantsville, West Virginia 26147

Thursday, January 21, 2021

FREE FOOD

Thursday, Jan. 21, Noon to 2 p.m.
Calhoun Middle/High School

Calhoun County Schools will sponsor and distribute Blessing Boxes of food for residents of the county through a grant received from No Kid Hungry.

Boxes will be distributed on Thursday, Jan. 21, noon to 2 p.m., in a drive-thru style distribution at Calhoun Middle/High School.

The food will include 10-lbs. of hamburger, a variety of beans, peas, cheese, sauce, and pasta, with items subject to substitution or omission due to availability.

Remain in your vehicle, have your trunk or hatch open, and space cleared out. Continue to practice social distancing and wear a mask.

Friday, Jan. 22, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Family Resource Network

Family Resource Network will host a mobile food pantry for everyone in Calhoun County on Friday, Jan. 22, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the old Calhoun Banks drive-thru lot in Grantsville.

There are no income requirements to participate. Mountaineer Food Bank drives a box truck into the lot and unloads tons of food.

Volunteers distribute food to residents through a drive-thru format. Those participating are asked to not exit their car, but instead, direct the volunteers as to where to load their food.

In order to assure limited disruption to traffic in Grantsville, drivers are asked to not begin lining up prior to 10:45 a.m. Volunteers will be positioned to help with directing traffic. Please be courteous to those individuals.

(FRN has established its own food pantry that those eligible can visit weekly from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

Re-Entry Plans For Local Schools

Calhoun County superintendent of schools Kelli Whytsell has released the following information concerning the county's re-entry plan:

This fluid document may need to be added to and updated as more information becomes available. If Calhoun County experiences an increase in COVID-19 cases, the recommended school schedule will be changed and adjusted.

Gov. Jim Justice's executive order states: "Declare and Order, beginning Jan. 19, 2021, that private and public elementary and middle/junior high schools throughout the state may be open for in-person instruction and/or extracurricular activities, without regard to the designation of the school's county on the DHHR County Alert System, and that private and public high schools, grades 9 through

12, throughout this state shall remain closed to in-person instruction and/or extracurricular activities when such school's county is the "red" designation on the DHHR County Alert System. Executive Order No. 1-21."

The State Board of Education voted in a motion during their meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 13, (in-part: "The WVBE desires to return students to in-person learning and to ensure that students, teachers, and staff can do so safely.")

It is my recommendation that when Calhoun County is red on the DHHR County Alert System, Calhoun Middle/High School students grades 9-12 be remote. Calhoun County school nurse Trudi Anderson and myself will work with Mid-Ohio Valley Health Dept. to determine if any additional schools in the (Continued on Page 4)

Board Of Education Removed From 'Financial Watch List'

The Calhoun County board of education met on Thursday, Jan. 14, 5:30 p.m., at the Mt. Zion office.

Superintendent of schools Kelli Whytsell announced that she had received a letter from Amy Willard, W.Va. Dept. of Education's school operations officer.

"Really good news! This is the official declaration that we are no longer on the Financial Watch List," said Whytsell. "(It was) a lot of hard work, a lot of sweat, a lot of tears."

The letter informed Whytsell that Calhoun County Board of Education had been removed from the "Financial Watch List" that is maintained by

the WVDE's Office of School Finance.

The letter read, in part, "The decision to remove the county from the Financial Watch List was primarily based on the improvement in the Board's unrestricted general current expense fund balance as of June 30, 2020." (See the full letter on Page 2 of this issue.)

[The board had been placed on the list several years ago, after a previous board found that, under a previous superintendent, a rumored debt of \$300,000 was actually \$1,800,000.]

In other matters, Whytsell reported the following:

--Calhoun County Schools' 10-year Compre-

hensive Educational Facilities Plan had been approved by WVDE.

--Received a letter that the county's Special Education on-site monitoring had been closed.

Whytsell said, "We are very thankful that we were able to get through all of that. It was extremely difficult, because these things are usually done in person."

"We didn't have a certified gifted teacher. That was one of the last things holding us up, because they are hard to find. We were able to contract for gifted special education services," thanks to the efforts of Jeannie Bennett-Yoak.

--Announced that another Blessing Box food giveaway would be held on Thursday, Jan. 21, from noon to 2 p.m. Funding should be available to also do the giveaway in February and March. USDA delivers the food to the school.

--The first day that students can practice for sports and extracurricular activities will be Monday, Feb. 15, and the first day

of competition will be on Wednesday, Mar. 3.

There will be some over-lapping of winter and spring sports, with winter championships in late April and spring championships in early June.

--First semester will end on Tuesday, Jan. 26, and second semester will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 27.

--When asked about COVID-19 transmissions, Whytsell said, "We have had zero school transmissions, so there has been no student who has gotten it from a student from school. We have had zero staff or zero school transmissions from within the school."

"We have had staff members who have tested positive from the community. We have had students who have been positive, but it was not from school, but it's from the community."

"Trudi (Anderson, school nurse) has stayed on top of it."

Some of the comments under board acknowledgments were as (Continued on Page 5)

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics For Ages 65+

Gov. Jim Justice announced on Tuesday that the W.Va. Dept. of Health and Human Resources and the W.Va. Joint Interagency Task Force for COVID-19 Vaccines will have vaccine clinics that will be held this week through Operation Save Our Wisdom.

This week's clinics are available for West Virginians who are 65 years of age and older.

The free vaccination clinics will be held in 16 counties. Residents from any county in West Virginia may access an appointment at any of the vaccination clinics listed, regardless of their county of residence.

Many clinics are listed as full, as they are utilizing existing waitlists; however, they will continue to place new individuals on a waitlist.

All clinics require appointments, and walk-ins will not be accepted. The community vaccination clinic model will continue to be used each week, and additional locations will be added as vaccine supply increases.

Clinics in this general area are as follows:

Thursday, Jan. 21
Braxton County (Full: Will utilize existing waitlist. Will also continue to place individuals on a

waitlist.)
9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Gassaway Baptist Church, 56 Beall Dr., Gassaway. By appointment only. Names will continue to be taken for inclusion on a waitlist. Call 304-471-2240.

Harrison County (Full: Will utilize existing waitlist. Will also continue to place individuals on a waitlist.)

9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Nathan Goff Armory, 5 Armory Road, Clarksburg. By appointment only. Names will continue to be taken for inclusion on a waitlist. Call 304-423-7969.

Kanawha County

7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center, 200 Civic Center Dr., Charleston. By appointment only. Call 304-357-5157 (may begin calling at 1 p.m. Wednesday for appointment).

Wood County

9 a.m. to 5 p.m., WVU-Parkersburg Early Childhood Education Center, 300 Campus Drive, Parkersburg. By appointment only. Names will continue to be taken for inclusion on a waitlist. Call 304-420-1449 (may begin calling at noon on Wednesday for an appointment or waitlist.).

Friday, Jan. 22

Kanawha County (Full: Will utilize existing waitlist. Will also continue to place individuals on a waitlist.)

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sissonville Health Center, 6135 Sissonville Drive, Charleston. By appointment only. Names will continue to be taken for inclusion on a waitlist. Call 304-734-2040 or register via email: Covid-19vaccine@cchswv.org.

For information, visit vaccinate.wv.gov.

Candidates Sign-Up For Grantsville Offices

Five residents had signed up by noon on Tuesday as candidates in the Town of Grantsville's General Election:

Town Council: Cheryl Cheesbrow, Dorothy McCauley, Judy Powell.

Recorder: Timothy G. Davis.

Mayor: Derek L. Villers.

Applications will remain available for mayor, recorder, and five council seats from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Saturday, Jan. 30,

in the town office.

The election is to be held in June.

If returning application by mail, it must be postmarked by U.S. Postal Service no later than midnight on Jan. 30.

All candidates must have been a resident of the municipality for at least six months. A notarization and filing fee are required.

Filing fees are: mayor, \$50; recorder, \$25; and council, \$15.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, Jan. 20

Free State COVID-19 screening, Minnie Hamilton annex building, 9 a.m. to noon.

Calhoun County Solid Waste Authority teleconference meeting, 4 p.m.; call 1-978-990-5000, use access code 9206.

Grief/loss ministry, Cornerstone Church, 527 Highland St., Grantsville, 5:30 p.m.; for information, call 354-0492.

Thursday, Jan. 21

Blessing Boxes of food distributed by drive-thru style, Calhoun Middle/High School, noon to 2 p.m.; sponsored by Calhoun County Schools and No Kid Hungry grant.

Friday, Jan. 22

Mobile food pantry, old Calhoun Banks drive-

thru, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; sponsored by Mountaineer Food Bank and Family Resource Network; open to all Calhoun residents.

Tuesday, Jan. 26

Free State COVID-19 screening, Minnie Hamilton annex building, 9 a.m. to noon.

Wednesday, Jan. 27

Free State COVID-19 screening, Minnie Hamilton annex building, 9 a.m. to noon.

Grief/loss ministry, Cornerstone Church, 527 Highland St., Grantsville, 5:30 p.m.; for information, call 354-0492.

Saturday, Jan. 30

Deadline to return applications for Town of Grantsville election for mayor, recorder and five council members; town office, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

COVID-19 VACCINE INFO LINE

Have questions about the COVID-19 vaccines or vaccination process?

CALL: 1-833-734-0965

Hours of operation: M-F 8am to 6pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, closed on Sunday

VACCINATE.WV.GOV
#CommunityImmunityWV

OBITUARIES

RUTH ELLEN DYE BELL

Ruth Ellen Dye Bell, 75, of Big Springs, died Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021, at Camden Clark Medical Center, Parkersburg.

She was born in Ritchie County, the daughter of the late Harold Dye and Estie Greathouse Dye. She attended Calhoun County schools and Prosperity Baptist Church. She was a retired seamstress.

Surviving are two children, Lorena Ingram and Herbert Bell; two grandchildren, Shane Ingram and Cassey Haught; and four great-grandchildren, Piper Ingram, Jaxon Ingram, Quinn Haught and Audrey Haught.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold Bell; four brothers; and one sister.

Services were held at Stump Funeral Home, Grantsville, with Rev. Ken Heiney officiating. Burial was in Ayers Cemetery, Smithville.



OMAGENE EAGLE WILLIAMS

Omagene Eagle Williams, 90, of Big Bend, died Thursday, Jan 14, 2021.

She was the daughter of the late Carl and Anna Goodnight Eagle.

Surviving are her children, Donald R. Williams, Earnest Williams of Belmont, Roy W. Williams, Robert G. Williams, Anna B. McCumbers and Terry T. Williams, all of Big Bend, Connie L. Weekley of York, Pa., Janet Krause of Camp Hill, Pa., and Vonda Shears of Elizabeth; grandchildren, Donnie Williams, Twila Williams, Carrie Lott Williams, Rebecca Williams, Jennifer Williams, Zackary Williams, Matthew Williams, Robert Williams, Christopher Williams, Nichole Weekley, Danielle Weekley, Amber Krause, Russell Underwood, Daniel Chaffee, Brandon Underwood, Tyler Underwood, Josh McCumbers, Eric McCumbers, Stephanie McCumbers and Brittany Williams; and great-grandchildren, Ashton Lee Kayla, Hayden Lee, Kayliegh, Finn, Hunter, Bear, River, Taylor, Cieara, David, Zoie, Elijah, Allison, Skylar, Easton, Mackenzie, Abigail, Dakota, Cole, Lexi and Ty.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Williamson Dale Williams; sons, Billy Williams and Donald R. Williams; and grandson, Matthew W. Williams.

Services will be held Friday, 1 p.m., at Stump Funeral Home, Grantsville, with Pastor Roger Williams officiating. Burial will be in Betts Cemetery. Visitation will be held Thursday, 6 to 8 p.m., at the funeral home. Masks and social distancing are required. Online condolences may be expressed at www.stumpfuneralhomes.com.



BERNARD WESLEY GREATHOUSE, SR.

Bernard Wesley Greathouse, Sr., 89, of Gassaway, died Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021, at Minnie Hamilton Health System.

He was born in Sutton, the son of the late Daniel and Vera McMowery Greathouse. He was a United States Army veteran and served as an Army Medic, stationed in California. He was an entrepreneur and helped start a concrete company in Gassaway. He was employed by Kenton Meadows Co. and retired from the W.Va. Dept. of Highways as head mechanic. He was the owner of Greathouse & Son Garage and Towing for 30 years. He was a Christian.

Surviving are his children, Bernard Greathouse, Jr., and wife Cheryl of Grantsville, Kimberly Demastus and James "Rusty" Greathouse, both of Gassaway, and Jackie Rader and husband Woody of Flatwoods; one brother, Jimmy Greathouse of New Cumberland; 10 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Rosetta Ables Greathouse; one son, Robert Ables; two sisters; and one half-brother.

Graveside service was held at Fairview Cemetery, Chapel, with Pastor Bill Carr officiating.



WARREN EDWIN 'Bud' KERBY

Warren Edwin "Bud" Kerby, 83, of Barnes Run, died Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021, at Marietta Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Calhoun County, the son of the late Everett Kerby and Pearl Smith Kerby. He attended Glenville State College and went into long-distance trucking for many years. He worked at Ford Motor Co. in Ohio from 1957-1959 and was also a farmer.

Surviving are his wife of 10 years, Betty Kerby; three sons, Warren Edwin Kerby II of Parkersburg, James Kerby of Grantsville and Everett Nicholas "Nick" Kerby of Arnoldsburg; Tanya Kerby of Parkersburg and Leland, Chase and Vanessa Kerby, all of Grantsville; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one brother and three sisters.

Services were held at Taylor-Vandale Funeral Home, Spencer. Burial was in Hur Cemetery.

JOHN BLAND 'Johnnie' WILFONG

John Bland "Johnnie" Wilfong, 75, of Linn, died Monday, Jan. 18, 2021, at Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital, Weston.

He was born in Gilmer County, the son of the late Basil Dean and Dorothy Ellen Persinger Wilfong. He attended Sand Fork schools and was a member of Sand Fork Church of God of Prophecy, with Pastor Bryan Groves. He worked as an underground coalminer for 36 years and was a farmer for life.

Surviving are his wife of 30 years, Nina Bell Carter Lyons Wilfong, whom he married on June 29, 1990; three children, Johnnie "J.D." Wilfong and wife Kathy of Weston, Joanie Wilfong and companion Rich Blackwell of St. Clairsville, Ohio, and Stephanie Wilfong Smith and husband Tracy of Boaz, Ky.; one step-son, David Lyons and wife Rosey of Sand Fork; 17 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Michelle Wilfong; two step-sons, Charles Lyons and Nathaniel Lyons; and four brothers, Gerald Wilfong, Richard Wilfong, and two infants.

Johnnie's request for cremation has been honored at Pat Boyle Funeral Home, 144 Hackers Creek Road, Jane Lew. Celebration of Life service will be held at a later date. Online condolences may be expressed at www.PatBoyleFuneralHome.com.



Around Calhoun

by Bill Bailey

I was going through some old T-shirts over the weekend, trying to separate what I might wear from what should be donated, and I found one I had forgotten about.

It is a shirt with a morel logo on it, urging for the collecting of morel mushrooms. The season for the tasty little morsels will be coming up in a couple of months and that is something to look forward to.

By the end of winter, we all need more exercise, and climbing the hills looking hither and yon for tasty tidbits is a good way to work off a pound or two of winter fat. Plus, morels can't be fattening, can they?

* * * *

The forecasted polar vortex, which was supposed to drop our temperatures down close to zero last week, failed to materialize. It was still cold, but it was not frigid, so far.

We have been receiving some snow, but it was more like snow falling in a snow globe than blowing sideways.

More snow is in the forecast, but, so far, no major accumulations are predicted.

* * * *

I still think the birds in the holler are rather good at weather predictions. On the days when the feeder is standing room only with hungry birds, and the limbs of the nearby trees are covered with even more of our feathered friends, I know that a big change is coming soon and the birds are stocking up on food.

Sometimes, I watch the birds grab some sunflower seeds in their beak, or knock loose a chunk of suet they can carry, and then they fly over to the other side of the creek and up into the woods to stash their prize for another day.

I have actually found stashes of seeds in a hemlock tree at the edge of our yard, where the birds have hidden them. The squirrels also know where to look for the

stashed seeds, and I see them happily gulping down that which the birds thought was safely hidden from sight.

* * * *

Buds on the trees are beginning to swell a little, and the snowdrops are sprouting flower heads, so spring cannot come soon enough for them or for me.

I hope everyone is doing well so far, and I feel that things are looking better every day for all of us. Take care of yourselves and your neighbors.

* * * *

I look forward to a sense of sanity in this country beginning at noon on Jan. 20.

The founding fathers wrote our constitution without ever expecting someone to be elected to the highest office in the land with no qualifications.

Folks like that sold "snake oil" cures in the old days, right before they were found out, tarred and feathered, and run out of town on a rail.

* * * *

Now that we are almost beyond this era, we must all work together to consolidate America from the divided states back into the "United States." I am certain that we are all sick and tired of being sick and tired.

* * * *

We have to fight as hard as we can to overcome the COVID-19 virus, and then we can once again have face-to-face meetings, family reunions, and birthday celebrations, and whenever a loved one is dying, we can stand with them and give them comfort and love as they depart this world.

That has to be one of the hardest things any family ever goes through, not being able to be with family members for the final moment, and then being unable to have a proper funeral like has always been done in the past. Please follow all safety precautions so that we can defeat COVID-19 in 2021.

Board Of Review And Equalization Meetings Start On February 1st

The Calhoun county commission will meet as a Board of Review and Equalization, and review and examine the property books as presented by the assessor.

If citizens have questions concerning their tax assessment, they should attend one of the following meetings:

Monday, Feb. 1, 9 a.m., managed timberland.

Thursday, Feb. 4, 4 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 8, 11 a.m., oil and gas.

Friday, Feb. 12, 9 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 18, 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 3 p.m., action on timberland.

Because of restrictions during the pandemic, if

you are planning to attend any of the meetings listed, call the county clerk's office, 354-6725, or the assessor's office, 354-6958.

The meeting on Feb. 8 has been set aside to hear problems concerning oil and gas assessments. If you have problems with your oil and gas assessment, call the assessor's office to assure that the State Tax Dept. will have your file ready for the meeting.

If any person fails to apply for relief at these meetings, they will have waived their right to ask for correction in their assessment list for the current year, except on appeal to the circuit court.

Courthouse Foyer Area Open To Assist Public

Although the courthouse is closed to the public, it is open for business.

County clerk Jean Simers said, "We have created an area in the foyer to allow customers to come into the courthouse because of cold weather. Every person must follow the governor's executive order and wear a mask. "The only days the

courthouse has been closed is for holidays and the four days in December because of possible COVID exposure."

Every office has someone working who can answer your questions or complete your necessary paperwork. When you come, ring the buzzer and someone will be glad to assist.

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LETTER BOX

January 12, 2021
Kelli Whytsell, Superintendent
Calhoun County
Board of Education
Mrs. Whytsell:

I am writing to officially inform you that the Calhoun County Board of Education (board) has been removed from the Financial Watch List maintained by the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) Office of School Finance.

The decision to remove the county from the Financial Watch List was primarily based on the improvement in the Board's unrestricted general current expense fund balance as of June 30, 2020. Other factors, such as the number of personnel paid through local funds, were also considered when making the removal determination.

Inclusion on the Financial Watch List creates additional work for the county boards of education due to the additional monitoring performed by WVDE. I would, therefore, like to thank you and your staff for your cooperation and assistance throughout the time the Board was included on the Financial Watch List. I also want to commend you for your dedication and commitment to making the necessary difficult financial decisions to help the Board emerge from its very significant deficit.

Please note that while the Board is being removed from the Financial Watch List, continued diligence towards making sound financial and personnel-related decisions is still necessary moving forward.

During these times of decreasing student enrollment and declining state aid revenue, it is especially important that the Board make the necessary adjustments to keep the school system financially solvent.

If you have any questions regarding the Financial Watch List determination, please feel free to contact me at 304-558-6300.

Amy Willard, CPA, MPA,
WVDE School Operations Officer

This Week In History

The following reports are taken from *The Calhoun Chronicle* archives:

1921, 100 years ago

Capt. Bruce Ferrell, of the Steamer Lark, is here from Creston this week, looking after business matters.

Lee Westfall, the Pleasant Hill philosopher and sage, was a visitor in town on Monday.

Herbert Ferrell, line walker for Hope, met with an accident on Wednesday in which one of his hands was severely burned. He was emptying a drip, and in some manner, the blaze of the burning gasoline enveloped his hand and burned it badly.

C.H. Rader and Silas Pettit of Brooksville were visitors here on Saturday. They have built and remodeled a gasoline boat that they will use in the trade between here and Creston.

Warder Stump of Dodrill was here on Saturday on business for Hope Gas Co..

Cecil Marshall, who has been at Parkersburg for some time taking medical treatment, is home for a short visit. He is much improved in health.

Howard Waldo returned on Monday from Huntington, where he took Major Smith, a young man of 16 or 17 years, to the West Virginia Hospital. The boy is subject to fits of epilepsy and was committed after an examination by Drs. White and Morford.

Erra Stump, pusher for Hope, mixed himself up with a flue expander the first of the week, and as a result is wearing one of the finest black eyes it has ever been our pleasure to look upon. He was expanding the flues in a boiler when the tool he was using slipped and threw him with great force against the boiler; bruising and lacerating his face and head very badly. This is the tale "Crow" tells, and it is a good one. It may be true, but he sure looks like some tooley had worked out on him with a jack handle.

Nathan Ellison, a venerable and respected citizen of Oka, was looking after business affairs and attending the revival here a day or so this week. As he was leaving for home on Wednesday, his horse became entangled in a bunch of wire carelessly thrown into the street, with the result that both horse and rider were thrown to the ground. Mr. Ellison was not injured much and started on home. He is 82 years of age, but gets around much spryer than lots of men 20 years his junior.

1946, 75 years ago

As desperately needed as bricks, nails and timber in the great Soviet reconstruction effort are blouses, shoes, skirts, dresses and coats, said a report received by Harry F. Rothwell, local chairman of the Victory Clothing Collection. This nationwide drive for overseas relief is being conducted through January.

"Only one favor was ever asked of me in Russia," writes Leo Gruliow, Russian Relief representative in the Soviet Union. "Again and again I heard these words, 'Will you please say thanks to our American friends for the gifts of clothing?'"

Mr. Gruliow explained that the first job in reconstruction was picking up bricks, one by one. They must be cut for re-use, because the local brick plants were destroyed, along with everything else. Even charred timbers are used over again, and even the nails are pulled from the burnt wood for re-use. "The point for the American people to remember," he said, "and the point that the Russian people themselves stress in their expressions of gratitude, is that they would be unable to carry on this work without the gifts of clothing from America."

"The people of the invaded areas of Russia, where the Nazis carried out a cold, systematic, calculated and most efficient job of destruction and devastation, are most in need of warm clothing and sturdy shoes. The terrible Russian winter, which helped defeat the German army, can also defeat the efforts of these heroic people to rebuild their homes and cities," Mr. Rothwell, local chairman, declared.

1971, 50 years ago

All districts in Calhoun County showed a drop in population from 1960 to 1970, according to final official 1970 census figures. Washington district had the biggest drop.

Sherman district had 1,444 in 1960 and 1,389 in 1970, for a 3.8 percent drop.

Lee had 1,698 in 1960 and 1,582 in 1970 for a 6.8 percent drop.

Sheridan, already the smallest, had 946 in 1960 and 833 in 1970 for an 11.9 percent drop.

Center had 2,182 in 1960 and 1,907 in 1970 for a 12.6 percent drop.

Washington had 1,678 in 1960 and 1,335 in 1970 for a 20.4 percent drop.

The county had 7,948 in 1960 and 7,046 in 1970 for an 11.3 percent drop.

A dress code has been endorsed by the Calhoun board of education for students and staff at Calhoun County High School, as recommended by the Student Government Association.

A committee of three students and three teachers has been named to handle questionable cases and violation of the code.

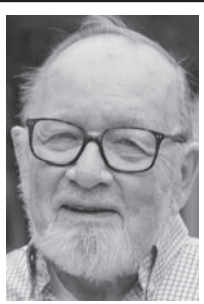
The main provision for the girls is that they are now allowed to wear pant suits and slacks. The pant suits are coordinated slacks and vest or jackets that are hip length. The slacks and over-blouses and sweaters are allowed, providing that the slacks are not tight-fitting. Over-blouses must not be scoop style and must have a finished edge. These do not have to be hip length, provided the slacks are not tight-fitting.

Restrictions on girls attire are: no T-shirts; no blouses which are scoop style at the bottom or are unhemmed; no jeans or tight-fitting pants of any kind; and no tight-fitting clothes of any kind. Skirts must cover half the inner thigh to be considered long enough.

Boys may not wear excessively tight jeans or pants of any kind. Tailored (scoop shirts) must be tucked into trousers. Shirts with writing on them are prohibited, except for shirts with school emblems and writing. Heel taps on shoes are prohibited, if they are found to be a noise disturbance.

CURIOSITY CORNER

by Dr. Jerry D. Wilson,
Emeritus Professor of Physics,
Lander University



Question: Why do we say "lead" pencil when it is not really lead? (Asked by Cruz Freimeyer, of Grantsville.)

Reply: Don't worry about getting lead poisoning from a lead pencil, because it is not lead (Pb) but a nontoxic mixture of graphite (carbon, C) and clay. The lead connection comes from Roman times, when lead rods were used to write. Both lead and graphite leave marks on paper. Graphite didn't come into use for writing until the 16th century, after very pure deposits of graphite were found in England. At the time, graphite was thought to be a type of lead and was called "black lead."

In the 18th century, graphite was identified as a form of carbon. It was given the name graphite after the Greek "graphein," meaning "to write." Inks were widely used and applied with brushes called "peniculus," Latin for "little tail," and is where we get the word "pencil."

The English graphite deposit was pure enough to be used directly, but expensive and not widely available. Lower quality graphite could be used, but needed something to keep it in usable form. It was discovered that mixing the graphite with clay and water produced a usable product once dried. This process is still used today.

Pencils are made by cutting slats of wood with a groove for the lead. A second slat is glued in a sandwich fashion and individual pencils are cut from the sandwich. These are processed with a recess cut for the ferrule (the metal ring that holds the eraser). This is then crimped into place.

Early pencils were unlabeled and unpainted, but that didn't last long. In the mid-1800s, pencils made with high-quality Asian graphite were painted yellow to indicate the source of the graphite. The color caught on, and about 75% of the 2.8 billion pencils manufactured annually in the United States are painted yellow. Colored "lead" pencils are made from chalk and clay, and are mixed with binders and pigments. The pencil is usually painted the color of the lead for easy identification.

The hardness of the lead is indicated by a number (1-4). The higher the number, the harder the lead. There may be letter markings, such as "H" for hard, "B" for black, and "F" for fine (sharpened point). Also, there may be combinations, such as "HB" for hard and black and "HH" for very hard. I've graduated to mechanical pencils myself, but the lead hardness is still important.

Finally, a little pencil trivia. If laid end-to-end, the number of pencils made annually in the United States would circle the world 15 times. Although we are not in the form of graphite, the human body contains enough carbon to produce 9,000 "lead" pencils.

C.P.S. (Curious Postscript): "A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty." --Winston Churchill.

Curious about something? Send your questions to Dr. Jerry D. Wilson, College of Science and Mathematics, Lander University, Greenwood, SC 29649, go to www.curiosity-corner.net, or email jerry@curiosity-corner.net. Selected questions will appear in the Curiosity Corner.

Waste Not/Want Not

by Judy Wolfram

It's January. We have had some snow and some cold weather. So, are you ready for winter? Really ready?

Do you have extra food in the freezer? How about some extra canned goods on the shelves? Don't forget laundry supplies, and food for Fido and Kitty.

If you have lived in West Virginia for any length of time, you probably have a backup heat plan, like a generator or a wood stove.

How about outside? By now you should have taken the hose off of the spigot, stretched it out to dry, and then put it in the garage or the basement.

If you haven't done this by now, I'd say you've probably had to buy a new hose. If you can't turn off your outside spigot's water supply, you should cover them with something waterproof or buy some covers at the hardware store.

Put a snow shovel and a bag of salt on the front porch. Make sure that you buy the kind that is environmentally safe, and is also safe for your pets and your sidewalk and porch steps. Put some on your porch, if the porch isn't under a roof of some kind.

My last tip would be to put the bag of salt in a container with a lid. After a while outside, the bag rips and it stains the porch or wherever you have it outside.



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This Week In West Virginia History

The following events happened from Jan. 21-27 in West Virginia history. To read about West Virginia's people, history, places, science, arts and culture, visit www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Jan. 21, 1906: The first passenger train ran from Elkins to Charleston, after completion of the Coal & Coke Railway. The new railroad, a project of former senator Henry Gassaway Davis, provided a much-needed north-south route through the heart of West Virginia.

Jan. 22, 1927: Confederate Gen. John McCausland died. After the fall of the Confederacy, he fled the country. He returned in 1867 and spent the remainder of his life on his large farm in Mason County.

Jan. 23, 1850: Raleigh County was established by an act of the Virginia General Assembly. The county's founder, Alfred Beckley, named the county after Sir Walter Raleigh.



Jan. 23, 1888: Union leader Fred Mooney was born in a log cabin on Davis Creek in Kanawha County. He was secretary-treasurer of United Mine Workers of America, District 17, from 1917-1924 and was a radical leader in the West Virginia Mine Wars.

Jan. 23, 1890: United Mine Workers was organized at a meeting in Columbus, Ohio, with John B. Rae, a Scottish immigrant, as the first president. Just three months later, in Wheeling, UMWA District 17, encompassing most of West Virginia, held its first meeting, elected M.F. Moran as district president, and immediately launched what became a struggle of more than 40 years to unionize the state's coal mines.



Jan. 24, 1968: Mary Lou Retton was born in Fairmont. She made history at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles when, at 16, she became the first American woman ever to win a gold medal in gymnastics, and the first native West

Virginia woman to win a gold medal in Olympic competition.



Jan. 25, 1814: Francis Harrison Pierpont was born near Morgantown. On June 20, 1861, he was unanimously elected as governor of the unionist Reorganized State of Virginia, which sat at Wheeling, until West Virginia entered the Union two years later.



Jan. 25, 1878: Activist Lenna Lowe Yost was born in Bassettville in Marion County. She held key leadership roles in the woman's suffrage movement and the temperance movement.



Jan. 25, 1889: Anna Johnson Gates was born in Kanawha County. The state's first female state legislator, she was elected to the House of Delegates in 1922 and served a single term.

Jan. 26, 1850: Wyoming County was formed by the Virginia General Assembly from a part of Logan County.

Jan. 26, 1960: Burnsville High School basketball player Danny Heater scored 135 points in a varsity game against Widen, setting a national record. He went on to receive an academic scholarship to attend the University of Richmond.

Jan. 27, 1925: Bernard L. Coffindaffer was born in Nicholas County. In the 1980s and 1990s, he erected clusters of crosses along the highways of West Virginia and much of the Southeast.

Jan. 27, 1933: Folk artist George Connard Wolfe was born in Standard, Kanawha County. A self-trained sculptor, he made his own tools from automobile leaf springs and engine valves and worked in stone and wood.

Jan. 27-28, 1998: Flat Top on the Mercer-Raleigh county line received a record snowfall of 35 inches in a 24-hour period.

e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia is a project of the W.Va. Humanities Council, 1310 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25301; 304-346-8500 or www.wvencyclopedia.org.

My Home Among the Hills

by Melody Walburn



January sure is living up to its gloomy, cold reputation. The sun did manage to come out a few days this week, so Maricia and I took advantage of it and went for a couple of walks at Calhoun County Park. We took Rascal, my parents' dog, with us. I think he enjoyed the walks even more than we did.

It felt so good to be outside, and once again I found myself being so thankful for our park. Calhoun County is truly blessed to have such a great place to enjoy the outdoors. No matter what season, the park is a great destination. For some reason, talking a walk in the woods just doesn't feel like exercise. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate some this week, and we will be able to return for some much-needed movement and sunlight.

In addition to continuing my remote classes, I was busy this week with the college class that I am taking to renew my teaching certificate. The course is on internet safety, and the more I learn, the more I just want to disconnect from everything and go back to letter writing.

To bring the lesson home even more, I got a phone call from a credit card company this weekend telling me that there had been suspicious activity on my card. I knew something was up, because I had never activated the said card. It was still upstairs in my filing cabinet. When I called the company to verify the charges were not mine, I asked the employee how this was possible. He said there are actually people who just sit at their computers punching in random numbers hoping to hit a combination that works for a credit card. Thank heavens there are also computer systems that recognize when something seems fishy.

On the home front, my parents have made the big decision to move to Grantsville. This means that they will be selling their house in Key and the lake house. While we are sorry to see the lake house go, we had four great years there, and it will be great to have my parents nearby. In order to get the lake house ready to sell, Maricia, Andy and I made a trip up there on Saturday to begin organizing and packing everything up.

It is amazing how much stuff you can accumulate in a place over four years, even when it is only a vacation house. We had planned to take a trailer with us to bring some stuff back, but the weather did not cooperate. The roads got icy on Friday night and stayed that way into Saturday morning. It was snowing hard enough when we left to make us decide to leave the trailer behind. The roads weren't great, but we took our time and made it safely to the lake house.

Thankfully, the snow let up during the day, and we were able to get a lot of work done. We started by rearranging the furniture in the two bedrooms. We had switched the bedroom sets around so that we could make more room for people to sleep. We put the double bed back in the master bedroom and the bunkbed set back in the second bedroom. We also emptied the dressers that we had placed around the house and put them back in their original places.

Next, we turned our sights on the kitchen. There were quite a few dishes there when we bought the place, which we plan to leave, but we needed to pack up the pantry, small appliances, and other kitchen items that we had brought there over the past few years. We also organized the cleaning supplies under the sink, so that we would know what we would need for our next trip to the house.

As we packed up everything, we placed all of the boxes and bins on the enclosed front porch. This would make the packing process go faster and the cleaning work easier. Our final task was to pack up all of the towels and linens that we wouldn't be leaving behind. While we worked on this task, Andy headed to the basement to assess what we would need to do down there on our next trip.

By 3:00, we were on the road home. We wanted to get back before dark, just in case the roads were going to get icy again. We were tired, but pleased with our day's work. We will be returning soon to finish up the job and officially put the place on the market. This is going to be a busy few months, but the outcome will be worth it.

Amie Sexton Silcott Letter Collection

(The following is a copyrighted series of letters accumulated by the late Hunter Armentrout and published in The Calhoun Chronicle in 2007. Most of the writing is by Amie Evaline Sexton Silcott, who provides a history of the people and places in and around Calhoun County, Arnoldsburg in particular, during the mid-1800s.)

(Continued From Last Week)

(Amie is teaching at Upperville in Harrison County.)

Upperville Institute

May 7th 1855

Dear Mother

I understand Charles Armstrong¹ is going up to French Creek on Saturday, therefore I will try to scribble you a few lines, but it will be nothing more than scribbling.

I am now in my schoolroom. I am quite well & enjoying myself well. I am in really a pleasant neighborhood. I have not been any home sick since the first week, but then I felt myself among strangers. Soon however became acquainted.

I was a little lonely the second Sabbath, as there was no preaching. The third Sabbath after I came here Mr. G.W. Silcott² called upon me. George called the Friday morning before, at my school house. He said he was going to Taylor Co. Would call upon me Sunday if I would tell him where I'd be. I told him I should be at Mr. Eib's.

In the afternoon of the Sabbath, Ellen³ & I concluded to take a walk. George had not come & there had been no meeting we could attend that day. We went down & sat in our school room & commenced reading. Presently Ellen looked up & exclaimed "There is Mr Silcott."

He saw us & got off his horse & came in & sat awhile & presently we saw Martha & Mary⁴ following us, & when they came walked up with us. He remained at Mr. Eib's about two hours, said he was obliged to go on to Jane Lew that night. He brought a couple of books to read. One was entitled "The Coquette", the other was "The Vale of Cedars". I have only read the coquette yet.

I thought I would get time to do a good deal of sewing this summer, but really I can do but very little. When I have a large school & then walk some distance some weeks, I do not feel much like sewing & the evenings are so short, & in the morning I cannot much more than eat my breakfast & get ready for my school.

George told me he would be here this week again or next. I think likely he will spend the Sabbath with me next time. I expect to be at Mr. Wm. Young's the next time he comes. They or Mr Eib would be very willing to entertain any acquaintances of mine.

So you see I am just in the place George would like to have me, as his business calls him down here often. He has many acquaintances here, & I believe is thought very highly of. Yet for my part I think he is in a great hurry for the beaus here to know he was a particular favorite of mine.

I think his calling will make no difference however with them. They treat me very politely as far as I have become acquainted. There was a gentleman called at Mr. Eib's last evening, who, they declared, called to see me, as they said, he was not in the habit of calling there.

I found him quite agreeable. He was at California several years, he brought back ten thousand dollars in gold. He has a good farm, & I suppose is steadily accumulating. He has a fine house, a fine carriage, & in deed needs a wife! & in fine [health] I suppose thirty five or forty years of age.

Mother, I wrote the last page yesterday, this is Friday morning. I stayed at Mr. James Young⁵'s last night. They are a very kind & pleasant family. I board around by the week. I expect to board next week at Mr. Arnold⁶'s, a brother of Prudence Arnold⁷, who married Absalom Notts [Knotts]. They are some relation to Perry.

I admire this country very much. All have good farms & fine houses, & live very well indeed. My health is excellent. Have not been sick of any notice since I came. I received a letter from Louisa last week. It was a short one. Said she & Almira would write me very soon. She spoke of few lines she had written in the letter I received before I left home.

Said she was not thinking of the young gentleman we thought she had reference to. She thinks a great deal of him & c. She wrote some things however which I will tell you when I get home. I think it very doubtful indeed if I ever marry a certain gentleman⁸. I treat him when he is here just like a common acquaintance.

¹Charles Armstrong: No information.

²G.W. Silcott: George W. Silcott, Amie's future husband.

³Ellen: Ellen Eib, daughter of Mr. Eib and wife Rebecca.

⁴Martha and Mary: Presumably daughters of Mr. Eib. Mary Eib married James W. Young, son of William and Hettie, in Harrison County in 1867.

⁵Mr. James Young: No information.

⁶Mr. Arnold: No information.

⁷Prudence Arnold, daughter of Simon and Prudence Webb Arnold; married 1850 to Absalom Knotts. Exact relationship to Perry Hays not known. Perry's mother was Roanna Arnold.

⁸Quick gentleman: George W. Silcott.

(Continued Next Week)

Senior Citizens Menu

Menu for the Senior Citizens Center (2% milk and margarine available daily):

Thursday, Jan. 21: hot-dog with sauce, coleslaw, baked beans, juice, whole wheat bun.

Friday, Jan. 22: lasagna, broccoli, fruit, garlic toast.

Monday, Jan. 25: chicken strips, mac and cheese, broccoli, fruit, whole wheat bread.

Tuesday, Jan. 26: white beans, kale, onions, applesauce, cornbread.

Wednesday, Jan. 27: beef stew, green beans, fruit, cornbread.

Thursday, Jan. 28: chicken, green beans, potatoes, fruit, bread.

Friday, Jan. 29: cook's choice.

Suggested donation scale for meals: Individual monthly income, \$700 or less, \$1.25 per meal; \$701 to \$800, \$1.50; \$801 to \$900, \$1.75; \$901 or above, \$2. Guests under age 60, \$5.25.

You may drive-by and pick-up meals from 11 to 11:30 a.m., Monday-Friday, by calling Calhoun County Committee on Aging, 354-7017, to be placed on a list.

Senior News

by Deb Miller, JD, Senior Legal Aid Volunteer

When a married couple with young children decides to divorce, do grandparents have any legal rights to see their grandchildren?

The Grandparent Visitation Act, at West Virginia Code sec. 48-10-501, et seq., controls this type of situation.

Under the law, reasonable visitation with the grandchild can be ordered when two conditions are met: (1) it is in the best interest of the child, and (2) visitation would not substantially interfere with the parent-child relationship.

As many have learned from personal experience, it is important for the grandparents to cooperate with the parents to work out the best plan for visitation.

A power struggle is not likely to work out in the grandparents' favor.

Agreeing to visitation before the divorce is final is the least complex route.

When informal efforts for visitation don't work, a grandparent can seek court-ordered visitation.

Under the Grandparent Visitation Act, the primary focus for the court will be to evaluate and give priority to the parents' preferences for their child, along with considering the best interests of the child.

Based on rights contained in the U.S. Constitution, the court will respect the choices of fit parents to make decisions regarding the care, custody and control of their children.

Generally, visitation will not be granted by a court when the child's parent related to the grandparent has not permitted previous visitation.

Even if the parents are not separated, a grandparent can apply for court-ordered visitation.

In recent years, the concept of visitation by a "psychological parent" has been considered by courts in West Virginia. Often, this involves someone who is not a grandparent or family member.

When such an individual has played a substantial role in the daily life of the child, with the consent and encouragement of the child's legal parent or guardian, they may qualify as a psychological parent who can be given visitation rights.

Visitation and the after-effects of a divorce can become highly inflammatory, as happened in the 2012 murder of a parent by her former father-in-law in a store parking lot in Morgantown. The victim had arrived to pick up her daughter for an overnight stay when she was killed.

Visitation rights and other legal issues faced by West Virginia residents, ages 60 and over, can be discussed by calling 800-229-5068, the West Virginia Senior Legal Aid hotline. A staff attorney will provide assistance at no charge.

Re-Entry Plans--

(Continued from Page 1) county need to be remote.


The State Board motion continues to allow for the Blended/Hybrid model. It is my recommendation that Calhoun County Schools remain with the Blended/Hybrid model and go to school Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in-person and Wednesday with a Blended Hybrid day through the end of the third nine weeks.

The COVID-19 Cares Act ended Dec. 31. It is my recommendation that we continue the COVID-19 days for employees that we quarantine for work-related quarantine. We allow teachers to work from home when their internet supports teaching from home while on quarantine.

Calhoun County will strictly enforce the key mitigation strategies identified by the 2021 Updated School Protocols. The

key mitigation strategies will be reviewed, with all teachers and students, on the first day back to school.

Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19 should not report to any school location until cleared by a medical professional. Any person who has traveled to an identified hot spot or traveled outside of the United States will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days. Anyone at Calhoun County Schools showing any of the signs of Covid-19, will be asked to leave immediately and seek medical assistance. If this is a student, they will be placed in a specific location where they can be monitored until a parent can pick the student up and seek medical attention. If necessary, Calhoun County Schools will seek medical attention for the student.



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Board Of Education Removed--

(Continued from Page 1) follows:

--Horst Motz: "Hopefully, we are going to get back to class on the 19th, and in most cases, and in talking to others about their students and children, it's been a trial to say the least. All in all, I'm very happy about the way everything has been conducted in our schools. It's real positive."

--Jimmy Gregory: "I want to commend our teachers again. I talked to a few of them. I'm sure it is a nightmare for them. I think we have some of the best teachers in the State of West Virginia."

--Kevin Cunningham: "We are fortunate to be in (school) as much as we have. I'm looking forward to going back, and our teachers and our staff are all-stars, and they deserve every bit of credit that we can give them, and then some. I know it's not been easy on them."

--Jenna Jett: "I received the biggest blessing from the Blessing Boxes. Being out there and seeing the people that come through the line. The response that you receive back from those people makes every bit of effort that went into it worth it."

Whytsell went over the new parts of the county's COVID-19 school re-entry plan with board members (see separate story on this page).

Whytsell said, "(The State board of education) has pretty well made it clear that we have very little leeway in what we can do. You as a board can decide whatever you want, but the State has

given us pretty much our directions.

"My recommendation is, that when Calhoun County is 'red' on the DHHR County Alert System, Calhoun Middle/High School students, ninth through 12th, be remote.

"Calhoun County school nurse Trudi Anderson and myself will work with the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Dept. to determine if any additional schools in the county need to be remote.

"We are not allowed to blanket full remote, but we can work with the health department to determine, just like we have all year, what is in the best interest of our students.

"It is also my recommendation that we continue the blended/hybrid model, and go to school Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday in-person, and Wednesday is a blended/hybrid day through the end of the third nine-weeks toward the end of March.

"This will give us time to re-evaluate where we are with the vaccine, with the COVID, and then bring back more information (to the board).

"There is no more Saturday Education Map. Every day at 10 a.m., we have to look (at the DHHR daily map) to see what it is." If it is red, the high school will not be in-person the next day.

[Calhoun was red last Friday, and orange on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, which means that high school students could attend in-person on Tuesday.]

Board member Cunningham said, "So this is going to be a day-to-day thing?"

When Whytsell agreed, Cunningham said, "That's ridiculous."

Whytsell said, "If you are red on a Saturday or a Sunday, then the following week, you are remote for high school."

Virtual school numbers were announced as follows: Arnoldsburg, 36; Pleasant Hill, 36; Calhoun Middle/High School, 113.

Other board matters approved included:

--Policy update: Chapter: Finance; Title: Supplemental Pay Policy.

--Finance: General fund invoices, \$547,833; supplements, \$93,841; transfers, \$117,277; December financial statement.

--Homeschool requests: parent Lorissa Stephenson, age 7; parent Shannon M. Brown, age 5; parent Suzanne Hartshorn, ages 16, 14; parent Jen Mounts, age 9.

--Contracts: ZMM Architect Firm for PHS SBA project.

--Policies (out for comment): Chapter: Instruction; Title: Valedictorian/Salutatorian/Honor Graduates; Chapter: Students; Title: Title IX Sexual Harassment.

--Unpaid leave request: Lori Taylor.

--Surplus equipment: gas cookstove, 2 ovens, milk cooler, meat slicer, mixer, good carts.

Adjournment was at 6:26 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 15, 5:30 p.m., at the Mt. Zion board office.

GSC Employees Receive Vaccine

Since initial doses of the COVID-19 vaccine were made available to Glenville State College by the State of West Virginia just after Christmas, employees have continued to steadily receive their "shot in the arm" to help slow the spread of the virus.

GSC employees were surveyed at the end of December to determine their interest and availability in receiving the vaccine. The results of that survey were used to schedule individual appointments with those employees who met certain age and health criteria.

The initial group of employees received the first dose of their vaccine during the week of Dec. 28, and more have continued in the new year.

The vaccines require

two doses to boost efficacy. Follow-up appointments will be scheduled so that employees can receive that second dose.

Staff members from Minnie Hamilton Health System have been assisting GSC with the vaccination process. Over 90 individuals will have received the first dose of the vaccine by the end of this week.

"With the arrival of these COVID-19 vaccines on campus and in our Gilmer County community, it feels as though we are seeing some light at the end of this pandemic tunnel," said GSC president Dr. Mark Manchin.

"Many of our employees--myself included--have already taken advantage of this vaccination opportunity and others will follow. This also reminds us that we must continue

measures to control the spread of the coronavirus, such as wearing masks, social distancing, and so on."

As additional doses of the vaccine are made available to the institution, GSC will work with the W.Va. Higher Education Policy Commission and local health officials to facilitate expanded distribution.

"Glenville State's vaccination effort is the result of collaboration between W.Va. National Guard, W.Va. Higher Education Policy Commission, and Minnie Hamilton Health System," said GSC provost Dr. Gary Morris.

"The teamwork between our campus and these institutions should serve as a model for how communication and supply distribution can work in the future across the state."

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Courtney Ridge Road | 56 Acres +/- | **\$59,500**

2314 Sassafras Ridge Road | House and 17 Acres +/- | **PRICE REDUCED \$59,500**

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Sycamore | 44 Acres +/- | **\$49,000 UNDER CONTRACT!**

FARMS

821 Reedyville Road | **UNDER CONTRACT**

STARTER HOMES

22 Poplar Lane (off of Pine Creek) | 4 Acres +/- | 2 or 3 BR - 1BA | 2 Car 2 Story Detached Garage, Wood Working Shop, and Cellar | **\$79,500**

1551 Pine Creek Road | 2.55 Acres +/- | 3 BR - 2 BA | 2,100 Sq. Ft. | Outdoor Wood Furnace | PRIVATE CREEK SIDE SETTING! | **PRICE REDUCED \$109,500**

12176 W. Little Kanawha Highway | 2-3 BR - 1BA | Riverfront Property | Detached Garage | **\$65,000**

1685 Ripley Road | 1 Acre +/- | 3 BR - 2 BA | Log Home | Backup Solar Power | 3 Outbuildings | **\$98,500**

4 BEDROOMS +

407 High Street | 4 BR - 3 BA | 2 Master Suites | Central Heating and Cooling | BEAUTIFUL HISTORIC HOME HIDDEN IN THE MIDDLE OF GRANTSVILLE | **\$115,000 RECENTLY REDUCED!**

204 Roxel Lane | 2.98 Acres +/- | 4 BR - 2 BA | 2,466 Sq. Ft. | Large Attached Garage | HIGH IN THE HILLS WITH A GREAT VIEW OVERLOOKING THE TOWN OF GRANTSVILLE | **\$180,000**

2418 Sassafras Ridge Road | House with 4 bedrooms sitting on 3 Acres +/- | **\$65,000 PRICE REDUCED!**

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

58 Hays Street | Ideal for the home mechanic. Large House and connected garage. Located on two very big town lots. | **\$40,000**

848 Laurel Run Road | Rosedale | 3 BR 2 BATH 1998 Sky line. Used for a summer visits only has never been lived in full time. | **\$49,500 UNDER CONTRACT!**

2798 Russett Road | FIXER UPPER and 1 Acre +/- | **\$19,500 SALE PENDING!**

2766 N. Calhoun Hwy., Grantsville, WV | 2 Trailers, All Materials for Renovation, and Much More! **\$19,900**

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

103 Cobb Loop Road | Clendenin | Auto Repair Shop and Towing Business fully equipped and ready to start working. Two lifts, tire changing station, and much more! | **\$199,000**

256 Court Street, Grantsville, WV | Old Calhoun Banks Drive-Thru | Bullet Resistent Glass, 6 Safes, 3 Drive-Thru Pneumatic Tubes, 4 Lanes, and much more! | **\$35,000**

POSSIBLE OWNER FINANCING

Sycamore | Home Site | 3 Acres +/- | **\$10,000** | **REPORTED FREE GAS!**

2715 Sassafras Ridge Road | 3 BR House, City Water, and 5.69 acres +/- | **\$65,000 PRICE REDUCED! \$49,500**



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Thank You

NOTE OF THANKS
Thank you to everyone who called, texted, emailed or sent cards during our recent stay in the hospital. We are so blessed to live in a community that cares. Thanks to all the neighbors and friends who offered to bring things to the house and leave on the doorstep while Jean was on quarantine. We are thankful to be home after 31 days in the hospital and we continue to get stronger every day.

Burl Simers and Family

Wanted

WANTED To Buy -- Wirt, Calhoun, or Ritchie County history, census, or cemetery books. 304-588-7461.

1tc/1/21

Personals

WANTED -- Shapely lady, attractive, for LTR in Calhoun County. Woman send photo, phone, address to Emory King, 4167 Yellow Creek Road, Big Bend, WV 26136. Woman have car, computer, and house.

4tp/1/14-2/4

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DISH Network -- \$59.99 for 190 channels. Blazing fast internet, \$19.99/month (where available). Switch and get a free \$100 Visa Gift Card. Free voice remote. Free HD DVR. Free streaming on all devices. Call today, 1-855-736-4350. swc

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Miscellaneous

GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions, 1-844-901-2301. swc

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Creston News

by Alvin Engelke
Phone 275-3578



Rev. Craig Blankenship brought the message at Burning Springs M.E. Church.

Connie Boggs underwent surgery to remove some bad stuff.

Freddie Bush has been hauling large volumes of high dollar logs from the Duskey place.

Some fine logs were also taken from the Cooper property at the foot of Leason Hill.

The Public Service Commission, as a result of loads of complaints, has ordered the Wild Frontier Telephone Co. to upgrade its facilities (for what that is worth).

At the mouth of Ann's Run, there are now two broken poles and the cable is on the ground.

Apparently, it was Mickey Pinkerton's Viking Energy that plugged the Ardelia Garrettson well on Creston Flats.

Ruth Ellen Bell, 75, of Big Springs, widow of Harold Bell, died. The Bell family participated in the Creston sings.

The Creston area had a covering of snow on Saturday morning, but increasing temperatures melted the white stuff. There were some slick roads.

The Creston area food pantry was held on Friday. The Wirt county commission gave the group \$5,000 to purchase equipment for the venture.

The last piece of pipe has been laid for the Creston area water project that will provide city water to downtown Creston and the western suburbs.

Other than Randy Tucker, the southern suburbs were not included. There now will be testing of lines, etc.

Broadway Joe is now having "his 15 minutes of fame," saying what all he is going to do and how others should act.

Local Glenville graduates were reminded that Joe put one of his relatives in as el presidente of the local college from which several local folks graduated.

In Minnesota, schools are not allowed to teach about the American Revolution, the Civil War, World War I and II, the Holocaust, George Washington, and Thomas Jefferson.

There is a "new" curriculum and, as elsewhere, children are taught to "rat out" their parents, if the parents do not go along with the rulers, just like was done in East Germany and other "progressive" countries.

Royal Dutch Shell's ethane cracker in Pennsylvania should be in operation by 2022 and will use 85,000 bbl. of ethane/day, that is if Occasional Cortex doesn't shut it down.

In Ohio, Gahanna-based K Petroleum (KPI) got into a squabble with

Penneco over some transported natural gas, and now K owes Penneco \$511,292. KPI has wells in the area and Penneco had been leasing acreage before the big Marcellus push.

Bill Gates, who has his hand in lots of medical issues, was found to own 242,000 acres of farmland in 18 states.

In Texas, there is more electric generated by windmills than from coal-powered power plants.

Occasional Cortex advised that she is in favor of a federal government "truth commissioner," so that everyone will get the official line.

It has been made clear that one cannot talk about election fraud. Those who dare to say such things will be fired, banned from social media, shunned, be subject to government harassment, and perhaps sent to "re-education camps," as is done in China.

Some have even suggested that those who do not recant should have their college degrees taken back.

Along those lines, it is reported that sales of George Orwell's books have skyrocketed.

The new "dear leader" announced that when on the interstate (federal government property, he said), one must wear a mask, and that it will be a dark winter, whatever that means.

Some think that it will be the Big Eared One's "third term" that the mean "Orange Man Bad" took away in 2016.

Iran will get the bomb, the U.N. will tell us how we are to live, and meat will be a luxury reserved for the ruling elite, as it has already been made clear that insect protein will be what the peasants get to eat.

There are lots more new calves, and they seem to be doing well with the warmer than usual temperatures, although mud has been a problem for many farmers.

There have been some interesting details "released" concerning patents on the coronavirus, who has them, what was done and why the research was "offshored" to Wuhan Institute of Virology.

One well-connected fellow noted that with the "green new deal" and a hostile view toward oil and gas, as had been done earlier with coal, the price of gas from existing wells will go up, as new wells may not be allowed to be drilled.

For sure, the ruling elites were incensed that America became energy independent--oh, the horror.

Price of local Pennsylvania grade crude is \$51.36/bbl., with condensate, \$31.36, Marcellus and Utica light, \$42.36, and medium, \$51.36.

Energy Assistance

W.Va. Dept. of Health and Human Resources has announced that applications for the Emergency Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) will be accepted through Friday, Jan. 29, or until funds are exhausted.

The federally-funded program assists eligible state residents who have a termination notice in paying their home heating bills.

Eligibility for LIEAP benefits is based on income, household size and whether the household is responsible for paying its heating bill.

To qualify, households must meet all program guidelines, which include an applicant's annual income being at or below 60 percent of the State Median Income.

In situations where a heating emergency exists, applicants must be seen by a Dept. of Health and Human Resources worker.

The maximum allowable gross income levels for Emergency LIEAP Fiscal Year 2021 are listed below:

Household size (gross monthly allowable income): 1 person (\$1,931), 2 (\$2,525), 3 (\$3,119), 4 (\$3,713), 5 (\$4,307), 6 (\$4,901), 7 (\$5,495), 8 (\$6,089), 9 (\$6,683), 10 (\$7,277), each additional person (add \$594).

Households whose income exceeds the maximum amount are not eligible; however, some types of income may be excluded for LIEAP.

Applications are available online at www.wv.gov path.org and may also be obtained at the local Dept. of Health and Human Resources office, 85 Industrial Park Road, East of Grantsville. For information, call 354-6118.

Completed applications should be delivered or mailed to the DHHR office located in the applicant's county of residence.

Mailing the application to any other office or a utility company may delay the receipt by DHHR and prohibit processing the application.

Shooting Match

Upper West Fork Park will have a shooting match at the park on Saturday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m.

All marksmen who have an unmodified 12-gauge shotgun (no scopes) and would like to compete for a turkey or ham, are invited.

Admission for shooters is \$15, which entitles you to one shot in five classes. The park furnishes the shells. Rules are on the parks Facebook page.

Social distancing and masks are required. Concessions will be available from the park's kitchen.

LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO REDEEM

(2019-S-0000134 - Calhoun County - CHRISTINE A JARVIS)
To: OCCUPANT, ALL OF THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS, ASSIGNS OR OTHER SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST OF TERRY BOGGS, AND ALL PARTIES ENTITLED TO PAY TAXES ON SAID REAL ESTATE, TERRY BOGGS, 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 an interest in the subject property.

You will take notice that CHRISTINE A JARVIS, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2019-S-0000134, 4 AC SUR STINSON, located in WASHINGTON, which was returned delinquent in the name of BOGGS TERRY, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Calhoun County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 8th day of November, 2019, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2021, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2021, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2021.	\$ 290.77
Amount of subsequent year's taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2021.	\$ 182.70
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2020, following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.	\$ 831.10
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Jeff Starcher, Sheriff and Treasurer of Calhoun County.	\$ 1,304.57
Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.	\$ 35.00

You may redeem any time before March 31, 2021, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

Return this letter and both certified funds to the
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collection Division
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2

LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO REDEEM

(2019-S-00000141 - Calhoun County - GLENN METHENEY)
To: ALL OF THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS, ASSIGNS OR OTHER SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST OF ROCKY DALE ELLISON AND CRYSTAL ELLISON, AND ALL PARTIES ENTITLED TO PAY TAXES ON SAID REAL ESTATE, ROCKY DALE ELLISON, CRYSTAL ELLISON, 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 an interest in the subject property.

You will take notice that GLENN METHENEY, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2019-S-0000141, 3.88 AC SUR MUDFORK, located in WASHINGTON, which was returned delinquent in the name of ELLISON ROCKY DALE, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Calhoun County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 8th day of November, 2019, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2021, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2021, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2021.	\$ 300.21
Amount of subsequent year's taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2021.	\$ 199.54
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2020, following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.	\$ 877.38
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Jeff Starcher, Sheriff and Treasurer of Calhoun County.	\$ 1,377.13
Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.	\$ 35.00

You may redeem any time before March 31, 2021, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

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County Collection Division
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2

LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO REDEEM

(2019-S-00000147 - Calhoun County - WILLIAM G NEELY AND DONNA J NEELY)
To: JAMES MILAM, JAMES MILAM, CAROL MCKAY, 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 an interest in the subject property.

You will take notice that WILLIAM G NEELY AND DONNA J NEELY, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2019-S-0000147, LEFTHAND 43 AC SUR, located in WASHINGTON, which was returned delinquent in the name of MILAM JAMES & MCCAY CAROL, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Calhoun County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 8th day of November, 2019, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2021, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2021, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2021.	\$ 502.44
Amount of subsequent year's taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2021.	\$ 390.68
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2020, following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.	\$ 819.92
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.	\$ 128.25
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Jeff Starcher, Sheriff and Treasurer of Calhoun County.	\$ 1,841.29
Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.	\$ 35.00

You may redeem any time before March 31, 2021, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

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Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2

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Calhoun County Library

The Calhoun County Library is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wifi will continue to be open. No password is needed.

The number of patrons will be limited to four at a time. No extended stays or social gatherings will be permitted. Patrons may be asked to leave after 15 minutes, if others are waiting to enter the building.

All computer sessions will be limited. Wifi will be available, but inside library time is limited. Library patrons must maintain social distancing of at least six feet at all times. If you feel sick, stay home.

Children are permitted with parent supervision.

WEST VIRGINIA CORONAVIRUS UPDATE



Testing Locations

Statewide testing/collection locations have been announced, including Minnie Hamilton Health System, Grantsville, which is currently offering free testing in the Annex Building (old health department) on Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, and no cost to the patient testing for walk-ins at the clinic, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 354-9244 or 354-9704.

Other nearby locations for testing include:

--Community Care of Clay, 122 Center St., Clay; hours, Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sat.-Sun., 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; call 587-7301.

--Clay County Health Dept., 452 Main St., Clay; hours, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; call 587-4269; pre-screening is done by phone before receiving a test.

--Minnie Hamilton Health System, Glenville office, Waco Center, 921 Mineral Road, Suite 101, Glenville; hours, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; testing if you meet screening criteria based upon CDC recommendations; call 462-7322 or 462-3407.

It is recommended that you seek testing only when you begin exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. To report your symptoms and be directed to one of the available testing sites, contact your primary care doctor or a designated hotline for your area.

Most sites require a physician's order before testing.

Statistics:

In West Virginia (condensed dashboard)
Each Monday since Mar. 16, plus daily since Jan. 11
(last complete daily list in July 30 issue):

	Positive Cases	Negative Cases	Deaths	Percentage Positive	
				Accum.	Daily
Mar. 16	0	80	0		
Mar. 23	20	610	0	2.7	2.7
Mar. 30	145	3,682	1	4.4	6.0
Apr. 6	345	9,595	3	3.5	4.2
Apr. 13	626	16,029	9	3.8	8.0
Apr. 20	902	21,253	24	4.1	3.6
Apr. 27	1,063	41,976	36	2.5	3.4
May 4	1,206	52,033	50	2.3	1.6
May 11	1,366	62,103	54	2.2	1.1
May 18	1,491	74,544	67	2.0	0.6
May 25	1,774	84,551	72	2.1	1.2
June 1	2,017	96,078	75	2.1	1.5
June 8	2,153	111,382	84	1.9	1.0
June 15	2,298	129,577	88	1.7	2.1
June 22	2,552	148,561	89	1.7	1.2
June 29	2,849	165,233	93	1.7	1.4
July 6	3,356	184,108	95	1.8	4.2
July 13	4,259	203,850	96	2.0	2.1
July 20	5,080	228,410	100	2.2	1.4
July 27	5,999	257,670	106	2.3	2.6
Aug. 3	6,973	287,929	117	2.4	2.5
Aug. 10	7,754	319,132	141	2.4	2.5
Aug. 17	8,632	352,037	160	2.4	2.1
Aug. 24	9,312	389,167	179	2.3	2.2
Aug. 31	10,250	425,613	214	2.4	6.8
Sept. 7	11,575	449,983	247	2.5	7.0
Sept. 14	12,820	474,894	275	2.6	4.3
Sept. 21	14,171	505,004	312	2.7	5.1
Sept. 28	15,512	537,332	337	2.8	4.2
Oct. 5	16,742	579,298	361	2.8	4.3
Oct. 12	18,281	620,540	385	2.9	4.7
Oct. 19	20,293	666,732	399	3.0	3.1
Oct. 26	22,223	712,744	424	3.0	3.7
Nov. 2	25,235	767,240	458	3.2	4.6
Nov. 9	28,805	825,485	530+	3.4	5.8
Nov. 16	34,460	900,375	585	3.7	7.0
Nov. 23	41,114	992,396	667	4.0	5.0
Nov. 30	47,842	1,083,114	735	4.2	6.5
Dec. 7	56,128	1,170,569	841	4.6	7.4
Dec. 14	64,394	1,256,936	978	4.9	10.3
Dec. 21	73,337	1,323,134	1,129	5.3	10.7
Dec. 28	81,436	1,375,189	1,263	5.6	11.3

Jan. 4	91,886	1,456,969	1,396	5.9	13.8
Jan. 11	102,282	1,552,279	1,594	6.2	10.1
Jan. 12	103,203	1,561,215	1,634	6.2	9.9
Jan. 13	104,392	1,572,214	1,671	6.2	6.9
Jan. 14	105,219	1,585,188	1,702	6.2	6.3
Jan. 15	106,649	1,605,147	1,733	6.2	5.7
Jan. 16	108,124	1,630,684	1,761	6.2	5.6
Jan. 17	108,821	1,637,403	1,776	6.2	7.8
Jan. 18	109,809	1,652,096	1,784	6.2	6.2
Jan. 19	110,820	1,663,838	1,815	6.2	6.1

*Laboratory duplicate results removed.

In alignment with updated definitions, statistics include probable cases that are individuals who have symptoms and either serologic (antibody) or epidemiologic (a link to a confirmed case) evidence of disease, but no confirmatory test.

+Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services added 27 deaths from Vital Registration Office.

Cases by county (case confirmed by lab test/probable case): Barbour (1,016), Berkeley (8,148), Boone (1,302), Braxton (684), Brooke (1,787), Cabell (6,495), Calhoun (190), Clay (303), Doddridge (369), Fayette (2,181), Gilmer (536), Grant (925), Greenbrier (2,067), Hampshire (1,245), Hancock (2,330), Hardy (1,103), Harrison (4,069), Jackson (1,502), Jefferson (3,044), Kanawha (10,389), Lewis (735), Lincoln (1,049), Logan (2,145), Marion (2,944), Marshall (2,586), Mason (1,388), McDowell (1,141), Mercer (3,722), Mineral (2,321), Mingo (1,788), Monongalia (6,543), Monroe (822), Morgan (827), Nicholas (951), Ohio (3,127), Pendleton (481), Pleasants (726), Pocahontas (516), Preston (2,258), Putnam (3,550), Raleigh (3,724), Randolph (1,967), Ritchie (501), Roane (407), Summers (638), Taylor (915), Tucker (419), Tyler (506), Upshur (1,290), Wayne (2,125), Webster (223), Wetzel (905), Wirt (301), Wood (6,153), Wyoming (1,441); Calhoun was 53rd of 55 counties to record a case; Calhoun and Webster were last counties to hit 100 positive cases, Dec. 10; Calhoun will be the last county to reach 200 positive cases.

In United States: Each Monday since Mar. 16, plus daily since Jan. 11 (last daily list in July 30 issue):

	Positive	Deaths	Positive	Deaths
Mar. 16	4,661	87	181,580	7,138
Mar. 23	41,708	555	372,563	16,381
Mar. 30	164,610	3,170	800,049	38,714
Apr. 6	337,925	9,664	1,289,819	70,624
Apr. 13	563,604	22,204	1,876,605	116,306
Apr. 20	772,863	41,206	2,436,156	166,862
Apr. 27	987,916	55,425	3,014,808	207,904
May 4	1,191,025	68,679	3,593,168	249,116
May 11	1,369,943	80,846	4,217,019	284,708
May 18	1,529,291	91,005	4,789,640	317,268
May 25	1,688,739	99,356	5,482,990	347,162
June 1	1,839,119	106,241	6,246,733	374,380
June 8	2,008,303	112,477	7,073,722	406,644
June 15	2,162,864	117,865	7,976,688	436,174
June 22	2,357,323	122,359	9,030,598	471,267
June 29	2,637,909	128,452	10,234,889	505,144
July 6	2,985,897	132,610	11,547,801	537,580
July 13	3,415,664	137,797	13,029,430	572,472
July 20	3,899,358	143,310	14,621,890	609,764
July 27	4,373,561	149,856	16,429,464	653,266
Aug. 3	4,815,776	158,376	18,225,967	693,767
Aug. 10	5,201,064	165,620	20,024,316	734,947
Aug. 17	5,569,520	173,143	21,855,892	774,007
Aug. 24	5,875,939	180,618	23,612,102	814,085
Aug. 31	6,175,600	187,232	25,417,858	852,100
Sept. 7	6,462,189	193,259	27,314,299	894,508
Sept. 14	6,711,385	198,562	29,204,096	929,892
Sept. 21	7,005,893	204,126	31,283,634	966,342
Sept. 28	7,321,465	209,454	33,332,536	1,003,542
Oct. 5	7,638,596	214,629	35,438,001	1,043,327
Oct. 12	7,993,215	219,708	37,792,825	1,082,930
Oct. 19	8,388,013	224,732	40,312,905	1,119,890
Oct. 26	8,890,481	230,512	43,383,433	1,160,977
Nov. 2	9,478,422	236,505	46,884,907	1,207,526
Nov. 9	10,295,890	243,797	50,840,003	1,264,835
Nov. 16	11,374,574	251,935	54,938,150	1,327,847
Nov. 23	12,503,161	262,729	59,149,784	1,397,182
Nov. 30	13,755,039	273,130	63,236,339	1,468,737
Dec. 7	15,169,648	288,984	67,575,555	1,545,613
Dec. 14	16,741,470	306,464	72,825,966	1,622,887
Dec. 21	18,269,959	324,869	77,327,038	1,703,811
Dec. 28	19,579,987	341,187	81,293,122	1,775,977
Jan. 4	21,115,036	360,088	85,657,601	1,855,055
Jan. 11	22,935,762	383,460	90,877,749	1,947,321
Jan. 12	23,152,069	385,464	91,515,287	1,958,473
Jan. 13	23,393,444	390,452	92,246,951	1,976,915
Jan. 14	23,624,087	394,035	92,976,575	1,992,153
Jan. 15	23,862,138	398,185	93,745,435	2,007,908
Jan. 16	24,104,863	401,898	94,497,294	2,022,817
Jan. 17	24,308,366	405,266	95,124,321	2,034,802
Jan. 18	24,483,901	407,216	95,643,391	2,043,595
Jan. 19	24,628,584	408,628	96,177,061	2,054,507

Cases by states and territories: California 3,015,644, Texas 2,138,190, Florida 1,579,281, New York 1,255,971, Illinois 1,072,214, Ohio 831,066, Georgia 820,952, Pennsylvania 774,566, Tennessee 687,751, Arizona 679,282, North Carolina 674,637, New Jersey 631,074, Indiana 592,709, Michigan 585,128, Wisconsin 569,335, Massachusetts 473,441, Missouri 450,694, Minnesota 447,349, Virginia 446,550, Alabama 424,028, South Carolina 391,464, Colorado 376,171, Louisiana 369,951, Oklahoma 356,816, Kentucky 328,667, Maryland 328,214, Utah 324,919, Iowa 305,626, Washington 289,939, Arkansas 272,263, Nevada 262,794, Kansas 261,825, Mississippi 253,932, Connecticut 230,125, Nebraska 182,176, New Mexico 164,263, Idaho 155,554, Oregon 133,205, West Virginia 109,809, South Dakota 105,659, Rhode Island 104,443, North Dakota 95,934, Montana 89,576, Puerto Rico 87,939, Delaware 70,910, New Hampshire 56,864, Alaska 52,093, Wyoming 49,708, D.C. 34,033, Maine 33,876, Hawaii 24,710, Vermont 10,220; West Virginia was last state to record a case.

PSC Takes Action On Frontier Petition

The Public Service Commission has entered orders in the Frontier Bankruptcy case and the Quality of Service Focused Management Audit.

The two orders require Frontier to upgrade and maintain its systems. The commission has imposed strict conditions on Frontier to ensure compliance.

Frontier has committed to spending a minimum of \$200 million in capital expenditures in the state by Dec. 31, 2023, and deploying fiber to at least 150,000 West Virginia locations by Dec. 31, 2027.

If Frontier does not maintain the budgeted levels of capital expenditures, the commission may initiate a proceeding to establish surety requirements.

"The commission is

pleased with the resolution of these two cases," said PSC chairman Charlotte Lane. "These orders allow Frontier to proceed with its bankruptcy reorganization, emerge a stronger corporate structure, and make much needed investments in West Virginia's internet infrastructure."

The commission will maintain oversight to make sure that Frontier fulfills its commitments and investments to West Virginia.

The commission's Consumer Advocate Division and the Communication Workers of America, AFL-CIO, were intervenors in both cases.

Additional information, including both orders issued, is available at www.psc.state.wv.us by referencing case numbers 18-0291-T-P and 20-0400-T-PC.

W.Va. School Board Adopts In-Person Instruction Motion

West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) has adopted parameters for in-person instruction in public schools in the state.

WVBE's action comes following an executive order issued by Gov. Jim Justice that permitted schools to return to in-person instruction on Jan. 19.

The WVBE's action was based on updated COVID-19 health data and its transmission rate in schools. State health officials and many leading national health organizations support the return to in-person learning because transmission rates within schools do not reflect heightened rates in the community.

For grades pre-K through 8, the action outlines expectations that schools offer a full in-person learning option four or five days each week.

Counties may begin with blended learning models providing at least two days of in-person instruction each week. Virtual learning options remain open to families, and each county is required to offer virtual learning programs for those selecting this option.

Schools are expected to offer an in-person option to students in grades 9 through 12, as long as their county is not red on the DHHR County Alert System Map. In-person instruction may also include blended learning models.

Counties are expected to continue to work with their local health departments to move specific classroom or schools to temporary remote learning, if specific health needs related to that classroom or school are identified irrespective

of the county's color on the County Alert System Map.

"As a State Board of Education, we have to do everything in our power to bring our children back to school in person," said WVBE president Miller Hall. "I believe what our health experts are telling us, and I know that our schools are the safest place for many of our children who are a part of vulnerable populations."

"Too many of our children are falling further behind with each day that they are not in school," said WVBE vice president Tom Campbell. "We know more about the disease now than we did a year ago, and we are able to make these types of decisions with the best interest of our children in mind."

"Nothing can replace the role a teacher plays in a child's life, and in-person instruction is essential to this."

Each Monday, State superintendent of schools Clayton Burch will provide WVBE with an update of each county's in-person instruction status.

The board has instructed the State superintendent, WVDE staff, and all county-level education leaders to continue to provide educational information about the benefit and safety of the COVID vaccination to teachers, education staff, community members and residents throughout the state.

Solid Waste

The Calhoun County Solid Waste Authority's monthly meeting will be held via teleconference on Wednesday, Jan. 20, at 4 p.m. Call 1-978-990-5000, and use access code 9206.

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Review of 2020

The following is the final part of a review of events in 2020:

October

Gov. Jim Justice and W.Va. coronavirus czar Dr. Clay Marsh announced that the County Alert System Map, provided throughout the week on the DHHR's COVID-19 Dashboard, has been updated to match the two-metric color-coding methodology used in the School Alert System map.

One is infection rate--the number of people per 100,000 that had tested positive for the virus. The other is positivity rate--the percentage of all COVID-19 tests that are positive. The county's more favorable metric determines their color designation for the following week.

The School Alert

System Map is released at 5 p.m. on Saturdays by WVDE, and determines the level of scholastic, athletic, and extracurricular activities permitted in each county for each particular week.

The CCHS golf team (40) defeated Braxton, 143, and Gilmer, 144, at Glenville Golf Club. Calhoun's individual results were: Chase Blair 46, Josie Montgomery 47, Landon Bennett 47, and Jaden Swearingen 48.

The Calhoun County High School varsity volleyball team defeated Webster, 23-25, 27-25, 25-14, 25-8. Chelsea McCumbers led the team with 24 points (6 aces, 5 kills), with Lacy Whytsell scoring 20 (6 digs, 4 kills), Paige Persinger contributing 18, and Christee Craddock adding 17 (26 assists on 38 of 40

sets).

Grantsville town council approved a sewer rate hike of approximately 21.3%.

The previous rate was a minimum of \$25.01 for the first 1,500 gallons of water used, with a rate of \$10.82 per 1,000 gallons after the first 1,500.

Effective upon completion of a sewerage system improvement project, or three months prior to the institution of project debt service, the first 1,500 gallons used will increase to \$30.34, with a rate of \$13.12 per 1,000 gallons after the first 1,500.

The legacy of two 4-H All Stars and West Virginia 4-H Hall of Famers from Calhoun County will live on through the Sue and Randall Jones Memorial Endowment Fund, established through WVU

Extension Service.

The Calhoun County board of education's agenda for Oct. 14 included superintendent Kelli Whytsell's recommendation for the following Calhoun County Re-Entry Plan modifications:

Calhoun County Schools will go to a blended/hybrid 4-day a week model: Monday and Tuesday (in-person instruction), Wednesday (remote learning day), and Thursday and Friday (in-person instruction).

Teachers assign work on Tuesday to be completed on Wednesday. Wednesday will be a blended-hybrid workday. Preschool students started attending school four days per week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday). The changes began the week of Oct. 19.

West Virginia COVID-19 cases went over 16,000 on Oct. 1, and another 8,000 by Oct. 31. There were 400 deaths by Oct. 20.

On Oct. 13, U.S. cases were over 8,000,000, and adding another 1,000,000 by Oct. 28.

The worldwide count went over 34,000,000 on Oct. 1 and increased to 46,000,000 by the end of the month.

Calhoun began the month with 28, and added nine by the end of October for 37 total positive cases.

Calhoun County High School celebrated its annual homecoming against Wahama.

Savannah Cunningham earned first team Little Kanawha Conference honors for the CCHS girls cross country team on Oct. 15. She finished 10th of 48 runners in a time of 23:08.7 in the 5k.

Arnoldsburg Volunteer Fire Dept. was awarded a \$183,000 Community Facilities loan, \$86,863 grant, and \$135,137 disaster grant to be used to purchase a much needed pumper/tanker that replaced two aging trucks.

The USDA combined total investment aided the fire department with its emergency response efforts in support of 3,173 rural West Virginians in Arnoldsburg and the outlying areas.

Accepting the award certificate on behalf of the fire department were AVFD chief Fred Waybright, assistant chief Joe Tanner, and Capt. Brandon Carpenter.

Kris Warner, W.Va. State Director, USDA Rural Development, delivered the grant announcement.

First Lady Cathy Justice announced the winners of her Halloween Coloring Contest. Placing fourth in West Virginia from 3,485 entries was Pleasant Hill School first grader Zayden Corrigan.

(Continued on Page 10)



OCTOBER -- Cabot Recycling Station acknowledge Cooper Morris and Summer Rogers for winning first prize in a poster contest that determined a new mascot, The Cabot Rabbit.



OCTOBER -- Calhoun Youth B team member Zac Smith (87) squares off against a Gilmer blocker. Teammates include Ava Bush (83) and Michael Richards (4).



OCTOBER -- Senior princesses and their escorts included Tavia Fowler, princess, escorted by Levi Walker; Kaylin Parsons, Homecoming Queen, escorted by Luke Basnett, Homecoming King; Summer Jones, princess, escorted by Logan Smith.



OCTOBER -- Calhoun's Logan Smith (50) holds onto an ankle and Luke Basnett (58) grasps a Wahama jersey to bring down the White Falcon runner for a short gain during a 45-14 loss. In the background is Grant Sterns (1).



OCTOBER -- Kaylin Parsons (6) goes for a kill against Clay. Teammate is Christee Craddock (22).



OCTOBER -- Alone in the fog, Bentley Snodgrass scores one of his two touchdowns for the Calhoun Youth C team, which defeated Tyler, 18-6, to remain undefeated.



OCTOBER -- Calhoun Youth C team player Grayson Laughlin (70) gets away from Gilmer defenders for a 45-yard touchdown run that helped move the team to 3-0. Teammates are Cooper Summers (9) and Carter Thompson (93).

Review of 2020

(Continued from Page 9)
November

The Chronicle honored military veterans with publication of more than 500 names with connections to the county in the Nov. 5 issue.

With many surrounding counties becoming hot spots in the previous few weeks, Calhoun ended up among the three lowest counties in cases: Pleasants, 36; Calhoun, 37; and Webster, 38.

The Percent Positivity for the county was 0.40, second lowest in the State next to Gilmer's 0.00.

Total cases in surrounding counties were as follows: Roane, 116; Wirt, 59; Ritchie, 61; Braxton, 77; Clay, 65; and Gilmer, 64.

Except for Democrat assessor Jason Nettles, who ran unopposed, Republican candidates not only won all the contested races in the county, but also swept district and state offices that represent Calhoun County.

The closest county races, according to certified results, came in the county commission contest, where Matt Walker defeated Craig Arthur by 44 votes, 1,085 to 1,041, and for prosecuting attorney, where Nigel Jeffries defeated Shannon Johnson by 47 votes, 1,433 to 1,286.

According to county clerk Jean Simers, the recount for the Calhoun county commission race had the following results:

Matt Walker lost one vote, 1085 to 1084; Craig Arthur lost one vote, 1041 to 1040; and Rick Sampson lost three votes, 782 to 779.

West Virginia State Police charged a Clay County man with first-degree murder after a shooting on Wallback Road in Valley Fork, Clay County.

Cody Brooks Moore, 32, of Ivydale, was charged after allegedly shooting 2011 Calhoun County High School graduate Benjamin Laughlin on Nov. 4. Moore allegedly admitted to shooting Laughlin multiple times.

Ninety-eight year old Wheeler Wayne, a World War II veteran, was featured in a November issue of the Chronicle.

Born in 1922 in Calhoun County, Wheeler was 21 when he landed in France. His job was driving a Jeep for officers-from lieutenants to two-star generals--and officers went where the action was.

Calhoun Youth football C team defeated Webster County Little Mountaineers, 33-6, in the semi-finals of the conference playoffs on Sunday at Ravenswood.

The playoffs were cut short due to COVID-19 and the WVDE map, which caused several counties to be unable to

continue with the season.

With the win, the Little Red Devils were named the LKC South C team champions.

The win improved the Little Red Devils to 7-0 on the season. The team outscored its opponents 228-30.

Calhoun County High School's football team (0-8) closed out its season with a 42-14 loss at Ritchie County. Three games were canceled due to the pandemic, and only one game was replaced.

The team was led on offense by Grant Sterns (115 carries, 425 yards, 2 TDs) and Ian Persinger (85 carries, 302 yards, 4 TDs, and 337 yards passing and 4 TDs).

The CCHS varsity volleyball team closed out its season with a 25-17, 25-18, 20-25, 25-23 loss at Ravenswood in the sectional tournament. The team, which finished 6-13, placed eighth in the Little Kanawha Conference playoffs.

With COVID-19 case numbers continuing to set record highs in West Virginia, Gov. Justice announced on Nov. 13 that he had issued an executive order, amending and broadening his Statewide Indoor Face Covering Requirement.

The new order required all West Virginians age nine and older to wear a face covering at all times inside all indoor public places. He also extended Thanksgiving break until Dec. 3, and announced that practices, games, or any other type of competition, was postponed until Jan. 11.

Superintendent Whyt-sell announced on Nov. 15, that, because of probable student COVID cases, Pleasant Hill School students and 10th graders at CM/HS would have remote learning.

Calhoun County Schools gave out 1,300 30-lb. boxes of free food on Nov. 17, through a partnership with Save the Children organization and U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Another Farmers to Families Food Box pickup was held Nov. 24.

COVID-19 cases in West Virginia were at 25,000 on Nov. 2, with 500 deaths, but jumped to 48,000 by the end of the month, with 758 deaths.

By Nov. 7, U.S. cases were at 10,000,000, but neared 14,000,000 by the end of the month.

On Nov. 8, world-wide cases numbered 50,000,000, but increased to 63,000,000 by Dec. 1.

Calhoun cases more than doubled during the month, moving from 37 to 81.

December

Grantsville town council heard a proposal from Minnie Hamilton Health System chief executive officer Steve Whited at its

Dec. 7 meeting.

With the town office buildings' roofs needing repairs, Whited said he had acquired an estimate from Faith Builders, the same firm that had repaired portions of the hospital roof.

The estimate of \$94,100 included all four sections of the town's Main St. buildings.

Whited said that MHHS would lease a 1,000 sq.ft. area of the basement for four years, and prepay the cost of \$18,000.

The remaining costs of re-doing the roofs, \$74,100, would come from Minnie Hamilton prepaying for utilities provided by the town to the hospital, which Whited estimated at approximately \$4,000 to \$5,000 per month.

When the legality of water and sewer fees being used was questioned, Whited said that he hadn't realized that would be a problem, but he felt that other solutions would be possible.

A plan by the State of West Virginia to offer a free mail order test kit for the coronavirus, including fast and accurate test results, lasted less than two weeks.

Although the county was gold on the Dec. 12 Education Map, and eligible to continue in-person schooling, superintendent Whyt-sell reported that schools would go to remote learning through at least Friday.

Whyt-sell told board members that she and school nurse Trudi Anderson had met with Mid-Ohio Valley Health Dept., which "strongly suggested" that schools go to remote.

By Dec. 19, only eight counties were eligible for in-school instruction.

County commissioners Kevin Helmick and Michael Hicks presented retiring commissioner Chip Westfall and outgoing county officials, Jeff Starcher, sheriff, and Shannon Johnson, prosecutor, with plaques of appreciation.

Calhoun County Schools distributed 1,500 Blessing Boxes of food through a grant and other funds on Dec. 23, just in time for Christmas.

Gov. Justice volunteered to have the COVID-19 vaccine administered on Dec. 14, after the doses were received in West Virginia.

The governor announced that the state's first doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine had arrived that morning. The vaccine deliveries in West Virginia included the expected total of over 10,000 doses at two hub locations.

Parkersburg Area Community Foundation was able to provide support for projects in the county, including \$7,591



NOVEMBER -- Little Kanawha Valley Christian School announced academic awards, including Top-of-the-Class students (4.0 grade point average), left to right, first row, Nyla Walker, Jackson Snider, Eli Kinder, Vada Barnhart; second row, Samuel Snider, Braidin Ferrell, Mark Plumby, Jr., Jacob Prusack, A.J. Stevens; third row, Brodyn Rowe, Jude Walker and Lindsey Posey.

to Calhoun County Park; \$9,000 to Arnoldsburg Elementary Community Sports Complex; and \$8,700 to Arnoldsburg Volunteer Fire Dept.

Comparison of Education Maps showed 38 green counties on Oct. 10 and four green counties on Dec. 12.

Numerous volunteers, organizations, businesses and students worked together to raise \$4,200 at the Community Christmas Light Display from Dec. 17-19, which benefited Calhoun County Park.

Park chairman Donnie Pitts thanked all those who participated and attended the light display, and praised park board members and all the helpers, who made the event a huge success.

With as many as 48 counties shown as red on the Saturday Education Map, the W.Va. Dept. of Education published its last map on Dec. 19.

For three days in late December, the Dept. of Health and Human Resources' daily maps showed Calhoun as the only county in green, and with the lowest percent positivity in West Virginia.

Unless guidelines changed (and they did), 53 counties would not be able to have in-person schooling or participate in extracurricular activities.

Justice announced that West Virginia plans to begin utilizing monoclonal antibodies to treat COVID-19 more frequently, following the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's emergency authorization of the treatment.

West Virginia had 1,400 doses of monoclonal antibodies on-hand, with 600 more doses expected to arrive. Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-made proteins that mimic the immune system's ability to fight off viruses.

Criteria included being above 65 years old, have chronic kidney disease, diabetes, if you meet a certain weight criteria, or if you are above 55 and have cardiovascular disease.

Citizens began to receive an additional direct payment of \$600, with \$1,200 for couples, plus an additional \$600 per child.

On Dec. 10, Calhoun and Webster were the last two counties to reach 100 positive coronavirus cases. Calhoun began the month with 81 cases and ended with 127, the lowest number in the State.

West Virginia cases were 51,000 on Dec. 3, but averaged over 1,000 a day, and totaled 85,334 by Dec. 31. Deaths, which had gone over 1,000 on Dec. 15, were at 1,338 on Dec. 31.

There were 600,000 cases in the U.S. during



NOVEMBER - Ian Persinger (7) looks for an opening in the line at Ritchie County. Teammate is Levi Stump (81).

December. End of cases, with a total of the month totals were 83,463,920 by Dec. 31, 20,237,964, with 351,127 and 1,820,527 deaths.

Worldwide, there were 20,000,000 additional cases, with more than 350 obits were printed in the Chronicle during 2020.

DIAL A STORY

CALHOUN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

866-985-1223

Calhoun County Library has some exciting news --introducing Dial-a-story! Children and adults of all ages can enjoy story time on the phone, with no internet required. The library will be adding chapter books for adults and children soon. Call 1-866-985-1223 to listen to the stories.

College scholarships available for 2021

Interested in being a journalist or working in the media industry?

The West Virginia Press Association Foundation is accepting student applications for 2021 West Virginia Press Association Scholarships.

If awarded, the WVPAF provides scholarships to West Virginia residents to a West Virginia college or university for up to \$1,000. Programs are open to journalism majors and students in related fields such as business management, human resources, advertising, social media and marketing, with preference given to students in at least their sophomore year of college.

Application deadline is Jan. 29, 2021.

Applications may be downloaded from wvpress.org

For information or to have the applications mailed, contact Executive Director Don Smith at donsmith@wvpress.org, at 304-342-1011 or write to: WV Press Association Foundation, 3422 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston, WV, 25302.



DECEMBER -- One of the many light displays at the Community Christmas Light show at Calhoun County Park on Dec. 17-19.