

**Varsity Girls Host Doddridge, Friday**  
**Wrestlers Travel To Ritchie, Saturday**  
See stories on Page 5



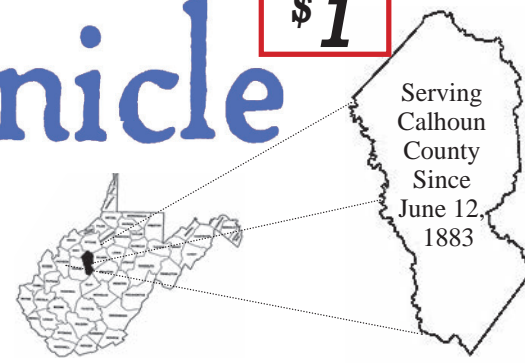
# The Calhoun Chronicle

**\$1**



## and The Grantsville News

“Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts”



Whole Number 6901

Grantsville, West Virginia 26147

Thursday, March 4, 2021



**RANKED NO. 3 --** Calhoun County High School's Josie Montgomery (10) takes a rebound away from a visiting Parkersburg Catholic opponent during a scrimmage on Wednesday, Feb. 24. Under a new format, basketball teams are separated into four divisions this year. The Lady Red Devils are ranked number three in a Class A preseason poll. See story on Page 5.

## McCroskey Claims 'Fraud' In Termination Paperwork

An hour into Monday's 4 p.m. town council meeting, mayor Ron Blankenship inquired if there was any other business, and council member Judy Powell asked, "Charlie (Charles McCroskey), are you here for something?" McCroskey said, "I just have a few questions I need answered. First of all, did you terminate me from the police department last year?"

Blankenship: "Not that I know of," and at least

two council members answered, "No."

McCroskey: "Someone from the Town of Grantsville sent the paperwork, official documents, to Charleston saying I was terminated from the police department, and the worst part, they committed fraud, because they sent it in Craig's name (former Grantsville police chief Craig Gherke), and Craig said he didn't send it in."

"In fact, Craig called Mr. Estep (Jeffrey Estep, chief deputy director of certifications) in Charleston and told him, 'I don't know who sent that paperwork in, but someone caused fraud, and it wasn't me. I did not send anything to Charleston saying that (McCroskey) was terminated from the police department.'"

A few years back, to help McCroskey keep his certification as a police officer, the council had approved hiring him part time to help during the Wood Festival, and in other times that he might be needed.

McCroskey explained that he was getting bored working on his farm, and had went to work part time last month in Gilmer County. (He had just come from work, and was still wearing his Gilmer County Sheriff's Dept. uniform).

"To my surprise, I got a phone call (last week) from Charleston (Estep) saying, 'Hey, you were terminated from the Town of Grantsville last year, and I have the paperwork right here.'"

McCroskey said, "When you are terminated as a certified officer, your certification is automatically pulled and you are suspended until there is an investigation, a hearing, and then you have to go before a review board to

get it back. So right now, I'm in limbo-land, without certification."

He said that he thought he knew who it was who sent it in, but he would not say any names, "cause he couldn't prove it."

He said that he still had his gun and the keys to the Grantsville office. He explained that if he had to turn in his gun, he would have to recertify and qualify (with another gun).

McCroskey was asked if he had a copy of the termination paperwork: "I don't even remember what month it was, I was so upset. I work hard for my certification, (and right now) I am waiting to see if I'm going to keep my certification."

(Continued on Page 3)

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### Wednesday, March 3

Calhoun County Schools will conduct pre-registration fair at Arnoldsburg Elementary; call Jackie Allen, 655-8616, ext. 110, to schedule an appointment.

#### Thursday, March 4

Vaccination clinic for ages 65-plus, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Calhoun Middle/High School, Front Loop, 50 Underwood Circle, Mt.

(Continued on Page 3)

## Seven New Cases; County Stays Green

Calhoun County had seven positive COVID-19 cases in the past week, but remained green on the education map for the

24th straight day.

Total cases increased to 230, the lowest total in the State. The next lowest (Continued on Page 5)



Daisy Snyder and Tori Arnold

## Students Earn Certifications

During Career and Technical Education Month, Calhoun-Gilmer Innovations simulated workplace recognized Tori Arnold and Daisy Snyder for their achievements in business computer applications.

Tori Arnold, a senior at Calhoun County High School, has completed

Business Computer Applications I and is taking Business Computer Applications II.

She has earned Microsoft Office Specialist certifications in PowerPoint, Word, and Excel. Her goal is to achieve her Microsoft Master Certification by the end of the school year.

Daisy Snyder, a sopho-

more at Gilmer County High School, is taking Business Computer Applications I and has earned her Microsoft Word Specialist Certification.

Both students have been nominated by their instructor, Virginia McCormick, to be inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.

**Operation Save Our Wisdom**  
**Vaccination Clinics**  
[vaccinate.wv.gov](http://vaccinate.wv.gov)

## COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics For Ages 65-Plus, Mar. 3-5

COVID-19 vaccine clinics 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. All clinic appointments have been assigned. Individuals will be notified if they are selected for an available slot to receive a vaccine in their area.

West Virginians can continue to pre-register for a COVID-19 vaccine through the West Virginia COVID-19 Vaccine Registration System at [www.vaccinate.wv.gov](http://www.vaccinate.wv.gov).

Vaccine supplies are limited and walk-ins will

not be accepted. Clinics in this area include:

**Wednesday, Mar. 3**

Clay County, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Clay County High School, 1 Panther Dr., Clay.

Roane County, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., City of Spencer Armory, 207 E. Main St., Spencer.

Wirt County, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Coplin Health Systems, 483 Court St., Elizabeth.

**Thursday, Mar. 4**

Braxton County, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Gassaway Baptist Church, 56 Beall Dr., Gassaway.

**Calhoun County, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Calhoun**

**Middle/High School, front loop, 50 Underwood Circle, Mt. Zion.**

Ritchie County, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Ritchie County 4-H Camp, 4-H Camp Road, Harrisville.

Roane County, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., City of Spencer Armory, 207 E. Main St., Spencer.

**Friday, Mar. 5**

**Calhoun County, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Calhoun Middle/High School, front loop, 50 Underwood Circle, Mt. Zion.**

Gilmer County, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Sue Morris Sports Complex, 1294 U.S. Highway 33E, Glenville.

## Little Kanawha Valley Christian School Announces First Semester Student Awards



**Lindsey Posey** Student of Term 2  
**Alexis Blair** Student of Term 2 Most Improved  
**Braidin Ferrell** Student of Term 2 Top Speller  
**Madison Wilson** Most Improved  
**Brooklynn Stewart** Most Improved  
**Cyrena Wilson** Most Improved

(Photos continued on Page 10)

# OBITUARIES

## BETTY JEAN MINNEY STARCHER

Betty Jean Minney Starcher, 81, of Normantown, died Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021.

She was born in Calhoun County, the daughter of the late Ervin and step-mother Evelyn Minney of Weston, and Beulah Hayes of Phoenix, Ariz.

Surviving are two sons, Calvin Lee Starcher of St. Albans and Mark Blaine Starcher of Charleston; one grandson, Timothy Starcher of LeRoy; three great-granddaughters, Alexandria Nicole of Spencer and Elyssa Martin and Samara Faith Martin-Starcher of LeRoy; and two special grandchildren, Dewayne and Connie Turley of Handley.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Harlan Junior Starcher, and one grandson, Jeremy Victor Starcher.

Private services were held at Stump Funeral Home, Arnoldsburg, with Rev. John Vannoy officiating. Burial was in Gibson Cemetery.



## SYLVIA CRADDOCK

Sylvia Craddock, 89, of Springfield, Ohio, died Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021, at her home.

She was born in Calhoun County, the daughter of the late Lee and Ocie Bailey Hall. She attended school in Calhoun County, and moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where she worked at General Electric. In November 1955, she married her husband, Don, and in 1967, they moved to Mentor, Ohio, where she was a homemaker and raised their family. She worked at Mag-Nif, Inc., and retired in 1992. In 1995, she and Don moved home to West Virginia. She was often referred to as "Aunt Tibbie" or "Grannie."

Surviving are one son, Rodney Craddock; two grandsons, Andrew and Tyler Craddock; two siblings, Norma Starcher and Paul Hall; six nieces, Cathy Bush, Debbie Varda, Sharon Shaw, Dee Dee Starcher, Tammi Craddock and Donna Lowe; and nine nephews; Steve Starcher, Mike Hall, Larry Hall, Terry Metheny, Jeffrey Houchin, Dewayne Hall, Greg Hall, Kevin Hall and Gary Craddock.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Craddock; infant twin brothers, Loyd Hall and Boyd Hall; two sisters, Wanda Houchin and Bernice Metheny; two brothers, Albert Guy Hall and Darrell Hall; one sister-in-law, Ollidene Hall; two brothers-in-law, Willard Metheny and Billie Houchin; and four nephews, David Metheny, Gary Metheny, Ronnie Starcher and Joshua Varda.

Services were held at Stump Funeral Home, Arnoldsburg. Burial was in Bailey Cemetery, Beech.



## RICHARD FARRAR STUMP

Richard Farrar Stump, 88, of Hockessin, Del., died Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021, at home.

He was born in Apple Farm, the son of the late Hoy Roy and Nelsa Farrar Stump. He attended Calhoun County High School, where he played football and was a member of the All-State team his junior and senior years. He attended West Virginia University and received a bachelor's degree in forestry. He served in the United States Marine Corps and received an honorable discharge. He retired from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and the State of Nevada.

Surviving are three daughters, Shonet Marshall of Arkansas, Jackie Belvin of Oklahoma and Ashley McGuire of Delaware; three granddaughters; one great-granddaughter; and his caregiver, "his Rock," Alice M. Stump.

Visitation was scheduled Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon, at Stump Funeral Home, Grantsville, followed by graveside services at Bethlehem Cemetery, near Grantsville. Masks and social distancing are required. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.stumpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.stumpfuneralhomes.com). In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, KS 66675-8516, or at [WoundedWarriorProject.org](http://WoundedWarriorProject.org).



## CLARA BLANCH RUNYON NICHOLSON

Clara Blanch Runyon Nicholson, 84, of Sand Ridge, died Saturday, Feb. 27, 2021, at Elizabeth Care Center.

She was born in Gilmer County, the daughter of the late Burley and Ercie Sprouse Runyon. She was a member of Orma United Methodist Church.

Surviving are two daughters, Becky Nicholson and Dolly Hickman; one brother, Timothy Lewis Nicholson; two step-daughters, Barbara Sue Hamond and Sandra Hess; and grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Delbert Lewis Nicholson, on Jan. 4, 1998; one son, Leonard Dewayne Nicholson; one step-son, Delbert Nicholson, Jr.; two brothers, Earl Runyon and John Runyon; and two sisters, Mildred Van Horn and Erma Dobbins.

Visitation will be held Thursday, noon to 1 p.m., at Stump Funeral Home, Arnoldsburg, followed by graveside services at Orma United Methodist Church Cemetery, with Rev. Tim Hickman officiating. Masks and social distancing are required. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.stumpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.stumpfuneralhomes.com).

## GEORGE AUGUST 'Sonny' SAUER

George August "Sonny" Sauer, Sr., 83, of Orma, died Sunday, Feb. 28, 2021, at his home.

He was the son of the late Fredrick August Sauer, Sr., and Anita Elizabeth Sauer. He was a diesel mechanic for over 60 years.

Surviving are one daughter, Robin Dubravetz of White Pine, Tenn.; one son, George Sauer, Jr., of Shock; one sister, Anita Lipka of Baltimore, Md.; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Barbara Sauer, on July 11, 2011; one daughter, Lesa Sauer; eight brothers; and five sisters.

Services will be held Friday, 1 p.m., at Stump Funeral Home, Arnoldsburg, with Austin White officiating. Burial will be in Sauer 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](http://www.stumpfuneralhomes.com).



# Around Calhoun

by Bill Bailey

Jeanne and I received our first vaccination injections last Thursday. Both of us had some minor aches and pains that we associated with the shot, but, all in all, we are happy to have shot number one behind us.

I have heard tales that shot number two might have more noticeable side effects, and we are more than willing to face those symptoms to avoid facing COVID-19.

I saw my first robin of the year on Monday morning, hopping around the grassy area next to the Frontier Communications office on Main St. in Grantsville. I heard it gossiping half a block before I saw it.

I listen for the distinct calls of the robin every spring, and have often heard them before getting out of bed. I usually encounter them for the first time each year hopping and bopping in our front yard.

This is maybe the third time that my first robin sighting was not in our yard in 31 years.

We have a pair of Carolina wrens that worked really hard to make a nest on our front porch last fall, just so they would have a nice place near the bird feeders to spend their nights during the long, cold winter months.

I thought, at first, that the little wrens were getting a head-start on nest building for the upcoming spring season, but one cold night in January, I turned my head to where my headlamp lit up the nest and I saw a little Carolina wren's head poke up above the mossy nest.

There were two of them in there every other time that I looked since. They are welcome to our porches, so long as they respect our rule--no birdie poop on the deck.

After all of the snow melted off of the decks and the yard, we are now able to see the flowers that will soon blossom to

brighten our days. All of this reminds us of a great talent that we lost to COVID-19 last year, John Prine, who once wrote in a song, "Humidity built the snowman, the sunshine brought him down."

First of all, of course, are the snow drops, which are already blooming every day. Next, with actual flowers, are the differing shades of crocus, with the first to bloom being the pale lilac-colored crocus flowers. Next to come will be the darker purple petals, followed by the saffron yellow crocus.

Daffodils are coming up everywhere and should be blooming by next week, if the weather holds up and stays warm.

Birds are already beginning to pair off and chase one another from tree to tree, when they are not busy eating sunflower seeds. We are also hearing the different trills that the songbirds sing in the spring, when they are singing for love.

Just as the moon rose above the hilltop last weekend, I was out on the deck, looking for a bright orb in the sky, when one of the barred owls spoke to me from the hillside across the creek from the house.

I answered it with my lousy imitation of a barred owl and immediately started a hootenanny with perhaps four different barred owls. I have no answer for the owls when they hootenanny, but I always stay for the entire concerto. We love living in the woods so much that it almost makes it okay when the snow has turned to mud.

It won't be long before we hear the definitive sound of spring . . . spring peepers. I always look forward to hearing from the peepers and the whippoorwills.

Keep up the good work, Calhoun County, and keep COVID-19 at bay. We got this.

**The Calhoun Chronicle**  
and  
**The Grantsville News**  
"Good Government, Pure Homes and Glad Hearts"

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

(Continued from Page 1) Zion; no walk-ins.

**Friday, March 5**  
Calhoun County celebrates 165th anniversary; county was created from Gilmer County on Mar. 5, 1856.

Vaccination clinic for ages 65-plus, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Calhoun Middle/High School, Front Loop, 50 Underwood Circle, Mt. Zion; no walk-ins. Free food giveaway,

Brohard Community Building, 3 to 4 p.m.; sponsored by Strait Creek Baptist Church.

CCHS varsity girls basketball team hosts Doddridge County to open season, 7 p.m.

**Saturday, March 6**  
CCHS wrestling team competes at Ritchie County, 11 a.m. Bingo, Grantsville Lions Club, 103 Stump St., 6 p.m.; COVID-19

guidelines will be in place.

CCHS varsity girls basketball team plays at Wirt County, 7:30 p.m.

**Monday, March 8**  
County commission meets in third floor circuit courtroom and also virtually (using zoom), 9 a.m.; #5936021621, password, 1234; by phone, +13126266799 or +19292056099 (toll free). CCHS varsity girls basketball team plays at South Harrison, 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 9**  
Free coronavirus testing, Minnie Hamilton Health System, 9 a.m. to noon.

**Wednesday, March 10**  
Calhoun County Schools will conduct pre-registration fair at Pleasant Hill School; call Deb Goff, 354-6022, ext. 402, to schedule an appointment.

CCHS varsity girls basketball team hosts Roane County, 7:30 p.m.

**Thursday, March 11**  
MHHS hosts blood drive at Grantsville Fire Dept.; to register, visit [www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zip&sponsor=MHHS](http://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zip&sponsor=MHHS).

## Waste Not/Want Not

by Judy Wolfram

I know it's February. It's the month to wear red for Women's Heart Month, or it's just hearts, candy, flowers, and love.

There is something else that is looming on the horizon. I can see them coming. Soon your mailbox will be stuffed with them. They are seed catalogs! Oh, yes, it's time.

Time to plan and dream and hope that this year's garden will be better than the last two years. Now is the time for planning--when it's cold and snowy, and you have time to decide what you want to grow and where.

I will do my porch tomato plant or plants, and a container of onion sets. I might think about a porch pepper plant this year too.

If you have kept your seeds from last year, it is time to get out the containers and potting soil and start planting.

I know that the pictures in the catalogs look so pretty, but don't buy so much that you don't have room to plant all the stuff you think you want.

Plan ahead now and make a list. Be patient, you can always add more later. So, think spring--and happy gardening.

# This Week In History

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

## 1921, 100 years ago

Little Robert Campbell was very sick with measles the first of the week. Several cases in town are reported.

For Sale: Farm of 166 acres, by owner. Nine room house, large barn, cow stable and other outbuildings. Two orchards. Price, \$6,500.

Otto Lehman of Parkersburg returned to this place on Monday and is moving the material to the Hamilton location east of town.

The new hotel building is completed, and as soon as it can be furnished, it will be thrown open to the public. A meeting of the directors will be held on Monday, when the necessary steps towards furnishing the rooms will be taken and arrangements about the renting and securing a manager will be taken.

It is a fine building and is beautifully finished inside and out. The work reflects much credit on the builders and is something of which the town is justly proud.

Cash Richards of Arnoldsburg was here on Wednesday, enroute to Yellow Creek to visit relatives. On his way here, he lost a watch that he values very highly, not so much on account of its intrinsic value as for the sentiment connected with it.

Mr. Richards was a fighter in France during the late war and picked this watch up on the battlefield a few days before the armistice was signed. He regrets the loss very much, and the finder will confer a great favor to him, if returned.

Mrs. Tell McDonald and Miss Lillie Starkey are in Parkersburg this week. The latter will undergo an operation for adenoids and tonsils.

C.A. Witt and Johnnie Ball left on Wednesday morning for Parkersburg with their new boat, "The Donald."

While away, they will have it measured up and will secure a license for it, when it will be put in the trade on this river. The boat is about the size of the Steamer Cabot and is equipped with good machinery and modern equipment.

## 1946, 75 years ago

The Canteen Service of the Calhoun County chapter of the American Red Cross served a luncheon to 110 teachers of the county on Friday, Feb. 22. All food served was donated by members of the Canteen and by the executive committee of the county chapter in appreciation of past services rendered by the teachers.

The teachers are largely responsible for the success of the Red Cross fundraising, as they are solicitors for their communities, thus making the drive county-wide.

G.L. Strader, chapter chairman, presided, assisted by G.W. Yoak, county superintendent of schools. The principal speaker was Henry Bronson, general field representative of the Eastern area, American National Red Cross. He gave a history of the Red Cross, which was founded in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1863, through the efforts of Henri Dunant, who had witnessed the horrors of the battle of Colferino.

The original aim was to care for all wounded in battle--friend or foe. The first American Society of Red Cross was founded in Danville, N.Y., and was named after its founder, Clara Barton.

In 1905, the importance of the work demanded a repeal of the congressional charter of 1900 and a re-incorporation, by act of Congress, of the society under government supervision.

From that time forward, the American Red Cross was under charter obligation to furnish volunteer aid to the sick and wounded of armies in time of war . . . to perform all the duties developed upon a national society by each nation which has acceded to said treaty (the Treaty of Geneva) . . .

To act in matters of voluntary relief and in accord with the military and naval authorities as a medium of communication between the people of the United States of America and their Army and Navy . . .

To continue and carry on a system of national and international relief in time of peace and apply the same in mitigating the suffering caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods, and other great national calamities, and to advise and carry on measures for preventing the same."

This act, amended in 1917, provided that all accounts be audited by the war department and an annual report submitted to Congress. The bylaws provided that the president of the United States be, upon his acceptance, ex-officio president of the organization.

## 1971, 50 years ago

Deward Offutt, chairman, presided over the January meeting of the West Fork Community Action program of Arnoldsburg.

The need for some fire fighting equipment in that section of the county seemed to be the most important topic for discussion.

A meeting will be held next week at 7:30 p.m. at the community building to discuss the possibility of organizing a volunteer fire department at Arnoldsburg.

Volunteer firemen from Grantsville and Spencer will be at the meeting to answer questions pertaining to the organization. Everyone is urged to attend, listen, ask questions, and then express their ideas on the subject.

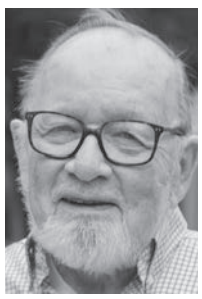
Plans were made to complete the project book on the Community Betterment Contest before the week is out.

A get well card was signed by everyone present to send to Glenna Fleming, who is a surgical patient in St. Joseph Hospital.

Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Thurl Powell, Paul Evans, Ray Reading, Dale Wallbrown, Ethel Kelly, Clyde Houchin, Deward Offutt, David Laughlin, Richard Burch, Tim Hall, Mark Downs, Stanley Hoskins, Ernest Hall and Verda Bush.

# CURIOSITY CORNER

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



**Question:** Where do salutary greetings, such as "hello," "hey" and "hi," come from? (Asked by a curious greeter.)

**Reply:** Hello!

"Hello" is one of the most used words in everyday speech, and came into use in that form in the 1880s. Before that, there was a "hallow" in Chaucer's time, and with Shakespeare, it was "halloo." There are some old French variations, too.

It is believed that the actual "hello" came in with the inventions of the telephone. Stories have it that Alexander Graham Bell wanted to say "ahoy" when answering the phone, but Thomas Edison thought "hello," replacing an earlier version of "hullo," would be better. "Hello" caught on as the common way to answer the telephone.

In other countries, this is different. When answering the phone in Germany, for example, I would say "Jerry here," even though you would greet someone on the street with "hallo." The term "Hello girl" was once the term used for telephone operators. Its use was first recorded in Mark Twain's "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court."

I don't know if I would call Lilly Tomlin a "Hello girl" on Hee Haw. She said, "A gracious good morning. Is the party with whom I'm speaking?"

How the "hey" and "hi" developed is not certain . . . probably regional contractions. I was raised up north (a Yankee), and we only said "hey" to get someone's attention, as in "hey there!" Our standard greeting was "hi." Of course, the "hey" thing was not too accepted by the older folk at the time. They would tell us, "hey (hay) is for horses, straw's cheaper."

When I moved to the south (over 45 years ago), I learned that the standard greeting was "hey" and it took me a while to catch on. I had a trip up to Clemson soon after I started at Lander, and one of my colleagues told me that if I saw one of his friends up there, to tell him that he said "hey." I didn't understand. "Hey what?"

I finally caught on when watching Andy Griffith and Mayberry RFD. "Hey Goober!"

**C.P.S. (Curious Postscript):** "I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph." --Shirley Temple Black.

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](http://www.curiosity-corner.net), or email [jerry@curiosity-corner.net](mailto:jerry@curiosity-corner.net). Selected questions will appear in the Curiosity Corner.

## McCroskey Claims--

(Continued from Page 1)

Council member Derek Villers asked, "What can we do?"

McCroskey, "Someone needs to find out who sent that letter to Charleston and committed fraud, because the town is responsible for the paperwork being sent to Charleston with William Craig's name on it.

"Like I said, the important thing is if a police officer is terminated, there has to be an investigation to why--was it criminal, was it conduct unbecoming an officer, was it sexual. 'Why were you terminated.' (The investigation) has to be done.

"The only thing that may save me is, they put 'terminated without cause,' so I'm waiting for the review board to decide if they will let me keep my certification (the board is suppose to meet this week).

"(Whoever sent in the paperwork) could have said 'resigned, quit, retired'--anything, and it wouldn't have happened."

Someone asked, "So where would the person who did this get the form?"

McCroskey: "It would have to be in the (town) office."

There was discussion of who had access to former chief Gherke's computer.

McCroskey: "Craig said, 'You know, all they got to do is start the computer up, and it's all right there.'"

Villers said, "(The computer) will be time stamped when (the paperwork) was created.

"I think, before anything happens, (the computer) needs to be checked, because that could easily be removed. That's not good--it's wrong.

"If I'm allowed, I can

tell you in 10 minutes if (the paperwork) was created on that machine."

The mayor asked McCroskey for an email and a phone number for Estep, so he could contact him on Tuesday morning to inform him that McCroskey had not been terminated, and he would contact McCroskey to inform him of the results.

Just prior to leaving the meeting, McCroskey said that he was working circuit court in Gilmer County on Tuesday, but he would check for messages when he could.

Blankenship asked Villers if he could stay for a few minutes after the meeting, and Powell said that she wanted to be there too.

Earlier in the meeting, council members discussed at length the renewing of contracts on property that FEMA had purchased and removed structures, and then were leased to individuals by the town.

Members were in disagreement on keeping the cost at \$5 a month or increasing it to \$10, \$20, or more.

After hearing reports that the Family Resource Network food giveaways were still causing traffic problems, members agreed that having the delivery truck park near the old high school gymnasium, with recipients entering the municipal park road off Rt. 7, receiving food, and leaving at the entrance of the school.

Villers said that he would drop a map and meet with FRN before the next giveaway, which was scheduled for Friday, Mar. 19.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m. The next regular town council meeting will be held on Monday, Apr. 5, at 4 p.m.



# This Week In West Virginia History

The following events happened from Mar. 4-10 in West Virginia history. To read about West Virginia's people, history, places, science, arts and culture, visit [www.wvencyclopedia.org](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).



Mar. 4, 1849: Earl Williams Oglebay was born in Bridgeport, Ohio. He became one of West Virginia's most successful industrialists and a generous benefactor.

Mar. 4, 1893: Gov. William A. MacCorkle gave his inaugural address, and warned that West Virginia was "passing under the control of foreign and non-resident landowners."



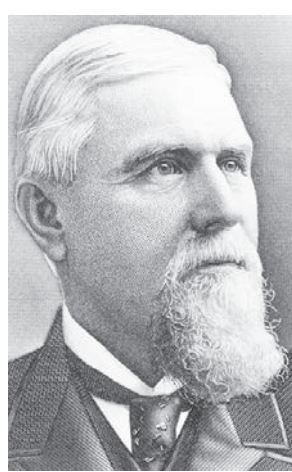
Mar. 4, 1924: Blues musician Nathaniel H. "Nat" Reese was born in Salem, Va. Growing up in Princeton, he played blues, jazz, country and dance music throughout the southern coalfields.

Mar. 5, 1856: Calhoun County was created from neighboring Gilmer County and named for John C. Calhoun, who served as vice president under John Adams and Andrew Jackson.



Mar. 5, 1963: Country musician Hawkshaw Hawkins was killed in a plane crash, along with Patsy Cline, Cowboy Copas, and Randy Hughes. He was born in Huntington.

Mar. 6, 1820: Joseph H. Diss Debar was born in France. He was the designer of the Great Seal of West Virginia and the state's first commissioner of immigration.



Mar. 6, 1828: Johnson Newlon Camden was

born in Lewis County. He opened one of the first oil wells in West Virginia in January 1861. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1881.

Mar. 6, 1900: Forty-six men were killed in a mine explosion at the Red Ash Mine in Fayette County. It was the state's first major mine explosion of the 20th century. Five years later, another 24 men were killed in a disaster at the same mine.

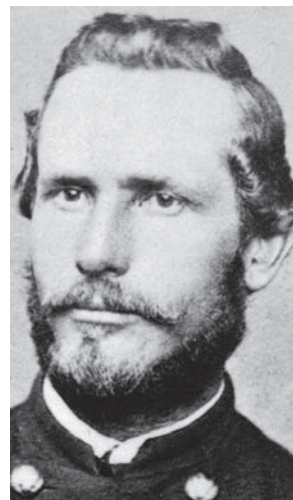
Mar. 7, 1856: Tucker County was formed from Randolph County and named for Henry St. George Tucker, Sr., a Virginia soldier, statesman, and jurist.

Mar. 7, 1929: The Legislature adopted the official state flag. The state's coat of arms is emblazoned in color in the center of the flag. Above the seal is a red ribbon lettered "State of West Virginia," and a wreath of rhododendron surrounds the lower part of the seal. The white field of the flag is bordered on four sides by a strip of blue.

Mar. 7, 1990: West Virginia teachers went on strike after negotiations with the governor's office and legislature failed to produce agreement on a pay package. Teachers in 47 of the 55 counties were involved in the 11-day strike.

Mar. 8, 1926: An explosion killed 19 miners at Eccles in Raleigh County. Ten men were saved by barricading themselves in the mine.

Mar. 8, 1963: The state colors of blue and "old gold" were adopted by the Legislature.



Mar. 9, 1832: George Robert Latham was born. At the onset of the Civil War, he turned his Grafton law office into a recruiting station, and he led the first Union troops in north central West Virginia.

Mar. 9, 1953: Football player Dennis Harrah was born in South Charleston. He played in 168 games and one Super Bowl before retiring from the NFL.

Mar. 9, 1965: President Lyndon Johnson signed the act establishing the Appalachian Regional Commission (see color map on Page 10).

Mar. 10, 1920: West Virginia became the 34th state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guaranteed the right of women to vote.

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](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).

## Spay/Neuter

Welfare of Animals Group (WAG) can assist low-income Calhoun County homes with 50% of their cat or dog's spay/neuter fee.

It is cheaper to spay a pet than to pay the costs of caring for one litter of puppies or kittens.

For information or to make an appointment, call 354-7042. Donations of dry cat food are greatly appreciated, and can be dropped off at Calhoun County Library, Grantsville.

# My Home Among the Hills

by Melody Walburn



February sure went out with a bang! As I sit to write this article, school is closed for tomorrow. What snow could not do, the rain accomplished. The heavy rain we had all weekend caused the creeks and river to rise and made travel dangerous in some areas. I have been looking at pictures on Facebook, and in many of them, the roads are covered. Hopefully, this is not a peek at what March will bring. Flooding is definitely "coming in like a lion."

This was a busy week on the home front. Mom and Dad officially moved into their new place on Friday afternoon. We spent all week packing them up and gradually moving all of their belongings there. It was our goal to put everything in its place, as we moved, so that they would be comfortable from the start.

My sister Missy and her family have been working on packing up the house in Ohio, and Missy brought a load of bins down this weekend for my parents to go through and decide what they wanted to keep. The goal is to downsize, and they are doing a great job. Most of what came down ended up being donated, and what they kept was quickly put in its place.

We worked our way through the house, room by room, and now it looks like they have lived there for quite some time. The kitchen is fully stocked with dishes, pots and pans, and appliances. We packed up their kitchen in Ohio first, so everything they would need would be here. We have eaten quite a few meals there already.

The dining room/family room came next, and Maricia rearranged the room at least five times before she found a set-up she liked. I will admit that the one she stuck with is the best one. Mom's good dishes are in the china cabinet, family pictures are on the wall, and there is a little sitting area, as well as the dining room table. It is the perfect place to sit and have a cup of coffee after dinner, and Maricia thought of that too. She set up a little coffee bar in the room as well.

The bedrooms were simple to set up. Missy brought the bed frames and mattresses, so all we had to do was set them up and make them with the new sheets. All of their clothes were already in the closets and dressers, so after the beds were made, we hung some curtains and pictures, and those rooms were finished.

The living room took a little more work. We used a huge bookshelf as a place to hold their television, some books, and all of the family photo albums. Missy brought their recliners from Ohio, and I gave them one of my couches, since I have ordered new ones for my house. The closet in this room will hold all of their puzzles, games, and other miscellaneous items. Dad called and had Frontier and Dish come this week too, so now they have cable, internet, and phone service.

Our final two projects involved outside spaces. The house has a great back deck area. We brought the outdoor furniture from the lake house, so those pieces quickly found a new home, along with their picnic table from Ohio and their firepit. Maricia hung up white lights around the covered part of the porch. I can see us spending some enjoyable afternoons and evenings out there in the near future.

Our last stop was the garage. Dad has never had a garage before, so he is pretty excited about this one. The doors need replaced, and we have arranged for the installation, but for now we just removed one of them, did a little organizing, and now Dad can pull his car in out of the weather.

With Mom and Dad settled in their new place, I will soon turn my sights to some of the renovations that I have planned for my home among the hills. I finished my college class this past week, so with that off my to-do list, I now have more time to work on home improvement projects. First on the list is the remodeling of my upstairs bathroom. I will keep you posted as I start this process.

I always look forward to March. It feels like a new beginning. The temperatures get warmer, the days get longer, and the world starts to come to life again. I have already seen some spring flowers and heard the peepers singing. Hopefully, Mother Nature will cooperate, and March will be less like a lion and more like a lamb.

# 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)

I am teaching Chemistry & Astronomy in conjunction with other branches. Give my love & best wishes to Freeman & family. As well as to Worthie & Jane. Write soon & everything. Let me know anything you need. I will close.

With my best wishes for your health & prosperity,

Amie E. Sexton

Mr. Eib wants to get a female teacher just to teach his own family when this session is through with. I may possibly stay. So dont think I am going to marry.

Let me tell you some foolishness. Calvin saw Col. Hays, & made his acquaintance, & the old man told him he understood he was a relation of his. Mr. Hays told him that the report is all over Gilmer that Cal. & I are to be married. Calvin says it is all over Rockingham [County] too. "What every person says, it must be true." Well, I believe him to be worthy of my highest esteem<sup>1</sup>.

Amie

**Amie gets an answer to last week's letter from her mother. It seems as if very few of the letters that Amie and her mother wrote ended up in ashes, as both requested.**

[Letter from Mother to Amie]

November [1855]

Dear Amie

I hardly feel as if I can write I feel very much disappointed. We have returned from the post office and brought no letter at all either from you or Louisa or Almira. I was in hopes they could have written when they will be here; I look every day and think they will come this week, they may not come before next week.

I am afraid the weather will soon be bad. I should think they would write to you when they will be here; I can't get a letter from them before next Thursday. I hope they will be here before then. Next Thursday is appointed Thanksgiving Day by the Governor of Virginia. Mr. Young will preach on that day. I suppose we will all have a good dinner. I have a turkey in the pen. Think I will not roast him until Perry's family and you come home.

I received a letter from Almira dated 12 of October. The last I have heard from them she said they had a good deal of sewing to do, childrens clothes to make, Ec. Said Perry was a coming with her and would bring his family, did not say when. We will get you word some how if you do not hear; I should be very glad indeed if you had written this mail.

Thank you much for writing last week, am pleased that you are so well contented, can't think of your staying this winter. Now Amie don't be easily won, but know well who you trust, it won't all ways do to trust strangers, consider well; that it is of the greatest importance who you form a connexion with, that you may be directed right is your mothers earnest prayer.

You will let no one see this.

It is a general time of health. Your grandma does not gain much and is quite feeble. Your uncle McAvoy and your Aunt Louisa took dinner here last Sunday, had just received a letter from Rosanna. She wants her father to go for her. He talks of starting a week from next Monday, go by public conveyance, will not be gone long.

Your cousin writes that she is not homesick. She is anxious to see her father and mother and the rest of the family. Now Amie, I wish you would write to Rosanna before she comes home, if you have not. She will think hard of you, since you did not go to see her.

Selena and Rowena have written to her, she has written to them. I would be sorry for her to think they were kinder than you are, if you do write you must immediately if you only write a little it would do you. Could ask her to call and see you on her return if you think best, not very probably that it would be convient for her to.

Almira wrote George was better. I feel sorry for him; I fear your woolen stockings are not sufficient. I have spun some stocking yarn for you. If you need another pair before you come home perhaps you could buy a pair at the store.

I suppose you heard that Amelia Burr was married last week to Mr. Squires; gone to Braxton, had no wedding. You likewise heard of Buckhannon town being burned, sad catastrophe. I must conclude, my fingers are cold. Write the first opportunity. I hope I shall have the pleasure of seeing you soon.

Your poetry on libe marriage is quite pretty.

The papering looks very well. It is quite cold to day, we have coal. If I would take the time to make a fire I could write better. We have fresh beef. F and W families are well, burn this letter.

Love to all  
Your mother

**Amie will soon return to Arnoldsburg.**

[French Creek]

Jan 7th 1856<sup>2</sup>

[To her sister, Louisa, in Arnoldsburg]

I tell Mother she has written enough; & after her long preamble, I will close for her. But she can write better than I can with such a miserable pen.

Rev. Young<sup>3</sup> instructed me to inform you that he would be at your house on the evening of the 8th of May. Another gent, who heard of this appointment, was so diverted at the idea, that he wished an appointment left there for him on the 5th of July. So keep your eyes open!

<sup>1</sup>Amie's mother did not hold "Cal" Smith in high regard.

<sup>2</sup>Amie had date wrong; it was actually February.

<sup>3</sup>Rev. J.A. Young was going to Arnoldsburg to preach and probably hold communion.

(Continued Next Week)

# Senior Citizens Menu

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

Thursday, Mar. 4: BBQ rib sandwich with onions, lima beans, fruit.

Friday, Mar. 5: lasagna, coleslaw, fruit, texas toast.

Monday, Mar. 8: pinto beans, onion, spinach, applesauce, cornbread.

Tuesday, Mar. 9: chicken tenders, macaroni and cheese, kale, juice, whole wheat bread.

Wednesday, Mar. 10: tomato soup, fruit, pepperoni roll.

Thursday, Mar. 11: italian sausage, kraut, cube potatoes, mixed greens, fruit, cornbread.

Friday, Mar. 12: pizza burger, potatoes, banana pudding, whole wheat bun.

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.

# Governor's Updates

**New Johnson & Johnson Vaccine**

During Friday's briefing, Gov. Jim Justice announced that West Virginia officials expect to receive an initial weekly allotment of approximately 15,000 doses of the new Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine.

West Virginia could receive its first shipment of the new vaccine as soon as this week.

"If this comes to pass, our total doses in West Virginia should approach 60,000 between Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, and Pfizer combined," said Justice. "That's great, great news and we're ready for it."

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine requires only one shot, unlike the two-shot dosing for the vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna, and it does not require special refrigeration for shipment and storage, making it particularly appealing for use in West Virginia's rural areas.

The governor said that West Virginia will also be receiving 36,270 doses of the Pfizer vaccine and 34,100 doses of the Moderna vaccine this week:

"We're ready for these doses. We're going to knock them out just as fast as they get here."

Justice reported that West Virginia remains among the national leaders in the rate of COVID-19 vaccine distribution and administration.

As of Friday afternoon, 10.3 percent of West Virginia's entire population has received both doses of the vaccines; a rate so high that, if West Virginia were its own country, it would rank as the 7th-best rate of any nation in the world.

West Virginia has successfully administered 469,191 doses after receiving a total allotment of 520,535 doses from the federal government to date; an overall administration rate of 90.1%.

West Virginia boasts a first dose administration rate of 87.7% and a second dose administration rate of 94.2%. First doses: 285,654 administered, 325,745 allotted; second doses: 183,537 administered, 194,790 allotted.

COVID-19 vaccination clinics, through operation "Save Our Wisdom," are available for West Virginians who are 65 years of age and older. To date, 160,939 West Virginians age 65 and older have chosen to be vaccinated, including 89,697 who are now fully vaccinated.

Justice reported that the current number of active cases in the state is 7,800, down from 8,067 as of his previous COVID-19 briefing on Feb. 24.

The number of daily active cases in West Virginia has decreased for 41 straight days.

The number of active hospitalizations is 267, down from 292. Of those currently hospitalized, 62 patients are in the ICU, down from 74.

**Zero COVID-19 Deaths**

Justice announced that zero new COVID-19-related deaths have been reported in West Virginia over the past 24 hours on Monday and one on Tuesday.

"This is something that has been a long time coming," said Justice. "I am so delighted by this, it's unbelievable."

This marks the first time since Nov. 27, 2020, where West Virginia has gone a full day without a single COVID-19-related death being reported.

"West Virginia, you're doing better; it's really, really good, but, on Saturday and Sunday, we still had nine deaths reported. We hate like crazy to think about these nine people, and absolutely all their families that are hurting and all their loved ones. Please don't let them become just a statistic."

**Vaccine Distribution**

By Monday, the governor said that nearly half of all West Virginia residents age 65 and older have now received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine through operation "Save Our Wisdom."

Vaccination clinics, which continue to operate in all 55 counties each week, have now provided vaccinations to 170,512 West Virginians age 65+, including 99,528 who are now fully vaccinated.

Each clinic location has its own, unique schedule. Names are being pulled from the West Virginia COVID-19 Vaccine Registration System to fill out appointments after waitlists are exhausted. All clinics require appointments and walk-ins will not be accepted.

To date, more than 310,000 West Virginians have signed up to be added to the pre-registration list.

All West Virginians over the age of 16 are encouraged to pre-register at [vaccinate.wv.gov](http://vaccinate.wv.gov).

Vaccine supplies are limited, so pre-registration does not mean immediate access to vaccination.

Pre-registration offers West Virginians the opportunity to receive real-time updates on vaccine availability and schedule an appointment when available as vaccine supplies allow.

West Virginians who need assistance with registration for any reason should call the COVID-19 Vaccine Info Line for help at 1-833-734-0965. The info line is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## WANTED: DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MEDIA AT WVU

The Division of Student Life at West Virginia University is seeking applications for a **Director of Student Media**. This position reports to the executive director of Student Enrichment and is responsible for the management, budgeting, staffing and successful operation of the Daily Athenaeum, U92 The Moose and Prospect and Price Creative. The Director of Student Media is responsible for all aspects of Student Media and for implementing innovative practices that result in respected and appreciated news organizations and profitable business operations; ensuring a welcoming community; and providing students valuable experiences and opportunities that prepare them for success upon graduation.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree in Journalism and/or Communications or related field, or equivalent combination of education and related experience.
- A minimum of six (6) years of experience involving:
  - Print or broadcast journalism
  - Design and development of a communications plan
  - Budgeting and supervising a staff
- Experience working in the higher education setting preferred
- Editing, budgeting, excellent interpersonal and social skills.
- Ability to perform assessments to determine program effectiveness.
- Experience leading a news organization through change, creating innovative and experimental coverage.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Valid driver's license
- Resume
- Letter of Interest

Apply at [careers.wvu.edu](http://careers.wvu.edu) (16139)

WVU is proud to be an Equal Opportunity employer and is the recipient of an NSF ADVANCE award for gender equity. WVU values diversity among its faculty, staff, and students, and invites applications from all qualified applicants regardless of race, ethnicity, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, nationality, genetics, disability, or Veteran status.

## Ranked No. 3 In Class A

# Lady Red Devils Open Season With Bulldogs

The Calhoun County High School varsity girls basketball team is scheduled to open its season on Friday by hosting Doddridge County High School at 7 p.m.

The Lady Red Devils prepared for the season opener by hosting Parkersburg Catholic in a scrimmage on Feb. 24.

The Lady Crusaders looked like the team that was 25-0 when the state tournament was canceled last year due to the coronavirus.

This year, with a new format of four classes in basketball, instead of three, Catholic is ranked second in Class AA.

Calhoun, which finished last season with a record of 15-8, has three of its top four scorers returning. The team is ranked third in a preseason poll.

The team was originally scheduled to open at home on Mar. 3 against Gilmer County, which was 22-4 last year, but the game has been rescheduled for Thursday, Mar. 11.

Gilmer is ranked first in Class A this year, with 108 points, including nine first place votes. Tucker is second with 73 votes and Calhoun received 57 votes.

Although coach Kevin Boak had not sent in a roster by presstime, the list of players could look as follows (with jersey number):

Senior: Kaylin Parsons

(32). Juniors: Savannah Cunningham (3), Ella Hess (00), Josie Montgomery (10), Allison Stevens (55).

Sophomores: Ariety Hickman (45), Makayla Jones (5), Madison Westfall (30), Joselynn Yeager (42).

Freshmen: Trista Arnold (22), Emily Dennison (15).

Other Little Kanawha Conference teams in Class A include Doddridge, Tyler Consolidated and Wahama.

Also in Class AA are Williamstown, St. Marys, Ritchie, Braxton, Ravenswood, Roane and South Harrison.

## Wrestlers Are At Ritchie, Saturday

The CCHS wrestling team will begin the 2021 season at Ritchie County High School on Saturday at 11 a.m.

Coach Andrew Cummings reports that he has eight matmen on the team.

Each of the 14 weight classes has had three pounds added this year.

Based on previous success, the Class A wvmat.com team poll has the Red Devils ranked eighth. Calhoun finished 11th of 18 Class A teams last year.

Members of this year's team include the following (with potential weight class and year in school): 109 - Jett Sampson, 11th 116 - None 123 - Isaiah Boggs, 10th

## Lions Club Bingo

Lions Club bingo will be held in the Lions Club Building, 103 Stump St., Grantsville, on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 6 p.m. Masks and social distancing are required.

## 2021 CCHS Varsity Girls Basketball Schedule

March

5	Doddridge Co. .	H	7:00
6	Wirt Co.*	A	7:30
8	So. Harrison*	A	7:30
10	Roane Co.*	H	7:30
11	Gilmer Co.	H	7:00
12	Webster Co.	A	7:00
15	Ritchie Co.*	H	7:30
17	Braxton Co.	H	7:00
19	Clay Co.	A	7:00
20	Wirt Co.*	H	7:30
22	Braxton Co.	A	7:00
24	Doddridge Co. .	A	7:00
26	So. Harrison*	H	7:30
29	Gilmer Co.	A	7:00
31	LKC Placement ...	TBA	

April

1	Valley(Wetzel)*	H	7:30
3	Night of Champ. .	TBA	
5	Ritchie Co.*	A	7:30
8	Valley(Wetzel)*	A	7:30

\*Most JV games at 5:45p.m.

## 2021 CCHS Varsity Boys Basketball Schedule

March

5	Doddridge Co. .	H	7:00
6	Wirt Co.*	A	7:30
8	So. Harrison*	A	7:30
10	Roane Co.*	H	7:30
11	Gilmer Co.	H	7:00
12	Webster Co.	A	7:00
15	Ritchie Co.*	H	7:30
17	Braxton Co.	H	7:00
19	Clay Co.	A	7:00
20	Wirt Co.*	H	7:30
22	Braxton Co.	A	7:00
24	Doddridge Co. .	A	7:00
26	So. Harrison*	H	7:30
29	Gilmer Co.	A	7:00
31	LKC Placement ...	TBA	

April

1	Valley(Wetzel)*	H	7:30
3	Night of Champ. .	TBA	
5	Ritchie Co.*	A	7:30
8	Valley(Wetzel)*	A	7:30

\*Most JV games at 5:45p.m.

## 2021 CCHS Varsity Wrestling Schedule

All matches away, except Mar. 27

March

6	Ritchie Co. ....	11:00
13	Tyler Con., quad .	Noon
20	Wirt Co., quad.....	10:00
24	St. Marys .....	6:00
27	Wahama, Dodd. .	11:00
31	Roane Co., quad .	6:00

April

3	LKC at South Harrison	
9-10	Regional at Winfield	
21-22	States at Huntington	

## 2021 CCHS Varsity Boys Basketball Schedule

March

16	Roane Co.*	A	7:30
18	Webster Co.*	H	7:30
19	Ritchie Co.*	H	7:30
22	So. Harrison* ..	H	7:30
23	Braxton Co.*	A	7:30
25	Clay Co.*	H	7:30
27	Doddridge*	A	1:00
30	Doddridge*	H	7:30
31	Gilmer Co.*	A	7:30

April

1	So. Harrison* ..	A	7:30
3	Wirt Co.*	H	1:00
5	Man .....	H	7:30
6	Gilmer Co.*	H	7:30
8	LKC Placement ...	TBA	
10	Night of Champ. .	TBA	
12	Ritchie*	A	7:30
15	Wirt Co.*	A	7:30

\*Most JV games at 5:45p.m.

## Calhoun Middle School 2021 Boys Basketball Schedule

Games are at 6 p.m., unless noted

March

5	Ravenswood .....	A
8	Gilmer .....	H
9	Walton .....	A
12	Clay .....	7:00 H
15	Spencer .....	H
18	Summersville ..	7:00 A
22	Gilmer .....	noon A
24	Wirt .....	H
25	Walton .....	H
29	Ravenswood .....	H

April

1	Spencer .....	A
6	Wirt .....	A

## Calhoun Middle School 2021 Girls Basketball Schedule

Games are at 6 p.m., unless noted

March

12	Clay (A team only) ...	H
13	Gilmer .....	noon A
15	Spencer .....	A
16	Wirt .....	A
18	Summersville .....	A
23	Gilmer .....	H
25	Walton .....	A
26	Wirt .....	A
29	Ravenswood .....	H
30	Spencer .....	H

April

1	Ravenswood .....	H
2	Walton .....	H

## W.Va. Trappers

W.Va. Trappers Association will hold its annual Fur Auction and Rendezvous on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Mar. 5-7, at Gilmer County Recreation Center, 1365 Sycamore Run Road, Glenville. Fur auction is Mar. 7 at 1 p.m. Board of directors meeting will be on Mar. 5 at 7 p.m. For information, call Briana Frederick, 997-1863, or visit www.wvtrappers.com.

## Seven New Cases--

(Continued from Page 1) county is Webster, which has 323 positive cases, including 27 in the past week.

The percent positive for Calhoun is now at 2.64, with infection rate at 11.05. Ten days earlier, the county was the only one in the State with both factors in green.

Surrounding counties showed the following increases in positive cases (total): Braxton, 4 (777); Clay, 6 (376);

Gilmer, 9 (714); Ritchie, 9 (622); Roane, 58\* (549); and Wirt, 11 (360). \*DHHR said there were miscalculations in this number that may take a few days to correct.

Tuesday's report showed 28 counties as green, 14 as yellow, with 8 as gold, 5 as orange, and 0 red.

West Virginia cases on the year totaled 132,184, with 2,301 deaths. There were 2,045 cases and 27 deaths in the past week.

## RC&D Grants Available

Little Kanawha RC&D is accepting applications for its 2020-21 Mini Grant program period, which has a deadline of 4 p.m. on Thursday, Mar. 11.

Project categories to be funded are Land Conservation, Land Management, and Water Management.

Grants are open to the nine-county area served by Little Kanawha RC&D, which includes Calhoun.

To date, the RC&D has awarded a vast number of grants to counties, communities, clubs, and organizations. Funding from the program is considered seed money to help kick start a project, assist with in-progress work being done, or help complete a project area.

To request an application, email info@lkrcd.com or dj.allen@lkrcd.com, or call 679-3639 or 893-9723 for an application by mail.

## Enrollment

Calhoun County Universal Preschool has enrollment packets available for parents to get children enrolled into Pre-Kindergarten and for the 2021-22 school year.

Enrollment packets may be picked up at Arnoldsburg Elementary, Pleasant Hill School, or the Calhoun County board of education office during school hours.

Children who did not attend a PreK program last year, and will be attending kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year, may also pick up enrollment packets at each school.

Children who are four years old prior to July 1, 2021, are eligible to apply.

Calhoun schools will conduct pre-registration on the following date:

Pleasant Hill School, Wednesday, Mar. 10; call Deb Goff, 354-6022, ext. 402, for an appointment.

For information, call Bonnie Sands, 354-7011, ext. 317, or email bonnie.sands@k12.wv.us.

## Berry/Plant Sale

Gilmer County Farm Bureau and WVU Extension Service, in Gilmer and Calhoun, will be placing a bulk order for spring plants and berries.

The spring plants and berries that are available this year will be strawberries, blackberries, raspberries (both red and black), and blueberries. Also offered are asparagus roots and rhubarb crowns.

You may request a paper order form be mailed to you by contacting the WVU Extension Service, 462-7061 or email dmfryman@mail.wvu.edu. Orders and payment are due by Friday, Mar. 19, at 4 p.m.

Once plants arrive during the second or third week of April, participants will be called and plants will need to be picked up within five days in Gilmer or Calhoun at the WVU Extension office.

## New CCHS Teacher

Annie Fox is the newest teacher at Calhoun Middle/High School. She will be teaching agricultural classes.

Fox grew up in the town of Hundred, and was raised on her family farm, where her passion for agriculture was cultivated. She was active in Hundred's FFA chapter and competed in multiple national contests.


After high school, she attended Potomac State College in Keyser, where she started her journey towards a degree in agriculture education. She transferred to West Virginia University and received her bachelor's degree in December



2020. Fox has moved to the area with her fiancé and dog. She said that she is excited to bring her love of agriculture and FFA to the students of Calhoun County, and expects big things for the future of the program.

## Complete Eye Care

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FIRST CHOICE SERVICES

Updated 12/7/20

**DEAL OF THE WEEK**

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

**HUNTING PROPERTY**

**Big Pigeon Road, Pigeon, WV** | 205 Acres +/- | ATV Trails and Surrounded by 12,000 Acres of Public Hunting Land | \$717,900

**2282 Hog Knob Road** | 54 Acres +/- | 2BR - 1BA | CABIN IN THE WOODS! | FREE GAS! | \$89,500

**Nicut, Timber and Land** | 237 Acres +/- | INVESTMENT TIMBER! | \$250,000

**5260 Leading Creek Road** | 23 Acres +/- | 2003 Mobile Home | \$59,500 MAKE AN OFFER!

**Leading Creek Road** | 60 Acres +/- | 1/2 Minerals | Reported FREE GAS | Perfect Hunting Camp fronting on creek | \$69,500 MAKE AN OFFER!

**1349 Big Root Road** | 110 Acres +/- | 3 BR - 2 BA | 1000 Sq. Ft. | Pond | ULTIMATE PROPERTY! | \$299,000

**SALE PENDING**

**2291 Lower Nicut Road** | 152 Acres +/- | CABIN w/ FREE GAS! | \$99,500

**UNDER CONTRACT**

**4654 North Calhoun Highway** | 3 BR - 1 BA | 2 Car Garage | If this sounds interesting then add 22 acres that fronts North Calhoun Highway and Road Fork to make it more appealing. REDUCED TO \$49,500!

**Stinson** | 88 Acres +/- | Recently Surveyed, REPORTED FREE GAS, four wheel drive access, get away from it all, prime social distancing spot! | \$99,500

**Little Rowels Run** | 50 Acres +/- | Near Creston, great spot for a hunting camp, recently surveyed. | \$49,900 MAKE AN OFFER!

**Little Kanawha River** | 105 Acres +/- | POND | Now only \$19,500!

**SALE PENDING**

**Lemuels Run** | Ideal home site 23 acres of stream front property with electric reported free gas on the property. 2 miles from Route 5 on Lemuels Run. Priced at \$39,400

**SALE PENDING**

**Rush Run** | Hunting Land | 70 Acres +/- | \$75,000

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

**SALE PENDING**

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

**Rt. 16 North of Grantsville** | 105 Acres +/- | 6000 Sq. Ft. w/ Utilities | \$25,000

**UNDER CONTRACT**

**Kight-Ward Road** | 24 Acres +/- | \$34,500

**839 Lovada Road** | 5 Acres +/- | Two Houses! | \$89,500

**Stumptown/Bear Fork** | 95 Acres +/- | \$95,000 - MAKE AN OFFER

**3 Miles out of Grantsville Little Kanawha Hwy E** | 11 Acres +/- | \$25,000 LAND CONTRACT

**Jakes Fork** | 49 Acres +/- | \$49,000

**Stinson Road** | 10 Acres +/- | 1000 Sq. Ft. | \$29,500

**UNDER CONTRACT**

**FARMS**

**821 Reedyville Road** | 150 Acres +/- | \$1,000,000

**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 | REDUCED TO \$69,500

**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

**UNDER CONTRACT**

**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** | 105 Acres +/- | 4 BR - 2 BA | 1000 Sq. Ft. on 3 Acres +/- | \$65,000 PRICE REDUCED!

**UNDER CONTRACT**

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY**

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

**2798 Russett Road** | FIXED PRICE | \$9,500

**SALE PENDING**

**2766 N. Calhoun Hwy., Grantsville, WV** | 1.43 Acres +/- | 2 Trailers, All Materials for Renovation, and Much More! | \$19,900

**SALE PENDING**

**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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**CLASSIFIEDS**

Bring Classifieds to the Chronicle office or mail to Box 400, Grantsville, WV 26147. Classifieds Ads must be paid in advance. Classifieds are \$3 plus 10¢ a word after 20 words.

**Eddie's**

YARD SALE -- Wednesday, Mar. 3, and Friday, Mar. 5, 513 Elm St., Grantsville, 10 a.m. to ?. Antiques, furniture, jewelry, marbles, flower arrangements, comic books, Dale Earnhardt cars and pictures. Lots of items too numerous to mention. NRFA. Phone 1-304-531-9979. 1tp/3/4

**Sales**

GARAGE SALE -- 11410 S. Calhoun Hwy., at Millstone, Thursday, Mar. 4, thru Saturday, Mar. 6, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Longaberger baskets, Bath and Body Works, \$1 movies, new toys, nicknacks, knives and much more. New stuff. 1tp/3/4

**For Rent**

FOR RENT -- Rivers Edge Apartments, unfurnished, utilities included except wifi and phone; 2-bedroom, 1 bath, with loft, \$725, plus deposit; 3-bedroom, 1 bath, \$825, plus deposit. Lease required. Close to Grantsville, Minnie Hamilton Health System. Call 304-532-8117. 4tp/2/25-3/18

**Help Wanted**

CALHOUN County E-911 Center is hiring -- Part-time telecommunicator needed. Starting pay is \$11 with increases for completed training. Must be 18 years of age with high school/GED diploma. Must be able to pass a background check/drug screening. Must be available weekends and holidays, available for flexible shifts. Must complete APCO and EMD training within one year; with in-house training paid and provided. Duties will include some physical labor with delivery and installation of 911 locator signs. This center operates 24/7 365 days a year. You will be a direct link between community residents and emergency responders. You must be able to multitask and handle stressful situations. Applications can be picked up at Calhoun E-911 Center behind Calhoun Middle/High School. Deadline to apply is April 1, 2021. For more information, contact Director Julie Sears at 304-354-0911 or email calhounmaps@yahoo.com. 2tc/2/25-3/4

NOTIFICATION Of Job Vacancy -- Posting Date: 2/15/2020. Department: Glenville - Federally Qualified Health Clinic. Position: Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). Shift: Day shift, 8 to 10 hours.

MHHS Description: Minnie Hamilton Health System (MHHS) is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that owns and operates a Critical Access Hospital with 18 Acute Care/Swing Beds, 24 Long Term Care (Nursing Home) Beds, a Level IV Trauma Emergency Department, Rural Health Clinic, Primary Care practices, and a Dental practice, serving nearly 20,000 residents in central West Virginia.

Job Duties: Record patient medical and social history. Take and record measurements of blood pressure, temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation, height, weight and BMI. Administer medication and injections as prescribed. Collect samples for lab testing as assigned. Dress wounds and assist with other basic medical care tasks. Provide patient education and address quality measures for health maintenance. Communication/coordination of care with patients/families and other agencies involved. Provide

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emotional and psychological support as needed. Specific Requirements: Current licensure to practice in the state of West Virginia with preferred experience in clinic setting or similar role. Maintain CPR certification. General understanding of care management principles and practice in primary care setting. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Opportunity offers the following: Competitive salary. Excellent benefit package including: health, dental, vision, life insurance, 401k, paid time off (PTO). MHHS is an equal opportunity provider, and employer. Submit application/resume mailing to: Minnie Hamilton Health System, Attn: Human Resources Department, 186 Hospital Drive, Grantsville, WV 26147; Email to: shelia.gherke@mhhs.healthcare. Submit on-line application at: https://www.mhhs.healthcare/employment-application.html. Last day to apply for position: Until filled. 3tc/2/18-3/4

innovative practices that result in respected and appreciated news organizations and profitable business operations; ensuring a welcoming community; and providing students valuable experiences and opportunities that prepare them for success upon graduation. See requirements, qualifications, details and apply at careers.wvu.edu. Reference (16139). swc

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AT&T Internet -- Starting at \$40/month with 12-month agreement. Includes 1 TB

**Personals**

WANTED -- 4167 on Yellow Creek Road, seeks non-smoking/non-drinking, shapely lady, attractive, for LTR in Calhoun County. Woman have car, computer, and house. Call 304-354-6688, my sister, and ask for Emory King. Woman callers. Woman come see me in the evening. 4tp/2/11-3/4

**Opportunity**

DIRECTOR OF Student Media -- The Division of Student Life at West Virginia University is seeking applications for a Director of Student Media. This position reports to the executive director of Student Enrichment and is responsible for the management, budgeting, staffing, and successful operation of the Daily Athenaeum, U92 The Moose and Prospect and Price Creative. The Director of Student Media is responsible for all aspects of Student Media and for implementing

**LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF**

**VIRTUAL INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC MEETING**  
**WV 14 (PIKE STREET) 26TH AVENUE**  
**TO BLIZZARD DRIVE**  
**WIDEN AND ADD LANES (0.49 MILES)**  
**STATE PROJECT U354-14-9.23 00**  
**FEDERAL PROJECT STP-0014(174)D**  
**CITY OF PARKERSBURG**  
**WOOD COUNTY**

The West Virginia Department of Transportation will be hosting a virtual public meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 to inform and gather public input on the proposed project to upgrade WV 14 (Pike Street) by widening and add lanes from 26th Avenue to Blizzard Drive. This project is being undertaken to reduce traffic congestion and improve non-motorized movement through the corridor. This meeting complies with the public involvement requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The public meeting will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. **FORMAL PRESENTATIONS WILL BE MADE ON MARCH 23, 2021 AT 4:00 PM AND 6:00 PM.** The public will be afforded the opportunity to ask questions and give written comments on the project throughout the meeting.

**Advanced Registration is required: Please send your name, email address, and organization (if one) to the following email to receive a link to the Team Meeting.**

WestVirginia14TI@burgessniple.com  
 Visit the WVDOH Website at <http://go.wv.gov/dotcomment> for project information and the opportunity to comment on the project. **Please submit comments and questions during the Virtual Public Meeting by using the chat window to type your question/comment.** Those wishing to file written comments may send them to Mr. RJ Scites, P.E., Director, Engineering Division, West Virginia Division of Highways, 1334 Smith Street, Charleston, West Virginia, 25301 on or before **April 25, 2021.**

The West Virginia Department of Transportation will, upon request, provide reasonable accommodations including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in our services, programs and activities. Please contact us at (304) 558-3931. Persons with hearing or speech impairments can reach all state agencies by calling (800) 982-8772 (voice to TDD) or (800) 982-8771 (TDD to voice), toll free.

**Commission Lists Agenda**

Calhoun county commission has announced the following agenda for Monday's 9 a.m. meeting in the courthouse third floor circuit courtroom.

The meeting will also be available virtually, using zoom; #5936021621, password, 1234; by toll free phone, +13126266799 or +1929 2056099):

- Call to order.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approve minutes of meetings held Feb. 8, and Board of Equalization, Feb. 1, Feb. 4, Feb. 8, Feb. 12, Feb. 18 and Feb. 24.
- Delegations/requests.
- Reports: E-911, LEPC and OES; ambulance service; Wood Festival; CRI; Calhoun Co. Park; 4-H programs; FRN; home confinement; sheriff; Little Kanawha Area Development Corp.; broadband committee, Horst Motz.
- New business: Set dates for budget meetings.
- Old business: COVID-19 grant.
- Personnel items.
- Appointments to boards and authorities.
- Grants, contracts, applications and resolutions.
- Erroneous tax assessments/consolidations.
- Fiduciary items.
- Financial items: In-house transfer #5; budget transfer #5.
- Invoices paid, need to be approved.
- Invoices to be approved.
- Financial statement: February.
- Bonds, wills, settlements and orders.
- Executive session.
- Adjournment: Next meeting is Tuesday, Apr. 20, at 9 a.m.

**LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

The undersigned Clerk of the County Commission of Calhoun County does hereby give NOTICE that, pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code §44-1-4(b), there has been filed and there is pending before me and the said County Commission an Affidavit for ancillary administration of West Virginia real estate without the appointment of any personal representative and does state as follows:

Decedent	Decedent's Address	Date of Death	Date of Affidavit
Eugene Foster	562 Melcher Ave. New Franklin, OH 44319	December 10, 2020	September 2, 2008 May 10, 1975

Name of Person Filing Affidavit	Address	Relation to Decedent	Date of First Publication
Evaleen Foster	562 Melcher Ave. New Franklin, OH 44319	Spouse	March 3, 2021

The decedent died owning real estate situate in the State of West Virginia. As reported in the affidavit filed herein, (a) the decedent has left no will as far as is known; (b) no will of the decedent has been presented or probated in this State or in any other jurisdiction; and (c) more than sixty days have passed since the death of the decedent and no personal representative or administrator of the decedent's estate has been otherwise appointed in the State of West Virginia for any proper purpose.

Any interested person objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this State must file a written objection with the County Commission whose address is 363 Main Street; PO Box 230; Grantsville, WV 26147; within sixty (60) days after the date of first publication or thirty (30) days of service of this Notice upon such interested person filing the Notice, whichever is later.

Notice is given that if an objection is not timely filed, the objection is barred and that the Ancillary Administration of the West Virginia real estate of the above decedent shall be deemed final and complete in accordance with the provisions of law.

Enter this 3rd day of March, 2021.

*Jean Simers*  
 Clerk of the County Commission  
 Class II Legal

**LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

The undersigned Clerk of the County Commission of Calhoun County does hereby give NOTICE that, pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code §41-5-13(b), there has been filed and there is pending before me and the said County Commission an Affidavit for ancillary administration of West Virginia real estate without the appointment of any personal representative and does state as follows:

Decedent	Decedent's Address	Date of Death	Date of Will
Wanda G. Hays	2700 Man-O-War Blvd. Lexington, KY 40515	August 15, 2020	September 2, 2008

Name of Person Filing Affidavit	Address	Relation to Decedent	Date of First Publication
Debra Hays Keelen	1100 Carter's Close Lexington, KY 40514	Daughter	March 3, 2021

Any interested person objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this State must file a written objection with the County Commission whose address is 363 Main Street; PO Box 230; Grantsville, WV 26147; within sixty (60) days after the date of first publication or thirty (30) days of service of this Notice upon such interested person filing the Notice, whichever is later.

Notice is given that if an objection is not timely filed, the objection is barred and that the Ancillary Administration of the West Virginia real estate of the above decedent shall be deemed final and complete in accordance with the provisions of law.

Entered this 3rd day of March, 2021

*Jean Simers*  
 Clerk of the County Commission

**LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

Notice is hereby given that proceedings in the following estates are pending before the County Commission of Calhoun County, West Virginia, at the Courthouse in the City of Grantsville, West Virginia;

Decedent	Personal Representative	Address
Sandra K. Yeager	Jo Ann Parsons	400 Brohard Rd. Brohard, WV 26136
Thurmel L. Hall	Kenneth Arnold	135 Dogwood Land Arnoldsburg, WV 25234
Mary Lou Reed	Helen M. Sherill	40824 Banks Rd. Lagrange, OH 44050
Dermal Ruth Smith	Michael Smith	209 Wigner St. Grantsville, WV 26147

March 3, 2021

Notice is hereby given that the preceding estate(s) have been opened for probate in the Calhoun County Clerk's office at 363 Main Street, PO Box 230, GRANTSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA 26147. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provision of West Virginia Code 41-5-11 through 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue of jurisdiction of the commission, shall file notice of an objection with the County Commission within 60 days after the date of the first publication or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred.

Any person interested in filing claims against an estate shown below must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code, 44-2 and 44-3. All persons having claims against one or more of the estate(s) shown above, whether due or not, are notified to exhibit their claims, with the voucher thereof, legally verified, to the Clerk of the Calhoun County Commission at Calhoun County Clerk's Office at 363 Main Street, PO Box 230, GRANTSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA 26147 on or before **MAY 3, 2021.** Otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate(s). All beneficiaries of said estate(s) may appear on or before said day to examine said claims and otherwise protect their interests.

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

Jean Simers, Clerk  
 Calhoun County Commission  
 Class II Legal

**Spay/Neuter**

Welfare of Animals Group (WAG) can assist low-income Calhoun County homes with 50% of their cat or dog's spay/neuter fee. It is cheaper to spay a pet than to pay the costs of caring for one litter of puppies or kittens. For information or to make an appointment, call 354-7042. Donations of dry cat food are greatly appreciated, and can be dropped off at Calhoun County Library, Grantsville. The program is funded in part by The Bernard McDonough Foundation, The Oakland Foundation, and W.Va. Dept. of Agriculture.

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 DENTAL insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Co. Coverage for 350 procedures. Real dental insurance, not just a discount plan. Do not wait, call now. Get your free dental information kit with all the details. Call 1-855-405-3412 or visit [www.dental50plus.com/press.#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/press.#6258). swc

**Miscellaneous**

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[charles.clements@wvsenate.gov](mailto:charles.clements@wvsenate.gov)

**Mike Maroney**  
 (304) 357-7902  
[mike.maroney@wvsenate.gov](mailto:mike.maroney@wvsenate.gov)

**Roger Hanshaw**  
 (304) 340-3210  
[roger.hanshaw@wvhouse.gov](mailto:roger.hanshaw@wvhouse.gov)

**KEEP YOUR LEGAL ADS IN CALHOUN COUNTY**

# WEST VIRGINIA CORONAVIRUS UPDATE



## Testing Locations

Statewide testing/collection locations have been announced, including Minnie Hamilton Health System, Grantsville, which is offering 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 Feb. 8 (last complete daily list in July 30 issue):

	Positive Cases	Negative Cases	Deaths	Percentage Positive	Percentage 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. 18	109,809	1,652,096	1,784	6.2	6.8
Jan. 25	115,839	1,726,886	1,899	6.3	7.3
Feb. 1	121,425	1,805,255	2,028	6.3	5.6
Feb. 8	125,106	1,874,189	2,131	6.3	5.2
Feb. 15	127,889	1,937,676	2,212	6.2	3.4
Feb. 22	129,854	1,989,304	2,263	6.1	3.9
Feb. 23	130,139	1,997,427	2,274	6.1	3.5
Feb. 24	130,382	2,005,532	2,285	6.1	3.7
Feb. 25	130,813	2,016,463	2,290	6.1	3.6
Feb. 26	131,234	2,026,676	2,291	6.1	3.8
Feb. 27	131,580	2,036,326	2,297	6.1	2.6
Feb. 28	131,855	2,045,852	2,300	6.1	4.5
Mar. 1	132,048	2,049,939	2,300	6.1	2.4
Mar. 2	132,184	2,057,853	2,301	6.0	3.1

\*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 (1,227), Berkeley (9,699), Boone (1,583), Braxton (777), Brooke (2,012), Cabell (7,825), Calhoun (230), Clay (376), Doddridge (467), Fayette (2,677), Gilmer (714), Grant (1,071), Greenbrier (2,434), Hampshire (1,538), Hancock (2,598), Hardy (1,270), Harrison (4,846), Jackson (1,669), Jefferson (3,638), Kanawha (12,134), Lewis (1,042), Lincoln (1,227), Logan (2,704), Marion (3,682), Marshall (3,016), Mason (1,770), McDowell (1,350), Mercer (4,228), Mineral (2,585), Mingo (2,132), Monongalia (8,054), Monroe (951), Morgan (933), Nicholas (1,183), Ohio (3,640), Pendleton (621), Pleasants (803), Pocahontas (596), Preston (2,544), Putnam (4,228), Raleigh (4,717), Randolph (2,395), Ritchie (622), Roane (549), Summers (703), Taylor (1,092), Tucker (503), Tyler (618), Upshur (1,690), Wayne (2,621), Webster (323), Wetzel (1,092), Wirt (360), Wood (7,081), Wyoming (1,744); Calhoun was 53rd of 55 counties to record a case; Calhoun and Webster were last counties to hit 100 positive cases, Dec. 10; Calhoun last county to reach 200 positive cases, Jan. 23.

In United States: Each Monday since Mar. 16, plus daily since Feb. 8 (last daily list in July 30 issue):

	Positive	Deaths	In World: 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. 18	24,483,901	407,216	95,643,391	2,043,595
Jan. 25	25,705,299	429,511	99,917,297	2,142,799
Feb. 1	26,769,038	452,291	103,672,035	2,241,682
Feb. 8	27,612,687	474,939	106,820,574	2,330,766
Feb. 15	28,262,355	497,175	109,513,357	2,415,073
Feb. 22	28,767,835	511,302	112,093,051	2,481,796
Feb. 23	28,829,173	512,767	112,425,426	2,490,128
Feb. 24	28,901,327	515,211	112,824,506	2,502,004
Feb. 25	28,978,292	518,577	113,266,743	2,513,563
Feb. 26	29,055,072	520,877	113,730,543	2,524,083
Feb. 27	29,137,887	523,092	114,156,289	2,533,723
Feb. 28	29,202,966	524,670	114,521,170	2,541,195
Mar. 1	29,257,069	525,780	114,831,775	2,546,832
Mar. 2	29,315,639	527,386	115,173,216	2,555,125

Cases by states and territories: California 3,571,211, Texas 2,659,673, Florida 1,910,921, New York 1,650,303, Illinois 1,187,757, Georgia 1,008,660, Ohio 968,874, Pennsylvania 935,822, North Carolina 862,170, Arizona 817,821, New Jersey 792,496, Tennessee 775,693, Indiana 662,213, Michigan 647,415, Wisconsin 617,700, Massachusetts 582,543, Virginia 577,174, South Carolina 517,976, Missouri 495,408, Alabama 493,769, Minnesota 485,230, Louisiana 430,504, Colorado 429,839, Oklahoma 424,888, Kentucky 405,126, Maryland 382,702, Utah 371,492, Iowa 363,864, Washington 339,773, Arkansas 322,509, Kansas 296,644, Mississippi 294,994, Nevada 293,980, Connecticut 282,626, Nebraska 200,946, New Mexico 185,297, Idaho 171,462, Oregon 155,787, West Virginia 132,048, Rhode Island 126,588, South Dakota 112,470, Puerto Rico 100,584, Montana 100,003, North Dakota 99,852, Delaware 87,080, New Hampshire 75,588, Alaska 58,647, Wyoming 54,471, Maine 44,763, D.C. 40,684, Hawaii 27,785, Vermont 15,284; West Virginia was last state to record a case.

# Red Cross Month

According to American Red Cross, one year since the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, people have stepped up to address the emotional needs of families reeling from the coronavirus and 2020's record-breaking disasters.

Americans experienced more billion-dollar disasters in 2020 than any other year on record, and for many, the pandemic compounded the trauma and financial strain of disasters: struggling families needed help quickly and faced more hurdles to recover, as increased anxiety exacerbated many health and mental health needs.

In addition, trained volunteers have provided free crisis counseling through the Red Cross Virtual Family Assistance Center for grieving families during COVID-19.

"The past year has been overwhelming for many in our community, and yet through it all, people are caring for one another," said Erica Mani, CEO for the Central Appalachia Region of American Red Cross.

"When help can't wait, they provide families with the support they need during emergencies. During Red Cross Month in March, we honor this humanitarian spirit and ask you to join us by donating, giving blood, volunteering or taking a class to learn lifesaving skills."

For nearly 80 years, U.S. presidents have proclaimed March as Red Cross Month to recognize Americans participating in its lifesaving mission--one that is powered by a workforce that is made up of 90% volunteers.

In the Central Appalachia Region last year, nearly 900 volunteers supported over 1,110 families impacted by home fires, collected over 53,000 units of lifesaving blood, and provided over 4,200 services to nearly 1,800 military members, veterans and their families.

This lifesaving work is vital to strengthening our community's resilience. Nearly 200 years since the birth of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton, March is dedicated to all those who continue to advance its noble legacy, and others are asked to join in their commitment to care for people in need.

So far this year, Red Cross volunteers have provided emergency shelter, food and other assistance following disasters like tornadoes and February's

record on-slaught of winter storms, which blanketed some 70% of the continental U.S. with snow, ice and historically low temperatures.

The severe winter weather forced the cancellation of Red Cross blood drives in more than 30 states, impacting more than 20,000 blood, platelet and convalescent plasma donations in February.

In this region, the Red Cross supported shelters and provided assistance to families whose homes were damaged by these winter storms.

This spring, meteorologists are also predicting a potentially volatile severe weather season: For the third year in a row, April could be a very active month for storms in the Midwest and South, and the West could see early drought conditions and heat waves.

A 2020 study on a rise in volunteer experiences added to LinkedIn profiles shows that more people want to help others during this unprecedented time.

Last year, more than 70,000 people across the country became new Red Cross volunteers, largely to support urgent disaster and essential blood donation needs.

In addition, thousands of COVID-19 survivors --many new to blood donation--rolled up a sleeve to give convalescent plasma and help patients battling COVID-19.

You can help ensure that families don't face emergencies alone--especially during a pandemic:

--Support disaster relief efforts at [redcross.org/GivingDay](http://redcross.org/GivingDay). A gift of any size makes a difference to provide shelter, food, relief items, emotional support and other assistance. Your donation will be part of the annual Giving Day on Wednesday, Mar. 24, to aid families in need across the country.

--Visit [redcross.org/VolunteerToday](http://redcross.org/VolunteerToday) for most-needed positions and local opportunities.

--If you're healthy and feeling well, make an appointment at RedCross Blood.org. Your donation can make a lifesaving difference for a patient in need.

As a thank you, those who come to give blood, platelets or plasma from Mar. 15-26 will receive a Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

--Take a class in skills like CPR and first aid to help in an emergency at [redcross.org/TakeAClass](http://redcross.org/TakeAClass). Online options include a Psychological First Aid for COVID-19 course, which covers how to manage stress and support yourself and others.

The Family Crisis Intervention Center  
**Domestic Abuse Response Team**  
(304) 354-9254  
**HOTLINE 1-800-794-2335**  
P.O. Box 585, Grantsville, WV 26147

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# Creston News

by Alvin Engelke  
Phone 275-3578



Rev. Craig Blankenship filled his regular appointment at Burning Springs M.E. Church and served Holy Communion.

The snow and ice melted and made for all kinds of mud, and then it started raining, acting somewhat like a spring rain. Jonquils along the West Fork of the Little Kanawha River are up a few inches and some hairy bittercress is in bloom.

Kerry Fury, 67, of Davisville, died. He was the son of Kenneth and Mary E. Hiehle Fury and a grandson of Blanche dePue Hiehle. His sister Karman lives at Creston. He had formerly worked in the oil and gas fields in the Gulf of Mexico.

Some local folks had occasion to travel in the part of West Virginia that received the brunt of the ice storm that knocked out electric power.

Thousands of power company men were working in West Virginia to repair the damage. At least the state was not dependent on unreliable power sources, as was the case in Texas.

The federals made the power plants in Texas that burned coal and natural gas operate at only 60% of capacity to "protect from global warming."

Apparently, Texas asked for permission to go to full capacity, but was told, "No! No waivers for you."

It seems that the plan is for China, and perhaps France, to buy lots of Texas land, and build solar panels and wind mills, and then take the government subsidies to make wealth for those nations.

The old fellow, who said in Houston that he had no idea where he was, had promised that he would not stop hydro fracking wells in Pennsylvania, but the Army Corps of Engineers, by not voting, helped institute a permanent ban

on the necessary procedure on lands in the Delaware River basin just this week.

Leon Jurasik visited Mr. and Mrs. Martin deVries.

In person visits are now allowed at the extended care unit at Minnie Hamilton. I was able to spend time with Charles Russell, who is doing well there. I was also able to see Jean Stutler, who is not so well.

Nancy Engelke consulted with one of her physicians on Thursday.

Some folks have been studying loan documents for the various oil and gas firms that have now acquired most of the traditional oil and gas wells in the state.

There is "new" language in many of the documents, which make what is recorded not much more than memoranda of agreements, as the instruments cite unrecorded agreements that likely say that there is far more than meets the eye, and that, likely, the financial institutions have a hand in actual management.

The new tank bill is moving along, although some object very strongly. Some of those would be likely backers of the "green new deal" that uses wind mills and pixie dust for energy, and the basis for the materials used by "woke" folks.

Many are concerned about the increase in the price of gasoline (and items in general) under the America last project.

Under the Paris agreement, our crude oil might have to be refined in China--to stop global warming, you know.

There were several reasons why oil refining is "cheaper" in China: 1. There are no paid "environmental" groups to sue. 2. No pipeline protesters funded by Putin's Russia. 3. No EPA.

4. No OSHA. 5. No child labor laws.

6. No unions threatening to strike. 7. No government programs giving tax money to competitors posing as "green" companies. 8. No Greta Thunberg, because she, or at least her handlers, know that she would be sent to a "camp."

Hua Chung Ying, the Chinese communist foreign minister, said that he looked forward to America joining the Paris climate deal, since China does not have to comply with those rules.

The Calhoun road crew was out on Rt. 5 with high dollar rental equipment, trimming tree tops so that the sun could get to the roadway. Such is also being done in other counties, with awful results.

One might conclude that the intent of this project is to show all the rest of the world that there is absolutely no leadership at the W.Va. Highways Dept.

Every day, the Calhoun crew drove past a big dead ash tree that, at some point, will fall and block the roadway.

Decades ago, the state road "philosophy" was to cut down the trees so that the sun would dry out the mud holes.

Some older folks remember being stuck in mud holes in the blazing sun, sweating, while trying to extricate the chariot from the result of poor road work.

The folks down in the lower Potomac swamps seemed determined to emulate certain socialist nations and shut down jobs

in America. Pipelines here are bad, but the Russian pipeline is good, and the good folks in Boston refuse to burn American natural gas, but Russian natural gas is "clean and pure."

Several local businesses have indicated that, if the minimum wage is \$15/hour, they will close up shop, which means lost jobs and a lack of access for local folks for food, fuel, services, etc.

Ro Khanna, a California congress critter and a rising political star, so it is said, allowed as how, in "his view," there was no place for companies that couldn't, with ease, pay way more than the government minimum wage. Of course, he is one who has contempt for "fly over country."

Some years back,

Madame Hillary spoke with contempt for "under-capitalized individuals and firms that attempted to participate in the American dream. There should be no place for them."

Some years back, some local folks visited Williston, N.D., the center of the Bakken oil shale field. The minimum wage there was \$15/hour, because there was a booming economy and all were prospering.

Now, it would seem that the plan is to bring in more illegal aliens, who will be paid under the table, and lower wages for all.

Price of local Pennsylvania grade crude oil is now \$60.50/bbl., with condensate, \$40.50, Marcellus and Utica light, \$51.50, and medium, \$60.50.

## From the W.Va. House of Delegates

(for the week ending Feb. 26)

Members of the West Virginia House of Delegates spent a great deal of time in committee meetings debating proposals. The regular legislative session is more than one-fourth complete, and a total of 25 House bills have passed the House, out of 787 bills introduced. Two more bills also completed legislative action.

The Senate passed House Bill 2019, which would elevate the W.Va. Economic Development office and Tourism Dept. to cabinet-level offices. On Feb. 26, the House approved Senate Bill 14, which would provide additional options for alternative teacher certification. Both measures now go to Gov. Jim Justice for action.

House Judiciary Committee chairman Moore Capito announced on Thursday that a virtual public hearing for House Bill 2389, which would allow the W.Va. Dept. of Environmental Protection to set certain water quality standards.

Public hearings have never been provided by the West Virginia Senate, but House Rule 84 was amended this year to allow House Committee chairmen the discretion to grant or deny public hearings based on their committee resources. Any public hearings that take place this year must take place virtually.

"We want to make sure that everyone knows they have access to us and to the actions here in Charleston," said Capito. "That's why we'll be hosting the first virtual public hearing, and we're excited to do so. This is of course new, so we hope everyone will be patient with us as we Zoom together from our committee room. We're looking forward to the participation."

House Bill 2002, which aims to remove any remaining regulatory hurdles to installing fiber for broadband access, will be reported out of committee to the full House of Delegates.

Members of the Senate continue to debate the House's bills on charter schools and licensing reform.

The full House passed House Joint Resolution 1, which would allow the public to approve a constitutional

amendment that would bring the W.Va. Board of Education in line with every other state agency in requiring the state Legislature review, approve, amend or reject any BOE rules.

This move, which will add a layer of accountability to the Board of Education, which is made up by individuals appointed by the governor, received overwhelming and bipartisan support. It now goes to the Senate for debate.

"What this does is it simply allows the voters to decide whether or not their elected officials in the legislature should be able to approve or disapprove rules from the board of education," said Del. Mike Pushkin. "For every other state agency, the Legislature in West Virginia can approve and disapprove rules. This would extend that to the board of education."

Delegates also voted unanimously to expand West Virginia's two restorative justice programs for juveniles through House Bill 2094, which has been sent to the Senate for its consideration.

The measure would allow any juvenile facing any charge to participate in a one-time program that includes a mediator, who facilitates a voluntarily meeting between the victims and the juveniles who have been accused of crimes. It creates a process for restitution, which can lead to the juvenile's criminal charges being dismissed.

"There's no way to be tougher on crime than preventing it in the first place," said Del. Dianna Graves, lead sponsor of the bill.

Another change to this year's legislative session, due to COVID precautions, has been an amendment to House Rule 65, which outlines a scheduled time for limited remarks by members to be made and video streamed to limit the amount of time that the full body and staff are together in an enclosed area.

Five members made remarks on Feb. 24: Delegates Danielle Linville, Mick Bates, John Doyle, Caleb Hanna, and Joey Garcia.

## State School Board Approves Pre-K-8th Return To Five-Day

W.Va. Board of Education passed a motion last week that required grades pre-k - 8th to return to full, five-day instruction in the state.

The move replaces the Jan. 13 motion that required counties to offer at-least blended learning for families. This does not affect families that have chosen virtual learning for their children. Those children may remain with virtual learning.

As a part of the meeting, the board recommended high schools return to five days of in-person instruction as well; however, because older students may transmit the virus at rates similar to adults, grades 9-12 may remain with blended instruction, if the infection rate in the community is high.

West Virginia's coronavirus czar Dr. Clay Marsh presented data regarding the transmission of COVID-19 within the school system. In line with national research, the state's data indicates minimal transmissions within schools, especially among younger learners.

The structure of the school system and school day, and the practiced mitigations have shown to be effective in keeping

schools safe according to the data.

As a result, WVBE's decision requires counties to move to a consistent full, five-day teaching model, regardless of the county's color on the W.Va. Dept. of Health and Human Resources map.

"Early in the pandemic, we thought school transmission was closely tied to community transmission rates," said Marsh. "We have since learned that this is not correct. We are finding that, when mitigations are followed, schools are among the safest places for our children."

"The decisions we are making are based on data," said WVBE president Miller Hall. "According to Dr. Marsh, it is safe to return to five-days of instruction for our elementary and middle school students, and that is what we must do."

"Children don't have equal access to technology, and it is very important to restore the support of the school system in the lives of our children. It's time to return."

According to the motion, counties are to return to the five-day, in-person model for pre-k - 8 students no later than Mar. 3.

### Suspicious Calls

West Virginia attorney general Patrick Morrisey reports that his office has received a number of calls from consumers who claim to have received suspicious calls related to the COVID-19 vaccine.

Most consumers report receiving phone calls, although scammers may also reach out via text or email. The con artist will often ask multiple questions about personal and financial data, supposedly in order to schedule a vaccine appointment.

"Consumers must know that legitimate health officials coordinating vaccine distribution will never ask for payment or financial or other personal, identifiable information," said Morrisey.

Consider these tips: --Do not pay for a vaccine appointment or a spot on a waiting list.

--Be extremely wary of texts from unknown parties.

--If something seems suspicious, call a trusted source, such as the local health department or the A.G.'s Consumer Protection Hotline.

--Never open email attachments from unknown parties.

--Never share personal, identifiable information with an unknown party.

If you believe that you have been the victim of coronavirus vaccine fraud, immediately contact Consumer Protection, 1-800-368-8808, or visit [www.wvago.gov](http://www.wvago.gov).

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# Little Kanawha Valley Christian School Announces First Semester Student Awards--

(Continued from Page 1)



<b>Samuel Snider</b> Top Mathematician Best in Language Arts	<b>Hallie Mace</b> Top Mathematician Top Grammar Student	<b>Brayden Wood</b> Top Mathematician Top Grammar Student	<b>Kinlea Church</b> Top Mathematician Top Historian	<b>Josiah Ferrell-McAbee</b> Top Mathematician	<b>Eli Ferrell</b> Top Mathematician Top Warrior	<b>Brylee Rowe</b> Top Scientist Top Music
<b>Kylynn Keith</b> Best in Language Arts Top Historian	<b>Lainee Mace</b> Best in Bible Top Spanish II	<b>Isaac Kinder</b> Top Reader Top Scientist	<b>Cameron Cottrill</b> Best in Bible	<b>Jacob Prusack</b> Top Reader	<b>Olivia Fitzwater</b> Top Scientist	<b>Bryn Carter</b> Top Grammar Student
<b>Roman Wilson</b> Top Reader	<b>Hunter Blair</b> Best in Language Arts	<b>Jared Mason</b> Top Historian	<b>Eli Kinder</b> Best in Language Arts	<b>Harper Walker</b> Best in Penmanship	<b>Jackson Snider</b> Top Mathematician Top Speller Top Warrior	<b>Brodyn Rowe</b> Top Speller Top Mathematician Top Historian Best in Language Arts
<b>Caylee Cottrill</b> Best in Penmanship	<b>Mark Plumby, Jr.</b> Best in Penmanship					

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### Southern States' FFA Fundraiser

Southern States Cooperative is holding a month-long fundraiser to help raise money for FFA at the local, state and national levels. The annual FFA Paper Emblem campaign will be held throughout March. Customers can donate \$1 or more at checkout and sign their name on an "I'm Supporting FFA" emblem that will be displayed in the store's window.

"Southern States is proud to support the effort to help FFA and ultimately the young farmers that are involved in this great organization," said Jeff Stroburg, president and CEO of Southern States.

Half of all funds collected will benefit a local FFA chapter in the area. The other half will benefit the National FFA Foundation. Ten percent of all donations will go to the state FFA Association. For information and participating locations, visit southernstates.com/FFA.

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