



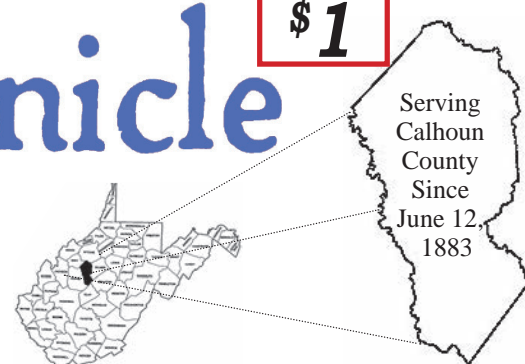
The Calhoun Chronicle

\$1



and The Grantsville News

“Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts”



Whole Number 6946

Grantsville, West Virginia 26147

Thursday, January 13, 2022



Terry Hickman

Hickman Celebrates 35 Yrs. At State Farm

Terry Hickman was hired in 1987 by long-time State Farm Insurance agent Fred O. Barnes, whom she worked for a number of years, along with co-worker Roberta Hartshorn. Hickman remembers joining Fred and wife “Toots” on several occasions for lunch at the old Grantsville Restaurant on the corner of Main and Florence streets. Hickman was honored last week by State Farm agent Tim Moore and co-worker Brenda Bush for her 35 years of service with the company. Dealing with diverse and sometimes unusual claims helps to bring a smile to her face, when she looks back at 35 years of claims. One of Hickman’s favorite odd claims involved a policy holder’s premature departure from a gas pump. “I remember a client coming in with a claim where the gas nozzle was still inserted into the gas portal, causing it to break away from the hose when the car was driven away. I still laugh about that today,” said Hickman. Over the years, Hickman said that there have also been claims involving deer, raccoons, owls, turkeys, foxes, dogs,

groundhogs, and bears. One client had a deer land on the front hood of his car when he was on his way to Parkersburg, and the deer went through the front windshield and out the back window without injuring the driver or the two passengers. The car was a total mess and the nerves of everyone involved were shot, but the claim was paid. “Terry has just been great all along. I have really been blessed,” said Moore. “Terry was in place when I arrived, and has been with me my entire 28 years here. As a young, inexperienced agent, I couldn’t have asked for anyone better to be in my office. “I can’t say enough about her. She is so conscientious. She is here after hours and Saturday and Sunday evenings. A lot of times, I wouldn’t even know about it, unless I was driving by or something. “She always goes to the ‘nth’ degree to meet customer’s needs. We have a lot of people who work throughout the week, and weekends are the only time they can come in. She is always willing to come in and accommodate the customer.” (Continued on Page 3)

Commission Uses Increased Tax Revenue To Pay Off \$308,629 Regional Jail Bill

by Bill Bailey
The Calhoun county commission met on Monday at 9 a.m. Commissioner Michael Hicks was ill and attended by telephone from home. He was re-elected as president of the commission. With increased tax revenue received, the commission approved paying the \$308,629 regional jail bill in its entirety. Mark Whitley of Jackson/Roane County Economic Development Authority spoke to the commission about grant availability for expanding broadband in the rural areas of central West Virginia. The original Clay, Calhoun and Roane initiative has expanded into a seven-county coalition, said to extend from

Jackson County to Webster County, which creates an approximate 283-mile fiber optic backbone that will help provide infrastructure opportunities for area residents. Melissa O’Brien, also of Roane/Jackson Economic Authority, showed how to read and understand the printed materials that they handed out to commissioners. The maps had the proposed “middle mile” and “county last mile” routes marked in different colors that showed how the fiber optic broadband would be distributed to the end users. Whitley and O’Brien were at the meeting to obtain a letter of support from the commission, which was approved. Commissioner Kevin

Helmick said that the commissioners had discussed the matching 25% grant for the project and had decided that the county could put \$500,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act funds (ARPA) toward the grant, which would then make the value \$2,000,000. O’Brien, when asked about the timeframe to complete the broadband project, said that the federal government requires that the project be complete in five to six years, but she thought that it could be done as fast as two-and-a-half years from the date that the grant is awarded. Crystal Mersh of The 1982 Foundation spoke about the proposed county plan designed to bring Calhoun Countians back

to the county, and how the foundation could help the commission achieve that goal. Commissioner Matt Walker said, “I have, since day one, really been trying to promote our county park, which is the focal point of our county, but the Little Kanawha River is one of the best rivers around.” Walker said that he has been in communication with Nate Taylor of the Division of Natural Resources, District 6, about public stream access in the county. Walker said that he told Taylor that there are four access points in Gilmer County, while the river in Gilmer County is nothing like it is here in Calhoun, and we have only one. (Continued on Page 7)

COVID Cases Up Again At All Levels

COVID-19 continues to increase at a rapid rate at all levels. Calhoun’s 51 new cases in the last week is the highest since mid-September, when the county was coming off a 341 four-week case total. The seven county area had 539 new cases, the most since the same week in September when there were 627 cases. After seven days in green, the county went to yellow alert on Friday, and DHHR has not released “alert maps” since that day, which includes no infection rate or percent

positivity rate. Calhoun now has 707 confirmed and 595 probable cases for a total of 1,302. Cases in the seven-county area total 12,739. New cases in area counties in addition to Calhoun in the last week (and county totals/deaths) are: Braxton, 171 (2,958/32); Roane, 110 (2,209/29); Clay, 79 (1,763/28); Ritchie, 59 (1,794/26); Wirt, 40 (1,071/19); and Gilmer, 29 (1,642/16). New West Virginia cases were 23,098, up considerably from 16,141

and 7,147 the previous two weeks. Total cases during the pandemic are 362,777. The number of deaths reported was 91, up from 73 and 77 the previous two weeks. Total deaths in West Virginia are 5,452. The number of new cases in the United States was 5,120,855, up 75% from 2,919,751 last week, which was more than double the previous week of 1,456,710, and six times the 831,599 cases from four weeks ago. Total cases since the pandemic began are 61,263,030. New deaths in the U.S.

were reported as 11,948, compared to 9,554 the previous week. Total deaths are 859,356. New weekly worldwide cases were 17,333,621, up 167% from last week’s 10,376,918, and 328% from the previous week of 5,288,849. Since the pandemic began, worldwide cases reported total 308,128,719. Worldwide deaths in the last week were 45,392, increasing from 43,169, after having decreased for four straight weeks. Total deaths from the pandemic are 5,512,763.

School Board Discusses Mask Updates

The Calhoun County board of education met on Monday at 5:30 p.m. Superintendent Kelli Whysell announced updated guidelines for West Virginia schools’ COVID-19 protocols, as announced by the W.Va. board of education. --Staff members are considered fully vaccinated if their primary series is within the last six months or they have received the booster. Students ages 5-17 are considered full vaccinated if they have had the primary series, meaning booster is not required. --Fully vaccinated staff members and students who have been exposed

do not have to quarantine if they are asymptomatic. Testing is recommended on day five and masks should be worn through day 10. --Unvaccinated students and staff must quarantine for five days if within six feet of a positive individual. Testing is recommended on day five. If, after day five, there are no symptoms, then individual may return to school, but mask must be worn through day 10. --Universal mask policy counties (masks are worn inside at all applicable times, regardless of the DHHR map color) do not have to quarantine students and staff who have been

exposed, if masks are worn at the point of exposure (including extracurricular activities). --Staff and students who test positive must self-isolate for five days and may return on day six, if fever-free for 24 hours and symptoms are improving. The individual must wear a mask on days 6-10 and social distance anytime a mask can’t be worn, such as in the cafeteria. If a staff member or student does not want to wear a mask or social distance for days 6-10, then they must remain home. --Rapid tests and home testing are options for meeting testing requirements.

Participation in extracurricular activities: Exposed youth may return to school following CDC guidelines for individuals exposed to COVID-19, based on their vaccination status: --Should wear a mask inside the school during days 6-10. (Continued on Page 3)

Free Vaccinations

Calhoun County Committee on Aging will host a free vaccination clinic at the Grantsville site on Wednesday, Jan. 12, from 9 a.m. to noon, for all persons age 55 and older. Minnie Hamilton Health System is providing personnel, equipment and supplies to provide COVID booster vaccinations (both Moderna and Pfizer), and also flu vaccinations. Absent a specific health reason, both vaccines can be received the same day. Bring your vaccination card with you for documentation of vaccines you receive. Masks are required inside the facility.

Two File For County Offices

As of noon on Tuesday, two candidates had filed for office: Sheila Garretson for circuit clerk, and Michele Sears for county commission from Center District. The candidate filing period, which began Monday, will end on Saturday, Jan. 29. The county clerk’s office is open from 8 a.m.

to 4 p.m., Monday thru Friday, and will be open on Saturday, Jan. 29, from 9 a.m. until noon, for candidate filing. Office filing fees are as follows: County commission, \$273.50 (must live in Center, Lee or Sheridan district). Circuit clerk, \$532.22. County clerk, \$532.22.

Board of education (3 vacancies), \$25 (there can only be two members from each district. Currently, there is one member from Sherman and one member from Lee). Conservation District supervisor, \$10. Executive committee (Democrats And Republicans), \$10.



Jett Sampson, 126, 2nd



Drue Goad, 195, 2nd



Grant Sterns, 145, 3rd

Sampson, Goad, Sterns Place In Top 3 At Nitro

The Calhoun County High School wrestling team competed in the Pat Vance Invitational at Nitro High School on Friday and Saturday.

Led by second place finishes by Jett Sampson (126 lbs.) and Drue Goad (195), and a third place finish by Grant Sterns (145), the Red Devils placed 10th of 17 participating teams.

Calhoun's eight individual wrestlers combined to go 9-9 in the tournament.

CCHS is scheduled to participate in the Braxton County Invitational Wrestling Tournament at Braxton County High School. Starting times are at 4 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 14,

and 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 15.

Team scores at Nitro:
Herbert Hoover 199, Riverside 189.5, Huntington 164.5, Greenbrier East 128, Nitro 102, Buffalo 94, Roane County 92, Shady Spring 84.5, Spring Valley 70, Calhoun County 66, Ft. Chiswell 48, Chapmanville 47, Logan County 46, Man 39.5, Pocca 23, South Charleston 16, Mingo Central 0.

Calhoun individual results at Nitro:

- 126 - Jett Sampson, 2-1 record, 1 pin, 20 pts., 2nd place
- 132 - Isaiah Boggs, 1-2, 1 pin, 4 pts.
- 145 - Grant Sterns, 4-1,

2 pins, 20 pts., 3rd place 152 - Ian Persinger, 0-1

182 - Adam Lane, 0-1 195 - Drue Goad, 2-1, 2 pins, 22 pts., 2nd place 220 - Trevor Collins, 0-1

285 - Levi Stump, 0-1

2021-22 CCHS Varsity Wrestling Schedule

January
14 Braxton County . 4 p.m. and 15 10 a.m.
22 Williamstown .. 10 a.m.
February
4-5 Single A Challenge at Ritchie . 4:00 & 10:00
12 LKC at Williamstown
19 Regional at Millwood
March
3-5 States at Huntington

Calhoun County High School 2021-22 Wrestling Statistics

Following are individual records, pins, and points earned by members of the CCHS wrestling team:

Weight	Wrestler	Record	Pins	Points
126	Jett Sampson	15-4	8	97
132	Isaiah Boggs	9-9	2	52
145	Hunter Thacker	10-4	9	60
145	Grant Sterns	16-7	10	92
145	Landon Winkler	1-2	0	6
152	Ian Persinger	10-9	6	57
182	Adam Lane	4-7	4	24
195	Drue Goad	16-3	9	106
220	Trevor Collins	8-9	3	48
285	Levi Stump	11-7	7	66
132	Joe Sampson	2-2	0	12
Others (including 42 forfeits)		7-45	2	42
Total		109-108	60	662

Dual Record -- 5-8 Tournament Record -- 13-11

Food Giveaway

Food giveaway at Brohard Community Building was postponed due to inclement weather. It will be held on Friday, Jan. 14, from 3 to 4 p.m. It is sponsored by Strait Creek Baptist Church. For information, call Shelly Murphy, 354-6739.

COVID-19 restrictions still apply. Do not line up before 2:45 p.m. It is an equal opportunity provider.

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2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Tire Collection

Tire collection will be held on the third Friday of each month, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Cabot Recycling Station, two miles west of Grantsville on Rt. 5.

Tires will be accepted free of charge. Tires on wheels will not be accepted. Only car, ATV, and light truck tires, 16-inches or less, will be accepted. A limit of 10 tires per person will be accepted.

Tire round up is for residents of Calhoun only. Bring valid W.Va. ID (such as driver's license). It is sponsored by W.Va. Dept. of Environmental Protection and Calhoun Solid Waste Authority.

Calhoun County Varsity Girls Basketball Schedule

December
 7 62 Doddridge 48 W
 9 68 So. Harrison 32 . W
 11 68 Wirt 41 W
 14 62 Gilmer 74 L
 20 51 Doddridge 54 L
 27 61 Lincoln 48 W
 28 28 Ritchie 35 L

January
 11 Webster Co. H 7:00
 13 Braxton Co. A 7:00
 18 Clay Co. H 7:00
 21 Roane Co. H 7:00
 26 Wirt Co. A 7:00
 28 HIT Tour. TBA 7:00

February
 1 So. Harrison A 7:00
 3 Gilmer Co. H 7:00
 4 HIT Tour. TBA 7:00
 8 Roane Co. A 7:00
 10 LKC Placement ... TBA
 11 HIT Tour. TBA 7:00
 12 Night of Champ. .. TBA
 15 Ritchie Co. H 7:00
 16 Williamstown .. A 7:00
 19 HIT Tour. TBA 7:00

Most JV games at 5:45p.m.

JV scores
 December
 7 30 Doddridge 19 W
 11 42 Wirt 28 W
 14 41 Gilmer 44 L
 20 41 Doddridge 17 W

Calhoun County Varsity Boys Basketball Schedule

December
 10 49 Van 73 L
 14 55 Doddridge 65 L
 23 23 Roane 59 L
 27 51 Lincoln 72 L
 28 25 Ritchie 68 L
 30 22 Wirt 69 L

January
 4 33 Clay 79 L
 11 Van A 7:00
 12 Webster Co. A 7:00
 14 Braxton Co. H 7:00
 19 Clay A 7:00
 24 Paden City A 7:00
 27 Doddridge A 7:00
 28 Wirt Co. A 7:00
 31 Gilmer Co. H 7:00

February
 9 So. Harrison H 7:00
 11 Gilmer Co. A 7:00
 17 LKC Placement ... TBA
 19 Night of Champ. .. TBA
 22 Ritchie Co. H 7:00
 24 Paden City H 7:00

Fourth Dose

With cases of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 continuing to increase exponentially, Gov. Jim Justice has sent a letter to President Biden asking him to direct the FDA and CDC to authorize West Virginia to immediately begin offering an additional dose of the vaccine (fourth dose overall) to certain at-risk members, who are at least three months out from their first booster dose.

West Virginia is the first state in the nation to make this request.

"Just like West Virginia has led the nation time and again throughout this pandemic, Israel has led the world.

"Right now, Israel is offering a fourth dose to an even bigger population --people who are four months out from their Pfizer or Moderna booster shots," said Justice, who proposes that all West Virginians who are age 50 and older and essential workers be the first ones eligible for the extra dose.

"The Biden Administration said that the states really ought to be the ones to handle this, so that's what we want to do," said Justice. "First of all, it'll save a bunch more lives.

"Secondly, if we do nothing, we're going to end up with a run on our hospitals like you can't imagine. The Omicron variant is super-potent.

"If we don't move right now, we're going to have people sitting outside the emergency room in their cars that can't even get into the hospital."

The decision is based upon recommendations of West Virginia's COVID-19 response leadership team, including state coronavirus czar Dr. Clay Marsh and JIATF director Jim Hoyer.

Conservation District Lists AEP Approvals

Little Kanawha Conservation District has announced that the following landowners have been approved for the Agricultural Enhancement Program for fiscal year 2022:

Critical Area Planting: Dwayne Hall.

Exclusion Fence: Ryan Badgett, Nathan Carpenter, Larry Gardner, Donna Steigleder.

Heavy Use Protection Area: Larry Cottrell, Clayton Cox, Jean Freeland, Roger Garrett, Daniel Little, Tony McVey, Brett Nettles II, Joe Painter, Michael Sutton, Samantha Villers, Chad Ward, Michael Campbell, Ray Crouser, Paul Harold, James Ross, Sherrie Tyree, James Westfall.

Invasive Species Management: John Alt, Cathy Blumig, Joe Cain, Larry Cottrell, Joseph Garrett, Daniel Little, Keith Lynch, Regina Powers, James Ross, Hazel Boggs, Doy Harris, Carlos Hively, James Huffman, Michael Huffman, Wayne Longfellow, Charles Price, Matthew Roberts.

Lime: Ryan Badgett,

Thomas Badgett, Charles Bargetloh, Brandy Brabham, Justin Bunner, Elizabeth Close, Clayton Cox, Boyce Sisters Farming LLC, Adam Kinzy, David Knight, Tony Morgan, Randy Mowery, Kristina Steed, Daniel Stephens, James Tennant, David Williams, William Witkosky, David Bonnett, Michael Flinn, Craig Karwacki, Therman Mullins, Denver Nelson, Ronald Roberts, Michael Rogers, Douglas West, James Westfall.

Pasture Division Fence: John Alt, Thomas Badgett, Roger Garrett, Christiana Grow, Jamie Huffman, Tony Morgan, Joe Painter, Regina Powers, Donna Steigleder, Ray Crouser.

Pollination: Karen Shreve.

Urban Agriculture: Russel Wade.

Watering System: Dennis Blankenship, Cathy Blumig, Nathan Carpenter, Boyce Sisters Farming LLC, Jean Freeland, Larry Gardner, Christiana Grow, Joseph Helmick, Gabrielle Fincham, Adam Linkinogger, Henry Longfellow, Michael Sutton.

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Elected officials are looking to make big changes

The West Virginia Legislature is considering taking Calhoun County legal ads and public notices out of the Calhoun Chronicle & Grantsville News and onto a state government-controlled website in Charleston.

- Delinquent tax lists
- Property sales
- Election ballots
- Voting changes
- Tax increases
- Project bids
- Family court
- Government budgets
- Government financial statements
- Zoning changes and other public notices

KEEP YOUR LEGAL ADS IN CALHOUN COUNTY

Contact your legislator today and tell them you want your legal ads and public notices in the Calhoun Chronicle & Grantsville News:

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 charles.clements@wvsenate.gov

Mike Maroney
 (304) 357-7902
 mike.maroney@wvsenate.gov

Roger Hanshaw
 (304) 340-3210
 roger.hanshaw@wvhouse.gov

NEW LISTINGS

429 High Street | Grantsville | 3 BR - 2 BA | Modular home on permanent foundation, true master bedroom and bathroom, private parking, double lot, in town, all on one level within walking distance to hospital and other amenities | **\$149,900**

1151 Big Root Road | Big Bend | 3 BR - 1 BA | All one level with an open floor plan and close to town! | **\$129,900**

452 Sycamore Road | Millstone | 3 BR - 2 BA | FREE GAS! | Split level home with 2 Garages and plenty of storage space! Huge easily maintained yards | **\$199,900**

4443 S. Calhoun Highway | Grantsville | 3.81 Acres +/- | 3 BR - 2 BA | Beautiful well maintained home w/ partial basement, equipment garage and easily maintained yard. | **\$189,900**

Bell Run Road | Brohard | PRIME HUNTING LAND! | Monster whitetail bucks on this property! Perfect land for a farm and is currently fenced in running cattle | **\$249,900**

117 Old Miller Hollow Road | Chloe | 1.08 Acres +/- | 3 BR - 2 BA | Easily maintained yard, open floor plan home with an oversized garage to house your vehicle and hobby shop | **\$129,900**

1395 Big Root Road | Big Bend | 3 BR - 2 BA | Just minutes from town! | With around 1,344 Sq. Ft. | Well maintained doublewide on 1 acre +/- | **\$149,900**

250 Industrial Park Drive | Grantsville | 3 BR - 1 BA | Every hobby and car enthusiast's dream! | Home over garage with a 4-bay garage attached! | **\$224,900**

215 Mill Street | Grantsville | 3 BR - 2 BA | Hidden gem in the middle of Grantsville! Beautiful brick home with a back yard | Outbuilding for storage and garage attached! | **\$119,900**

S. Calhoun Highway | Orma | 14.7 Acres +/- | Horse barn on a perfectly laid out farm! | **\$249,900**

4481 S. Calhoun Highway | Grantsville | 2 BR - 1 BA | Perfect starter home for a small family! This home is just minutes from Grantsville and the High School. | **\$64,900**

55 Hummingbird Lane | Mt. Zion | 3 BR - 2 BA | Privacy! Privacy! Privacy! This home has fruit trees galore! Inside the home you have a huge open floor plan with a full basement for storage! | Full home generator! | **\$129,900**

334 Main Street | Grantsville | BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY! | This building has untapped potential! Downstairs you have a fully functional kitchen with several dining rooms. Upstairs are several apartment spaces that can be used as steady income producing rentals. | **REDUCED TO \$140,000**

579 Shelter Rock Drive | Orma | 59 Acres +/- | 4 BR - 3 BA | WOW! This home is nothing short of breathtaking! Huge vaulted ceiling floor to ceiling stone fireplace, huge open living room that flows into the kitchen/dining room and much more! | **\$395,900**

Rowles Run Road | Mt. Zion | 695 Acres +/- | Beautiful bottom land and trails throughout | All contiguous land! | **\$1.1M**

Nicut, Timber and Land | 237 Acres +/- | Hunting and Recreation w/ 2 FREE GAS rights! | **\$250,000**

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!**

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

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

Rt. 16 North of Grantsville | 20 Acres +/- | Mobile Home Site w/ Utilities | **\$25,000**

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

22 Poplar Lane (off of Pine Creek) | 4 Acres +/- | 1000 3 BR 1 BA | 2 Car 2 Story Detached Garage, Wood Working Shop, and Cellar | **\$69,500**

182 River Street | Grantsville | Block Office/Warehouse | Approx. 2,500 Sq. Ft. | **\$18,500**

320 Highland Street | Grantsville | 2 City Lots Overlooking the Town of Grantsville | **\$12,000**

Corner of Court & Mill Street | Grantsville | Apartment Building with Storefront | **\$25,000**

255 Court Street | Grantsville | Old Calhoun Banks Drive-Thru | Bullet Resistant Glass, 6 Safes, 3 Drive-Thru Phneumatic Tubes, 4 Lanes, and much more! | **REDUCED TO \$29,900**

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



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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.

Snow Removal

NOW accepting bids for snow removal at the Calhoun and Gilmer DHHR offices' parking lots. Anyone wishing to submit a bid please send to:
 Calhoun Co. DHHR
 Attn: Sheila Schoolcraft
 P.O. Box 280
 Grantsville, WV 26147
 Please submit bids as soon as possible. If you have any questions, you may contact the office at 304-354-6118. Please ask for Sheila Schoolcraft or Patricia Richards.
 3tp/1/13-27

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, \$800, plus deposit. Lease required. Close to Grantsville, Minnie Hamilton Health System. Call 304-532-8117. 9/2/rtn

EFFICIENCY apartment for rent, \$450 month, includes everything including free premium cable and internet. Deer run in Arnoldsburg. No pets, 1 person only. 304-377-3572. 5/20/rtn

Personals

WANTED -- Shapely school teacher lady, 24-30s, with nice figure, for wife, to love. She have car, computer and house. Send standing in jeans photo, phone, address to Emory King, 4167 Yellow Creek Road, Big Bend, WV 26136. 4tp/12/30-1/20

Internet/TV

4G LTE Home Internet now available -- Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds, plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/mo. 833-586-1598. swc

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Betty Clark Gregory, Attorney
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A student in GSC's fall fire protection course uses a drip torch to light a controlled burn on the college forest property. Students in the course learned about wildfire behavior, how to develop a fire plan, and were instructed on the use of controlled burns as a means of fire suppression.

Glennville Land Resources Students Participate In Fire Protection Course

Glennville State College students in the Dept. of Land Resources learned about wildfires this past semester. Students in the fire protection course, which is taught by associate professor of forestry Dr. Brian Perkins, teamed up with W.Va. Division of Forestry for much of the course. The course provides instruction in wildfire control, including prevention

and suppression, and the development of a fire plan, from treatment to regeneration of the area with oak seedlings. The class also addressed topics on nutrient management, forest management, and wildlife management. Wildfires, appropriately named, travel in uncontrolled directions based on weather conditions and fuel sources. The fires leave devastation in

their wake, threatening lives and property in the process. Students in the course learned the importance of personal protective equipment, the various tools used when fighting wildfires or working with controlled burns, and how to prepare and safely operate a drip torch. Controlled burns are fires that are started intentionally from suppression lines to lessen the fuel loads. When combined, the two fires, controlled and

uncontrolled, meet and starve each other from lack of fuel. Students also worked with Gilmer County Volunteer Fire Dept. to assist with their annual hose testing. Skills gained in the class will assist students in the S-130 and S-190 wildland fire training course that is required of all firefighters before they can work on the fire lines. Sessions with the WVDOF were instructed by service forester and GSC alumnus Jesse King.

Spring Semester Begins At GSC

On Thursday, Jan. 6, Glennville State College president Dr. Mark A. Manchin welcomed faculty and staff back to campus for the start of the spring semester.

The opening meeting is held at the beginning of each semester and serves as a chance for all members of the faculty and staff ranks to come together, either in person or virtually, to reconnect, hear campus updates, and prepare for the upcoming term.

In addition to general campus updates, opening meeting attendees also heard updates from various administrators on topics that included enrollment, student life, athletics, academics, business and finance, facilities, fundraising, and advancement. "We are looking forward to a great spring semester here at Glennville State," said Manchin. "This year is our 150th anniversary and we are so excited to mark that milestone with all the members of our campus community--students, faculty, staff, alumni, the community, and our friends."

Faculty members had time to attend workshops on Brightspace, the college's learning management system, and DegreeWorks, the web-based degree monitoring system for students, in addition to various departmental meetings and other training sessions.

Staff also had informational and training sessions scheduled.

Spring semester classes began Monday. Students may add or drop classes through Friday, Jan. 14. The last day of the spring term is scheduled for Friday, Apr. 29.

Women's Fund

The Parkersburg Area Community Foundation is accepting scholarship applications for the Women's Opportunity Fund, Linda H. Culp Memorial Scholarship.

The fund provides educational resources to non-traditional female students, who are working to complete their education or to pursue additional schooling toward higher level career goals, professional certification, or other degrees.

As a memorial to Linda H. Culp, the fund honors a pioneering and hardworking local leader, who mentored and supported other women in accomplishing their hopes and dreams.

To be eligible for financial assistance, an applicant must meet all the following requirements: be a female, adult learner who is not a recent high school graduate; reside in a PACF county, which includes Calhoun; and be pursuing a form of post-secondary education, including bachelor's degrees, advanced degrees, certificate programs, or vocational/technical studies in any chosen field.

Recipients are selected by an independent scholarship advisory committee. The scholarship can be applied toward tuition, books, or other education-related costs.

To apply, visit www.pacfwv.com/scholarships/ apply. Application deadline is June 27. For information, call Rachel Brezler, 428-4438.

Vaccinations

Free COVID-19 vaccinations are available to all West Virginians ages 5 and older.

Anyone interested in being vaccinated is urged to visit Vaccinate.wv.gov or call the West Virginia Vaccine Info Line, 1-833-734-0965, which is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Library Hotspots

The Calhoun County Library has take-home Mobile Hotspots that work anywhere a Sprint signal is available, connect to multiple devices, and have unlimited data. Call 354-6300 for information.

Solid Waste

Calhoun County Solid Waste's monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 4 p.m., at Mom's Place Too, Grantsville.

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