



The Calhoun Chronicle

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Serving Calhoun County Since June 12, 1883



and The Grantsville News

“Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts”



Whole Number 7003

Grantsville, West Virginia 26147

Thursday, February 16, 2023



From Unsafe Eye-Sore, To Pile Of Rubble, To Hauled Away For Good



End of the Rainbow

Lincoln Day Dinner Set Saturday, Feb. 25

Lincoln Day Dinner will be held at the Herb Smith community center at Calhoun County Park on Saturday, Feb. 25, 6:30 p.m., sponsored by Calhoun County Republican Executive Committee. Keynote speaker will be W.Va. Secretary of State and candidate for governor, Mac Warner. The meal will be grilled and delivered to the center.

It will include filleted Tuscan steak, baked potato, grilled Caesar salad, creme brulee, coffee, tea, or water. Cost of the meal is \$28. It will be less if a group purchases seats together at a table. The table will have eight seats and the cost will be \$200 (\$25/plate). For information, call Loretta Hathaway Propst, 354-6293.

Back around 1920, a consortium of Calhoun County investors built a grand structure that was to be the showcase of the entire Little Kanawha valley. It was to be the tallest hotel around at three stories, with a full basement. It came to be known as Rainbow Hotel and Restaurant. It bit the dust when demolition began last Wednesday. It took a lot of effort to bring the Rainbow down. The only pot of gold under that rainbow were the memories.

Commissioners Give Out Information; Hear Numerous Reports

by Bill Bailey
 The Calhoun county commission met on Monday at 9 a.m., with all commissioners in attendance. Commission president Matt Walker began the meeting with some announcements: --Calhoun Middle/High School is raising money for the auditorium via a “Go Fund Me” campaign, and he had been asked to announce the information in the meeting to help bring awareness to the problem. --Upper West Fork Park was asked at the last meeting to present receipts for the grant given by the commission for Christmas. He reported that the receipts were in order and that any leftover funds were placed, appropriately, in

their general account as a donation. --There was a meeting last month concerning consolidation of the county’s public service districts. More work is needed to complete that effort, especially now that there have been several resignations from the boards. Walker reported that he had followed through with checking in on the Sheriff’s Dept.’s software problems, and was told that there is new programming being written to fix those problems. He said that there were two EMS meetings last month, both of which he felt were positive, but he said that there was still some work to do there on some numbers. He mentioned that there were reports from

the meeting that said that he had asked for the community to move forward in a positive way, and that was true. It was also reported that he said, “We can leave the past behind in regard to the mistakes made,” which was not really what he said. He said, “We learn from the mistakes that we made and move forward in a positive way.” Walker also wanted citizens to know that the official county commission meetings are not the correct forum for questions and answers from the public, when the actual meeting is being held. He wanted the public to know that they can ask questions, just not in the middle of a meeting--hold your questions until the meeting is at its end, and

Spring Fire Season Begins Mar. 1

W.Va. Dept. of Forestry reminds West Virginians to be cautious of burning amid dry, windy conditions this winter. Spring fire season begins on Wednesday, Mar. 1. “Our winter hasn’t seen as much precipitation as we would like, and the warmer temperatures and higher winds tend to dry out the fine fuels like

leaves and grass,” said assistant state forester Jeremy Jones. “We have seen an uptick of fires in the past few days, with 30 fires burning 150 acres, so we urge caution at this time. Hopefully, this next system coming through will bring some needed precipitation with it. “Until then, we ask

that you please listen to the weather report, and if high winds are called for, please refrain from burning.” A summary of forest fire laws and safe fire practices includes: --Before leaving any fire for any length of time, the fire must be completely extinguished. (Continued on Page 3)

Calhoun Historical Society Meets

Calhoun County Historical Society held its monthly meeting at the History Center on Thursday, Feb. 9, 6 p.m., called to order by Bob Bonar, president. The meeting began with some historical trivia about Valentine’s Day and Calhoun County history. Bonar shared specifically about the demolition of two local landmarks: The Rainbow Hotel and Calhoun Super Service. This was followed with a short show and tell time, in which members had an opportunity to

share historical items of interest. Minutes and treasurer’s reports were read and approved. Membership dues can now be paid for this year. Michael Plato has volunteered to serve as the society’s representative on the comprehensive planning committee. The red caboose that disappeared from the Christmas light display at Calhoun County Park has not been returned. A committee is working on coming up with new program ideas, and will

present some of these at the next meeting. A request for judges for the Calhoun County Social Studies Fair was made. There are a few maintenance issues that need to be taken care of, including the installation of new smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors, and replacing any burnt-out display lights. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, Mar. 9, at 6 p.m. The public is welcome to attend, as the society is always looking for new members.

Free Cybersecurity Workforce Trainings Coming To Glenville

Glenville State University will offer free cybersecurity training through a joint effort with the Appalachian Regional Commission in the form of a Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) grant for GSU’s Cybersecurity and Safety Workforce Development Initiative.

The initiative aims to create a more vibrant economic future for West Virginia’s coal-impacted North Central region. “Our POWER grant with ARC allows for the development of free boot camps, and will provide each participant with all the training materials, study guides, and exams at no cost,” said Peggy Runyon, project director

for the initiative. “Counties in North Central West Virginia that are defined as ‘distressed’ or ‘at-risk’ have a unique opportunity to receive training and eventual certification in cybersecurity-related fields. We are making strong efforts to bring the training to the people in these counties, (Continued on Page 7)

This Week In History

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

1923, 100 years ago

Denver Saltkild, a young man about 23 years of age of Creston, was found dead on the Albert Bell farm on Turkey Run in this county on Monday morning. It is reported that the young man had been missing for over a week, and it was evident that he had been dead for several days when the body was accidentally discovered by passersby. Considerable excitement was caused in the neighborhood by the discovery of the body and an investigation was made by the prosecuting attorney's office, but no inquest was believed necessary, as there seemed to be no doubt that the deceased died from natural causes.

Young Saltkild was the son of Don Saltkild of Creston. He left home several days ago to walk to the residence of his uncle "Sunny" Saltkild, who was to accompany him to Spencer to consult Dr. E.L. Nedeef, the deceased having been for several months a sufferer from tuberculosis. The funeral services were held yesterday and interment was in John Wright Cemetery, near Richardson.

An attempt to rob the department store of Clay Starcher on Sunday evening was frustrated when the owner discovered the presence of the thief and frightened him away before he had a chance to pilfer any goods.

Mr. Starcher and his family, who are living over his store, had retired for the night, but were awakened by the sound of someone prowling about the building at first no attention was paid to the noise, as Mr. Starcher thought it came from the Vandale storeroom, which adjoins his store, but as it continued, he decided to investigate.

Upon going out into the store, he discovered the burglar, who was apparently taken unawares, not knowing that the upper part of the building was occupied. When he caught sight of Mr. Starcher, the intruder ran to a back window, by which he had entered, climbed through it, jumped down onto the roof of Lowe and McKown's garage, from where he dropped to the ground and made his getaway before an alarm could be raised. Nothing was taken due to the fact that the thief was discovered before he had an opportunity to get to the main part of the store, where cash drawers and more valuable merchandise were.

1948, 75 years ago

A four-room temporary building containing classrooms for first and second grade students of the Spencer grade school was destroyed by fire early on Wednesday morning of last week, with damage estimated at \$10,000.

Efforts of the Spencer volunteer firemen prevented the flames from spreading to another unit that contained the third and fourth grade classrooms, it was reported.

The temporary school buildings, of frame construction, were built in 1926 to reduce over-crowding of the old grade school building, which was constructed in 1894 to accommodate 300 pupils, it was said. Current registration at the grade school exceeds 625, it was reported by county superintendent Kenneth W. Shaffer.

All classes at the school were dismissed while arrangements were made to provide temporary accommodations for the first and second grade students, Shaffer said.

Shaffer reported that the burned school building was partially covered by insurance. The blaze was believed to have started from an overheated stove.

Hardman Construction Co., of Grantsville was recently awarded a contract to erect a new elementary school at Spencer, with the new structure expected to be ready for occupancy by Aug. 1.

1973, 50 years ago

Fire damaged the rear portion of the C.R. Wease home, now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Grass and family, early on Monday morning.

The house, located at White Pine, was saved by the action of Grantsville Volunteer Fire Dept. It was thought that the fire started at a gas stove in the cellar house. It quickly spread to the kitchen and the rear portion of the house, doing damage to the rear rooms and the roof. Firemen were called about 7:20 a.m., with eight or nine men answering the call. By the time they arrived, the rear section of the house was burning, and they were able to confine it to that area. They brought to the scene the pumper and tank truck, then laid two lines to nearby Cherry Fork, and had the fire under control in about two hours. The front part of the house was unharmed, but the furnishings were removed because of the damage to the back.

The house is owned by the heirs of the late C.R. Wease, and Mr. Grass, who is principal of Calhoun County High School, and has rented it since last fall. Mr. and Mrs. Grass have already purchased the Glen McCoy property on Barnes Run.

Spring Fire Season--

(Continued from Page 1)

--Clear at least a 10-foot area (safety strip) around the fire and make sure all burnable material has been removed.

--Any equipment that can throw sparks and operating on land subject to fire by any cause must be provided with an ade-

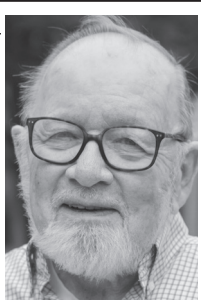
quate spark arrestor.

--If your fire escapes, you are liable for the costs of fighting the fire and any damage the fire may cause.

For information on fire safety and programs, such as forest legacy, logging and landowner assistance, visit wvforestry.com.

CURIOSITY CORNER

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



Today has been a slow day, so I've been reading about eponyms. How about that? I know that you are dying to know . . . an eponym is the person after whom something is named (or believed to have been named). It's quite interesting how many words that we use that are named after someone.

Sandwich: Named after the Earl of Sandwich, a noble title of the 15th century in England. The story goes that following the Earl of Sandwich's request for beef between two slices of bread, his friends began to order a "sandwich." We have a variety of sandwiches now, not just beef.

Boycott: refusing to deal with something. Named after the Irish landlord Charles Boycott (1832-97), who didn't respond to land reform, and was ostracized--boycotted, by golly.

Doberman pinscher: A breed of dog. Named after the German Ludwig Doberman (1834-94) and the German word "Pinscher," a breed of hunting dog. A dog breeder, Doberman supposedly developed this somewhat ferocious breed to help him with his other job--tax collector.

Gerrymander: To divide electoral districts so as to give an unfair advantage. Named after the American politician Elbridge Gerry (1744-1814). As governor of Massachusetts, he tried to draw some district lines, which was noted that it had a shape like a salamander. Hence the contraction, "gerry-mander." It must have worked, Gerry went on to become vice president in 1813.

Guppy: A freshwater fish found in many aquaria. Named after Trinidad clergyman Robert John Guppy (1836-1916), who sent specimens to the British Museum.

Jacuzzi: A bathtub with underwater jets. Named after the Italian Candido Jacuzzi (c. 1903-86), who emigrated to the U.S. It was originally developed for one of the family children who had rheumatoid arthritis.

Leotard: A tight-fitting, one-piece garment worn by performers (sometimes with a tu-tu) and people doing exercise. Named after French acrobat Jules Leotard (1842-70), who developed and introduced the form-fitting breeches. Because of his acrobatic skills, he was known as "the daring young man on the flying trapeze," which was the title of an old song (1860). Oddly enough, I know the song. Eddie Cantor used to sing it. If you know it, join in . . . "Once I was happy, but now I'm forlorn, like an old coat that is tattered and torn . . ."

Wisteria (this one is for you flower lovers): A climbing vine with purple flowers. Named after the American Caspar Wistar (1761-1818), who taught anatomy at University of Pennsylvania. Seems there was a misspelling of his name along the way, but those flowers were sure pretty last month.

C.P.S. (Curious Postscript): "Acquaintance: a person whom we know well enough to borrow from, but not well enough to lend to." --Ambrose Bierce.

Curious about something? Email your questions to Dr. Jerry Wilson at curiosity.corner@yahoo.com. Selected questions will appear in the Curiosity Corner.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, Feb. 15

Solid Waste Authority meets, Mom's Place Too, Grantsville, 4 p.m.

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

Thursday, Feb. 16

Parent-Child Group, Pleasant Hill School, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

CCHS varsity boys basketball team hosts Parkersburg Catholic in Little Kanawha Conference placement game, TBA.

Friday, Feb. 17

CCHS wrestling team competes in regional qualifying tournament, Millwood, Jackson County, 10 a.m.

Board of Review and Equalization meets, courthouse little courtroom, 3 p.m., and meeting to appoint new Pleasant Hill Public Service District board meeting.

Fellowship meeting, Walnut Grove Community Church, 7 p.m.; Sam Dorsey, preaching; Dorsey Family, singing.

CCHS varsity boys basketball team hosts Meadow Bridge, 7 p.m.

CCHS varsity girls basketball team plays in sectional tourney, TBA.

Saturday, Feb. 18

Calhoun Youth basketball, CM/HS: 4th-6th grades start from 10:30 a.m. to 2:40 p.m.; 2nd-3rd grades start from 10:30 a.m. to 11:20 p.m.
Sing, Upper West Fork Park, Chloe, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 19

Calhoun Youth basketball, single elimination tournament, CM/HS: 4th-6th grades start from 1:30 to 4:50 p.m.; 2nd-3rd grades start from 1:30 to 3:10 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 20

PRESIDENTS' DAY.

Tuesday, Feb. 21

Parent-Child Group, CalhounFRN, Grantsville, 11 a.m. to noon.

Calhoun Republican Executive Committee meets, courthouse little courtroom, 6:30 p.m.; refreshments served.

CCHS varsity boys basketball team plays at Meadow Bridge, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 22

Parent-Child Group, Upper West Fork Park, 1 to 2 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 23

Board of Review and Equalization meets, courthouse little courtroom, 3 p.m., action on timberland.
Parent-Child Group, Pleasant Hill School, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 24

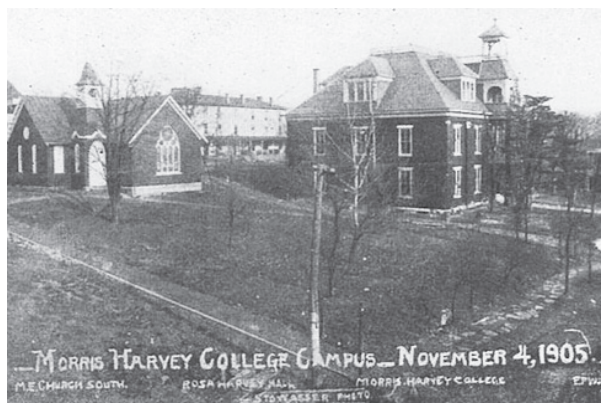
Parent-Child Group, Arnoldsburg School, 2 to 3 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 25

Lincoln Day Dinner, Herb Smith barn, Calhoun County Park, 6:30 p.m.; sponsored by Calhoun County Republican Executive Committee.
Sing, Upper West Fork Park, Chloe, 7 p.m.



This Week In West Virginia History



In Feb. 16, 1821, Barboursville Seminary was established, and named Morris Harvey College in 1901, and now University of Charleston.

The following events happened from Feb. 16-22 in West Virginia history. To read about West Virginia's people, history, places, science, arts and culture, visit www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Feb. 16, 1821: Morris Harvey was born near Prosperity in Raleigh County. His gifts to the Barboursville Seminary led to its name being changed to Morris Harvey College in 1901 (shown above). The institution is now known as University of Charleston.

Feb. 16, 1917: The legislature established W.Va. State Colored Tuberculosis Sanitarium for the care of Black TB patients. It was built at Denmar in Pocahontas County.

Feb. 16, 1951: Second Lieutenant Darwin Keith Kyle died during an intense exchange against Chinese forces in Korea. He was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Feb. 17, 1735: Morgan Morgan of present-day Berkeley County was commissioned a captain of militia in the 201st Field Artillery, which is considered the oldest military unit in the U.S.

Feb. 18, 1843: Ritchie County was created from portions of Wood, Lewis and Harrison counties, and named for Virginia journalist and politician Thomas Ritchie.

Feb. 18, 1890: Ellison Mounts, a cousin to the Hatfield family, was hanged for murder, ending the Hatfield-McCoy Feud.

Feb. 18, 1969: Hundreds of miners in Raleigh County went on strike over the issue of black lung. Within days, the walkout spread throughout southern West Virginia.

Feb. 21, 1895: Bluefield Colored Institute was established by the legislature to prepare Black West Virginians for the teaching profession. After several name changes, the school became Bluefield State College in 1943 and achieved university status in 2022.



Feb. 19, 1908: Orval Elijah Brown was born near Lizemores in Clay County. A free-spirited individual, he gained notoriety as the "Clay County Wild Man" during the Great Depression for his untamed physical appearance, which included a flowing beard and the wearing of little more than a self-made loincloth.



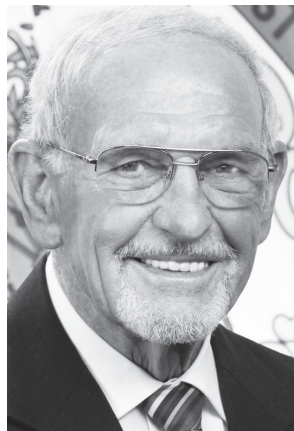
Feb. 19, 1943: Author Homer Hickam was born in Coalwood, McDowell County. His second book, "Rocket Boys: A Memoir," was published in 1998 and became a runaway bestseller.

Feb. 20, 1875: The West Virginia Legislature approved a bill to move the state capital back to Wheeling.

Feb. 20, 1995: The West Virginia Legislature voted to make the Golden Delicious apple the official state fruit.

Feb. 21, 1913: Workers' compensation passed the West Virginia Legislature, modeled on the German system that Gov. Hatfield had studied in the Ruhr Valley coalfields.

Feb. 21, 1940: Former Gov. Gaston Caperton was born in Charleston. In 1988, he defeated Arch Moore to become the state's 31st governor.



Feb. 22, 1927: Long-time Agriculture Commissioner Gus R. Douglass was born in Mason County. A Democrat, he was first elected commissioner of agriculture in 1964. Re-elected nine times, he was the longest serving agricultural commissioner in the country.

Feb. 22, 2018: 33,000 schoolteachers and service personnel walked off the job over wages and health benefits. The strike drew national attention, and teachers in five other states organized work stoppages.

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.

West Virginia Poison Center,
Call 24 hours a day,
365 days a year
1-800-222-1222

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

My Home Among the Hills

by Melody Walburn



Thank God for weekends! After this busy week, I really needed a few days off to catch my breath. In addition to my normal school routine, I had something on the calendar for almost every evening this past week. I barely spent any time at home, except to shower and sleep. By the time that Friday night rolled around, I was more than ready for some much-needed rest and relaxation.

Monday was a normal day at school, but I knew I would be taking the day off on Wednesday, so I began to prepare everything for my substitute. In addition to that task, I continued working on getting ready for the senior trip to Canaan Valley Ski Resort. Of course, I was doing all of my regular work as well.

Teaching is all about multi-tasking. After school, I stopped by to say hello to my parents and Rascal, and then headed home. This was the one night that I would be home in the evening, and I needed to use my time wisely.

On Tuesday, I finalized my sub plans and made copies of papers that she would need for the day. I also made answer keys for all of the assignments, so that she would feel confident, no matter what the subject matter. I don't know about other jobs, but taking a day off for a teacher creates a lot of extra work to make sure that the day runs smoothly without you. I am blessed to have a great co-teacher for two of my English classes; knowing that she is there to carry on is reassuring.

Tuesday afternoon, I packed up and headed out quickly, because I had a library board meeting. I wanted to fill up my gas tank and visit with my parents before the meeting started. Rascal and I have started taking a short walk each day around the yard, and I wanted to fit that in too. I can't disappoint my furry friend.

I managed to squeeze it all in and still make it to the meeting on time. I even had time to check out a few books beforehand. The library has a few fun events coming up that everyone should check out. There is a Trivia Night happening on Thursday, Feb. 23, at 6 pm. I am hoping to be there.

Wednesday was my mom's birthday and my parents' 54th anniversary. I hadn't bought them a present yet, so Maricia and I decided that we would go for a walk in the park and then go to the Sisters' Mercantile for a little shopping. I could have used the time to grade papers or other schoolwork, but I could almost hear Larry telling me that days off were not meant for doing work.

Thankfully, my students were well behaved for the substitute, so my return on Thursday was peaceful. This meant that I would be making cookies over the weekend. That is a long-standing deal that I have with my students.

The day flew by, and soon I was on my way to my second meeting of the week. This time it was the historical society. We are busy working on coming up with new program ideas, and, hopefully, I will be sharing some of those with you soon.

Friday found me busy as a bee. In addition to teaching, I had a senior trip meeting at lunch to finalize all the details of the upcoming event. I spent my planning period finishing up some paperwork, working on next week's lesson plans, and trying to get a little grading done. By the time the final bell of the day rang, I was feeling pretty tired, both physically and mentally. I checked in on the parents, took Rascal on a little walk, and then headed home to begin my weekend.

I slept in a bit on Saturday, did a little cleaning, and then headed to Glenville with Maricia and Andy to check out the new Italian restaurant that we had been hearing so much about. We were not disappointed. The servings were large and delicious. I actually got three meals out of my seafood pasta dish, and the salad and bread were great too.

I spent the rest of the day reading and resting, and finished it up with a trip to Grinders for a white mocha.

After church on Sunday, I made my promised cookies and a pot roast with potatoes, onions and carrots for dinner with the family, which we would eat while watching the Super Bowl. I also finished my laundry and paid bills.

This week will be a quieter one, and I am thankful. I might even get to spend a few evenings at home.

Letters to Mary and Other Communications

(This series is made possible through the efforts of Michael A. Ayers' descendants. The letters were preserved by Ayers' grandson Ashford Ayers and compiled into booklet form by Alice Ann Ayers Brown, great-granddaughter of Michael and Mary Ayers.)

Michael A. Ayers-- A Calhoun Native In the Civil War

(Continued from Last Week)

What do you think of it; what shall I do; to refuse it now would be signing my own death warrant for promotion, to accept will not lengthen my term of service in the least, there fore I gave my consent to accept. I will tell you all about it.

Major S. came out here, and tried to work his old game but Col Hall our Brigade Commander, and Genl Harris our Division Commander would not allow him to as he wanted, he recommended Dr Kendall for Surgeon, Lt. Collett for Major and Lt King for Lieut Colonel, but they would not endorse his recommendation except for Lt King, and he would not accept the position unless I was the other field officer, and so a recommendation by the commander was made for us. Dr. Bond for Surgeon, and the others as you already know.

I was sent for last Sunday by Col Hall and did not know what was wanted until I went to H.Q. of the Brigade and he made me the offer of the position and told me that was the reason he had objected to me going out of service, and that he wished me to take hold, that with myself and Lieut King for Regt officers he thought we could get along first rate, that it was the best I could do and I think so myself I have said nothing about it, and but few know of it, and rest assured that when the thing is made public if such really occurs there will be more men in the Regt than myself astonished.

Do you yet believe all I have told you? Can it be that I a mere boy, and without any influential friends, have come to this, it is so, but far beyond all the highest aspirations of military fame that I ever dared think of. As you are well acquainted enough with Maj S. you are aware of how much he would do for me.

He has met with a very cold reception by our commanding officers, and I think he will get away as soon as he can. He has not said a word to me about what he was doing, but has been working around under handedly as is his custom, there is a clique of fellows here, such as him and Daniel Deem, Dr. Kendall & Collett, who hang together and try to stick in just such ones as they choose, but I think they are beginning to learn that this is not the place to do such things, where every thing has to come right up before the General.

Simpson swears some big oaths about Bukey, but it amounts to just nothing at all. Bukey knew more & could do more in an hour than he can in a year and it shows that he is a coward, for when Bukey was with us he would not open his mouth.

I can scarcely imagine why they should have picked on me for such a high position, over all the Captains of the Reg't. I am not conscious of ever having rendered myself conspicuous in any way, but rather have been very retired and have never been much about Head Quarters either Brig' or Div. Now do you agree with me that it would be best for me to accept if the Commission comes for me; rather than to do as I thought of in my other letter.

There is no doubt that I will have to serve for some time yet, and if I do why not do the best I can. I honestly feel that it will be a position of great importance and one which I may not have the ability to fill successfully, but I can try and if I fail it will be no worse to come down from that position than it would from the present one, and there would no more work for me to do in such a change, in fact not as much, for I would have a good Adjutant in the office, a good Sergt Major, also and then King is a good fellow.

I would have a little more out door duty, but as to danger in battle would be in no more danger than at present. Now let me say I wish you to keep this to yourselves at present, until we see the end, and should it be that such does not really take place, why there will be no damage done; and should it turn out a failure, as for my own part but few will know that ever such a thing was thought of and I will not feel like a crestfallen office seeker.

Well I hope that family have gone, and hope if they have not you would get them away as soon as you can.

Think you may do well at your agency, and have no doubt but the book will sell first rate, and that you may meet with good success, if you go ahead I'll tell you who are good men to deal with, "Fowler and Wells, New York", "Harper & Brothers" New York, "Vent & Co" Cincinnati, Ohio.

I suppose now you want to know what the news is, well, nothing new here, everything is quiet, was pretty brisk cannonading to day, over toward Petersburg, but that is nothing unusual. The news from abroad is very good, Fort Fisher is ours, and Wilmington Harbor closed. I suppose you have all the particulars of its capture in the papers.

The weather is pleasant here, slight breeze at night, in the day warm and pleasant, there has been no rain for several days and the ground is quite dry.

I presume you will think I devote a good deal of time to letter writing if everyone I write is as long as this one. But this is of more than ordinary interest. I must really close this letter or else I won't have enough paper to finish on.

OH! I feel very much complimented by Maj Trimble's remarks, and am glad you met with him, well I believe I am just beginning to learn what is thought of me, but I will try & not become vain over it; I got the letter you sent by Major S.

(Continued Next Week)

Senior Citizens Menu

Menu for the Senior Citizens Center (2% milk and margarine available daily):
 (Dining hall is open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.)
 Thursday, Feb. 16: vegetable beef soup, beets, fruit, whole wheat crackers.
 Friday, Feb. 17: chicken tenders, gravy, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, fruit, whole wheat roll.
 Monday, Feb. 20: closed.
 Tuesday, Feb. 21: broccoli soup, cheese salad, fruit, whole wheat bun.
 Wednesday, Feb. 22: fish, potatoes, green beans, juice, whole wheat roll.
 Thursday, Feb. 23: hamburger, ranch potatoes, banana pudding, whole wheat bun.
 Friday, Feb. 24: pasta and chicken, vegetables, fruit, whole wheat bread.
 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 CCCOA, 354-7017, to be placed on a list.

From the PSC

by Charlotte Lane,

Chairman of Public Service Commission

West Virginia Ratepayers Are Not Paying for the Ohio Bribery Scandal

You may have heard about the FirstEnergy bribery scandal in Ohio. Federal prosecutors have accused the former speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives of leading a FirstEnergy supported effort to pass a billion dollar bailout of its nuclear plants.

As chairman of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, I want to assure you that expenses related to FirstEnergy's illegal lobbying activities in Ohio or anywhere else have not been passed on to Monongahela Power (Mon Power) or Potomac Edison's (PE) West Virginia customers. I am closely monitoring the Ohio, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania investigations.

The commission requires electric utilities to follow specific accounting rules that require that lobbying activities and image building advertising be recorded in accounts that are not included in expenses that are recoverable in rates.

Compliance with accounting rules is subject to multiple controls, including internal auditing, independent external auditing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission reporting and reviews, Security and Exchange Commission reporting, and verification requirements.

PSC staff verification and reviews by other parties during rate cases. If an expense on a utility's books relates to illegal activities it would, of course, be excluded from rate recovery, without question.

Just as importantly, ratepayers should be aware that expenses related to lobbying for passage of legislation or image building activities are never allowed for ratemaking, even if they did not represent illegal activities.

As Mon Power and PE have not had a base rate case in West Virginia since 2014, there has been no opportunity for the utility to even attempt to pass on those questionable payments for legislative lobbying. Any reports to the contrary are unsupported speculation, or even worse, knowingly misleading and false.

It is noteworthy that Ohio, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, the states that have identified disallowed expenses, have all recently completed base rate cases for FirstEnergy.

In those states, FirstEnergy had requested recovery in rates for those impermissible expenses.

Mon Power and PE are expected to file a base rate case here later this year. West Virginia ratepayers have my word, we will closely scrutinize all expenses to make sure that expenses for illegal activities, as well as expenses for legislative lobbying and image enhancement, either directly incurred or indirectly incurred through affiliated inter-corporate charges, are not passed on to you.

Children and Families

Save the Children has an opportunity for children and families in Calhoun County.

It offers weekly Parent Child groups at Pleasant Hill School, Arnoldsburg Elementary School, and two other sites in the county.

The focus of these groups will be kindergarten readiness skills for children three to five years old, but all younger siblings are also welcome to attend. Snacks will be provided. One parent/caregiver will win a small door prize.

During Parent Child groups, the following will be explored: language, literacy and math kindergarten readiness skill areas: knowing about the alphabet, books and print; talking and listening; understanding words and sounds; numbers, counting, patterns, sorting and classification; and comparison, measurement and geometry.

According to Debra Smith, these are all critical skills that your child needs in order to be prepared for preschool and kindergarten.

"I look forward to meeting you and helping prepare your child for school success," said Smith

Group locations and dates for February:
 Thursdays, Feb. 16 and Feb. 23, PHS, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Tuesdays, Feb. 21 and Feb. 28, Calhoun FRN, 11 a.m. to noon.

Wednesday, Feb. 22, Upper West Fork Park, 1 to 2 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 24, AES, 2 to 3 p.m.

"If you have any questions, I can be reached at Pleasant Hill, 354-6022, or Arnoldsburg, 655-8616, or email d.smith@k12.wv.us," said Smith.

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JERRY D. MANN, SALESPERSON
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Annamoriah Creek -- Affordable hunting property with easy ATV access, this is it! 94 acres on this property is perfect for the avid outdoorsman. Ideal for hunting or off-grid living. Access to the property via a lazy county road. The old well road to the top of the hill is easily accessible using an ATV. **Priced at \$94,900.**

3565 N. Calhoun Highway, Grantsville -- Perfect starter home with large back yard! 3-bedroom, 1-bathroom home with around 1,000 sq.ft., sitting on just under 1 acre. Utilities connected are city water, electric, gas and septic. High speed internet through Shentel makes it perfect for working from home! The living room and dining room create an open concept with a small kitchen off of the dining room. The bathroom is on the main level, with a dry, full, unfinished basement below that could be finished for additional square footage. Outside there is a covered full length front porch that wraps around the left side of the home to the back door that is perfect to sit and listen to the small water fountain. The back yard is spacious with a small storage shed for equipment. Less than a mile from Pleasant Hill Elementary School and 3 miles from the Town of Grantsville. **\$72,900.**

Little Rowels Run, Creston -- CHEAP AND STEEP, YES YOU READ THAT CORRECTLY. This property has a small area to pull a camper on or build a tiny home. Other than that, the 46.10 (recently surveyed) acres has very extremely steep topography, all wooded, no utilities available, no neighbors within sight, and property is priced accordingly. Come make us an offer and figure out what you can do with this property. **\$44,900.**

57 Hicks Road, Chloe -- A truly must-see property. This beautiful 3 bed, 1 bath has just about everything you could wish for in a home. From its large 48x28 workshop with vehicle lift, to its own separate canning/meat processing 29x22 building with walk in cooler. Need additional storage???. How about three more storage buildings. With 6.3+/-acres, you have plenty of land for a garden. With reported free gas, you can save on those monthly heating/cooking expenses. So, if you have toys, this is the place for you. If you're into prepping and storing your own food, this is the place for you. The owner has thought of almost everything you would want in a property. Homes like this don't hit the market very often, so you owe it to yourself to come take a look. **\$340,000. SALE PENDING**

1085 Pond Run Road, Chloe -- Looking for that beautiful log home in the country? This spacious 3 bed, 2 bath on 4.89 acres has all the charm and seclusion you've been longing? From its amazing high beamed ceilings to the large wrap around porch, this home is made for entertaining and maximum relaxation. Small, fenced area for your pets, large shop space for farm equipment/toys and a 30x36 detached shop for all your storage needs. Owner reported FREE GAS with an emergency backup generator. After a long day's work, make sure you soak in the jacuzzi tub. If you've never witnessed a star lit night in West Virginia, you are in for a treat. This is a steal for this price. **\$265,500. SALE PENDING**

955 Vaughn Road, Grantsville -- 1 Acre +/- Great quiet neighborhood, just a few miles from the Town of Grantsville. This charming 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home is perfect for the first-time homebuyer or elderly couple looking for one-level living. The living room flows easily into the kitchen area with a breakfast bar. The bedrooms are on one end of the house. The Master Bedroom and Bathroom has central heating and air. The basement of this home is accessed from outside and has a garage door. The property has 1 acre of land. Bring your personal belongings and move into this VERY CLEAN home.

UNDER CONTRACT

435 High Street, Grantsville -- In the 1930s, they built them to last! This beautiful 4-bedroom, 1.5-bathroom brick home sits in downtown Grantsville. Original hardwood floors, oak steps/hand railings and 6 fireplaces! (Currently housing gas space heaters.) On the main level, you have a living room, family room, kitchen, dining room, sunroom, mud room, and half bath. Upstairs, you will find all 4 bedrooms and a full bathroom. Inside the main bedroom there is a huge walk-in closet and a normal closet with a window that overlooks the Koi Pond in the side yard. Almost all windows have been replaced with new vinyl windows. Washer and dryer are in the basement. Have children or animals? The private back yard has a brand-new privacy fence that was installed in 2021. This property is on street city parking or you can use one of the 2 off-street single car garages. If you are looking for that historic-style home, with a small-town feel, this is it! This home is conveniently located across the street from a 24/7 critical access hospital and within walking distance to a few stores, restaurants and more! **\$199,900. Price Reduced to \$189,900.**

256 Carroll Road, Big Bend -- 1.21 Acres +/- Looking for your very own fishing camp or mini-RV camp? This 1.21-acre lot with 30 amp hookups with water and septic in place may be what you're looking for. This river camp comes with a large storage shed to store all your camp necessities and toys. Site also has a metal carport that can be used for vehicle cover or picnic tables. So, if you're looking for a place to just get away or maybe a way to make some extra income, this camp has loads of potential. Also, with today's housing costs, you could live cheap with your own RV on this site. Located next to the property is a natural gas compressor that does make noise when turned on. **\$34,900. Make an Offer.**

CONTACT ONE OF OUR TEAM TODAY TO LIST YOUR PROPERTY.



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Notice

ANYONE wishing to take the Deputy Sheriff civil service exam and be placed in an employment pool for future employment needs to contact the Calhoun County Clerk's office at 304-354-6725 or email calhounclerk@gmail.com. 2tc/2/16-23

Help Wanted

NOTICE OF VACANCY
Position: Library Director, Gilmer Public Library;
Employment Term: To begin June 1, 2023;
Qualifications: Degree from accredited college/university (Negotiable); Responsibilities: Provide a broad range of administrative services in managing the Gilmer Public Library; Salary: \$36,000 (32 hours/week); Submit: Resume, 3 references and transcript(s), cover letter to include: Name, address, working phone number, current email address; Send these documents to: June Nonnenberg, President, Gilmer Public Library Board of Trustees, 214 Walnut St., Glenville, WV 26351. Application deadline: Friday, Mar. 17, 2023. The successful candidate will have a 90 day probation period. As required by federal laws and regulations, the Gilmer Public Library does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, marital status, disability, age and national origin in employment and in the administration of any of its programs or activities. 4tp/2/16-3/9

For Sale

SQUARE bales of hay for sale, \$4/bale; fresh chicken eggs, \$2.50/dozen. Call 304-354-9295. 2tc/2/16-23

Wanted

WANTED -- 5 H.P. gas wedge machine. Send free catalog on wedge machines and address to Emory King, 4167 Yellow Creek Road, Big Bend, WV 26136. Wedge machine dealers write only. Where are the places buying wooden wedges. 4tp/2/2-2/23

Snow Removal

NOW accepting bids for snow removal at the Calhoun DHHR Office parking lot. 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, please contact the office at 304-354-6118. Please ask for Sheila Schoolcraft or Patricia Richards. rt/3/30

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HANDS On The River Massage, Geraldine Gardner, LMT, 3422 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston, W.Va. Call 304-541-9139 for an appointment. swc

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(Continued on Next Page)

West Virginia Celebrates 211 Day

Saturday was 211 Day, celebrating the go-to resource 211, which helped 30,520 people in West Virginia access help for immediate or long-term challenges last year.

Throughout 2022, trained call specialists connected people to locally available services, including help with rent, food, utility bills, and health care.

There were 15,581 referrals for utility assistance, 7,949 referrals for rent assistance, and 3,503 referrals for shelters and other programs for the unsheltered.

211 is a free, confidential, 24-hour information and referral service that connects West Virginia's residents with health and human services support.

Anyone in need of help or information can call 211 or text 898-211 to reach a trained 211 Community Resource specialist. In 2022, the service received 26,140 phone calls, 2,174 live chats, and 1,696 texts from people in West Virginia.

April Knight, state director of West Virginia 211, encourages people to use the service:

"People reached out to 211 this year to find information on basic needs, like heating or utility assistance, elder

care, or to find the closest food bank.

"They also called for everyday information, like where to take their child for developmental screening, or how to locate job training or find free tax filing support."

211 has helped a number of people, including a caller who needed help with an electric bill that was more than one month of their household income.

After speaking with the caller a little more, the 211 resource specialist learned of other needs and was able to connect the family with programs to help with the electric bill and resources for coats and shoes for the children, blankets for the family, and toys for Christmas.

Local information is available through the service, including health and mental health resources, health insurance programs, support for older Americans and people with disabilities, adult day care, Meals on Wheels, respite care, home health care, transportation, homemaker services, and support for children, youths and families.

West Virginia 211 is supported by the United Way offices. Starting on Feb. 11, 211 is now available to 99% of people in the U.S. and Canada.

Work4WV Initiative Pairs Jobseekers With Open State Positions

WorkForce West Virginia has launched the Work4WV Career Center that connects jobseekers to state government jobs.

The initiative is a collaborative effort with the Division of Personnel to aid in recruiting workers for numerous state agencies.

The collaboration pairs job seekers registered with WorkForce West Virginia with critical vacancies across West Virginia state agencies.

Participating agencies include Dept. of Health and Human Resources, Dept. of Homeland Security, and Division of Highways, and others.

"Work4WV is a wonderful opportunity to collaborate across agencies to best serve the citizens of our great state," said

Scott Adkins, acting commissioner.

"As part of this initiative, WorkForce is also thrilled to be able to provide space through our Work4WV Career Center, where agencies can work together to assemble ideas that will effectuate a more efficient and successful hiring process."

The Work4WV Career Center is open to the public at 5707 MacCorkle Ave., Charleston. Jobseekers are invited to take advantage of office hours, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Toll-free assistance is available at 1-866-Work4WV from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

For information, call 1-866-Work4WV or email Work4WV@wv.gov.

Calhoun Youth Basketball -- Week 4

Week 4 of Calhoun Youth basketball (4th-6th grades and 2nd-3rd grades) was played on Saturday.

The leagues will play again on Saturday, Feb. 18, with 4th-6th in the CCHS gym at 10:30, 11:20, 12:10, 1:00, 1:50 and 2:40, and 2nd-3rd in the CMS gym at 10:30 and 11:20.

The league championships will be played on Sunday, Feb. 19, with 4th-6th grade ranked teams playing as follows:

1:30, #4 vs. #5
2:20, #3 vs. #6
3:10, #1 vs. #4/#5
4:00, #3/#6 vs. #2
4:50, Championship.

The 2nd-3rd grade ranked teams will play on Sunday as follows:

1:30, #1 vs. #4
2:20, #2 vs. #3
3:10, Championship.

This past week's results were as follows:

Feb. 11 4th-6th grade

Team Wilson 23: Easton Boak 8, Bentley Snodgrass 4, Koby Crislip 3, Brody Crislip 2, Braidyn Ferrell 2, Eli Ferrell 2, Colby Wilson 2, Silas Cunningham, Temperance Caldwell, Josiah Ferrell.

Team Lamp 4: Kyrian Mounts 2, Colin Grogg 2, Payton Lamp, Brenlyn Barr, Jayden Hall, Chiara Brenneman, Mason Cunningham, Liam Staton, Elizabeth Collins.

Team Walker 24: Jude Walker 11, Keegan Sampson 9, Khloe Cobbett 4, Ava Bush, Liam Yeager, Bella Staples, Alayna Wolford.

Team Church 18: Cohen Blankenship 8, Tyler Mayle 6, Mandy Johnson 4, Addie Caudill, Zeke Good, Ellie Hall, Logan Butler.

Team Frail 15: Brayden Hardway 10, Bristol Hoskins 3, Parker Hoskins 2, Braylee McKown, Emma Frail, Eliana White, Lydia Starcher, Danika Starcher, Mercy Starcher.

Team Lamp 10: Kyrian Mounts 6, Colin Grogg 2, Brenlyn Barr 2, Payton Lamp, Jayden Hall, Chiara Brenneman, Mason Cunningham, Liam Staton, Elizabeth Collins, Audrey Johnson.

Team Walker 23: Jude Walker 12, Khloe Cobbett 4, Liam Yeager 4, A.J. Stevens 2, Payden Yeager 1, Ava Bush, Keegan Sampson, Bella Staples, Alayna Wolford.

Team Nicholas 10: Preston Sauer 4, Mason Laughlin 4, Haley Nicholas 2, Luke Strange-Paylor, Kaley

Nicholas, Kallah Reip, Tyler Helmick, Cyrus Helmick.

Team Frail 20: Brayden Hardway 10, Bristol Hoskins 8, Lydia Starcher 2, Braylee McKown, Emma Frail, Parker Hoskins, Eliana White, Danika Starcher, Mercy Starcher.

Team Church 16: Tyler Mayle 8, Cohen Blankenship 4, Addie Caudill 2, Mandy Johnson 2, Ellie Hall, Zeke Good, Logan Butler.

Team Wilson 40: Eli Ferrell 20, Koby Crislip 8, Easton Boak 6, Braidyn Ferrell 4, Silas Cunningham 2, Colby Wilson, Brody Crislip, Bentley Snodgrass, Temperance Caldwell, Josiah Ferrell.

Team Nicholas 13: Preston Sauer 9, Haley Nicholas 2, Kaley Nicholas 2, Mason Laughlin, Luke Strange-Paylor, Kallah Reip, Tyler Helmick.

4th-6th Standings

	won	loss
Walker	8	0
Frail	6	2
Wilson	5	3
Church	4	4
Lamp	1	7
Nicholas	0	8

4th-6th Schedule Saturday, Feb. 18

White Jer. vs. Red Jer.
10:30 Walker vs. Frail
11:20 Lamp vs. Nicholas
12:10 Church vs. Wilson
1:00 Lamp vs. Walker
1:50 Wilson vs. Frail
2:40 Nicholas vs. Church

Sunday, Feb. 19 Tournament

White Jer. vs. Red Jer.
1:30, #4 vs. #5
2:20, #3 vs. #6
3:10, #1 vs. #4/#5
4:00, #3/#6 vs. #2
4:50, Championship

Feb. 11 2nd-3rd grade

Team Heiney 14: Haygen Houchin 10, Cruz Frymier 4, Adam Eagle, Aerial Heiney, Kyla Burrows, Brenton Slider, Hazel Winkler.

Team Cunningham 11: Jase Farley 7, Tori Cunningham 4, Kyle Shook, Nila Walker, Jackson Ingram, Savanna Sampson.

Team Helmick 16: Mason Sampson 7, Colton

Republicans

Calhoun Republican Executive Committee will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 6:30 p.m., in the courthouse little courtroom.

Refreshments will be served and all are welcome to attend. "Come and share your ideas," said Amanda White.

McCumbers 5, Annie Nelson 4, Judd Helmick, Sophia Bartelt, Colsyn Conley, Sophia Goodrich.

Team Cunningham 8: Tori Cunningham 4, Jase Farley 4, Kyle Shook, Nila Walker, Jackson Ingram, Savanna Sampson.

Team Heiney 21: Haygen Houchin 13, Cruz Frymier 6, Kyla Burrows 2, Adam Eagle, Aerial Heiney, Brenton Slider, Hazel Winkler.

Team Westfall 2: Parker Roberts 2, Aubrie Daigle, Aaron Langford, Bryson Cosner, Karleigh Daugherty, James Marks, Kinsley Parsons.

Team Helmick 12: Mason Sampson 8, Annie Nelson 2, Colton McCumbers 2, Colsyn Conley, Sophia Bartelt, Judd Helmick, Sophia Goodrich.

Team Westfall 2: Aubrie Daigle 2, Aaron Langford, Karleigh Daugherty, James Marks, Parker Roberts, Kinsley Parsons, Bryson Cosner.

2nd-3rd Standings

	won	loss
Heiney	6	2
Cunningham	5	3
Helmick	5	3
Westfall	0	8

Heiney 6 2
Cunningham ... 5 3
Helmick 5 3
Westfall 0 8

2nd-3rd Schedule Saturday, Feb. 18

White Jer. vs. Red Jer.
10:30 Helmick vs.

Heiney
11:20 Cunningham vs. Westfall

Sunday, Feb. 19 Tournament

White Jer. vs. Red Jer.
1:30, #1 vs. #4
2:20, #2 vs. #3
3:10, Championship

GSU Giving

Glennville State University's sixth annual Day of Giving will be celebrated through Feb. 19 to coincide with the anniversary date of Glennville's founding.

GSU Foundation is available to help set up matching or challenge gifts. For information about the Day of Giving at GSU, call 462-6380.

Dinner Meeting Focus

by Brandy Brabham, Roane Extension Agent

As part of West Virginia University Extension's broader initiative to address the growing rural mental health and farm stress crisis, it is offering a series of dinner meetings in West Virginia.

The Roane County Extension office will host a meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m., at Roane County Library.

Farm families are used to physical labor and working long hours. Farm debt, weather, rising expenses, and animal health concerns add to mental stress that can contribute to chronic illness and depression.

The last decade has been particularly difficult on farmers, with increasing pressures resulting in high levels of stress, mental health issues, and suicide.

Extension and other organizations are working to find solutions when families are struggling, including financial management, grazing and production strategies, and crop risk protection.

The meeting will provide participants with a gatekeeper training known as "QPR," which stands for question, persuade, and refer. It will prepare participants to both recognize and respond to signs of stress and suicide, as well as teach others to

do the same.

The meeting is meant to empower participants, regardless of their background or professional training, to make a positive difference in the life of someone they know.

Many people never know when it might be their neighbor or family member struggling; and this training could provide the information and resources you need to recognize it and get them help.

Many people are embarrassed to talk about mental health or don't know how. By training local participants to build a meaningful, community-based response to this crisis, we can help break down the stigma and make it easier for farmers to ask for help when they need it most.

Some of the stressors farmers face are pretty unique. They aren't just dealing with financial anxiety--they often have the burden of several generations of family legacy.

This training tailors mental health outreach to the concerns and experiences of family farmers to ensure that those efforts are really relevant and effective.

Pre-register before 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 20, by phone, 927-0975, or email, roanecountyextension@mail.wvu.edu.

WIC Program

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) nutrition program is a supplemental food program for pregnant, post-partum, or breastfeeding women, and infants and children up to age of five.

WIC provides food, breastfeeding support and nutrition education to families in Calhoun County. To apply for the program or to receive information, call the local office, 354-6898, or the main office in Parkersburg, 428-3688.

The WIC clinic is located at 300 Mill St., Grantsville, and is available each Wednesday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for appointments by phone.

Call the office, 354-6898, if you have an appointment or a question about benefits.

Eye and Vision Care

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WED	8:00 AM-4:00 PM
THU	8:00 AM-4:00 PM
FRI	8:00 AM-4:00 PM

WALK-IN APPOINTMENTS

MON - WED	8:00 AM AND 1:00 PM
FRI	8:00 AM AND 1:00 PM

Commissioners Give Out Information--

(Continued from Page 1) then you may ask.

He reiterated that all three commissioners are easily reachable by phone or email at any time, but asking questions during reports from committees, etc., interrupts the report and can cause confusion.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

A citizen from Annamoriah presented 29 requests for water hookups, with more people from the community wanting water in the future.

The commissioners expressed their frustrations with providing water to all of the citizens of the county, but said that they are doing what they can. At the moment, they are at a standstill until the public service districts in the county consolidate for maximum efficiency.

Robin Hughes of Calhoun Homes gave an update to the commission concerning the grant that the commission gave the organization to make all of the units rentable. She reported that all of the units are now rented.

The first two delegations scheduled--updates on the community center and on an animal shelter--were postponed due to illness.

The E-911 report was a printout given to the commissioners by Jean Simers. Julie Sears, director, was unavailable, but she had submitted the report to Simers to give to the commission.

Calls were reported as follows: Arnoldsburg VFD, 2; DNR, 5; sheriff, 50; Grantsville VFD, 5; EMS, 93; Upper West Fork VFD, 2; State Police, 86.

Commissioner Kevin Helmick reminded those in attendance that the

commissioners don't get their first look at the folders with all of the printouts handed to them by county clerk Simers.

Instead, they have the paperwork well in advance of the meeting, so that they can familiarize themselves with what needs done and what they can do. Sometimes, there are so many sheets in the folders that it would take hours just to read all of the material.

Jason Wilson gave the Minnie Hamilton January transport volume figures, with 13 advanced life support (ALS) and four basic life support (BLS) patients being transported to other facilities.

He also gave the Minnie Hamilton EMS activity report: ALS transports, 24; BLS transports, 33.

There were six calls that were cancelled enroute and six refusals. One person was treated, but refused to be transported. Total 911 activities for January were 74.

Wilson reported that EMS squads' average enroute time was 0.66 minute; response time, 17.11 minutes; and average total time on call, 85.83 minutes.

Total miles for January on the four trucks in service was 6,840 miles.

The report on the county park was given by Walker, as he had been present the information by Donnie Pitts.

Upcoming improvements include a new HVAC system in the Herb Smith community center, and, hopefully, redo the upstairs flooring too.

Board members are hoping to purchase a digital sign for placement at the entrance to the park that will have the ability to list all of the upcoming events at the park that will

be on a continuous scroll.

Commissioner Craig Arthur gave a report for Calhoun Family Resource Network that recapped what was accomplished in 2022:

There were 1,260 senior boxes distributed, 2,800 summer feeding meals, six food pantries serving 1,200 households, with an average of 36 weekly.

FRN administrator Tina Persinger wanted Arthur to let the public know that they can find out about programs offered through the FRN by visiting their Facebook page or stopping by the facility on Main St., Grantsville.

Shelia Burch, LKADC administrator, reported that she is involved in a project with four counties (Wirt, Ritchie, Gilmer and Calhoun), whereby the economic directors of those counties are going to meet sometime in the next month or so to discuss an infrastructure program that connects all of the counties.

This would enable neighboring counties to collaborate when projects reach the county line to establish cooperation when finishing the work, so that people living on the edges don't get left behind simply because they live on the edge.

Burch said that she is working to establish daycare facilities. She presented the commissioners with House Bill 2854, which deals with daycare issues.

The bill proposes that funding be based upon enrollment at a daycare facility rather than by day-to-day attendance.

Burch said, "This bill is fundamental to childcare. You cannot have WorkForce development if you don't have daycare."

Walker put forth a proposal to end the monthly work sessions that were instituted last year to be held on Thursday evening of the week before the regular commission meeting due to a lack of attendance.

He said that if something comes up that might require a work session, he is not opposed to the idea

of holding a session. If a session is needed, it will be listed in the county paper and advertised, if needed.

A request from Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council to provide a grant of \$250 to the foster grandparent program, which helps by providing at least 15 to 40 hours a week mentoring students at Pleasant Hill and Arnoldsburg was approved.

Since the county has new voting machines, the old voting machine racks, which are now scrap metal, have been declared surplus property, and will be given away.

There was a brief discussion concerning the consolidation of the public service districts. One delay at the moment is resignations from Pleasant Hill PSD, which need to be filled so that a quorum can make decisions.

A request for funding of \$52,569 from EMS to purchase ambulance equipment (power load systems, load chairs, brush guards, etc.) was deferred to a later date when more funds are available.

Personnel items listed were the hiring of Hannah Johnson at E-911, and a \$1 an hour raise for Trinity Yeager Edgell.

Resignations were accepted from Paul Hagemann of the EMS board and Robert Beall from the Pleasant Hill PSD board.

Brenda Bush and Janet Cunningham were appointed to the Solid Waste Authority.

The commission went into executive session to discuss personnel items of appointments to LKADC and the Planning Commission at 9:39 a.m., reconvening at 10:02.

Appointed to the LKADC board were Kristy Ritchie and Nikki Boatright. Appointed to the Planning Commission were Cheryl Cheesbrough-Sturm and Roger Propst.

A resolution for a flood mitigation plan was approved.

The next regular meeting of the commission will be held on Monday, Mar. 13, at 9 a.m.

EQT Awards \$20,000 To GSU Land Resources

EQT Foundation, the philanthropic extension of EQT Corp., the nation's largest producer of natural gas, has awarded a \$20,000 grant to Glenville State University's Dept. of Land Resources in order to promote STEM education through its Natural Resource Management high school program.

As part of the program, GSU hosts presentations on career opportunities in forestry, land surveying, environmental science, and energy and land management for high school students, in addition to presentations on the applications of geospatial technology in natural resource management.

Participating high school students are also connected with Glenville faculty and undergraduate students for a mentorship program, particularly focused on STEM disciplines in those major programs within GSU's Land Resources.

High school students are invited to take geospatial technology and environmental science courses as dual credit courses that satisfy the requirement in STEM-related disciplines in the associate of science in forest technology and land surveying programs, geographic information system certificate, and the bachelor of science degree in natural resource management.

The dual enrollment program allows high school students to enroll in dual credit courses as a way to jumpstart their college careers.

"The Dept. of Land Resources is delighted to partner with EQT Foundation in promoting the natural resource management program to high schools in West Virginia," said Dr. Rico Gazal, chair of land resources at GSU.

"We will provide selected students with free course tuition, text-

books, and tutoring, if they enroll in dual credit courses--in addition to receiving the mentorship support in the six majors under the natural resource management program."

"We are thrilled to partner with Glenville State on this innovative program that will expose high school students to education opportunities at the collegiate level in land resources," said Ellen Rossi, president of EQT Foundation.

"We further hope this program will lead to strengthening the talent pool in our industry and viable career paths for West Virginia residents."

In 2022, EQT Foundation awarded more than \$3.8 million to non-profits in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio, with a focus on supporting the education and training of children and adults, the development of diverse, livable communities, and preserving natural environments.

For information about the land resources academic programs at GSU, email Land.Resources@glenville.edu or call 462-6370.

Equalization

Calhoun county commission will meet as a Board of Review and Equalization on the following dates and times.

Because of restrictions during the pandemic, if you plan to attend any of the meetings listed, call the county clerk's office, 354-6725, or the assessor's office, 354-6958.

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

Friday, Feb. 17, 3 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 23, 3 p.m., action on timberland.

The meeting on Feb. 9 has been set aside to hear problems concerning oil and gas assessments.

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, 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 West Virginia DEP and Calhoun Solid Waste Authority.

Agenda

The county commission will have a special meeting on Friday, Feb. 17, at 3 p.m., with the following agenda:

- Call to order.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Board of Equalization.
- Appointment, Tambee Yoak, Pleasant Hill PSD board.
- Adjournment: Next regular meeting, Monday, Mar. 13, at 9 a.m.

Food Handler

MOVHD will hold food handler's classes on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., at its Parkersburg office, 211 Sixth St. Cost is \$10. For info, call 485-7374.

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