



The Calhoun Chronicle

\$1

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“Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts”



Whole Number 7014

Grantsville, West Virginia 26147

Thursday, May 4, 2023

County Commission holds Special Meeting April 26

By Melissa West

The Calhoun County Commission met April 26th for the purpose of accepting the resignation of Warren Basnett, effective Sun, April 30th, 2023.

Also in attendance was Prosecuting Attorney Nigel Jeffries who intended to offer legal advice if necessary regarding the matter.

Delegations were allowed to address the Commission with Crystal Mersh, President of the 1982 Foundation requesting that the Sheriff's Budget be added to the next Monthly Calhoun Commission Meeting which will be held May 8th, at 9 a.m.

The second delegate was Graham Knight, requesting to know if the Commission had received his letter requesting consideration for the Sheriff's position. They acknowledged it had been received.

The third to speak was Roger Propst, Chairman of the Republican Executive Committee who spoke regarding the views of the Executive Committee regarding the filling of the Sheriff's vacancy. He first read the code regarding the filling of a vacant office for clarification. Saying further that there was nothing nebulous (vague) about the code in reference to it needing to be a candidate of the same party being replaced, which is Republican and that the Republican parties recommendations should carry "great weight." He told the Commission that this was not the time for "under the table deals," and that rumors had been circulating of who would be appointed, who would be chief deputy and career plans of those being appointed. He had also heard of Democrats being advised to switch parties by April 30th to be considered. He implored the Commission to honor the intent and the letter of the law when filling the position.

Propst reminded the commission that they were also obligated to follow all requirements of the West Virginia Open Meetings Act which states "When a quorum of a governing body discusses matters that would require official action by the governing body, then this is a meeting. If this discussion takes place



J. Warren Basnett completing one of his final duties as Calhoun Sheriff at Family Court.

outside the confines of a public meeting, whether in person, by telephone, email or other telecommunication, means it is an illegal meeting."

Propst asked each Commissioner individually if they had spoken to anyone interested in the Sheriff Vacancy, if so had they spoken about that conversation with any other commissioner either by email, phone or in person in reference to those candidates. All three Commissioners said that they had received calls, but all denied speaking about the candidates with another Commissioner. Helmick did say that he had offered Craig Arthur advice regarding the fact that he may need the Prosecutor's advice concerning one candidate in particular but that they had not discussed the candidate.

Propst acknowledged that the Commission no doubt knew the rules of procedure regarding the matter at hand, but he noted that not everyone in the County knew those rules and he wanted them aware that people are watching their behavior. Especially in regards to their possible consideration of a former Sheriff candidate who had been defeated as an incumbent Democrat, but had now changed parties, and was possibly wanting considered now as a Republican. He advised the Commission that such a candidate should not be considered. It was the view of the Republican Executive Committee that if that person wanted to file as Sheriff, he should do so in the 2024 election, not during this appointment. To appoint a candidate that the County had rejected in the last general election would be a betrayal and

disrespect of the citizens of Calhoun County.

Propst continued with the advice that the Republican majority of the Calhoun County Commission should vote in tandem to ensure the candidate endorsed by the Republican Executive Committee is appointed to fill this position. Propst's final request was to be permitted to set in on the Commission's discussions and decisions which is pursuant to an open meeting law. Prosecuting Attorney Nigel Jeffries advised that with the exception of an executive session that would be an acceptable measure and he too would be present to ensure all legalities were covered.

Prosecuting Attorney Nigel Jeffries spoke to the crowd that he had spoken to the WV State Auditors Office and there must be an interim appointed for the continuity of business in the County Tax Office, which could not stay open with out it. The interim cannot serve any longer than 30 days and they do not have to be of the same political party.

It was announced that a meeting was schedule shortly after this meeting adjourned to announce the interim Sheriff. The open meeting will be Thursday, at 3:45 p.m. in the Little Courtroom of the Calhoun County Courthouse.

Calhoun Football Clean Up Day May 6th

The Calhoun Football team will meet at 12 p.m. to have a clean up day for the field and locker room. If you have a weed eater with a blade, please bring it with you. They could also use some drills with phillips attachments to put the lockers back together in the locker room. If you have the time to help, it will be appreciated.

Calhoun County Commissioners Meeting April 27 - Temporary Sheriff Carl Ballengee

By Melissa West

A small crowd gathered in the Little Courtroom to learn who the County Commission was going to appoint as the 30 day temporary sheriff.

The meeting began at 3:45 p.m. and only lasted about 10 minutes.

Carl Ballengee spoke for a few minutes explaining that he had 32 years law enforcement experience, (he was a two-term Sheriff for Calhoun) and would gladly fill in the 30 days until they appointed a person to fulfill the remainder of J. Warren

Basnett's term.

Commissioner Kevin Helmick made the motion to have Carl step into the temporary position and Commissioner Craig Arthur made a second motion. Once Commissioner Matt Walker gave his yes vote, the decision was unanimous.

Once the meeting adjourned, County Clerk Jean Simers performed the swearing in ceremony so that Ballengee would be ready to assume Sheriff duties on midnight Sunday when Basnett's resignation is effective.



Pictured above: Carl Ballengee, two time Calhoun County Sheriff ready to step in as our 30 day temporary Sheriff.



On Right: County Clerk Jean Simers swearing in Carl as the Temporary Sheriff after adjournment.

Calhoun MS Softball defeats Spencer MS



Front: Raylee Cunningham; Back: Josie Richards, Gabi Smith, Olivia Zwill, Kayleigh Cunningham, Kyla Myer, Paige Sterns, Lizzy Garrett, Paislee Perkins, Remedy Riddel, Kendall Snodgrass, Kylie Caudill and Addie Collins

Submitted by: Jessica Riddel

Calhoun Middle School Softball Clinches Lead in Fourth Inning to Defeat Spencer MS

Calhoun MS Softball nabbed the lead late in the game in a 20-11 victory over Spencer MS on Wednesday.

Calhoun was down 11-10 in the bottom of the fourth inning when Addie Collins tripled on a 1-0 count, scoring two runs.

Kayleigh Cunningham also had a triple in the game.

Kyla Myer collected four hits in five at bats to help lead Calhoun Softball to victory. Kyla singled in the first, doubled in the second,

singled in the third, and singled in the sixth.

Calhoun knotted the game up at nine in the bottom of the third inning, when Addie Collins singled on a 0-1 count, scoring one run.

Calhoun Softball took the lead for good with three runs in the fourth inning.

In the fourth Remedy Riddel singled on a 2-1 count, scoring one run.

Calhoun notched seven runs in the sixth inning.

The big inning was thanks to singles by Kyla Myer, Paige Sterns, and Raylee Cunningham, a walk by Kendall Snodgrass and a groundout by Gabi Smith.

Remedy Riddel earned the win for Calhoun in the circle.

The righthander went six innings, allowing nine runs on 17 hits, and striking out ten batters. 109 pitches with 71 being strikes, only walking two batters on the night.

Calhoun collected 19 hits. Remedy, Addie, Kyla, Paige, and Kayleigh all managed multiple hits for Calhoun.

Kyla, Addie, and Remedy each collected four hits to lead the Lady Devils.

Calhoun tore up the base paths, as three players stole at least two bases.

Kyla led the way with four.

Calhoun County B.O.E April Recognitions

During the Calhoun County Board of Education meeting held April 18th, they recognized the following people: Michael McHenry, Liljon McCormick, Virginia McCormick, Micah Allen, Jaelyn Jett, Jasmyne Tingler, Marissa Brannon, and Caleb Nicholas. Congratulations to all recognized. The meeting began with the Girl Scout Troop 38205 leading the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance.



Michael McHenry
- Teacher of the Year
2023-2024



Girl Scout Troop 38205 - Brooke Tingler, Carissa Sands, Mackenzie Tingler, and Jasmyne Tingler



Chef Liljon McCormick - 2023 West Virginia ProStar Educator of Excellence, and Virginia McCormick - Technology Student Association (TSA) State Conference Winners, Kelli Whytsell - Superintendent,



Micah Allen - Middle School Boys Basketball All Conference, Kelli Whytsell - Superintendent, Jenna Jett - Board President



Jaelyn Jett - FFA Regional Winner - Prepared Speaking 1st Place, Kelli Whytsell - Superintendent, Jenna Jett - Board President



Jasmyne Tingler - Math Field Day - Calhoun Regional High Score Grades 6-9, Kelli Whytsell - Superintendent, Jenna Jett - Board President



Marissa Brannon - Hospitality Occupations Student Association (HOSA) SLC - 2nd Place, Jenna Jett - Board President

Caleb Nicholas - Skills USA State Conference - Automotive Service Technology 3rd Place, Kelli Whytsell - Superintendent



WVSSAC Selects Scholarship Winners



Five West Virginia High School students were selected by the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission to receive \$1,000.00 higher education scholarships. These awards are sponsored by the WVSSAC. The recipients were selected from 42 applicants throughout the State of West Virginia. The Board

of Directors chose them on April 2, 2023.

The winners are: Levi M. Morris, Calhoun County HS Brooke Jacobs, Frankfort HS

Emily M. Lybarger, Lewis County HS Ian M. Wood, Point Pleasant HS Caleb D. Fuller, Bluefield HS

The candidates for the scholarships were judged on character, leadership, participation, citizenship, scholarship, and financial need. In order to apply, they needed at least a 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and a minimum ACT composite score of 16.

The Scholarship Program is one of two

programs sponsored by the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission to honor academic achievement by students involved in extracurricular activities.

The Commission's motto is "Academics Plus Activities Equal Partners in Education." We realize that our primary responsibility is in the area of activities, but we also understand the value of a strong academic background in the development of outstanding leaders.

Mr. Bernie Dolan Executive Director

Hope Scholarship March 1 - May 15, 2023

Contact: Jared Hunt, Deputy Treasurer - Communications Director, West Virginia State Treasurer's Office, 304.341.0709 (Direct), 304.532.3092 (Mobile), Main: 304.558.5000 Toll Free: 800.422.7498

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - State Treasurer Riley Moore today announced applications to use the Hope Scholarship education savings account program for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year that starts this fall are now available online.

Applications are available online at www.HopeScholarshipWV.com. The application period will remain open from March 1 through May 15.

"We're excited to announce applications to use the Hope Scholarship are now open," Treasurer Moore said. "We saw tremendous interest in this program for the current school year, despite unfortunate legal delays in the program's implementation. We look

forward to providing this program for the full school year that begins this fall."

The Hope Scholarship is an education savings account program available for kindergarten through 12th grade students. It is designed to allow parents and families to use the state portion of their child's education funding to tailor an individualized learning experience that works best for their child.

To qualify for the Hope Scholarship, a student must be a West Virginia resident and be either:

Eligible to be enrolled in a kindergarten program.

Enrolled full-time in a public elementary or secondary school program in this state for the entire instructional term during the current academic year (2022-2023) immediately preceding the academic year for which the student is applying to participate in the Hope Scholarship Program.

Or, enrolled full-time and attending a public elementary or secondary school program in this state for at least 45 calendar days during an instructional term at the time of application.

In addition to filling out the application, state law also requires participating families to fill out a notice of intent to participate in the program with their local county superintendent. A sample template for that notice is also available online at HopeScholarshipWV.com.

Important Note: While members of the state Legislature have discussed bills that would expand or change eligibility requirements for the Hope Scholarship Program, none of those changes have yet to pass or become law. Should the Legislature pass any reforms, the Hope Scholarship Board would provide updates on the program once those changes are enacted and take effect.

Calhoun County Wood Festival Pageants will be held May 6th and 7th at CMHS

Submitted by Patt Haught

The Calhoun County Wood Festival will be holding their annual pageants on Saturday, May 6 and Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 6:00pm each night at the Calhoun County Middle High School.

On Saturday, May 6, 2023 two young ladies will compete for the title of Queen Flora, Emily Anderson and Maria "Mia" Collins. Emily is the 16 year old daughter of Shannon and Trudi Anderson of Big Bend, WV. She is sponsored by Shannon Anderson, State Farm. Mia is the 17 year old daughter of Katherine and Okey Collins of Grantsville, WV. She is sponsored by Pennline Service.

Along with the title of Queen Flora, 14 other young girls will be competing for the titles of Little Miss Wood Festival and Jr. Miss Wood Festival.

Little Miss Wood Festival contestants are Sophia Burdette, Morgan Arnold, Lydia Burch, Emery Atkinson, Zaylea Wyatt, Hailee Wyatt, Dakota Mounts, Kendall Richards, Henley Cunningham and Violet Lemaster.

Jr. Miss contestants are Elynn Wyer, Raelyn Arnold, Chloe Johnson and Kenlie Jarvis.

On Sunday, May 7, 2023, 19 young ladies will be competing for the title of Preteen, Teen and Miss Wood Festival. The young woman that is selected for Miss Wood Festival will go on to compete at the WV Association of Fairs and Festivals Pageant in January.

Preteen contestants are Elliot Fox, Chiara Brenneman, Gwen Sampson, Audrey Johnson, and Camry Parsons.

Teen contestants are Peyton McKown, Eliza Burch, Kyla Myer, Ashlynn Fletcher, Carleigh Jo Cochran, Josie Richards, Emma Hare, Kinley Simmons and London Juftes.

Miss contestants are Amelia Williams, Autumn Crites, Lauren Lovejoy, Cadence Ringer and Ava Belt.

The committee would like to invite the public to our pageants and support these young ladies as they compete for the these titles. Admission is \$5 per person and children 4 and under are free. Visiting royalty is free

with a Fairs and Festivals sash. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Haught, pageant director.

Queen Flora Contestants



Emily is the 16 year old daughter of Shannon and Trudi Anderson of Big Bend.



Mia is the 17 year old daughter of Katherine and Okey Collins of Grantsville.

CALHOON REALTY TEAM

DEREK L. VILLERS, TEAM LEADER/SALESPERSON
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JAMES J. MORRIS, ASSOCIATE BROKER/SALESPERSON
(304) 488-4172 - james.morris@exprealty.com

JERRY D. MANN, SALESPERSON
(719) 281-5955 - jerry.mann@exprealty.com

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 area flows easily into the kitchen area with a view of the bedrooms. The bedrooms are on one end of the house. A Master Bedroom and Bathroom. The house 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.**

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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.

Help Wanted

Anyone interested in the position of Calhoun County Sheriff, send your resume to walkerwvcc@outlook.com or drop off at the Calhoun County Clerk's office. Deadline for submissions is May 5, at 4 p.m.

2tc 4/27-5/4

Calhoun County Commission is seeking a qualified individual to apply for the position of full time, salaried E911/OES Director and Floodplain Manager. Applicants should have a minimum of three years experience in any or all of the listed duties. Must be willing to become certified in many aspects of the position. Dispatching and emergency management experience preferred. Will be responsible for administrative duties such as, but not limited to: budgeting, time management, supervision of employees, work cooperatively with local, state and federal partners to ensure compliance, personnel management, scheduling, training, multitasking in stressful environments, community outreach, reporting to Commissioners as needed, and other duties as necessary. Must be available to work weekends and holidays if needed during emergency situations. Please send resumes to: Calhoun County Commission PO Box 230; Grantsville, WV 26147. Deadline for submission of resumes is May 5, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

2tc 4/20-27

Personal Ad

Wanted: Office Lady, size 12 with tall, nice figure for relationship in Calhoun County. Send photo, phone number and address to: Emory King, 4167 Yellow Creek Road, Big Bend, W.Wa. 26136. Office ladies write only, send a letter. 04/20-5/11

MOVING SALE

Moving Sale May 1 through 7, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. 495 Milo Rd., Orma. Everything from small dishes and appliances to some furniture and tools. Everything must go! Call with questions 304-655-8103.

2tp 4/27-5/4

Yard Sale

Friday, May 5, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and May 6, 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Located at 308 Town Hill Road: Twin trundle bed, kid's air hockey table, riding toys, clothes, household, toys and hunting items.

Friday, May 5 - Saturday May 6, 8:00 a.m. at Earl Hall's residence, 5 miles south of Grantsville on Rt. 16. Items: baby bed, baby dressing table, strollers, high chair, five bicycles, key boards, Wii, antique kraut cutter, numerous other items.

Medical

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Miscellaneous
BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as

West Virginia Government and State News

Gov. Justice Announces New Driver's License Design

Contact: Jordan Damron, Director of Communications, Assistant Legal Counsel, Jordan.L.Damron@wv.gov and CJ Harvey, Secretary, CJ.Harvey@wv.gov

CHARLESTON, WV — Gov. Jim Justice announced April 26th that starting this week, the West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles will begin issuing driver's licenses and identification cards with a new look and design that matches the state's tourism branding.

"This new design reflects the immeasurable pride we have in our state's beauty," Gov. Justice said. "The New River Gorge Bridge is one of our most popular attractions. It is the centerpiece of our nation's newest national park and draws people from all over the world. By featuring it on our driver's license, we want to inspire more people to come and experience the majesty of West Virginia firsthand. It lets us continue to show the world why Almost Heaven is a must-see destination and maybe even a future home."

The new design features a background of West Virginia's historic New River Gorge Bridge in the nation's newest National Park, the New River Gorge National

Park and Preserve, and uses the official state branding. The Almost Heaven tourism mark is also included on the back of each card. The Almost Heaven brand, introduced by Gov. Justice in 2018, has been adopted widely and can now be seen on all tourism advertising, welcome centers, signage, turnpike booths, and throughout the state parks system.

"We've seen huge success with promoting the Almost Heaven West Virginia brand across the country and around the world," Secretary of Tourism Chelsea Ruby said. "Adding that branding to our driver licenses is another opportunity to promote our great state. I want to thank Governor Justice for his vision for expanding tourism, with exceptional results. I also appreciate the team at our DMV for their collaboration on this exciting project."

West Virginians may apply for a duplicate license or ID card with the new design before their renewal period by visiting the DMV website at dm.v.wv.gov or at any of the 25 regional DMV offices across the state.

"Our DMV is leading the nation when it comes to the issuance and security of our state driver's licenses and ID

cards," Commissioner of the West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles Everett Frazier said. "This new credential contains state-of-the-art security features to reduce fraud and identity theft. We encourage West Virginians to consider upgrading to a REAL ID license or ID card and take advantage of not only the beautiful background featuring our New River Gorge Bridge, but also the newest and best in security for credentials."

For more information, and to take advantage of renewing your driver's license online from the comfort and convenience of home, visit the DMV website at dm.v.wv.gov, and go to the Online Services Portal. You may also take advantage of the REAL ID HeadStart pre-enrollment program at <http://go.wv.gov/realidheadstart>, which allows you to upload your documentation before going to a regional office.

The introduction of the new licenses follows several years of record-breaking tourism growth in West Virginia and a year in which the state was labeled a must-see tourism destination by publications such as Travel + Leisure, Conde Nast, Lonely Planet, Frommer's, TIME, CNN, and USA Today.

Gov. Justice celebrates hospitality and tourism education programs launching in all 55 counties



Contact: Jordan Damron, Director of Communications, Assistant Legal Counsel, Jordan.L.Damron@wv.gov and CJ Harvey, Secretary, CJ.Harvey@wv.gov

CRAIGSVILLE, WV — Gov. Jim Justice spoke on April 25th to students about career opportunities in the state's growing tourism industry during a visit to Nicholas County Career and Technical Center.

The event marked the beginning of hospitality and tourism education programs statewide, developed as a part of a new workforce development initiative, Tourism Works. This program was launched by the Department of Tourism earlier this year to prepare for the projected growth of more than 21,000 annual job openings in the state's tourism industry through 2025.

"We're going to start teaching and training our students to be prepared for the jobs that are on the way, and this is just the tip of the iceberg," Gov. Justice said. "We've got tourism jumpstarted like you can't even imagine. We might go from 21,000 to 210,000 job openings in the blink of an eye. West Virginia is the most special place on the planet. We are absolutely the diamond in the rough the world has missed. Keep it going."

As the Governor told students during the event, these are good paying jobs. Of the projected 21,000 annual openings, 10,000 are expected to be management-level positions with salaries approaching \$60,000, according to data from the Higher Education Policy Commission. The education component of this federally funded program focuses on educating the state's next generation in tourism-related fields, preparing for the substantial increase in job openings projected for the industry, and connecting students with viable career opportunities.

The location of the announcement at Nicholas County Career and Technical Center also highlights the Department of Tourism's ongoing workforce training partnerships with schools across the state. Nicholas County CTC students have constructed the one-of-a-kind Almost Heaven swings that the Department has placed at the most iconic scenic spots across the state, and the Center is planning to train other high school programs to complete similar tourism-related projects.

"The experiences our career technical center students are gaining from this partnership and others

highlighted at the middle school level in schools across West Virginia, as part of the Discover Your Future Program.

A new specialization in tourism marketing is expected to launch this fall in schools who have signed on for this new part of the tourism curriculum.

A tourism pathway program is currently being piloted and will allow students to gain college credits and career certifications at the high school level.

The Departments of Education and Tourism are currently accepting applications from schools for Tourism EPIC grants that will award funding for students to create tourism infrastructure projects on public lands in their regions.

The Departments of Education and Tourism are working together to connect tourism industry representatives and schools directly to create more opportunities for hands-on learning.

Nicholas County is also a fantastic example of well-established connections between the tourism industry and schools. Nicholas County students also showcased their Good Gauley Coffee Company on Tuesday. This student-run coffee shop and roastery, another program of the county's Career and Technical Center, offers students the opportunity to gain experience in all aspects of managing a coffee shop. The students cater events and even roast the beans on-site. Initiatives like this help students to build real-world skills and also demonstrate how so many industries from carpentry to the ATV mechanic field are supported by the state's expanding tourism industry.

The county has a longstanding commitment to tourism and students. The Summersville Convention and Visitors Bureau holds student contests each year to recognize students in elementary, middle, and high school who submit tourism-related artworks, essays, and advertisements about the benefits of working in the industry. Local tourism businesses, such as the Mountain Lakes Campground, have also worked with Nicholas County students to provide hands-on experiences with building cabins for visitors, further increasing the area's tourism infrastructure.

In addition to the W. Va. Dept. of Education, the Department of Tourism is also partnering with the West Virginia Department of Economic Development and West Virginia's Community and Technical Colleges to launch additional components of Tourism Works in the coming year. The Tourism Works program is funded by a \$5.1 million grant awarded to the West Virginia Department of Tourism by the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Please visit WVtourism.com/TourismWorks for more information.

Glenville State University Student Veterans Attend Washington Week

Contact: Dustin Crutchfield, Glenville State University, Public Relations & Marketing, (304) 462-4115

GLENVILLE, WV — From February 28 to March 2, Student Veterans of America (SVA) members from Glenville State University and Marshall University participated in Washington Week. Washington Week allows SVA chapter members from around the nation to make their voices heard at the United States capitol.

Washington Week is also a time for the students to share information with lawmakers. The student veterans attended SVA's testimony on Capitol Hill where National President and CEO, Jared Lyon, presented

SVA's policy priorities to a joint session of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs. Chapter members also met with West Virginia's elected officials to advocate for veterans and offer insight and support on how to better thank and assist them within future legislation.

"It was truly an honor being able to be able to collectively join Student Veteran Programs. I am eager to be collectively working on additional veteran-driven projects with Marshall University," said Keith Hardisty, a GSU student and Army veteran.

Additionally, the students attended an open house at the SVA Headquarters building in

downtown Washington, DC. The event was an opportunity for chapter members to meet and network with other Student Veterans Associations from across the country.

(Courtesy photo) **GSU Veteran Certifying Official Charles Yakubow, Marshall University SVA Chapter Associate Amond Bailey, Marine Corps veteran and Nicholas County Commissioner Gary Roberts, Senator Shelly Moore Capito, Marine Corps veteran and Marshall University SVA President Jamie Springston, Navy veteran and Marshall University SVA Chapter Associate Jaden Gilpin, and Army veteran and GSU SVA President Keith Hardisty.**



LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE -- LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

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

Decedent	Personal Representative	Address
Denzil Glen Ward	Edna JoAnn Ward	480 Dakota Rd., Grantsville, WV 26147

May 3, 2023

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

Any person interested in filing claims against an estate shown below must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code, 44-2 and 44-3. All persons having claims against one or more of the estate(s) shown above, whether due or not, are notified to exhibit their claims, with the voucher thereof, legally verified, to the Clerk of the Calhoun County Commission at Calhoun County Clerk's Office at 363 Main Street, PO Box 230, GRANTSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA 26147 on or before **JULY 3, 2023**. Otherwise they may be law be excluded from all benefit of said estate(s). All beneficiaries of said estate(s) may appear on or before said day to examine said claims and otherwise protect their interests.

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

Jean Simers, Clerk
Calhoun County Commission
Class II Legal

BINGO

Arnoldsburg Park

BENEFIT BINGO FOR JEFF MACE

SATURDAY, MAY 13

Doors Open At 3:30 P.M. • Bingo Begins At 6:00 P.M.
Auction Begins At 5:00 P.M.

Proceeds Benefit Medical Expenses

Longaberger Baskets, Knives, 31 Totes



RAFFLE:

TIKKI t2v Lite 605 PCR Rifle

AUCTION:
Full Size Quilt



Mossberg 12g Pump Shotgun (w/wood stock), picnic table, Michael Kors purses, porch swing

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE

SOME RAFFLE ITEMS INCLUDE:

Thomas Rhett Concert Tickets, Weekend Getaway, 32"TV, Double Espresso Machine

For Information Contact Debbie Arnold 304-655-8943
or Robin Gordon 304-655-8326

Little Kanawha Conservation District work group meetings May 24 and May 25

Contact: Rebecca (Becky) Haddix, Public Affairs Specialist – Contractor, Graphic Artist, USDA-NRCS West Virginia, Phone: 304-284-7545.

The Little Kanawha Conservation in cooperation with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will hold a local work group meeting to discuss conservation programs for 2023-2024 and provide guidance for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Two meetings have been scheduled in an effort to increase participation. The first meeting will be held Wed., May 24 at 10:00 a.m. at the Parkersburg Service Center, 91 Boyles Lane in Parkersburg. The second meeting will be held Thurs., May 25 at 10:00 a.m. at the Heritage Park Community Building, 110 Church Street in Spencer. An RSVP is requested but not required to attend. Please call 304-422-9072 ext. 119 to RSVP. The local work group includes representatives from cooperating federal, state, and local conservation organizations and is open to all farmers, agricultural producers, and forest owners/managers. If you have thought about applying for one of the programs NRCS has to offer or have questions about what might be available to you, this meeting is a great opportunity for you to learn more. As part of NRCS's locally led process of administering programs, public comments will be sought from attendees on how to best prioritize USDA dollars for your local area. The Little Kanawha Conservation District covers Calhoun, Richie, Roane, Wirt, and Wood Counties. Acting NRCS District Conservationist, Nick Beavers and his staff work from the NRCS field office in Parkersburg and Spencer. If you need an accommodation to participate in this activity or event, please contact Nan Kimble at 304-284-7546, or by e-mail at NRCS.WVStateOffice@usda.gov. For more info contact Nick Beavers at 304-422-9072 ext. 119.

Creston News

by Alvin Engelke
Phone 275-3578



Rev. Kevin Gillispie filled his regular appointment at the Burning Springs M. E. Church & served Holy Communion.

There were 367 riders at the Creston ATV poker run. The community would like to thank all those who donated items for the door prizes, sent out the mailers (and e-mails), laid out, set up & took down the route, worked the stations, fixed & served the food, filled out all the paperwork, dot-shirts, chances on the quilt, cleaned the building, parked all the trucks & trailers and all those who came and made the ride the event that it was. Judy Proctor came in first followed by Brent Mueller & David Fixes. Tina Forshey won the 50/50. The kitchen ran out of food. Several riders suffered break downs and one fellow [at least] rolled his machine but continued on the trail. A jeep got sideways going up the hill out of Rock Camp and had to be winched to the top holding up many for an extended time. One young lady rider from the Old Dominion who had never ridden before got too deep in Spring Creek at the Beaver Dam ford and had to be rescued. Also her chariot which had only handlebars showing had to be pulled out of the stream. The folks at station #3 had a pleasant visitor in a pet button buck with two ribbons around his neck. Someone used a drone to, it was understood, film much of the activity both at Creston and on the route. Bubba and his woman, Bertha, decided to try the "He Man Hole" beside the trail down in Rock Camp. The event was recorded for posterity as water & mud flew through the air from his spinning tires. They were extricated and then went on along the route, no worse for ware. Most of the chariots and riders were totally covered in mud.

Ted Grim was calling on Charles Russell & friends at the Minnie Hamilton Extended Care facility. Charlie was happy to have the company.

The Creston area had some much needed

rain which did not raise stream levels. Such was not the case elsewhere. Wild iris (flag) is now b looming as well as the government's autumn olive which is an invasive pest.

Someone down on W. Va. 5 (the Creston western suburbs) didn't call 811 (Miss Utility) and residents there discovered that they could not cook supper and had to eat bologna sandwiches instead. Mountaineer Gas was seen out fixing the punctured gas line.

Toby Rice, the head honcho at EQT the biggest natural gas producer announced that their first quarter was great with a profit of \$1.663 billion. He noted that hedging of gas was a great help and that they had "value creation" throughout all parts of the commodity cycle. Many is W. Va. state government look to Toby Rice for "advice & direction". He opposes using resources in W. Va. to make finished products.

Paul Rady, the head honcho of Antero announced that they had a banner first quarter too with a price of \$4.11/mcfe (thousand cubic feet equivalent) for their natural gas and that the firm had a 17% increase in NGLs (natural gas liquids) from last year. He noted that the price of NGLs was \$42.95/bbl. and that the liquids were 45% of the company profit and that the company was situate in an ideal location (streghth of our asset base) for profit. That is to say they control a large portion of West Virginia's world class oil & natural gas acreage. It has been noted that some leases do not provide for royalties to be paid on natural gas liquids allowing for theft on a huge scale. (One company used to brag.) The firm noted that they were doing "organic leasing" whatever that might mean. Also that in 24 hours the firm was able to drill 12,340 feet of lateral on a horizontal well.

The federal EIA (Energy Information Agency) reported that drilling for oil & gas will continue (and increase) until at least 2050. Some local folks noted that likely they would not be around then to worry about future trends. Also, some of the green weenies are trying to get the federal

government to change the name of natural gas. Perhaps they ate too much cooked cabbage, lima beans & butter milk and they generate far too much unnatural gas that escapes into crowded rooms and eventually the atmosphere. That is pollution that folks can relate to.

The IPA, at the insistence of "Big Green", is working to shut down gas fired electric plants like the new one up in Ohio along I-77. Also talk is now more serious about closing coal fired plants like the one in Pleasants County. If one thinks that we have electric problems around Creston now, just wait and we can be like California & Texas (during big cold snap).

Our exquisite leaders said that soon we should have an all-electric military. Wonder how they propose to run power out to the front lines to charge up the tanks that need a charge?

Jimmy Wriston, the State Road (DOH) boss, likes to talk about doing core maintenance work, especially when it involves high dollar contracts to his out of state contractor buddies for tree cutting. Roane County CR 9/3 has ruts that are at least 6 feet deep and water runs from the top of the hill down to the bottom. This is where the jeep got stuck and held up riders on the Creston ATV poker run for hours. It would seem that "core maintenance" would include filling in the very deep ruts and at least installing some water bars (cut outs) so that the road is passable. No one locally drives Maserati (like our rulers) so the road need not be fancy. On Calhoun CR 12/3 there are culverts that now have been plugged for years and the one that fell over the hill hasn't been reinstalled. Seems that such would be core maintenance too but what would Creston area folks know about such?

The price of local Pennsylvania grade crude dripped to \$76.78/bbl. with condensate, formerly called Appalachian light sweet fetching just \$59.78/bbl. with Marcellus & Utica light bringing \$66.78. & medium \$75.78/bbl.

Wood Festival 2023 Parade Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Email: _____

Organization/Entry Type: _____

Description of unit: _____

Description of entry for the announcer (awards/accollades/etc): _____

Throwing Cany: Yes or No

For more information contact Tanya Cunningham at 304-786-7670 or emal at protaxgirl@yahoo.com



Calhoun-Gilmer Career Center Adult Education offers:

- High School Equivalency (HSE) Preparation
- Test preparation for numerous exams
- FAFSA® Assistance
- College/Technical Education Prep
- Basic Computer Skills
- Computer Literacy
- Customer Service 1&2
- Résumé writing
- Career Exploration
- Job searching
- Interview skills & Job Readiness

The hours are Monday and Thursday evenings from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Also, on the 1st Saturday of the month, we will be partnering with West Virginia WorkForce having a résumé writing class from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Calhoun-Gilmer Career Center. Call for an appointment.

We specialize in preparing our clients for West Virginia's New High School Equivalency exam, the HiSET. Call today and you might have the opportunity to study at home!

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5260 East Little Kanawha Hwy
Grantsville, WV 26417

Work 304-354-6151 Ex: 106
Cell 304-532-0912
Email kcedar@k12.wv.us



Scenes From The Car Show on Main Street for Danny Maxwell

By Melissa West

Main St. in Grantsville was full of cars, trucks, and motorcycles to support Danny Maxwell on April 29th. The proceeds of the event will assist in the rebuilding of Maxwell's Autobody shop which was destroyed by fire.

An Auction was held on the steps of the Courthouse by Jim Sullivan.

There were 43 participants in the Car Show. The list of winners are as follows: Best of Show, Dan Page with a 2012 Dodge Charger.

Top 10 were as follows: Larry Kent, 2005 Chrysler Crossfire; Jimmy Gregory, 170 Chevy Nova; Donnie Pitts, 1928 Model A Roadster; Allen Dawson, 1955 Chevy Pick-up; Mark Greathouse, 1976 Chevy C-10; Jeff Cunningham, 1949 GMC Truck; Mick Campbell, 1965 Chevy Malibu SS; Lexi Gregory, 1985 Chevy Silverado; Justin Shiflet, 1951 Ford Coupe; Mike Fisher, 1955 Chevy.



Danny Maxwell pictured with Best of Show winner, Dan Page's 2012 Dodge Charger.



An Auction was held on the steps of the Courthouse by Jim Sullivan.



Hon. Judge Larry Whited admiring the cars and trucks; he had a tough choice in judging.



It was a great day in the Calhoun Community. The weather held off for the event. It was enjoyable to walk around and see all the love and passion that goes into these cars and trucks.



Picture below courtesy of Tracy West

!! Another Great Trivia Night !!

Submitted by Caitlin Weaver

5 teams competed in our Trivia Night yesterday evening. It was a close race, with The Blast From the Past team taking the WIN!

We introduced a couple new rounds this time, with Name That Tune being a big hit. In the "Dart" Round teams were either asked a question or given an International Snack to try and identify what country it was from. They then had to throw a dart and hit that country, with the closest dart taking the point. We had a great evening of laughter and friendly competition! Thank you to all that came out and participated, we appreciate you!

*Keep checking our page for updates. We will be posting details for May Trivia Night in the coming weeks.



The Blast From the Past- 1st place - team members: Kevin Curry, Diana, Curry, Mellody Walburn



The Smartinies- 2nd place - team members: Donna Nichols, Angie Robinson, Melissa Keener, Judy Powell, and Deb King.



The CB's- 3rd Place - team members: Sandy Weaver, David Weaver, Chris Yerkey

Arnoldsburg Fire Dept. Drive-Thru BBQ Pork Fundraiser



Sunday, May 7th 2023 at our station
Noon-5pm, or until sold out

Cost \$10 per meal

MEAL WILL INCLUDE:

Large BBQ Pork Sandwich (with or without slaw)
Baked Beans, Macaroni Salad, Dessert, and Drink

This is take-out only, and local delivery may be available.

Come out and support your local fire department.
We appreciate your support!

