



# The Calhoun Chronicle

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Grantsville, West Virginia 26147

Thursday, January 4, 2024

### Family Court Judge Issued Public Admonishment from Judicial Investigation Commission

By Melissa West

The Calhoun Chronicle received a copy of the Public Admonishment of Family Court Judge Steve Jones.

In a complaint filed before the Judicial Investigation Commission of West Virginia, No. 106-2023, in the matter of the Honorable Steve Jones, Fourth Family Court Circuit for Calhoun, Gilmer, Ritchie and Roane Counties, a public admonishment was issued on December 12th, 2023.

The admonishment states that following an investigation of the Judicial Disciplinary Counsel pursuant to the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure (“RJDP”) and after a review of the complaint, the Judge’s written response, the information and documents obtained from the investigation and the pertinent Rules contained in the Code of Judicial Conduct, the JIC unanimously found probable cause that Judge Jones violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, and 2.5(A) of the Code of Judicial Conduct at a recent meeting and ordered that he be publicly admonished pursuant to RJDP 1.11 and 2.7(c) as set forth in the following statement of facts and conclusions found by the Commission.

#### STATEMENT OF FACTS

Respondent was elected to the bench in May 2016 and took office on January 1, 2017. At all times relevant to the investigation, Respondent was serving as Judge of the 4th Family Court Circuit. Respondent has not been the subject of any prior judicial discipline. Prior to becoming Judge, Respondent served as the elected prosecutor of Ritchie County from 2005 through 2008 and again from 2013 through 2016. He was an attorney in private practice from 1992 through 2004 and 2009 through 2012.

In 2022, Complainant filed domestic violence petitions on behalf of her two minor sons, age 15 and 7, against their father in the Magistrate Court of Gilmer County. A Gilmer County Magistrate issued emergency protective orders on behalf of the two boys. The matters were then transferred to Family Court for final hearing. Respondent was the presiding judge over the final hearing. On January 9, 2023, Respondent issued identical 90-day domestic violence protective orders for each of the boys. On page 3 of the Orders, Respondent specifically concluded that the father placed the sons “in reasonable apprehension of physical harm.” On page 4, the judge made the following findings of fact in support of the conclusion: The [father] has placed the [children, his sons,] in reasonable fear of physical harm by a change in his demeanor, in November and December of 2022. The [father] appears to be using drugs or alcohol and his behavior is (jittery or jumpy) and caused his son[s] to be in fear for his safety. The behaviors was testified to by [the older son] and the mother. The mother of the children observed behaviors December 4, 2022. [The father] fights with current wife while children are visiting. [The father] has permitted a 3rd party to move into the home that children are afraid of. The [children are] in fear for [their] physical safety. [The father] refused a drug test in family court [on] 12/19/22.

On page 5, Respondent ordered that the father “shall refrain from abusing, harassing, stalking, threatening, intimidating or engaging in conduct that places [the sons] in reasonable fear of bodily injury.” Respondent also ordered the father to surrender all firearms and ammunition to law enforcement.

On page 6, the Respondent further ordered the father to refrain from: (1) contacting, harassing or verbally abusing his sons; (2) entering any school, business or place of employment of his sons; or (3) entering or being present in the immediate environs of the home where the sons were residing. Respondent also declined to award visitation to the father during the pendency of the protective order.

On July 31, 2023, Complainant filed a judicial ethics complaint against Respondent. The gravamen of her complaint is that the Respondent is a mandatory reporter for child abuse and neglect. As such he was required to report the findings that he made with respect to her sons’ DVPs to DHHR within 24 hours of entry of the Orders but failed to do so as required by law.

The complaint was initially presented to the Commission at its October 13, 2023 meeting at which time it voted to request a response to the allegations contained therein. Counsel sent a letter to the Respondent requesting the same on October 16, 2023.

By letter dated November 1, 2023, Respondent replied to the allegations. With respect to the failure to report suspected child abuse or neglect, Respondent stated: I never suspected child abuse or neglect. The older child testified that he and his brother were in fear for their safety because the . . . father’s appearance the way he was behaving {jumpy or jittery} and the way he was behaving fighting with current wife while the children visited. A third party moved into the home and the children [were] fearful of this person. Pursuant to those findings I ordered a Protective Order The findings were based on the testimony of the [older] child, [the mother] and [the father]. [The father’s] testimony and behavior in the courtroom and the testifying of the child persuaded the Court to issue the Order. The testimony of [the mother] was not credible. It appears that [the mother] had manipulated the child. [The mother} stated on the record that she was dissatisfied with the DHHR investigation in which according to [the mother] had started before the DVP was filed.

#### CONCLUSIONS

The Commission unanimously found that probable cause exists in the matters set forth above to find that the Honorable Steve Jones, Judge of the 4th Family Court Circuit, violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, and 2.5(A) of the Code of Judicial Conduct as set forth below:

1.1 – Compliance With the Law: judge shall comply with the law, including the West Virginia Code of Judicial Conduct.

1.2 – Confidence in the Judiciary: A judge shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary, and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance

(Continued on Page 7)



### Yoak Charged with Domestic Battery & Assault

By Shari Johnson

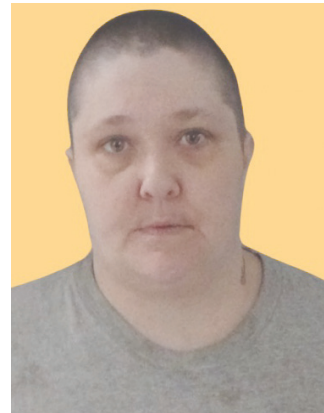
In a complaint filed in Calhoun Magistrate Court by Corporal D.C Moore, he stated that on Saturday, December 23, 2023 at approximately 12:45 p.m. he had received a domestic complaint at 11559 South Calhoun Hwy, Arnoldsburg.

When Cpl. Moore arrived and spoke with multiple witnesses regarding the incident, they advised that while Amy L. Yoak was arguing she pushed the victim, Cecil Whipkey, to the ground. The witnesses also advised that she also threatened to hit him with a stick, waving it around at him while he was near the residence. One of the witnesses also advised that after the victim walked away, the defendant flipped his wagon of personal belongings over on the bridge, causing his items to scatter and possibly fall into the creek.

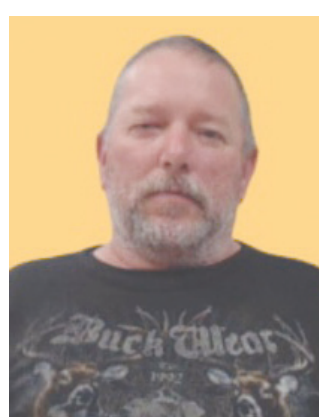
The victim has been living with the Amy L. Yoak for several months and is an her uncle.

Cpl. D. C. Moore did not observe any injuries to the victim at that time. The victim is a frail, 55 year old man, and Amy Yoak is a 39 year old female.

Yoak was taken into custody and charged with Domestic Assault and Domestic Battery in case number 23M07M00314.



### Donegan Facing Felony Charges for Brandishing Gun at Family



In a Criminal Complaint filed by Cpl. N.S Stepp of the West Virginia State Police, Cpl. Stepp stated that on Monday, December 25, 2023, at approximately 10:39 p.m. he was dispatched by the Calhoun County 911 Center (Control) to a disturbance located at 369 Sugar Camp Road in Big Bend, Calhoun County, West Virginia. Control advised Cpl. Stepp that Mark Donegan had brandished a handgun during the course of the argument and made threats to kill his family.

At approximately 11:45 p.m. Cpl. Stepp arrived on scene and detained Mr. Donegan, the accused. While interacting with Donegan, the officer located a revolver in his possession and it

was secured.

After speaking with the other parties involved in this incident, it was learned that the accused had been heavily drinking and had become enraged and began making threats to shoot his family. At some point in time, while he was sitting at the bar in the residence, the accused pulled a revolver from the holster he had secured to his leg and pointed it at his oldest step-son and threatened to shoot him. At that time, the wife of the accused, Terrie Nestor-Donegan, stepped in front of her son in order to protect him. The accused then returned the handgun back into his holster that was secured to his side.

Trooper Stepp placed the accused under arrest for three counts of domestic assault and three counts of brandishing. He was then transported to the WVSP Detachment for processing and then taken to the WV Central Regional Jail where he is currently being held on a \$6,000 bond.

### Have you Visited The Heritage Village Lately? If not, you should.

By: Melissa West

On New Yar’s Eve, myself and members of my family took a tour with Roger Jarvis of some of the buildings at the Heritage Village. It was definitely a step back in time.

The Heritage Village is funded, managed, and maintained by the Calhoun County Historical Society. The Village has nine historical structures moved from various locations throughout Calhoun County. Buildings that can be toured at the Village include Check-In Coop, Stevens School, Ahab Stemple Cabin, The Jarvis Store, Freed Post Office, The Cain Chapel, Starcher Blacksmith Shop, Stump Tool Shed/Grist Mill, and The Train Depot.



Pictured above is the Stevens School, also known as the Lower Pine Creek School. It was the first building relocated to the Heritage Village. It was dismantled from its original location on Pine Creek Hill approximately one mile from the Town of Grantsville. The school was constructed in 1885 and served until the 1963-1964 School Year. It was brought to the Calhoun County Park in 1996. Roger Jarvis explained that this particular building had to have a new roof three times due to wind and tree damage. Reconstruction was completed in 2002.

(Continued on Page 10)



# OBITUARIES

## DARRELL MCCUMBERS

Darrell McCumbers, 84, of Woolwine, VA was welcomed into Heaven on December 24, 2023. He was born in Calhoun County, WV, the eldest of seven children of Bernard and Pearl (Cottrell) McCumbers.



Darrell discovered a love for bluegrass music at a very early age and started playing when he was 3 years old. While Darrell was best known for his banjo playing, he could play any stringed instrument and taught many of his siblings how to play. The family recorded two albums and played for many years throughout the Midwest and Eastern United States. After high school, Darrell enlisted in the Army and spent time in Korea and Texas. After his service, he returned home and met and married "the woman he couldn't live without," his beloved wife, Juanita (Fulks) on September 14, 1963. They settled in Parkersburg, WV where they raised one child, their daughter Colleen. Darrell had a long career at General Electric, and along with Juanita, built a successful vintage musical instrument business called Darrell's Banjo Shop. After retiring from GE, Darrell and Juanita moved from their beloved West Virginia to Southwest Virginia to be closer to their daughter and grandchildren.

Darrell was a loving husband, father, Pap Paw, brother, uncle, Christian who regularly attended Fairway Baptist Church in Bassett, VA, friend, and proud veteran. He lived life to the fullest every day with a positive attitude. He never lost his love for bluegrass music and played his entire life. Darrell will be greatly missed, and his passing leaves a big void in the hearts of many. However, there is comfort in knowing he is in Heaven and having a joyous family reunion.

Darrell leaves behind his devoted wife of over 60 years, Juanita of Woolwine, VA; daughter and son-in-law, Colleen and Rick Lantzy of Cary, NC; grandchildren Zack Lantzy and Sarah Lantzy of Cary, NC; 4 brothers and sisters-in-law; Dare McCumbers of Spencer, WV, Denzil and Marlane McCumbers of Rosedale, WV, Robert (Buck) and Patty McCumbers of Elizabeth, WV, Dwayne and Barbara McCumbers of Duck, WV; two sisters Connie Hardman of Navarre, OH and Sandra McCumbers of Parkersburg, WV and numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Darrell was preceded in death by his parents, Bernard and Pearl McCumbers; sister-in-law, Mava McCumbers and brother-in-law, Bill Hardman.

His funeral service was December 30, 2023, at 11:00 AM at Fairway Baptist Church (9427 Fairystone Park Hwy, Bassett, VA 24055). The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Military rites will be provided by the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Honor Guard. In addition, the family will host a funeral service on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 11:00 AM at Stump Funeral Home (1440 Arnoldsburg Road, Arnoldsburg, WV 25234). Burial will follow in the Conley Cemetery. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Amedisys Hospice, 5221 Valley Park Drive, Suite 2, Roanoke, VA 24019. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.stumpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.stumpfuneralhomes.com)

"Grief is not a disorder, a disease or a sign of weakness. It is an emotional, physical and spiritual necessity, the price you pay for love. The only cure for grief is to grieve." - Earl Grollman

There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition, and of unspeakable love."  
- Washington Irving

## HELEN HALE

Helen Hale, 92, of Parkersburg, WV, passed away December 21, 2023 at Cedar Grove Personal Care in Parkersburg. She was born in Nicut, WV, daughter of the late Harrison McCumbers and Bertha Drennen McCumbers May.

Helen retired from Mon Power. She was a member of the Ladies League at Worthington Golf Course for many years and was Club Champion several times. She enjoyed painting, camping and served as Den Mother with the Scouts for many years. Helen was a member of Parkview United Methodist Church where she had served as youth leader in years past and was active with the Ladies Aide.

She is survived by her son Gerald Hale (Judy) of Eureka, NV, grandchildren Tonya, Daniel, William and Bonnie and six great grandchildren Autumn, Brinn, Brayden, Lucas, Dash and Jaxon.

In addition to her parents, Helen was preceded in death by her husband of sixty-five years, George E. Hale in 2017.

The Graveside services were held Dec. 30th at Evergreen North Cemetery with Rev. Raymond Maleke officiating.

Memorial Contributions may be made in Helen's memory to Parkview United Methodist Church 2210 Fairview Ave, Parkersburg, WV 26101. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.LeavittFuneralHome.com](http://www.LeavittFuneralHome.com).

## The Calhoun Middle High School Performing Arts Department Upcoming Events



Month of January Orders for fresh Strawberries will be taken.



February 10, 2024  
Enjoy dinner and a theater performance of "One Stoplight Town"

## I want to hear from you!

To our loyal readers, please feel free to let us know what you think of the Chronicle. In order to make this paper what the readers desire, you need to let me know, otherwise how I change it?

To nominate someone for Citizen of the week, please let us know. The Calhoun Chronicle, PO Box 400 Grantsville, WV 26147 or email them to the newspaper at [contact@calhounchronicle.com](mailto:contact@calhounchronicle.com)

Thank You,  
Melissa West,  
Office Manager

## 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.)

Thurs., Jan. 4: Fish, coleslaw, peas, whole wheat bread, juice

Fri., Jan. 5: beef vegetable soup, cheese stick, banana pudding, whole wheat crackers

Mon., Jan. 8: pinto beans with ham, kraut, potatoes, whole wheat cornbread, fruit.

Tues., Jan 9: baked steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, greens beans, whole wheat roll, juice.

Wed., Jan 10: whole wheat pizza, corn, jello-o with fruit.

Thurs., Jan.11: broccoli soup, cheese salad, sandwich, fruit, whole wheat crackers.

Fri., Jan.12: meatsauce, spaghetti, vegetables, fruit, whole wheat roll

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, 304-354-7017, to be placed on a list.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Thurs., Jan. 4: First Baptist Calhoun Food Pantry, Rt. 5, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Grantsville Pickleball Club, NYA Building, 7 p.m.

Fri, Jan. 5: Save the Children Parent Child Group meets at Arnoldsburg Elementary, 1:00 p.m.

Calhoun High School Boys Basketball game team travels to Van, 7:00 p.m.

Gun and Knife Show, Arnoldsburg Community Building, 4:00 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 6: Gun and Knife Show, Arnoldsburg Community Building, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sing, Upper West Fork Park, Stephanie and the Band of Brothers, 7:00 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 7: Gun and Knife Show, Arnoldsburg Community Building, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Mon., Jan. 8: County Commission Meeting, Little courtroom in Courthouse, 9 a.m.

Mt. Zion PSD meeting, 2 p.m.  
Pleasant Hill PSD monthly meeting, 4 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 9: First Baptist Calhoun Food Pantry, Rt 5, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Save the Children Parent Child Group meets at the Calhoun FRN, 4:30 p.m.

Empowering Parents Workshop, CMHS, 4:30 p.m.

Civil Air Patrol 413 High Street Grantsville, 6 p.m.

CHS Boys Basketball game team travels to Parkersburg Catholic, 7:00 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 10: First Baptist Calhoun Food Pantry, Rt 5, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Save the Children Parent Child Group meets at the Calhoun FRN, 4:30 p.m.

Empowering Parents Workshop, CMHS, 4:30 p.m.

Civil Air Patrol 413 High Street Grantsville, 6 p.m.

Grantsville Pickleball Club, NYA Building, 7 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 11: Empowering Parents Workshop, CMHS, 4:30 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 12: First Baptist Calhoun Food Pantry, Rt 5, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CHS Boys Basketball game team vs Braxton, 7:00 p.m.

Grantsville Pickleball Club, NYA Building, 7 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 13: Save the Children Parent Child Group meets at Arnoldsburg Elementary, 1:00 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 14: Sing, Upper West Fork Park, 7:00 p.m., Ruff Cutt

Tues., Jan. 16: Empowering Parents Workshop, CMHS, 4:30 p.m.

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and  
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## This Week In Calhoun History

The following reports are taken from the Calhoun Chronicle Archives.

**1924, 100 YEARS: Aunt Jinny Lees:** This is the season those jolly little red cranberries can be used to best advantage. During all the holiday festivities we make a heap o' dalatics with them. We use a rich cranberry sauce to make most of our things and often combine it with biscuit dough for downright tastiness.

This is the way I make my biscuit dough and if I do say it myself. I don't think you could fin a better way. Mix a level tablespoon of shortening, either lard, butter or vegetable fat, into four level cups of self-rising flour which has been sifted. Then stir in cup of sweet milk or a cup of cold water. Be sure not to use sour milk or buttermilk and do not add soda.

Have a soft dough, then roll out on a lightly floured board. Bake in very hot oven. With this you can make cranberry cobbler, cranberry shortcake or cranberry tart: They're all good.

### For Pineapple Shortcake

Emmy Lou taught us a new wrinkle the other day. She just sweetened my biscuit dough a trifle and made it richer and baked it in two parts in round a tin. When it was nice and brown she took it out, split it while hot and buttered it. Then she poured a rich sauce of crushed pineapple over this and we had real pineapple shortcake.

**1948, 75 YEARS: What Comes Next???** The holiday season over, tissue and ribbons smoothed and folded away for another Christmas, cards listed in the little black book, the calendar turned to a crisp new page, the shouts of "Happy New Year" have died. What is ahead for us? As a man in Calhoun suggests, we'll still have Stalin in our hair and China's tribulations on our hands.

There will be plenty of new problems to add to the carry-over from 1948. But at least, we won't be bored with the sameness. Weather, economics and society aren't generally monotonous and tedious. The variety sometimes gives us an increased headache., but we will still have fun, find time to relax, since even weather, economics and society has its compensations.

### New Rates Listed By Post Office

New and higher postal rates became effective January 1, 1949, on every type of mail except first class, it was pointed out by Postmaster W.O. Umstead, who said that ordinary letters will continue to be handled at the three-cent rate. Air mail, first class, raised from five to six cents per ounce.

The new rates were authorized by the 80 th Congress with a view of reducing the capital loss suffered by the Post Office department because of higher operating costs. Air mail weighing more than eight ounces should be sent air parcel post, Mr. Umstead said.

Special delivery letters and parcels up to two pounds will cost 15 cents, whereas formerly they were cents; 25 cents for two to ten pounds, formerly 20 cents, and 35 cents for 110 pounds and over, formerly 25 cents.

Packages going fourth class and marked "special handling" will cost 15 cents up to two pounds. Formerly the rate was 10 cents.

Postal notes will cost eight cents for any amount not exceeding \$10 and money orders will cost 10 cents up to \$5, 15 cents from \$5 to \$10, 25 cents from \$10 to \$50 and 30 cents from \$50 to \$100. Domestic registered mail will cost 25 cents for \$5, 35 cents from \$5 to \$25 and 40 cents up to \$100.

Domestic insured mail will cost five cents for \$5 declared, 10 cents from \$5 to \$10, 15 cents from \$10 to \$25, 20 cents from \$25 to \$50, 25 cents from \$50 to \$100 and 30 cents from \$100 to \$200.

Parcel post, zones 1 to 8, will be 12 to 18 cents for the first pound up to 10 pounds and 2 to 11.25 cents for each additional pound up to 70 pounds.

C.O.D. up to \$200 will be 20 to 65 cents, insurance up to \$200 will be five to 30 cents, books, catalogs, seeds, etc., 10 cents. All greeting cards will require two cents postage, whreas heretofore they have gone for a cent and a half, second class.

**1974, 50 YEARS: School Board Studying Ways To Keep Transportation System Going:** The gasoline shortage is more serious than most people realize, according to Paul Siegrist, who has the problem of operating the Calhoun school transportation system in coming months with 20 percent decrease in fuel allotments. Superintendent Siegrist discussed the fuel shortage at the December 20 meeting of the Calhoun Board of Education., but on his recommendation no action was taken at that meeting. He promised to keep board members fully informed about the situation.

In his report to the board, he said that the board would receive 4,400 gallons in January when they needed 5,200 gallons to keep all programs operating. One of the measures he said could be taken now was the purchase of another storage tank and order more gas now. "By the middle of March, we will be hurting, if lower fuel and allocations continue," he said.

The superintendent has collected information on transportation, seeking advice from bus drivers on runs, considered additional steps which the board may have to order if gasoline supplies fall shorter than anticipated. He ruled out going to retail outlets and buying additional gas, saying that such purchases would only take gasoline from the public.

Elimination of all transportation except to get the children to school and back home, eliminate back tracking, parking buses nearer their routes if safe parking sites could be secured, were all reported as preferable. As a last resort, he said, consideration might be made of going to a four day week, with one hour added to the school day. This he said, would have to be done on a state basis.

Several of the school board members made comments on the energy crisis, and on proposals, but they were all informal, and no action was taken.

The board did employ several persons, as recommended by the superintendent. Susan Siers was employed as Title I music teacher, replacing hackie Blankenship, Vickie Hammel was employed as substitute teacher in language arts grades 7-12, and Jane Ranshel was employed as teacher in Grantsville grade school, replacing Sandra Lancaster, whose resignation was accepted.

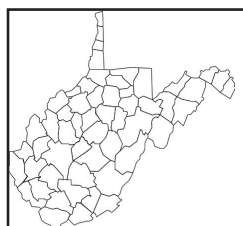
Lena Hardman and Hazel Cunningham were employed under a federal public service employees' program, the former as a cook at Grantsville grade school, the latter as a receptionist. Under this program the board pays 25 percent of the salary for six months, while federal funds are available for 75 percent.

Resignation was accepted from Wilma Gene Sears, who has been employed as secretary at Calhoun high school for 16 years. She has accepted a position in private employment.

Resignations were also accepted from Martha Parks, an aide at Minnora, and Lester Richards, maintenance employee, who is continuing part time.

The board conducted an executive session in closed chambers which delayed the start of the meeting for about 40 minutes. They set the next meeting for Friday January 4, to start a meeting of the Citizens Committee for Better School Facilities.

Present at the meeting were all five members, P.J. Zannoni, Scotti Westfall, John W. Poling, Dorcas Cain and Oris Bailey.

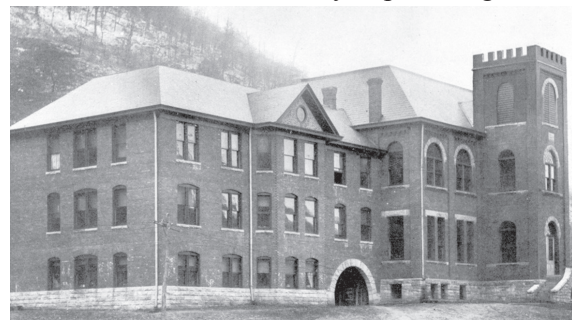


## This Week In West Virginia History

The West Virginia Encyclopedia is a project of the W. Va. Humanities Council.

Charleston WV – The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at [www.wvencyclopedia.org](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org). The W.Va. Encyclopedia is a project of the W.Va. Humanities Council, 1310 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25301; 304-346-8500 or [www.wvencyclopedia.org](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).

**Jan. 4, 1897:** Classes began at Montgomery Preparatory School, a state institution established to prepare students for West Virginia University. The school evolved into the West Virginia University Institute of Technology.



**Jan. 5, 1810:** The Virginia General Assembly recognized 20 acres of land owned by farmer and trader Thomas Buffington at the confluence of the Guyandotte and Ohio rivers as the new village of Guyandotte.



**Jan. 6, 1828:** Ward Hill Lamon was born in Jefferson County. Lamon was friend, law partner and unofficial bodyguard to President Abraham Lincoln. President Lincoln was assassinated when Lamon was away in Richmond on business.

**Jan. 6, 1931:** An underground gas explosion killed eight men at the Glen Rogers coal mine in Wyoming County—eight years after another explosion had killed 27 at the same mine.

**Jan. 7, 1955:** The Cedar Lakes Conference Center officially opened, though it was not named until 1957. The name was chosen for its two lakes and an abundance of native cedar trees.

**Jan. 8, 1866:** William Gustavus Conley was born near Kingwood in Preston County.

Conley was West Virginia's 18th governor, serving from 1929 to 1933.



**Jan. 8, 1919:** The West Virginia legislature ratified the U.S. constitution's 18th Amendment in the Senate, 26-0, and in the House, 81-3. West Virginia was the 21st state to ratify the amendment. National prohibition went into effect under the Volstead Act on January 16, 1920.

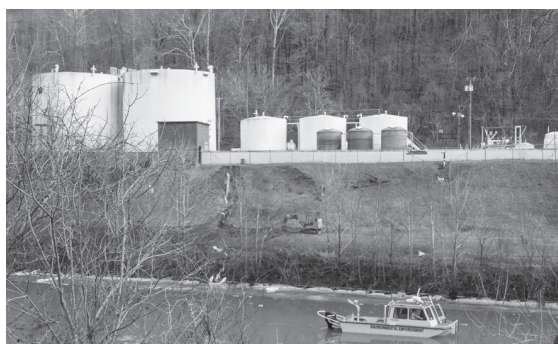


**Jan. 8, 1926:** Comedian Soupy Sales was born Milton Supman. Raised in Huntington and graduating from Marshall College (now University), he achieved fame as a wacky television personality.



**Jan. 9, 1911:** Louise McNeill was born on the family farm in Pocahontas County.

She was appointed poet laureate by Governor Jay Rockefeller in 1979, holding that title until her death in 1993.



**Jan. 9, 2014:** Hazardous chemicals were discovered leaking into the Elk River, contaminating the water supply for a nine-county region.



**Jan. 10, 1925:** Judge Elizabeth Virginia Hallanan was born in Charleston. She was West Virginia's first female federal court judge.



**Jan. 10, 1928:** Gov. Howard Gore appointed Minnie Buckingham Harper of McDowell County to fill the unexpired term of her husband, E. Howard Harper. She was the first Black woman to serve in a state legislative body in the United States.

**Jan. 10, 1940:** The Pond Creek No. 1 mine at Bartley in McDowell County exploded. The blast killed 91 miners, with another 47 escaping. Rescue teams worked five days to retrieve the bodies but found no additional miners alive.



# My Home Among the Hills

by Melody Walburn



Oh, time is such a fickle friend! Why is it that vacation days always fly by and are gone in the blink of an eye?

I have truly tried to make the most of every moment of every day. That didn't always look the same. Some days I was very busy, and other days I did absolutely nothing at all.

Christmas Eve was spent in church. It wouldn't feel like Christmas until I sang "Silent Night" with a candle in my hand.

After church, we came back to my house to eat dinner and just be together. We sat around my table eating, telling stories, and sharing memories.

When the hour grew late, we all headed for our beds knowing we would be back together in the morning.

It has become a tradition for me to stay at the Mlyneks' house on Christmas Eve. So, once everyone had headed home, I finished cleaning up, wrapped a few presents, took a shower, put on my pajamas, and headed to Maricia and Andy's house.

Some people's houses just make you feel welcomed in and at home; that is how I always feel when I spend time at the Mlyneks'. This time was no different. I slept like a baby and awoke in the morning to the smell of cinnamon rolls and coffee.

After breakfast, I headed back to my home among the hills to get ready for the rest of the day. Christmas is a laid-back day so I put on some comfy leggings and a sweatshirt, brushed my teeth, and combed my hair.

Comfort was the word of the day. I told Alexa to play some relaxing Christmas music, turned the tree lights on, and put the gifts I had wrapped the night before under the tree. Then I curled up on the couch with my book and blanket and waited for the family to arrive.

The rest of the day was spent opening presents, building puzzles, reading books, watching football, and just relaxing. Rascal loves lying on the back of my couch looking out the window. He spent most of his day there.

Dad had filled my bird feeder, and my little feathered friends visited all day long. I need to do a better job of keeping those feeders filled. I really do love watching the birds, and if it gets cold and snowy, they will need my help.

Tuesday was spent getting ready for a trip I went on this weekend with my entire family. I needed to do laundry so that I could pack. I also cleaned out my fridge and emptied the dishwasher.

Then I took out the trash and contemplated taking my recycling, but the rainy weather quickly changed that idea.

Once my home among the hills was in ship shape order and my laundry was underway, I gave myself some time to read a book by one of my favorite authors, John Grisham.

I decided that Wednesday was going to be my day off. I slept in and then read in bed for a while. Then I came downstairs to make myself the first of a few cups of coffee.

I was really into my book at this point and didn't want to stop reading, so I didn't. I read all day. I stopped to eat and check in with my family and that was about it.

By the time evening rolled around, I was finishing up the last chapter. I haven't had a lazy, do-nothing day in a long time. If I'm being totally honest, I will even confess I stayed in my pajamas all day. It was lovely.

On Thursday, I hit the ground running to make up for my lazy day. I helped my parents get ready for our trip to Amish Country. I returned my books to the library and got three more.

I bought a few necessities at Dollar General, and then I headed home to finish up my packing. My family rented a vacation home in Millersburg, Ohio, for the New Year's Weekend, and we were heading out first thing Friday morning.

On Friday morning, I packed everything in my Jeep and headed over to pick up the Mlyneks. Dad and Mom were traveling in their own car and would meet up with us in Ohio for lunch.

Our check-in time at the house was 1:00, so we would have time for a delicious meal before we headed to Serenity Hill, which was the name of the rental home.

I will be sure to tell you all about our weekend adventure in next week's article. Until then, I want to take the time to wish you all a happy new year. Every year I feel like I am starting a new book, and I look forward to what each chapter will hold.

Thank you all for continuing to be a part of my story.

## Recipe Corner

By Emma Howell

Don't wait until you have a special dinner planned to serve your family or guests one of their favorite desserts. Make it for them and it will be a welcomed treat at any meal. This weeks recipe will be

### Coffee Cream Pie.

1 package prepared vanilla pudding  
2 1/2 - 3 tablespoons instant coffee of choice  
1 1/2 cups milk  
1/2 cup whipped cream  
1 baked 8-inch pie shell  
1/4 cup chopped nut of choice

Combine pudding powder and instant coffee in small saucepan.

Add milk and cook as directed on pudding package. Cool. Fold in whipped cream.

Fill pie shell and chill. Sprinkle with chopped nuts or decorate with whipped cream.

### Sausage Gravy

1 pound breakfast sausage  
1/4 cup flour  
2 cups milk  
Salt & pepper to taste  
Brown the sausage in large pan on medium heat. Do not drain grease. Mix in 1/4 cup flour.

Stir well until you cannot see white anymore. Then add 2 cups milk. Stir well again. Add salt & pepper and continue cooking on medium heat until bubbles appear.

Then turn stove down to low and gravy will thicken. Then remove from heat. Serve with biscuits or bread of choice.

### Comforting Chicken & Noodles Crook Pot

2 cans of cream of chicken soup  
2 cans chicken broth (15 ounces)  
1 stick of butter or margarine  
1 pound chicken breast (fresh or frozen)

1 package frozen egg noodles (24 ounces)

In crockpot put chicken on bottom. Pour the chicken broth and soup on top.

Then top that with the stick of butter. Put the crockpot on low for 6 to 7 hours.

Take chicken out and shred. Put back in crockpot.

Add the frozen noodles and cook for 2 more hours. (I stir every 30 minutes until done.)

### Old Fashioned Meatloaf

Ingredients you will need.

1 lb ground beef  
1 1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper  
1/2 cup chopped onion  
1/2 cup chopped bell pepper  
1 lightly beaten egg  
8 oz canned without juice diced tomatoes  
1/2 cup quick cooking oats  
1/3 cup ketchup  
2 tablespoons brown sugar  
1 tablespoon mustard

Directions: Preheat oven to 375 °F.

Mix ground beef, salt, pepper, onion, bell pepper, egg, tomatoes and oats together well and place in a baking dish. Shape into a loaf.

Topping:: Mix ketchup, brown sugar and mustard and spread on loaf. Bake for 1 hour.

If you have a recipe you would like to share with our readers, please mail it to The Calhoun Chronicle PO Box 400 Grantsville, WV 26147 or email it to contact@calhounchronicle.com

## Empowering Parents Workshops

Calhoun Schools will offer three parent workshops to help you with your unique child. Each workshop runs for 6 weeks for approximately two hours. You can choose from: Parenting with Love and Logic, Adults Supporting Youth with Challenging Past, or Supporting youth with special needs. These workshops are beneficial for parents, foster/adoptive parents, educators, social workers, counselors, coaches, mentore and others serving children and teens.

### Adults Supporting Youth With

### Challenging Past (4:30-6:30 p.m.)

- 1/9/24 - Attachment Relationships are the Foundation
- 1/16/24 - Dealing with defiance and other difficult behavior
- 1/23/24 - nothing works without sincere empathy
- 1/30/24 - setting limits while minimizing power struggles
- 2/6/24 - suporting learning and achievement in school
- 2/13/24 - empowering them towards success in life

### Parenting with Love and Logic

### (4:30-6:30 pm.)

- 1/11/24 - putting an end to arguing, back talk and begging
- 1/18/24 - teaching responsibility without losing their love
- 1/25/24 - setting limits without waging war
- 2/1/24 - avoiding power struggles
- 2/8/24 - guiding kids to own and solve their problems
- 2/15/24 - teaching kids to complete chores without reminders and without pay.

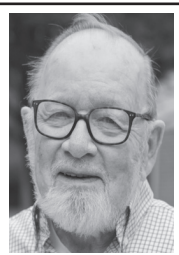
### Supporting Youth with Special

### Needs (4:30-6:30 p.m.)

- 1/10/24 - understanding their unique needs and gifts
- 1/17/24 - maintaining healthy "can-do" expectations
- 1/24/24 - developing and maintaining positive parent-teacherrelationships
- 1/31/24 - reaching discouraged and resistant learners

## CURIOSITY CORNER

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



Question: What is the difference between white meat and dark meat when it comes to turkeys? (Asked by a column reader looking forward to his Christmas dinner.)

Reply: I remember answering this question many years ago, but seeing that the holidays are right around the corner, I'll answer it again for the benefit of your upcoming holiday get-togethers.

The carver of your Christmas turkey might ask you for your preference of white or dark meat. Basically, this question is whether you'd like breast meat or a wing; or a leg or thigh.

Turkey meat is made up of muscle protein fibers, with white fiber predominate in white meat and red fibers in dark meat (and the red fibers turn dark after cooking). The reason for this is the myoglobin content, an iron-containing pigment found in muscle cells that supplies oxygen to the muscle tissue during exercise (similar to hemoglobin in the blood supplying oxygen to the tissues).

Chicken and turkeys have greater amounts of myoglobin in their legs because of exercise, since they mostly walk rather than fly. Thus, the legs have greater amounts of rich dark meat, while the unexercised breast and wings have an absence of myoglobin.

But what about migratory (wild) ducks and geese? Since they use their wings and breast muscles in long flights, they don't have white meat compared to domestic turkeys, and are pretty much all dark meat.

So, which is better? It's really all a matter of personal taste. I like the white meat better.

However, nutritionists tell us dark turkey meat has an advantage over white since it contains more B vitamins, iron, zinc and selenium (an antioxidant). There's not much difference in calories, but dark meat has almost three times the fat content as white meat... no wonder it tastes richer and less dry! Fortunately, two thirds of the fat is unsaturated... that's the heart-healthy kind.

So, take your choice. I'll stick with the white meat. You dark meat folks don't get to pull the wishbone!

C.P.S. (Curious Postscript): "A turkey never voted for an early Christmas." -Irish proverb

## Save the Children Parent-Child

Come join Freckles and Friends.

A Early Steps to School Success Kindergarten Readiness Groups

- Free early childhood education services to children 3 through 5 years of age and support for their parents or caregivers.
- Assist children with early language, literacy, math, social, and emotional development.
- The result will be a strong foundation of learning for the child which will prepare him/her for success in school!
- Help introduce your child to peers.
- Fun parent-child activities!
- Support and connections to community resources.
- Parent/child groups and story book hours.

Tuesday location is the Calhoun Family Resource Network 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Friday location is at the Arnoldsburg Elementary School 1 to 3 p.m.

Please come out and join us for fun and learning.

## 2-1-1 For Information

West Virginians can utilize the 2-1-1 program, operated by United Way of W.Va.

It connects callers with health and human services resources through trained certified specialists, to learn about specific programs, intake requirements, eligibility, operation hours and more.

"United Way of W.Va. provides an im-portant service to West Virginians by helping users navigate the vast number of resources available to aid with healthcare issues, food shortages, mental health questions and more," said Sen. Joe Manchin.

"This program is more important now than ever, as we battle the COVID-19 pandemic."

"United Way's new 2-1-1 will make information on a wide variety of local support services more accessible," said UW of Central W.Va. president Margaret O'Neal.

"Whether it's information for locating a health clinic, finding child care programs, or getting housing assistance, 2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember, go-to resource for individuals and families."

To utilize these resources, West Virginians can call 2-1-1, text your zip code to 898-211, visit www.wv211.org/contact, or call 1-833-848-9905.

## Gun and Knife Show Jan. 5-7th

Gun and Knife Show will be held Jan 5th (4:00 pm - 8:00 pm), Jan. 6th (9:00 am. to 5:00 p.m.) and Jan. 7th (9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.) at the Arnoldsburg Community Building - 1/2 Mile West of Arnoldsburg on 33/119

- Buy-sell-Trade
- 24 hour security
- Food Consessions will be sold.
- For more information or table reservations (\$30) contact Kenny Arnold at 304-655-8943 or Dip Mace at 304-354-6822

Not responsible for loss, theft, or accidents. All proceeds go to the West Fork Community Action INC. A non-profit organization

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## Calhoun County Boys Basketball Calhoun takes loss despite strong efforts from Jacob Marks and Owen Taylor Recap: Calhoun Red Devils vs. Wirt County Tigers

Submitted by Max Prep

The Calhoun Red Devils lost against the Wirt County Tigers back in December of 2022, and unfortunately they wound up with the same result on Wednesday. Calhoun took a serious blow against Wirt County, falling 63-34. The result shouldn't come as a shock considering that's the fewest points Calhoun has scored all season.

Calhoun's loss came despite strong showings from Owen Taylor and Jacob Marks. Taylor scored ten points, while Marks scored six points.

Leading Wirt County to victory were Connor Hoover and Braylan Dawson. Hoover dropped a double-double on 16 points and 11 rebounds, while Dawson scored 19 points along with six rebounds. The match was Dawson's seventh in a row with at least ten points. Alex Bevel was another key contributor, scoring eight points.

This is the second loss in a row for Calhoun and nudges their season record down to 3-4. As for Wirt County, they are on a roll lately: they've won three of their last four contests, which provided a nice bump to their 4-3 record this season.

Both teams will have to hit the road in their upcoming games. Calhoun will face off against Van at 7:00 p.m. on January 5, 2024. Wirt County will wrap up 2023 with a road trip to face off against Williamstown at 7:30 p.m. on Friday. Williamstown is currently enjoying a perfect season and no doubt want to keep things rolling.

<u>JAN. 9</u>	AT PARKERSBURG CATHOLIC	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>JAN. 12</u>	VS BRAXTON COUNTY	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>JAN. 19</u>	AT PADEN CITY	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>JAN. 23</u>	AT DODDRIDGE COUNTY	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>JAN. 26</u>	VS VAN	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>JAN. 31</u>	AT GILMER COUNTY	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>FEB. 2</u>	VS VALLEY WETZEL	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>FEB. 5</u>	AT CLAY COUNTY	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>FEB. 7</u>	AT SOUTH HARRISON	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>FEB. 10</u>	VS PADEN CITY	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>FEB. 13</u>	AT HANNAN	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>FEB. 15</u>	LKC PLACEMENT GAME	TBA
<u>FEB. 17</u>	LKC NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS	TBA
<u>FEB. 19</u>	VS CLAY COUNTY	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>FEB. 20</u>	VS HANNAN	<u>7:00 PM</u>

## Calhoun Youth Basketball Schedule K-1st Grade

K-1st grade will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday games and 12:30 pm on Sunday game days. Please refer to the schedule below.

### 2nd and 3rd Grade

Date	Time	White Jersey	vs.	Red Jersey
1/20	10:30 am	Team Jarvis		Team Heiney
	11:20 am	Team Heiney		Team Sampson
	12:10 pm	Team Sampson		Team Jarvis
1/27	10:30 am	Team Heiney		Team Jarvis
	11:20 am	Team Jarvis		Team Sampson
	12:10 pm	Team Sampson		Team Heiney
2/4	1:30 pm	Team Sampson		Team Heiney
	2:20 pm	Team Heiney		Team Jarvis
	3:10 pm	Team Jarvis		Team Sampson
2/11	1:30 pm	Team Jarvis		Team Sampson
	2:20 pm	Team Sampson		Team Heiney
	3:10 pm	Team Heiney		Team Jarvis
2/17	10:30 am	Team Heiney		Team Jarvis
	11:20 am	Team Jarvis		Team Sampson
	12:10 pm	Team Sampson		Team Heiney

Single Elimination Tournament 2/25  
1:30 pm #2 #3  
2:20 pm #1 Championship Winner of #2/#3 game

## Calhoun Youth Basketball Schedule 4th-6th Grade

Date	Time	White Jersey	vs.	Red Jersey
1/20	10:30 am	Team Helmick		Team Reip
	11:20 am	Team Church		Team Cunningham
	12:10 pm	Team Dow		Team Staples
	1:00 pm	Team Helmick		Team Church
	1:50 pm	Team Reip		Team Dow
	1:50 pm (MS)	Team Cunningham		Team Staples
1/27	10:30 am	Team Staples		Team Church
	11:20 am	Team Dow		Team Helmick
	12:10 pm	Team Cunningham		Team Reip
	1:00 pm	Team Helmick		Team Staples
	1:50 pm	Team Church		Team Reip
	1:50 pm	Team Cunningham		Team Dow
2/4	1:30 pm	Team Cunningham		Team Helmick
	2:20 pm	Team Reip		Team Staples
	3:10 pm	Team Dow		Team Church
	4:00 pm	Team Helmick		Team Reip
	4:50 pm	Team Church		Team Cunningham
	4:50 pm (MS)	Team Staples		Team Dow
2/11	1:30 pm	Team Church		Team Helmick
	2:20 pm	Team Dow		Team Reip
	3:10 pm	Team Staples		Team Cunningham
	4:00 pm	Team Helmick		Team Dow
	4:50 pm	Team Church		Team Staples
	4:50 pm (MS)	Team Reip		Team Cunningham
2/17	10:30 am	Team Cunningham		Team Dow
	11:20 am	Team Staples		Team Helmick
	12:10 pm	Team Reip		Team Church
	1:00 pm	Team Helmick		Team Cunningham
	1:50 pm	Team Dow		Team Church
	1:50 pm (MS)	Team Reip		Team Staples

Single Elimination Tournament 2/25  
1:30 pm #4 #5  
2:20 pm #3 #6  
3:10 pm #1 Winner of #4/#5 game  
4:00 pm Winner of #3/#6 game #2  
4:50 pm Championship

## Calhoun Youth Basketball 2-3 Grade Teams Roster

Team Number	Jersey
<b>Team Sampson - PHE</b>	
Savannah Sampson	1
Reese Dow	21
Henry Barnhart	12
Eli Houchin	11
Brenton Slider	3
Preston Wise	13
<b>Team Heiney - PHE</b>	
Aerial Heiney	1
Haygan Houchin	5
Aiden Villers	3
Evert Wright	10
Adam Francis	12
Carly Osborne	2
<b>Team Jarvis - AES</b>	
Kyson Sampson	2
Raelyn Arnold	5
Lydia Hill	7
Sophia Goodrich	9
Paislee Jarvis	10
Braidyn Brannon	21
Axton White	22
Raines Riddel	33

## Calhoun Youth Basketball 4-6th Grade Teams Roster

Team	Jersey Number
<b>Team Cunningham - PHE</b>	
Colbie Wilson	00
Silas Cunningham	3
Tori Cunningham	4
Cruz Frymier	5
Josiah Ferrell	10
Braidin Ferrell	11
Payden Yeager	33
Liam Yeager	40
Levi Ferrell	19
<b>Team Dow - PHE</b>	
Payton Lamp	43
Abram Dow	0
Jase Farley	5
Brody Crislip	30
Koby Crislip	24
Kyle Shook	8
Lizzie Collins	10
Baeli Frum	11
<b>Team Staples - PHE</b>	
Isabella Staples	8
Keegan Sampson	1
Bentley Snodgrass	4
Temperance Caldwell	15
Samuel Snider	12
Jackson Snider	11
Mason Cunningham	00
Brenlyn Barr	23
<b>Team Church - AES</b>	
James Marks	5
Tyler Mayle	8
Mandy Johnson	32
Allianna Hill	23
Haley Nicholas	1
Grayson Laughlin	2
Chandler Cottrell	17
Aaron Langford	10
Tristan Rogers	15
<b>Team Reip - AES</b>	
Kallah Reip	4
Parker Hoskins	24
Mason Sampson	1
Addie Caudill	8
Sadie McGlothlin	9
Kenlie Jarvis	23
Mercy Starcher	3
Audrey McCumbers	15
Karleigh Daugherty	2
<b>Team Helmick - AES</b>	
Judd Helmick	7
Cyrus Helmick	1
Mason Laughlin	3
Annie Nelson	2
Mark Plumby	20
Colton McCumbers	23
Sophia Barlett	6
Bryson Casner	30



# CLASSIFIEDS

Bring Classifieds to the Chronicle office or mail to Box 400, Grantsville, WV 26147. Classifieds Ads must be paid in advance. Classifieds are \$10 plus .35¢ a word after 28 words.

## 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 - PO 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.

## Personal Ad

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Adoption and Guardianship



(304) 389-0401

BettyGregoryLaw@gmail.com

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*(Family Court Judge Continued from Page 1)*

of impropriety.

2.2 – Impartiality and Fairness: A judge shall uphold and apply the law and shall perform all duties of judicial office fairly and impartially.

2.5 – Competence, Diligence and Cooperation: (A) A judge shall perform Judicial and administrative duties competently and diligently.

**1 The vote was 9-0.**

The Commission further found that formal discipline was not essential as Respondent had no prior disciplinary actions. Nonetheless, the Commission found that the violations were serious enough to warrant a public admonishment.

The Preamble to the Code of Judicial Conduct provides: Our legal system is based on the principle that an independent, fair and competent judiciary will interpret and apply the laws that govern us. The role of the judiciary is central to the American concepts of justice and the rule of law. Intrinsic to all sections of this Code are the precepts that judges, individually and collectively, must respect and honor the judicial office as a public trust and strive to enhance and maintain confidence in our legal system.

The judge is an arbiter of facts and law for the resolution of disputes and a highly visible symbol of government under the rule of law. . . . Good judgment and adherence to high moral and personal standards are also important.

Comment [1] to Rule 1.2 states that “[p]ublic confidence in the judiciary is eroded by improper conduct and conduct that creates the appearance of impropriety. This principle applies to both the professional and personal conduct of a judge.” Comment [2] provides that “[a] judge should expect to be the subject of public scrutiny that might be viewed as burdensome if applied to other citizens and must accept the restrictions imposed by the Code.” Comment [3] notes that “[c]onduct that compromises or appears to compromise the independence, integrity, and impartiality of a judge undermines public confidence in the judiciary.” Comment [5] provides:

Actual improprieties include violations of law, court rules or provisions of this Code.

The test for appearance of impropriety is whether the conduct would create in reasonable minds a perception that the judge violated this Code or engaged in other conduct that reflects adversely on the judge’s honesty, impartiality, temperament, or fitness to serve as a judge.

Comment [2] to Rule 2.2 states that “[a]lthough each judge comes to the bench with a unique background and personal philosophy, a judge must interpret and apply the law without regard to whether the judge approves or disapproves of the law in question.” Comment [1] to Rule 2.5 provides that “[c]ompetence in the performance of judicial duties requires the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness, and preparation reasonably necessary to perform a judge’s responsibilities of judicial office.”

Respondent clearly violated the Code of Judicial Conduct by failing to report the suspected abuse and neglect of Complainant’s minor sons. W. Va. Code § 48-27-202 defines domestic violence or abuse as “the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members, as the term is defined in section two hundred four of this article . . . . (2) placing another in reasonable apprehension of physical harm; (3) creating fear of physical harm by harassment, stalking, psychological abuse or threatening acts . . . .” W. Va. Code § 48-27-204 contains the definition of family or household member which includes a “parent.”

W. Va. Code § 49-1-201 defines an abused child as one “whose health or welfare is being harmed or threatened by . . . domestic violence as defined by W. Va. Code § 48-27-202 . . . .”

W. Va. Code § 49-2-803(a) states in pertinent part: Any . . . circuit judge, family court judge . . . magistrate . . . who has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is neglected or abused . . . or observes the child being subjected to conditions that are likely to result in abuse or neglect shall immediately and not more than 24 hours after suspecting this abuse or neglect report the circumstances to the Department of Health and Human Resources [DHHR] .

Pursuant to W. Va. Code § 49-2-812, any mandatory reporter who knowingly fails to report suspected child abuse is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be confined in jail not more than ninety days or fined not more than \$5,000 or both fined and confined.

**The West Virginia Rules of Practice and Procedure for Domestic Violence are also instructive on this issue. Rule 16a states:** At any stage of domestic violence proceedings, if a family court judge has reasonable cause to suspect any minor child involved in the proceedings has been abused or neglected, in addition to mandatory reporting duties the judge shall follow the written referral procedures set forth in Rule 48(b) of the Rules of Practice and Procedure for Family Court and Rule 25a herein.

**Meanwhile, Rule 48 provides:**

(a) Reports by Family Court. – If a family court has reasonable cause to suspect any minor child involved in family court proceedings has been abused or neglected, that family court shall immediately report the suspected abuse or neglect to the state child protective services agency. . . and the circuit court.

(b) Written Referrals. — In addition to any oral communication made by the family court to the state child protective services agency pursuant to subdivision (a), the family court shall forthwith prepare and submit a written referral to the agency office in the county where the family court proceeding is pending and, at the same time, transmit copies of the referral to the appropriate circuit court in that county, as determined by the chief judge, and to the prosecuting attorney.

Respondent’s reasoning for failing to report suspected child abuse is equivalent to the age old question of how many angels can dance on the head of a pin. Traditionally, the question is a metaphor for wasting time debating topics of no practical value or on questions whose answers hold no intellectual consequence. There is no question in the minds of Commission members that Respondent should have reported the suspected abuse. Indeed, the findings of fact and conclusions of both DVP orders drafted by Respondent are indicative that he suspected abuse and therefore had a duty to report it within the requisite time. His subsequent claim that he never suspected child abuse or neglect is disingenuous at best given the findings and conclusions contained in his DVP Orders. Moreover, he now says he found the testimony of the mother not credible but never stated that in either DVP Order.

Instead, Respondent specifically indicated a reliance on her testimony in part to reach his conclusions and issue the ninety-day DVP Order. Respondent should be mindful that the Commission doesn’t care how many angels can dance on the head of a pin. Like noted poet Mary Oliver stated, “It’s enough to know that for some people they exist and that they dance.”

Ordinarily, the Commission could bring formal charges against Respondent. However, given that Respondent has no prior discipline, the Commission has unanimously voted to admonish him. By engaging in such conduct, Respondent violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, and 2.5(A) of the Code of Judicial Conduct and is admonished for the same.

Therefore, it is the decision of the Judicial Investigation Commission that the Honorable Steve Jones, Judge of the 4th Family Court Circuit, be disciplined by this Admonishment. Accordingly, the Judicial Investigation Commission hereby publicly admonishes Judge Jones for his conduct as fully set forth in the matters asserted herein and orders that a copy of this Admonishment be sent to the Prosecuting Attorney of Gilmer County for further consideration.

Pursuant to Rule 2.7(c) of the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure, the Respondent has fourteen (14) days after receipt of the public admonishment to file a written objection to the contents thereof. If the Respondent timely files an objection, the Judicial Investigation Commission shall, pursuant to the Rule, file formal charges with the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.

*Alan D. Moats*  
The Honorable Alan D. Moats, Chairperson  
Judicial Investigation Commission

December 12, 2023  
Date

**NEWS FROM THE DEMOCRATIC VIEWPOINT**

I Fear for the Rule of Law  
By Deirdre Purdy

**Trump, Justice, and the American Way**

The United States was the first country to be established not under a monarch, a religion, or a dictator, but instead under the rule of law. We are governed by our Constitution and the laws made under it. The rule of law guarantees that the rights of everyone in a democracy will be equally acknowledged and protected.

Trump has been stress-testing the American justice system. The rule of law hangs in the balance.

Suits have been brought across the country under Section 3 of the 14 th Amendment, the “disqualification clause,” which states that anyone who engaged in insurrection cannot hold any office, civil or military, under the United States.

Last week, the Colorado Supreme Court held that Trump was disqualified from the presidential ballot because he had engaged in insurrection and was seeking an office for which the 14 th Amendment disqualified him. This week, the Maine Secretary of State made the same ruling.

Courts in Minnesota and Michigan that did not disqualify Trump did so for procedural reasons: either they are not the proper court or this is not the appropriate time for them to hear such a case.

Some have argued that disqualifying Trump from the ballot would be anti-democratic, an intrusion of elites into an electoral decision. Those who claim it should be decided at the ballot box seem to forget that Trump was defeated at the polls in 2020, a reality he refuses to accept, leading directly to the January 6th insurrection. More importantly if the law is clear, political theory is not relevant.

The disqualification clause itself has been called “obscure” and ambiguous. It reads, “No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State . . .” having engaged in insurrection or rebellion.

Some legal scholars contend that the presidency should not fall under a general catch-all clause like “a civil office under the United States” when senators and representatives are specifically named. But article 1, section 6, clause 2 of the Constitution says that senators and representatives, while they are in Congress, cannot hold office under the United States, clearly

distinguishing senators and representatives from “officers of the United States.” On the other hand, the Constitution refers to the presidency as an office 25 times.

The disqualification clause is not obscure or ambiguous.

Some claim that the 14 th amendment is old and has seldom been applied, as if portions of the Constitution can just wither away with disuse. Since the Civil War, we simply haven’t had, until now, insurrectionists to whom this section of the amendment would apply. Now we need to use it.

Conservative icon, Judge J. Michael Luttig calls the Colorado decision “unassailable.” Esteemed liberal constitutional scholar, Harvard law professor emeritus Laurence Tribe agrees.

Clearly the US Supreme Court must ultimately decide the issue. The Supreme Court justices, like every federal official, have taken an oath to support the Constitution, which mandates that insurrectionist Trump be disqualified from the presidency.

Will the justices be swayed by their personal politics? Trump threatens violence if he is kept off the ballot. Would SCOTUS react fearfully to those threats?

If you’re old enough, you remember the election of 2000 and its terrible outcome.

Perhaps if you voted for George W. Bush, you didn’t think the outcome was terrible because your candidate won. The Supreme Court voted 5-4 for Bush over Gore. But the rule of law cracked with Bush v. Gore and that was terrible.

The majority opinion stated, “Our consideration is limited to the present circumstances” because the problem of equal protection in elections “presents many complexities.” In other words, this opinion ignores the complexities and just decides.

Justice Souter called the decision, “the day the music died” because it was so transparently political that it scarred Souter’s belief in the Supreme Court as an institution.

A statewide recount done by media organizations determined that Al Gore actually won the 2000 election. Bush v. Gore warped history and shook the foundations of the rule of law.

Trump’s current attacks on our justice system play out before this background of a Supreme Court that imposed a political result where there was no legal question.

After the 2020 election, Republicans sued in 60 courts around the country, asking them to find fraud in the presidential election. Republicans had 60 opportunities to present evidence of fraud. They presented none. All 60 courts ruled there was no fraud and thus, Joe Biden is the legitimate president of the United States.

Since then, Trump’s Big Lie, that the 2020 election was stolen from him by fraud, has torn this country apart. By disdaining every court ruling and the advice of his own lawyers that there was no evidence of fraud and that he lost, Trump undermines trust in the courts, the law, justice, and the electoral system.

Almost 600 defendants have pled guilty to federal charges following the January 6 insurrection. Trump calls those who are incarcerated “political prisoners” and “hostages,” denying the validity of their indictments, guilty pleas, and trials.

Trump is charged with 91 felony counts in state and federal courts for crimes allegedly committed while he was president. He claims he too is a political victim of the “weaponized” Department of Justice and a racist Georgia prosecutor.

Trump contends that charging a former president with crimes is inherently political, an act of revenge. He gives no credence to the grand juries that found probable cause to charge him with 91 crimes. Instead, Trump declares that a president has total immunity and can never be charged with a crime.

The rule of law means that every citizen is governed by the law and no one escapes its consequences. The Trumpian notion that the President is above the law is deeply un-American.

In 2000, the Supreme Court made a political decision although there was no legal question presented. In 2024, the Court is faced with a straightforward legal issue: does the Constitution bar an insurrectionist from running for President?

If the Supreme Court refuses to apply the clear words of the Constitution and disqualify insurrectionist Trump from the presidential ballot, but instead makes a political ruling to allow him to run, we will know that Trump’s arrogant disdain for the rule of law spreads and grows stronger as the rule of law weakens and threatens the very foundations of our republic.



# EVENTS PAGE

## Upper West Fork Park Events

Upper West Fork Park meetings are held the second Tues. of each month at 6 p.m. Scheduled events are as follows (Saturday sings are 7 to 10 p.m., doors open at 4:30 p.m., kitchen opens at 5 p.m.): Jan. 6: Stephanie and the Band of Brothers  
Jan. 13: Ruff Cut  
Jan. 20: Retro Country  
Jan. 27: Dixie Highway

## Grantsville Pickleball Club



The Grantsville Pickleball Club is growing!

We play on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 7:00, weather permitting and are averaging 12-15 players.

The best part is there are people there of all ages, abilities, and athleticism. There are even some who come to just watch and socialize.

Equipment is provided for newcomers to give the sport a try.

Come on out and watch everyone play if you are not sure what the game is all about. A fun time will be had by all who come out to play. Everyone is welcome!

Come join us Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. for some fun, fellowship, and physical fitness. We have found our Winter Season Home in the NYA Building.

# 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

## New Testament Baptist Church

The BIBLE WAY TO HEAVEN

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.: John 14:6

WE ARE ALL SINNERS.

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.: Romans 3:23

WE WERE SENT A SAVIOR

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 6:23

WE CAN SIMPLY CONFESS & CALL

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Romans 10:9, 13

The Bible says... Whosoever. It's that simple. That includes you.

THE REASON HE CAME...

HE CAME FOR ONE REASON.... YOU.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

If you have trusted Christ as your Saviour, or would like more information, please contact us:

New Testament Baptist Church  
15187 WV Highway 47 W  
Smithville, WV 26178

Pastor Jim Lough - Assistant Pastor Nick Randolph

ntbevoj@gmail.com

Voice of Joy - WVG 89.7 - wvgvradio.com - WVGL 91.1

## West Central Beekeeper's Association

The West Central Beekeeper's Association will meet at the old Arnoldsburg Elementary School, Spring Run Road Arnoldsburg, WV (Calhoun County), the fourth Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

## Tire Collection

Tire collection will be held the third Friday of each month, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Cabot Recycling Station, west of Grantsville on Rt. 5. Tires accepted free of charge. Tires on wheels will not be accepted. Only car, ATV, and light truck tires, 16-inches or less, accepted, with a limit of 10 tires per person, open to residents of Calhoun only. Bring valid W.Va. ID. Sponsored by W. Va. DEP and Calhoun Solid Waste Authority.

## First Baptist Calhoun County Food Pantry

The First Baptist Calhoun Food Pantry located on Rte 5 outside of Grantsville is a non-profit food pantry that is open on Tuesday and Thursday's from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



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

## Spay/Neuter

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

## Children's Crisis



The Children's Crisis and Referral Line can interrupt behavioral health crises by connecting families with behavioral health services in their communities. The option to call, text, or chat is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 844-HELP4WV (1-844-435-7498, call or text) or by chat at www.help4wv.com/ccl.

The helpline links families with regional mobile crisis response and stabilization teams that can help deescalate by phone or respond in person.

## Emotion Helpline

Are you or your loved ones feeling anxious, overwhelmed or emotionally exhausted? First Choice Services has a 24/7 emotional strength help-line called HELP304 to help navigate these uncertain and unprecedented times. Available via phone, text, or online chat, professional crisis counselors are trained to listen and help you find the way forward with stress-management strategies, as well as community resources and referrals. Talk to someone who cares and can help. Call the helpline at 1-877-HELP304 (877-435-7304) or online chat at www.help304.com.

## Broomstick Cemetery Needs Donations

Broomstick Cemetery located in Calhoun County is really in need of donations to keep the cemetery mowed and looking nice for 2023. If you have loved ones buried in the cemetery, Please make a donation! You can send donations to Linda Blankenship, P.O. Box 13 Grantsville, WV 26147. You can make checks payable to the Broomstick Cemetery Fund. Thank you in advance!

## Freed Cemetery Needs Donations

Donations are needed for the upkeep of the Freed Cemetery, located in Calhoun County off of the Leading Creek Road. Please send donations to Rickie Murphy, P.O. Box 55 Macfarlan, WV 26148. Make checks payable to Freed Cemetery. Thank you!

## Liberty Hill Cemetery News

We need your donations to keep it looking neat. If you have loved ones buried in the cemetery, please donate. Donations can be mailed to Liberty Hill Cemetery, 3121 Lemuels Run Road, Mount Zion, WV 26151. Calhoun County Bank has been gracious to accept money in their drop box or donated at the banks. Thanks for your help.

## Nobe Cemetery Needs Donations

If you have family buried in the cemetery, please make a donation. You can send donations to Barb Roberts, 359 Nobe Road, Big Bend, WV 26136 or for more information on how you can help the Nobe Cemetery call 304-354-7329. Thank you in advance.

## Pleasant Hill Cemetery Needs Donations

In order to maintain upkeep of the Pleasant Hill Cemetery we are accepting donations at: Pleasant Hill Cemetery, PO Box 651, Grantsville, WV 26147. If you have questions or concerns please contact Cheryl Greathouse at 304-354-9513 or you may send an e-mail to cherylgreat@citlink.net. Please make checks payable to Pleasant Hill Cemetery Fund. Checks written payable to Pleasant Hill U.M. Church should state Pleasant Hill Cemetery Fund in the memo. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

## 12 Step Recovery Meeting

Saturday at 5pm

Everyone Welcome

Hosted at the Calhoun FRN building - enter in rear of building. 304-354-7177

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For more information on the 12 Step Recovery Meetings and resources please contact the Calhoun FRN at 304-354-7177

## WIC Program

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program is a supplemental food program for pregnant, post-partum, or breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to the age of five. WIC provides food, breastfeeding support and nutrition education to families in Calhoun County. To apply for the WIC Program or to receive more information call our local office at 304-354-6898 or our main office in Parkersburg at 304-428-3688. The Calhoun County WIC Clinic is located at 300 Mill Street, Grantsville every Wednesday from 8:00AM-4:00PM. The Calhoun County WIC Office will be closed every Friday.

## Tobacco Quitline

Anyone interested in quitting can call the West Virginia Tobacco Quit-line, 1-877-966-8784 or 1-800-QUITNOW. The call is for West Virginia residents over the age of 18. The Quitline offers four proactive coaching calls and unlimited reactive calls. Participants are eligible for eight weeks of free nicotine replacement therapy: patches, gum or lozenges. Contact Jamie Jacobsen, 304-485-7374, ext. 152, or www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/.

## Prevent Suicide

W.Va. Dept. of Health and Human Resources reports that the National Suicide Prevention Life-line, 1-800-273-TALK, is partnering with First Choice Services, a non-profit organization based in Charleston, to answer calls from West Virginians and offer assistance during their time of need. Calls to 1-800-273-TALK will be answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

All call line staff have received training in applied suicide intervention skills, the gold standard in screening and assisting suicidal callers. Please reach out if need someone to talk to, you are important!

24 hrs. a day  
7 days a week

## Crisis Hotline

# 1-800-579-5844

Brought to you by Westbrook Health Services

## Lions Club Bingo

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

## Food Pantry

CRI operates a food pantry, Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-4 p.m., with free USDA commodities to those who qualify (food pantry only) on Court St.

## Library Hours

Calhoun County Library hours are: Mon., Wed. and Fri., 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Tue. and Thur., 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

## Civil Air Patrol

Calhoun Civil Air Patrol Squadron holds weekly meetings on Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. located at 413 High Street Grantsville, WV. We are always looking for new members, so stop on by and check us out.

If you feel sick, please stay home.

We have lots of new books and activities happening.

## Check Conditions

Travelers can check the forecast, traffic, and road conditions all along their route by visiting wv511.org before heading out.

Safe Travels while traveling through W.Va.

## West Virginia Poison Center,

# 1-800-222-1222

Call with your questions.

## Calhoun County High School Alumni Association

Contact Information

Calhoun County High School Alumni Association is in need of updated contact information to keep all alumni up-to-date on current events. Return the following information to CCHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 11, Grantsville, WV 26147, or email to nikkiboatright@gmail.com.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

## Country Kitchen Music & Events

LIVE MUSIC  
FOOD

Event Venue

ESTD 2023

# COUNTRY KITCHEN

304-286-5600

Exit 40  
1-79  
Big Otter, WV

Country Kitchen is located at 6553 Big Otter Hwy Ivydale, WV. Come and enjoy some great food and music after taking a ride on The Devil's Backbone (Rt. 16).

Hours

Mon.-Wed.: 10 a.m. -9 p.m.  
Thurs.-Sat.: 10 a.m. to Close

BIKER'S WELCOME!!!!



Come on out and enjoy great music and food and meet new friends!



## West Virginia Weekly Gas Price Update from GasBuddy

Contact: Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis, pdehaan@gasbuddy.com or 773-644-1427

Average gasoline prices in West Virginia have fallen 3.9 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.91/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 1,154 stations in West Virginia. Prices in West Virginia are 28.7 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 12.1 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 4.5 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.96 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in West Virginia was priced at \$2.39/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.59/g, a difference of \$1.20/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.39/g while the highest was \$3.59/g, a difference of \$1.20/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 1.6 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.06/g today. The national average is down 17.3 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 12.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Historical gasoline prices in West Virginia and the national average going back ten years:

- January 2, 2023: \$3.03/g (U.S. Average: \$3.18/g)
- January 2, 2022: \$3.17/g (U.S. Average: \$3.26/g)
- January 2, 2021: \$2.09/g (U.S. Average: \$2.25/g)
- January 2, 2020: \$2.59/g (U.S. Average: \$2.59/g)
- January 2, 2019: \$2.28/g (U.S. Average: \$2.25/g)
- January 2, 2018: \$2.52/g (U.S. Average: \$2.49/g)
- January 2, 2017: \$2.38/g (U.S. Average: \$2.34/g)
- January 2, 2016: \$1.95/g (U.S. Average: \$1.99/g)
- January 2, 2015: \$2.41/g (U.S. Average: \$2.21/g)
- January 2, 2014: \$3.37/g (U.S. Average: \$3.32/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

- Pittsburgh- \$3.43/g, down 1.8 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.45/g.
- Charleston- \$2.95/g, down 1.5 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.96/g.
- Virginia- \$2.96/g, down 3.1 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.00/g.

"After a brief hiatus, the national average has moved off its recent high, again falling closer to the \$3 per gallon mark, setting up a potential second attempt at slipping below \$2.99 for the first time since 2021," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "While gas prices have risen in some areas, such as California after refinery snags emerged, other states have returned to declines. Illinois is one such example, falling below \$3 per gallon for the first time since 2021. The Great Lakes and Gulf Coast offer some of the nation's lowest gas prices, with the window of opportunity holding for the next few weeks to potentially re-test some of the levels seen a few weeks ago. The good news continues for average diesel prices, which slipped below \$4 per gallon again and stand at their lowest level since the summer."

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data is accessible at <http://prices.GasBuddy.com>.

## Glenville State University Professor Dr. Rico Gazal presents at International Conference



The Philippine Forestry Education Network (PFEN), Inc., a distinguished non-stock and non-profit organization comprising accredited forestry schools in the Philippines, proudly announced its inaugural International Conference this past October 25-27, 2023. Themed "Engaging the Academe to Lead in the Revitalization of the Wood and Wood-based Industries for Economic Recovery," the event took place at the University of Mindanao, Davao City.

Accredited by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), PFEN aims to initiate a transformative discourse on the role of academia in revitalizing the forest-based industries in the Philippines and addressing the challenges that hinder the growth of the wood and wood-based sectors. The conference brought

together experts, academics, and industry leaders with the goal of achieving the following objectives:

**Understanding Global Trends and Challenges:** Explore insights from international leaders in sustaining forest-based industries, featuring perspectives from renowned countries such as New Zealand, Australia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Canada, Sweden, and Finland.

**Assessing the State of Forestry and Wood Industries:** Examine the current state of forestry and the wood and wood-based industries in the Philippines. Evaluate existing policies, programs, and financing mechanisms from both governmental bodies (DENR, PWPA, NEDA, DOF, DTI) and non-governmental perspectives.

**Knowledge Sharing and Collaboration:** Facilitate the exchange of knowledge, information, research, expertise, and best practices among PFEN members. Encourage collaboration among various stakeholders, including small-scale tree farmers, large private plantation owners, and industrialists such as furniture makers, lumber manufacturers, and other wood-based producers.

**Roadmap for Collaboration:** Develop a strategic roadmap for engaged collaboration among academia, industry players, and government agencies to reinvigorate and sustain the wood and wood-based industries in the Philippines.

Dr. Rico Gazal, the attending professor that presented, had this to say. "It is an honor for me to have been invited to this international conference and to share the department's experiences in connecting with the wood industry and our commitment to fulfilling the program's mission, which is to provide West Virginia and the entire United States with competent and skilled forest technology professionals."

For additional information about the Department of Land Resources, its programs, faculty, and organizations contact: Mr. Adam Black

Department Chair Associate Professor of Landman Technology  
215 Waco Center Glenville, WV 26151 or  
304-462-6378.

## MOVHD's Threat Preparedness: Resolve to be ready for flooding

Many make New Year's resolutions each year. The Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department's Threat Preparedness section recommends making one to be prepared in case of a flood.

According to FEMA, flooding is a factor in more than 90 percent of disaster-related property damage in the United States. Homeowners are encouraged to know their risk by checking their address at FEMA's Flood Map Service Center at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search>. These will show flood-prone areas, though it is impossible to predict all flooding. It may also be beneficial for homeowners to purchase flooding insurance and for renters to buy a flood insurance contents policy.

FEMA has some other tips for preparing your home in case of flooding:

- Clean/maintain gutters, downspouts, etc. so rainwater flows away from the house
- Clean debris from drainage ditches/storm drains
- Seal any foundation cracks with mortar/masonry chalk/hydraulic cement
- Seal basement walls with waterproofing and make sure flood drains are unobstructed
- Install a sump pump to move groundwater away from house
- Install drain plugs for basement floor drains to prevent sewer backups
- Have a plumber install sewer backflow valves to pipes
- Elevate appliances like air-conditioning, water heaters, heat pumps, etc. at least one foot above potential flood height

An emergency kit is always a good place to start to be prepared. Visit [ready.gov/kit](https://ready.gov/kit) for how to build your own.

"Remember 'Turn Around, Don't Drown,' said Amy Phelps, public information officer for the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department. "Don't enter flooded areas whether or not you're in your car. 6-inches of water can knock an adult off their feet and can cause vehicles to lose control or stall.

The Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department serves Wood, Wirt, Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie and Roane Counties. It is located at 211 Sixth St. in Parkersburg. The offices are open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 304-485-7374 or visit the website, [movhd.com](http://movhd.com) for more information. Follow them at Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department MOVHD on Facebook and @MOVHealthDept on Instagram and Twitter.

## Community Foundation Grant Application Deadline March 21, 2024

The Parkersburg Area Community Foundation and Regional Affiliates of Doddridge County, Ritchie County, and the Little Kanawha Area (PACF) are currently accepting applications for the spring cycle of the Community Action Grants Program.

The Foundation's application is online, and organizations can apply to the Foundation and/or any of the affiliates using the same process. To access the online application form, visit the Foundation's website, [www.pacfwv.com/Grants](http://www.pacfwv.com/Grants). The deadline for the spring cycle is midnight on March 21, 2024.

To be considered for a Community Action Grant, an applicant must be a private, nonprofit organization, tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a public institution. Either the applicant or program to be funded must be located in the Foundation's eleven-county geographic service area (Calhoun, Doddridge, Gilmer, Jackson, Mason, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt, and Wood counties in West Virginia, and Washington County, Ohio). Priority counties for grant support are: Wood, Wirt, Doddridge, Ritchie, Roane, Calhoun, and Gilmer.

The Foundation provides support for capital and equipment projects, program development, technical assistance, training, capacity building projects, and, under special circumstances, operating support. Submitted applications are considered for support from a wide variety of grant funds available to support charitable projects throughout the region.

The Foundation's grantmaking guidelines provide additional information on eligibility and priorities for all types of grants; visit the Foundation's website at [www.pacfwv.com/Grants](http://www.pacfwv.com/Grants) to access the grant guidelines and application forms. For more information, contact Amy Nahley at 304-428-4438 or [info@pacfwv.com](mailto:info@pacfwv.com).

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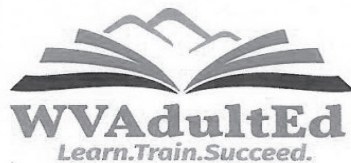
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*(Heritage Village Continued from Page 1)*



The Ahab Stemple Cabin was constructed around 1880 on Rowles Run. In the mid 20th Century the home was moved a short distance to Hughes Fork on the Rufus and Georgia Stemple Farm and used as a barn for storing hay. Rufus was a grandson of Ahab Stemple. In 2006 the cabin was donated to the Historical Society by Georgia Stemple Weaver (Rufus' wife) and her daughter Carolyn Stemple Weaver.

The Upper Floor of the cabin was dismantled with each log being numbered and it was moved to the Village on October 13, 2007 by the May Moving Co.

Re-assembly was completed by mid-November. Creston Oil provided a boom truck and operators along with Roger Jarvis, Duane Poling, Tony Collins and John Vannoy worked to get the cabin under roof by Winter.



In 2014, the chimney was completed by Peter Cobbett. It is a working fireplace with fieldstone on the outside and cut stone on the inside. The large cut stone above the mantel was part of the front step of the Pell house in Grantsville (now the Stump Funeral Home). In 2015 the Cabin was opened to the public.



The Spencer "Dock" Jarvis General Store was constructed about 1930 in Oka, replacing an earlier building that was destroyed by fire. It was built by Lonnie Watkins using lumber from trees on the Jarvis Farm and sawed by Bee Griffin. The foundation stones were cut by a Mr. Norman from Beech. The Oka Post Office was located in the store for several years.



In the 1950's the building was moved to the intersection of the Oka and beech Roads when the Department of Highways relocated the Oka Road.

After the store closed, the building was only sporadically used and had been unoccupied for several years when Mr. Jarvis' daughter, Mrs. Irene Gunn donated it to the Heritage Village.

Gary May's Towing service was hired to move the building 25 miles from Oka to Mt. Zion. The roof had to be removed and rafters laid down to pass under the power lines crossing the highway.

The building was placed on concrete block piers and the original cut stones were used as flower beds in front of the building.

Many people have donated equipment and items to stock the shelves, including many that was originally used by Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis.

The store was dedicated August 28, 2004.

The Freed Post Office on Leading Creek was built in the early 20th Century by Seth Collins. His wife Ivy was Postmaster. The building survived the disastrous 1933 fire that destroyed most of the Town of Freed. After the Post Office was closed in 1954, the building was used for storage.



In 2005, Historical Society member Larry Freed was able to acquire the Post Office for the Heritage Village. Mrs. Marguerite Hardman, Seth and Ivy's daughter donated the building. On September 8, 2005 the Post Office was relocated to the Park. The Post Office was dedicated on May 27, 2006.



The Herb Eddy Cabin (Cain Chapel) was built by Herb Eddy in the 1930's for use as a recreational/seasonal cabin located along the Little Kanawha River on Route 5 just west of Carroll Road. It was later used as a dwelling and a cut stone addition was constructed.

The building was donated by the Francis Cain Family and was relocated to the Village by the May Moving Company on October 22, 2007. Needing a house of worship at the Village, the Historical Society decided to convert the cabin into a chapel. Jim Bell organized workers to stabilize the foundations and walls. The cabin was then protected from the elements for the winter. In the Spring of 2008 work resumed and under the guidance of Jim Bell a new steep, church like roof was constructed, a front porch with a bell was added and the stabilization was completed.

Pews were secured and an old oak podium donated by the Class of 1956 was brought from the old high school. The Chapel opened to the public in 2009 and is used for Weddings and pictures.



The Starcher Blacksmith Shop was opened in the 1920's by Charlie Starcher. It was located at Hur part way down the hill on the road to the Left Hand Fork of Barnes Run. Mr. Starcher closed his shop in the 1950's.

In the mid 1990's Lous and Dottie Slider donated the building and its contents to the Historical Society. In the summer of 2005, May Towing relocated the building. Due to the nature of the original site, narrow and crooked roads the move was very difficult. After the move, the building was placed on concrete piers and a new roof put on, the Blacksmith Shop was dedicated on May 27, 2006.



Lorenza T. "Dowd" Stump built the workshop around 1900. It was located on Phillips Run and originally sat on a cut stone cellar. The workshop was donated by Stump's grandson Jim Bell. In 2021 an addition was completed that will serve as a gristmill. The lumber was provided by David Cain. The Gristmill will house the hit and miss engine donated by the Dare Crawford family of Crummies Creek.

Please pay a visit to the Heritage Village, you will not be disappointed.