



The Calhoun Chronicle

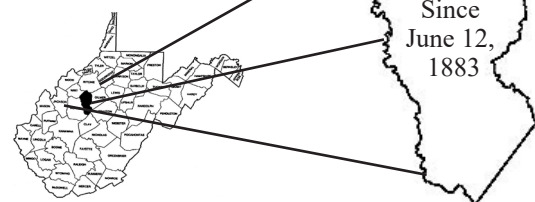
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Serving Calhoun County Since June 12, 1883



and The Grantsville News

“Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts”



Whole Number 7058

Grantsville, West Virginia 26147

Thursday, August 29, 2024



Calhoun opens 2024 football season at home Friday night against Gilmer County

Calhoun opens 2024 season at home Friday night against Gilmer

By Gaylen Duskey
 King football returns can the turning leaves and cooler temperatures be far behind.
 No.
 Friday night Calhoun opens he 2024 football season when it plays host to old rival Gilmer County. Overall, the Red Devils hold a winning record over the Titans but recently the Titans have held the upper hand.
 Last year the Titans battered Calhoun 50-6.
 Right now, Calhoun is riding a 15-game losing streak with its last win coming Sept. 30, 2022, when it shut out visiting Paden City 36-0.
 Since Gilmer broke a 13-game los-

ing streak to the Red Devils in 2013 the Titans have posted an 8-3 mark against the Red Devils last win coming in 2019. Since then, Gilmer has outscored Calhoun 179-12.
 But a lot has happened to the Titans since then, not the least of which was coach Ben Hall taking his talented sons and saying “so long” to Glenville. Last year Gilmer County was “loaded” and went 6-4 losing only to four teams that made the playoffs.
 This year Tommy Hamric is running the show and although the Titans still have numbers – 24 players – and experience – eight seniors – it is not like last year when the Titans were frankly “loaded” and a playoff threat.

SEASON cont. on page 6

Calhoun schools open with lower numbers, higher expectations

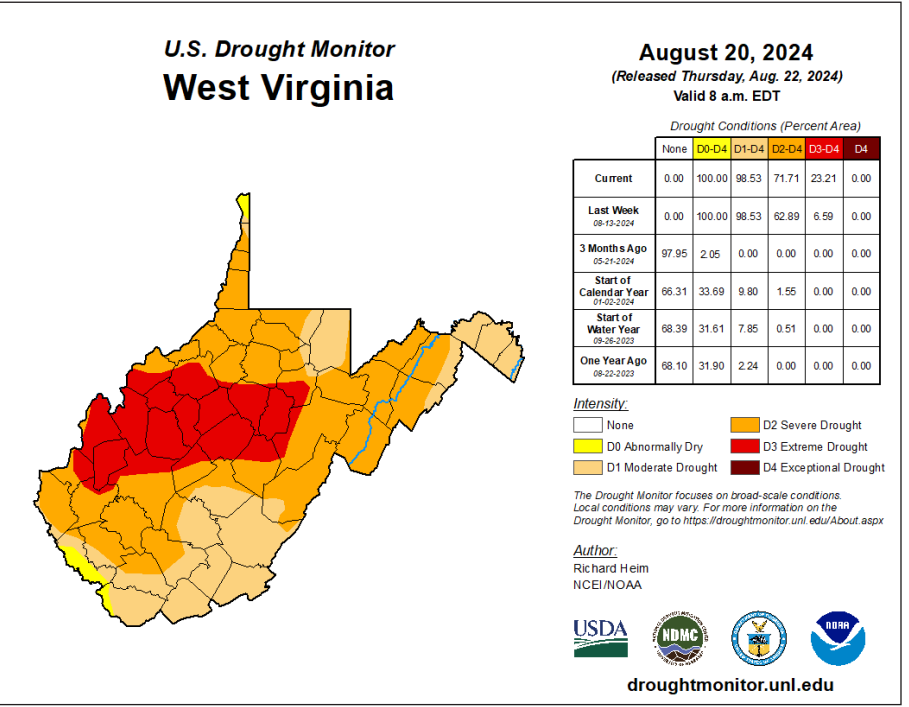
By Gaylen Duskey
 While the numbers may be lower the expectations are high as the Calhoun County School administration opens the 2024-25 school year with a greater proactive plan to keep everyone informed and involved.
 Calhoun had 784 students as of the opening day of school with 500 being at the Calhoun Middle/High School, 152 at Pleasant Hill Elementary and 132 at Arnoldsburg Elementary School.
 Last year in the second month enrollment figures Calhoun had 829 students, which is 45 more than the first day of school this year. The enrollment figures last year had Calhoun ranked 54th out of 55 counties. Gilmer was last with an enrollment of 761.
 Calhoun had an enrollment of 863 in 2022-23 marking two straight years of declining enrollment.
 “We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our amazing staff, parents/guardians and students for their hard work and collaboration in making our first day of school a success,” the school administration said in a Facebook post. “Your enthusiasm and support set a wonderful tone for the year ahead. We’re excited



CMHS

to embark on this journey together and can’t wait to see all the great things we’ll achieve as a community. Here’s to a fantastic school year!”
 And to that end the school administration has been very proactive.
 For instance, the school has produced a new student handbook. They have added methods for parents of young children to become involved with their education, they have started spotlighting a student at each school. The school administration has also set up internet notices for weather, school delays etc., going to far as having a link to the lunch menus at every school.
 In other items the school administra-

SCHOOLS cont. on page 3



Will Our Drinking Water Survive Drought Conditions?

Courtesy The Ridgeview News
 The current river level in Burnsville, West Virginia is 3.07 feet. Glenville river level is at 2.19 feet and Grantsville’s is currently at 6.18 feet; all of which is being sustained by the Burnsville Lake. Burnsville Lake has dropped 2 1/2 feet low in one month because of the drought conditions that we are currently facing in central West Virginia.
 The Ridgeview News spoke to an of-

ficial at the Army Corp of Engineers who stated that Burnsville Lake continues to let out 8,976 gallon per minute.
 When asked if the lake would be able to sustain the river, which would then sustain the provision of drinking water for the cities below them, we were told that the river should continue to run as it is right now, ten feet above winter pool without dropping too low. Without rain it will drop 2 1/2 feet per month which will

DROUGHT cont. on page 8



Another building is getting painted in the “Paint the Town” initiative. This building has been home to a bank, a post office, a barbershop, a dentist’s office, the Calhoun Chronicle, and Calhoun Realty. Photo courtesy of Roger Propst.

LKVCS opens ninth year of operation



Front Row: Caroline Williams, Owen Starcher, Alex Bracewell, Ryett Bunner, Callie Gibson, Maddox Brown, Harrison Barr, Wyatt Carpenter, Caroline Walker
 Row 2: Alexis Blair, Asher Starcher, Braden Brown, Mackenzie McCumbers, Laken Bracewell, Kaelene Kerby, Abigail McCumbers, Brooklynn Stewart, Harper Walker, Bentley Barr, Jackson Snider, Landon Fitzwater, Holden Gibson, John Martin, Abigail Ayers
 Row 3: Kendra Davis, Olivia Fitzwater, Bayleigh Carper, Braidin Ferrell, Landon Barr, Hunter Blair, Eli Houchin, Morgan McFee, Wyatt Yoak, Aubry Richards, Jayci Barr, Mikenna Wease, Starleena Marks
 Row 4: Eli Ferrell, Brodyn Rowe, Samuel Snider, Eli Kinder, Ashlynn Ritchie, Khloe Cobbett, Madison Wilson, Klynn Keith, Isaac Kinder, Jared Mason

Monday, August 12th was LKVCS’s first day of its ninth year.
 The day began with breakfast shared with families and served by parents, family, and church volunteers. The Lord has blessed them with a staff of seven devoted Christian teachers and numerous volunteers, along with students from four different counties.
 In addition to teaching from the Word of God, students are exposed to a solid, old-fashioned education of academics, servitude, and life skills.
 Welcome back, LKVCS Warriors!!

School Board Present Levy and Tables Renaming Athletic Complex



Michael Fitzwater
 Courtesy of Ridgeview News
 The Calhoun County Board of Education met Friday at 4 p.m. for a special meeting. Superintendent Michael Fitzwater provided a revised levy that had been reissued to

the WV State Auditor’s office for approval due to error within the listed finances.
 They had increases under the general maintenance as well as adding an additional \$75,000 Art program that will provide art classes in the elementary schools where students will alternate between art and music classes one to two time per week. The students will be a part of a pilot program in January.
 The levy was approved for submission and will be voted on in the November 5th, 2024, election.
 Volunteers approved for

the 2024-2025 school year were
 Jessica Houchin
 Leah Cheyney
 Carlene Frederick
 Lori Parsons
 Linda Blankenship
 AndI Roznovsky
 Mickaylee Cowan
 Judi Butler
 Holly Swisher
 Patricia Wagner
 Angel Butler
 Beth Harris
 Beth Nicholas
 Danielle Wilson
 Stacy Sampson
 Arlene Sampson
 Brittany Greathouse
 Aaliyah Falls
 Sherry Thomas

BOARD cont. on page 3

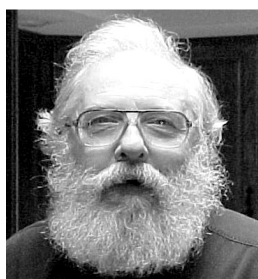
The Grantsville Town Council meets the first Monday of every month in the city building on Main Street at 6 p.m.

The Calhoun County Commission meets the second Monday of every month in the Calhoun Courthouse meeting room at 9 a.m.

The Calhoun County School Board meets the second Monday of every month at 5:50 p.m. in the school board office at Mt. Zion.

CRESTON NEWS

BY ALVIN ENGELKE
PHONE 275-3578



Dry weather continues to be the norm in Creston and a state wide drought event has been made official. Creston residents, like folks elsewhere, have been hauling water as springs and wells are drying up. Little to no rain is in the forecast. Even the governor declared a drought emergency. Most pasture fields have dried up and folks are feeding hay. Peanut put up the second cutting hay on the dePue farm.

The comely Kim was calling on her mother Wilma Mowrey who has been on the puny list.

Farm use reports are due by August 30 – that is Friday. Also, that is the last day to get the discount on first half real estate and personal property taxes.

On Thursday August 29 the Creston Area Neighborhood Watch will have a litter clean up on W. Va. 5. Willing workers should meet at 5 P. M. At the Ferrell residence for some sustenance to give strength before picking up the litter. For details call 275-3202.

Antero announced that the Denver based firm is now leasing Marcellus in Gilmer County, joining HG there. The new leases let the company get the natural gas liquids for almost free since the Legislature passed bills to prevent folks from forcing the company to make honest and decent deals. On Friday the state agency, set up to approve force pooling held hearings. Lawyers and participants set in the lobby and were not allowed in for the proceedings. “Oh, we didn’t know you were out there, sorry”. World class oil and gas formations should pay 25% royalty [gross] but folks like Sen. President “Baldy” Blair and his buddies were not on W. Va.’s side.

There were big doings up in Chicago with a coronation of a person who was “selected” by the Big Eared One for his fourth term to fundamentally change the nation. Price controls on food like Cuba and Venezuela and Health and housing “rights” just like in the ‘constitution’ of the former USSR. The VP has a long time relationship with China and supported

the actions that happened in Peking when the tanks smashed the citizens who were asking for freedom. This happened while he was on active duty, which raises lots of questions. Just like questions not being answered about what really happened in Butler, Pa. not so long ago. We live in very frightening times.

Not so long back there was big hoopla over the release of \$30 million as the start of the “hydrogen hub” or ARCH 2. This was the first payment of the \$1billion in taxpayer funds for the green new deal project. Folks wondered just what the \$\$ was for. Now it has been learned that is for a new office at WVU. Seems Professor Grant Swinger was successful in getting money to spend. A British study said natural gas pipeline systems will work with pure hydrogen, but a US study said just the opposite. All this is to “save the planet” as we are told. At the same time India has made it clear that the energy future there will be coal.

Speaking of coal plants, it is said that problems remain over the taxpayer funded purchase of the Pleasants Power Plant at Willow Island. It could be such a thing that the State of West Virginia might get to own and operate a coal fired power plant or a plant that has a new 20 inch gas line.

The new proposed tech centers and AI (artificial intelligence) facilities require huge amounts of electricity at a time when the green weenies want us to stop using power that does not come from pixie dust. Some of the ‘true believers’ are now against such but, well . . . It has been made clear that use of natural gas will be strong until at least after 2050. This writer would be ‘quite old’ then.

The price of local Pennsylvania crude slipped to \$73.83/bbl. With condensate fetching just \$55.83/bbl. with Marcellus and Utica light bringing \$62.83/bbl. In Parkersburg gasoline can now be obtained for \$2.85/gallon [with a discount card].

Gas prices are slightly lower

Average gasoline prices in West Virginia have fallen 7.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.24/g today, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 1,154 stations in West Virginia. Prices in West Virginia are 17.3 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 40.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has declined 3.2 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.67 per gallon, a multi-year low.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in West Virginia was priced at \$2.83/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.69/g, a difference of 86.0 cents per gallon. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.83/g while the highest was \$3.69/g, a difference of 86.0 cents per gallon.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 6.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.30/g today. The national average is down 20.7 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 49.2 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:

August 26, 2023: \$3.65/g (U.S. Average: \$3.80/g)
August 26, 2022: \$3.79/g (U.S. Average: \$3.84/g)
August 26, 2021: \$3.00/g (U.S. Average: \$3.14/g)
August 26, 2020: \$2.24/g (U.S. Average: \$2.23/g)
August 26, 2019: \$2.55/g (U.S. Average: \$2.58/g)
August 26, 2018: \$2.81/g (U.S. Average: \$2.83/g)
August 26, 2017: \$2.32/g (U.S. Average: \$2.36/g)

August 26, 2016: \$2.19/g (U.S. Average: \$2.21/g)
August 26, 2015: \$2.53/g (U.S. Average: \$2.56/g)
August 26, 2014: \$3.46/g (U.S. Average: \$3.43/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

Pittsburgh- \$3.69/g, down 4.7 cents per gallon from last week’s \$3.73/g.
Charleston- \$3.28/g, down 7.3 cents per gallon from last week’s \$3.35/g.
Virginia- \$3.21/g, down 6.6 cents per gallon from last week’s \$3.27/g.

“It seems fitting that, in the run-up to Labor Day, the national average has fallen for four straight weeks to its lowest point since February, giving Americans one last chance to hit the road with gas prices being less of a factor,” said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. “GasBuddy is now tracking eight states where average gas prices are already below the \$3 per gallon mark, along with nearly 20% of gas stations in the country selling gasoline at \$2.99 or lower. These numbers will continue to look better every week as we move into fall. GasBuddy’s Labor Day travel forecast, to be released tomorrow, will provide more good news about the millions of dollars Americans who are road-tripping will save compared to last year.”

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’s averages, graphs, maps and historical pricing data covering the U.S. and Canada is available 24/7 at <http://prices.GasBuddy.com>.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

1) Opinion Editorials (Op-Eds) and Letters to the Editor may contain constructive criticisms, thoughts, and observations based on reliable information. Each submission is reviewed and accepted on an individual basis.

2) Discourse should be generally respectful, without profanity, rooted in fact, professionally presented (satire is acceptable), and written by the person submitting. All submissions are subject to revision concerning writing me-

chanics, space available, and accuracy.

3) Editorial staff reserves the right to contact others concerning the subject matter to balance the presentation of the issue and/or concern.

3) Phone numbers must be included to facilitate editorial questions and fact-checking processes.

Editorials, letters to the editor, press releases, meeting notices, and announcements can be sent to contact@calhounchronicle.com.

Yes, I blasted the secrecy surrounding the town council meeting and I would do it again

by Gaylen Duskey

Yes, I took the town to task for failing to advertise the time and date of their last meeting or provide an agenda for what the meeting was about.

And I will do it again tomorrow. Any time any governmental agency plays hide the agenda with the press and public I will speak out as loudly as I can.

Why?

Read this: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

That is the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and it specifically mentions freedom of the press and freedom of assembly.

And as a lifelong journalist when somebody tries to violate that right it infuriates me. It should infuriate you too because it is a direct violation of what the United States stands for and if somebody or some entity puts their agenda above the Constitution, they are wrong and insulting to the population.

We seem to have a problem with freedom of speech, freedom of the press, open meeting laws, sunshine laws and the like with governmental bodies around here but I lay that to simple ignorance of the law. It happens when small government entities have done things “their” way for a long time without legal representation.

It’s sad but it is just the way it is.

But what is sadder is when someone calls them on it that someone is attacked.

I called the Grantsville town government on it. And I got attacked (which you can read elsewhere in this publication) and the sad part about the attack is that the main point was missed.

I said the main and basically only point was the secrecy with which the meeting was held that proposed raising the water rates by about 60 per cent. I said that perhaps raising the rates was a moot point because it was.

I also said that the rate raise would impact all customers of the Grantsville water plant because at some point it will.

But the point of the column was it was a blatant violation of our First Amendment rights whether accidentally or on purpose.

So, let’s take a little closer look at what was lost with the secret or semi-secret meeting.

It says “while the First Amendment protected freedoms of speech, religion, press, assembly and petition, subsequent amendments under the Bill of Rights dealt with the protection of other American values including the Second Amendment right to bear arms and the Sixth Amendment right to a trial by jury.

“Freedom of Speech: The First Amendment guarantees freedom of speech. Freedom of speech gives Americans the right to express themselves without having to worry about government interference. It’s the most basic component of freedom of expression.

“Freedom of the Press: This freedom is like freedom of speech; in that it allows people to express themselves through publication. There are certain limits to freedom of the press. False or defamatory statements—called libel—aren’t protected under the First Amendment.

“Freedom of Religion: The First Amendment, in guaranteeing freedom of religion, prohibits the government from establishing a “state” religion and from favoring one religion over any other. While not explicitly stated, this amendment establishes the long-established separation of church and state.

“Right to Assemble, Right to Petition: The First Amendment protects the freedom to peacefully assemble or gather or associate with a group of people for social, economic, political or religious purposes. It also protects the right to protest against the government. The right to petition can mean signing a petition or even filing a lawsuit against the government.”

These are the basic tenets of The United States. These are the rights that set us apart from every other country in the world. These are the rights that make America great . . . the greatest country in the world.

These rights, whenever trampled, hurt us all and must be fought against. I fought against it by speaking up and I would do it again because it is the right thing to do.

I thought people would understand the point of the column was about secrecy and nothing else.

I guess I was wrong.

But the First Amendment always needs defending and that is what happened Friday when Robert F. Kennedy abandoned his campaign and endorsed President Donald J. Trump for election.

Why?

Because the democrat party had tried to silence him. That attempt to deny him the protection of the First Amendment of the Constitution he said was the most dangerous thing ever.

The same is true anywhere the First

Amendment is abused, it is the most dangerous thing ever.

And that is why I wrote the column under question because to not do so would allow a dangerous thing to be accepted. And I could not accept that. You should not either.

NUMBER EIGHT CANDIDATE: Considering the brouhaha over the First Amendment taking place here in Calhoun County and nationwide now I am going to nominate Mary Ann Barrows.

She will always be Mrs. Barrows to me even though she was the mother of one of my best friends and something of a mentor and role model to me as a kid growing up and much later until the day she passed away.

While I loved my mother very much and nobody could ever take her place, Mrs. Barrows was something of a surrogate mother teaching me a lot of things I would never have learned at home. Besides she made great cookies and a mean cheeseburger.

Sometimes when people got mad at her they called her a communist. She wasn’t but she was a diehard liberal, I was too back then. Years later when I changed politics and switched from liberal democrat to conservative Republican, she said she was afraid I would switch to the “dark side” but that never changed our relationship. Frankly, it never would.

Yes, she made me sports editor at a young age hiring me away from the Grantsville news where Milford Nichols had made me an even younger sports editor and printer’s devil. My best friend back then was Newton Nichols who ended up as a very good editor of the Calhoun Chronicle until health issues forced his retirement.

Due to my age my time as editor of the Calhoun Chronicle will probably be much shorter.

Mrs. Barrows time as editor of the Calhoun Chronicle was much longer – 40 years.

She did not win big awards as the editor during her tenure, but she was a fierce defender of the First Amendment and for 40 years the First Amendment was adhered to by Calhoun governmental bodies. Had it not those violating it would have had to have dealt with an iron-willed woman.

Didn’t happen and Calhoun’s weekly newspaper had things like community news from many different communities. It was something people from elsewhere found funny, but they read it, nonetheless. It was that kind of news, and I wish we still had those weekly reports.

She also had the Duck Feeders Fund which recognized people who donated money or duck food to feed a colony of ducks that had taken up residence on the Little Kanawha River near the west end of town.

I wish we still fed the ducks, but the Town of Grantsville has a law on the books – or had a law on the books since I really don’t know and don’t want blasted for misspeaking – forbidding people from feeding the pigeons. Times, it appears, have really changed.

Mrs. Barrows was proud of her work with The Chronicle. “I always tried to report what happened, but people would come in the next day and cancel their subscription,” she was quoted as saying in her obituary.

Also, in that story in The Hur Herald, it said: “She was very proficient at all aspects of running the newspaper - selling advertising, reporting stories, typesetting, doing the billing, and keeping up with the latest postal regulations. Sometime later, Mary Ann officially became the editor of The Chronicle.

“Recently, a notepad was found among her possessions. In it were her notes from a meeting where a hospital administrator was embroiled in a conflict. It was apparent that Mary Ann was proud of the work she had done to rid the hospital of an administrator who should not have been entrusted to that position.”

The Hur Herald story written by Bob Weaver continued “She told me a story about a local official she quoted in The Chronicle. The following day he angrily came to the office to cancel his subscription.

“She asked the man if he had been misquoted, stating she would be happy to make a correction. “It’s not that,” he said. “You’re a horse’s a - -”, after which he left to stick his head back in the office, saying “Besides, you’re a communist.”

“She said “I’d like to remember how many people canceled their subscriptions those 40 years,” stating she believed few of the incidents related to inaccurate reporting.

“I want you to be sure and come to my funeral,” she said. “You’re not planning on dying right away,” I responded. “No, but when you’ve been in the newspaper business as long as I have, I don’t expect many to show up.”

I showed up but she was right.

Until next time stay safe but don’t live life in a bubble.

The Calhoun Chronicle

and
The Grantsville News

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Calhoun Civil Air Patrol Squadron holds weekly meetings on Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at 413 High Street Grantsville, WV.

The First Baptist Calhoun Food Pantry on Route 5 E outside of Grantsville is a non-profit food pantry open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Community Resources Incorporated (CRI) Food Pantry: Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.- 4 p.m., with free USDA commodities to those who qualify (food pantry only) on Court Street.

Upper West Fork Park meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Calhoun County Park, a Night Sky Park, is always open - except for a special occasion or event that requires closing of the gate. The park board meets the 1st Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. in the park's "barn."

Calhoun County Historical Society meets at the Family History Center Museum (former Quality Shop) on Main Street on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

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. Online 24 hours at <https://calhouncountylibrary.org/>.

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

Minnora Methodist Mission Thrift Shop is open Mon & Wed 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Fri 10 - 1, providing affordable clothing and household items.

The Welfare of Animals Group (WAG) can assist low-income Calhoun County homes with 50% of their cat or dog spay/neuter fee. For information call 354-7042. Donations of dry cat food can be dropped off at Calhoun County Library, Grantsville.

The Grantsville Pickleball Club plays on Tuesday and Thursday nights in the Town Park at 7:00 p.m., weather permitting.

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

Mark your calendars for **Heartwood in the Hills Homecoming** on September 21, 2024 honoring 42 years of Celebrating the Artist in Every Person.

Lion's Club Bingo is held in the Lion's Club Building, 103 Stump St., Grantsville, on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 6 p.m.

Little Kanawha Calhoun Bus Schedule: Monday through Friday - Service within Grantsville city limits. Monday - Service to/from Annamoriah and Creston along Route 5 East/West. Tuesday - Service to/from Millstone, Arnoldsburg, Westfork, and locations south. Wednesday - Central county service to/from Mt. Zion, Russett, and Stumptown. Thursday - Roundtrip service along Route 16 North including Pleasant Hill, Nobe, Broomstick, and Big Springs. Roundtrip service from Grantsville to Parkersburg. Service between counties is available Monday-Friday to/from Grantsville. Call Toll-Free: 866-354-5522.

County Farmer's Markets
Calhoun County Farmer's Market, Upper West Fork Park, Chloe. Wednesdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m.,
Arnoldsburg Farmer's Market, West Fork Park, Arnoldsburg. Fridays 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Berea Gardens Drive Thru Farmer's Market, Berea Gardens, Minnora. Wednesdays 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Grantsville Farmer's Market, Season details not yet available.

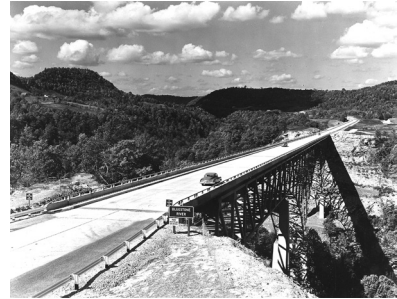
To add your community service information to this listing email contact@calhouncronicle.com.



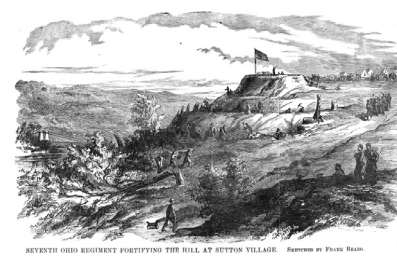
The West Virginia Encyclopedia
www.wvencyclopedia.org

Contact: Stan Bumgardner • bumgardner@wvhumanities.org • 304-346-8500

Aug. 29, 1952: A groundbreaking ceremony was held in Mercer County to mark the beginning of construction of the West Virginia Turnpike. Initially, most of the turnpike was just two lanes because officials believed revenues would be too low to finance four lanes.



Aug. 30, 1862: Confederate raiders under the command of General Albert G. Jenkins attacked and occupied Buckhannon, where they captured 20 prisoners and 5,000 stands of small arms.



Aug. 31, 1945: The USS West Virginia led American battleships into Tokyo Bay two days before the formal surrender of Japan on September 2, 1945.



Sept. 1, 1777: Fort Henry, located at what is now Wheeling, was attacked by Indians for the first time during the Revolutionary War. Nearly half the militia were lured outside the post and killed.



Sept. 1, 1907: Walter Phillips Reuther was born to German immigrant parents in Wheeling. Reuther was a founder of the modern labor movement and a long-time president of the United Auto Workers.



Sept. 1, 1921: By this date during the Battle of Blair Mountain, miners had captured half of the 25-mile mountain ridge and were ready to descend upon Logan. President Warren Harding placed the strike zone under martial law and ordered federal troops and a squadron of bomber aircraft into

the state.
Sept. 2, 1722: Frontiersman William Crawford was born in present Jefferson County. He was a farmer, soldier, surveyor and the land agent of George Washington.



Sept. 3, 1890: West Virginia Wesleyan College opened in Buckhannon as the West Virginia Conference Seminary. In that first year, 201 men and women undertook a largely preparatory school curriculum. Gradually the school added college-level studies and awarded its first five degrees in 1905.



Sept. 3, 1966: President Lyndon B. Johnson dedicated the Summersville Dam and Lake. Summersville Lake (now State Park), located on the Gauley River in Nicholas County. It is West Virginia's largest lake, with 2,790 surface acres at summer pool stage and 60 miles of shoreline.

Sept. 4, 1862: General Albert G. Jenkins and his men crossed the Ohio River and became the first to raise the Confederate flag on Ohio soil.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 1

tion said:
Calhoun County Schools will now provide daily phone notifications to households that have absent students.

There will be a Meghan's Law/FERPA Parent-Volunteer training offered. This training will take place at CMHS. All coaches and volunteers must receive this training before they may participate. If you have any questions or would like further info, please feel free to reach out to Charlotte Squires at 304-354-6148 ext. 218, or email Charlotte.Squires@k12.wv.us.

Just a reminder that activity buses do not run on Fridays.

Check out the latest menus and discover the importance of nutritious meals by visiting this link: [School Menus] (<https://boe.calhoun.k12.wv.us/.../document.../menus/525094>). Please note that menus are subject to change, so be sure to check back regularly for updates.

We have a new Parent Portal that gives you better access to your child's grades and educational records. This new portal will replace LiveGrades.

To get started, please send in the email addresses of everyone who needs access. Make sure to include these email addresses in your back-to-school packets. Our

secretaries will need a little time to set everything up, so thanks for your patience. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to the secretary or principal at your child's school.

"Last year, I set out on a mission to revamp our student handbook, and I couldn't have done it without your valuable input," assistant superintendent Jeannie Bnnett-Yoak said, "I reached out for suggestions on Facebook, in meetings, and more, striving to create a handbook that is easy to read, comprehensive, and informative. Thanks to all who shared their ideas!"

"Remember, this is a working document, so things are always changing and being added. What do you think? Is there anything you feel needs to be included? Your feedback is crucial as we continue to make this resource better for everyone."

The first four students to be highlighted by Superintendent Michael Fitzwater are Carter Vanhooose at Pleasant Hill Elementary, Lydia Hill at Arnoldsburg Elementary School, Kevin Wilson at Calhoun Middle School and Logan Tingler at Calhoun High School.

The students are interviewed by Fitzwater with the interviews posted on the internet.

BOARD

Continued from Page 1

Kayla Bain
Debra Smith
Jessica Fitzwater
Resignations Service
1. Lisa Hawkins, Multi-Classified Aide II/Bus Aide/Supervisory Aide/Specialized Healthcare Procedures/ECCAT, 2nd Grade, AES effective 8/18/24
2. Alisha Laughlin, Substitute Multi-Classified Aide II/Bus Aide/Supervisory Aide/Specialized Healthcare Procedures effective 8/20/24
Professional
1. Angela Sims, After School Site Coordinator, PHE Job ID 26761
2. Adam O'harrow, After School Fitness & Health Training Teacher, CMHS Job ID 28562
Service
1. Jessica Snodgrass, Multi-Classified Aide II/

Bus Aide/Supervisory Aide/Specialized Healthcare Procedures/ECCAT, Kindergarten PHE, Job ID 29257 effective August 21, 2024
2. Madison Gerlach, Multi-Classified Aide II/Bus Aide/Supervisory Aide/Specialized Healthcare Procedures, CMHS Job ID 29107
3. Sierra McCormick, Secretary III, CMHS Job ID 29341
A recent request was made for suggestions to rename the Sports Complex of Calhoun Middle High School. A motion by Board Member, Mitchell Morgan was put forth and seconded by Jason Arnold to rename the complex in honor of Former Coach Mike Stump.
Michelle Stump, daughter of Mike Stump, provided information of the stats and multiple honors

that her father had been given locally and nationally. She told the School Board members that she believed her father should be honored by the school for his many contributions to the school and community.
Superintendent Fitzwater said that he too believed that Mike Stump should be recognized in some way because of the lives he has touched across the State. After discussion the matter was tabled for a later meeting with Fitzwater stating that this was a conversation starter and that the school has had many stakeholders who have contributed throughout the years that should also be recognized by putting their names to events and areas within the sporting complex.
The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.
Future Board Meeting



Mike Stump is a National High School Wrestling Hall of Fame coach.

Dates:
• September 16, 2024, (Regular Meeting), Board of Education 5:30 p.m.
• October 14, 2024, (Work Session) Arnoldsburg Elementary School, 4:30 p.m.
• October 14, 2024, (Regular/LSIC) Arnoldsburg Elementary School, 5:30 p.m.
• November 12, 2024, (Regular/LSIC) Pleasant Hill Elementary

Horse Show Results for August 3rd

The West Fork Riding Club ring was in great shape. Special thanks to the gate crew, ring crew, and gate admission crew. A great big thanks to Rita Blevins for the goodies for the cake walk and feeding us in the booth. We love you, Rita. Show results for August 3rd show are:

1. Open halter: 1st Lexi Williams with Hit by Lighting, 2nd Haven Bland with A Passion for Generations, 3rd Amber Byrd with Signatures Moonlight Jewel, 4th Melissa Winebrenner with Heath, 5th Carissa Sands with Jackson, 6th Camry Parsons with Henry, Participation: Sadie McGlothlin with Gus and Ella Groff with Gunner

2. Lead Line: Kaycee Conley with Satin, Xavier Lyons with Sissy, Carson Bailey with Punky, Camry Bailey with Silver, Grayson Starcher with Captain, Isaac Starcher with Shadow, All are winners.

3. Costume Class: 1st Vivianne Bruffey with Ghost, 2nd Katy Winebrenner with Heath

4. Pee Wee Poles: 1st Braylea McKown with Mae, 2nd Ally Dobbins with Punky, 3rd Bentley McCumbers with Ghost, 4th Jesalynn Peters with Sid, 5th Iris Miller with Sunny, 6th Xavier Lyons with Sissy, Participation: Camry Bailey with Punky, Ella Groff with Gunner, Gabe Lilly with Hollywood Playtime, Katy Winebrenner with Heath, and Carissa Sands with Jackson

5. Juvenile Poles: 1st Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 2nd Mariah Frederick with TC, 3rd Jamie Sinclair with Zip, 4th Holli Harper with Sissy, 5th Alyssa Wilson with Conner, 6th Lexi Williams with Zeke

6. Open Poles: 1st Jamie Sinclair with Zip to Mi Lou, 2nd Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 3rd Mariah Frederick with TC, 4th Braylea McKown with Mae, 5th Clarice Page with Petey, 6th Holli Harper with Sissy, Participation: Lexi Williams with Zeke, Camry Parsons with Petey, Bentley McCumbers with Ghost, Jesalynn Peters with Jack Daniels, Melissa Winebrenner with Heath, and Christa Kirk with Hollywoods Playtime

7. Pop Drink: 1st Carrisa Sands & Jesalynn Peters with Sid, 2nd Holli Harper & Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 3rd Cassi Dobbins & Lauren Lovejoy with Captain 4th Brittany Lamb & Bradley Lamb with Satin 5th Camry Parsons & Bentley McCumbers with Ghost, 6th Ally Dobbins & Grayson Starcher with Punky, Participation: Camry Bailey & Isaac Starcher with Shadow, Maci Jarrell & Vivianne Bruffey with Ghost Petey, Lexi Williams with Zeke, and Ella Groff with Gunner

8. Flag Race: 1st Christa Kirk with Hollywoods Playtime, 2nd Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 3rd Holli Harper with Sissy, 4th Bentley McCumbers with Ghost, 5th Allianna Hill with Sid, 6th Jesalynn Peters with Jack Daniels, Participation: Ally Dobbins with Punky, Grayson Starcher with Shadow, Camry Bailey with Punky, Isaac Starcher with Shadow, Braylea McKown with Mae, Camry Parsons with

9. Potato Drop: 1st Ella Groff with Gunner 2nd Braylea McKown with Mae,

3rd Jesalynn Peters with Jack Daniels, 4th Lexi Williams with Zeke, 5th Bentley McCumbers with Ghost, 6th Allianna Hill with Sid, Participation: Camry Bailey with Punky, Ally Dobbins with Punky, Katie Elkins with Maggie, Issac Starcher with Shadow, Maci Jarrell with Arie, Vivianne Bruffey with Ghost, Iris Miller with Sunny, Xavier Lyons with Sissy, Kaycee Coley with Satin, Grayson Starcher with Shadow, and Katy Winebrenner with Heath

10. Stick Horse Race: These guys are all winners, Layla O'Harrow with Sadie, Chase Parsons with Lightning, Charlotte Bain with Speedy, Natalie Fulks with Scout, and Korrah Reip with Gus

11. Pee Wee Barrels: 1st Braylea McKown with Mae, 2nd Bentley McCumbers with Petey, 3rd Ella Groff with Gunner, 4th Xavier Lyons with Sissy, 5th Jesalynn Peters with Sid, 6th Kallah Carissa Sands with Jackson, Maci Jarrell with Arie, and Ally Dobbins with Punky

12. Juvenile Barrels: 1st Holli Harper with Sissy, 2nd Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 3rd Mirah Frederick with TC, 4th Alyssa Wilson with Conner, Participation: Lexi Williams with Zeke

13. Open Barrels: 1st Christa Kirk with Hollywoods Playtime, 2nd Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 3rd Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 4th Jamie Sinclair with Zip, 5th Mirah Frederick with TC 6th Braylea McKown with Mae Participation: Clarice Page with Petey, Alyssa Wilson with Connor, Bentley McCumbers with Petey, Allianna Hill with Sid, Jesalynn Peters with Jack Daniels, and Lexi Williams with Zeke

14. \$100.00 Barrels: Only pays first place 1st Brianna Harrison with Hazel, Participation: Holli Harper with Sissy, i Jamie Sinclair with Zip, Lexi Williams with Zeke, Jesalynn / Peters with Jack Daniels, Bentley McCumbers with Petey, Christa Kirk with Hollywoods Playtime, Braylea McKown with Mae, and Clarice Page with Petey,

15. Straight Barrels: 1st Christa Kirk with Hollywoods Playtime, 2nd Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 3rd Holli Harper with Sissy, 4th Braylea McKown with Mae, 5th Clarice Page with Petey, 6th Lexi Williams with Zeke, Participation: Bentley McCumbers with Petey, Ella Groff with Gunner, Camry Parsons wit Petey, Ally Dobbins with Punky, Jesalynn Peters with Sid, Camry Bailey with Punky, and Iris Miller with Sunny

16. Open Trail: 1st Haven Bland with A Passion for Generations, 2nd Gabe Lilly with Hollywoods Playtime, 3rd Camry Bailey with Captain, 4th Katie Winebrenner with Heath 5th Melissa Winebrenner with Heath, 6th Ella Groff with Gunner, Participation: Camry Parsons with Henry, Jockey Cutshall with Maggie, Bentley McCumbers with Petey, Ally Dobbins with Punky, Brittany Lamb with Satin, and Holli Harper Sissy

17. Pee Wee Pleasure: 1st Emma Frail with Shadow's Lucky Clover, 2nd Ella Groff with Gunner, 3rd Kinley Williams with Bucks Golden Dream, 4th Iris Miller with Sunny 5th Jesalynn Peters with Sid, 6th Vivianne Bruffey with

Ghost, Participation: Ally Dobbins with Captain, and Carissa Sands on Jackson

18. Open Western Pleasure: 1st Ella Groff with Sunny, 2nd Jesalynn Peters with Jack Daniels, 3rd Alyssa Wilson with Connor, 4th Holli Harper with Sissy, 5th Jamie Sinclair with Zip to Mi Lou,

19. Juvenile Pleasure: 1st Gavin Lindenthal with Why Not Me, 2nd Brylynn Scarbro with I'm Just An Illusion, 3rd, Lauren Lovejoy with Socks, 4th Lexi Williams with Spud, 5th Haven Bland with A Passion for Generations, 6th Mariah Frederick with TC, Participation: Camry Parsons with Henry and Brianna with Captain

20. Spotted Saddle Horse: 1st Harley Mace with I'm Armed and Charmed, 2nd Brylynn Scarbro with I'm Just An Illusion, 3rd Emma Frail with Shadow's Lucky Clover, 4th Lorrie Smith with Silverado, 5th Olivia Patterson with Music City Queen, 6th Lexi Willias with Spud, Participation: Camry Parsons with Henry

21. Walk/Trot: 1st Ella Groff with Gunner, 2nd Iris Miller with Sunny, 3rd Crystal Lyons with Sissy, 4th Jesalynn Peters with Jack Daniels, 5th Clarice Page with Petey, 6th Ally Dobbins with Punky, Participation: Brianna Dobbins with Captain

22. Pee Wee Marshmallow Race: 1st Bentley McCumbers with Petey, 2nd Allianna Hill with Sid, 3rd Ella Groff with Gunner, 4th Iris Miller with Sunny, 5th Jesalynn Peters with Sid 6th Maci Jarrell with Arie, Participation: Katie Elkins with Maggie, Xavier Lyons with Sissy, Abby Morgan with Petey, Camry Bailey with Punky, Kallah Reip with Kota, Vivianne Bruffey with Ghost, Grayson Starcher with Shadow, Issac Starcher with Shadow, Ally Dobbins with Punky, and Katy Winebrenner with Heath

23. Marshmallow Race: 1st Clarice Page with Petey, 2nd Camry Parsons with Petey 3rd Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 4th Lexi Williams with Zeke, 5th Holli Harper with Sissy 6th Katie Elkins with Maggie, Participation: Holli Harper with Arrow

24. Stock Race: 1st Holli Harper with Sissy, 2nd Christa Kirk with Hollywoods Playtime, 3rd Brianna Harrison with Hazel, 4th Lexi Williams with Zeke, 5th Mariah Frederick with TC, 6th Bentley McCumbers with Petey, Participation: Holli Harper with Arrow, Jesalynn Peters with Jack Daniels, and Camry Parsons with Petey

25. Slow Pace: 1st Lorrie Smith with Jumbo, 2nd Brittany Lamb with Satin, 3rd Camry Parsons with Henry

26. Slow Rack: 1st Carrie Mace with Dollar's Chump Change, 2nd Gavin Lindenthal with Why Not Me, 3rd Amber Byrd with Signatures Moonlight Jewel, 4th Emma Frail with Shadow's Lucky Clover, 5th Oras Wade on Jolene, 6th Brylynn Scarbro with It's Her Time, Participation: Lexi Williams with Spud, Camry Parsons with Henry, Jesalynn Peters with Sid, and Kinley Williams with Bucks Golden Dream

27. Country Pleasure Rack: 1st Carrie Mace with Dollar's Chump Change, 2nd Brylynn Scarbro with It's Her Time, 3rd Amber Byrd with Signatures

Moonlight Jewel, 4th Lola Brown with Mr. Made in America, 5th Gavin Lindenthal with Why Not Me, 6th Lexi Williams with Spud

28. Ladies Pleasure: 1st Carrie Mace with Dollar's Chump Change, 2nd Lorrie Smith with Silverado, 3rd Brandee Allen with Hold My Halo, 4th Amber Byrd with Signatures Moonlight Jewel, 5th Lola Brown with Mr. Made in America, 6th Megan Bruffey with The Java Jazz. Participation: Olivia Patterson with Music City Queen, and Brittany Lamb with Satin

29. Gentleman's Pleasure: 1st John Allen with Hold My Halo, 2nd Harley Mace with I'm Armed and Charmed 3rd Oras Wade with Jolene, 4th Roger Chenoweth with Socks

30. Juvenile Pace/Rack: 1st Gavin Lindenthal with Why Not Me, 2nd Brylynn Scarbro with I'm Just An Illusion, 3rd Lexi Williams with Spud

31. Style Rack: 1st Carrie Mace with Dollar's Chump Change, 2nd Gavin Lindenthal with Why Not Me, 3rd Brandee Allen with Shadow's Lucky Clover

32. Country Open Fast: 1st Allen Miller with Second Hand Smoke, 2nd Lorrie Smith with Jumbo Jett

33. Trail Pleasure Rack: 1st Lola Brown with Mr. Made in America, 2nd Gavin Lindenthal with Why Not Me, 3rd Amber Byrd with Signatures Moonlight Jewel, 4th Oras Wade with Jolene, 5th Brylynn Scarbro with I's Just An Illusion, 6th Lexi Williams with Spud, Participation: Kinley Williams with Bucks Golden Dream

34. English Pleasure: Lauren Lovejoy on Socks, 2nd Jackie Allen with Cindy's Fancy Persuasion

35. Jack Benny and Lucille Ball: 1st Carrie Mace with Dollar's Chump Change, 2nd Lorrie Smith with Silverado, 3rd Lola Brown with Mr. Made in America, 4th Roger Chenoweth with Socks, 5th Amber Byrd with Signatures Moonlight Jewel, 6th Harley Mace with I'm Armed and Charmed, Participation: John Allen with Hold My Halo and Oras Wade with Jolene

36. Open Gaited Pleasure: 1st Brylynn Scarbro with Dollars Chump Change, 2nd Gavin Lindenthal with Why Not Me, 3rd Lorrie Smith with Silverado, 4th Emma Frail with Shadow's Lucky Clover, 5th Amber Byrd with Signatures Moonlight Jewel 6th Harley Mace with I'm Armed and Charmed, Participation: Brandee Allen with Hold My Halo, Lexi Williams with Spud, and Haven Bland with A Passion For Generations

37. Gaited Western Pleasure: 1st Lorrie Smith with Silverado, 2nd Carrie Mace with Dollar's Chump Change, 3rd Gavin Lindenthal with Why Not Me, 4th Lauren Lovejoy with Socks, 5th Amber Byrd with Signatures Moonlight Jewel, 6th Brandie Allen with Hold My Halo, Participation: Haven Bland with A Passion For Generations, and Emma Frail with Shadow's Lucky Clover

38. Open Fast Pace: 1st Allen Miller with Second Hand Smoke, 2nd Lorrie Smith with Jumbo Jett

Calhoun cross country season begins at Autumn Classic

The season has officially started with the Autumn Classic at St. Mary's High School.

Vada Barnhart: Medaled in the top 30, finishing 21st with a time of 15:20.34.

Braiden Ferrell: Medaled in the top 30, finishing 24th with a time of 13:06.14.

We have several athletes who are new to XC this year and every single one of them started off the season with great times and new PR's.

We had two athletes place in the top 30 in this meet, receiving a medal while their other teammates were not far behind.

Keep in mind there were 77 girls in the middle school girls race and 121 boys in the middle school boys' race.

Middle School Girls Race Highlights:

Brooke Tingler: Finished 36th with a time of 16:30.18, improving her time by an impressive 2 minutes!

Carissa Sands: Finished 37th with a time of 16:30.42, setting a personal record by shaving 11 seconds off last year's race.

Middle School Boys Race Highlights:

Eli Ferrell: Finished 34th with a time of 13:31.87.

Silas Cunningham: Finished 52nd with a time of 14:15.94.

Zac Smith: Finished 62nd with a time of 14:34.14.

Brody Rowe: Finished 119th with a time of 22:14.37.

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MILITARY APPRECIATION GAME

Calhoun County Red Devils vs Gilmer County Titans
7pm on Friday August 30th
at CMHS

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY INFORMATION

SEASON

Continued from Page 1

Still the Titans have more players and upper-classmen than the Red Devils.

Calhoun has 17 players on the football roster with one senior and the rest divided between sophomores and freshmen.

Logan Tingler is the senior and Landon Hardway the junior. The roster also includes sophomores Michael Arthur, Brennan Carpenter, Kristian Fredrick, Lance Grogg and Rome Riddel. Freshmen include Orion Swearingen, Evan Burch, Nic Butler, Camden Carpenter, Hoyt Helmick, Gavin Hicks, Michael McGuire, Kolton Persinger, Coby Staples and Tucker Sampson.

Friday's game is scheduled to get under way at 7 p.m. and will be preceded by a tailgate party. It will also be Military Appreciation Night with the teams paying homage to members of the military.

And, last but not least, the game will mark the return of coverage by Spencer radio station WVRC-FM with the game being streamed live on Facebook and YouTube with Tim Davis, Michael Fitzwater, Rick Fitzwater and Bob Bonar

Jr., handling the broadcasts. The sponsors are Minnie Hamilton Health System, Calhoun Banks and the Country Kitchen.

Following this week's game Calhoun is idle for one week before traveling to Elizabeth to play Wirt County the Red Devils actual oldest opponent as after playing Glenville Normal School (now Glenville State University) Marvin Cooper guided the Red Devils to a 57-0 victory over the Tigers on Oct. 27, 1923, or slightly over 100 years ago. As of now Calhoun has a record of 451-472-33 for a winning percentage of .490.

Gilmer on the other hand jumps out of the frying pan into the fire when it travels to powerhouse Doddridge County next Friday.

And the real good news in the very next day West Virginia University plays Penn State in Morgantown, Marshall entertains Stony Brook and Glenville State University travels to Emory and Henry College.

And, oh, yes, youth football takes us all over the place on Sunday plus there is that thing called the NFL.


Yes, King Football truly is back.

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Update on Lamp Post Project

According to Roger Propst, the Foundation has chosen a vendor for the lamppost project and placed an order for 61 poles, bases, and light fixtures. The poles and bases will arrive in days; the light fixtures could take 12 weeks.

The installation plan is to map out locations for all the lampposts and install all the posts into the bases. When the light fixtures arrive, we can install them quickly. The lamppost is the same model as the one in the photo on this post. The lamppost in the photo is nine feet high, the ones we have ordered are 12 feet high including the fixture.

Because we got a better deal from our vendor, we will also order accessories



for the posts such as arms to hang flags, flowers, seasonal decorations, and honor plaques.

Exciting times are near for this long-awaited project. Picture the streets of Grantsville with the lampposts installed and accenting the appearance of our quaint little town. I, for one, cannot wait.

Attorney General Morrissey's Mobile Office Sets September Stops for Mid-Ohio Valley

Attorney General Patrick Morrissey announced a representative from his office will meet with Mid-Ohio Valley residents in September to discuss consumer-related issues and answer any potential questions. "These public events are a great way for consumers to talk one-on-one with our consumer representatives," Attorney General Morrissey said. "Residents can easily learn what is going on in their area and how to keep personal information safe and secure." Brooke Albright, a consumer outreach and compliance specialist with the office, will host the events as scheduled below:

Sept. 10: 11 a.m. to noon – Pleasants County Courthouse, Commission Meeting Room, 301 Court Lane, St. Marys
 Sept. 12: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Vienna Senior Center, 706 29th St., Vienna
 Sept. 17: 11 a.m. to noon – Gilmer County Courthouse, Commission Meeting Room, 201 N. Court St., Glenville
 Sept. 24: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Ripley Senior Citizen Center, 121 S Ct St., Ripley
 For information on additional requirements specific to any location, attendees are encouraged to contact Brooke Albright at 304-777-9906. In case of inclement weather, please call ahead.

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Does Grantsville Really Need a Water Rate Increase? Abso-freakin'-lutely

The following appeared in Two Lane Living and was written by Lisa Minney.

For years, the Grantsville water plant has operated with a deficit, subsidized by other town accounts and funds. The Grantsville plant also treats the water collected and sells it wholesale to the Mt. Zion and Pleasant Hill Public Service Districts.

The editor of The Calhoun Chronicle recently claimed that the recently proposed Emergency Rate Increase of 60% will affect not only those residing in Grantsville but also those in the other PSD districts. This is incorrect, as those PSDs set their own rates by law. With this rate increase, the outlying PSDs and the town have negotiated a \$1 per 1000-gallon increase on the wholesale rates.

In addition, the editor of The Calhoun Chronicle has claimed that those living in Grantsville will be “hit by a larger sewer bill since the sewer bill is 150 percent of the water bill.” This is also untrue. Sewer rates are based on usage (gallons) and not cost (rates).

But does the town really NEED such a rate? Let’s compare the financials of the three PSDs.

Mt. Zion PSD 2024 Budget		
	Amount	
	Water	Sewer
Income	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
Audits - Ferrari	\$ (4,450.00)	\$ (4,450.00)
Gasoline	\$ (4,500.00)	
Insurance	\$ (6,360.00)	
Bond Insurance	\$ (250.00)	
ADP Payroll Fees 15/30 payroll	\$ (1,810.00)	
Waste Management	\$ (882.00)	
Utilities	\$ (24,500.00)	
Onsolve - One Call Now	\$ (150.00)	
Annual Report - Griffith & Associates	\$ (4,419.00)	\$ (4,419.00)
Chronicle - Notices	\$ (500.00)	
Legal Fees - Boyles Rice	\$ (8,000.00)	
Pace Analytical	\$ (3,400.00)	\$ (3,200.00)
Board Members Fee	\$ (3,600.00)	
Field Maintenance - mowing	\$ (3,000.00)	
WV Municipal Bond Commission (Water)	\$ (2,771.00)	
WV Municipal Bond Commission (Sewer)	\$ (826.80)	
Town of Grantsville	\$ (150,000.00)	
Salaries	\$ (80,000.00)	\$ (13,000.00)
USDA loan	\$ (57,624.00)	\$ (8,268.00)
WV Rural Water Membership	\$ (300.00)	
Maintenance	\$ (9,000.00)	
Office Expense	\$ (2,300.00)	\$ (300.00)
Postage	\$ (2,738.00)	
WV auditor	\$ (770.00)	
Payroll Taxes	\$ (13,000.00)	\$ (300.00)
	\$ 64,849.20	\$ 26,063.00

The Mt. Zion PSD budget is balanced and in the black. The average base water rate for users in that district is around \$44.00.

PHPSD EXPENSES

Income	\$	528,000.00
Utilities	\$	15,600.00
Calhoun Chronicle (Notices)	\$	382.00
Town of Grantsville	\$	192,000.00
USDA Loans	\$	59,820.00
WV Municipal Bond Commission	\$	1,693.20
Postage	\$	5,088.00
Gas	\$	8,500.00
Insurance	\$	11,000.00
ADP fees (payroll)	\$	850.00
Payroll	\$	85,000.00
Office Expenses	\$	30,000.00
One Call Now	\$	150.00
Pace Analytical (samples)	\$	1,500.00
Annual Report	\$	2,000.00
Audits	\$	3,500.00
Board Member Fees		4500
WV PSC	\$	1,270.07
Parts	\$	27,000.00

The Pleasant Hill PSD budget also stands in the black. The base rate for users in that region is \$31.48.

GRANTSVILLE WATER PLANT FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT

Income for fiscal year 2023	488,730.90
Expenses	
Bond Repayments	136,392.00
ADP Payroll Services	1,055.00
Payroll (3 full time, 3-1/3)	167,983.00
Retirement	16,607.00
Employee Insurance	27,463.00
Audits/Reports	7,746.00
Fuel	2,800.00
Miss Utility/Parts/Leak Repair/Office Supplies	14,313.00
City Insurance	15,898.00
Postal	1,171.00
Utilities/Power, Gas, Garbage	55,248.00
Chemicals/Testing	59,661.00
Permits	2,922.00
Vehicle Maintenance	200.00
PHPSD Tank Rental	3,000.00
Legal	10,000.00
RVS	500.00
Phone/Internet	5,080.00
Media	955.00
Total	543,709.00
Difference	(-54,978.00) deficit

The Grantsville water plant, which again, provides the other two PSDs with already-treated water, operates, in general, with a \$55,000 annual deficit. The base rate for users on the town water system is \$18.18 a month, with the increase raising the base rate to \$29.09, which is still lower than the cost to citizens served by the other PSDs.

“The water plant is sucking the life out of every other account,” Bob Petrovsky, mayor of Grantsville noted. “We’re just trying to pay the bills.”

There have also been efforts and talks to consolidate the three PSDs to become one. Petrovsky, who is interested and supportive of consolidation and working with the other PSDs, does have concerns. “We can’t consolidate and bring nothing but debt to the table,” he noted, saying the town is also working diligently to repair leaks within the town and prepare to be in

a financially healthier position in future consolidation discussions.

Is it fair for Grantsville residents to pay a lower rate than the outlying residents for the same water? Is it fair for the main water plant in the county to operate for years in debt when the outlying PSDs are dependent upon the central supply but doing well financially?

The Grantsville plant also carries the financial burden of repaying five USDA bonds for water plant and system upgrades, to the tune of \$136,392 per year — upgrades that benefit ALL who have water services.

But there is an effort, apparently NOT by the 1982 Foundation (but posted on their Facebook page by their Board President and offered centrally from their office on Main Street), to circulate a petition again, and again to stop this long overdue rate increase. (They have already succeeded in stop-

ping the increase once.)

Even with this rate increase, Grantsville could still experience an annual shortfall of about \$30,000 a year.

If the residents of Grantsville, and those serviced by Mt. Zion and Pleasant Hill wish to continue having reliable, well-treated water, why would they not support efforts to finally bring the Grantsville plant up to date, with repairs and properly certified and compensated technicians?

What do you think? Should the Grantsville water plant continue to decline physically and financially and risk the reliability and water quality provided to citizens? Or, should the citizens, despite the increase, support the efforts to maintain and operate the plant as a sound business that can provide reliable services?

Please share your thoughts, either here with me, or with the mayor and council members who have been beaten and berated off and on over the last several months on The Ridgeview News, in The Calhoun Chronicle, and on The 1982 Foundation Facebook page (which they are all blocked from seeing) for their attempts to bring the Grantsville water plant up to par.

These folks are trying to make improvements, as well as create a fiscally responsible budget to sustain and maintain the system. They need your support.

Thanks for reading Two-Lane Renaissance! This post is public so feel free to share it.

LEGAL

TOWN OF GRANTSVILLE

AN ORDINANCE SETTING FORTH THE RATES, FEES AND CHARGES FOR SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS OF THE WATER SYSTEM OF THE TOWN OF GRANTSVILLE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GRANTSVILLE: The following rates and charges are hereby fixed, determined and established for municipal water services provided to all customers of the Town of Grantsville’s Municipal Water Treatment Plant and Mt. Zion and Pleasant Hill PSD water sales, commencing upon the effective date as hereinafter provided, and in accordance with the following Rates and Schedules:

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Rules and Regulations for the Government of Water Utilities, adopted by the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, and now in effect, and all amendments thereto and modifications thereof hereafter made by said Commission.

SECTION - TARIFF

(Effective Immediately Upon Final Adoption)

APPLICABILITY

Applicable in the entire territory or area served.

AVAILABILITY OF SERVICE

Available for general domestic, commercial, industrial customers and sale for resale service.

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL RATES

First	2,000	gallons used per month	\$19.39 per 1000 gallons
Next	3,000	gallons used per month	\$18.14 per 1000 gallons
Next	5,000	gallons used per month	\$16.24 per 1000 gallons
All over	10,000	gallons used per month	\$13.82 per 1000 gallons

RESALE SERVICE RATE

\$6.37 per 1000 gallons

MINIMUM CUSTOMER CHARGE

5/8	inch meter	\$29.09 per month
3/4	inch meter	\$43.64 per month
1	inch meter	\$72.73 per month
1-1/2	inch meter	\$145.45 per month
2	inch meter	\$232.72 per month
3	inch meter	\$465.44 per month
4	inch meter	\$727.25 per month
No bill will be rendered for less than the following amount		\$29.09

DELAYED PAYMENT PENALTY

The above schedule is net. On all current usage billing not paid in full within twenty (20) days, after the billing date, ten percent (10%) will be added to the net current amount unpaid. This delayed payment is not interested and is only to be collected once for each bill where it is appropriate.

SECURITY DEPOSIT

Not to exceed two-twelfths (2/12) of the annual usage of the applicant’s specific customer class, or fifty (\$50.00), whichever is greater. This fee may be changed by applicable statutory provisions.

CONNECTION/TAP FEE

The connection fee shall be \$500.00 for each new water service line one inch and smaller, and shall include the tap of the main line, the service line from the main to the property line or curb stop, and the meter installation, including the meter pit or vault.

The connection fee for service larger than one inch shall be the actual cost of the installation, and shall include the tap of the main, the service line from the main to the property line, and the meter installation, including the meter pit or vault. Upon receipt of an application for a service connection larger than one inch, the utility will provide an estimate of actual cost, which amount must be deposited by the applicant in advance of installation. Upon completion of the installation, a final settlement of the actual installation cost will be prepared and submitted for payment to the applicant. The amount of payment due will be reduced by the amount of the advance deposit. In the event of an excess in the amount deposited over the actual installation cost, the amount of excess will be promptly refunded to the applicant.

DISCONNECTION FEE

If any bill is not paid within sixty (60) days after the due date, water service to the customer will be discontinued. Water will not be restored until past due water bills have been paid in full and all accrued penalties plus a reconnection charge have been paid.

RECONNECTION FEE

There shall be a \$30.00 reconnection charge for a re-established service.

An incremental charge of \$1.46 per 1,000 gallons per month shall be charged for all water billed in excess of the customer’s historic usage for a water leak that is determined by the Public Service Commission to be eligible for an adjustment of the water service charge.

READ METER AT CUSTOMER REQUEST

Customer shall remit an amount equal to the estimated cost incurred, but not less than \$25.00.

RETURNED CHECK RATE

If a check is returned by the bank for any reason, the bank’s charge to the utility shall be the utility’s charge to the customer for such a bad check, but such charge to customers shall not exceed \$30.00.

SECTION 2 - TARIFF EFFECTIVE DATE

The rates, changes and penalties provided herein shall become effective immediately upon final adoption as provided herein, or as soon thereafter as the same may be approved by the Public Service Commission of West Virginia. The 45-day waiting period required by WV Code §24-2-4B is waived pursuant to WV Code §24-24B(b) as the Town is in financial distress such that the 45-day waiting period would be detrimental to the ability of the utility to deliver continued and compliant public services. The rate increase will take effect for service rendered on or after the effective date.

SECTION 3 - SEVERABILITY; REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and if any clause, provisions or section hereof shall be held void or unenforceable by the West Virginia Public Service Commission or any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance. Upon the effective date hereof, all ordinances, resolutions, orders or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflicts, hereby repealed, and to the extent that the provisions of this Ordinance do not touch upon the provisions of prior ordinances, resolutions, orders or parts thereof, the same shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4 - STATUTORY NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING

At least one week before the meeting at which this ordinance is to be adopted, the Town shall cause notice of the proposed adoption of the Ordinance to be published as a Class 1-0 legal advertisement in compliance with WV Code §59-3-1 *et seq.*, in the Calhoun Chronicle, a qualified newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Grantsville. The notice shall state the subject matter and general title(s) of the ordinance, the date, time and place of the final vote on adoption, and the place(s) within the municipality where the Ordinance may be inspected by the public.

The notice shall also advise that interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the Ordinance. Following the hearing, Council shall take such action as it shall deem proper. Copies of this Ordinance shall be available to the public for inspection at the office of the Town Recorder, of Grantsville, West Virginia.

Notice of the Ordinance must also be provided in a bill notice that must be received by customers at least 5 days prior to the public meeting at which the Ordinance will be adopted.

First Reading: 8-12-24

Second Reading:

And Public Hearing:

TOWN OF GRANTSVILLE, a municipal corporation
Mayor: Robert Petrovsky
Recorder: Judy Powell

LEGAL

The Calhoun County Commission is seeking individuals interested in becoming a member of the Calhoun County Civil Service Commission. If interested, please email Commission President Arthur at caarthur_3@yahoo.com by August 30, 2024.

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE

August 20, 2024

The West Virginia Health Care Authority announced that it has received a Letter of Intent from VCG Luna, LLC, CON File #24-5-13068-A, to become the sole member of Housecalls Home Health and Hospice, LLC and to provide services in Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt, and Wood counties in WV. Capital expenditure is \$2,624,920.

Further information regarding the Letter of Intent, including the Certificate of Need application when submitted, is on the Authority’s website at www.hca.wv.gov.

LEGAL

Health Resources and Services Administration NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT For MHHS - Expansion and Renovation Phase 2

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508) and the HHS General Administration Manual Part 30 Environmental Protection (February 25, 2000), HRSA has determined that the Expansion and Renovation proposed by Minnie Hamilton Health System will have no significant adverse impact on the quality of the environment. As a result of this FONSI, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provides discretionary grant and cooperative agreement awards to support health centers expand their capacity to provide primary and preventive health care services to medically underserved populations nationwide.

Minnie Hamilton Health System in Grantsville, WV, has applied for HRSA grant funding. The applicant proposes to use grant funds to construct a two-story addition and renovate parts of the existing facility located at 186 Hospital Dr., Grantsville, WV. The applicant has submitted an Environmental Assessment (EA) that documents impacts of the proposed action. This EA is incorporated by reference into this FONSI. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Assessment for this project, which is on file at the following address for public examination upon request between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Minnie Hamilton Health System
186 Hospital Dr
Grantsville, WV 26147
Attn: Stephanie Deem
Phone: (304) 354-9731

No further environmental review of this project is proposed prior to final approval from HRSA.

Public Comments

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on these projects may submit written comments to Minnie Hamilton Health System, Attn: Stephanie Deem, Executive Assistant, at the above referenced address.

HRSA will consider all comments received within 15 days of this “Notice” prior to final approval from HRSA.

Gov. Justice announces two anglers catch record black crappies on same day at Woodrum Lake



Lindell Marker



Mark Priestly

WVDNR reports eighth record-breaking catch of 2024

Gov. Jim Justice announced that the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) has reported that two anglers fishing together on Aug. 8 caught state-record black crappie, setting records for both length and weight. "I'm thrilled to celebrate this unprecedented fishing achievement and hope these new benchmarks inspire anglers from all over to come and explore West Virginia's world-class fishing opportunities," said Gov. Jim Justice. At 7:30 a.m., Lindell Marker of Sod, W.Va., caught a 17.36-inch black crappie, surpassing the previous length record of 17.32 inches set by Craig Webb, also at Woodrum Lake. Marker's catch tied the existing weight record of 2.85 pounds, also held by Webb. At 8:45 a.m., Dwight Priestley of Alum Creek, W.Va., caught a 17.76-inch, 3.15-pound black crappie that surpassed Marker's shortly held record and set new records for length and weight. Both fish were certified by WVDNR Fisheries Biologist Cory Hartman. These record-breaking crappies were caught using live minnows.

"These new records are a testament to the incredible fishing opportunities at Woodrum Lake," said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion. "We are thrilled to celebrate these outstanding achievements by Lindell Marker and Dwight Priestley. Their catches not only set new benchmarks but also highlight the quality of our state's fisheries." With these catches, the WVDNR has reported eight record-breaking catches so far in 2024. A record-breaking channel catfish was caught in Wayne County in July, a record-breaking black crappie and redear sunfish were caught at Woodrum Lake in Jackson County and Plum Orchard Lake in Fayette County in June, and a record-breaking redbreast sunfish and tiger trout were caught at New Creek Lake in Grant County in February. To learn more about state fish record categories, visit WVdnr.gov/state-records. All anglers 15 and older must have a West Virginia fishing license, which can be purchased online at WVfish.com. Anglers are reminded that a trout stamp is required when fishing for trout. They are also encouraged to upgrade their fishing experience by opting for a physical license card when they purchase their 2024 fishing license.

DROUGHT

Continued from Page 1

sustain the river through December of 2024 with drought conditions continuing. In the fall of the year, when temperatures change, the lake will overturn. The water on top gets dense due to the lower temperature and sinks to the bottom. The water at the bottom is low on dissolved oxygen, creating a poorer quality of water. This will be resolved by changing the level of water they discharge from the lake which will keep the water quality up in the river. Grantsville should not be negatively affected, so long as we receive rain by December. All this came on top of Gov. Jim Justice extending the statewide State of Emergency for an additional 30 days due to a shortage of rainfall that has caused drought conditions. Gov. Justice also reminds agencies to utilize the Emergency Drought Relief Reimbursement Grant Program, which provides financial assistance to those helping secure

and distribute irrigation and livestock water supplies in counties experiencing severe or extreme drought conditions. "This drought continues to plague our farmers, so we're extending our State of Emergency to help get water to those who are in desperate need," Gov. Justice said. "Our farmers are truly the backbone of our state, and we understand the level of stress they're experiencing because of these extreme conditions. We will not watch our hardworking farmers suffer because of uncontrollable factors. What we can control, however, is making sure they have the resources to get through this tough time. Our public agencies are working hard to deliver water, as needed. Our Emergency Management Division and the Department of Agriculture are working hard to secure disaster assistance. We are all pulling the rope together to get through this time. I promise, we will get through it together."



New migratory fowl hunting regulations announced

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources announced that new hunting regulations and season dates for migratory game birds will go into effect on Sept. 1 in accordance with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's annual guidelines. The 2024-2025 migratory game bird seasons are scheduled as follows:
 Mourning dove: Sept. 1 to Oct. 13, Nov. 4-17, Dec. 16 to Jan. 17
 Sora and Virginia rail: Sept. 1 to Nov. 9
 Wilson's snipe: Sept. 1 to Dec. 16
 Early Canada goose: Sept. 1-15
 Canada goose, white-fronted geese, snow and blue goose: Oct. 1-20, Nov. 11-16, Dec. 9 to Jan. 31
 Duck, coots and merganser: Oct. 1-14, Nov. 11-16, Dec. 23 to Jan. 31
 Scaup: Oct. 1-14, Nov. 11-16, Dec. 23 to Jan. 11, Jan. 12-31
 Gallinules: Oct. 1-14, Dec. 7 to Jan. 31
 Woodcock: Oct. 12 to Nov. 23 and Dec. 2-5
 Brant: Jan. 2-31
 Hunters are also encouraged to take note of the two youth waterfowl season dates,

which are scheduled for Sept. 21 and Nov. 9. Federal regulations require all licensed migratory bird hunters, including lifetime license holders and senior citizens, to register with the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program and carry proof of registration while hunting. HIP cards are free and available at all hunting license agents and online at WVhunt.com. Waterfowl hunters 16 years and older must also possess a federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, also known as a duck stamp, which must be signed by the hunter across the stamp's face. Duck stamps can be purchased from your local post office, by calling 800-782-6724 or by going to USPS.com/shop. Hunters are reminded to report harvested banded birds online at reportband.gov. For more information about West Virginia's migratory game bird seasons, hunters should consult the 2024-2025 West Virginia Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations summary, available at WVdnr.gov/hunting-regulations.

64th Ox Roast at Mount Zion Park



Some scenes from the Mt. Zion Community Park at the 64th Ox Roast on Saturday.