



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, September 12, 2024

Grantsville town council unanimously approves second reading of 60 per cent water rate increase

By Gaylen Duskey

There were some explosions along the way but when it came down to the main event it was straightforward and unanimous

And with that the Grantsville Town Council had its second reading of a large water rate hike – about 60 per cent – and a unanimous 5-0 affirmative vote by council members Tuesday night (Sept. 3, 2024).

But before that there were some fireworks.

Mayor Robert Petrovsky addressed what he called “misinformation” on social media and the public petitions to deny the rate increase. He defended the proposed rate increase request by stating that the town had a shortfall of \$54,000 for the previous year which would not allow them to continue sustainability.

When asked as to why the public had never been given this information, he and the council stated that the information had been made known on several occasions by the Town of Grantsville during their previous meetings.

When questioned as to why they didn’t make the media aware of their meetings they informed Gaylen Duskey, the Calhoun Chronicle Editor and Shari Johnson, Ridgeview News Publisher, that they did everything within their legal right so far as making the public aware.

An earlier request for financial documents was met with the response that the town couldn’t release them because they were presently incorrect, but local accountant Doug Westfall would be helping the town make sense of it all.

When asked how far in the hole the Town of Grantsville was, the mayor told the standing room only crowd the town was currently \$280,000 in the hole because of the inflation, lack of previous maintenance and years of financial deficits.

Some who have questioned the town’s transparency, asked why the customers were never made to be aware



Council meeting

of the town’s fiscal condition, for which the council once again defended itself by stating that “everyone knew” who wanted to know.

The Ridgeview News disagreed only to have the mayor say the Ridgeview News wasn’t anything more than a blog, and he was under no obligation to inform it of anything.

In other action:

An unofficial request to table the vote on the rate increase because of confusion surrounding it was denied.

James Rymer of the West Virginia Public Service Commission (who had recommended a 78.5% increase) spoke several times throughout the meeting in defense of the

Town of Grantsville’s request for the 60 per cent increase and the mayor’s work toward the operating and maintenance agreement with the Mt. Zion Public Service District and Pleasant Hill Public Service District.

Robin Mersh of the 1982 Foundation addressed the city council regarding the installation of a new meter on the 1982 Foundation property as well as the running of lines.

Town resident Mary Mullinax brought sidewalk damage needing repaired to the town’s attention, to which the mayor responded that “they” targeted areas of need and would address hers when they had opportunity.

The next town council meeting should be held Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. at the town hall according to the town’s website.

Boundaries between commission and city council raises questions

Courtesy Ridgeview News

Talks about combining Calhoun’s three public service districts and the beginning of talks about combining the county government and the town government into a metro government got under way at the Monday Calhoun Commission meeting.

The commission met for their regularly scheduled meeting with all three commissioners present -- President Craig Arthur, Kevin Helmick and Roger Propst.

Hiring a county administrator-grant writer was hotly discussed but tabled again by the commission awaiting further

feedback.

Commissioner Helmick expressed his disapproval of the person hired being housed in the commission office without being supervised. He suggested after having a conversation with Grantsville Mayor Robert Petrovsky that the county consider an offer for free office space, half of the salary being paid by the town in exchange for half of the use of the administrator-grant writer.

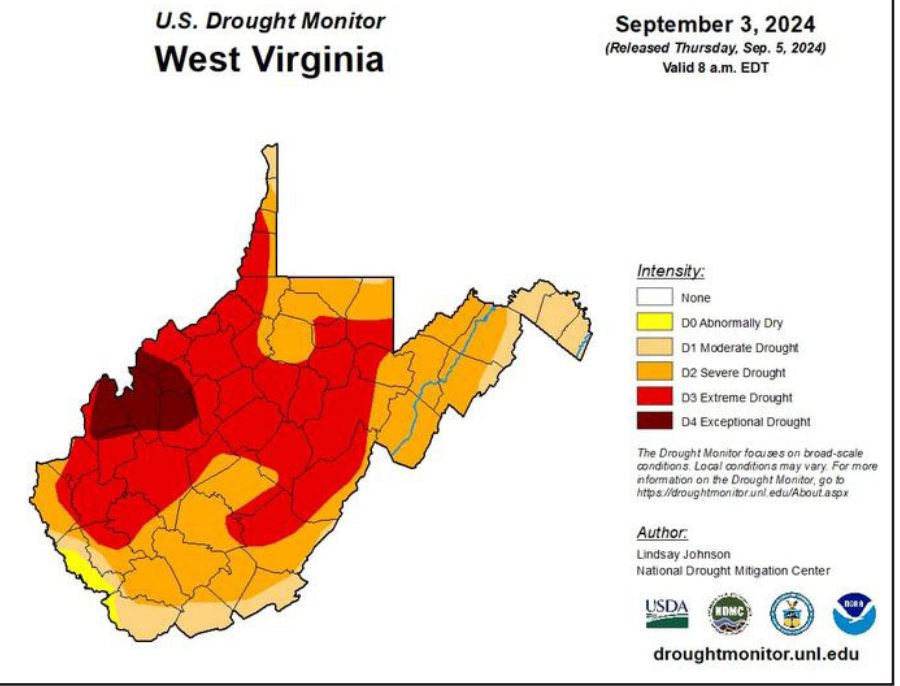
Calhoun businessman and commission candidate Eric Lupardus informed the commission that he had recently met

COMMISSION cont. on page 4

Meet the candidates

The Calhoun Chronicle plans to have a “meet the candidate” forum for all our local candidates before the election and invite every candidate to send us a 300-word letter with your qualifications, accomplishments and plans to contact@calhouncronicle.com. Also include your picture.

Drought not broken despite some rain and cooler conditions



By Gaylen Duskey

Is the drought broken?
 No.

Despite some rain and cooler temperatures, the drought affecting Calhoun and surrounding counties is not broken although it may have abated a bit from a D-4 condition to a D-3 condition.

Or maybe not.

Currently the Mid-Ohio Valley is either D4 (exceptional drought) or D3 (extreme drought) and either designation triggers a whole lot of governmental action and pro-

grams.

For instance, the WVU Extension is hosting a “Drought Management” educational workshop on the ongoing drought in Ripley at the Jackson County Regional Livestock Market at 3907 Cedar Lakes Road.

The meeting is a cooperative effort of WVU Extension, Farm Service Agency, WV Conservation Districts, The Natural Resource Conservation Service and Jackson County Regional Livestock Market.

Because of the prolonged drought con-

DROUGHT cont. on page 10

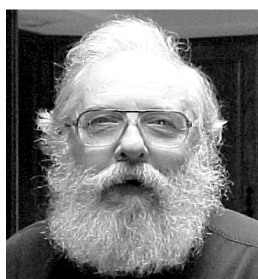
Cheering on the Pioneers



Grantsville resident Grace Vincent cheers from atop a pyramid Saturday during the Glenville State-Lockhaven football game at Morris Stadium. Despite the best efforts of the freshman graduate of Calhoun High School Lockhaven beat the Pioneers 31-9. She is the daughter to Tim and Lainey Moore.

CRESTON NEWS

BY ALVIN ENGELKE
PHONE 275-3578



Why I walked out of the town council meeting and the aftermath

by Gaylen Duskey

Yes, I spoke up then got up and walked out of the Grantsville Town Council meeting because I was afraid the give-and-take between Mayor Robert Petrovsky, and I was about to become too personal, and I did not want that.

Frankly I like the mayor personally and I think he has done a lot of good for the town. But I disagree with him when it comes to holding open government meetings and publishing meeting agendas before the meetings are held.

But that is not the way the discussion seemed to be going so I decided it was better to exit the meeting.

I had asked the council table voting on the second reading of a rate hike and the mayor said that was not going to happen. It would have been fine had it ended there but it did not seem like it was going to happen.

That is sad it cannot be just on the issues and not on the people involved in the discussion.

My apologies to everyone and in particular the mayor.

I am sorry.

I wrote that after the meeting Tuesday night.

Wednesday morning, I met the mayor and apologized.

We shook hands and he said, “we’re good.”

And we are. We won’t always agree and that’s OK. But there is no personal animosity and that is much better.

And that’s the way it should be, especially in a small town.

Still if I think any governmental entity is not following the open meeting or sunshine laws, I will call them on because governing in secret is no way to govern. At least not in America.

And for what it is worth I am in favor of connecting the three water districts – Grantsville, Mount Zion and Pleasant Hill – into something of a co-operative as is now being discussed.

But to go one step further I am also in favor of forming a metro government – combining the town and county governments to a degree – and hiring a county administrator (a professional person) to manage operations and handle grant writing, the budget, purchases and the like.

I am sure whatever the salary of that person would be it would be more than covered by the money that would be saved and the grants that would be coming our way.

We have reached the point where we need professional leadership, especially with many of the changes and growth that are in our future.

To not follow this path would not be prudent.

SOME THINGS WE PLAN TO DO: We (The Calhoun Chronicle) want to have a “meet the candidate” forum for all our local candidates before the election and invite every candidate to send us a 300-word (or thereabouts) letter with your qualifications, accomplishments and plans to contact@calhouncronicle.com. Also include your picture.

We would like to publish these profiles either later this month or early next month.

We would also like to establish a church directory which we would be able to publish every so often. If you are interested in doing so, please send us information on your church such as its name, denomination, address, service time, ministers, etc. Please include a photograph of your church too.

We would like to get this set up as soon as possible so it would be available before all the end-of-the-year holidays. The address is contact@calhouncronicle.com.

We are hopeful of returning such items as magistrate reports, marriages, property

transfers etc., and are trying to get software that would help convert the current reports into “type” that could be edited to fit our limited space.

We will also reinstate the popular history column of 25, 50 and 75 years ago and plan on having that done before the first of the year. There are also a couple of popular columnists we would not mind returning to our pages and have asked them to do so. Thus far they have turned us down.

Hopefully you will bear with us while we work to get things set up.

SOME POSITIVE THINGS: The county took a big step forward in the Arnoldsburg area when a new and large Dollar General Market was opened recently.

According to developer and former Calhoun resident Chris Lane of CLI Solutions businessman Eric Lupardus had a major impact on getting the store built and getting it built as a DG Market instead of a regular Dollar General store.

“Eric pushed the conversation, sent the necessary information and demographics and never let the phone sit idle,” Lane said.

He also indicated that he and Lupardus are looking into the possibility of building a Dollar General or a DG Market in Grantsville replacing the one on Main Street that closed recently.

With its elderly population Grantsville desperately needs a Dollar General store within its city limits. Let’s hope they can pull it off.

NUMBER 10 HALL OF FAME PERSON: Not only is this man a nominee for his own accomplishments alone but his children also contributed much to Calhoun County along the way.

John M. Hamilton (March 16, 1855 – December 27, 1916) was born in Weston, Va., and grew up and got his schooling there before moving to Grantsville in 1877 where he established a law practice.

In 1881 and 1882 he was a committee clerk for the West Virginia Senate, and he was the Senate’s assistant clerk from 1883 to 1887. From 1887 to 1888, he was a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates, and he was the House clerk. In addition to his law practice and political interests, Hamilton was also involved in banking and other business ventures, including serving as president of the Calhoun County Bank.

Hamilton served as a member of 62nd United States Congress but lost his reelection bid in 1912. After leaving Congress, Hamilton resumed his legal and business pursuits and served as president of the Calhoun County High School Board.

But one of his biggest contributions to the county probably was his children.

Hamilton married Minnie Cook in 1885 and they were the parents of 15 children including:

- Lorentz C. Hamilton (1887-1954)
- Robert Linn Hamilton (1888-1943)
- William Hamilton (1890-1914)
- John Hamilton (1892-1972)
- Clifford Hamilton (1894-1895)
- George Hamilton (1894-1947)
- Edwin Hamilton (1896-1937)
- Victor Hamilton (1896-1918)
- Hope Hamilton Fetty (1898-1975)
- Minnie Hamilton (1900-1981)
- Mary Susan Hamilton Morgan (1904-1973)
- Richard Hamilton (1902-1903)
- Wilson Page Hamilton (1905-1994)
- Howard Hamilton (1908-1950)
- Grace Hamilton Long (1912-1962)

Many of his children were leaders in the fields of medicine, law and education and made the Hamilton name synonymous with Calhoun County.

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

of electricity for domestic and commercial use such as lighting homes, providing power for refrigerators, freezers, water pumps [for rural folks], traffic control devices, street lamps, lighting for stores, etc. At the same time Kackles and others are pushing for banning internal combustion engines and forcing folks to buy electric cars [EVs]. All this puts stress on the electric grid that has been forced to shut down power generation while facing significant increases in power demand. One of the new big energy demands is data centers for AI (artificial intelligence). Dominion has advised those [proposed] facilities that there will be a seven year wait for electric hookup.

Kackles told some folks that she cooked so many collards that she had to wash them in the bath tub. She noted that she flavored them with bacon, after pouring off the grease, and adding hot peppers. One wonders when Hindus started cooking with pork. While cultural appropriation is now said to be bad [can’t dress up a boy with a sombrero as a Mexican bandito for Halloween] one local fellow does know how to cook collards, and one does not throw out the bacon grease – that and hot peppers add to the dish. Puts one to the mind when John Kerry [Jon Carry] tried to go duck hunting to show he was just an ordinary fellow – not the effete snob who had no idea how to eat ribs.

Barabara Cooper underwent back surgery in Columbus and is taking therapy at Minnie Hamilton in Grantsville. Her brother went to visit her and discovered she was in a different room and the patient in the room he had entered had Dr. Fauci’s wonderful virus. Apparently, it is now illegal to warn folks about patients that have catchy diseases.

The Second Amendment, that is the right to keep and bear arms has been under attack for years now but there is increased push to ban the first amendment concerning free speech and the right to assemble. During COVID religious services were banned and now politicians are open about banning free speech. At the direction of the US State Department, the communist government of Brazil banned X, formerly called Twitter and US politicians say that Elon Musk should be thrown in prison for allowing opinions that the deep state wants banned. The government of Europe (EU) was furious that Musk interviewed Donald Trump on X and folks worldwide could hear what was said. Remember when Galileo said that the earth rotated around the sun and the powers that be intended to have him burned on a stake.

As a result of a likely recession in America and world economic conditions the price of local Pennsylvania grade crude fell to \$66.67/bbl. With condensate fetching just \$48.67/bbl. and Marcellus & Utica light bringing \$55.67/bbl. It was noted that Brent [North Sea] crude had dropped to under \$75 – actually \$73.07. The Henry Hub natural gas price was \$2.28/MMBTU. But natural gas from Calhoun County and Creston sold for \$1.16. Some of that was 18% ethane.

OBITUARY



Rose Lena Albanese Starcher

Rose Lena Albanese Starcher, 86, of Grantsville, WV, went to be with her beloved husband on August 25, 2024.

She was born in Albany, NY, on March 12, 1938, a daughter of the late Frederick Joseph and Frida Ruth Bower Albanese.

In addition to her par-

ents, she is preceded in death by husband James Charles Starcher; two sisters, Marie Whytsell and Sally Albanese; and two brothers, Frederick (Skippy) Albanese and Anthony (Tony) Albanese.

She is survived by one sister, Beverly Coil of Alabama; one sister-in-law, Doris Dunlap (Clarence) of Michigan; one brother-in-law, Geordie Starcher (Sue) of Ohio; a special niece, Rose Gibson (Charlie); nephews, Rick Sampson (Nannette) and Bill Sampson (Tiny); special great-niece, Chasity Gar-

rett; special great-nephew, Avery Starcher, and many more nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

She enjoyed gardening and showing horses with her husband.

In keeping with Rose’s wishes, she will be cremated and a graveside service will be held at a later date. Stump Funeral Home & Cremation, Inc., Arnoldsburg, WV, is honored to assist the Starcher family in their time of need. Online condolences may be shared at www.stumpfuneralhomes.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@calhouncronicle.com.

The Calhoun Chronicle



and
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"Good Government, Pure Homes and Golly Hearts"



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Sept. 12, 1861: The Battle of Cheat Mountain was fought near the Randolph-Pocahontas County line. Gen. Robert E. Lee came into western Virginia to give support to Gen. William W. Loring, commander of the Army of Northwestern Virginia, but the battle ended in a defeat for the Confederacy.

Sept. 12, 1872: The Great Bend Tunnel was completed at Talcott. The tunnel, also known as Big Bend Tunnel, is the place where John Henry defeated the steam drill, becoming one of the world's great folk heroes.



Sept. 12, 1952: A group of local youths were startled at a football game by a fireball streaking across the sky. The fireball fell to earth just beyond a hillside at Flatwoods. This sighting led to the legend of the Braxton County, or Flatwoods, Monster.



Sept. 12, 1974: Kanawha County schools closed for four days due to a controversy over the adoption of new textbooks. Throughout the fall, advocates for opposing sides of the issue held mass protests, which, along with isolated and sporadic acts of violence (including a failed bombing attempt at the Board of Education office), drew national media attention.

Sept. 13, 1844: Milton Humphreys was born in Greenbrier County. During the Civil War, he enlisted in the Confederate service as a sergeant. At the Battle of Fayetteville,

Humphreys fired his cannon at Union artillery from behind an intervening forest, setting a precedent for modern warfare using indirect fire.



Sept. 13, 1848: Attorney "J. R." Clifford was born in present Grant County. In 1887, Clifford became the first African American admitted to practice law before the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. He was one of the first lawyers in the nation to challenge segregated schools.



J. R. CLIFFORD.

Sept. 13, 1862: Confederate and Union forces clashed in Charleston. Southern artillery gained the high ground on Fort Hill and smashed the federals who were lining the west bank of the Elk River.

Sept. 13, 1910: Musician Leon "Chu" Berry was born in Wheeling. He was one of the most highly regarded saxophonists of the Swing Era.

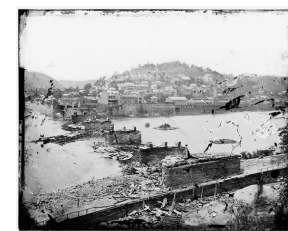


Sept. 14, 1898: Okey L. Patteson was born in Mingo County. Patteson, called the "Great Persuader," tackled difficult decisions as West Virginia's 23rd governor from 1949

to 1953.

Sept. 15, 1861: In the aftermath of the Battle of Carnifex Ferry, Union forces under the command of Gen. Jacob Cox occupied the area of Spy Rock. Spy Rock is a natural landmark located on U.S. 60, 18 miles east of Hawks Nest.

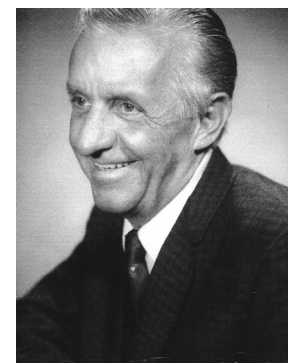
Sept. 15, 1862: Confederate Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson forced the surrender of a Union garrison at Harpers Ferry prior to the Battle of Antietam. The 12,500 prisoners taken by Jackson was the largest surrender of U.S. Army troops in the war.



Sept. 15, 1875: Henry Hatfield was born near Matewan, Mingo County. As a doctor in the coal camps, he helped secure funding to establish three miners' hospitals for the southern part of the state. In 1912, he was elected the state's 14th governor.



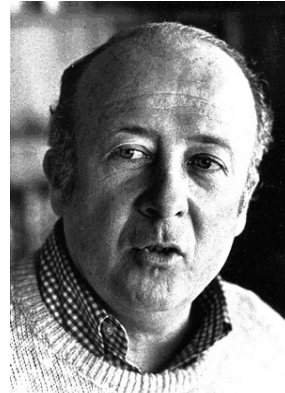
Sept. 15, 1906: Songwriter Jack Rollins was born in Keyser. Rollins wrote the lyrics to "Here Comes Peter Cottontail" and "Frosty the Snowman," two of America's most popular songs.



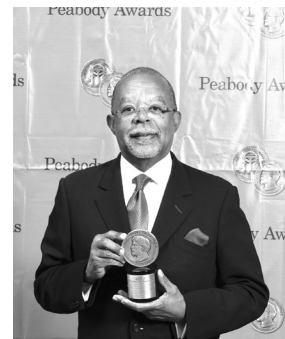
Sept. 16, 1876: The town of Milton in Cabell County was incorporated and named in honor of Milton Reece, a large landowner at the time.

Sept. 16, 1926: Writer John Knowles was born in Fairmont. He attained literary fame in 1959 with

his first novel, *A Separate Peace*.



Sept. 16, 1950: Scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr. was born in Keyser. Gates is one of the leading Black intellectuals in the United States. His books include *Colored People: A Memoir*, about growing up in Mineral County. He hosts the popular PBS program *Finding Your Roots*.



Sept. 17, 1848: Artist Lily Irene Jackson was born in Parkersburg. Jackson was best known as a painter of animal portraits and floral arrangements, and as an advocate for the arts.



Sept. 18, 1947: Historian and journalist Minnie Kendall Lowther died. Born in Ritchie County, she was one of the first West Virginia women to become a newspaper editor.

Sept. 18, 1989: Playwright Maryat Lee died in Lewisburg. She established Eco Theater in Summers County as an indigenous mountain theater, using Summers County people as actors.



First Baptist Calhoun County Food Pantry changes

Beginning this week the number of boxes you may pick up will be limited to four.

You may come to the pantry for food two times each month. If you need food more often, you will need to text or call 520-465-8657 to request additional food.

As food becomes more expensive and it becomes more difficult for us to obtain, we must ask that you only come for food when you really need it.

Please understand that we are a totally volunteer organization, and that we spend hours each week

trying to locate food that we can afford to purchase from local stores or obtain from the government. Donations come from local churches, individuals in the county, grants, and small amounts donated by some of those coming for food. Nothing is ever entirely free. We are open to suggestions if anyone has ideas to make things better. Please don't hesitate to call us.

God Bless everyone and thank you for understanding.

We give out food from 11-1 on Tuesday and Thursday.

Music scheduled for Sept. 14

Music this month will be held at the Grantsville Lions Club on Saturday, Sep. 21. The doors will open at

4 p.m. with food and a 50-50 available. The food will be ready at 5 p.m. with music starting at 6 p.m.

Burning Springs Flea Market

Saturday Sept. 14th 9-2pm. \$5.00 a table or \$10 for a space. Come sell your junk, produce, or crafts. Refreshments by donation. 8405 Rt 5 Burning

Springs. Between the Mason's Lodge and the Burning Springs Methodist Church. Questions call Donna 275-3202 or Linda 275-1153. Cancelled if raining.

Garage sale

Sept. 20-21, 8 a.m. until ???, more than 700 pieces of antique glass plus other antiques and collectables,

Triplett residence 401 Calhoun St., Grantsville. Cash only. No checks or credit cards.

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.

with Sen. Ben Queen who said he would gladly set up a meeting with the Harrison County administrator for a clearer understanding of how that position would work.

This was also in conjunction of questions about the Town of Grantsville's 60 per cent water rate hike and the possible combination of the three public service districts – Grantsville, Pleasant Hill and Mount Zion.

Local resident Horst Motz asked the commission if the newly passed 60 per cent water rate increase would be affecting the Pleasant Hill and Mt. Zion PSD's. He stated that he feels that the rate seemed quite high and wondered if it would affect his own water bill. Ari White, Mt. Zion PSD board president answered the question, stating that Mt. Zion PSD and the Pleasant Hill PSD had determined they would absorb the increase of \$1.00 per thousand gallons that the Grantsville 20 per cent rate increase for bulk water sales would add to their costs.

County Resident and business owner Crystal Mersh asked the commission if there was a plan in place as had been spoken earlier to have an external expert in place to oversee the consolidation. Commissioner Arthur responded saying that it is being overseen by the West Virginia Public Service Commission (WVPSC) and the three consolidating entities of Grantsville, Mt. Zion and Pleasant Hill. "James Rymer of the WVPSC is guiding what step we take" Arthur explained, with the PSD's being tasked with the accounting of what the operations are.

Propst stated that the 60 per cent increase which passed at the Sept. 3rd, 2024, town council meeting, was to be used for equipment and that there should be a water manager overseeing the expenditures. Emily Collins, a member of the Grantsville Town Council they would be looking into it.

Propst continued by expressing his concern with who would oversee hiring the water manager, believing it to be the mayor and council due to the consolidation being 2-4 years in the future. Propst said that he believes the hiring of that manager was going to be key to the whole thing.

White informed the commission that the town and PSD's were close to an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) agreement at which time they would determine the manager position.

Propst stated that at the time of consolidation the commission would then act to hire a water board manager at the recommendation of the consolidated agencies.

In other action:

-- Madison Harris of the Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council (MOVRC), read a draft proposal of a letter written on behalf of the Calhoun County Commission for the cancellation of CDBG project. The project funds in the amount of \$450,000 were returned due to the Calhoun Park Board believing the project was no longer viable with the material and labor cost increase of over \$500,000 from contractors meeting the prevailing wage requirements of various laws enforced by the Wage and Hour Division. Ms. Harris also requested a final payment on that project for the administration hours of MOVRC in the amount of \$389.22. Her closing comments were related to area FEMA projects that will soon be bid out, and the receiving of a \$2.5 Million Dollar grant by the Mt. Zion Public Service District.

-- Local citizen Pauline Ferrell requested to know if the County had received the receipts for the Excavator and trailer purchased by the City of Grantsville with County funds in the amount of \$57,650 as well as the receipts for the funding to cover their bills in the amount of \$39,120.60 that was given to the City of Grantsville in April. Clerk Jean Simers responded that all receipts were received for the amount given. Ferrell additionally requested information from the Commission regard-

ing how many absentee ballots have been requested for which Clerk Simers answered that about 30 applications had been received and will be mailed on September 20th, 2024. After the concerns of the legality of the 2020 election, Mrs. Ferrell asked that the procedures for gathering mail in ballots, nursing home and hospital ballots, etc. as well as what happens to those ballots when they are returned before the election date into the office of the County Clerk. Simers explained that the ballots, which are signed on the back of the envelope by the voter, are addressed to her office on the front of the very large envelope. When the ballots are received the voter signatures are checked to make sure they match what is on file and then are placed into a locked box until Election Day when the Republican and Democratic Ballot Commissioners remove them to be added to the vote count. Simers stated that on average Calhoun sends out about 100 ballots and receives 95 or so back. The unreceived ballots must be reconciled to insure security.

-- Kelli Barr, OES director sent a report stating that the number of calls received by agencies were as follows: Arnoldsburg VFD - 5, WV DNR - 3, Calhoun 911 - 66, Calhoun Sheriff - 123, Grantsville VFD - 12, Minnie Hamilton Ambulance 96, Upper West Fork VFD - 3 and the WV State Police - 91.

-- Emily Collins, representing the Grantsville Lions Club provided pictures of the repairs made of the Lions Club building by \$10,000 of Calhoun County funds. The Commissioners were pleased with the results.

-- Jason Wilson, Director of the Minnie Hamilton Ambulance Service reported the number of Ambulance activity as: ALS transports - 15, BLS transports - 28, Cancelled Enroute - 5, DOA - 1, Refusals 21, Treated and Transferred to Aeromedical - 1, Treated and refused - 0, Standby - 4. He further explained that the high number of refusals was due to an individual abusing the 911 call center which was handled by Sheriff Graham Knight.

Wilson informed the Commission that ambulance replacement is under consideration. The time frame is a 1-2 year wait for a new ambulance, and a rebuild/remount ambulance is a 24-48 month wait. Minnie Hamilton is looking at the option of a lease. Replacing the ambulance in either the rebuild or new options comes at a cost of \$200-300,000 per ambulance.

-- Donnie Pitts, Calhoun County Park Board president reported that there had been a considerable amount of activity on the Calhoun County Park improvements. They've recently finished the grading for the ball field and will begin prepping it for seeding and mulch with fencing being done in the spring to allow the grass time to grow. The east star gazing field shelter, bathroom and laundry are now complete except for the need of siding. The stargazers are utilizing the park this week with the clear weather. A new gate opener has been installed but the need for electric installation is still pending for the gate and new digital sign provided by Minnie Hamilton.

The disc golf course has been laid out and is now ready for construction. The funding for that project is due to come in this this week and everyone is excited about the play that will occur at the park. New park trail signs are up on the kiosk for the 3.2 mile of trail. Three historical signs will be going up, one of which will be for the Stull family who were an integral part of the working farm that was once there. A sign of tribute will go up for their family. Pitts reported that Barn work still needs done but they'll be getting back on the barn roof the latter part of this week for more roofing. A statement of gratitude was given to Minnie Hamilton staff who painted the picnic shelters which now have the new concrete tables installed

-- Tina Hamrick, Director of the Calhoun FRN reported to the Commission that September is Recovery month and "Save a Life" Day. The day will be celebrat-

ed on September 19th with several vendors setting up in Grantsville. The Drug Take Back Day will also be done at the same time when residents can properly dispose of medications at the event. Hamrick asked the residents of Calhoun to be patient with the traffic on Thursday, September 12 due to the mobile food pantry. Traffic may be bottle necked around the DHHHR who has agreed to allow the FRN to use their parking lot to give food out. The next food give away for the FRN is on November 5. She also informed the commission that transportation is an issue in Calhoun, where families cannot get to Grantsville on the day of the truck's arrival. The FRN will deliver, when necessary, through by paid staff. They serve at least 250 families each week and deliver almost 200 of those food packages. People are struggling to pay bills, and provide food, and the FRN is only one agency, she expressed her appreciation to those who help. Simers suggested that the FRN use the Little Kanawha Bus Company, which is what Roane County does to deliver meals. Hamrick informed the Commission that she had tried that and after only one week the LK Bus refused to allow it. The Commissioners noted that they would be checking into why that had happened.

-- A ratification of Deputy salaries was approved following a meeting of the Calhoun Civil Service Board.

-- Commissioners approved \$500 for each area of the County's Halloween parties. Grantsville, Upper West Fork and Arnoldsburg will each receive \$500. Also awarded was \$2,500 for the Christmas Event for the Upper West Fork Park to provide, gift cards, fruit baskets and toys to people in the area.

-- FRN will be accepting applications for their Christmas Express (Formerly the Angel Tree) from October 1 to 31st, 2024. Families with children ages 0-18 can make an application for a \$100 gift card and a shopping opportunity at the FRN Office downstairs.

-- Poll Workers were approved for the November 5th, 2024, election.

-- The County Commission adopted an animal fostering agreement whereby people can be reimbursed for expense incurred by animals fostered at the Sheriff's request.

-- SB737 funding distribution was awarded to Minnie Hamilton to cover the costs of EMS, EMTs, and Paramedics. The reporting form was acknowledged by the commission.

-- Money was awarded to the Solid Waste Authority in the amount of \$9,517.44 for wages, utilities, fuel and maintenance. The county has in the past covered these expenses when grants are not available to the SWA and their funding is short. The Commission acknowledging the asset of the SWA, approved future requests that were made for this purpose which will be billed monthly in the needed amount.

-- The annual Rental agreement by Little Kanawha Area Development Authority was approved.

FRN requested grant funding from the opioid settlement monies, at which time Propst stated that the FRN is the only local agency that is doing this type of work. The request for \$37,149 was approved. Tina Hamrick stated that "For every dollar we've spent it has saved the community \$460.00. We have a 60 per cent success rate of not entering an illegal addiction. With a little money we can increase that success rate."

-- Knight requested the designation of Hannah Stephens as the new Humane officer in Calhoun County which is required when dealing with the fostering of animals.

-- The Civil service board appointment has been continued for the November Commission meeting with two candidates being considered, Pauline Ferrell and Deirdre Purdy. Commissioner Arthur stated that he would like to see more of what makes them qualified requesting a short resume specific to the civil service position.

Avalon to be closed to public after Fall Festival; will have grand opening in 2025

Avalon progress update:

By Crystal Mersh

On the construction front, there are lots of things happening and things are moving fast. It is time to start selecting the finish which is my favorite part of renovation. The finish of the apartments will be modern and sleek and will pair nicely with the very special 100 year old features of the building. They will be beautiful for sure.

We have a brand new roof on the main building -- \$275,000 but it is necessary and will last a long, long time. The roof of the restaurant will be poured soon. It is concrete to support the large patio that will be on top. They are finishing the steel in there now and soon we will be able to work on the. The Viking Group harvested several large joists to be repurposed as stair treads in The Varsity and The Viking Group will be provided a beautiful live edge wooden bar as a gift.

Hardway and crew are busy framing the elevator which will be operational in a couple of weeks. They are also working on the stage in the gym which is coming along nicely.

Concrete work is always under way for footers for the structural support. Once that is done then the rest of the interior of the gym will be easy. It will be restored as close to the original as possible and will serve as an event hall and recreation.

The cold form steel arrived and lots of it. This will be used in the Children's learning center. So, we will now have to close access to the porch while this work is being done, but please enjoy the pavilion on the field or a walk around the track.

The window work continues, and they are beautiful and fully functional with the original weights and all. Simply amazing work from Frank and our friends at Past Respects. The stone cleaning also looks great and we can see details that I never knew existed.

Of course, the mechanical work continues. Installation of HVAC is on-going as is plumbing and electrical. You can now see where the key plumbing fixtures will be and that give more of a sense to the layout.

The kitchen details and design are complete and ready for review. We will be selecting flooring, walls, lighting, etc. Much of the large equipment is purchased already to including a tilting skillet, a steam kettle, a huge pizza

oven, and a lot more. We anticipate 3D drawings soon from Sikonain International and I cannot wait to see them and share them with you.

I am super excited about the teaching kitchen which will be outfitted with two cooking stations for competitions ... think the Food Network. It will be a beautiful place where you can host small gatherings as well.

The plaster and exposed brick preparation is also going to be stunning throughout the building. Amos Walker has been working on the original flooring which is also going to be beautiful.

Our office team is hard at work planning for the fall events to include serving The Varsity BBQ and Ribs at the Molasses Festival, and our Fall Festival on Oct. 5 where we will do one final construction tour for those who are interested. After Oct. 5 there will be no more internal pictures or tours until the grand opening.

Dennis Spaur is making plans for the street lamp project and assembling a team for installation, as well as general oversight of the construction project which as you can see takes a lot of time as this point in the project. I am so pleased to have him there and in the details. It helps The Viking Group to be more efficient and not have to worry about keeping things flowing smoothly.

Whitney Butler joined the crew this week and is getting involved in planning events and promotional materials. She will also be leading the completion of the preparation of the brick project. Once we know exactly how many bricks we have left, we may open more for sale. Stay tuned on that front and to confirm all details of your bricks before printing.

Shana Beard Spaur is closing the books on the swimming pool with a couple more parties and we are all excited to see how much the Life Guards will take home. I think I am more excited than they are. I am so very proud of them. They proved this summer than any endeavor can be profitable and worthwhile if you put your creativity and work ethic behind it. Once the numbers are in, we will publish the results. Their bonuses will be presented to them at the Fall Festival.

There will also be more details on how you can help. Right now, the biggest need is to get good vendors and demonstrations of heritage products and activities for the Fall Festival. Please send any and all inquiries to Whitney Butler or Shana Beard Spaur.

Former Calhoun runners show well for Glenville State



Savannah Cunningham

Two former Calhoun cross country runners finished prominently as the Glenville State cross country teams opened the 2024 season at the West Liberty Invite. The women placed third as a team and the men had a freshman place fifth overall.

Natalie Barr placed third at 19:18 and freshman Jenna Barnett fourth at 19:33. Freshman Katie Hicks had a time of 20:25 for 19th place. Abby Dixon (38th, 21:42), former Calhoun cross country runner Savannah Cunningham was 40th with a time of 21:50, Hannah Hill (43rd, 22:05) and Hannah Rowan (47th, 22:42) rounded out the

finishes for the Pioneers.

Five of the seven Pioneer men that ran were freshman, led by Buffalo product Patrick Reilly, who placed fifth with a time of 19:17. All top five placements by Pioneers were done by freshman as Nick Pitchford (24th, 20:13), Caden Davis (31st, 20:29), Jackson Mallett (43rd, 20:57) and Dylan Blackshire (47th, 21:16) all followed behind Reilly. Sophomore Daniel Kargol, a former Calhoun runner, ran a time of 21:20, placing 48th while Bryan Utt, the fifth-year senior out of Braxton County, took 52nd after running 21:54.

Calhoun Middle falls to South Harrison

On Thursday Sept. 5th Calhoun County Middle School football team kicked off their season as they travelled to Robert C Byrd High School to play against the South Harrison Hawks. The Red Devils came up short on the score board by a score of 26-6, however the game a closer than the score shows.

The Hawks picked up a score late in the first half after an untimely Calhoun turnover, and twice Calhoun moved the ball deep into Hawk territory before stalling out.

We definitely saw a positive foundation for the Red Devils to build off of and if a few small mistakes can be cleaned up the Red Devils will have a chance at a great season.

The lone Red Devil score on the evening came when quarterback Trevor Mayle made a great read on the Hawks defense and audibled to a pass play where he hit

Kyrian Mounts for a 41 yard touchdown through the air. The defense was led by Ezra Anderson and Dayvon Mitchell. Anderson led the team with eight tackles and Mitchell had two sacks and a fumble recovery.

The Red Devil Middle School squad will have their home opener on Thursday Sept. 12 when Summersville travels to Mt. Zion.

Stats-

Offense- Rushing

Michael Richards- 10 carries, 17 yards

Ezra Anderson - 4 carries, 11 yards

Trevor Mayle- 4 carries, 17 yards

Preston Sauer- 1 carry, 4 yards

Kyrian Mounts- 1 carry, 3 yards

Passing-

Trevor Mayle- 2 completions, 47 yards, 1 TD

Receiving-

Kyrian Mounts- 1 reception, 41 yards, 1 TD

Preston Sauer- 1 reception, 6 yards

Defense- Tackles

Ezra Anderson- 8

Trevor Mayle- 6

Michael Richards, Sam Bailey- 5

Braydon Hardway- 3

Landon Hawkins, Clayton Foster, Cohen Blankenship- 2

Preston Sauer, Kyrian Mounts, Dayvon Mitchell, Matthew McGuire- 1

Sacks-

Dayvon Mitchell- 2

Fumble Recovery-

Braydon Hardway, Dayvon Mitchell- 1

Interception-

Trevor Mayle- 1

Calhoun players using new donated safety helmets



Bailless Law Firm took measures to ensure the safety of athletes with the donation of the Guardian caps to the Calhoun varsity football team that are being used daily.

Red Devils (Calhoun) sweeps Red Devils (Ravenswood)

On Saturday Sept. 7th Calhoun Little Red Devils traveled to Ravenswood to face off with the Ravenswood Little Red Devils. This would be the first games that Ravenswood Youth Program would have on their new turf field, and they were hoping to walk away with some wins to celebrate the occasion. Calhoun was hoping to be the Little Red Devils to come away victorious and spoil these first games for the Ravenswood squads.

Calhoun's C team would start the day off with a bang as Braxton Carter completed a 60 yard touchdown pass to Scarlett Probasco. Calhoun would go on to a 42-0 win, and the other teams followed suit as Calhoun's B team won 40-6 and the A team finished off the sweep with a 45-0 victory. Ravenswood does not have a flag team, so Calhoun Counties Flag team had the week off.

Calhoun's C team moved solely into 1st place in the LKC South C Team Standings at the end of the weekend. Just about everything that Calhoun tried offensively worked the way they wanted it to as Braxton Carter had 2 rushing Touchdowns, 2 passing touchdowns and 5 extra points on the ground for Calhoun's C team. Scarlett Probasco added 1 rushing Touchdown, 2 receiving Touchdowns and 1 rushing extra point and Noah Richards rounded out the scoring for the Little Red Devils adding a rushing score. The score of the game was 42-0 at halftime. Ravenswood started the 3rd quarter on offense and just a few plays into the second half they decided they would forfeit the game giving Calhoun a 42-0 victory.

The next game up was the B team and Calhoun was also victorious 40-6. The Little Red Devils remain undefeated for the season and continue to be tied for 1st

place in the B team South LKC standing with Elk River. 4 different Little Red Devils were able to reach the end zone and score. Colten Heiney and Bryson Swisher each scored 2 Touchdowns while Haygan Houchin and Quinten Parkin added 1 Touchdown each. Haygan Houchin added 3 rushing extra points and also added an extra point pass which he completed to Bryson Swisher.

The final game of the day would be the A team with Calhoun coming away with a 45-0 victory. With this win the A team also remained tied for 1st place in the LKC South standing with Elk River. There were 7 different kids on the team who were able to points on the board for the team. Bentley Snodgrass scored 3 Rushing Touchdowns, Tyler Mayle added 2 Rushing Touchdowns and Bronson Smith had 1 rushing score. Liam Yeager had a Passing Touchdown with Abram Dow on the receiving end of the score. Tyler Mayle, Carter Thompson and Karson Propst each scored an extra point on the ground to round out the scoring. Abram Dow also had a great day Defensively as he led the team with 9 tackles.

Calhoun will take the field again next Sunday Sept. 15th when Clay County travels to Mt. Zion. The Flag team will start at noon as they return to action hoping to remain undefeated for the season. Clay County does not have a C Team so Calhoun will officially receive a forfeit victory, instead of taking the weekend off at 1 pm the C team will be scrimmaging Vienna Youth League. B team will follow the C Team game and then A team will Finish off the day. B and A team will both play Clay County.

Stats-

C Team:

Offense- Rushing

Braxton Carter- 7 carries, 74 yards, 2 TD, 5 extra points

Scarlett Probasco- 3 carries, 32 yards, 1 TD, 1 extra point

Noah Richards- 1 carry, 40 yards, 1 TD

Passing-

Braxton Carter- 2 completions, 89 yards, 2 TD

Receiving-

Scarlett Probasco- 2 receptions, 89 yards, 2 TD

Defense- Tackles

Braxton Carter, Clayton McCullough, Zander McCumbers- 4

Scarlett Probasco, Kaleb Butler - 3

Chase Parsons, Noah Richards- 2

Jace Allen - 1

Fumble Recovery-

Braxton Carter- 2

Scarlett Probasco- 1

B Team

Offense- Rushing

Quinten Parkin - 12 carries, 35 yards, 1 TD

Haygan Houchin- 11 carries, 67 yards, 1 TD, 3 extra points

Colten Heiney- 5 carries, 97 yards, 2 TD

Bryson Swisher- 4 carries, 79 yards, 2 TD

Ryder Simmons- 1 carry, 1 yard

Michael McClain- 1 carry, 1 yard

Passing-

Haygan Houchin- 1 completion, 3 yards, 1 extra point

Receiving-

Bryson Swisher- 1 reception, 3 yards, 1 extra point

Defense- Tackles

Haygan Houchin, Quinten Parkin- 6

Adam Francis- 5

Raines Riddel, Michael McClain- 4

Carper Summers, Ryder Simmons- 3

Bryson Swisher, Colten Heiney- 2

Jason Ingram, Owen Heiney- 1

Sacks-

Haygan Houchin- 2

Carper Summers, Raines Riddel- 1

Fumble Recovery-

Quinten Parkin - 1

A Team-

Offense- Rushing-

Bentley Snodgrass- 12 carries, 103 yards, 3 TD

Tyler Mayle- 7 carries, 52 yards, 2 TD, 1 extra point

Tristan Rogers- 1 carry, 34 yards

Bronson Smith- 4 carries, 41 yards, 1 TD

Chandler Cottrell- 2 carries, 3 yards

Carter Thompson- 1 carry, 3 yards, 1 extra point

Karson Propst- 1 carry, 3 yards, 1 extra point

Passing-

Liam Yeager- 5 completions, 70 yards, 1 TD

Receiving-

Tyler Mayle- 2 receptions, 11 yards

Abram Dow- 1 reception, 26 yards, 1 TD

Tristan Rogers- 1 reception, 20 yards

Bentley Snodgrass- 1 reception, 13 yards

Defense- Tackles-

Abram Dow- 9

Chandler Cottrell, Bentley Snodgrass- 6

Tyler Mayle, Cooper Summers- 5

Grayson Laughlin, Carter Thompson- 3

Tristan Rogers, Silas Cunningham- 2

Judd Helmick, Liam Yeager and Bronson Smith- 1

Fumble Recovery-

Grayson Laughlin, Tyler Mayle and Tristan Rogers - 1

'Carhartt Bowl' set for Friday in Elizabeth

By Gaylen Duskey

Parkersburg News and Sentinel sports writer Jay Bennett, a Wirt County graduate, referred to the Calhoun-Wirt football game as the 'Carhartt Bowl' and that seems as appropriate as any.

So, get ready for the 2024 Carhartt Bowl when the Red Devils and Tigers meet at Wilson-Eismon Field. Wirt will bring a 1-1 record into the game despite taking two days to get its 48-24 win over Magnolia since inclement weather forced the Friday night game to be postponed until Saturday. Calhoun, 0-1, is seeking to snap what is now a 16-game losing streak.

The two teams are each other's oldest foe with the Red Devils of Marvin Cooper taking a 57-0 victory over the Tigers on Oct. 27, 1923. But the Tigers quickly got even when Dewey Knott led his Tigers to a 6-0 win on Nov. 17, 1923.

Overall Wirt has a record of 521-445-25 .573 while Calhoun is 452-472-33 .490.

During all those years the Tigers have held a 45-33-4 mark against the Red Devils

including three in a row and seven of the last 10.

Calhoun's last win over the Tigers was an 8-6 victory at Mount Zion. Last year the Tigers rolled to a 52-0 win at Mount Zion.

That was the last coaching season of Paul Parsons and the first of Wirt's Tim Hickman. Since then, Hickman has been at the helm of the Tiges but for Calhoun the Red Devils have had three coaches as John Persinger, Mike Stump and Jeff Goodrich has led the way.

That coaching "churn" has not allowed the Red Devils to establish an offensive and defensive system.

Wirt has been to the playoffs many more times than the Red Devils but a lot of that stems from the fact Calhoun had a "big" school tag until the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission went to a three-class setup.

Because of this the Red Devils did not make the playoffs despite posting three unbeaten seasons and five one-loss seasons. During that era the Red Devils were

in the same group as schools like Parkersburg, Beckley, Charleson and Huntington.

After going to three classifications Calhoun was placed in Class AA while Wirt was a Class A school giving the Tigers an easier path to the playoffs. As a matter of fact, Calhoun did not make the playoffs until 1983 when the late Marcus McPhail led the Red Devils to a 9-2 record. By that time Wirt had been to the playoffs six times and had won a state title in 1966.

Playoff games:

1949 Wirt lost to Romney 20-19

1955 Wirt lost to Monongah 14-13

1965 Wirt beat Crum 27-6 to go 11-0

1966 Wirt lost to Marlinton 26-0

1970 Wirt lost to Paden City 20-6

1972 Wirt lost to Monongah 7-6 semi-finals

1983 Calhoun lost to Grafton 31-13 in first round (AA)

1987 Wirt lost to Matewan 22-17 first round

1988 Wirt lost to Peterstown 60-0 first round

1991 Wirt lost to Valley-Wetzel 20-14

first round

1992 Wirt beat Williamson 13-7 in first round; lost to Van 41-12 in quarterfinals

1993 Wirt lost to Van 21-12 first round

1994 Wirt lost to Valley-Wetzel 27-14 first round

2007 Calhoun lost to Moorefield 15-12 first round

2008 Calhoun lost to Madonna 16-0 first round

2009 Wirt beat Iaeger 34-12 in first round; lost to Richwood 44-26 in quarterfinals

2010 Wirt beat Madonna 34-28 in first round; beat Williamstown 13-10 in quarterfinals; lost to Wahama 31-14 in semi-finals

2011 Wirt lost to Bishop Donahue 42-19 in first round

2020 Wirt lost to Ritchie 16-7 in the first round

2023 Wirt lost to Greenbrier West 47-0 first round

Following Friday's game, the Red Devils will play host to top-ranked Wahama while the Tiges will be home to St. Marys.

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SBA to help West Virginia businesses affected by drought

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced that federal Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) are available in West Virginia for small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private nonprofit organizations with economic losses due to drought that began on Aug. 20.

The declaration includes the primary counties of Barbour, Braxton, Cabell, Clay, Doddridge, Harrison, Lewis, Lincoln, Nicholas, Ritchie, Upshur, Webster and Wood in West Virginia, and the adjacent counties of Boone, Calhoun, Fayette, Gilmer, Greenbrier, Jackson, Kanawha, Logan, Marion, Mason, Mingo, Pleasants, Pocahontas, Preston, Putnam, Randolph, Roane, Taylor, Tucker, Tyler, Wayne, Wetzel and Wirt, in West Virginia, and Athens, Gallia, Lawrence, Meigs and Washington in Ohio.

“Working capital loans from the SBA are essential to eligible small businesses when the Secretary of Agriculture declares a disaster due to farmers’ crop losses,” said Francisco Sánchez, Jr., associate administrator for the SBA’s Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience. “These loans help sustain rural economies when a disaster occurs.”

Under this declaration, the SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to eligible farm-related and nonfarm-related entities that suffered financial

losses as a direct result of this disaster. Apart from aquaculture enterprises, SBA cannot provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, and ranchers. Nurseries are eligible to apply for economic injury disaster loans for losses caused by drought conditions.

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates of 4% for small businesses and 3.25% for private nonprofit organizations, with terms up to 30 years. Interest does not accrue, and payments are not due, until 12 months from the date of the first loan disbursement. The SBA sets loan amounts and terms based on each applicant’s financial condition. Eligibility is based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. These working capital loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred. The loans are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.

For information and to apply online visit SBA.gov/disaster. Applicants may also call the SBA’s Customer Service Center at (800) 6592955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Submit completed loan applications to SBA no later than April 28, 2025.

WAG Trap-Neuter-Return on Sept. 16 in Mt. Zion

On Monday, Sept. 16, 2024, the Welfare of Animals Group (WAG) will be humanely trapping feral cats in the Mt. Zion area to have them spayed/neutered, vaccinated, and ear tipped (the universal sign that a cat has been part of a Trap-Neuter-Return program).

We would appreciate it if you would not put food out for them on Sunday, Sept. 15 as we will be trapping the cats on Monday morning.

Once the cats have recovered from anesthesia

(at least 24 to 48 hours) we will return them to their exact location. They will be healthier, happier, and not reproducing and fighting.

Thank you for your cooperation.

So far, we have spayed and neutered 958 community cats (520 females and 438 males). Please keep your personal cats indoors or put a collar on them on Monday the 16th. If you have any questions, please call Linda Buchanan at 304-354-7506.

West Virginia Statewide Classified Network

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 Call the WV Press at (304) 342-1011



KEEP IT LOCAL

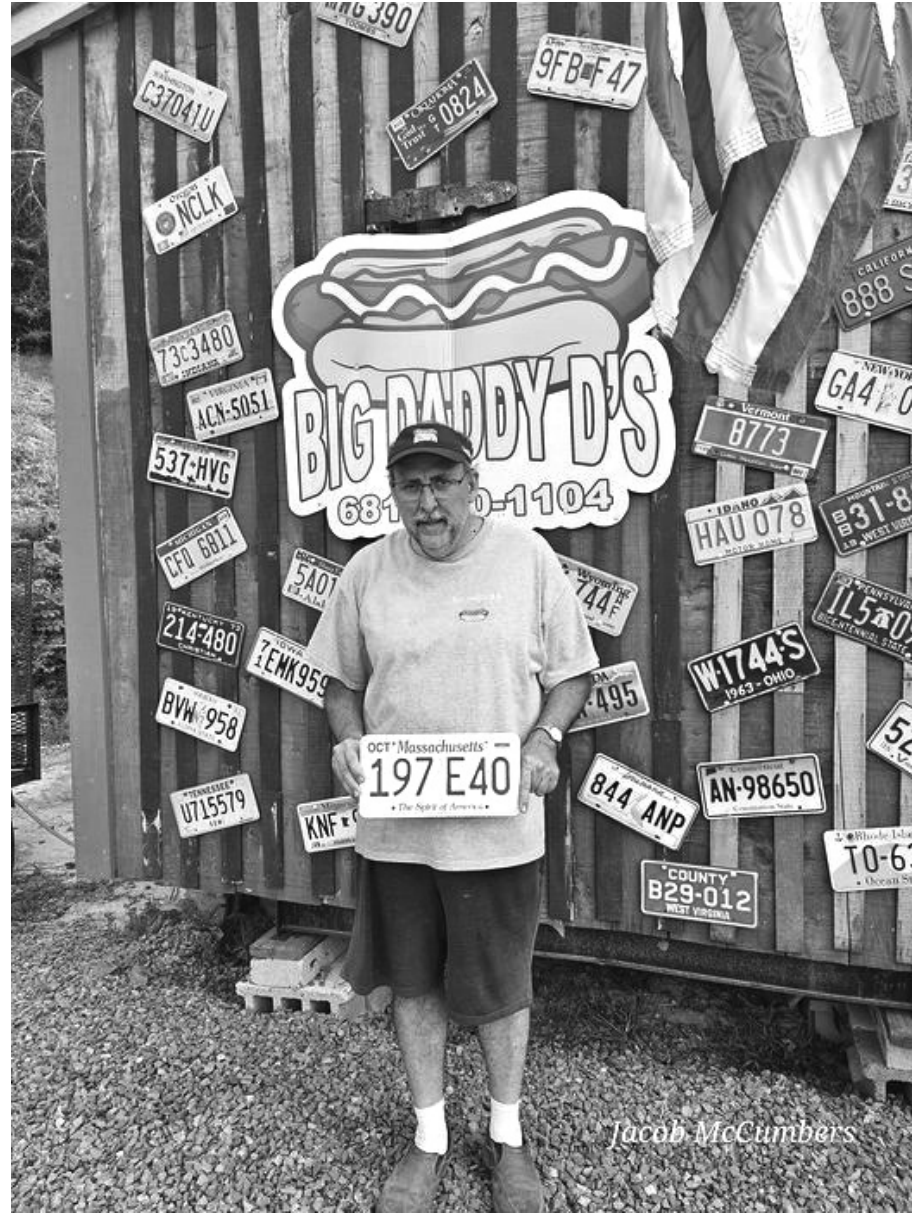


Your trusted source for local news in print, online and on the go!

The Calhoun Chronicle

P.O. Box 400
 Grantsville, WV 26147
contact@calhouncronicle.com

United States license plate collection nearly complete



Jacob McCumbers

Big Daddy D's received a Massachusetts license plate and have a Washington D.C., plate coming this week and now only needs a New Mexico and North Dakota to complete its collection. The plate was from Tammy Gaudet.

CALHOUN LIBRARY TRIVIA NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 26, 2024
6PM @ CCCO SENIOR CENTER

Round 1 - Football
Round 2 - I Still Believe In Heroes
Round 3 - What Country?
Round 4 - 1980's
Round 5 - How Much?
Round 6 - Music

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND. CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UPDATES!

Fall Festival

Oct 5 10:00 - 6:00

FOODS
Neopolitan Pizza
Greek Chicken Kabobs
Baklava
Carmel Apples
& Chili Cook Off

THIN CRUST WOOD FIRED!

@ AVAL N

LEGAL

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The undersigned Clerk of the County Commission of Calhoun County does hereby give NOTICE that, pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code §41-5-13(b), there has been filed and there is pending before me and the said County Commission an Affidavit for ancillary administration of West Virginia real estate without the appointment of any personal representative and does state as follows:

Decedent	Decedent's Address	Date of Death	Date of Will
1. Vicki Lee Sima	88 Lexington Ave. West Warwick, RI 02893	December 2, 2023	November 30, 2022
2. Leman Troy Stallman	35 Austin Rd. East Greenwich, RI 02818	May 24, 2021	June 20, 2000

Name of Person Filing Affidavit	Address	Relation to Decedent	Date of First Publication
1. Daniel Sima	88 Lexington Ave. West Warwick, RI 02893	Spouse	September 4, 2024
2. Daniel Sima	88 Lexington Ave. West Warwick, RI 02893	Son-in-Law	September 4, 2024

Any interested person objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this State must file a written objection with the County Commission whose address is 363 Main Street; PO Box 230; Grantsville, WV 26147; within sixty (60) days after the date of first publication or thirty (30) days of service of this Notice upon such interested person filing the Notice, whichever is later.

Notice is given that if an objection is not timely filed, the objection is barred and that the Ancillary Administration of the West Virginia real estate of the above decedent shall be deemed final and complete in accordance with the provisions of law.

Enter this 4th day of September 2024.

Jean Simers
Clerk of the County Commission
Class II Legal

LEGAL

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

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

Decedent	Personal Representative	Address
Randall Eli Johnson	Savannah Church	1417 Walnut Rd., Chloe, WV 25235
Larry James McDonald	Tonya McDonald	2413 Shirley Rd., Youngstown, OH 44502

September 4, 2024

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

Any person interested in filing claims against an estate shown below must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code, 44-2 and 44-3. All persons having claims against one or more of the estate(s) shown above, whether due or not, are notified to exhibit their claims, with the voucher thereof, legally verified, to the Clerk of the Calhoun County Commission at Calhoun County Clerk's Office at 363 Main Street, PO Box 230, GRANTSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA 26147 on or before **November 4, 2024**. Otherwise they may be excluded from all benefit of said estate(s). All beneficiaries of said estate(s) may appear on or before said day to examine said claims and otherwise protect their interests.

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

Jean Simers
Jean Simers, Clerk
Calhoun County Commission

PUMPKIN PATCH

Come enjoy this fun family friendly event!

OCTOBER 15, 2024

- STORY WALK
- PUMPKIN PICKING
- SNACKS / DRINKS
- GAMES
- DOOR PRIZES

WEAR YOUR COSTUME

CALHOUN MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL FEILD

START FROM 4 PM TO 6PM

LEGAL

Tariff Form No. 12
(Tariff Rule 23.1 et seq.)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES BY NON-LRR MUNI UTILITY

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town of Grantsville, public utility, has adopted by ordinance on September 3, 2024, a tariff containing increased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing water service to approximately 375 customers at Grantsville in the County of Calhoun.

The rates, charges 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 W. Va. Code §24-24B is waived pursuant to W. Va. 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 and will produce approximately \$166,156 annually in additional revenue, an increase of 60%. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will be changed as follows:

	(\$) INCREASE	INCREASE (%)
Residential	\$ 17.36	60%
Commercial	\$ 83.66	60%
Resale	\$2,567.13	18.6%

The Town of Grantsville resale rate is for Mt. Zion PSD and Pleasant Hill PSD which purchases water from the Town and then sells to their residents. The resale customers for the town are only Mt. Zion PSD and Pleasant Hill PSD

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing. The Commission shall review and approve or modify the increased rates only upon the filing of a petition within thirty (30) days of the adoption of the ordinance changing said rates or charges, by any customer aggrieved by the changed rates or charges who presents to the Commission a petition signed by not less than twenty-five percent of the customers served by such municipally operated public utility.

All petitions should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, 201 Brooks Street, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

A complete copy of the proposed rates, as well as a representative of the utility to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or their agents at any of the following offices of the utility.

Town City Building
362 Main St.
Grantsville, West Virginia 26147

A copy of the proposed rates is available for public inspection at the office of the Executive Secretary of the Public Service Commission at 201 Brooks Street, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

2024 West Virginia Molasses Festival

General Exhibit Rules

Exhibitors must bring their exhibits to the West Fork Park in Arnoldsburg, WV. All exhibits will be accepted on Tuesday from 11am to 7pm.

Judging will be done on the days of entry and will be closed to the public. All judging will be finalized by 10am Wednesday morning.

All exhibits must remain on display until 3:00 pm on

Saturday. Quilts **MUST** be picked up by 2:00 pm on Sunday.

Articles previously exhibited and placed at a previous Molasses Festival may not be exhibited again.

First, Second and Third place ribbons will be awarded. Only blue ribbons will receive prize money

When there is no competition, a ribbon may be given (if worthy) with corresponding money paid. However, if in a class no exhibits are worthy, neither ribbon nor

prize money will be awarded. THE DECISION OF THE JUDGE IS FINAL.

Special rules are listed within each department. Please refer to them for further details.

The West Fork Community Action Inc. And the Molasses Festival will not be responsible for accidents or loss of merchandise.

West Fork Community Action and volunteers maintain the right to refuse any entry not meeting class rules.

Department 1 – Agriculture Produce/Field Crops

RULES:

All products shown in this department **MUST BE 2024 GROWN**, unless otherwise specified, and must have been grown by the exhibitor on his/her farm or garden.

Exhibits that do not conform to rules WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

Articles improperly classified will not be judged.

Fair officials will take every precaution for the safekeeping of exhibits after their final arrival and arrangement in the building but will not be responsible for any damage or loss that may occur.

Each exhibitor is limited to ONE (1) entry per class, except where noted.

Small items require at least 10 pieces for an entry, larger items will require 3 pieces. Paper plates will be proved for display.

Fair officials/judges reserve the right to discard foods that are not suitable for display.

AGRICULTURE PRODUCE/FIELD CROPS CLASSLIST

DEPT. 1 – SECTION A – FIELD CROPS (number of pieces required in parenthesis)

Beans - Green, Wax, Pole, or October Beans

- (12) Beets (3)
- Cabbage (1)
- Cantaloupe (1)
- Carrots (3)
- Cauliflower (6 fleurettes)
- Corn – Field (3)
- Cucumber (3)
- Dozen Eggs
- Garlic (5)
- Gourds (1)
- Kale (1 plant)
- Most Unusual Nuts (12)
- Okra (10)
- Onions (3)
- Peppers - Hot (5)
- Peppers - Sweet (3)
- Potatoes - Red (3)
- Potatoes - White (3)
- Pumpkin (1)
- Rhubarb (8 stalks)
- Squash (3)
- Sunflowers (1)
- Sweet Potatoes – Any variety (3)
- Tomatoes – all varieties (3)
- Zucchini (1)
- DEPT. 1 – SECTION B – FRUIT
- Apples
- Berries
- Cherries
- Pears
- Peaches
- Watermelon
- DEPT. 1 – SECTION C – LARGEST
- Pumpkin by Circumference
- Tomato by Weight
- Potato
- Watermelon by Weight

Department 2, Section A Canned Goods

Special Rules

Please exhibit in quart or pint jars only.

No enhancements are to be added to the jar or lid.

Home canned foods must have been prepared within one year prior to the judging date.

Fair officials/judges reserve the right to dispose of any spoiled canned goods.

Previously entered goods will not be judged.

Department 2, Section A Canned Goods Class List

- Apples
- Beets
- Corn
- Dried Foods- Grown by exhibitor
- Greens
- Green Beans
- Brown Beans
- Hot Peppers- with or without wieners
- Jams and Jellies
- Meats
- Peas
- Peaches and Pears

- Pickles
- Tomato Sauces
- Salsa
- Relish
- Sauerkraut
- Soups
- Tomatoes
- Honey
- Honey with comb
- Carrots
- Potatoes
- Butters and Spreads
- Juice
- Other
- Department 2 Section B
- Home Brews
- Special Rules
- 1.Exhibits must be produced by exhibitor and exhibitor must be 21 years of age or older.
- 2. Exhibitors must not be involved in any way with a commercial brewery.
- Department 2, Section B Home Brews
- Ales
- Lager
- Wheat
- Hard Cider
- Corn
- Wines

- “Best Of Show”
- “Queens Choice”
- “Judges Choice”

WFCA will take every precaution for safekeeping of exhibits after their arrival and arrangement in the building but will not be responsible for any damage or loss that may occur.

DEPARTMENT 3 – SECTION A – QUILTS

- CLASSES:
- Hand Pieced – Machine Quilted
- Hand Pieced – Hand Quilted
- Machine Pieced – Machine Quilted
- Panel Quilts
- Applied

Department 3 – Section B through G

RULES:

Exhibits must be a finished product and must have been made during the year by the exhibitor.

Exhibits must not have been placed in a previous Molasses Festival Exhibition. Items previously entered will not be judged.

Exhibits must be clean and have no tears or lost parts.

Exhibits must not have broken or mended parts.

Exhibits containing liquids must be in a leak-proof container.

- Dept. 3- Section B- Needlepoint
- Knitted items
- Crocheted items
- Needlepoint
- Plastic canvas
- Embroidery
- Cross stitch
- Hats or Toboggans

- Dept. 3-Section C- Sewing
- Household items
- Garments
- Books or printed material (stamped fabrics)
- Handbags
- Toys (bears or stuffed dolls)

- Dept. 3-Section D- Weaving
- Rugs
- Blankets
- Garments

- Dept. 3- Section E- Crafts
- Paper art (origami, pa-

- Embroidered
- Tied, Tacked, or Knotted
- Paper Pieced Quilt
- Mixed Technique
- Original Design (Novelty)
- Novice Quilt
- Baby Quilt
- Antique – Over 50 Years Old
- Youth Quilt – Under 18 Yrs.)
- Quilted Pillows
- Quilted Small Wall Hanging (40” or less)
- Quilted Wall-hanging (greater than 40”)
- Patchwork Pillow or Household Accessory
- Quilted Table runners
- Other

- per mâché, quilling etc.)
- Christmas ornaments or items
- Wreaths
- Decorated Hats
- Decorated Baskets
- Decorated wall hangings
- Toys
- Dolls
- Household items
- Hand woven baskets
- Beaded items (not jewelry)
- Jewelry
- Scrapbooking
- Rugs
- Recycled material
- Vinyl creations
- Stained glass
- Legos
- Metal crafts
- Mosaic
- Duct tape crafts
- Ceramics
- Pottery
- Stepping Stones
- Candles
- Other
- Dept. 3- Section F- Lotions and Potions
- Soap
- Lotion
- Cosmetics
- Fragrance
- Dept. 3-Section G- Wood Working
- Furniture
- Kitchen
- Toys
- Wood Carvings
- Wall Decoration
- Canes or Walking Sticks
- Outdoor Décor
- Wood Craft (wood burning or other treatments)
- Other

Department 4 – Art and Photography

RULES:

Exhibitors are limited to **ONE (1)** entry per class

Judging will be done by the usual standards of subject matter, composition and photographic excellence. Composition and exposure must be the work of the exhibitor, however the developing and finishing may be done by anyone

Photos must be **5”x7” inches or larger and MATED.**

If Photo or mat does not meet requirements, the photo will not be judged

Failure to mount prints will result in disqualification

Photos may be taken with a 35 mm camera or a digital camera

WFCA will take every precaution for safekeeping of exhibits after their

arrival and arrangement in the building but will not be responsible for any damage or loss that may occur.

CLASSES DEFINED:

PEOPLE: Adults, children, babies, portraits and character studies or entire figures, alone or in a group where the main subject is the person or persons rather than the environment, close-ups or as a part of a larger composition.

NATURE: Any subject found in nature, plants or flowers, close-ups, etc.

SCENIC: Landscapes, seascapes, architectural and industrial scenes or any scene that has a fundamental unit of design or mood of such magnitude that all else is subordinate to it.

ANIMALS: Any animal or animals (pets, livestock, zoo, marine) in a natural setting. No posed, official show type photos.

DEPARTMENT 4 – SECTION A – ART – ADULT (18 YRS OVER)

DEPARTMENT 4 – SECTION B – ART – YOUTH – (FROM 12 -18 YRS)

DEPARTMENT 4 – SECTION C – ART – JUVENILE – (12 YRS AND UNDER)

CLASSES for all Adult, Youth and Juvenile sections:

- Black & White Pencil Drawing
- Pen & Ink Drawing
- Color Pencil Drawing
- Watercolor Painting
- Oil Painting
- Acrylic Painting
- Oil Pastels
- Pastel Drawing
- Charcoal Drawing
- Creative Painting
- Creative Art – Mixed Media
- Mixed Media
- Miscellaneous or Other

DEPARTMENT 4 – SECTION D – PHOTOGRAPHY – ADULT (18 YRS OVER)

DEPARTMENT 4 – SECTION E – PHOTOGRAPHY – YOUTH (FROM 12-18 YRS)

DEPARTMENT 4 –

SECTION F – PHOTOGRAPHY – JUVENILE – (12 YRS AND UNDER)

CLASSES for all Adult, Youth and Juvenile sections:

- Colored Photos, People
- Black & White Photos, People
- Colored Photos, Scenic
- Black & White Photos, Scenic
- Colored Photos, Animals
- Black & White Photos, Animals
- Colored Photos, Flowers
- Black & White Photos, Flowers
- Colored Photos, Nature
- Black & White Photos, Nature
- Misc. Photos

DEPARTMENT 4 – SECTION G – COMPUTER ENHANCED PHOTOGRAPHY – ALL AGES

CLASSES: Computer Enhanced Photography

DEPARTMENT 4 – SECTION H – PROFESSIONAL DISPLAY PHOTOGRAPHY – ALL AGES

Professional Display – Judged on overall composition, emotion and presentation

Department 5 – Horticulture

Rules:

All flowers should be hardened or conditioned and placed in a cool place for several hours or overnight.

All exhibits must be grown by the exhibitor.

Potted plants must have been in possession of the exhibitor 3 or more months prior to the exhibition.

Potted plants must be in a suitable size container with saucer. Pot should be clean and not exceed 14” in diameter.

Only one plant type per container with exceptions of arrangements.

Horticulture exhibits are judged for horticulture perfection, not for age or size.

Plants should be groomed. Remove dirt, dead foliage, and spray

residue.

Commercial growers and dealers are not eligible for exhibition.

Flowers used in dried arrangements shall be locally grown and dried. Do not use commercially dried flowers.

Herbs must be edible.

Herbs must be locally grown.

Herbs must be potted in a clean container no greater than 8” in circumference.

Dept.5- Section A Horticulture

Cut (single) flower

Fresh flower arrangement

Potted plants

Potted Herbs

Hanging Baskets

Dried Flower arrangement

Arnoldsburg DG Market opens as developer eyes further opportunities

By Gaylen Duskey

With the recent opening of the DG Market in Arnoldsburg interest in development has been piqued in Calhoun County and according to a former resident and developer there may be more coming.

Chris Lane of CLI Solutions and a former Arnoldsburg resident said as much.

Lane has been developed six Dollar General Stores including the one in Arnoldsburg gave much of the credit for getting a store in Arnoldsburg to Calhoun businessman Eric Lupardus.

“Eric pushed the conversation, sent the necessary information and demographics and never let the phone sit idle,” Lane said. “We are looking into some other projects in Calhoun that people may like.”

One of those is building a new Dollar General in Grantsville to replace the one that was recently closed. Lane said that currently they are looking into getting a location and that one (location) is under consideration.

Lane also gave Lupardus credit for developing a DG Market instead of a regular Dollar General store. A DG Market is usually about 12,500 square feet instead of the usual 10,000 square feet and contains facilities for fresh meats, produce and home goods.

Lane was also enthusiastic about some other future developments that are currently in negotiation for the Arnoldsburg area that will provide jobs and opportu-



nities to the citizens of Calhoun.

There has been talk of Minnie Hamilton Health Systems setting up a pharmacy at its Arnoldsburg location (the former Arnoldsburg Elementary School) but it does not seem probable at this time.

“No. Still work in reviewing. Unfortunately comes down to utilization numbers per all the consultants we’ve discussed with, so would be difficult to get to numbers we would need,” MHHS CEO Steve Whited said, “but still reviewing other options.”

West Virginia First Foundation Announces Initial Opportunity Grant

The West Virginia First Foundation is excited to announce its inaugural 2024 foundation grant, a significant step in the fight against the opioid crisis in West Virginia, following approval by its board members at today’s meeting. Named the Initial Opportunity Grant (IOG), the funding initiative marks a milestone in the Foundation’s mission to deploy vital resources across the state and begins to satisfy its mission to empower West Virginians to prevent substance use disorder, support recovery, and save lives.

The Foundation has allotted \$19.2 million for distribution through this first grant application process.

Online applications are due by Oct. 5, 2024, and recipients will be announced by Dec. 31, 2024.

“Thousands of West Virginians are working every day to help their fellow citizens battle substance use disorder and the myriad of negative consequences of this disease,” said WVFF Executive Director Jonathan Board. “The West Virginia First Foundation is committed and eager to get this crucial funding to new and innovative programs, and organizations already in the trenches, working with such dedication, and truly making a difference.”

After significant review of needs throughout the state, the Initial Opportunity Grant is focused on healing local communities and supporting recovery in the following targeted areas, described by the WVFF as urgent needs:

- Youth Prevention & Workforce Development
- Child Advocacy Centers/Neonatal Abstinence Programs
- Diversion Programs & Interdiction Programs
- Certified Transitional & Recovery Housing Expansion

Each of the state’s six regions will be allocated \$800,000 in each target area. The Foundation may issue up to four awards per target area per region.

The Initial Opportunity Grant represents the culmination of extensive work by the

Foundation’s Initial Opportunity Committee (IOC), which was dedicated to developing a rigorous and transparent application process. To ensure local input in the development and deployment of this application, WVFF coordinated review with the recently seated statewide Expert Panel.

“We realize the enormity of the task ahead, and we know we have one chance to get it right,” said Board. “We’ve taken the last several months to really listen to the stakeholders and experts, and to review the latest data and best practices. We have protections and standards in place now, so when the funding is distributed, it’ll be done in a sound and transparent way.”

The Foundation will award grants in accordance with the MOU and a scoring methodology based on Evidence Based Strategies, Relationship to the Foundation’s Strategic Vision, Implementation and Sustainability, Transparency and Fairness, and Impact and Measurability.

“With the release of this grant application, the West Virginia First Foundation is taking a decisive step towards empowering our communities to combat the opioid crisis head-on,” added WVFF Chairman Matthew Harvey. “This Initial Opportunity Grant embodies our focus on healing and recovery while reflecting our commitment to spend funds effectively in the service of West Virginians.”

For more information on the Initial Opportunity Grant, how they will be evaluated, and how to access online application materials, please visit wvfirst.org/grants

For inquiries, please contact: media@wvfirst.org

About West Virginia First Foundation: The West Virginia First Foundation is dedicated to addressing the opioid epidemic in West Virginia by supporting initiatives that promote prevention, treatment, recovery, and community resilience. Through collaboration with communities and local voices, WVFF aims to create sustainable solutions to push back against this public health crisis.

WELCOME ALL TO THE

End of Summer FESTIVAL

*FREE ENTRY!

Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024

Camp Sheppard ~ 4-H Campgrounds, Gandeeville WV



8 AM—5 PM*

Flea Market & Crafts Vendors

(Booths ~\$35 ea.)

**Featuring Sisters BBQ Food Truck ~10 AM- 5 PM*





1 PM—5 PM

Cruise In Car & Bike Show

Free Entry ~ Come Show Off Your Cool Ride!





All Day

Inflatables, Music, Food and Fun for All!





6 PM (doors open @ 5 PM)

Cash Bingo 20 games/\$20 (in advance) /\$25 (at door)


Call 304-927-0975 to reserve a vendor booth or bingo ticket!

Proceeds Benefit 4-H Campgrounds



HILLBILLY GOLF


IF YOU LIKE TOP GOLF YOU WILL LOVE HILLBILLY GOLF



FALL CLASSIC
OCT 5 @ 2:00!

TEAMS OF 2
120 PER PERSON
1000 PRIZE

No golf skills required
Golf clubs/balls provided



HILLBILLY GOLF PRIZE
\$1500

GOLF TEAMS OF 2
\$20 PER PERSON

Register & Pay Entry Fee by Oct 1

📍 Saundra Johnson Aquatic Center @ Avalon
101 School St Grantsville WV

CALHOUN COUNTY PRESENTS


PATCH SOCCER

\$10
PER PERSON

YOUTH AGE
3-8

SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER

PARENT MEETING @ AES PAVILION
SEPTEMBER 9 @ 5:00



DUE TO INTEREST, WE WILL ONLY BE OFFERING TEAMS FOR 6U AND 8U (AGES 3-8)

CONTACT INFORMATION:
QUINTON.WARD@K12.WV.US
BDEEL@PATCH21.ORG

7 Fall Tips for Readyng Your Outdoor Power Equipment for Winter

Prep Equipment for Season Changes, Save Time and Future Headaches

After your lawn gets its last cut before winter, it will be time to put away spring and summer outdoor power equipment, like lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and trimmers. It's also important to prepare snow throwers, generators and other small engine equipment for winter use. How and when you prepare your equipment for seasonal changes can save you time and money later, says the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI).

"Readyng your equipment for winter needs is important as the weather changes," says Kris Kiser, President and CEO of OPEI. "It's also important to put your fall equipment away correctly. What you do now when you put away your equipment, sets you up for an easier start in the spring."

Here are seven tips from OPEI to ensure snow throwers will be ready when the flakes fly and chainsaws, generators and other equipment are ready for winter storms. Also, your lawn mower and other spring equipment will be available and ready for use when warmer temperatures return.

1 - Review owner's manuals. Re-familiarize yourself with how to handle equipment safely. Lost manuals can be found online. Save a copy on your computer if possible, so it can be consulted when needed. Be familiar with your equipment, and all its features, including how to turn it off quickly and safely.

2 - Service all equipment. Before storing spring and summer equipment, clean and service it or take it to a small engine repair shop. Change engine oil and safely dispose of the old oil. Service the air filter, and do other maintenance as directed by the owner's manual. Check winter equipment and see if any maintenance and repairs are required.

3 - Handle fuel properly. Unused fuel left in gas tanks over the winter can go stale and even damage equipment. Before storing equipment, add fuel stabilizer to the gas tank, then run the equipment to distribute it. Turn the engine off, allow the machine to cool, then restart and run until the gas tank is empty. For winter equipment, buy the recommended type of fuel no more than 30 days before use. Use fuel with no more than 10% ethanol in outdoor power equipment. Use a fuel stabilizer if recommended by the manufacturer. Get more information on safe fueling for outdoor power equipment at Look-BeforeYouPump.com.



4 - Charge batteries. Remove and fully charge batteries before storing. Don't store batteries on metal shelves or allow them to touch metal objects. Store them on a plastic or wood shelf in a climate-controlled structure.

5 - Shelter equipment from winter weather. Store spring and summer equipment in a clean and dry place such as a garage, barn or shed. Winter equipment should be kept away from the elements but be easily available for use.

6 - Prepare, prepare, prepare. Make space in the garage or basement before the weather changes, so there is

room to store larger yard items. Remove sticks, debris, dog and kid's toys and other items from your yard that can damage or destroy equipment. Clear the paths used regularly, especially during the winter when snow can "hide" things.

7 - Have the right weather appropriate extension cord for your generator. Keep heavy duty outdoor-rated extension cords on hand. Ensure the cord is the right length to operate the generator a safe distance from the building. Never operate a generator indoors, in a garage, breezeway or under an open window or near any air intake for a building.

Planting in fall to enjoy in spring

Fall is the perfect time to plant perennials because the soil is still warm, and the perennials can settle before winter. After a period of hibernation, they will grow

Planting in fall

If you plant them in the first half of October, your perennials will reap the benefits of the still-warm soil. In fall, many perennials enter a phase where they start preparing for winter. They store energy in their underground parts so they can sprout vigorously in spring. This gives the plants a head start in fall and makes for an earlier and nicely filled planting than if you waited to plant until spring.

Pruning and fertilizing

Choose perennials that you like and that are a good fit for your (façade) garden. They come in all manner of shapes, heights and colors. Also pay attention to the location: many perennials have a clear preference for sun, partial shade (i.e. between three and six hours of sun a day) or shade. Many varieties will flower as early as spring. Imagine how much fun it will be to watch them bud, grow and bloom later.

A few ideas for spring bloomers

Pulmonaria (lungwort) - Early-flowering perennial with fab ground cover that bees love. Flowers: March, April, location: partial shade

Epimedium (barrenwort) - With flowers on graceful stems above heart-shaped leaves. Flowers: April, May, location: partial shade

Bergenia (elephant's ears) - Evergreen plant with large leathery leaves. Flowers: April, May, location: full sun

Brunnera - With cheerful blue flowers and heart-shaped leaves. Flowers: April, May, location: shade and partial shade

Paeonia (peony) - Plant with stunning double flowers sold widely with so-called 'bare roots'. Flowers: May-June, location: sun and partial shade

Iris, for example Iris sibirica (Siberian iris) and Iris germanica (bearded iris) - With characteristic flowers on sturdy stems. Flowers: May-June, location: full sun

Geum (avens) - Richly flowering perennial that stays



Peony

green in winter. Flowers: April-August, location: sun and partial shade

Tips for perennials

Pick a nice fall day for planting.

Make a spacious planting hole and properly loosen the soil.

Choose plants with different flowering periods to enjoy flowers in your garden all season long; for example, Ve-



Iris

ronicastrum (culver's root), which flowers in July-August with long delicate flower spikes and loves sunshine.

For that extra springlike feeling, plant some spring-flowering bulbs between your perennials.

Water the plants after planting.

More information about the 'Plant with us!' campaign and more information about perennials is available at www.perennialpower.eu.

DROUGHT Continued from Page 1

ditions grazing lands for animals is hard to find and farmers are being forced to feed animals cut hay to get by.

"Hay will be in high demand this fall and winter due to the drought, and prices are already inflated compared to previous years" said J.J. Barrett, WVU Extension Agent in Wood County. "There is little second or third cutting hay locally. Livestock producers can use shelled corn or by-products to replace some of that hay to feed their livestock."

By-products such as soy hull pellets, distillers' grain, corn gluten pellets and wheat middling can also be fed to livestock to replace some of the hay in the diet.

Proper care of livestock is the highest priority when dealing with drought, but farmers should also take this opportunity to implement any needed management changes.

WVU Agriculture Extension Agent Daisy Fryman from Calhoun County will be discussing "Sacrifice Areas and Pasture Recovery".

"Livestock farmers should select one sacrifice paddock or pasture field to feed hay to animals to give other fields time to recover until receive some rain" Fryman explained. "If you open the gates to all the pastures and the animals eat the grass into the dirt, it will take much longer for forage plants to recover from the

drought."

Many other experts will also speak on various subjects.

Due the drought this summer, the Little Kanawha and Western Conservation Districts in West Virginia are offering an Agricultural Enhancement Exigency Program to help livestock farmers. The Livestock Water Supply program covers water hauling tanks, portable water troughs, water pumps, connection/tap to public water, associated fittings and hoses. They will reimburse half of the costs up to \$500.00. If you have saved receipts for purchased materials, they are doing retroactive payments from June 25.

You need to fill out:
1. Cooperator Agreement
2. Ag Enhancement Exigency Program Application
3. IRS W-9 form.
Applications are due by Friday (Sept. 13).

The D-3 designation qualifies livestock farmers for federal funding for USDA Disaster Assistance Programs, including Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP). LFP is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

And one last problem exacerbated by the drought - yellowjackets. Dry soil conditions seem to be linked to an increase in yellow jacket activity in areas that have more moisture such as gardens and creeks.

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