

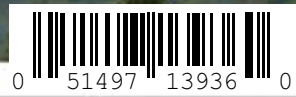


# Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple

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## Shamblin retires from Clay County Schools after 32 years



Russell Shamblin has retired from the Clay County School district last month after 32 years of service. Inset Photo: Shamblin's son, Jason, and daughter-in-law, Shawna, had Kinsley Marie on Dec. 21, 2022.

Russell Shamblin has retired after 32 years of service for the Clay County School district. He was employed from September 9, 1991

through January 6, 2023. Russell started working full time for Clay County Schools as a mechanic, and during his 32 years of service Russell worked under transportation directors Russ Harper, Larry D. Legg, Michael Mullins, Joe Paxton, and upon retirement Jared Fitzwater. For superintendents he had Jim Dawson, Jerry Linkinogor, Larry Gillespie, Kenneth Tanner, Joe Paxton, and Joan Haynie. Russell worked many days and long hours and was very dedicated to his job. There was a retirement dinner and party thrown in his honor on Jan. 4, 2023, with approximately 70 family members and friends in attendance. He will definitely be missed. Also, as Russell retired, his son Jason and daughter-in-law Shawna welcomed him a beautiful granddaughter on Dec. 21, 2022 named Kinsley Marie.

## CORRECTION: Help Save the Clay County Library

Previously, an incorrect email was published for video submissions for the saving the library campaign. Please email 30 second to 1 minute long video submissions of why you love your local library to sheila.thorne@clay.wvlibrary.info.

## Clay County Students Named to Glenville State University Honor Rolls

The names of Clay County students who attained the Glenville State University President's and Provost's Honor Rolls for the Fall 2022 semester have been announced. Tempest Loyd and Adison Woods, both of Duck, have been named to the GSU President's Honor Roll. To be named to the President's Honor Roll, students must have a 4.0 grade point average and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours. Madison Jurkovich, Chloe Richardson, and Kathleen Rose, all of Duck, Grant Krajieski of Maysel, and Lori Ray of Wallback have been named to the GSU Provost's Honor Roll. To be named to the Provost's Honor Roll, students must have grade point averages between 3.5 and 3.9 and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours.

## Percentage of West Virginia students repeating a grade more than doubled during the pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic and the difficulties of virtual learning caused more kids to fall behind in school. State lawmakers are advancing bills to provide extra support for struggling students and hire almost 2,500 teacher aides for elementary schools.

by Ellie Heffernan for Mountain State Spotlight

This story was originally published by Mountain State Spotlight. For more stories from Mountain State Spotlight, visit [www.mountainstatespotlight.org](http://www.mountainstatespotlight.org).

The parking lot was quiet and nearly pitch black. But inside the gymnasium, several hundred noisy spectators gathered

around the court. And even though it was Tuesday night, their spirits were high, like the weekend was starting.

"E-I-E-I-E-I-O! Go Beavers, Go Beavers, Go!" yelled the Bluefield High cheerleaders, as the school's Varsity Boys Basketball team prepared to face the Greenbrier East High Spartans.

Shawn Williams was sitting in the stands, like she often does. She's taught at Bluefield High for over a decade and tries to come to as many games as possible.

It was hard for the community to miss out on moments like this during the COVID-19 pandemic, she said.

"Everything stopped. To have our sports games, and our basketball season cut short... We had a theater production in progress, and we were unable to do it until the spring of 2022," said Williams, who teaches English and theater.

She nodded at the group of students standing several rows in front of her. Like Williams, they cheered and clapped when the Beavers made a basket. They groaned and buried their heads in their hands when the team missed a shot.

"I think they struggled with being isolated from their friends, not having that face-to-face time in class to discuss," Williams said.

Students struggled nationwide during the pandemic, with test scores dropping and concerns about children's mental health growing. But in West Virginia, many struggled more than most, as the state's results on national standardized assessments amounted to its lowest performance ever.

In a typical year, only a small percentage of West Virginia kids are repeating a grade. But last school year, that percentage more than doubled to 4% of all students, largely due to the pandemic. And West Virginia had one of the highest percent increases in students repeating a grade, among 26 states that provided recent data to the As-

sociated Press.

Administrators and teachers say students are still struggling, and they need more money and staff to provide them with the intensive educational support they need. State lawmakers have proposed bills that could put large sums toward this and other measures to help West Virginia's youngest students. If passed and fully funded, this could make a huge difference for the state's children.

**'It was a complete disaster'**

During the last school year, Mercer County, where Bluefield is located, had one of the state's highest percentages of students repeating a grade — nearly 7%.

*Students cont. on page 2*

## WV Sees Record Increase in ACA Enrollments

A record-breaking more than 163 million people signed up for an Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace healthplan nationwide during the ACA's 10<sup>th</sup> Open Enrollment. West Virginia saw an increase of almost 23% - the sixth highest increase in the nation for states that use healthcare.gov.

Prior to the start of this year's Open Enrollment, the U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released a record amount of grant funding to organizations that provide free help to consumers needing help enrolling in health coverage. In West Virginia, First Choice Services was awarded \$1,050,000 to continue and expand their WV Navigator program. The program provides free assistance to people finding and selecting healthcare options through the Marketplace, Medicaid and CHIP.

Jeremy Smith, the WV Navigator Director, says that the increase in funding has really helped the program expand and get the word out about the Marketplace. "The historic increase in funding for our program last year, and then again this year, has helped our program increase our enrollments by over 30% from last year," Smith says. "Our Navigators have been

working hard to help get the word out to people about the benefits of the Marketplace and we are excited to see how the rest of the year goes!"

Even though Open Enrollment has ended, some people will qualify for Special Enrollment Periods to enroll throughout the year. WV Navigator is encouraging anyone who loses their health coverage anytime during the year to contact them to find out what their options are. "Most people will be able to qualify for substantially lower costs if they get their insurance on the Marketplace," said Jeremy Smith. "We are really urging people to look at the new plans and prices that are being released this year. In a lot of cases, the plans are more affordable than we have ever seen. Even if you have looked into insurance on the Marketplace in past years and were not very happy, you should definitely look into it again this year." Smith says getting help signing up is important, as many people are overwhelmed by the options or may not realize how to shop for affordable health coverage.

For free assistance the WV Navigator program is available by calling 304-356-5834 or visiting [www.ACA-Navigator.com](http://www.ACA-Navigator.com).

## CCMS basketball has a tough week on the hardwood



Thursday was 8th grade night for the Lady Mustangs. Allen Hamrick photo

See Story on Page 8

# BOOKED

## CENTRAL REGIONAL JAIL

### BRAXTON COUNTY

### CLAY COUNTY

### NICHOLAS COUNTY



Sabrina Eve Bookheimer  
Booked 2/5/23  
Trespassing asked to leave

Dustin Joe Brantley  
Booked 1/30/23  
Bailpiece

Roger Thomas Mullens  
Booked 2/5/23  
Domestic battery second offense

Brandy Nicole Shaver  
Booked 2/4/23  
Shoplifting third offense

Jeremy Allen Brown  
Booked 2/2/23  
Improper registration, no insurance

Homer Glen Williams  
Booked 2/2/23  
Driving while license suspended/revoked, no insurance, no operators, no seat belt, defective equipment, improper MVI

Joseph Samuel Allen  
Booked 2/5/23  
Defective equipment, driving revoked second, improper registration, no MVI, no insurance

## Students

(cont. from page 1)

Even now, more students are struggling than usual, said Kelli Stanley, principal of Princeton Primary School.

“This year’s third graders were the first year of kindergarten where we had those shortened days. So, they didn’t have as much time for instruction,” Stanley said. “And everybody in Mercer County was wearing a mask. So, how do you teach sounds and things like that with a mask on? Kids that were going to probably struggle were hit the worst.”

Today, students entering the lobby of Princeton Primary can see colorful seating cushions and drawings of tigers — the school’s mascot — everywhere. In Stanley’s office, framed pictures of famous children’s book protagonists, such as the “Very Hungry Caterpillar,” decorate the wall. The entire building feels homey.

But during the pandemic, the closest some Mercer County students came to their schools were their parking lots, where the district had set up Wi-Fi hotspots. Many children didn’t have internet access, especially students in more rural communities.

Roughly 15 minutes away from Princeton, Tina Bryant teaches kindergarten in Spanishburg, a town of several hundred. Much of the area doesn’t have broadband, and, during the pandemic, many of her students were also being raised by their grandparents — who didn’t understand technology.

“We were trying to be on Teams for our instructional time,” Bryant said. “If you lost your kids, some of them may try to get back on. Some of them just say, ‘Well, I’m finished for the day.’”

Older students also struggled to attend remote classes, said former Princeton High School social studies and civics teacher Tim Snead.

“Because of the internet situation, sometimes they couldn’t log on to the lessons we were trying to teach. It was just very difficult,” Snead said. “Sometimes I had a class of 30 kids, and maybe a third of them would show up online. Either because of the issues with the internet access — or the fact they just didn’t want to.”

This wasn’t just a Mercer County problem: students struggled throughout West Virginia, even if

they consistently attended online school.

“It was a complete disaster,” said Marshall County resident Rebekah Wolfe, of her son attending first grade remotely. “He didn’t know anything, and I know he didn’t know anything because I was trying to teach it to him. I’m not a teacher. I’m not qualified.”

Wolfe was doing clerical work full-time, and she didn’t understand the new Common Core methods her son’s teachers were using for addition and subtraction. She eventually quit her job because there was no one else to watch her kids as they attended remote classes from home.

She later advocated for her son to repeat first grade, and he’s doing well in school now.

“It’s not that noticeable when your friends go to second grade and you’re still in first,” Wolfe said. “You get a whole bunch of new friends from kindergarten and they’re still at that friendly, ‘I like everybody’ kind of stage. And with my son, they made him the class helper because he already knew what was expected from the year before.”

#### Retention v. intensive support

In school administrator lingo, students are “retained,” rather than “held back,” or made to “repeat a grade.” And although being retained helped Wolfe’s son, teachers and administrators often try to avoid it, especially for older students.

“If you start retaining in third, fourth, fifth grade, those kids are aware enough of their peers and their surroundings,” said Roane County Superintendent Richard Duncan. “They know that they’ve been retained. They know why they’ve been retained. I think it does affect kids and they go into it knowing, ‘Well I’m not as smart as my friends.’”

A 2017 study led by a researcher from Texas A&M University also found that children who repeat a year of school — even just once, during elementary school — are more likely to drop out during high school.

To avoid this, many West Virginia schools use a tiered intervention process: the more a child has fallen behind in school, the more intense the support they receive.

If a child is only struggling with a few key

skills, they can receive extra teaching time in small groups tailored to helping them understand those specific topics. Sometimes, one-on-one time with an educator is provided for students who need even more help. This extra instruction can take place during the school day, after school or during the summer.

As the number of struggling kids has increased, schools have ratcheted up this additional academic support too. But they’re relying on limited funds to provide it. Roane County is using federal COVID-19 relief funds to pay for many intervention services, and those expire in 2024.

Princeton Primary uses Title I funding — federal money given to schools with many children living in poverty — to pay for some intervention services. But there’s still not enough to go around, its principal said.

“It’s always like ‘We need another interventionist,’” Stanley said. “Because it seems like more kids need that intervention service or that small group instruction. Teachers offer that, but to get extra is what our kids are needing.”

#### Recently introduced bills would fix some problems, but not all

A pair of early childhood education bills moving through the Statehouse would help with that — and more. Senate Bill 274 and its companion bill House Bill 2003 would each require schools to administer assessments three times each year for students in kindergarten through third grade. If those assessments determine a student is behind in reading or math, schools would have to provide them with interventions, such as extra one-on-one instruction.

Both bills would require more training for teachers and more resources for additional instruction after the school day and during the summer. Of high interest to many school administrators, including Stanley, is that they would also require every classroom from pre-K through third

grade to have an early childhood classroom assistant teacher.

“Kindergarten has a teacher and an aide, and they’re our babies. We want to take care of them. They need that. But when they get to first grade, it’s one teacher, 20 to 23 kids. And they sometimes still need that extra attention,” Stanley said. “And so, I really was excited to see that that was a possibility. I think that could be a game changer.”

Both bills have headed to their chamber’s respective finance committees, so it’s not yet clear how much money lawmakers are willing to put toward this initiative. But it’s estimated that fully funding HB 2003 as it is currently written would cost nearly \$100 million once it’s fully implemented.

Even if either of these bills eventually become law, they won’t do much to help the state’s older students, who are still dealing with the long-term effects of pandemic learning.

Back at the Bluefield High basketball game, multiple students said their motivation decreased steeply during the pandemic, but they were glad to be back watching the basketball team play in person. Sophomore Tyquise Powell, who plays football and runs track, said the year of remote learning was tough.

“For me, waking up and being in my bed, was not for me. Doing work on the computer? I’m better at in-person type learning,” he said.

Several students talked about how much they’d missed playing sports. One said his grades “went all the way down to here,” as he gestured to the floor, then added that he’d since caught up.

And even though many are still dealing with the lingering effects of COVID’s disruption, the students in the packed gymnasium seemed relieved to return to some semblance of normal. As the Bluefield Beavers beat the Greenbrier Spartans in overtime, they stood and chanted, “I believe that we have won,” over and over again.

## Public Notices

The Clay County Middle School afterschool program is still seeking donated sewing machines. If you have a working portable sewing machine that you no longer need and would like to donate to a beginning sewist, please drop it off at the Clay County Library earmarked for the CCMS sewing class. The manual would be great to have with the machine. Please, include your contact information. In the case that the class is too small for the number of machines that may be donated, leave a note saying what you want done with it. Thank you in advance for your support!

The Birch River PSD will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 14, at 9:00 am, at the PSD office in Birch River.

The Clay County WIC office located at 452 Main Street in Clay is open to serve the public every Monday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## WV WIC Announces Infant Formula Changes

West Virginia’s Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WV WIC) within the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources’ Bureau for Public Health announced WV WIC will return to offering Similac products only, effective March 1, 2023. WV WIC will continue to allow larger sized cans of Similac products to be purchased through April 30, 2023.

In March 2022, WV WIC expanded allowable sizes, brands, and types of formula available for purchase with eWIC benefits. This change was permitted while Abbott Nutrition (manufacturer of Similac products) made new formulas and dispersed products to grocery stores. In July 2022, Abbott Nutrition reopened their manufacturing facility in Sturgis, Michigan.

“WV WIC is committed to providing our WIC families with nutritious foods, including infant formula,” said Heidi Staats, Director of DHHR’s Office of Nutrition Services. “WV WIC will continue to work with our retailers and Abbott Nutrition to ensure adequate supply of approved infant formula remains on West Virginia’s grocery shelves.”

WIC provides pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children up to age 5 with nutritious, supplemental foods. The program also provides nutrition and breastfeeding education and referrals to health and social services.

WV WIC continues to offer virtual benefit issuance, as well as virtual nutrition services and breastfeeding education. To find a WIC clinic, visit <https://dhhr.wv.gov/WIC/Pages/Clinic-Search.aspx>.

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## Be the Dandelion

By Joseph J. Mazzella

It was several years ago. We were in the midst of a long winter. It was full of below freezing days and even colder nights. I was shoveling out from snow after snow. And even when it warmed up a little, the skies stayed gray and bitter, bone-chilling rains fell. People were even joking about shooting the groundhog when it predicted six more weeks of winter. I myself was feeling tired and a bit gloomy. It wasn't so much the snow or even the cold that was getting me down. It was the lack of light. I couldn't remember a winter with so many gray, overcast days.

It was another gray day and I was outside taking my dogs for their mid-day walk in the meadow behind my home. The temperatures still hadn't risen above freezing. The dead grass crunched under my feet. The gravestones in the graveyard there still had snow on them from the night before. Just as I was about to take the dogs in, however, a flash of yellow caught my eye. I stopped and looked closer to see a single, silly dandelion poking its head through the frozen ground.

I walked over to it and bent down to reassure myself that I wasn't hallucinating. "You're early!" I said with a laugh. Then I knelt down in the snow and lowered my nose to smell the hardy, little flower. I closed my eyes, breathed in deep, and felt a little spring come to life in my heart. Then for the first time in days the clouds broke, the sun shone through, and I watched as that little dandelion drank in the light. I walked home smiling with a little more light inside of me as well. I knew that God's spring lived in my soul no matter what the weather was outside.

In this life we all get our share of cold, wintry, gray days. We can let them define us or we can be like that dandelion, share our beauty and invite the sun to come out. The choice is ours. Be the dandelion then. Delight your Father in Heaven by shining all the beauty, love, and light that is within you. Carry your own spring deep in your soul even during the winter times in this world. And make this world a more beautiful place by being the most beautiful you.

## THE BAPTIST CLASSROOM

Pastor Doug Newell, IV

### Drawing Lines



Lord willing, we will start the fourth chapter of First John and the second chapter of Second Peter in our Wednesday night and Sunday Night services. Both portions of Scripture deal with false teachers. John tells us to "try the spirits" because not everyone who says they are of Christ is truthful about it. Every heretic has a Bible verse and has something to say about Jesus. It's the job of Christians to be discerning and judge what people are saying, in God's name, about God. Along those same lines, Peter tells us that we are to heed the Scriptures because it's the Word of God given to us "as holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." But just as there were true prophets, there were also false prophets. Likewise, there are true teachers of the Bible today as well as false teachers. Peter spends most of the rest of the epistle warning against the dangers of false teaching. It's destructive and leads to destruction. And that's why discernment is essential; eternity is at

stake.

There is a balance that Christians must try to hold. On the one hand, we must be diligent in keeping to the faith once delivered, but also love the brethren and not destroy another Christian because of a difference of opinion (Romans 14-15). There are some matters that Christians may disagree on and still be within the bounds of Christian orthodoxy. At the same time, there are some doctrines in which there can be no compromise (Galatians 2:5). For Paul, he could bear with Christians with weak faith, who thought they had to follow Old Testament dietary laws, but he wouldn't put up with someone adding to the gospel, for even an hour. John could patiently teach the truth to believers, bear with the "little children" who knew that Jesus loved them, and then turn around and call false teachers liars and antichrists. Peter fulfilled his divine mission to strengthen the brethren but also condemned false teachers with emphatic and fiery judgments.

What made the difference?

First, John, Peter, and Paul condemn teachers, those who should know better and have taken to instruct other people. It's bad enough to believe bad doctrine, but it's much worse to teach it. There is a difference between a Christian who doesn't know any better or who hasn't yet learned the truth and one who speaks in God's name, telling other people what God says in His Word. The other distinction is that John, Peter, and Paul dealt with gospel issues -- adding to the gospel, denying future judgment, or teaching unorthodox thoughts about the person of Jesus Christ. There is no room for those teaching people doctrines that will lead to Hell.

We'll all have to stand before Jesus and answer for how and where we drew the line. God help us to never compromise on vital doctrines and never destroy a brother or sister over differing opinions and the wisdom to know the difference.

## Home Country

Slim Randles

It's coming up on St. Valentine's Day, so I thought I should share the love story of Coalie and Wilma, and every word is true.

Coalie was one of Sequoia-Kings Pack Trains' mules. Coal black of course, and if he should get a good shot, you could be kicked. Pack mule, not riding mule. Wilma was a little brown mule belonging to Rock Creek Pack Station out of Bishop, some 40 miles north of us.

Well, my boss, Gene Burkhardt, and Rock Creek's boss, Herb London, pastured their pack stock together each winter just outside Independence. Come June, we'd go catch our stock out of this 110,000-acre mostly desert ranch, and string them together and lead them straight up about 10 miles to a little meadow called Onion Valley, where our headquarters were. It took days to get them all up there.

Herb's packers would truck his stock more than 40 miles north, through three towns and lots of rough country, to their pack station.

It was about three days after I'd led a string of mules overnight to the pack station, including Coalie, and got ready for our season. I went out in the morning and found a little brown mare mule giving muzzle snuggles to Coalie. From the brand on her, we knew she was one of Herb's, so Gene called him and Herb drove all the way to get her.

Four days later, she was back in the mule corral making mulie smooches with her boyfriend. She had tracked Coalie from the winter pasture down 40 miles of highway 395, across five miles of desert and up nine miles of mountains. Twice.

Mules have gender, but are sterile hybrids and don't "mate" physically. They are a combination of a

horse mother and a donkey dad.

Gene and Herb decided love was stronger than anything else we had around there, so Gene gave Herb a mule, and Wilma became ours. Well, Coalie's.

After that, for as long as they lived, if you took one, you had to take the other.

A few of the old packers said they'd heard about mules occasionally getting "married" but this was the first time seeing it, and it was the first for me, too.

So Happy Valentine's Day, Coalie and Wilma, wherever you roam these days. Thanks for setting a good example for the rest of us. The world loves lovers.

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## Ugly Isn't For Sissies

Dr. James L. Snyder

Over the years of marital bliss, we've not had many disagreements. She likes broccoli. I like Apple Fritters. We've never been able to come to any agreement with that. But, outside of that, everything has been rather smooth.

There's one controversy that has plagued our house for the last few years, and there doesn't seem to be any solution. There are some problems with no solutions, and I guess this is one of them.

The controversy I have is about my bathroom mirror; each of us has our bathroom with our own mirror. My mirror has some very significant issues with it.

For several years I have suggested that we replace my old mirror with a new one.

Once, I even suggested I would be glad to pay for the new mirror out of my Apple Fritter account, which was a mistake.

When I said that, she looked at me with a long pause and then said, "You have an account for Apple Fritters?"

I knew I was in trouble for that; I guess I kissed my Apple Fritter account goodbye.

The controversy I had is that my old mirror portrays me as some old guy. I find it rather frustrating because I have some pictures of myself, and I don't look old at all.

As we discussed this, she said, "My mirror portrays me as I really am." She smiled one of her sarcastic smiles at me.

"Let me," I said, "go and look in your mirror to see if what you're telling me is really true."

I entered her bathroom and was surprised as I looked in her mirror and saw some old guy looking back at me.

Immediately I went out and said, "Hey, who's that old guy in your bathroom?"

She laughed and said, "I think it's you, but all I ever see is some old

lady."

"I am not that old," I demanded.

I then went and got our family photo album, brought it back, opened it up, pointed to a picture, and said, "See, that's me."

She looked at the picture, then back at me laughingly, and said, "Yes, that's you when you were in high school."

I flipped a few pages and said, "There I am."

"That's our wedding picture," she said with a smile.

By that time, I was just a little bit frustrated. If I look at those pictures and then look in the mirror, I do not see any resemblance whatsoever. How can that old rascal in the mirror be me?

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage could see that I was just a little bit discouraged. After all, pictures don't lie, but I think mirrors do.

"Don't you realize that as we grow and get older, our looks change?"

Looking at her, I was shaking my head and unwilling to reach her level of understanding.

"But," I complained, "I'm not that old looking, am I?"

Then she handed me a more recent photograph. It was me holding my granddaughter on the day of her birth. I looked at it as though I was looking out for the first time. When I first looked at it, I didn't see myself; rather, I saw my great-granddaughter.

After looking at it for a few moments, I sat back in my chair and sighed deeply. "So, I am an old man."

"Well, my dear, you're not young anymore."

I stared at her for a few moments and then said, "Tell me, why do you look so good, and I look so old?"

"Because you're not looking in my bathroom mirror."

"Maybe," I said, "we could change bathroom mirrors?"

She started laughing and a few moments later, I joined her in laughing.

This was the first time I ever seriously looked at myself.

In the morning, when I go to the bathroom to comb my hair, shave, and brush my teeth, I ignore what's in the mirror. Maybe I ought to.

Thinking about this for a bit, I had a thought. Does it really matter how old a person looks? After all the only cure for not getting old is dying.

I've noted lately that some of these Hollywood stars get facelifts, tummy tucks, and all sorts of changes to their body. I wonder if they do that for themselves or for the public that's looking?

Does it really matter how a person looks?

I believe the next time I'm in my bathroom, I'm going to have a little chat with that old guy in the mirror. I will say, "I don't care how old you look. You don't scare me." I had to rehearse that line a dozen times to get it right. I'm not sure I can trust that old guy in the mirror.

Of course, one of the great benefits is that I don't have to see how I look throughout the day. The people on the other side of my glasses have that to handle.

I have learned to appreciate what God said to Samuel in, 1 Samuel 16:7, "But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."

God does not judge me by my outward appearance, but by my heart. If my heart isn't right with God nothing else really matters.

Already Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnyderministries.com.

THE FREEPRESS '50's and '60's

## ROCK 'N' ROLL TRIVIA

What rock & roll group was formerly known as the Quarrymen and Johnny & The Moon Dogs?

Answer to last week's Trivia: Did you name any of these recognizable male/female duos from the 50's & 60's? Dale & Grace, Dick & Dee Dee, Dinah Washington & Brook Benton, Frank and Nancy Sinatra, George Jones & Tammy Wynette, Ike & Tina Turner, Les Paul & Mary Ford, Paul & Paula, Marvin Gaye & Tammy Terrill, Mickey & Sylvia, and Sonny & Cher.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	1			6				7
		6	3					4
4					8	2		
7					9			8
		3		4		5		
	9		6					3
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1				7		8		
		7			4			9

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging  
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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# OBITUARIES

## Doris Jean Brown

Doris Jean Brown, 79, of Jodie, WV went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, January 26, 2023, after a long illness.

Born April 25, 1943, in Lansing, she was the daughter of the late James Charles and Roena Olive Horrocks.

Doris was a homemaker and spent her life dedicated to taking care of her family. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert L Brown, and son, Roger L Brown. She is also preceded in death by her sister, Ruth Jones; and brothers Bill Hess, Donnie, Tommy, Dallas, and Lee Horrocks. She is survived by her son, Kenny Brown, and grandchildren Jared, Brookelyn, Roger, and Courtney Brown. She is also survived by sister Rose Stephens and brother Kenny Horrocks.

A graveside service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 2, at Rich Creek Cemetery, Jodie WV.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com).

Pennington Smith Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Brown family.

## Wilma Loretta (Falls) Hall

Wilma Loretta (Falls) Hall, 54, of Ivydale, WV went home to be with the Lord after a long illness on January 25, 2023. She was born on March 26, 1968.

Wilma was preceded in death by her parents, Virgil and Bertha Falls.

Wilma is survived by her husband, Dana Ray Hall; daughters, Ashley and Amber; five grandchildren; and her uncle Raymond Falls.

She was a faithful member of Rush Fork Community Church. She will be greatly missed and loved by all who knew her.

A memorial service was held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at Rush Fork Community Church for friends and family to celebrate her life, with Minister Randall Tony Dobbins officiating.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com)

Wilson Smith Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Hall family.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Wilma Loretta (Fall) Hall, please visit our floral store.

## Yolanda Marie Turner

Yolanda Marie Turner, 68, born September 13, 1954, to the late Lydia and Peter Barbon, went home to be with the Lord on Monday, January 30, 2023.

Waiting to greet her in Heaven were her parents and siblings, including her sisters Dorthy, Norma, Alicia, and Cecilia, and her brother Steve.

Left to cherish her memory is her husband, Jerry Turner; her daughters Sabrina Holcomb, Sandra (Geno) Stopowenko, Alicia Martin, Faith Sweet, and Andi Turner; grandchildren Ashlan Rogers, Tyler Rogers,

Tyler Stopowenko, James Rogers II, Caitlyn (Dalton) Holcomb, Loretta Rogers, Alyssa Maldonado, Savannah (Jonathon) Vaughan, Carissa Stopowenko, Shania Fiel, James Rogers III, Ty Rogers, Christian Rogers, Layla Clark, and Rayden Holcomb; great grandchildren Enzley Vaughan, Lincoln Vaughan, and Lothbrook Arbogast; sisters Linda and Isabella; and brothers Peter and Johnny.

Per her wishes, there will be no services.

## Rebecca "Becky" Rose Koch



On January 31, 2023, Rebecca "Becky" Rose Koch, 54, of Buckhannon, WV went home to be with the Lord after a long illness.

Becky was a graduate of Clay County High School and was born on February 9, 1968.

She was preceded in death by her father, Curtis H Koch Sr.; grandparents, Bill and Rose Edwards, and John and Ida Koch; sisters, Regina Ruth Koch, Shirley Ann Case, and Judy Diane Hall; and brother, Fredrick Eugene "Gene" Koch.

Rebecca is survived by her mother, Wanita Ruth "Edwards" Koch of Maysel; sisters, Addie Palecek of Maysel, Joan (Kenneth) Rose of Maysel, Betty Greenawald of Spencer; brother, Curtis (Jennifer) Koch Jr. of Maysel; good friend Darlene Reger of Buckhannon; and many nieces and nephews.

Rebecca was employed for 30 plus years at Tudors Biscuit World/Gino's, and moved from a pizza maker to a supervisor of several locations.

Rebecca will be missed by her family, her Tudors/Gino's friends, and many other friends she made over the years.

A funeral service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 4, 2023, with visitation from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Wilson Smith Funeral Home, Clay with Minister Justin Neal officiating. Burial followed in the Blue Knob Community Church cemetery on Blue Knob Road, Maysel, WV.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com).

Wilson Smith Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Koch family.

## Ruth Ann Parsons



Ruth Ann Parsons, 77, of New Castle, VA, and formerly of Clay, WV, went to be with the Lord on Monday, January 31,

2023, at Lewis Gale Medical Center.

Ruth Ann was a graduate of Clay County High School and attended West Virginia Tech. She worked as a Pharmacy Tech at Hunt's Pharmacy before becoming a Store Manager for Rite Aid Corp, and later for Advanced Auto. She enjoyed sewing, reading, cross-stitching, coloring, and gardening. She also enjoyed going on short sightseeing trips with her family, spending time with her grandsons, and shopping at Hamrick's with her daughter and Alice Argabright.

Ruth Ann was preceded in death by her parents, Cecil V. McGlothlin and Alva Cogar McGlothlin; her daughter, Melissa Ann Parsons Browning; her beloved husband of 56 years, Peter D Parsons Jr.; and her most precious dog Woody.

Ruth Ann is survived by her daughter, Sara Lynn Parsons Argabright, and son-in-law, Darren Argabright of Salem, VA; her grandsons, Joshua Argabright of Salem and Jacob Argabright of Blacksburg, VA; and her sister, Karen Sigman, of Charleston, WV.

A memorial service will be held for both Ruth Ann and her husband Pete Jr. at 1:00 pm Saturday, February 11, 2023, with visitation from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Wilson-Smith Funeral home in Clay, officiated by Ronnie Fisher. Songs provided by the Parsons family.

They will be laid to rest in Sunset Cemetery. There will be no graveside service.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com).

Wilson Smith Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Parsons family.

## Walter R. Hill



On January 26, 2023, Walter R. Hill passed away peacefully at home. He was 86 years old and had recently been diagnosed with heart disease.

Walter was born in Bomont, WV on April 10, 1936, to Denver H. Hill and Retha J. Hill. He graduated from Clay County High School in 1954. By graduation he had read every book he could get his hands on including the entire encyclopedia. He longed to see the world so he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and began what would be a career that he thoroughly enjoyed. The Navy gave him so many wonderful experiences and many life-long friendships; he served on an aircraft carrier and was stationed in the Philippines, Germany, Japan, Thailand, and Spain. While in the states he worked for several years in Omaha, Nebraska and at the Pentagon.

In June 1959, while

on leave, he married his high-school sweetheart, Peggy Ann McCoy, at the Villa Nova Baptist church, in Duck, WV. They had three children, Brian, Jan, and Lois. He retired in 1974 at Chief Petty Officer rank. After retiring, and back in the States, Walter and Peggy moved their family to West Virginia. First to Clendenin, where Walter worked as a police officer. Then to Falling Rock. After retiring from the National Bank of Commerce in Charleston, Walter and Peggy moved to Florida where he would live until his passing.

As well as being a voracious reader (he re-read the encyclopedia more than twice), Walter loved fishing, hunting, playing sports, playing and listening to music, and singing. He was self-taught on piano, guitar, banjo, and violin. He enjoyed thoughtful discussion about whatever topic you could think of. His joy was spending time with his family; coaching little league baseball, and softball, and watching his children play sports. There wasn't anything he wouldn't do for his kids. This included grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He also had so much love for his nieces and nephews, whom he thought the world of.

He told the best stories about growing up feral on a 90-acre farm in Bomont. He told Navy tales of bar fights in Germany; walking night patrol with a shot gun in the Philippines; of late nights laying on the deck of an aircraft carrier in the middle of the ocean looking up at the blackest sky, never before seeing the stars so bright and clear, humbled by how our world seemed so small; of killing a cobra on a ball field during a little league game in Thailand; and of the many insane things he and his brother Roger did that should have gotten them killed.

Walter would always say he had the best life a man could ask for; a boy, his horse and dog with acres and acres of land to roam with not a human sound to hear; grew up poor, but never deprived or neglected; never going hungry; growing their own fruits & vegetables, hunted, and fished; his mother canned "everything she could get her hands on." He had a mother and grandfather whom he adored and who loved him dearly; he married the

love of his life, traveled the world, and was blessed with strong, intelligent children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Just like he dealt with all experiences in life, he managed his illness with strength and grace, and wanted to spend as much time with his loved ones as possible. On his final day, he held hands with his loving wife Peggy, whom he always referred to as "the love of his life" as she sang some of their favorite songs. He will be dearly missed and never forgotten.

Walter was preceded in death by his parents, brother Roger C. Hill; sisters Neva B. Hill (Bill) Walling and Avis J. Hill Rose, and beloved granddaughter Jordan Hill Weber; sister-in-law Juanita McCoy (Red) James. He is survived by his wife; sons Brian (Wanda) Hill & Morgan Hill; daughters Jan Hill and Lois Hill (Michael) Warner; grandsons Terry (Odessa) Hill, Phillip (Deanna) Hill, Patrick (Megan) Hill, Jacob Warner & Owen Hill; granddaughter Abbey Warner; Brothers-in-law Alan McCoy, Larry (Sally) McCoy; Sisters-in-law Kaye Greenleaf (Evert) Browning, Ruthie O'Neill Hill; 11 great-grandchildren; and many cousins, nephews, and nieces.

Per his wishes, Walter will be cremated. This Spring his ashes will be in buried beside his mother, sisters and grandparents, at the King-Mullens Cemetery in Bomont, WV.

Condolences may be sent to the family at P.O. Box 444, Bostwick, FL 32007.

## Richard Allen Moore



Richard Allen Moore, 60, entered into rest on January 26, 2023, after a long illness from crippling accident that occurred in 2009.

Richard was born on September 8, 1962, in Hampton, Virginia to the late Ronzo and Gracie Maxine (Hamrick) Moore. In addition to his parents he is preceded in death by his brothers, Ronnie Moore of Rob-

inson IL, Larry Dwayne Gibson of Rittman, OH, and granddaughter, Everleigh Rose Moore, Lillington, NC.

Left to cherish his memory is his daughters Amanda Moore of Indore, WV and Kayla Moore of South Charleston, WV; son; Justin (Breana) Moore of Lillington, NC; grandchildren Kiera Davis, Rylee Daniels, Jace Daniels, Emma Young, Solara Moore, and the apple of his eye, Reagan King; stepchildren, Lacid (Darrick) Harden of West Union, IL, Abby (Kody) Kallenback of Robinson, IL, Austin (Moriah) Callahan of Newman Lake, WA; step grandchildren, Parker, Kecele, Brice, Elliot, Harper, Vivian, Ronnie, and Hannah; sister, Nancy Knopp of Zephyllis, FL and Sandra (Doug) Bowman Robinson, IL; brothers, Donald (Brenda) Moore of Fola, WV, Robert (Kim) Moore of Terre Haute, IN, Randy (Hye Lim) Moore of Kalamazoo, MI, and Roger Keith Moore, Buckhannon, WV. Richard is also survived by 27 nieces and nephews, 30 great nieces and nephews, and many cousins.

Before his accident, Richard worked at EH Baare in Robinson, IL, but before moving to Illinois he worked for Gould Electric at Indore where he met many lifelong friends.

Richard was a hard-working man that put his family needs above himself. He loved to hunt and fish in his spare time, especially with his fishing buddy Calvin Remais.

A special thanks to Karyn Moore, Richard's caregiver for 13 years and friend for 25 plus years.

On January 21, 2023, Richard opened his heart to the Lord and now he is running with the angels.

He will be greatly missed and loved by all who knew him.

Visitation was held from 6 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, February 6, 2023, at Wilson Smith Funeral Home, Clay.

A funeral service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at Wilson Smith Funeral Home, Clay, with Minister John Osborne officiating. Burial followed in the Deboard Family Cemetery, Indore.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com).

Wilson Smith Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Moore family.

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*"We Treat Others As We Like To Be Treated Ourselves." - Matthew 7:12*

THANK YOU FOR READING THE FREEPRESS



# THE WIDEN NEWS



The people who think alike should vote alike.

**"DUNDON"**  
**RED ASH COAL**

Where all think alike, no one thinks very much.

March, 1957

## Widen Woman's Club Delegates at The Greenbrier



Some past presidents of the Woman's Club are seated on the divan with Miss Hazel Baughman, the current president of the Widen Club, in the President's room at the Greenbrier Hotel, White Sulphur Springs, during the convention held there February 28—March 2.

From left to right they are, Mrs. Dimple F.

McMillion, Miss Baughman, Mrs. E. D. Moyers, and Mrs. Harold L. Beattie. Mrs. Beattie is the current chairman of the Forests and Recreation Committee of the West Virginia Federation.

Standing are Widen Club corresponding secretary Mrs. Joseph LaCorte, Mrs. J. Ronald Brown, Mrs. Robert Manning, and treasurer Mrs. Scott Williams.

## Student-of-the-Month



**DENNIS DEAN**

Dennis Dean, 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dean of Strange Creek, and a member of the sophomore class, was selected Student-of-the-Month for March. He is president of his class and a member of Art and Library Clubs.

He is a member of the Walnut Grove Methodist Church.

Dennis walks over five miles each day to catch the school bus and his attendance has been excellent.

A grandson of Mr. Homer Houghton, he has a "B" average and attends church at Walnut Grove Methodist Church.

## Fourth Grade News

**Ronald Dodrill, Reporter**

The Fourth Grade had a very interesting contest for the King and Queen of the grades. Our King Michael Woods won the contest. Although our Queen, Lois Casto, lost she made a very high score.

Everyone took a big part in the contest.

We won the P.T.A. Parents count for March. We plan to buy some records with the prize money.

Old Mr. Flu really made our attendance look sick this month.

## ODE TO A FLU VICTIM

Breathes there a man with nose so red,  
With bleary eyes and aching head;  
With muscles sore and stiffened neck,  
By coughs and sneezes made a wreck,  
Who does not, deep within his heart,  
Reserve a spot set far apart,  
For some kind person, either sex,  
Who first invented those Kleenex!  
By Anita Butcher (WIDEN '55)

## Don't Blame Me

By Mary Helen Mullins

When my home room teacher passed out the report cards last week I was disgusted with the grades I received.

In English Class I had a "D". When I should have had a "B". How did that teacher know I wasn't getting my work? I always copied my lessons from someone who had them. I have always passed my tests even though I did "peep" over a classmate's shoulder.

In history I had an "E". I told Jack I had to have that exam by the end of the semester. Now look what he has caused.

I could have had a passing grade if it hadn't been for him.

In math I had a "D plus" I didn't deserve that low grade. If that math teacher didn't have it in for me I would have had a better grade.

In science I made a pretty good grade. I don't understand; that is the only class that I like, and get my own work in. I think the students who have been helping me with my work are trying to see me fail. Well I'll show them. I'll do all my own work, from now on, myself!

## Gassaway Woman's Club Holds Spring Dance

The Gassaway Woman's Club has invited the Widen Fifteen Plus Club, the WHS Dancing Club, and the Widen Woman's Club to attend the Spring Dance being sponsored by the Gassaway ladies on Saturday, April 6, from 9 to 12 P. M. Admission will be \$3.00 per couple or \$1.50 single admission. The affair will be semi-formal, in the Gassaway Community building, with music by the Buckhannon "Collegians."

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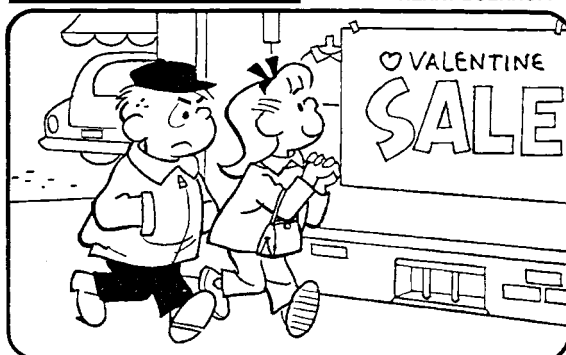
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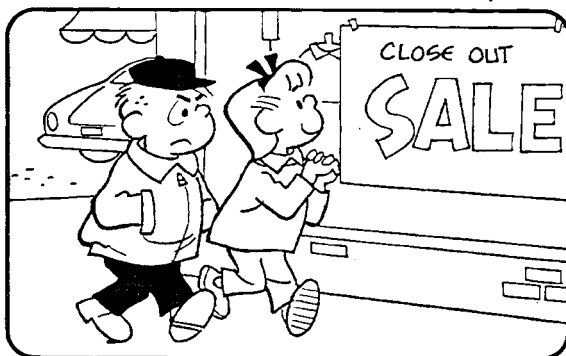
**HELP WANTED**  
 Looking to hire someone to plow parking lot and shovel sidewalks at the Clay County Department of Health and Human Resources Office in Clay, WV.  
 If interested, please contact Patty Martin at 304-872-0810.

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Car is different, 2. Leg is moved, 3. Hair is different, 4. Pocketbook is missing, 5. Sign is different, 6. Basement window is missing.

## LEGAL

**Notice of Ancillary Filing without any Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees**  
 Notice is hereby given that the following foreign will or affidavit of heirs has been filed in the Clay County Clerk's Office at P.O. Box 190, 246 Main Street, Clay, WV 25043, and no appointment or administration is being made pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code 44-1-14b.  
 An interested person(s) 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 statement with the Clay County Commission through the County Clerk's Office at the address listed above within 60 days after the date of first publication or 30 days of service of the Commission upon receiving any timely objection thereto shall schedule a hearing or hearings thereon and order relief, if any. It considers proper including, but not limited to, an order directing that full and complete ancillary administration of the estate of the nonresident decedent be made in this state.  
 First Publication Date: **Thursday, February 2, 2023**  
 ESTATE NAME: Marguerite C. Spence, 6020B Needwood Road 5, Derwood, Maryland 208555  
 ANCILLARY ADMINISTRATOR: Caroline Spence Creson, 634 Mississippi Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910 - Daughter  
 Subscribed and sworn to before me on the 25th day of January, 2023.

*Connie Workman*  
 Connie Workman  
 Clerk of the Clay County Commission

## LEGAL

### PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 22-0836-E-IMM  
 APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY AND WHEELING POWER COMPANY  
 Petition to Update the Broadband Surcharge Rates Currently in Effect.

#### NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING

On September 7, 2022, Appalachian Power Company and Wheeling Power Company (the Companies) filed a petition seeking to update their Broadband Surcharge (BBS) rates currently in effect. The Companies proposed to increase the BBS currently in effect by \$3.6 million, an increase of 0.266%.

If approved, the average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will be changed as follows:

	(\$) Increase	(%) Increase
Residential	\$0.48	0.296%
Commercial	\$1.09	0.264%
Industrial	\$7.40	0.047%

The Commission set a procedural schedule, including an evidentiary hearing on March 7, 2023 beginning at 9:00 a.m., in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Commission's office at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, WV. Interested persons should monitor the Commission's web docket and website because this hearing may be cancelled for good cause.

Anyone desiring to intervene and act as a party in this case should file a Petition to Intervene on or before February 15, 2023, complying with the rules on intervention set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. Anyone desiring to protest should file a written protest as soon as possible although protests will be accepted throughout the pendency of this proceeding. All written protests should briefly state the reason for the protest. All protests and Petitions to Intervene should state the case name and number and be addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323. Public comments may also be filed online at [www.psc.state.wv.us](http://www.psc.state.wv.us) by clicking the "Submit a Comment" then "Formal Case" link.

#### APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY and WHEELING POWER COMPANY

## LEGAL

### TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the authority vested in him by that certain Deed Of Trust, dated June 10, 2002, and duly recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Document No. 9952, in Book No. 104, at Page 204, Lewis Sherman Mullins and Catherine J Mullins did convey unto James B Crawford III, Trustee(s), certain real property described in said Deed of Trust; and the beneficiary has elected to appoint Seneca Trustees, Inc., as Substitute Trustee; and default having been made under the aforementioned Deed of Trust, and the undersigned Substitute Trustee having been instructed by Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as Trustee for the benefit of the Freddie Mac Seasoned Loans Structured Transaction Trust, Series 2021-1 to foreclose thereunder, will offer for sale at public auction at the front door of the Clay County Courthouse in Clay, West Virginia, on

March 7, 2023 at 2:30 PM

the following described real estate, together with its improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in 03 - Henry District, Clay County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

All that certain tract of land, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying and being situate in Henry District, Clay County, West Virginia, more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a stone at the northern edge of State Route 36, corner to Paul Hopkins tract, thence S. 26-42W., 214.09' to a point, thence S. 23-59 W., 97.41' to a point, thence S. 18-45 W., 50.20' to a point, thence leaving said right of way and crossing parent tract; N. 43-21 W., passing a 1/2" iron rod set at 28.32' to a total distance of 214.42' to a 1/2" iron rod set; thence N. 39-25 E., 54.33' to a 1/2" iron rod set; thence N 48-12 E., 86.42' to a 16" poplar; thence S. 55-54 E., 23/77' to a 1/2" iron rod set; thence N. 31-32 E., 123.49' to a fence post; thence N. 39-32 E., passing a 1/2" iron rod set at 38.74' a total distance of 47.86' to a point in Hopkins line, said point being S. 56-31-10 E. 11.49 from a 12" White Walnut; thence S. 56-31-10 E., passing an iron rod found at 83.76 acres, a total distance of 102.48' to the place of beginning, containing 1.11 acres, more or less, and more fully described on a plat prepared by Wallace J. Board Land Surveying, dated the 24th day of October, 1994, and titled "Map prepared for Roy G. Mullins, Job No. 94-486".

Map # 13  
 Parcel # 762

The Grantors further reserve a twenty foot right of way over, through and across the property hereby conveyed, said right of way set out and shown on that certain map referenced hereinabove and said right of way shall be for the benefit of the Grantors, their heirs, assigns, successors in title and legal representatives and be ingress and egress to the residue property owned by the Grantors of which this conveyance is a part, and said right of way shall run with the land and binding on the Grantees, their heirs, assigns, successors in title and legal representatives.

The Grantors further reserve a twenty foot right of way over, through and across the property hereby conveyed, said right of way being located from the right of way reserved hereinabove unto the residential home site now situate on the residue of said property, and said right of way shall be for the benefit of the Grantors, their heirs, assigns, successors in title and legal representatives and be ingress and egress to said residential home site on the residue property owned by the Grantors of which this conveyance is a part, and said right of way shall run with the land and binding on the Grantees, their heirs, assigns, successors in title and legal representatives. This conveyance is made subject to the same reservations and exceptions set out and referred to in deeds in the chain of title hereto.

This conveyance is made subject to any out conveyance, easements, rights of way, and any other reservation and exceptions of record in said clerk's Office in chain of title of the property hereby conveyed and is further subject to any state of facts which a reasonable inspection of the premise might reveal.

At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have an address of: 2853 Wallback Rd, Wallback, WV 25285.

The referenced real estate will be conveyed with no covenants of warranty, and subject to all covenants, restrictions, easements, rights of way and reservations which may be a matter of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office or visible upon the ground, all prior liens and encumbrances, including, without limitation, liens for real estate taxes, incinerator, sanitary and sewer charges. The purchasers at the sale shall be responsible for paying the recording costs and also the tax on the privilege of transferring real property (the cost of the tax stamp to be affixed to the deed). The purchasers shall be responsible for payment of all real estate taxes.

The subject property will be sold in "AS IS" condition. The Substitute Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

TERMS: \$5000.00 in cash and/or certified funds as deposit at the time of sale with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of sale.

FEDERAL TAX LIEN: In the event that there are Federal Tax Liens against the property, the United States would have the right to redeem the property within a period of 120 days from the date of such sale or the period allowable for redemption under local law, whichever is longer.

Pursuant to the Deed of Trust, the Trustee may postpone the sale by public announcement at the time and place designated or by posting a notice of the same, and act by agent in the execution of the sale. The parties secured by the Deed of Trust reserve the right to purchase the property at such sale.

SENECA TRUSTEES, INC.  
 5000 Coombs Farm Drive, Suite 104  
 Morgantown, WV 26508  
 (304) 413-0044  
 (304) 292-2918  
 Toll free: (888) 534-3132  
 Reference File No. 81988

## LEGAL

### Notice of Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees

Notice is hereby given that the following estate(s) have been opened for probate in the Clay County Clerk's Office at P.O. Box 190, 246 Main Street, Clay, WV 25043-0190. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provisions of West Virginia Code 41-5-11 through 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court, shall file written notice of an objection with the County Commission through the Clay County Clerk's Office at the address listed above 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 must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-2 or 44-3A.

Settlement of the estate(s) of the following named decedent(s) will proceed 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.

Publication Date Thursday, February 2, 2023

Claim Deadline Monday, April 3, 2023

APPOINTMENT DATE 11/01/2022  
 ESTATE NAME: PHILIP FELIX BINGLE  
 EXECUTRIX SANDRA SUE LUTSY BINGLE  
 1084 IVYDALE RIDGE RD  
 IVYDALE WV 25113

APPOINTMENT DATE 01/17/2023  
 ESTATE NAME: DENCIL JENNINGS HAMRICK  
 EXECUTRIX DANIELLE DENAI CHAMP  
 1609 MOUNTAIN HOME RD  
 CLAY WV 25043

APPOINTMENT DATE 01/17/2023  
 ESTATE NAME: RUTH ANN LANE HAMRICK  
 EXECUTRIX DANIELLE DENAI CHAMP  
 1609 MOUNTAIN HOME RD  
 IVYDALE WV 25113

APPOINTMENT DATE 01/18/2023  
 ESTATE NAME: BEULAH M HOLCOMB  
 EXECUTOR RANDY N HOLCOMB  
 6952 CLAY HIGHWAY  
 CLAY WV 25043

APPOINTMENT DATE 11/29/2022  
 ESTATE NAME: DONALD RALPH HOLCOMB  
 ADMINISTRATRIX CHRISTIE LEE SHAFER  
 129 BONNIE ST  
 SHADY SPRING WV 25918-1130

APPOINTMENT DATE 11/23/2022  
 ESTATE NAME: INES E ROGERS  
 CO EXECUTOR DEBORAH ROGERS  
 775 PLANTATION DRIVE UNIT 40  
 LITTLE RIVER SC 29566

CO EXECUTOR CHARLES D ROGERS  
 718 SIMONS FORK RD  
 WALLBACK WV 25285

APPOINTMENT DATE 10/26/2022  
 ESTATE NAME: TIMOTHY SEARS  
 ADMINISTRATOR CTA CHRISTIE LANE ADKINS  
 113 CANTERBURY CIRCLE  
 ELKVIEW WV 25071

APPOINTMENT DATE 01/05/2023  
 ESTATE NAME: TODD CRAIG WOODS  
 ADMINISTRATRIX BRITTANY WOODS  
 2480 OSSIA RD  
 DUCK WV 25063

APPOINTMENT DATE 01/03/2023  
 ESTATE NAME: STEVEN HARRY WORKMAN  
 EXECUTRIX DEBORA JO WORKMAN  
 1603 HOLCOMB RIDGE RD  
 GLEN WV 25088

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 01/26/2023  
 Connie Workman  
 County Clerk  
 Clay County  
 P.O. Box 190  
 246 Main Street  
 Clay WV 25043-0190

## LEGAL

### WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Division of Highways NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service ([www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com)) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until March 14, 2023 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call	Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
023	2021000793	S399-RPM-23 00	HSIP-2023(055)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS 2023 RPM PAVEMENT MARKINGS COUNTY: STATEWIDE

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractor's licence is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must include one of the following forms properly executed with each proposal: Proposal Guaranty Bond, Cashier's Check, or Certified Check for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. All bidders holding valid bidding proposals will be notified of such deferral, delay or postponement and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

## LEGAL

(Cert. No. 082272 Garnet Gas Corporation)

To: ROBERT K HAYES - REGULAR MAIL, NANCY HAYES C/O ROBERT K HAYES, NANCY HAYES C/O ROBERT K HAYES - REGULAR MAIL, JOHN THOMAS HAYES C/O ROBERT K HAYES, JOHN THOMAS HAYES C/O ROBERT K HAYES - REGULAR MAIL, MARY JO HAYES C/O ROBERT K HAYES, MARY JO HAYES C/O ROBERT K HAYES - REGULAR MAIL, ROBERT K HAYES, GARY HAYES C/O ROBERT K HAYES, GARY HAYES C/O ROBERT K HAYES - REGULAR MAIL, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF MARGARET HAYES, ROBERT HAYES, NANCY HAYES, JOHN THOMAS HAYES, MARY JO HAYES & GARY HAYES, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT HENRY MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 01313004

You will take notice that Garnet Gas Corporation, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 082272, located in HENRY District, 70 AC WTS LAUREL MIN 1/5 OF 3/9 INT which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of HAYES ROBERT, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Clay County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on 10/19/2022. Garnet Gas Corporation requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 06/12/2023, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 06/12/2023 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 06/12/2023.	\$ 229.61
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 06/12/2023.	\$ 0.00
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 06/12/2023.	\$ 1020.08
Additional Statutory Fees with interest to 06/12/2023.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to <b>The Honorable Allen King, Sheriff of Clay County.</b>	\$ 1249.69

You may redeem at any time before 06/12/2023, by paying the above total less any unearned interest. Given under my hand 1/12/2023

*G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.*

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of Clay County, State of West Virginia

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 1900 Kanawha Blvd East,  
 Building 1, Room W-118  
 Charleston, West Virginia 25305  
 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

## THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

# King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Niger neighbor
- 5 Existed
- 8 Close
- 12 Timber wolf
- 13 Rocker Rose
- 14 — Christian Andersen
- 15 Modern taxi rival
- 16 Museum-funding org.
- 17 Verdi opera
- 18 Anne who married Henry VIII
- 20 Funhouse feature
- 22 Extinct bird
- 23 Documentarian Burns
- 24 Island near Java
- 27 Gymnast's move
- 32 Brit. record label
- 33 Continent north of Afr.
- 34 Bar cubes
- 35 Olympic skating gold medalist Tara
- 38 Grand tale
- 39 "Today" rival, briefly
- 40 "Fresh Air" aier

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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49					50	51			52			
53					54				55			
56					57				58			

- 42 Honeydews
- 45 Jerry of the Grateful Dead
- 49 Golf bag item
- 50 Frazier foe
- 52 "Heavens!"
- 53 Spanish ayes
- 54 Charged bit
- 55 Mature
- 56 Try out
- 57 Schlep
- 58 Get lippy
- shepherd
- 4 Moolah
- 5 Hopefuls
- 6 Chopping tool
- 7 Bridge coup
- 8 "Doctor Zhivago" star
- 9 Tress holder
- 10 Nullify
- 11 Despot
- 19 "Hey!"
- 21 Annoy
- 24 — canto
- 25 Parisian pal
- 26 Makeup kit item
- 28 Arctic seabird
- 29 Shrinking in fear
- 30 Here, in Dijon
- 31 Chest muscle
- 36 "Leave that to me!"
- 37 Indian bread
- 38 Goofs
- 41 Ma's mate
- 42 Fine spray
- 43 Canal of song
- 44 Go yachting
- 46 — Pet
- 47 Rapsallions
- 48 Pro votes
- 51 Singer Rawls

### DOWN

- 1 Golf bag item
- 2 Vagrant
- 3 Genesis

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The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to *WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia* at [www.wvencyclopedia.org](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).

**Feb. 8, 1892:** Cartoonist Irvin Dugan was born in Huntington. For many years, his "Adam" cartoon character was a feature on the editorial pages of the *Herald-Dispatch*.

**Feb. 8, 1915:** Photographer Volkmar Kurt Wentzel was born in Dresden, Germany. He emigrated with his family to the United States at age 11. As a teenager in West Virginia, Wentzel took up with an eclectic group of people who had retreated to Youghiohgheny Forest, a Preston County artists colony.

**Feb. 8, 1918:** Medal of Honor recipient Herbert Joseph Thomas Jr. was born. He excelled in football as a halfback for South Charleston High School, and Herbert J. Thomas Memorial Hospital in South Charleston is named for him.

**Feb. 9, 1843:** Republican Party leader Nathan Goff Jr. was born in Clarksburg. In 1888, Goff lost West Virginia's most controversial gubernatorial election to A. B. Fleming. Goff's initial 106-vote majority was challenged by Fleming, and both men were sworn in on inauguration day. The case dragged on until 1890, when Fleming was determined to be the rightful winner.

**Feb. 9, 1900:** "Aunt Jennie" Wilson was born near Henlawson. Wilson was a Logan County traditional musician, considered a master of clawhammer-style banjo playing.

**Feb. 9, 1950:** U.S. Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's speech to a group of Wheeling Republicans launched the 1950s red scare. McCarthy, a Wisconsin Republican, claimed in his speech to have a list of 205 communists who worked in the U.S. State Department.

**Feb. 10, 1904:** Jay Legg was shot and killed by his wife, Sarah Ann, in their home in Clay County. The trial, conviction, appeal and acquittal of Sarah Ann led to a popular West Virginia folk ballad, "The Murder of Jay Legg."

**Feb. 10, 2010:** Frederick Appleton "Fred" Schaus, West Virginia University basketball All-American, coach, and athletic director, died at age 84 in Morgantown. Schaus coached WVU from 1954 to 1960 to a 146-37 record.

**Feb. 11, 1903:** Artist Grace Martin

Taylor was born in Morgantown. In addition to producing an immense body of work in a variety of styles, Taylor enjoyed a lengthy career at the Mason College of Music and Fine Arts in Charleston.

**Feb. 11, 1904:** Clarence Watson Meadows was born in Beckley. His mother hoped he would become a Baptist minister, but he ultimately entered politics, becoming the 22nd governor of West Virginia.

**Feb. 11, 1911:** The Charles Town Opera House opened. The 500-seat theater ushered in an era of entertainment and service lasting more than 30 years.

**Feb. 11, 1923:** Eight members of the Black Hand were arrested in Harrison County. The Black Hand was the name and symbol of an underworld society of Italian immigrants that extorted money from other Italian immigrants.

**Feb. 11, 1935:** The first houses in the Tygart Valley Homesteads were ready for occupancy. One of three resettlement projects in West Virginia, the homesteads were intended to provide a new start for unemployed farmers, miners and timber workers.

**Feb. 12, 1867:** Barbourville was incorporated by an act of the state legislature. Originally the county seat of Cabell County, it lost that honor after the C&O Railway was completed to Huntington.

**Feb. 12, 1899:** Karl Dewey Myers was born in Tucker County with severe birth defects. He never attended school but educated himself through persistent self-study. He was named the state's first poet laureate in 1927.

**Feb. 13, 1800:** General John Jay Jackson was born near Parkersburg. He served in the Seminole Wars as a member of Gen. Andrew Jackson's staff.

**Feb. 13, 1913:** Mother Jones was arrested in Charleston after supporting union miners on Paint Creek and Cabin Creek.

**Feb. 13, 1923:** Chuck Yeager was born at Myra, about seven miles from Hamlin. On October 14, 1947, in a Bell X-1 rocket airplane dropped from a B-29 bomber, Yeager became the first person to break the sound barrier by flying 700 miles per hour.

**Feb. 14, 1866:** Grant County was created and named for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, who later became the nation's 18th president.

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# SPORTS

## Friday was Senior night for the Lady Panthers

By Allen Hamrick

The Lady Panthers have had a rough week losing two games both at home and on the road. First up was Roane County, and the Lady Panthers simply couldn't go basket for basket with the Lady Raiders. In their first meeting, the Lady Panthers lost the match up and couldn't keep it close, but this time the Lady Panthers cut loose the ball and chain and stayed with the Lady Raiders. They did well on the boards but just got out shot at the net and lost the game 38-47.

Up next was South Harrison, and it was all a fan could ask for. The game was well calculated by both coaches. Leads changed like laundered money in the first period, but after that, the Lady Panthers played catch up and couldn't get find a good rhythm to answer South Harrison.

It was a low scoring game in the first half as the score stood at 11-17 with the South Harrison in the lead. In the second half, the Lady Panthers fell off



Senior Alexis Gilliland with family. Photo Joey Varrella



Senior Paris Williams with family. Photo Joey Varrella

the wagon, shooting for just two points. South Harrison greased the net and expanded their lead to 24-13. No matter how hard they tried, the Lady Panthers couldn't get the points made up from the first half. The Lady Panthers were all out in the 4<sup>th</sup>

period with the game at a feverish pitch at this point. Foul trouble plagued the Lady Panthers as South Harrison hit for 12 free shots in the fourth. The Lady Panthers woke up and started playing Lady Panther basketball and hit for 15 points, but it was

too little too late. The final score was 38-28 South Harrison.

Ilyauna Evans was top shot with 12 points. It was Senior night for the Lady Panthers as they bid farewell to seniors Alexis Gilliland and Paris Williams, two players who gave the

fans their money's worth over their years on the team. The Lady Panthers have just a few games left in the season before the start of Sectionals. Come out and catch a game. Go Lady Panthers!

## Mustang basketball has a tough week



Zoey Jones gets two in the paint.



Skiley Wilmoth hits for 3.



Ivy Beard shows some great defense.

By Allen Hamrick

The Lady Mustang and Mustang basketball teams had a rough time on the hardwood this past week. The Lady Mustangs played a home game this past week against Braxton, and it would prove to be tough match for the Lady Mustangs. It was 8<sup>th</sup> grade night for the Lady Mustangs as parents and friends watched for the last time the 8<sup>th</sup> graders played a regular season game on home turf. In

front of a nearly packed gymnasium, the Lady Mustangs went to work with their usual high intensity style of basketball. It was a brutal match between the two teams with both trying to get just enough points to win the game. Defense was the order of the night; girls were bouncing off the floor like the basketball they were dribbling, and a point was as hard to get as growing a gold tooth. When it was over, the Lady Mustangs couldn't get

the points needed to win as they lost the game 22-25.

The boys also hit the hardwood this past week against both Calhoun and Braxton. It was game on in each game, but the boys just couldn't catch a break on the nets as both games went to the wire with photo finishes. Calhoun was up first, and the game went back and forth with both teams about even on the boards. In the end, it was Calhoun over the Mustangs 37-39. With that close loss, the boys were itching for a win as they took their show on the road to Braxton. It was another barn burner with two teams rolling

for the nets.

When it was over the Mustangs just let the game get away from them and lost the match 34-39. Both the Mustangs and Lady Mustangs have great talent on their teams and can beat anybody out there, but voodoo seems to follow them late in the season. The season is coming to an end with just a couple more regular season games left before the championship.

On Tuesday night, the boys will play at home and it will be their 8<sup>th</sup> grade night as they host the tough Summersville team. Come out and support the teams as they draw the line and go toe to toe in hopes of championship games. Both of these teams have a chance at bringing the championship trophy home to CCMS. Go Mustangs!

## Panthers beat Meadow Bridge



Trenton Gibson hits for 3 points. Photo Joey Varrella



Micah Osborne looks for two the hard way. Photo Joey Varrella.

By Allen Hamrick

The Panthers were on the road in Webster County trying to take care of a drought. The Panthers have been in a slump the last couple of weeks, and a win seems hard to come by. Webster County was going to be redemption night for the Panthers. They came out like a team possessed and played with very few mistakes. However, the Highlanders proved to be too hot on the net, and the Panthers lost the game 54-83.

Meadow Bridge was up next on the home court, and the Panthers needed to get back in the winning column. Mead-

ow Bridge came out swinging and so did the Panthers, but both teams were having a hard time scoring as they both stood at 17 at the half. After the halftime show, the Panthers came out looking like the Celtics as they were burning up the net hitting for 37 points in the second half to win the game 54-43. Top shot in the game was Trenton Gibson with 18 points followed closely by Micah Osborne with 17. The Panthers will have a two game home stretch as they take on Roane and Midland Trail this week on Tuesday and Thursday. Go Panthers!

### Solution time: 25 mins.

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### Answer

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