



# Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple

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## CCGDF hosts Daddy-Daughter Princess Ball



**By: Betty Holcomb**

With princesses, ball gowns, dancing, and wonderful memories that will last a lifetime, the Clay County Golden Delicious Festival hosted a Princess Ball, tailored specifically around Daddies and

Daughters. Volunteers, Mrs. Greenlee's high school class, and the CCGDF crew came together and gave the young ladies of Clay a night of their lives.

Those entering the Clay County High School on Sat-

urday, April 1 were met with glimmering lights and fancy decorations, complete with a beautiful balloon arch, made by Marissa Holcomb, and a feast that was prepared for the guests to enjoy.

As little girls arrived on their date's arm, debuting their best dresses and ready for a night of dancing and laughter, it was apparent that all the hard work put in by so many had paid off and this was going to be the "best night ever" for so many of the county's young ladies.

When speaking to Zoey Edgar, the 3-year-old daughter of Shay and Josh Edgar, about her night she said, "I danced, danced, danced

with my hands in the air, air, air and me and daddy ate thiiiiissss much!" Miss Zoey's favorite part of the night was her big stitichy, stitichy dress.

Now the food and drinks were the favorite part of Stevie Jo Lee, Tinley Lane, and Emery Wriston's night. They also enjoyed playing and dancing with their friends. Every little girl felt like a princess, and every dress was unique to their personality and style.

Harper Faulkner, the 8-year-old daughter of Scott and Autumn Faulkner, was giving off some runway vibes in her all black number with rhinestone jewelry, red lips, and nail polish.

"My favorite part of the night was getting all dressed up and dancing with my daddy," said Harper.

"I've never seen my daddy in a suit before," said 8-year-old Raegen Holcomb. "They played all the music I liked too." Safe to say, she enjoyed her night of dancing, and so did 4-year-old Cam McKinney. "They sang the gummy bear song to me and we danced like ice skaters, and so did Daddy!"

There are so many people that make these girl's lives special, Marissa Atha and Emery Wriston tell us a little about their night with their special dates. Marissa Atha loved when they danced to Tootsie Roll with

Bonus Dad, Jeff Turley. All the dads and daughters were lined up on each side of the floor and they had to walk in between them dancing. "I loved getting dressed up and wearing my glitter Chuck Taylor's and spending time with Jeff, watching him dance to the Git Up."

"My Uncle Bub is who I got to go with, but he's kinda like my dad too!" said Emery about her uncle, Ryan Thomas. In her eyes, Uncle Bub can't be beat and she was ecstatic to be out with him for the evening.

Everyone came together to do an amazing job on making this event one that won't be forgotten by so many young ladies.



## "& Me" Pageant Winners Announced



**By: Betty Holcomb**

It was a day full of pageant fun at the Clay County Ag Fair's "& Me" Pageant. Little ones showed up in their best dressed outfits to match their family members

for a chance at some beautiful matching crowns. Each pageant duo had their own personal style and spin on the pageant wear, making it a unique experience.

Overall winners were:  
 Best Dressed - Kassidy and Cooper Cavender  
 Most Look Alike - Britnany and Ava Clifton  
 Best Duo and Most Photogenic - Betty Holcomb and Hannah Gandee  
 Fan Favorite - Josie Gray  
 High Point Ultimate Grand Supreme - Betty Holcomb and Hannah Gandee  
 Grand Supreme- Mollly Bragg and Josie Gray  
 Mini Supreme - Felicia Taylor and Lila

## Military Training Notice

Members of the U.S. Military will conduct essential training in areas around Fola and Bickmore, West Virginia, from Sunday, April 16 through Friday, April 21. The training will consist of significant air and ground operations. Noises associated with training will include low-flying aircraft during pre-dawn hours. Safety precautions are in place for participants, and considerations have been made to minimize the impact on the community. Management and coordination for this event are in conjunction with the appropriate local officials.

## Lady Mustangs fire a shot heard around the world



Rylee Murphy brings the heat from the hill. Allen Hamrick photo.

See "Sports" Page 11

## Rising inflation, poverty, puts WV kids at higher risk of abuse

By Nadia Ramlagan for WVNS

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and experts say ongoing inflation, economic challenges and poverty can place stress on families and increase the risk of child abuse and neglect.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, rates of child abuse and neglect are five times higher for children in families with low socioeconomic status.

Kate Flack - CEO of the West Virginia Child Advocacy Network - explained that parents may turn to substance use or other unhealthy coping mechanisms, to deal with mounting financial pressures, which could put kids in unsafe situations.

"If parents are having to work multiple jobs to make ends meet, there's less eyes on kids," said Flack. "There's less supportive supervision. So

kids are more at risk of being preyed upon."

Flack also pointed to the rise in internet-facilitated crime against children since the pandemic, and said kids who are allowed to use social media unsupervised are at higher risk for exploitation.

Suspected cases of child abuse in West Virginia can be reported to the state's Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 1-800-352-6513 - seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Flack said that currently, 21 local Child Advocacy Centers across the state help coordinate the response to child-abuse allegations - by streamlining communication with prosecuting attorneys, law enforcement, child protective services and medical providers.

"In the last year, our child advocacy centers served 4,703 new children," said Flack. "And

in West Virginia, the state population is around 40,000, so we are seeing a huge portion of the kids that live in West Virginia."

She said Child Advocacy Centers, or CACs, help kids feel safe and work to address their trauma with wraparound services.

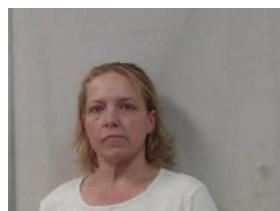
"The places that the kids go to in CACs are child friendly," said Flack. "They're like a pediatrician's office, with murals on the walls and paintings and stickers and stuffed animals. And so, it's a very friendly place for kids to just feel at ease, and to feel believed."

At least 1 in 7 children experienced child abuse or neglect in the past year in the U.S. alone - and according to Save the Children, one billion children worldwide experience physical, sexual or emotional violence or neglect each year.

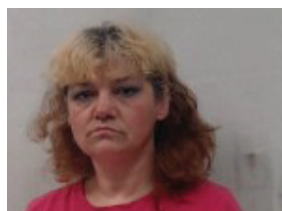
# BOOKED CENTRAL REGIONAL JAIL

BRAXTON COUNTY

NICHOLAS COUNTY



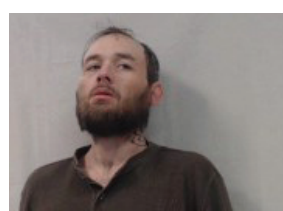
**Sarah Beth Balcourt**  
Booked 4/7/23  
Capias



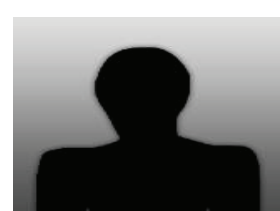
**Kari Lynn Frame**  
Booked 4/6/23  
Capias



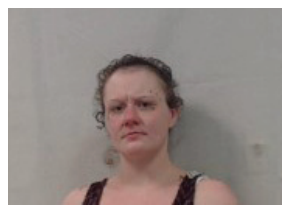
**Junior Lyn Jenkins**  
Booked 4/9/23  
Domestic battery, domestic assault



**Dustan Brian Richardson**  
Booked 4/7/23  
Fleeing with reckless indifference, driving suspended for DUI third offense

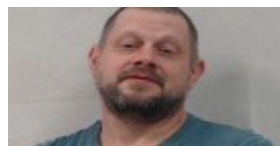


**Jessica Ann Taylor**  
Booked 4/10/23  
Aid escape to adults/juvenile in custody

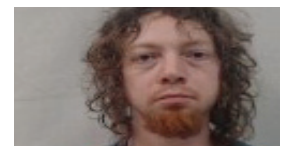


**Sherry Lynn Grose**  
Booked 4/7/23  
Probation violation

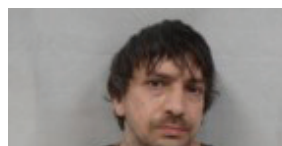
NICHOLAS COUNTY



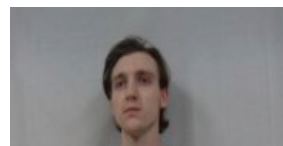
**Stephen Brent Meadows**  
Booked 4/6/23  
Wanton endangerment, prohibited person with firearm, domestic battery third offense, strangulation, brandishing a deadly weapon



**Jason Arthur Nicholson**  
Booked 4/6/23  
Domestic battery

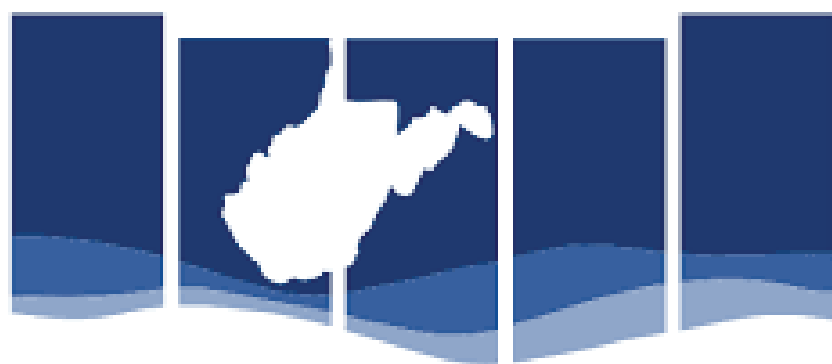


**Ryan Patrick Shelton**  
Booked 4/5/23  
Obstructing, fleeing on foot



**Tyler Ray Short**  
Booked 4/5/23  
Fleeing on foot

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## West Virginia Department of ARTS, CULTURE AND HISTORY

### West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History is Currently Accepting Entries for its Annual Juried Quilt Exhibition

The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) is currently accepting entries for the 2023 West Virginia Quilts and Wall Hangings Juried Exhibition. The deadline to turn in entries is Monday, May 1, at 4 p.m. This is the 42nd year for the exhibition which will open Friday, May 26, with an awards ceremony at the annual Vandalia Gathering at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex. The free summer-long exhibition will be displayed through Sept. 11, 2023.

Quilts and wall hangings can be mailed, or hand delivered to Rachel Keeney, exhibits coordinator for the department, at the Culture Center.

Quilts and wall hangings, handmade or machine made, by West Virginia residents are eligible for the exhibition. Special consideration will be given to hand-quilted entries. Entrants may submit one quilt and one wall hanging. There is a nonrefundable fee of \$20 per entry. Quilts and wall hangings shown previously in a Department of Arts, Culture and History Quilts and Wall Hangings juried exhibition are not eligible.

A quilting workshop will be held on May 5 by Juror Karen Kendo titled "Perfect Endings Binding Workshop." This class will give you the skills to apply binding with crisp ninety-degree mitered corners, even and full edges and smooth final joins. No lumps, no bumps, no frustration...just the perfect ending! There are limited spaces available, and an RSVP is required.

The prospectus and entry information for the 2023 Quilts and Wall Hangings Juried Exhibition can be found at [www.wvculture.org/agencies/museums/](http://www.wvculture.org/agencies/museums/).

For more information about the exhibit and the workshop or to request a printed prospectus, contact Keeney at 304-558-0220 or [Rachel.m.keeney@wv.gov](mailto:Rachel.m.keeney@wv.gov).

### Summer P-EBT to be Issued to Qualifying West Virginia Students

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) has received approval from the United States Department of Agriculture to issue Summer Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT). The federal COVID-19 public health emergency is ending, and West Virginia will issue a final P-EBT benefit for the covered summer period.

Eligible students are those who attended a West Virginia school that participates in the National School Lunch Program, were actively enrolled in the 2022-2023 school year on May 15, 2023, and qualify for free or

reduced-price meals. All students who attend a Community Eligibility Provision school and receive free or reduced-priced meals also qualify for P-EBT.

If your child attends a participating school and you did not previously apply for free or reduced-price meals, or if your household situation has changed and you may now qualify, please visit [www.schoolcafe.com](http://www.schoolcafe.com) or contact your local board of education for more information.

An eligibility letter will be mailed to each student who qualifies for Summer P-EBT. Qualified students

will receive a one-time Summer P-EBT issuance of \$120 to existing WV P-EBT cards in June 2023. Only students new to the P-EBT program will be mailed a WV P-EBT card. If the card has been lost, a new card may be requested by calling 1-866-545-6502.

The WV P-EBT program is a shared initiative between DHHR and the West Virginia Department of Education's Office of Child Nutrition. For additional information, please visit the WV P-EBT website or contact the P-EBT Call Center at 1-866-545-6502.

## Public Notices

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• **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 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.**

## Puzzle Answers

Super Crossword

Weekly SUDOKU

Answers

SELENA	REPOS	MATURE	EST						
ASYLUM	ERICA	OPEN	AREA						
WALL	TAPESTRY	OUT	STRIP						
SUES	LASTS	TAPE	ANTONE						
	AGNEW	CARDINAL	RED						
AMISTAD	HOOHA	DUPE							
JUST	IMAGINE	TOES	SIC						
ALLOTS	ALA	BFFS	FAIRE						
REAP	PRE	DRAFT	HORSES						
	SCAB	VIOL	ARIANA						
PSYCHOLOGICAL	THRILLER								
LEO	II	ONED	RAPT						
URBAN	LEGEND	OAT	LACK						
MROS	POSY	PVC	SEABEE						
SFO	TSOS	SEEKING	HELP						
	SOSO	OFTEN	NEAREST						
UGLY	RUMOURS	RATED							
NEUMAN	WRY	PARER	APPS						
ANNOTATE	ELECTRIC	BLUE							
PIANO	MAN	ROCKS	NEBULA						
TIRER	IRMS	SASSY	GEYSER						

Answer

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

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# Clay County Free Press

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## Has Anyone Seen My Marbles

By: Dr. James L. Snyder

Whenever a week goes by without any hitches, I have learned that something somewhere is wrong.

I have lived long enough to realize that problems are a part of life. Most of my were created by me. I guess I'm a great creator in that regard. I don't think there is any reward for that kind of creativity.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is exceptionally educated in this area of my mistakes. She could receive the Nobel Peace Prize. She can recognize one of my mistakes two days before it even happens. I don't know how she does that and probably never will find out.

Whenever I screw something up, she always responds, "Have you lost your marbles?"

Initially, I didn't know I had marbles, nor did I understand what marbles were. But as I grew as a husband, I began to understand what she meant by marbles. I didn't know I had as many marbles as I had lost over the last 20 years.

One morning last week, I got up before The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and went out and got my coffee, I saw the kitties out on the porch looking in, so I opened the door, and they came marching in. What a great time they had together. As I was going to feed them, I heard a familiar voice down the hallway, "Have you lost your marbles? Get those cats out of here."

Of course, I didn't have to get the cats out because they ran for fear when they saw her coming down the hallway. I just stood there looking at the floor, trying to find my missing marbles.

Life has ups and downs, and I'm unsure which is better or worse. But throughout my life, I have never been helped in any situation by my marbles. How do my marbles help me in my everyday life? After all, my life has not changed much during these years of losing my marbles.

If I had more appreciation for my marbles, maybe, just maybe, I would not be getting in as much trouble with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Her obsession with marbles is beyond my ability to comprehend.

If I still have one or two marbles left maybe I could figure out how I can get back at her.

We had a doctor's appointment last week, so she drove her Sissy Van, and I sat over on the passenger side. It's hard for me to get in and out of that Sissy Van, but it saves me gas money for my truck.

As we were going down the street, I looked at her and said, "Have you lost your marbles? You missed the street we were supposed to turn on."

Inside I was laughing hilariously, but she did not share in that. She just looked at me and flashed one of her quirky smiles.

I sure do like it when a plan comes together.

One morning this week, I got up rather late and walked out to the living room in my pajamas. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me and said, "Have you lost your marbles? We have a breakfast appointment in about 10 minutes across town."

I had no idea, or at least I forgot about it, and maybe she was right; I did lose my marbles on this one.

I was thinking recently about how my life would change if I had all the marbles I lost. So what would my life be like at that point?

The other day as she was coming in the front door from a shopping trip I said to her, "Have you lost your marbles?"

Looking at me strangely, she said, "What are you talking about?"

Smiling back at her, I said, "Nothing, I just wanted to know if you had all your marbles together."

She didn't think that was funny and scowled at me and took the shopping bag into the kitchen.

If anybody has marbles, I think she does. So my question is simply, what is she doing with all those marbles?

I think I have one or two marbles left, and I was thinking of a plan for her birthday. I've been putting a lot of thought into it, and I'm almost done with the thinking aspect and about ready to put it all together.

I was in Wal-Mart the other day, and walking down one of the aisles, I saw something that got my attention. There on the shelf were bags of marbles. It was the first time I ever saw marbles for sale. When I saw them, it gave me an idea. So I bought a bag of marbles.

This year I plan to give her a special birthday gift. It will be a box filled with marbles, wrapped in red paper with a lovely bow on the top.

When she opens it, I expect she will say, "Have you lost your marbles?"

I will respond, "No, my dear, I found your marbles."

I could not help but think of a Bible verse in Isaiah 55:8-9, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

God has never lost His "marbles." God shares His thoughts with us in the word of God.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnsnyderministries.com.

## THE BAPTIST CLASSROOM

Pastor Doug Newell, IV



# This is a Bible

John Wooden won 10 NCAA college basketball championships in 12 years with UCLA. Every year, the first practice began the same way. He taught the players how to put on their socks and tie their shoes. They started at the very beginning with something they had been doing all their life. But little things matter. The fundamentals are essential, and Wooden made sure the little things were covered before moving on to other things. You can't hit the winning shot if you are sitting on the bench with a blister.

Legendary football coach Vince Lombardi had a similar approach. As the story is told, he would start training camp with professional players by holding the ball in his hand and saying, "Gentlemen, this is a football." Lombardi's quote is a little on the money, but he made a good point. The basics matter, and even NFL players need to know and refresh themselves on the fundamentals of the game.

What's that book that you take to church on Sunday? The word Bible means the book. The Scriptures (the writings) are a collection of sixty-six books written by over 30 authors over the period of about fifteen hundred years. It's not a novel or a history book, but the Bible has different genres and is broken up into the Old and New Testaments. You'll read narrative, wisdom literature, poetry, prophetic sermons, the Gospels, history, and letters written to other people or churches. I remember the first time that I discovered that Matthew,

Mark, Luke, and John told the story of the life of Jesus. Not in sequential parts 1-4, but each one started from the beginning again. The Bible is different from other books in that there are two authors of Scripture, the human author, and the divine author. Taking Scripture on its own terms and self-testimony, it is the God-breathed words of the Almighty God. This truth sets the Bible apart from any other book. Because there is one divine author, there is a cohesive point.

After the resurrection, Jesus met some disciples on their way to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-32) they didn't recognize him. These men were sad and confused. Jesus asked them what was wrong, and they told Jesus how Jesus was crucified, buried, and according to what they heard, rose from the dead, but they didn't see that part. Jesus told them they were being foolish since they didn't believe all that the prophets of the Old Testament had spoken on these very things. So he started with Moses (who wrote the first five books of the Bible) and thoroughly explained all the Scriptures that spoke about Him. That book that you carry is about Jesus.

Laws, covenants, genealogies, love songs, unfamiliar histories of people and places, and diving in can seem overwhelming. Or, you might have been at this a while, know Scripture by heart, and are deep diving into different books or topics. But always remember your fundamentals. This is a Bible.

## Tang

By: Joseph J. Mazella

My daughter is such a beautiful, loving, giving soul. Every day she comes over to my house to help me take care of her two mentally handicapped brothers. I don't know what I would have done without her all of these years. Her love isn't limited to just people, though. She has also rescued several dogs over the years and showered them with love and affection. Last year too she started to feed a female, black, stray cat that we named Miss Alice. Then it seems word spread because soon other strays started coming around to feast on her food and her love. The latest one is a male, orange tabby that she named Tang after the powdered breakfast drink.

Tang isn't quite like the other cats, however. My daughter calls him a dog in a cat suit because there is no aloofness about him at all. Every time he sees her he meows for her to pick him up and pet him. Just yesterday I watched as she started to walk back up the road to her own house. Suddenly an orange blur appeared from under her front porch steps. It was Tang. He ran down

the road to her meowing all the way. When she finally bent down to pick him up and pet him you could see his eyes close as he soaked in the love of her heart. He rubbed his head against her and purred with pure joy. I laughed as I watched her carry him back up the road to her house like a baby. He never once tried to get down. He just enjoyed being in her arms.

I wonder how much better our own lives would be if we took a lesson or two from that dog in a cat suit. God's Love is all around us. He speaks to us in a thousand different ways. He seeks only to live in our hearts and our lives. If we were as wise as Tang is we would soak in that Love every chance we got. We would cherish our time in His arms. And we would joyously share our own love as well. Perhaps one day I will be as loving and wise as this furry feline. Until then I will keep trying my best to Love, each and every day. May you do the same.

## Home Country

By Slim Randles

Spring mornings are a lot like Christmas. Each day we get up and go out into the yard, or walk along the creek or visit the horses in the pasture. And each day, each morning, we find something new the sun has brought us.

Pinfeather leaves of an unbelievable green now start showing on cottonwoods that have stood like stark ghostly frames all through the cold winter. Hopeful blades of grass peek through clumps of brown left over from last summer's verdant pasture. Everywhere we look there is something new and different.

A lot of this Christmas-in-spring is kept just among us, because we might be accused of being ... well ... poetic if we told people why we were really carrying that coffee cup out into the yard. So we say lame things like "I think I'll get some of that fresh air this morning." What we really mean, of course, is "I want to see if Richardson's bay mare has had that foal yet."

Some of us have worked very hard last fall and winter to prepare for this spring. By grafting. OK, we have a Granny Smith apple tree. Let's see if we can't get a branch of Rome Beauties or Jonagolds to grow on it, too. And we understand completely that where we live no olive tree can survive the winter. That isn't supposed to stop us from trying, is it?

Nature pitches us a boatload of challenges each day that we're alive. This plant needs more water than falls naturally here. That tree can't take the temperatures we get. This little tree needs soil with more organic matter in it.

And those challenges are the stuff winter dreams are made of. We do the best we can to cure the lack, the freeze, the drought, and then we wait for April. We wait impatiently until we can come out of the house some morning and check the grafts on the apple tree and see tiny green leaves coming on the grafted branch. We search the bare ground where we planted that new kind of seed that won't grow here - to see if it'll grow here.

It is a continuing feast of green, a triumph of anticipation. An April morning can make us want to sing.

Brought to you by *Strange Tales of Alaska*, available now on Amazon.com.

**THE FREEPRESS '50's and '60's ROCK 'N' ROLL TRIVIA**

This English rock group from Manchester, was founded by Peter Noone in 1964. With a sort of tongue-in cheek vocal style and a jaunty beat, they were ranked as one of the most successful acts as part of the "British invasion". They had two #1 hits and 9 singles in the top ten between 1964 and 1970. Session musicians that backed them up included Jimmy Page and John Paul Jones. I know you remember this group.

Answer to last week's Trivia: In the Capris hit "There's A Moon Out Tonight," (Feb. '61) the singer wants to: go strolling in the park.

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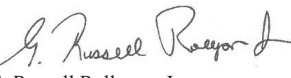
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**Delinquent and Nonentered Lands continued from previous page**

CERT #	SOLD	TICKET	NAME	NAME 2	DESCRIPTION	DISTRICT	AMOUNT DUE
2022-C-000300	2021	16153	WYANT ORVILLE ROCKY		10 AC GRASSY FORK	PLEASANT	\$261.84
2022-C-000304	2021	12947	BIRD DOW W		.50 AC SYC	PLEASANT	\$186.16
2022-C-000305	2021	15260	PRITT TERRI ELLEN		16.9 AC WTS BIG SYC	PLEASANT	\$257.52
2022-C-000306	2021	14651	MILLER JERRY L II ETAL		LOTS 1-2 BC MOORE SUB DIV	PLEASANT	\$328.30
2022-C-000307	2021	12816	ATHA JARED ETUX		1.61 AC SYC	PLEASANT	\$358.48
2022-C-000308	2021	14884	MULLINS DENVER		LOT 2 SANGAMON	PLEASANT	\$192.91
2022-C-000309	2021	15372	REED THOMAS B III		2.06 AC BIG SYC SUR	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000310	2021	15357	REED KATHI A		2.06 AC BIG SYC SUR	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000311	2021	14507	MAGNOLIA LLC		100 X 116 BENTREE	PLEASANT	\$186.44
2022-C-000312	2021	13704	FIELDS CONNIE		70 AC BELL CREEK	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000313	2021	13881	HALL O L HRS		17.96 AC WTS SYC MIN 2/3 OF	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000314	2021	14194	JARVIS JOHN K		17.96 AC WTS SYC	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000315	2021	13882	HALL O L HRS		30.77 AC BIG SYC O&G 2/3 OF	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000316	2021	14195	JARVIS JOHN K		30.77 AC BIG SYC O&G	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000317	2021	13883	HALL O L HRS		39.32 AC BIG SYC O&G 2/3 OF	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000318	2021	14196	JARVIS JOHN K		39.32 AC BIG SYC	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000319	2021	14531	MAXEY HERMAN ETUX		106 AC WTS BIG SYC	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000320	2021	15350	REED JOE W		50.96 AC WTS BIG SYC & MID CRK	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000321	2021	15351	REED JOE W		82.47 AC WTS BIG SYC	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000322	2021	15352	REED JOE W		62 AC WTS BIG SYC	PLEASANT	\$200.71
2022-C-000323	2021	15353	REED JOE W		100.55 AC MID CRK	PLEASANT	\$181.51
2022-C-000324	2021	15369	REED THOMAS B III		39 AC BIG SYC O&G	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000325	2021	15354	REED KATHI A		39 AC BIG SYC O&G	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000326	2021	15370	REED THOMAS B III		77.5 AC BIG SYC O&G	PLEASANT	\$178.84
2022-C-000327	2021	15355	REED KATHI A		77.5 AC BIG SYC O&G	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000328	2021	15091	OHIO VALLEY UNIVERSITY INC		77 AC WTS SYC COAL (LESS	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000329	2021	15092	OHIO VALLEY UNIVERSITY INC		99 AC WTS SYC COAL (LESS	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000330	2021	15559	SIZEMORE ALICE J HRS		13 AC WTS BELL CRK	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000331	2021	15371	REED THOMAS B III		77.5 AC BIG SYC COAL	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000332	2021	15356	REED KATHI A		77.5 AC BIG SYC COAL	PLEASANT	\$177.82
2022-C-000334	2021	18959	TACKETT ANTHONY N ETUX		.50 AC & ROW N S ELK	UNION	\$300.15
2022-C-000335	2021	17198	DEEMS CECIL J		.60 ACS WTS BIG LAUREL	UNION	\$390.08
2022-C-000336	2021	17407	EPLING TERRY E		.75 AC S S ELK	UNION	\$414.48
2022-C-000338	2021	16802	BURDETTE ROBERT ETAL		3.104 AC N S ELK	UNION	\$730.43
2022-C-000339	2021	19152	WEST JOAN D ETAL		6 AC TWISTABOUT	UNION	\$515.10
2022-C-000340	2021	19153	WEST JOAN D ETAL		1 AC TWISTABOUT	UNION	\$177.82
2022-C-000341	2021	19154	WEST JOAN D ETAL		7 AC TWISTABOUT	UNION	\$924.77
2022-C-000343	2021	18931	STONE PAUL R		15 AC WTS QUEEN SHOALS	UNION	\$326.45
2022-C-000344	2021	18855	SIMMONS THOMAS EUGENE		1.5 AC PORTER	UNION	\$382.66
2022-C-000346	2021	17812	JARVIS CHARLES W ETUX		1.071 AC N S ELK	UNION	\$439.90
2022-C-000347	2021	16556	ATKINSON JAMES HRS		100 AC N S ELK	UNION	\$1,057.69
2022-C-000348	2021	19203	WOODY CARL G		6 AC S S ELK	UNION	\$177.82
2022-C-000349	2021	18397	OHIO VALLEY UNIVERSITY INC		2 AC S S ELK COAL	UNION	\$177.82

Any of the aforesaid tracts or lots may be redeemed by any person entitled to pay the taxes thereon at any time prior to the sale by payment to the Deputy Commissioner of the total amount of taxes, interest, and charges thereon up to date of redemption. Lands listed above as escheated or waste and unappropriated lands may not be redeemed. Payments must be received prior to the close of business the day prior to the land sale. Given under my hands this 5th of April, 2023.

(3)

  
 G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.  
 Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent  
 and Nonentered lands of CLAY County

# AG Morrisey offers tips to avoid scam calls



West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey offered advice to consumers following multiple recent reports of scammers using robocalls to target West Virginians. Scammers often use legitimate phone numbers to make incessant robocalls that swindle consumers out of their hard-earned money. "Consumers need to keep their guard up and stay alert if they receive a suspicious

call," Attorney General Morrisey said. "Remember, don't panic, and don't give away any personal information. Our office remains committed to making progress in combating unlawful robocalls, and we will continue to fight these illegal and obnoxious scam calls."

- If consumers receive a scam call, they should:
- Hang up. Ending the conversation is the quickest way to stop a scam.
  - Verify the call. If the caller claims to represent a particular government agency, hang up and call the main number for the legitimate agency to see if that agency was trying to reach you.
  - Don't trust your caller ID. Scammers have been known to falsify or "spoof" calls to make them appear to come from a legitimate source.
  - Don't give in to the scammer. Scammers are hoping consumers will panic and surrender the information or money they are asking for out of fear.
  - Report the scam.

Consumers are urged to never share personally identifiable, financial and otherwise sensitive information without verifying the legitimacy of the recipient. The same goes for never agreeing to send cash, wire money or provide numbers associated with a credit/debit card or bank account.

Anyone with questions or who believes they may have been a victim of a scam should contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at 800-368-8808 or visit the office online at [www.ago.wv.gov](http://www.ago.wv.gov).

# WVDOH awards contracts for striping projects across the state

The West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) announced today that contracts were awarded for seven striping projects across West Virginia. The contracts were from bid lettings conducted on Tuesday, March 14, and Thursday, March 16.

Highway Safety Inc. was awarded two contracts totaling \$334,635 each for recall roadway striping including in District 1 counties of Boone, Clay, Kanawha, and Mason, and District 2 counties of Cabell, Lincoln, Logan, and Mingo.

Mid Atlantic Maintenance Inc. was awarded multiple contracts for recall roadway striping including in District 4 counties of Doddridge, Harrison, Marion, and Monongalia for \$389,267.50. Mid Atlantic was also awarded the contracts let on Thursday, March 16, 2023, of recall striping in District 6 counties of Brooke, Marshall, Ohio, and Wetzel for \$369,292.50, and District 7 counties of Barbour, Braxton, Gilmer, and Lewis counties for \$343,292.50.

Roadsafe Traffic Systems Inc. was awarded two recall roadway striping contracts including for District 8 counties of Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph, and Tucker totaling \$309,590. That contract was from the March 16 bid letting. From the bid letting on March 14, Roadsafe Traffic Systems was awarded for striping work in District 5 counties of Grant, Hardy and Mineral counties totaling \$313,605.

When the WVDOH contracts to have roads paved, the contract usually includes painting the stripes down the middle of the road. However, those stripes wear and fade over time, so it's necessary to restripe them periodically. When that happens, WVDOH accepts bids for countywide restriping contracts.

Several factors are considered before awarding a bid, including whether a bid falls above or below the WVDOH Engineer's Estimate and by what percentage. In cases where a bid is above the Engineer's Estimate, WVDOH must consider the project need, repercussions of not awarding the project, additional funding sources, and whether sufficient reasons exist for the differences in estimates. Most projects are reviewed, analyzed, and awarded within a week of the bid letting, but the process can take longer.

When the Division of Highways has a project that is determined to be best constructed by a contractor, it is processed through the bid letting system. A letting is a scheduled opportunity for contractors to review and bid on several construction projects at one time. Lettings are held either once or twice per month and conducted through the Bid Express System online at [www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com) and handled through the Contract Administration Division. Contractors need to subscribe to Bid Express before bids can be accepted on any project.

As the date and time approach the deadline of the letting, contractors are expected to place their bids, with complete documentation as necessary. Shortly after the letting, the respective bids are reviewed. All bids are evaluated thoroughly for competitiveness and deemed acceptable through guidelines as approved by policy, reviewed, and approved by the FHWA. Award of the contracts is made based on the recommendation by our Awards Committee based on the results of that evaluation and approval by the Commissioner. Projects are typically awarded to the lowest bidder with all proper documentation in place.



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In the Bill Noe Flight School, EDTalks speakers Bill Noe and Amber Nichols provided powerful messages that inspired us to take action.





# SPORTS

## Lady Mustangs fire a shot heard around the world



Brooklyn Morton sets up the gun arm

By Allen Hamrick

HOOOO WEEEE the Lady Mustangs were setting fire to the diamond this past week. It was time to call 911, or more like the undertaker, for any team that the Lady Mustangs butted heads with. The Lady Mustangs were digging the holes and planting daisies before giving last rites. The Lady Bears from Summersville blew into town for one of the most anticipated games of the season. The reason is the Lady Mustangs have had a hard time beating them; it's like trying to catch a shark from the Elk River - you could try but the chances are slim. As a matter of fact, it's seemingly been since Ford announced the Model A that the Lady Mustangs have beat them. WHEW!!! Not this season though, baby.

The Lady Mustangs brought in the whipping sticks and splintered them in the face of the Lady Bears. The Lady Mustangs raised the ash on their shoulder and literally beat the leather off the ball the whole game. The Lady Bears never threw in the white towel however, as they tried to figure out this new Lady Mustang juggernaut before it was too late. In retrospect, they should have thrown in the towel. There was not going to be a cake walk for the Lady Bears this season, no post game party on the bus going home, just a box of tissues and a few bruised egos. It wasn't all about the bats; the Lady Mustangs' defense set the tomb stone on the Lady Bears game, writing the words...Here lays your game RIP.

The Lady Mustangs shaped the diamond perfectly as very little errors were committed. There was no continuous dancing around the bases as the Lady Bears are used to. This was a Lady Mustang team bent on a solid game with big plays on defense. They did this with suction cup gloves and gun arms that were locked and loaded on every play. Outfield was catching fly balls like a Venus fly trap as they covered the outfield like a blanket. The Lady Mustang team never gave the Lady Bears a chance; they should have called in sick. The Lady Mustangs also sent one of the greatest up and coming pitchers to the mound in the form of Rylee Murphy. This girl has the heat, the English and will even let a batter hit one of her pitches just to make them feel good. Just to put it straight, Rylee left most batters looking



Jaedon Delwarte gets under the tag at home.

more like they were having a seizure at the plate when they tried to hit the English she was teaching.

On offense, all the girls changed the thread on the softball, smacking base hits and sending the ball to the fence. The Lady Bears simply couldn't handle the hot potato they were dealt. The Lady Bears changed pitchers like a mama changes baby diapers trying to figure out an end to the madness that was in front of them. There was nowhere to go but home. In the end, the Lady Mustangs did the unthinkable and that was to short game the mighty Lady Bears in five innings with the final score sitting at 11-2. Top whipping stick for the Lady Mustangs was Jaedon Delwarte who brought out some big ash going 4-4 at the plate, hitting two doubles and scoring two runs. Adding to the highlight reel was Addison Taylor who went 3-3 and Peyton Johnson went 3-4 with a double and 3 RBIs in the game. Rylee Murphy gunned for five innings striking out eight batters.

It was on to Valley, and the Lady Mustangs, having the momentum of a charging rhino, were set to give them a game Valley didn't want. Billed as a double header, the other team didn't make it... must have heard what happened to Summersville. The Lady Mustangs sent extremely intense pitcher Brooklyn Morton to the mound, and when she gets to the hill it trembles and so does the competition. It was a no contest for the Lady Mustangs they riddled Valley with enough hits to make them wonder if they were using the right gloves. In the end, it was the Lady Mustangs once again keeping the game short winning 15-0. Brooklyn struck out five batters on the way to a pitching a no hitter. Once again Lady Mustang defense ruled the day, and offense, well what can you say? Just look at the scoreboard. Jaedon Delwarte once again showed her prowess with a bat going 3-3 with two doubles, three RBI's and scored three runs. Three of the girls had the big ash over their shoulders going 2-3 - Rylee Murphy, Peyton Johnson and Lainey Nichols. These girls combined for four runs. Lily Nichols went 2-2 driving in three runs and scoring two of her own.

Valley decided to give it one more shot, and this time it was worse as the Lady Mustangs held a class on batting. When the slaughter was over, it was the Lady Mustangs on top once again by the score of 28-8. Layla Parker went to the hill for the Lady Mustangs as the third pitcher in a trio of pitching greatness. Congratulations to the Lady Mustangs on a fine week of softball. They will be at home on Monday night against Calhoun and away on Friday night in Braxton. If you want to see good softball, come out and catch a game.



Lily Nichols saves a run with this catch.



Hannah Gandee leads the chorus in the dugout.

## Mustangs baseball goes 1-1 this week



Joel Elliot fires the out from short stop.

By Allen Hamrick

The Mustang baseball team was home and on the road this week. The boys have had a slow start this season as wins are hard to get. Ravenswood blew into town to take on the Mustangs. The Mustangs struggled against some good pitching, but in true Mus-

tang fashion, the boys didn't give up that easy. The Mustangs held the score close enough to stay in the hunt, but the opportunities just didn't come. In the end, it was Ravenswood over the Mustangs.

The Mustangs took their show on the road after that



Luke Stewart bringing the heat.

to take on Valley in what would prove to be a Mustang salvation game. The boys raised their bats from the dead and scattered hits all over the field, and when the smoke cleared, the boys picked up a much needed win defeating Valley by the score of 14-4. It was a great

game that shows that Mustang baseball never gives up and plays one hundred percent until the last out. The boys will be back in action against Calhoun on Monday night at home, and on Tuesday night, they will be at Spencer. Come on out for some good baseball action.



Adrian Davidson runs the 3200 meter run.

## Mustang track competes at Laidley Field

By Allen Hamrick

The CCMS track team is in the news again and continues making waves in the track world. They competed this past Tuesday at Laidley field in Charleston. It was tough competition for the team, but they stood out against some tough opponents. The ladies held their own. Jayda Stricker placed 4th in the 100, 6th in the long jump and 4th in the 400 meter. Ariel Dobbins hit the top of the leader board placing 3rd in the Discus throw. Brooke Cliver continues her shot put dominance placing 3rd behind some tough competition. Madison Kirby jumped into the CCMS record books in the high jump placing 2nd in the event. Natalie Tanner was 4th in the 100 meter hurdles, and the 4x 60 shuttle hurdle team placed 5th. The girls 4x400 relay team also placed 5th in the event. The girls place 8th overall in the event.

The boys also had some stiff competition, but Seth Robinson made it look easy placing 2nd in the 100 meter dash, 2nd in the 400 meter, 4th in the 100 meter hurdles and 3rd in the shot put. Brody Scarbro was 4th in the 200 and 6th in the discus. Adrian Davison took 6th in the 800 and 5th in the 3200. Andrew Tanner was 6th in the 3200 meter run while the shuttle hurdle team took 2nd in the 4x60. The boys placed 8th overall.

The team did a great job against much bigger schools and will no doubt continue their race to the end of the season. They will compete at Roane County on April 15th and back at Laidley Field on Thursday, April 20th. The CCHS team will be running at Roane County this Tuesday. They have very few meets, left so come out and support the teams.



Seth Robinson runs the 100 meter dash.



Jayda Stricker hits the track on the 400 meter.

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[CCWV.org](http://CCWV.org)