



Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple

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Charles Bird First to Receive 80 Year Pin



By: Betty Holcomb

On March 30, 2023, Charles E. Bird of Lizemores was honored by the United Mine Workers of America with an 80 Year Pin. UMWA President Cecil Roberts had the honor of pinning Mr. Bird, who was the first person to ever be recognized for this length of membership.

Mr. Bird worked in the coal industry from 1943-1983 and still pays his dues to the organization each month to this day. He started shoveling coal while on his knees because that was all the room there was, he had to crawl to get anywhere, and he had to hold his

dinner bucket in his teeth. From there he worked his way to running the coal feed and cleaner in the coal tippie. He has had held many different titles in this industry. He was blessed to have only broken his nose and one finger during his time in the mines.

Mr. Bird left the mines from 1943-1946 to protect his country in WWII, where the UMWA covered his dues while he was defending America in the European Theater. Mr. Bird landed in Normandy on D+46 where he was a jeep driver and drove in England, France, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg, Czechoslovakia, and Germany. When peace was declared he

helped occupy Hitler's Hideout in Berchtesgaden for three months.

Mr. Bird is celebrating 98 years and loves to talk daily on his ham radio. Congratulations Mr. Bird, and thank you for your service.

The Mitchell Family: A Long Line of Military Members



By: Betty Holcomb

When you walk into William C. Mitchell's home in Bomont you are met with a wall of pictures and memories from years of family members that have proudly served our country. Mr. Mitchell, or Tune as friends and family call him, is very proud of the accomplishments of his children, grandchildren, nephews, and brothers who bravely protected our country.

Mr. Mitchell resides in Bomont, and at the end of his driveway is where the old Odessa School sat, which he attended in the 1920s. William and his wife, Nellie Sue Mitchell, who passed in February 2022, were very involved with H.E. White Elementary and their community. The memory that Mr. Mitchell has kept alive of his wife and family members is special to him, and he proudly represents that in his home with his wall of memories.

The long line of family members that served in the Armed Forces are as follows:

Joshua Mitchell graduated Marine bootcamp in September 2008 and was stationed in Quantico, VA and serves with Honor Guard. Austin Mitchell joined the Marines in 2005, serving two tours of duty in Iraq in Afghanistan. Marine Lance Cpl. Alfred Empsey Michell, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Allen Wayne "Pain" Michell (1951-2006) of Bomont served with the Army in Vietnam and received the Purple Heart. Marine Cpr. Brad Mitchell, Marine Lance Cpl. Michael N. Mitchell of Pine Grove, Marine Lance Cpl. John Mitchell of Bomont, Air Force Airman 1st Class Edward E. Michell of Bomont (1934-2009), World War II Veteran Charlie J. Mitchell (1910-1971) of Dry Ridge was an Army Master Sergeant, Army Spec. E-4 Calvert Mitchell Clendenin served from 1957-1960 along with Samuel Mitchell of Bomont. Andy Mitchell aided in the mission to bring home POW, Jessica Lynch, in 2003 where he was recognized by President, George W. Bush.



Judy's Garden Club Celebrates Earth Day

Judy's Garden Club, Appalachian District, celebrated Earth Day by participating with Braxton/Clay County Master Gardeners at the Big Otter Fire Department. The Master Gardeners hosted a workshop for the public which included instructional sessions on various topics such as water features, edible flowers, insects, the care and raising

of hydrangeas just to name a few.

Judy's Club members strive to support community events such as the Braxton/Clay Master Gardeners, and are honored to have several members that have completed and are Master Gardeners themselves. A few of Judy's Club Members that are Master Gardeners are pictured.

Judy's Gardner Club meets the second Saturday of the month. If you would like to join in with the club, they would love to meet you. You are invited to follow Judy's Garden Club on their Facebook page where additional info and updates are posted. Judy's Garden Club thanks you for your support.

From Judy's Garden Club, Happy Gardening!

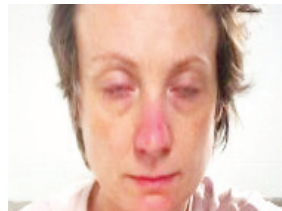
CCHS baseball beats Capitol



Caden Delwarte was firing the heat in the South Harrison game. Allen Hamrick photo.

BOOKED CENTRAL REGIONAL JAIL

BRAXTON COUNTY



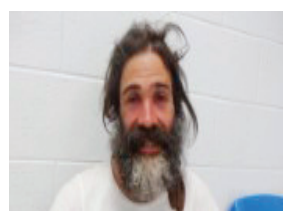
Carrie Nicole Brown
Booked 4/26/23
Domestic assault



David Joshua Williams
Booked 4/27/23
Body attachment



Jesse Scott Adkins
Booked 4/27/23
Grand larceny



Craig Alan Clackler
Booked 4/26/23
Daytime burglary



Nicholas Ray Davis
Booked 4/25/23
Capias

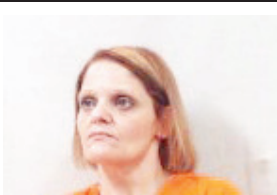


Leon Aaron Hill
Booked 4/24/23
Possession of a controlled substance, expired operators

BRAXTON COUNTY



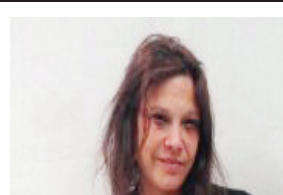
Denell Lucile Johnson
Booked 4/26/23
Expired registration, expired MVI, driving suspended, defective equipment, no seatbelt, possession of a controlled substance, no insurance



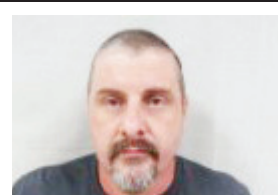
Trina Joanne Morris
Booked 4/26/23
Possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance, receive/transfer stolen goods



Jason Lee Padgett
Booked 4/26/23
Possession of a controlled substance



Jessica Marie Phillips
Booked 4/26/23
Possession of a controlled substance

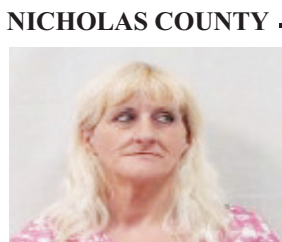


Alan Russel Rhodes
Booked 4/26/23
Driving revoked, simple possession



Daniel Scott Bragg
Booked 4/25/23
Assault school employee without weapon, trespassing asked to leave, Capias, disorderly conduct

NICHOLAS COUNTY



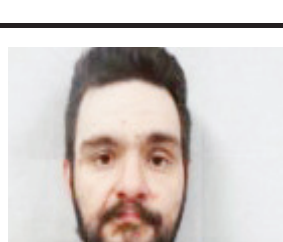
Tina Fay Conard
Booked 4/28/23
Violation of day report center



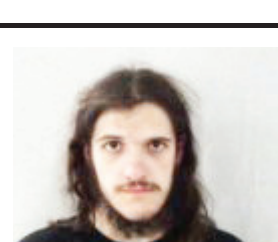
Shaina Ellen Jarvis
Booked 4/25/23
Grand larceny, Capias



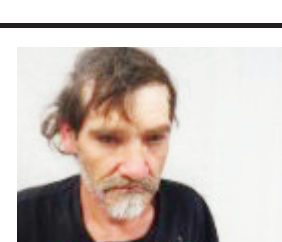
Richard Lee LaFever
Booked 4/28/23
Family court Capias



Jonathan Reginald McCutcheon
Booked 4/29/23
Unlawful taking of vehicle, speeding, burglary



Nathaniel Eric Nicholas
Booked 4/30/23
Receive/transfer stolen property, petit larceny



Jack Benny Price II
Booked 4/27/23
Family Court Capias

NICHOLAS COUNTY

Public Notices

- The Birch River PSD will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 9, at 9:00 a.m., at the PSD office in Birch River.
- 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.

To place your ADS Call us at (304)-647-5724

Courthouse News

Tuesday, May 30, 2023, Docket Schedule for Magistrate:

Rider, Charles "Jeff:"

10:00 AM, Tucker vs. Teel, Civil, Court Hearing

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Clay County Schools is pleased to announce a one-day Kindergarten orientation program at each of its four elementary schools during the months of June and July. Taste of Kindergarten programs will take place from 9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. on the following dates at each site:

June 22nd – Big Otter Elementary (304) 286-3111
June 22nd – Clay Elementary (304) 587-4276
July 7th – Lizemore Elementary (304) 587-4823
July 13th – H. E. White Elementary (304) 548-7101

Parents/caregivers must attend with children. Participants will meet their child's Kindergarten teacher, receive free learning materials, and learn about expectations for Kindergarten students. Lunch will be provided.

Any child who will be entering Kindergarten in Fall 2023 is eligible to participate in Taste of Kindergarten. Please check with your child's school for a registration form, or contact program director Dr. Michelle Samples at (304) 587-4266 to obtain a form.

Puzzle Answers

Weekly SUDOKU ————— Super Crossword

Answer

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

Answers

R	E	W	E	D	S	F	I	D	O	S	B	A	M	A	M	A	S			
U	R	A	N	I	A	O	D	O	N	H	E	R	O	H	A	R	A			
B	U	G	G	I	N	G	T	H	E	F	A	R	M	C	Y	S	T	S		
D	E	L	D	O	H	A	S	A	G	G	Y	C	H	E	E	S	E			
P	I	G	E	O	N	T	O	G	G	E	D	B	A	S	R	A				
A	T	A	N	O	I	R	O	C	E	L	O	T	S	A	L	E				
S	E	P	T	S	M	N	O	P	A	B	E	A	S	T	O	R				
E	P	E	E	H	O	W	A	M	I	D	O	G	G	I	N	G				
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D	Y	E	G	A	G	G	L	E	S	O	F	L	A	U	G	H	T	E	R	
U	A	L	C	A	N	E	D	T	R	E	A	D	S							
G	R	I	Z	Z	L	Y	B	E	G	G	A	R	M	E	A	T				
M	A	R	I	E	E	I	N	B	S	M	T	D	A	M	N	S				
A	D	A	D	A	D	T	O	B	E	E	S	S	E	A	F	T				
I	N	I	C	E	N	A	T	H	A	N	H	A	G	G	L	E				
S	O	G	G	Y	B	U	R	G	E	R	O	N	O	R	A	I	T			
O	C	A	L	A	F	E	M	I	N	I	N	E	W	I	G	G	L	E	S	
S	A	T	O	N	O	D	E	E	N	D	S	M	O	O	L	A	H			
O	R	E	O	S	S	O	N	S	C	A	T	P	A	N	A	M	A			

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Michael Showell, Publisher

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It's Not a Mess Until I Do It

By: Dr. James L. Snyder

When it comes to words, everybody has their own definition.

Someone says one word and another person thinks it's altogether something else.

For example, when someone says vegetable, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage thinks broccoli. On the other side of the dinner table, I think carrot cake. We have never been able to come together on this word.

I often get in trouble when at a restaurant. The waitress comes to take our order, then looks at me and asks what vegetable I wanted. I reply, "I'll have carrot cake for my vegetable today."

I then smile, knowing I was in deep trouble.

The waitress smiled back at me and said, "Okay, sir." Then went back to process our order.

When the order came, there on my plate was the vegetable of the day, a slice of carrot cake. I tipped that waitress rather generously. I love it when a plan comes together.

Our most significant contention with words is the word, "mess."

As far as I know, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is an expert in defining a mess. I'm an expert when it comes to creating a mess.

She has everything well organized and in its proper place.

All you have to do is walk into her craft room and you will discover what a well-organized room looks like. She has everything in its place and knows exactly where to go when she needs something.

Every time I walk into her craft room, I get dizzy. In that room everything has a place and is in its proper place. I could never work in that environment.

If you walk into my office, you will find the epitome of what a mess looks like. If I can't create a mess, it doesn't exist.

My wife is anti-mess and hates mess with a passion, and often I find her sneaking into my office trying to organize my mess.

Last week I was working on a project, and I needed something, so I went where I saw it last. Unfortunately, it was not there, and I could not find it. I was in a panic mode because I needed that for what I was working on.

As I was searching through my office, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage stepped in and said, "What are you looking for?"

I said, "It's nothing you would know anything about." I continued searching.

She persisted in knowing what I was looking for; finally, I gave in and told her what I was looking for.

"Oh, that," she said, "it's right over here." She walked over to one of the bookcases, pulled it out and handed it to me. I just looked at her, not knowing how to respond.

What she needs to understand is that my mess is an organized mess to my standards. Just because it isn't organized as she would like doesn't mean it's not organized in some fashion.

My definition of mess is "Making Everything Self-Sufficient."

I had a crazy thought, which is nothing new for me, to show her how important it is for people not to interfere with their space and leave their mess alone.

I found out about a project she was working on, and some ideas began dancing in my head. (Thank you Chubby Checker.) One question took the bow: What if? I thought about that for a long time and tried to figure out how to implement it.

She had to go away for the day with one of our daughters and do some shopping, so this was the right time to exercise my plan.

I went into her craft room and stood quietly for a few minutes to get the dizziness out of my head. Then, once that left, I began looking around to see how to set up my plan.

I saw a project on her desk that she was working on at the time.

Then I began picking up a few things from the table and put them in places she would not think of looking. It took me a while to work it all out, but I was diligent in my plan.

The next day after breakfast, we went to our rooms to work on our projects.

I was so eager to hear what would happen in The Craft Room. I heard some rustling around and heard someone in that room taking some profound sighs. Then I heard her say, "Where did I put that?"

I was so excited to hear my plan coming together. I went to her craft room, and looking in I said, "My dear, what are you looking for?"

She said something to the effect that I would not know anything about that. I persisted, and finally, she told me what she was looking for, and with a big smile, I said, "Oh, that's right over here." So I picked it up, brought it back, and laid it on her desk.

I smiled at her, but my smile was not reciprocated in any degree. It's nice when a mess comes together.

Thinking about this, I was reminded of what David said in Psalm 119:11, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Words are important and the most important word is the word of God. Hiding God's word in my heart will always lead me in the right direction and bring me to that place of blessing.

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



Thy Will be Done

When Jesus taught His disciples how to pray, He gave them a sample prayer we call the Lord's Prayer, which contains this line of adoration and supplication, "Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth." When we pray, we should remember that God is Almighty and Sovereign. As AW Pink put it, God does as He pleases, when He pleases, and whenever He pleases. God's will is done in Heaven. God's will is done on the Earth. What do you think about that? That bothers some people, I know. It concerns some Christians because they bristle against anything that seems to take away their liberty or freedom. Others don't like it because they believe that God only does things we like or find acceptable. For example, it is God's will when we get a promotion, but not God's will if we get fired. God provides the beautiful sunset, but not the thunderstorm, unless there is no damage. But that's not how God has revealed Himself to us in Scripture. God rules all. All things have a purpose, whether we can see or understand it or not.

What's the alternative? No God, and nothing is in control? That's foolish talk (Psalm 14:1; 53:1). God is powerless to stop evil? That's not the God of Scripture (Daniel 4:35). God does as He pleases. God has ordained the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10). To deny God's sovereignty is to deny the God of Scripture.

Of course, some things come to mind that we may have questions about when meditating on the perfections of God. Scriptures answer some questions, and others are not. We go as far as Scripture takes us, and when we get to the end, we stop, worship, and adore the infinite majesty of the Lord of hosts.

Jesus taught us to pray that God's will is done because it's an adoration of God and also a comfort to God's people. God is in control. I love how the Heidelberg Catechism puts it in the sections from the Lord's Day 9 and 10. "I trust God so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends upon me in this vale of tears. He is able to do this because He is almighty God; He desires to do this because He is a faithful father... We can be patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father that no creature will separate us from His love. For all creatures are so completely in His hand that without His will they can neither move nor be moved."

No matter what I face today, I can trust in the God who does all things according to His pleasure and loves me with everlasting love. An almighty, faithful, loving Father whose will is always done.

Saving a Single Butterfly

By: Joseph J. Mazella

It was a glorious spring day. The Earth was finally awakening from her winter slumber. New life was everywhere. The sky was clear and blue. The air smelled sweet. The sun was kissing the world with its warmth. It was already nearly 70 degrees.

I was driving to pick my son up from the sheltered workshop where he works a few days a week. On my drive I saw the daffodils and tulips blooming in people's yards. The meadows were full of yellow dandelions with some already turning into little white balls of seeds. The trees were starting to awaken too. The blossoms on them were white, purple, and pink. The songs of the birds were in the air as well. It was almost as if our Heavenly Father was giving us a peek of what Heaven might look like. I was soaking it all in and feeling the love from the creation all around me. I longed to be a part of it and share my love as well.

I pulled into the driveway of the sheltered workshop

and parked my car. As I got out I saw a lost little caterpillar crawling the wrong way towards the sidewalk. He was just about to go under my tire when I reached down and picked him up. I held him gently in my hand and walked over to the grassy hillside on the other side of the parking lot. I sat him down and said: "You will never become a butterfly if you get run over my friend. Please stay in the grass." Then I walked off with a smile on my face and a happiness filling my heart.

A friend once wrote me and asked what he could do to make a difference in this world. I wrote him back and said: "Everything!" Everything we do makes a difference in this world. Everything we do can help God's creation. Everything we do can help us take our place in the vast tapestry of His Love Every act of kindness, every shared smile, every moment of love makes a difference. Even saving as single butterfly is priceless in the eyes of Heaven.

Home Country

By Slim Randles

Down at the sale barn Saturday, the think tank had coagulated there with coffees to go to celebrate spring. Doc and Dud had their dogs with them, while Bert and Dewey and Steve went stag.

Dud tried to start a conversation, but the loudspeaker soon drove them outside, where they arrayed themselves on dropped tailgates and waited to hear what Dud had in mind.

"I thought about it a lot," Dud said, "and I wondered what the favorite part of my job was, and wondered if you fellas ever gave that any thought, too."

They nodded. Yes, by mutual consent a worthy subject.

"With me," Dud continued, "it wasn't so much my job as it was my hobby. You know, writing that book. I'm claiming it as the best part of my job, anyway."

The assembled were still waiting to read "Murder in the Soggy Bottoms," as it had yet to see print, and was really a work in progress.

Then Bert picked up the conversation thread. "Of course I'm retired now," he said, "but when I was running the pawn shop, my favorite part of the job happened when a customer found something in there he really needed and ended up paying much less for it than he thought he'd have to."

Doc laughed "And you made more on it than you thought you would, too,"

Bert grinned and nodded.

"Yep. That was good too. And you, Dewey?"

Our accident-prone pharaoh of fertilizer got a serious look on his face. He finally said, "The best part of the fertilizer business is seeing the difference it makes in the flower gardens around town. Now maybe it's just my imagination, but I kinda like to take a little credit for a prettier town."

"You deserve it, Dewey," Doc said kindly. "Well now ... with me it's a little different. I have doctoring skills, of course, and it's good when I can help someone, but these days the most satisfying part of my job is to check someone out thoroughly and find there's absolutely nothing wrong with them. Now that's special."

They all looked over at the tall cowboy, Steve.

"Digging postholes," he said.

"What?" they said.

"You know," he said, "the favorite part of my job."

"Digging postholes?"

"Sure," he said, grinning.

"That's the only job a cowboy has where he can start at the top and work down."

Read what might be the shortest book ever published, "Cowboys In Mensa." Inquire at your nearest mental health facility.

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

This 1965 #1 single was the first one for this group. The music was recorded by session musicians Leon Russell, Glen Campbell, Hal Blane, and Larry Knechtel. The only member of the original group playing on the track is Jim McGuinn. However, the vocals were done by the real members: McGuinn, David Crosby, and Gene Clark. What's the group? What's the song? (Hint: It's not "Turn, Turn, Turn").

Answer to last week's Trivia: The American guitarist and R&B singer born Ella Otha Bates who played a key role in transition from Blues to rock & roll, who had a #1 hit on Billboard's R&B charts in 1955 in which the name of the song was also the name of the artist who wrote and performed the song about himself was: Bo Diddley ("Bo Diddley", April, 1955).

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THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

The following events happened on these dates. To read more, go to *West Virginia Encyclopedia* at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

May 3, 1843: U.S. Postmaster General William Lyne Wilson was born in Smithfield, Jefferson County. Wilson joined President Cleveland's cabinet as postmaster general in 1895. The following year, he introduced Rural Free Delivery in Jefferson County, an experiment which was quickly instituted nationwide.

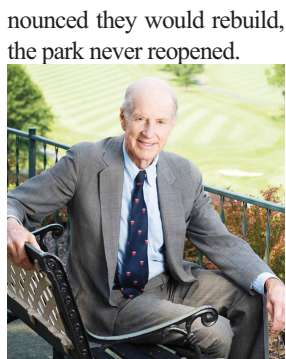
May 3, 1917: Fire destroyed the West Virginia Preparatory School in Keyser. The school was rebuilt, and it evolved into the institution now known as WVU Potomac State College.



May 3, 1948: The plane of test pilot Howard "Tick" Lilly, a Raleigh County native, crashed on takeoff in California. Lilly was the first of many government test pilots to die in the line of duty. Six weeks earlier, he had become only the fourth person to break the sound barrier.

May 4, 1896: The Children's Home Society of West Virginia was formed by a group of Charleston ministers. Their goal was to place orphaned and neglected children with caring families rather than crowd them into county poorhouses.

May 5, 1923: A fire started by welders working on a new swimming pool destroyed most of Luna Park, an amusement park in Charleston. Although Luna's owners announced they would rebuild, the park never reopened.



May 5, 1923: Golfer Bill Campbell was born in Huntington. He won more than 30 championships over a seven-decade career and is considered one of the best amateur players in history.

May 6, 1812: Activist and physician Martin Robison Delany was born in Charles Town. In February 1865, he was commissioned as a major in the U.S. Colored Troops. He was the only Black Civil War officer to be given a field command.

May 6, 1968: A continuous miner machine at the Gauley Coal & Coke Saxsewell No. 8 mine at Hominy Falls, Nicholas County, cut into an adjacent mine, which was filled with water. The resulting flood drowned four miners and trapped 21 others.

May 6, 1968: Newspaper publisher and Bluefield native John S. Knight received the Pulitzer Prize for his long record of service and his series of columns opposing the Vietnam War.

May 7, 1824: Logan County was created by the Virginia General Assembly from parts of Giles, Tazewell, Cabell and Kanawha counties. The county seat was first known as Lawnsville, then Aracoma, and finally Logan.

May 7, 1857: William A. MacCorkle was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, on his father's plantation. He served as West Virginia's ninth governor.

May 7, 1928: The Keith-Albee Theater opened in Huntington. The opening program featured a comedy called "Good Morning, Judge," a newsreel, and five stage acts. But the theater itself, with its elaborate interior, clearly was the star of the evening.

May 7, 1983: The New River Gorge National Park and Preserve began operations when the first visitor center opened near Fayetteville.

May 8, 1864: Clarence Wayland Watson was born in Fairmont. Watson was a prominent coal baron and served in the U.S. Senate from 1911 to 1913.



May 8, 1998: Former U.S. Senator Jennings Randolph died at the age of 96. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1932 and served a total of 40 years in Congress.

May 9, 1800: Abolitionist John Brown was born in Torrington, Connecticut. His 1859 raid on Harpers Ferry galvanized the nation, further alienating North and South in the lead-up to the Civil War.

May 9, 1843: Confederate spy "Belle" Boyd was born in Martinsburg. On July 4, 1861, Boyd shot a Yankee soldier and started her spy career.

May 9, 1863: Confederate raiders arrived at Burning Springs, Wirt County. There they set fire to 150,000 barrels of oil, oil tanks, engines for pumping, engine houses, wagons, and oil-laden boats.

OBITUARIES

David Wayne Stewart
David Wayne Stewart, 66, of Bickmore, WV found peace on April 25, 2023.

Born on August 12, 1956, he was the son to the late Thomas and Margaret Stewart. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his siblings, Thomas Houston and Gene.

He leaves behind his four children, Lorie, Debora, Rebecca, and Jeffrey; his grandson, Preston, whom he raised; 16 other grandchildren; and he was lucky enough to have several great-grandchildren. He also leaves behind his companion, Norma Davis, and her daughter, Erica Grose, along with his longtime friend, Johnny Foster.

He will be missed and loved by many families and friends.

Funeral service was held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, with a viewing for family and friends from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., at Wilson Smith Funeral Home, Clay, with Minister John Osborne officiating.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.carlwilsonsmithfuneralhome.com.

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

Joe Bill Jarrett

Joe Bill Jarrett, 86, of Barberton, Ohio passed away on April 22, 2023.

Born on June 7, 1936, he was the son of the late Benjamin and Flora (Ramsey) Jarrett. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his step-daughter, Le-

tha Croft, step-son, Earl McMorro, and nine siblings.

Joe is survived by his step-daughters, Lovina Keefer and Lenora Croft; grandchildren, Amanda Orr, Edward Marcou, Niki Marcou, Joseph Kingsbury, and Amber Kingsbury; and many more grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2023, at the Holcomb Cemetery, Indore, WV with Pastor Shane Wynn officiating.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.carlwilsonsmithfuneralhome.com.

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

Michael Dean Jarrett



Michael Dean Jarrett of Bickmore, WV, was born on June 17, 1950. He entered into rest on April 26, 2023, at home surrounded by his family and friends.

He was a loving husband and father. He loved hunting, fishing, and camping. He worked hard all his life and would lend a hand to anyone.

Michael is preceded in death by his father, Hubert Jarrett, and his nephew, Christopher Jarrett.

Michael is survived by his wife, Shelia Kay Jarrett of Bickmore; his mother, Leola Linkinaggoer of Cincinnati, OH; his daughter, Windy Jarrett of Indore, WV; his sons, Joseph Jarrett of Bickmore, Jacob Jarrett (Andrea Jarrett) of Indore, Dakota Jarrett of Indore, Earl Jarrett of Elkview, WV, and Zachary Jarrett of Stillwater, OK; his daughters, Brittany Jarrett and Briana Jarrett of WV; his sisters, Sharon (Kenny) Begley of Cincinnati, OH, Kathryn (Bobby) Mullins of Nitro, WV, Faye (Kermit) Morton of Winfield, WV; and his brothers, Arthur (Bonnie) Jarrett of Clay, and Junior (Ann) Jarrett of Florida. He also has seven grandchildren, and numerous other family members and friends that he loved and cared about.

A funeral service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, with a viewing for family and friends from 12 to 1:00 p.m. at Wilson Smith Funeral Home in Clay with Minister Adam Cayton officiating.

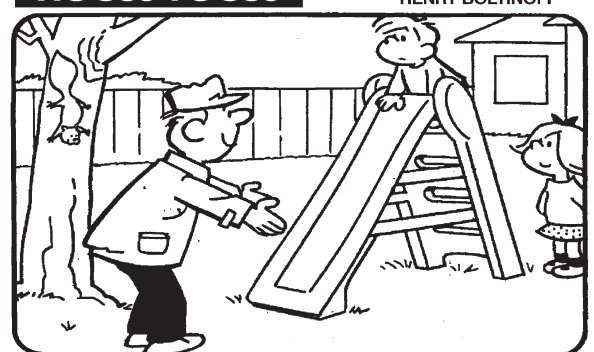
Burial will followed in the Sunset Cemetery in Bickmore, WV.

Online condolences may be sent to the family www.carlwilsonsmithfuneralhome.com.

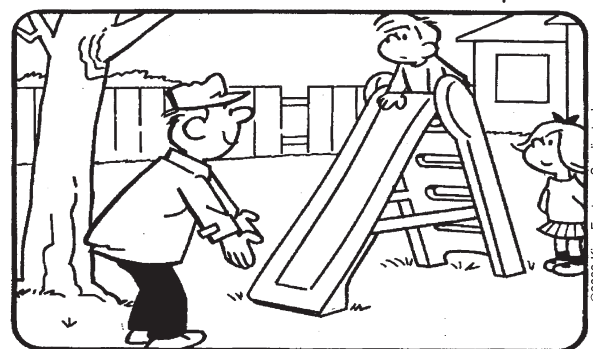
Wilson Smith Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Jarrett family.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Squirrel is missing; 2. Pocket is missing; 3. Arms are moved; 4. Board is missing; 5. Slide brace is missing; 6. Girl is different.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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Super Crossword

"OH GEEZ!"

ACROSS

1 Gets married again
7 Playmate for Spot
11 Fed. loan agency
14 The — & the Papas
19 Greek Muse of astronomy
20 Take way too much of, for short
21 That lady
22 Scarlett of Tara
23 Equipping a ranch with light, horse-drawn vehicles?
26 Anatomical sacs
27 Playa — Rey
28 Qatari capital
29 Brie exposed to heat?
31 Cooing bird wearing fancy duds?
34 Port in Iraq
35 "I'm — loss"
36 Dark film style
37 Forest cats
41 Bar brew
43 Months before Oct.
45 Pre-Q queue
47 Prez Lincoln
48 Furrier John Jacob —
50 Safe sword
52 Question about one's relentless following skills?
56 Thinks alike
59 Sch. in the Nutmeg State
60 Saturated
61 Royal daughter who always moves with short, quick motions?
66 Berlin article
69 Effortless
70 Prefix with chic or tourist
71 Love-letter "hugs"
72 Cab
73 Indigo, e.g.
74 Goose flocks making people chuckle?
81 Suffix with event or context
82 Wove rattan into
83 Tire marks
84 Big brown beast seeking handouts of salmon?
90 Steak or ham
91 — Claire (magazine)
92 Berlin article
93 Cellar, in ads
95 Makes accursed
99 Tooth doctor's org.
100 Expectant father
103 Latin I verb
105 Fore and —
106 Way to pack fresh fish
109 Heroic American spy's petty bargaining?
112 Whopper dropped in water?
116 — about (around)
117 British islet
118 City in central Florida
119 Dancing woman's moves?
123 Suppressed
124 Lyric poem
125 Discontinues
126 Money, informally
127 Filled cookies
128 Abel, to Eve
129 Sing like Ella
130 Neighbor of Colombia
4 Children's author Madeleine L—
5 Abbr. for a handy person
6 Refused the request
7 Blast from a lighthouse
8 Pet collar attachment
9 Homer Simpson cry
10 "Be right there"
11 Carpet style
12 Big icy chunk
13 Gls' force
14 Coffee flavor
15 "Now I remember"
16 Italian sports car
17 Cultural exhibition hall
18 Encl. with a manuscript
24 "Can't, I'm already late"
25 Diminish
30 "MacGyver" network
31 Faux — (slip)
32 Without assurance of payment
33 Disappear as if by magic (hiding out)
39 Kobe sash
40 Rock singer Nugent
42 Bit of work
44 Itty-bitty
46 "Wow, neat!"
48 Gets mature
49 Cpl.'s boss
51 Austin-to-Houston dir.
53 Dir. opposite 51-Down
54 Santa — winds
55 Be a debtor
56 Impersonated
57 Silver-haired
58 Increase
59 Gp. patrolling shores
62 Division: Abbr.
63 Errand runners
64 Top Olympic medal
65 Mauna —
66 Info to input
67 Chopped down
68 Knights, e.g.
72 Eta-iota link
74 Look intently
75 Wholly
76 Heart chart, in brief
77 — -AFTRA (showbiz union)
78 Due to wagering
79 Sport — (off-roader)
80 Good egg rating
81 Israeli weapon
84 ABC a.m. show, for short
85 Police vehicle
86 Reagan-era scandal
87 Positive vote
88 Auction offer
89 Doc treating sinusitis
90 Ski resort in S. Vermont
94 Most ogreish
96 Cartoon gorilla of 1960s TV
97 Lions, 49ers or Steelers
98 Canonized Fr. woman
100 Cotillion gal
101 "That's — haven't heard!"
102 — & Noble
104 Scampi food
107 Inuit dwelling
108 Greenish-blue colors
110 Accord maker
111 Be choked by
112 Merely OK
113 Sci-fi vehicles
114 Overhaul
115 Fed. agents
120 U.S. "Ltd."
121 — long way
122 — Na Na

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THE WIDEN NEWS



The people who think alike should vote alike.

"DUNDON" RED ASH COAL

Where all think alike, no one thinks very much.

April, 1957

Have You Heard That . . .

Dr. Moyers' Brother Dies
Dr. E. B. Moyers and Mrs. Moyers were called to their home in Harrisville on April 4th on account of the sudden death of Dr. Moyers' brother, Frank, who was 81 years of age and dropped dead during one of his routine trips around the farm where he lived. He was buried in the family burying ground with Evangelist E. Ray Dotson, pastor of the Church of Christ in charge. Mr. Moyers was a member of that church.

Death Claims Daniel Nichols Half-Brother
Funeral services for Adam Burton Nichols, age 82, were held in the Pleasant Dale Baptist Church near Enoch March 27th with the Reverend Elihu Ramsey officiating. Mr. Nichols died in the home of his son, Early, in Lodi, Ohio, after a long illness.

Widen Baseball Team Active
The Widen independent baseball club got under way the first of the month in some practice sessions with some inter-squad games. Manager Paul Dawson said its too early yet to "peg" the positions and entire personnel, but should be ready to do so soon.

Stray Dogs Disposed Of
Deputies rounded up and disposed of the growing "family" of stray dogs which has been a menace to health and safety in recent months. All valuable animals and personal pets were carefully guarded and kept indoors during the purge.

From Wreck To Hot Rod
Denver Young's auto, which went out of control on the little hill past the washhouse and was wrecked in the creek, has been dismantled of all top gear, and Denver is now using it for a hot rod, after a narrow escape when the entire top was bashed in leaving only a small opening for the boys to crawl through to safety.

Retired miner . . . Ice, a former employee of the Company at Widen, passed away in the Charleston General Hospital, Thursday, April 18th. Services were at the Flat Fork Baptist Church with Rev. Carl Morris officiating. Burial was in the Chapman Cemetery. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and six sons.

History of W.H.S. Graduating Class

The twenty-one members of the class of 1956-57 are all that remains of the two full first grade groups who enrolled in Widen School in September, 1945. In Mrs. Ruby Belt's class were: Relda Jean Nettles, Lois Ann Sigman, Lois Ann Rapp, Jewell Ramsey, Larry Sigman, and Johnny Henley, who entered from Pittsburg. Those in Mrs. Virginia Hogue's class were: Helen Mae Sigman, Karl Butcher, Emil Ashley, and Patsy Gibson, who left during the year, and went to Charleston. At the beginning of the second year those students in Miss Grace Holcomb's class were: Karl Butcher, Jewell Ramsey, Helen Sigman, and Emil Ashley. Those in Miss Nina Murphy's class were: Relda Nettles, Lois Sigman, Larry Sigman, Johnny Henley, and Charlotte Smith joined the group in the middle of the year from Clay. Lois Rapp left and went to Muddlety. At the beginning of the third year, the group was not divided and was taught by Miss Charlotte Richardson. All those in her class were: Karl Butcher, Jewell Ramsey, Helen Sigman, Emil Ashley, Relda Nettles, Lois Sigman, Larry Sigman, Johnny Henley and Mary Helen Mullins who entered from Dille. Larry Sigman left for Truman

School in the fourth grade, and Leonard Eagle entered from Dille. The class was taught by Mrs. Iris Arbogast. Mary Helen Mullins came back from Dille the first semester then left the second semester for Dille. The class was taught by Mrs. Dortha A. Austin. Blakely Boggs taught them in the sixth grade. Mrs. June Ford sponsored them in the seventh grade. Patsy Gibson entered the group from Dille that year. Miss Phala Woods was sponsor in the eighth and ninth grade. In the ninth grade, Gayle Butcher, Betty Chapman, Mary Helen Mullins, Charlotte Smith and Dorothy Ashley entered from Dille. Jimmy Given, Larry Sigman entered from Truman school. David Craft enrolled in the class in the tenth grade. Lois Rapp entered from Summersville, and Joe Hutchinson came from Summersville the second semester. Emmanuel Bego entered from Boyd Jr. High, Charleston. Their sponsor was Robert Cole. Robert Osborne was their sponsor in the eleventh grade. Miss Tressie Bailes and Mr. Calvin Reynolds are their sponsor and co-sponsor in the twelfth grade.

Twenty-Fifth Annual Baccalaureate Service

Widen High School
YMCA AUDITORIUM
Sunday Evening, May 12, 1957
Eight O'Clock

PROCESSIONAL	"God of Our Fathers"	DeKoven
HYMN	"America"	Audience
"BLESSED JESUS"	(Girls' Chorus)	C. A. Scholin
SCRIPTURE READING	"ONE WORLD"	Dorothy Ashley O'Hara Bretten
MESSAGE	"On Trial"	Dr. H. C. Rice
HYMN	"Rock of Ages"	Audience
BENEDICTION	(Audience Standing)	Dr. H. C. Rice
"THE CUCKOO CRIES"	(Judy LaCorte and Chorus)	Moller Ridge
RECESSIONAL	"Graduation Day"	A. Geibel
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC		Mrs. B. E. Taylor
ACCOMPANIST		Dawne Carol Backus

Twenty-Fifth Annual Commencement Program

YMCA AUDITORIUM
Thursday Evening, May 16, 1957
Eight O'Clock

PROCESSIONAL	"God of Our Fathers"	DeKoven
INVOCATION	"America"	H. C. Johnson
HYMN	"I GOT SHOES"	R. Watson Arrg.
"OUR FAITH IN THE FUTURE—YOU"	(Home Economics Department West Virginia University)	Dr. Sara Brown
"BEAUTIFUL DREAMER"	(Gayle Butcher and Chorus)	Stephen Foster
"FAREWELL"		Lois Rapp
AWARD OF ROTARY MEDALS		J. L. Henley
"OURS IS THE WORLD"	(Girls' Chorus)	Hayden Morgan
PRESENTATION OF CLASS OF 1957		H. E. Baer, Principal
PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS	(Member of Clay County Board of Education)	S. W. Young
RECESSIONAL	"Graduation Day"	A. Geibel
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC		Mrs. B. E. Taylor
ACCOMPANIST		Dawne Backus

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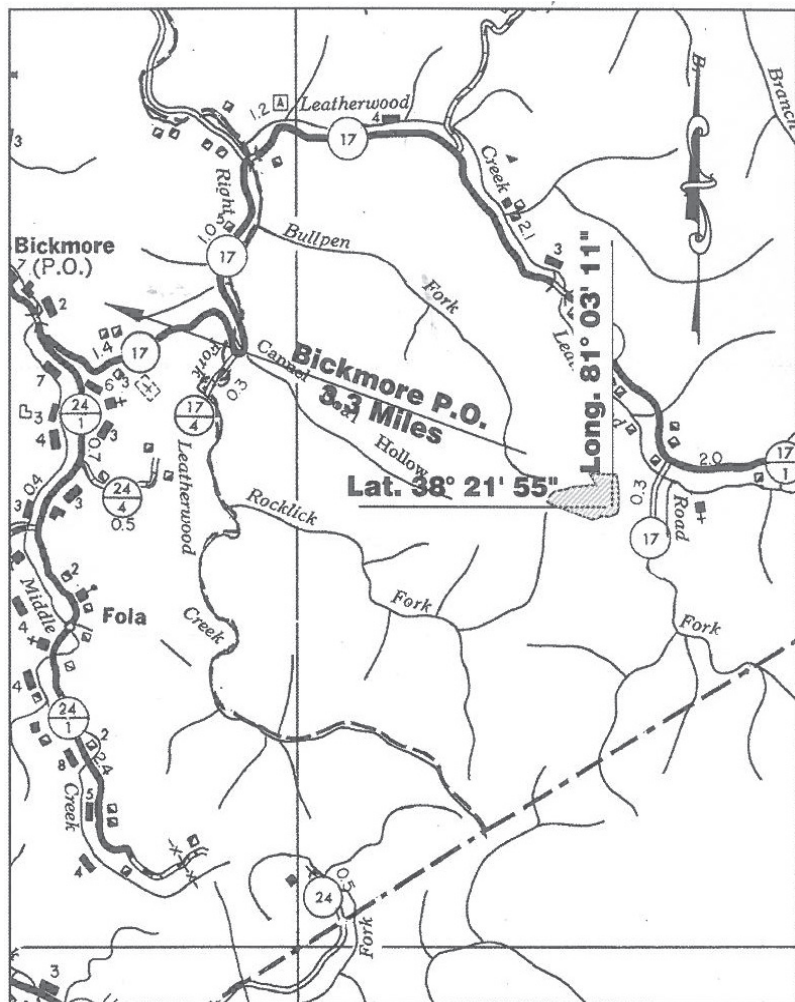
ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that WV RECLAIM CO, LLC, 2122 LEATHERWOOD RD, BICKMORE WV 25019 has submitted an application with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi WV 26416-1600 for a Phase 3 release on Permit Number U200405 issued for 29.7 acres.

The permit is located in Henry District of Clay County, 3.3 miles northwest of Bickmore on unnamed tributary of Road Fork of Leatherwood Creek of Elk River.

WV RECLAIM CO, LLC completed final reclamation on 6/12/2015 and is requesting release of 100 percent of the reclamation performance bond currently in the amount of \$58,800.00.

Written comments will be received at the DEP address above until 6/19/23, or thirty (30) days from date of final publication.



GENERAL LOCATION MAP

Taken From Clay County Highway Map
Henry District Scale: 1" = 1 Mile Permit No. U-2004-05
Lockwood No. 441 Quadrangle
Receiving Stream - unnamed tributary of Road Fork
of Leatherwood Creek of Elk River
Nearest Post Office - Bickmore, West Virginia

LEGAL

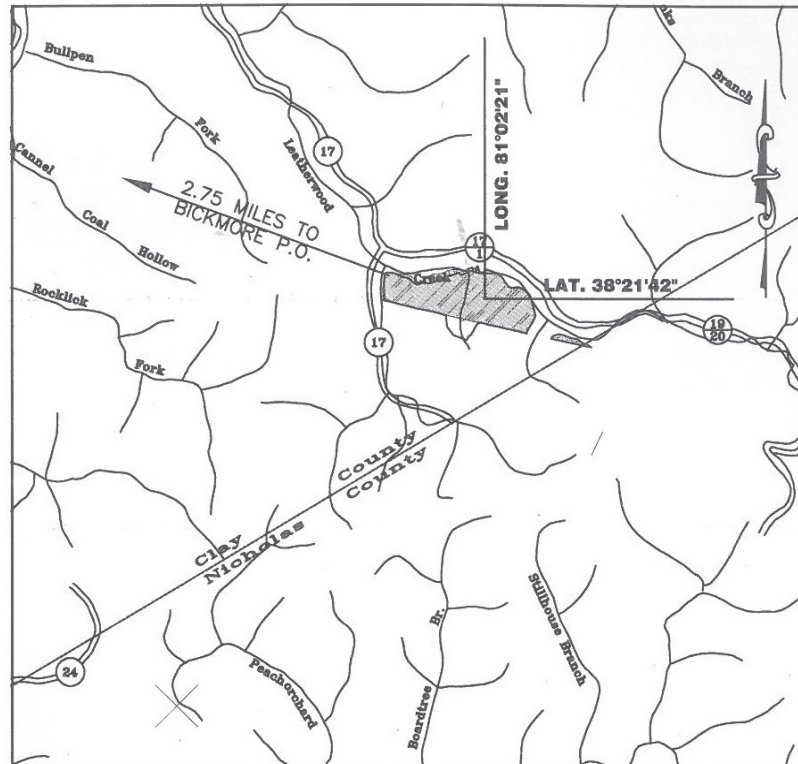
ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that WV RECLAIM CO, LLC, 2122 LEATHERWOOD RD, BICKMORE WV 25019 has submitted an application with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi WV 26416-1600 for a Phase 1 release on Permit Number S201496 issued for 143.48 acres.

The permit is located in Henry/Grant Districts of Clay/Nichols Counties, 2.75 miles northeast of BICKMORE on Road Fork and Leatherwood Creek of Elk River.

WV RECLAIM CO, LLC completed backfilling and regrading on 4/12/2012 and is requesting release of 50 percent of the reclamation performance bonds currently in the amount of \$529,920.00.

Written comments will be received at the DEP address above until 6/19/23, or thirty (30) days from date of final publication.



RECEIVING STREAM - ROAD FORK OF LEATHERWOOD CREEK OF ELK RIVER
GENERAL LOCATION MAP
1" = 5280' (1 MILE)
ARTICLE 3 S-2014-96
CLAY COUNTY HENRY DISTRICT
NICHOLAS COUNTY GRANT DISTRICT
LOCKWOOD QUAD NO. 441

LEGAL

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON**

CASE NO. 23-0264-G-PC
HOPE GAS, INC. and PEOPLES GAS WV LLC
Joint Petition for Consent and Approval of Hope's acquisition
of Peoples and the merger of Peoples into Hope

NOTICE OF FILING AND OF HEARING

On February 28, 2023, pursuant to W.Va. Code § 24-2-12, Hope Gas, Inc. (Hope), and Peoples Gas WV LLC (Peoples) (jointly Petitioners) filed a Joint Petition for Consent and Approval (Petition) for Hope to acquire all of the issued and outstanding membership interests of Peoples and to merge Peoples into Hope. Peoples currently provides natural gas sales to approximately 12,917 customers in 15 counties in West Virginia.

The Petitioners assert that the acquisition transaction will have no adverse effect on Peoples' or Hope's customers, other public utilities, or the public in general. Following the transaction, the former utility assets of Peoples will be owned and operated by Hope, subject to the Commission's continuing jurisdiction and regulation. Upon the closing of the acquisition, the former customers of Peoples will become customers of Hope.

Upon the closing of the transaction, Peoples' customers will continue to pay Peoples' existing base rates and PGA rate, until future filings are made by Hope as part of integrating Peoples' assets and customers into Hope. Hope will not file its next Rule 42T base rate case to change base rates until a date on or after January 1, 2025. Peoples' customers will begin paying Hope's Pipeline Replacement and Expansion Program (PREP) rate increments upon the closing of the transaction. At close, Hope projects the below average monthly bill impacts for Peoples' customers:

TYPE OF CUSTOMER	(\$) INCREASE	(%) INCREASE
General Service - Residential	\$8.30	9.52%
General Service - Commercial Sales	\$26.99	7.01%
Commercial Transport - WV Produced	\$25.69	25.28%
Industrial Sales	\$32.30	0.98%
Industrial Transport - WV Produced	\$110.99	4.91%

The Joint Petition is on file with and available for public inspection at the Commission, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia, and is available online at the Commission website (www.psc.state.wv.us).

The Commission schedules this matter for evidentiary hearing to be held on July 27, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. and continuing on July 28, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., if necessary, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room, Public Service Commission Building, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. Interested persons should be able to view the evidentiary hearing via an internet livestream. The Commission website, www.psc.state.wv.us, contains links to "Case Information," "Submit a Comment," and "Commission Webcast."

A public comment hearing will be held on July 25, 2023, at 4:00 p.m., at the Lewis County Courthouse, Old Circuit Courtroom, 2nd Floor, 110 Center Avenue, Weston, WV, 26452.

Anyone desiring to intervene or protest should file a written request to intervene or protest no later than thirty (30) days following the date of this notice, unless such period is otherwise modified by Commission Order. Failure to timely intervene or protest can affect your right to participate in or protest aspects of this proceeding. All requests to intervene or protest should briefly state the reason for the request to intervene or protest and comply with the rules set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All written comments, protests, and requests to intervene should state the case name and number and be addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

Public comments may also be filed online at <http://www.psc.state.wv.us/scripts/onlinecomments/default.cfm> by clicking the "Formal Case" link.

In the absence of substantial protest received within thirty (30) days of the issuance of this notice, the Commission may waive formal hearing and grant the Petition based on the Commission's review of the evidence submitted with the Petition.

**Hope Gas, Inc.
Peoples Gas WV LLC**

LEGAL

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CLAY COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA**

THAT BEING THE JUVENILE COURT OF SAID COUNTY

IN RE: State v J.A. and G.A. Case Nos. 23-JA-9-10
In the matter of J.A. and G.A., and the unknown whereabouts of Gary Foor, Adult Respondent Father of said Infants.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
And
NOTICE OF ANSWER

To: **Gary Foor**
(The object of this action is to notify the Adult Respondent Father of an abuse and neglect petition herein filed so that said Adult Respondent Father may answer the same to protect their interest).

You are hereby notified that an abuse and neglect and/or abandonment petition has been filed with the Circuit Court of Clay County, West Virginia, on the 4th day of April 2023, and assigned Case Numbers 23-JA-9-10, wherein it is alleged that the Adult Respondent Father of Infant Respondents J.A. (DOB: 3/8/23), and G.A. (DOB: 11/22/06), is Gary Foor, and that said Infant Respondents be placed in the custody of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, with said Infant Respondents remaining in the care, custody and control of the said Department since that time in accordance with WV Code §49-6-3. You are hereby notified that you have the right to answer said petition and you have the right to have counsel present at all stages of these proceedings and ALL PROCEEDINGS CAN RESULT IN THE PERMANENT TERMINATION OF CUSTODIAL AND PARENTAL RIGHTS TO SAID INFANT CHILD.

Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that the Adult Respondent Father, Gary Foor, shall appear before the Honorable Jack Alsop on the **15th day of May 2023, at 2:50 a.m.**, at the Clay County Courthouse, 246 Main Street, Clay, West Virginia, otherwise judgment by default will be taken against them at any time thereafter, and termination of your custodial and parental rights may be ordered by the Court.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Clay County, West Virginia, at the Clay County Courthouse, Clay, West Virginia.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION.

BY: Jim E. Samples, Prosecuting Attorney, Clay County, West Virginia. Entered by the Clerk of said Court on the 18th day of April 2023.

Christina Hamshaw
Circuit Clerk

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, May 4, 2023
Claim Deadline Monday, July 3, 2023
APPOINTMENT DATE 04/11/2023
ESTATE NAME: **LEE ROY ANDERSON**
EXECUTRIX DENNIS STEVE BOGGS JR
3836 WESTBURY LAKE DR
RALEIGH NC 27603

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 4/26/2023
Connie Workman
County Clerk
Clay County
P.O. Box 190
246 Main Street
Clay WV 25043-0190

LEGAL

**FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024
LEVY ESTIMATE - BUDGET DOCUMENT**

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
MUNICIPALITY OF CLAY, WEST VIRGINIA
In accordance with Code §11-8-14, as amended, the Council proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by levy of taxes for the current fiscal year, and does determine and estimate the several amounts to be as follows:

The amount due and the amount that will become due and collectible from every source during the fiscal year INCLUDING THE LEVY OF TAXES, is as follows:

REVENUE SOURCE		
Unassigned Fund Balance	\$	30,000
Property Taxes - Current Expense		54,628
Gas & Oil Severance Tax		750
Excise Tax on Utilities		20,000
Wine & Liquor Tax		14,000
Licenses		3,000
Building Permit Fees		100
Miscellaneous Permits		1,000
IRP Fees (Interstate Registration Plan)		25,000
Gaming Income		11,000
Interest Earned on Investments		150
Video Lottery (LVL)		6,000
Miscellaneous Revenues		1,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE (GENERAL FUND)	\$	161,228
COAL SEVERANCE TAX FUND		
REVENUE SOURCE		
Assigned Fund Balance	\$	300
Coal Severance Tax		1,200
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE (COAL SEVERANCE FUND)	\$	1,500
	General Fund	Coal Severance Fund

ESTIMATED CURRENT EXPENDITURES		
Mayor's Office	7,900	-
City Council	8,400	-
Recorder's Office	6,300	-
City Clerk's Office	41,500	-
Regional Development Authority	250	-
City Hall	22,342	-
Public Works Department	22,000	-
Street Lights	17,500	-
Parks & Recreation	3,500	1,500
Capital Projects - General Government	31,536	-
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	\$	161,228

CLAYCOUNTYFREEPRESS.COM

LEGAL

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

To maintain necessary clearances for safe and reliable electric service, Appalachian Power Company plans to manage vegetation along the Belva - Vaughan Rd Distribution portion of its 34-kilovolt distribution system in Nicholas and Clay counties, WV. On or about May 2nd, 2023, contract crews will begin to trim and remove trees and brush and apply herbicides along our rights-of-way. Work will be done in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture guidelines and consider factors such as tree species, growth characteristics, line voltage, etc. In unmaintained or undeveloped areas cuttings will remain on site to minimize soil disturbance and to promote biodegradation.

Rights-of-way in this area involved in the program are: 20 Mile Creek Rd., Vaughan Rd., Sangamore Rd., Ripatow Ridge Rd., Clay Hwy, Independence Rd., Adonijah Creek, Bird Hollow Rd., and Holcomb Ridge Rd.

Representatives will attempt to personally contact resident property owners at least seven business days prior to working on their property. Specifics regarding your property may be discussed at that time. If you are a nonresident property owner and have questions regarding our right-of-way maintenance, they may be directed to:

Appalachian Power Company
Forestry Department
404 29th St. W
Charleston, WV 25387
304-746-2791

LEGAL

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: Civil Action No.: 23-D-20
The Marriage of: Bo Shamblin and Tori Walker
Petitioner Respondent

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

THE OBJECT OF THIS SUIT IS TO OBTAIN A DIVORCE. THIS IS A PUBLICATION BY CLASS II LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT. To the Above-Named Respondent:

It appearing by affidavit filed in this action that Tori Walker is a non-resident of the State of West Virginia or has an unknown address. It is hereby ordered that Tori Walker serve upon Bo Shamblin, petitioner, whose address is 7518 Widen Ridge Rd, Clay, WV 25043, an Answer, including any related counterclaim or defense you may have to the Petition for Divorce filed in this action on or before June 8, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. If you fail to Answer the Petition for Divorce, a judgment may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk's Office.

Entered by the Clerk of said Court - Clay County

Christina Hanshaw
Clerk of the Court



CHURCH DIRECTORY



A
ALTA CHURCH OF GOD
Sunday Night Services
6:00 PM
Wednesday 7:00 PM
Everyone is welcome!
Pastor: Paul E. Young

B
BELL CREEK COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
NO Scheduled Services
At This Time

BELL CREEK PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
Dixie
Thursday Night 7:00 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
with Services After
Sunday Night 7:00 PM
Pastor: Lee Holiday
(304) 632-1135

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH of Adonijah.
Preaching from K.J.V. Bible
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Morning 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening 7:00 PM
Thursday Evening 7:00 PM

BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH, Porter Creek Road, Bomont, WV
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 7:30 PM
Thursday Night Service 7:30 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Junior Davis

BICKMORE BAPTIST CHURCH located at Bickmore on Fola Road
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening 6:00 PM
Wednesday evening services 7:00 PM
Pastor: Ralph D. Lane

BIG OTTER BAPTIST CHURCH OF IVYDALE
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Wednesday prayer service and Bible Study 6:30 PM
Pastor: Danny Richardson

BIG UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:15 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Service 1st, 3rd and 4th
Sundays Preaching 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 PM
2nd Sunday Communion Service 6:00 PM
Pastor: Pete Shaffer

BLUE KNOB CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Everyone is Welcome!

BUFFALO VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 PM
Radio Broadcast, Sunday Morning 9:00 AM. WCWV Summersville
Everyone Welcome **Pastor: John Pruitt**

BURKE MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH in Prociuous. Across Camp Creek Bridge on the left. Preaching Every Sunday 9:00 AM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Bible Study every Wednesday 7:00 PM **Pastor: Jerry Chandler**

C
CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF LIZEMORE
Prayer Service and Bible Study, Tuesday 7:00 PM
Regular Service Sunday Nights at 7:00 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Pastor: Thurman Sizemore

CHURCH OF GOD BENTREE
Sangamore Rd., Bentree, WV
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Come and worship the Lord with us.
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: Michael L. Holcomb, Sr.

CLAY COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday Night Service 7:00 PM. Everyone welcome.

CLAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Worship 11:00 AM.
Everyone is Welcome!
Pastor: Wilma Dobbins

CLENDENIN UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
10:00 AM – Sunday School
11:00 AM – Preaching
6:00 PM
Wednesday 7:30 PM
Pastor: Fred Walker

CLIO COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Preaching 7:00 PM
Wednesday Worship 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome.
Pastor: George Stickland

COLD SPRINGS GOSPEL TABERNACLE, Upper Falling Rock, Clay County
Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 AM
Sunday School 11:30 AM
Sunday Evening Service 7:30 PM
Tuesday Evenings 7:30 PM
Teachings from the King James Bible
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Darris Barker

CORNERSTONE INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH, Rt. 3, Newton
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday Prayer Service/Discovery Clubs 7:00 PM
Pastor: Roy Huffman

E
ELK RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Saturday Night 7:00 PM
Pastor: Brace Cook

F
FAIRVIEW BAPTIST TEMPLE
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening 6:00 PM
Wednesday 7:00 PM
Pastor: Bret Wiley

FAITH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Dutch Ridge Laurel Road
Sunday Service 6:00 PM
Tuesday Service 6:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: Brother B. J. Evans
Associate **Pastor: Lee Roy Anderson**

FAITH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Bomont, WV
Sunday Service 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Pastor: Nick Bird
Phone 304-548-6665

FLAT FORK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:30 AM
Pastor: Chris Johnson

FOLA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday Adults Bible Study & Kids for Christ 7:00 PM
Pastor: Daniel Tanner

G
GAULEY BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Junior BYF/Senior BYF 6:00 PM
Sunday Evening Worship 7:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM
Wednesday Kids/Children/Youth 7:00 PM
GOSPEL LIGHT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Located on Rt. 119 at the mouth of Gabe. All Sunday night services begin at 7:00 PM. Everyone welcome.
Pastor: Rev. David Smith

GROVES CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday Service 10:00 AM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Friday Service 7:00 PM
Pastor: Dean Rogers

H
HALLBURG BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday 10:30 AM
Sunday Night Preaching 6:00 PM
Pastor: Michael Jackson

HARTLAND COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
Wednesday Night Service 7:00 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 6:00 PM
Pastor: Jeremy Holcomb

HORNERS FORK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 PM
Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 PM
Pastor: Joe Dawson

HOUSE OF PRAYER
Hansford Fork Rd, Maysel, WV (off Rt. 36)
Pentecostal/Full Gospel
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Evening 6:00 PM
Wednesday evening 7:00 PM
Pastor: (304) 587-2996 (home), (304) 587-2703 (church)
Pastor: James R. Paxton

I
IDA BAPTIST CHURCH
Bentree
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Wednesday Prayer Service & Bible Study 7:00 PM
Wednesday BYF 7:00 PM.
All ages welcome. Also have crafts, etc., all children welcome.
Pastor: Larry Skaggs

INDORE BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM
Sunday Class 11:00-12:30
Preaching Lunch 12:30-1:30 PM
Wednesday Service 6:30-7:30 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Paul Stepp

IVYDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM
Everyone Welcome!
304-395-9990
Pastor: Freddie Elliott

J
JODIE BAPTIST CHURCH
Come Worship with Us!
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Evening Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday (BYF) 7:00 PM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM

JOHNSON CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Vineyard Ridge
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM

JUBILEE MOUNTAIN CHURCH
103 Main Street, Clay
Sunday 11:00 AM & 6 PM
Tuesday 7:00 PM
For more info call 304-632-1378
Pastor: Ann Huddleston

L
LAUREL FORK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Adonijah
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 7:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Youth Meeting 7:00 PM

LEATHERWOOD FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday Services 7:00 PM

LIBERTY ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Wednesday Night: Bible Study/Prayer Meeting and Youth Group 7:00 PM
Pastor: John Barnhouse

LICKFORK BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 10:00 every Sunday Morning
Sunday Night Services 7:00 PM
Wednesday 7:00 PM
Come worship with us!
Pastor: Herb Vance

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Mark Dudley
Phone 304-286-5909

LITTLE LAUREL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: David McLaughlin

LIVING GOD WORSHIP CENTER
We invite you to come and worship with us.
Thursday Evening 7:00 PM
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Pastor: Cecil Lee

LIZEMORE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
Sunday School 10-11:00 AM
Church Service 11-12 Noon
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Pastor: Robert Thomas

M
MAYSEL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Monday Night Service 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 6:00 PM
Everyone welcome!

MAYSEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM
Everyone Welcome
Pastor: Jim Hamrick

MIDDLE CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM
Pastor: John Osborne

MT. OLIVE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Preaching 7:00 PM
Wednesday Prayer Meeting
Everyone welcome!

MUD FORK CHURCH
Sunday & Jr. Worship Service 10:00 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night & Jr.
Church Service 7:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: Christopher Stout

N
NEBO BAPTIST CHURCH
Preaching every Sunday Morning at 10:00 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Preaching, Prayer Meeting
Wednesday at 7:30 PM

NEW ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Service 11:00 AM
Sunday Night 7:00 PM
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM
Please join us in Praise!
Pastor: Gary Walker

NEWTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching every Sunday 11:00 AM
Pastor: Kenneth Boggs

NEWTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Adult Choir Practice Sun. 9 AM
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 7:00 PM
Pastor: Darius Walker
Pastor Emeritus: Ron Fisher

NOAH'S ARK FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
Thursday 7:00 PM
Sunday 7:00 PM
Pastor: R.J. Mullins, Sr.

O
O'BRIEN ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching after Sunday School. Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM
Pastor: James L. Balsler

OVAPA METHODIST CHURCH
Preaching every Sunday at 9:45 PM
Sunday School 10:30 AM
Sunday School on the 2nd Sunday is at 10:00 AM
Wednesday 7:00 PM
Phone 304-587-2955
Pastors: Cindy & Roger Dunlap

OTTERLICK COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 6:00 PM
Bible Study Thursday 6:00 PM
Pastor: Gene Copen

OTTERVALE ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching every Sunday, except 5th, 11:00 AM
Prayer Meeting Tuesday Evening
Pastor: Rev. Rick Sams

P
PEOPLES COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM
Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM
Take time out for Jesus, he took time our for you.
Pastor: Freddie Schoolcraft

PISGAH FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Bible Study & preaching 6:00 PM
Pastor: Dennis Vance

PLEASANT DALE BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching Sunday 11:00 AM
Wednesday night Bible Study 7:00 PM
Saturday Night Preaching
Pastor: Wayne Litton

PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening 6:30 PM
Wednesday Night 6:30 PM
Everyone welcome.
Pastor: Wayne Smith

PROCIIOUS COMMUNITY CHURCH Welcomes You!
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:15 AM
Bible Study 2nd, 4th, 5th
Wednesday Night 6:30 PM
Pastor: David Walker

Q
QUEEN SHOALS F.G.C. CHURCH
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 7:00 PM
Thursday Night 7:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: Scott Means

R
RISEN LORD CATHOLIC CHURCH at Maysel
Sunday Liturgy 8:30 AM followed by Religious Education 9:30 AM
Wednesday Liturgy 6:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Father Matheus Ro SVD
Pastoral Associates: **Father Dominijus Boak SVD**

ROGERS FORK BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Saturday Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM
Sunday Worship 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Delbert McKenzie

RUSH FORK COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 2nd & 4th Sunday 11:00 AM
Every 1st and 3rd Sunday Singing or Preaching 11:00 AM
Wednesday Prayer Service & Bible Study 7:00 PM
Come see us in church.
Pastor: Harry Dobbins

S
STRANGE CREEK CHURCH
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Preaching 10:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Thursday Service 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Jason Belt

T
THE AMERICAN CHAPEL AT ELKHURST
Saturday Services 7:00 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Pastor: Hiram Lewis

TRINITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Worship 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Service 7:00 PM.
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Clifford Samples

U
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LIZEMORES
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Service 6:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
PMEveryone welcome
Pastor: Don Dobbins

UNITY GOSPEL TABERNACLE
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Geoff Hamrick

V
VALLEY RIDGE CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Bible Study Wednesday Night 7:00 PM
Everyone is welcome to attend.

W
WALLBACK METHODIST CHURCH
Preaching 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays 9:45 AM
Bible Study Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome.
Pastor: Rev. Stewart Cottrell

WALNUT GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Preaching 1st & 3rd Sundays 11:00 AM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Pastor: (304) 332-5503
Pastor: Jimmy Adkins

WALNUT MEMORIAL CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 10:00 AM
Thursday Evening Service 7:30 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Lester Tanner

WHITE PILGRIM METHODIST CHURCH
Preaching Sunday 9:45 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Paul Coon

WHITESTAR TABERNACLE CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:30 PM
Wednesday Night 6:30 PM
Pastor: Rev. Mike Hall

WIDEN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Service 6:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Randy Tinney

WINGS OF DELIVERANCE APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
Rt. 4, 1/4 miles below Maysel on the left
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM
Come worship the Lord with us!
Phone: (304) 587-7410
Pastor: Jerry Hanshaw



USDA Offers New Funding to Promote the Expansion of High-Speed Internet in Rural West Virginia

\$20 million in Technical Assistance Funding is Available to Plan High-Speed Internet Projects in Rural Communities



U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development West Virginia State Director Ryan Thorn has announced the availability of \$20 million to deliver broadband technical assistance resources for rural communities, and to support the development and expansion of broadband cooperatives.

USDA is offering the funding under the new Broadband Technical Assistance Program. The program supports technical assistance projects such as conducting feasibility studies, completing network designs and developing broadband financial assistance applications. Funding is also available to help organizations access federal resources, and to conduct data collection and reporting.

“At USDA we’re committed to ensuring that rural West Virginia has the tools it needs to succeed and in today’s world that means high-speed internet,” said Thorn. “By working with our rural communities and other organizations to increase access to this service

we can create new opportunities for rural West Virginians.

This initiative is made possible through President Biden’s historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which provides \$65 billion to expand access and lower costs of high-speed internet. This initiative has been designed to work in conjunction with other high-speed internet programs to meet President Biden’s goal to connect every community in America with affordable, reliable, high-speed internet.

Today’s announcement reflects the goals of President Biden’s Investing in America agenda to rebuild the economy from the middle-out and bottom-up.

USDA encourages applicants to consider projects that will advance the following key priorities:

Assisting rural communities recover economically through more and better market opportunities and through improved infrastructure;

Ensuring all rural residents have equitable access to USDA Rural Development (RD) programs and benefits from RD funded projects; and

Reducing climate pollution and increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support to rural communities.

Applicants must choose one of the following funding categories:

Technical Assistance Providers: Applicants must propose to deliver broadband technical assistance that will benefit rural communities. Up to \$7.5 million is available. The minimum award is \$50,000. The maximum is \$1 million.

Technical Assistance Recipients: Applicants must

be the recipients of the broadband technical assistance. Up to \$7.5 million is available. The minimum award is \$50,000. The maximum is \$250,000.

Projects Supporting Cooperatives: Applicants must propose projects that support the establishment or growth of broadband cooperatives that will benefit rural communities. Up to \$5 million is available. The minimum award is \$50,000. The maximum is \$1 million.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, tribal and high-poverty areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov/wv.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America’s food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, ensuring access to healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit <https://www.usda.gov/>.

Attendance incentive winners announced



Pictured for Clay High School: Perfect Attenders Shyla, Ilyauna, Caleb, Lucas, Lakyn, Landon, Mason, Jaycie, and Matthew. Also pictured are Joan Haynie (Superintendent of Schools), Larry Gillispie (Athletic Hall of Fame Board Member), and Allen Tanner (Principal)



Pictured for Lizmore Elementary School: Perfect Attenders Levi, Braxden, and Allison. Also pictured are Britni Ramsey (Principal), Joan Haynie (Superintendent of Schools), Larry Gillespie and Jerry Linkinogor (Clay Athletic Hall of Fame Board Members)



Pictured are the perfect attenders at Big Otter Elementary School: Nevaeh and Bradley. Also pictured, Anthony Boggs (Principal), Joan Haynie (School Superintendent), Larry Gillispie and Jerry Linkinogor (Clay County Athletic Hall of Fame Board Members).

The Clay County Athletic Hall of Fame board of directors sponsored an attendance incentive for all six schools. Through the first eight months, the three schools with the best attendance would receive cash awards. First place would receive \$1,000, second place would receive \$500, and third place would receive \$250.

Lizmore Elementary School won the top prize with a 93.17 attendance percentage; Clay High School finished second with a 92.15 attendance percentage; and Big Otter Elementary followed with a 91.44 attendance percentage. All three schools made attendance a high priority.

DHHR’s Bureau of Child Support Enforcement Receives Nat’l Recognition

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR), Bureau for Child Support Enforcement (BCSE) has been ranked 11th in the nation for overall performance by the National Child Support Enforcement Association.

Rankings are based on five incentive measures used by the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement to determine each state’s yearly incentive payment. During the previous reporting year, West Virginia was ranked 26th out of the 54 U.S. states and territories.

“I am extremely pleased by the progress that has been made in the past year,” said Garrett Jacobs, Commissioner of DHHR’s Bureau for Child Support Enforcement. “The Bureau has been focusing

on improving collection rate for current support and payments on past due support. For many families, this support is a significant part of their budget to provide shelter, food, and amenities for their children.”

BCSE serves 80,000 children and families statewide by establishing paternity, child support, and enforcing support, and collected \$171.6 million for West Virginia’s child support program in the 2022 federal fiscal year.

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Picnic In The Parking Lot

Thursday, June 15th
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Community-Wide Picnic
Clay County High School Parking Lot

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SPORTS

CCHS baseball and softball seasons wind down



Micah Osborne grabs the shot down the baseline.

By Allen Hamrick

The Panther baseball team had five games this past week and fared a little better. It has been a tough year for the Panthers, but they seem to have found a groove to work with. They opened up this week against Capitol High School. Coming off a loss against Hoover, the Panthers were primed for bending some aluminum. When the dust settled, it was the Panthers over Capitol 18-7 in a rout. Braxton was up next, and the Panthers, still chewing on a win against Capitol, came out with guns blazing and bats hot enough to start a brush fire. Once the smoke cleared, it was the Panthers over the Eagles 17-7. Then it was on the Nicholas to take on the Grizzlies in a rematch. The last time they met, the Grizzlies just beat the Panther with a score of 5-4. This time, the Panther bats took on a winter chill and must have been wore out from the wins. The Grizzlies went on to win the game 12-2. The Panthers finally got off the road and back to tasting their own dust. It was game on for the Panthers, but they got behind early in the game as South Harrison seemed to score quickly in the early innings. It was a good game, but mistakes will kill you. The Panthers got back on track late in the game but couldn't overcome the early lead and lost a tough one by the score of 8-7. The Panthers will be at home once again Monday night against Sherman, and it should be a good game. The Panthers will end regular season on Tuesday night in an away game against Roane County. If you get the chance this week, get out and catch a game.

In other sports news, the CCHS Lady Panther softball team has been in a slump, a big slump, finding it hard to get back in the winner's circle. However, they did have a win against the Lady Eagles of Braxton County. It wasn't even close as they went on to win the game 14-1. It was then on the road to Hoover and Tyler Consolidated. Hoover was up first, and the Lady Panthers just couldn't overcome their pitching and lost 14-0. Tyler Consolidated was another of those games where you just scratch your head and wonder. The Lady Panthers had a little better game but just couldn't get the bats hot enough to score; when it was over the Lady Panthers lost the game 9-1. They will have just one more game before the regular season comes to a close against Braxton at home on Monday with game time at 6 PM.



BJ Williams gets the job done in center field.

CCMS Mustangs Sports News



Brently Rogers gets the tag on a run down.

The Lady Mustangs have had a whirlwind season so far this year, and it has been a year that fans get wrapped up in their games. These girls are full of action and take it to the wire. This past week, however, the Lady Mustangs had a tough time on the diamond going 1-2. Teams threw up some barbwire, and the Lady Mustangs got stuck in it. First up was a rematch with South Harrison which the Lady Mustangs were ramped up for. The Ladies hit the field with two of their players on the sick list. The Lady Mustangs took it to South Harrison but just couldn't pull out the win, losing the game 10-8. Next was Midland Trail, and it would prove to be the Lady Mustang waterloo. The Lady Mustangs scored the first run and that was it; their bats iced up and they lost again 11-1. This put a serious bad taste in their mouths that a shot of yellow root juice couldn't get rid of. It was on to Valley and time to get back to Lady Mustang softball, and that they did. They were bending bats and knocking

the leather off the ball with some great defense and offense. When it was over, the lady Mustangs were back on the winning track winning the game 18-10. That game ended regular season for the Lady Mustangs, and now it is on to the championship tournament. They will once again meet the Lady Bears of Summersville at home on Tuesday night; a win here moves them on, a loss, well it would be time to look for next season. Come out and support the Lady Mustangs Regular season has ended for the CCMS Mustang baseball team who waged a war on the diamond all season. As a team, they finished with just one win for the season. They finished their season with a tough to swallow loss against Valley. They just couldn't seem to get into a groove as mistakes added up to the eventual loss. Valley came out, jumped on the pitches and never looked back. It has been a decent year for the team - they went out played the game and gave it all they had for the fans. When the bats are

put away, that's all one can ask. I am sure the team is disappointed, but they will be back next season ready to hit the diamond once again. Their championship tournament will begin this week on Monday away at Ravenswood.

The track team put their skills to the test at the Roane Raider Classic. The boys' team placed an overall 2nd and the girls placed 3rd. Brooke Cliver took top shot winning 1st in the shot put and 3rd in the dis-

cus. Cheyenne Taylor was 2nd in the long jump, and Jayda Stricker took 2nd in the 400 meter dash. For the boys, it was Justin Nida taking 1st in the 100 meter hurdles and 2nd in the 200 meter hurdles. Seth Robinson took 2nd in the 100 meter, 200 meter and 400 meter, and 2nd in the shot put. They will be back in action on Tuesday at Roane once again. Their season is also winding down with the championships at Roane on May 13th.



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