



Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple

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Clay County FFA attends State Convention



Members of the Clay County FFA attended the 95th WV State Convention earlier this month and returned with nine state degrees, one nominating committee member, and four delegates. The conference was held at the Cedar Lakes Convention Center in Ripley, WV.

Mountain State Spotlight explains: West Virginia's opioid settlement foundation will soon have board members. Here's how they're picked

By Allen Siegler for Mountain State Spotlight

In the coming days, local government leaders across West Virginia are set to elect five board members for the foundation tasked with managing the majority of the state's opioid settlement funds, a sum that totals right around \$1 billion as of July. The new members of the West Virginia First Foundation will join Dr. Michael "Tony" Kelly, an emergency medicine physician who was elected last week, and five members chosen by Gov. Jim Justice. The governor has also indicated that he'll make his selections "really soon."

Selecting the right people for these positions is essential, says Drema Hill, a West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine professor who helped the Attorney General's Office determine how the state can spend its opioid settlement winnings.

"It is really going to have the power to make the decisions over these funds," Hill said. "That's why it's very important who is elected to be on this board."

We break down how West Virginia local governments are choosing their board members, how the foundation can spend its settlement funds, how well those members will represent areas most impacted by the substance use crisis and how transparent the foundation's operations will be.

How are the opioid settlement foundation board members chosen for each region?

While West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey and other state lawyers were pursuing lawsuits against pharmaceutical supply chain companies, they developed a Memorandum of Understanding for the money for the lawsuits. The memorandum guides how the state can spend this money and established governing guidelines for the West Virginia First Foundation.

The document split the state into six regions based on existing designations from the state's Bureau for

Behavioral Health. Each region will have one resident serving as a board member for the foundation.

Officials from the towns, cities and counties of each region — with the exception of people from seven small local governments that never signed on to the memorandum — can nominate one person to be their region's board member. Once all the nominations are in, the regions will host public meetings, where representatives from each local government included will vote on the candidates. So far, the only meeting that's taken place has been the one for Region Six, a series of southern West Virginia counties that were targeted by prescription drug distributors. Its local elected officials selected Kelly. The other five regions will choose their representatives on July 12 and July 13.

Who can be nominated?

The memorandum says board members should have expertise that could be helpful for guiding the foundation; examples range from substance use treatment practitioners to people experienced in finance.

A letter from Morrisey's office to local governments says that nominating current elected officials is "highly discouraged." According to his press secretary, that's an attempt to prevent the selection from becoming political.

But that hasn't stopped local governments from nominating elected officials. Mercer County Commissioner Greg Puckett was nominated for Region Six's board seat but ultimately not selected.

In Region Three, an area made up of counties in the Mid-Ohio Valley, Parkersburg Mayor Tom Joyce will be on the ballot. Over the past two years, Joyce has, contrary to local data, attributed rises in Wood County crime to local substance use treatment efforts and successfully lobbied for state legislation that prevents Wood County from adding more treatment facilities. He did not respond to

CONT. ON PAGE 7

WV's Medicaid Renewal Rate Near 60%

By Nadia Ramlagan for WVNS

Advocacy groups in West Virginia are working to raise awareness about the end of COVID-19 pandemic-related protections that have triggered a new review of who is on the rolls.

Sharon Carte, board president with West Virginians for Affordable Health Care, said according to the state bureau that handles eligibility, it appears that around 30,000 thousand people on Medicaid or CHIP have been retained. That's a 60% renewal rate.

"It looks like we weren't as high as we would like," she said. "But I think, you know, when we look at things like West Virginia's unemployment rate has dropped, it might be fair to say that a lot of folks have gone back to the workforce, or may have other insurance now."

For questions about eligibility, residents can call 1-800-318-2596, or visit the West Virginia Department for Health and Human Services Bureau for Medical Services website.

Carte added many West Virginians live with chronic conditions and illnesses. Left untreated, people often end up in the emergency room or with other medical needs that result in high medical bills.

"So it's really important that they make sure that they have that coverage and they don't have a surprise situation where they ended up having to pay out of pocket," she explained.

Marcus Robinson, president of markets for the individual and family plan business with United Healthcare, added regular doctor's visits are critical for preventive care and screenings - especially for kids gearing up to go back to school.

"I like to point back to how important your relationship is with your physician," he said. "And keeping access to that relationship for your overall well being is really important."

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, between 8 million and 24 million people nationwide are expected lose Medicaid coverage during the unwinding of the continuous enrollment provision.

Summertime Elk River Bassin'



This bass was hanging out in the brush.

By Allen Hamrick

The challenge of looking for the bucket mouth bass in rivers, especially the Elk, is one of those things that money just can't buy. The Elk meanders through the mountains with plenty of bends, deep water and shoals and is mesmerizing to the devoted fisherman. A three day float trip down the Elk might just be what the doctor ordered for your ailments. There is enough cover for fish to hide and for you, the fisherman, to hunt. One of the best ways to get to them is in a fishing kayak, john boat or maybe a float tube. With the heat index running high enough to melt the worms in your tackle box, fishing on rivers is one of the best places to fish. On rivers, the swifter water allows for more oxygen than still water lakes; in fact, the water is a bit cooler, as well, so bass will stay more active if you know the places to look for them. Bass tend to be homebodies on rivers and don't take the trips that lake bass do. Bass are creatures of habit, and in rivers they are very predictable. I have found that outside bends in the river

SEE "Fishing" CONT. ON PAGE 7

2023 CCMS Band rehearsals are gearing up



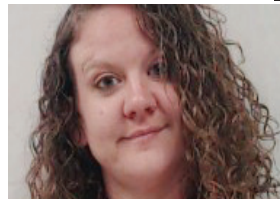
Last year's band was hard to beat. By Allen Hamrick

SEE "SPORTS" PAGE 8

BOOKED

CENTRAL REGIONAL JAIL

BRAXTON COUNTY



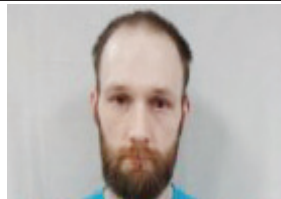
Lisa Marie Barker
Booked 7/13/23
Grand larceny



Carey Ethan Hoffman Jr.
Booked 7/17/23
DUI



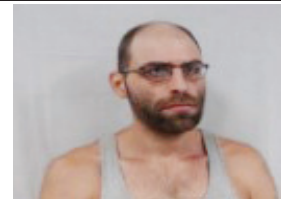
Meagan Marie Haynes
Booked 7/10/23
Driving suspended



Christopher Wayne Hoffman
Booked 7/10/23
Probation violation

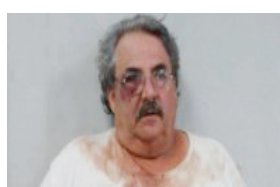


Cody Montana Lough
Booked 7/13/23
Damage to telecommunications services



Justin Michael Philips
Booked 7/12/23
Failure to register as a sex offender

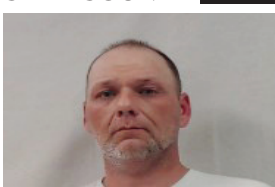
CLAY COUNTY



Fletcher Morrison Rollyson II
Booked 7/15/23
DUI causing serious bodily injury



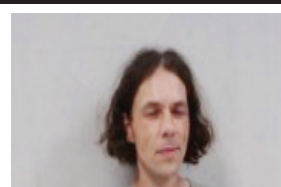
Hannibal Taft Ryan IV
Booked 7/15/23
Conspiracy, fleeing with reckless indifference, grand larceny, fraudulent vehicle registration



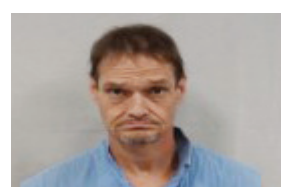
Jeffrey Carl Hotchkiss
Booked 7/14/23
Court order



LaWanda Lee McClain
Booked 7/15/23
Capias

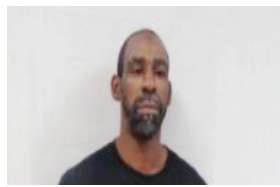


Joshua Edward McCune
Booked 7/12/23
Domestic battery

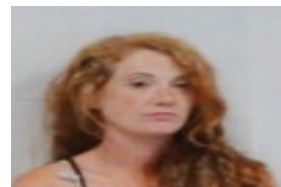


Shane Oneal Brantley
Booked 7/11/23
solicit a minor via computer, traveling to engage minor in sexual activity

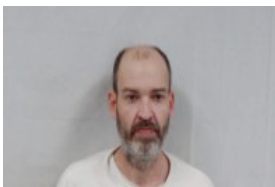
NICHOLAS COUNTY



Joseph Thomas Cummings
Booked 7/14/23
DOR, DUI, domestic assault, felon in possession of a firearm, simple possession, driving suspended, domestic battery.



Sarah Renee Rogers
Booked 7/12/23
Dest. of prop., assault, interfering w/ emerg. comms. trespassing, battery, obs. an officer, petit larceny



Timothy James Sweet II
Booked 7/12/23
Possession of a controlled substance, shoplifting



Landon Adam Wells
Booked 7/16/23
Expired operators, DUI first offense

Public Notices

• **Billiards Tournament at Country Kitchen (6553 Big Otter Hwy, Ivydale) on Saturday, July 22, starting at 8 p.m. Single elimination, winner take all, \$20 entry. 304-286-5600.**

• **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

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| E | L | B | O | W | C | E | E | S | W | H | A | T | D | I | D | S | H | E | | | |
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Answer

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

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3 SENSIBLE WORDS About Natural Gas

Natural gas leaks are rare. But they can happen. Your senses will alert you if a leak occurs.

Sight

Escaping gas affects the nutrients in soil, so discolored soil or dead vegetation near a pipeline may indicate a leak. Dirt or water blowing up from the ground may indicate a natural gas leak.

Sound

Natural gas leaks may make a hissing or a high-pitched whistling noise. Noises will vary based on the line pressure.

Smell

A strong odor of natural gas can indicate unburned fuel in the air. Because the gas is odorless, a sulfur based odorant is added to give it a rotten-egg smell that warns of its presence. Be alert for this odorant or any petroleum smell.

If you believe a natural gas leak is occurring, leave the area immediately and notify Peoples by calling **1.800.400.4271** or dial **9-1-1**.

If you plan excavation work, remember to contact the *West Virginia One Call System* before digging to have our facilities located. **Dial 811.**

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Our Summer Vacation Jamboree

By: Dr. James Snyder

After months and months of planning, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage finalized our vacation plans for the summer.

Because of our busy lifestyle, something like this cannot be done with just a snap of a finger, especially since the great-granddaughter invaded our family circle. If my wife does not see her every day, something is wrong. It took her a long time to plan a whole week, so she would not have to see the great-granddaughter.

The time, however, had come, and we were on our way to a well-deserved vacation in St. Augustine.

I remembered why we were here on our first day in St. Augustine. Silly me, I thought it was vacation time, but then I remembered we were at the capital of thrift store shops. I'm not sure how many thrift store shops are in the area, but I know The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage knows exactly how many are open. She knows when a thrift store shop opens two months before it opens.

I knew part of my vacation time would be spent at some thrift stores. I am not a thrift store shopper connoisseur to any degree at all. They all look the same, and I can't remember the last time I found something in one that I wanted.

Not only does The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage know where the shops are, but she knows what the shop has and where they are located in that shop.

I remember going to one thrift store shop with her, and when we entered, I went one way, and she went the other way. I was lost for the next 90 minutes and did not know how to get out or even where my wife was. Fortunately, she found me and led me outside. It's been several years since that experience.

One day we were at one of her favorite shops, and she was talking to one of the managers. They had known each other for many years, so they had much to catch up on.

In the middle of their conversation, a customer approached the manager and asked if they had a certain item and where she could find it.

Before the manager could answer, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage spoke up and said, "That product is down the aisle there, and turn left at the fourth aisle. You will find it on the top of the shelf."

She thanked her and walked off after the product.

The manager looked at my wife and asked, "How did you know where to find that product?"

"I saw it the last time I was here," my wife replied.

Being one of the managers, she offered my wife a job. Fortunately for me, she did not take the job.

It's something when my wife knows where things are in the shop more than the shop manager.

We visited a few thrift stores during the days that we were there.

One day my wife asked if I wanted to go to the shopping mall with her. It's been a long time since I was at a shopping mall, so I agreed to accompany her.

As we arrived at the shopping mall I looked at my wife and said, "You do remember our rule for going into a shopping mall, don't you?"

She nodded, took my hand, and we walked into the shopping mall together.

We walked around for almost an hour, and then two older ladies approached us, smiled, and said, "That is so sweet. Both of you at your age are holding hands as you walk around the mall."

I smiled and replied, "If I let go of her hand, she will go off shopping, and I will not be able to find her for hours."

The ladies looked at me, smiled and then kept walking.

Towards the end of the week, something happened that I totally wasn't expecting and it could change my life.

The toilet in our bathroom was jammed, and it couldn't be flushed.

My wife went down to the main office and got a plunger. She worked and worked at it, but could not get the toilet to flush.

I'm not sure what came over me, but I walked in and said, "Do you want me to try?"

She gave me the plunger, and without much thought, I started plunging away, and within a few minutes, the toilet was working. At first, I smiled, then I realized what had just happened.

My wife has a reputation for fixing everything and anything. In contrast, I have a reputation for not being able to fix anything. I've enjoyed that reputation, and it has a lot of benefits. But now, I fixed something that The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage could not fix. My reputation is ruined.

As we were driving home in The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage's sissy band, she looked at me and said, "That was a wonderful vacation, wasn't it?" I just smiled.

A verse of Scripture came to my mind as we were driving.

Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

It's God's word that really makes a difference in my life. The Bible is absolutely true to God's heart and will.

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



Herman Who?

Do you ever wonder how two people can take the same passage of Scripture and come to almost opposite interpretations? Does that speak poorly of the Bible, that there are so many different ways people interpret the Scripture? It's not an indictment against Scripture; it's a matter of *hermeneutics* or a person's methodology of interpreting Scripture.

Some people have a high view of the concept of the Bible, but not so much with the words on the page. I can say that I believe the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and infallible. Still, suppose I don't come to the Scripture desiring to know what God said in the inspired, inerrant, and infallible text but use it as a launching pad for what I want it to say. In that case, my hermeneutic doesn't line up with my high view of Scripture. To claim every word of God is pure and then twist the meaning are inconsistent ideas at best and dishonest at worst. If God's Word is pure, then the meaning is pure. If God's Word is infallible and cannot be broken, the meaning is infallible and cannot be broken.

So how do people come to different interpretations? Sometimes, they don't read passages in the surrounding context. For example, one may say that "God is not willing that any should perish," as proof-text of Arminianism. But if you read 2 Peter 3:9 in context you will that it is an encouraging message to Christians about the love and faithfulness of God to save His people. 2 Peter is written to Christians (2 Peter 3:1, 8, 14, 17). So when Peter says that God is longsuffering to us, we know who he is referring to. But if you zoom out and consider the entire book, Peter's concerned about heretics who come into churches, trying to deceive Christians. Heretics, mockers, and despisers of truth gain followers. Why doesn't God judge them? He will. Just because their wickedness exists doesn't mean the Lord isn't coming back or that justice won't be served. The Lord is patient and longsuffering to us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to faith. In this whole letter, Peter warned the saints about the wicked and encouraged them to persevere (1:10). Despite the designs of the wicked one, Christ will come again to judge the wicked and save His people, and not one will perish.

It isn't a good idea for preachers to take true doctrines taught in Scripture and preach them from passages that don't teach that truth. A pastor may get upset with some people in the church and want to preach against some sin, but he shouldn't take a text from Romans 1:13 and say, "I would not have you ignorant brethren...." Paul wasn't saying he didn't want those ignorant men around, but he didn't want them to be unknowing of the truth. And the only way he could resolve that was by explaining to them the true meaning of the Word of God.

Looking Towards Home

By: Joseph J. Mazella

When I was a little boy my Mom, Dad, brothers and I all lived in my Nana's old, ramshackle house. The only way you could reach it was across a battered, wooden, swinging bridge that spanned the river next to it. On the other side of it too was a pair of railroad tracks only 10 feet from the house. I can still remember how the house would shake when the trains hauling coal would go by. Still, it was home and I always felt safe and loved there.

The tracks too were fun to stroll down when there were no trains around. One day my older brother even tried to show me how to walk on a single rail by putting one foot in front of the other. Each time I tried, however, I would stumble and fall. Even holding my arms straight out to my sides for balance didn't help. I just couldn't do it like my brother did and I soon gave up.

One day when I was alone I decided to try again. I walked a long way down the tracks and then stepped up on the single rail again. I watched my feet but that

only made me stumble more. It was so frustrating. I could walk on an old, wooden bridge that swayed all over the place but not on a solid piece of steel. Finally, I set my eyes upon Nana's house and gave it one last try. This time, though, I didn't stumble. I walked on and on with my eyes on home. When I finally reached my front door I smiled with satisfaction and laughed with joy.

Looking back at that memory today I think I finally succeeded because my eyes weren't on each step I took but rather on my home. I think that is how God wants us to live our lives here too. By keeping our eyes on our true home in Heaven we stumble less and walk with a lighter step. We forgive ourselves when we fall, we pick others up when they do, and we let God guide us all along the way. We travel with so much love, laughter, and joy that with each step we take towards Heaven we also bring a little more Heaven here to Earth.

Home Country

By Slim Randles

Steve, the tall cowboy of us philosophy types, was riding a young horse through town the other day to get him used to "boogers."

To gentle a horse, he explained, you give them something to booger at, and then talk them out of it. You keep coming up with new boogers and calming the horse until screaming fire engines and jet exhaust are no problem at all.

He rode up to the Campbell house and saw Anita, Dud's wife, shaking out a throw rug. The young horse began blowing nuclear snot all over the front yard and his eyes bugged out.

"Anita," Steve said, "would you mind coming over here with that rug for a minute?"

She walked slowly up to the young horse, who was crouched in the starting blocks preparing for an elliptical orbit around the sun.

"I don't want to frighten him," Anita said.

"That's why I'm here, actually," Steve said. "Would you let him smell the rug?"

She carefully and slowly held the rug up to where the colt could sniff it. He sniffed and snorted, sniffed and snorted ... then sniffed, and sniffed. Then he eyed it carefully and touched it with his nose.

"If you wouldn't mind," Steve said, running his hand along the horse's neck, "could you back up about three steps and then start wiggling it?"

She backed up and gently wiggled the rug. Snort, snort, legs in starting blocks. Ready to booger.

"That's it," Steve said, calmly, rubbing the horse's neck.

"Now shake it a little harder."

More snorts. More rubbing.

"Now shake it really hard."

It took the best part of a minute before the horse calmed down and just watched Anita with curiosity instead of fear.

"Thanks, Anita," Steve said. "You've helped a lot."

She looked up at him. "But why did you want me to shake a rug at him, Steve?"

And Steve grinned and said, "I'm thinking about getting him a job in a carpet cleaning business and I want him to learn the ropes."

Sponsored by the music of genuine cowboy, singer, actor and retired college professor, Steve Cormier. stevecormier.net/.



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Michael Showell, Publisher

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

Which of these groups was the first all white girl group to have a #1 single? The Shirelles, The Angels, The Fleetwoods, The Dixie Cups?

Answer to last week's Trivia: Dean Martin had two #1 hits in the rock era: "Memories Are Made of This", Jan., '56 and "Everybody Loves Somebody Sometime", Aug. '64.

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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.

June, 1957



DODRILL



WILSON DORSEY



GROGG

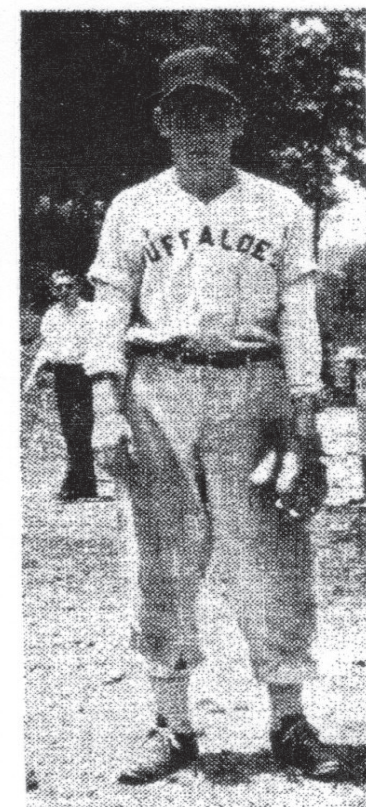


MILLER



OTTO

Baseball Takes Spotlight Here Widen Independent Buffaloes For Summer As Fans Follow Team



WILLIAMS



NAPIER



MURPHY

GROGG
Umpire Dorsel Grogg prepares to take his position behind the plate where he holds forth as Widen's only official "umps".

PAUL MILLER
Paul swings a smooth left-handed bat that confuses the batters right and left. His fast ball is really fast. This is his first season with the Buffaloes. Is a shuttle car operator.

W. H. (HOBO) OTTO
Hobo holds down the outfield positions with satisfaction, and lives over Gassaway way where he is employed.

JOHNNY NAPIER
Johnny is a good short-stop. He operates a shuttle car too and is a first year man.

RUSSELL MURPHY
Russell is another outfielder in the left position, a first year Buffalo and is a loader operator.

GARY WILLIAMS
Gary Williams is a newcomer, playing right field on the team, but can be at home in either outfield position.

These players have won 12 games and lost only 3 so far this season, and the Fourth of July exhibition game gives them a chance to redeem one of the losses suffered at the hands of what an unkind reporter was pleased to call the "Huskey Hurricanes." Would it be revealing a secret if that reporter reported that a Buffalo unkindly said "on the Fourth we'll show them up for a Big Blow?"

The month-ago California-bound Eugene Taylors and son Stevie, have returned from their enjoyable journey after visiting historic monuments and spots on the West Coast via auto. Mr. Taylor said that they were fortunate not to run into any of the storm areas when the storms were there, but that several of the towns they went through experienced severe weather disturbances of one kind or another after they had passed through. Seemingly tops for the trip was the visit to Disneyland in Los Angeles.

Pictures and Sarge On Way
SFC Sherman Henderson and Mrs. Henderson, who have been stationed in Verdun, Garrison, France, where the Sarge is an instructor of Military Police, are expected home soon for reassignment. They are sending pictures of Provost Marshall Major Renwick N. Riley's demonstration of bows and arrows used in the sport of archery, in which he excels, according to Mr. Henderson's mother Mrs. Walker W. Henderson.

Moved To Main Office
David Dorrill and Mrs. Dorrill, are celebrating the arrival of their new nine pound two ounce son, Lewis Dean Dorrill, by being transferred from Newark, N. J. to the main office of the Sears Roebuck Company in Philadelphia, Pa. where David is employed in the auditing department.

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TEX DODRILL
This is Tex's first as full time player at 1st base where his left handed work is smooth and accurate. He is a machine loader operator.

Buffalo team-mates Jack Holcomb, holdover relief pitcher or umpire; Corky Griffith catcher, joining the club this year; and Max Legg, a holdover from last year's team were not available for photos when the pictures were taken.

WILSON — DORSEY
Managers Emmett Wilson of Clay (L) seems to be checking up on Manager Bob Dorsey of Widen as these two men look over the set-up for the coming game between the former champions of the King Coal League and the present Widen Buffaloes, when their respective outfits will clash on the diamond at Widen for the featured Fourth of July game which promises to be a thriller.

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While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, waterfront, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (888) 964-4167

LEGAL

"NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING"
The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection has scheduled a public meeting on July 27, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. to discuss the **Draft Fiscal Year 2024 Intended Use Plan** for the Drinking Water Treatment Revolving Fund Program (DWTRF). A part of the Intended Use Plan is the Fiscal Year 2024 Comprehensive Project Priority List. The meeting will take place in person at the WV DEP's Headquarters in Charleston, WV. An option to attend remotely or call-in is below. A copy of the draft Fiscal Year 2024 Intended Use Plan is available, and may be requested by calling, writing, or sending an email request to the address below. The plan can also be viewed on DEP's web site.

Contact
Katheryn Emery
WV Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water & Waste Management
601 57th street, SE
Charleston, WV 25304
(304) 926-0499 Ext. 43830
Katheryn.D.Emery@wv.gov
Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/tjy-fznu-gwr>
Or dial: (US) + 1 419-945-6029
PIN: 803 176 620#

LEGAL NOTICE

The Town of Clay Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Bid Opening set for Tuesday, July 25 at 2:00 p.m. has been moved to Tuesday, August 1 at 2:00 p.m. at which time Bids will be opened and read aloud. This Notice is issued by Josh Shamblin, Mayor, Town of Clay, WV.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Square bodied 4x4 Chevrolet 4WD, 6ft. brand new rebuilt automatic transmission & very solid cab. New front and rear fenders. For more information call 540-395-2083.

WANT TO BUY

WANT TO BUY: 1949-1952 Chevrolet 4 door Fleetline car. Restored or not, running or not. 540-395-2083.

WANT TO BUY

WANT TO BUY: 1964 Ford Falcon 2 door left & right post doors. Also, 1963 Ford Falcon 2 door hardtop doors. 540-395-2083.

LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONONGALIA COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, DIVISION 2
IN THE INTEREST OF: H.G., DOB: 5/28/2007, CIVIL ACTION NO: 22-JA-86
Adult Respondent:
Lucas Gallagher, biological father of H.G.
Interested Party(s):
Karen Barker, biological mother of H.G.
Rebecca Adkins: custodian of H.G.
NOTICE OF PETITION AND HEARING
To the above named Interested Party, Karen Barker. Please take notice that a PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP OF MINOR CHILD H.G. was filed by Rebecca Adkins at the Circuit Clerk's Office of Monongalia County.
Please take further notice that a hearing on this Petition is scheduled for August 22, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. at the Monongalia County Justice Center, 75 High Street, Morgantown, West Virginia, 26505 before the Honorable Judge Cindy S. Scott, at which time and place you may appear and make any objection known or otherwise protect your interest. Attorney for the Petitioner, Rebecca Adkins, is Elizabeth B. Warnick, Esq., whose address is PO Box 146, Bruceton Mills, WV 26525.
A copy of the Petition for Guardianship of Minor Child H.G. can be obtained from the Monongalia County Circuit Clerk's office.
Donna Hidock, Circuit Clerk
Monongalia County Justice Center
75 High Street, Suite 12
Morgantown, WV 26505
304-291-7240

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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 Bick-

more 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 Fall-

ing 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/Childrcn/
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 School 10:00 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
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 Meet-

ing & Bible Study 7:00PM
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. Balse

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

PROCIUS 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 fol-
lowed 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

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

S

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Wednesday Night Service
7:00 PM.
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Clifford Samples

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 Everyone 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

VALLEY RIDGE CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 AM
Bible Study Wednesday
Night 7:00 PM
Everytone is welcome to
attend.

WALLBACK METHODIST CHURCH

phone and email interview requests for this story.

Vienna Mayor Randall Rapp, who nominated the Parkersburg mayor for the board, cited Joyce's professional experience working for hospitals as a major reason why he nominated him.

"I just think that [with] his background and his character, Tom will do the right thing," Rapp said.

Wood County Commissioner Blair Couch was less comfortable with the prospect of Joyce as the Region Three representative. His commission nominated Westbrook Health Services president Kevin Trippett, and Couch said he would prefer someone like Kelly.

"I think politicians can be swayed more than a doctor from Raleigh County," Couch said.

Will the foundation board be fair to the places most impacted by the crisis?

The money will be split according to a formula that assigns percentages — based on a municipality's population, number of prescription pain pills received, and overdose death count — of how much of West Virginia's total opioid crisis took place in an area.

For example, the formula determined that about 9% of the total crisis took place in Cabell County and Huntington. It calculated a similar estimate for Kanawha County and Charleston.

But each region will still only get one vote on the foundation. That means that despite the calculation that Region Five, which includes both Kanawha and Cabell counties, was affected more than other regions, it will have the same vote on the board as Couch's Region Three.

"How can you have Cabell and Kanawha in the same region?" Couch asked. "Those two big counties, who have suffered a lot through the opioid [epidemic], are going to have one vote on this 11-member panel."

How transparent will the foundation be?

Drema Hill says the West Virginia First Foundation is being set up as a private nonprofit to discourage the funds from being politicized and misused. But this has raised questions about whether the foundation will be subject to the same rules as government organizations.

Morrisey's press secretary did not respond to phone and email questions asking whether the foundation will be subject to the state's Freedom of Information Act. But courts have previously ruled that private foundations created by state authorities are subject to the law, according to Suzanne Weise, a West Virginia University law professor who specializes in government transparency.

A list of "frequently asked questions" developed by the Attorney General's Office says that the foundation won't be subject to the state's Open Meetings Act. The memorandum does say that all meetings related to the foundation should be open to the public and gives the state's attorney general the power to audit it. But some local government officials have already raised concerns about whether those provisions will create enough accountability for the organization.

How will the foundation spend the settlement money?

Once the attorneys' fees for the settlements are finalized, the West Virginia First Foundation will be responsible for managing hundreds of millions of dollars. The board members are supposed to invest the majority of that sum, but the memorandum also instructs them to distribute 20% of the foundation's yearly budget to the six regions each of the next seven years.

Each regional board member will also double as their area's director; that job entails leading regional governing groups that decide how their shares of the money get spent. The foundation's board members will collectively be responsible for determining the process by which West Virginia government and non-government organizations can apply for regional funds.

Conny Priddy, the program coordinator of Huntington's Quick Response Team, is confident the money will help reduce the damage of the state's opioid crisis. But she worries it won't be enough.

In the 2021 trial that pitted Huntington and Cabell County against drug distribution companies, an epidemiologist and a forensic economist estimated that it would take \$2.5 billion just to address the problem in that county. In the wake of U.S. District Judge David Faber's ruling in favor of the drug distributors, lawyers for Huntington and Cabell have appealed the decision to the 4th U.S. Circuit.

Now, the foundation will only have access to a portion of \$1 billion to address problems throughout the entire state. Priddy said some money is better than nothing, but she doesn't know what impact it will ultimately have for the West Virginia families who have suffered the most.

"I hate to say it, but you can't throw a little bit of money at it and then expect the problem to go away," she said. "It has become generational."

Disclaimer: Weise is the secretary of Mountain State Spotlight's Board of Directors.

Hydrating is key in summer heat

Hydrating is key in summer heat

Summer is a season to enjoy some fun in the sun, but it's imperative that people remember to take steps to reduce their risk for heat illness. Those measures should include efforts to hydrate and remain hydrated throughout the day. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that water will almost always help people remain hydrated even when they're working in the heat. But food also plays a vital role in preventing heat illness, as the CDC notes eating regular meals can help to replace the salt lost through sweat. It's also



important that individuals avoid energy drinks and alcohol when spending time in the hot summer sun. Many energy drinks contain more caffeine than

standard servings of coffee, tea and soft drinks, and excessive caffeine consumption can contribute to dehydration. The same can be said for alcohol, and the

CDC reports that consuming alcohol within 24 hours of working in the heat can increase the risk of heat illness.

West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History Seeking Entries for the 2023 West Virginia Juried Exhibition

The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) is announcing a call for entries for its 23rd biennial West Virginia Juried Exhibition. The show will be on display at the Culture Center in Charleston. Since 1979, the exhibition has celebrated the exceptional talents and creativity of Mountain State artists.

Submissions for the exhibit in the form of digital images on CD or USB flash drive are currently being accepted through Friday, Aug. 11. Artists may submit two pieces for the exhibition with a limit of three digital images per entry. Entry forms and properly identified images must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$20 per piece. Make check payable to West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History. Digital images can be mailed to WVDACH, West Virginia Juried Exhibition (WVJE) 2023, The Culture Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd., E., Charleston, W.Va. 25305-0300, hand-delivered to the Culture Center at the State Capitol Complex, or emailed to Rachel Keeney, exhibits coordinator. Image file sizes must be small enough to be received through email, an entry form must be included, and entry fee will still need to be mailed to the department.

Eligible entries include works created in the past two years in the areas of painting, sculpture, printmaking, drawing, photography, digital art, mixed media and crafts.

Entrants must be over the age of 18 and must be residents of or maintain a permanent residence in West Virginia. Entrants also must complete a WVDACH Artists' Register form and submit six slides or digital images representative of current work for the file at the department. The images submitted for the Artists' Register are not used in jurying entries into the exhibition.

A prospectus for the exhibit is available online at <https://wvculture.org/agencies/museums/>. The department will present up to \$33,000 in awards for the exhibition. The awards are made available through the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and the WVDACH through funds appropriated by the West Virginia Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. Awards may include three \$5,000 Governor's Awards (purchase awards), seven \$2,000 Awards of Excellence (purchase awards) and eight \$500 Merit Awards (non-purchase awards). Works receiving Purchase Awards become part of the West Virginia State Museum's permanent art collection.

The exhibit will open at the Culture Center with an awards ceremony and reception at 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023, and remain on display through Feb. 10, 2024. The exhibit showcases the work of state artists and craftspeople and provides the public with a comprehensive view of art and craft activities in the state.

For more information about submitting your entries or signing up for the artists' register, contact Keeney at (304) 558-0220, ext. 128 or Rachel.M.Keeney@wv.gov.

Holcomb Family Reunion

There will be a family reunion for the family of John and Mary Holcomb on Saturday, July 29 at 1 P.M. at the Middle Creek Baptist Church, Bickmore. All family and friends are invited to attend.

that are polluted with fallen trees or stumps are a perfect place for bass to hide out, watch the food go by and rip the leg off a steer, so to speak. Breaks in a current are where bass like to camp out, get a cup of coffee and wait on dinner, especially if that break is a tree top with current moving through it. Spinner baits are a good tactic, but the pig and jig is a tough bait to crowd. Texas rigging, either straight or rigging it shaky style, works well in the fallen trees. The choice of color always lies in the water color.

I have also found that a side creek or tributary is a perfect place for big river bass. When the river rises, bass tend to go up the side creek and stack up in a deep pocket of water before the river goes back to normal and they return to the main river. So far, that theory is correct most of the time in my own experience. If you time your trip right as the water comes down and sneak up into some of the creeks and into deep pockets, you might just find a cache of bass. Carolina rigs are also a good choice for the situation. So, don't over look tributaries, no matter how big or small.

The Elk River can be a bit finicky and doesn't like giving up its bigger fish, but knowing some good tips will turn the tide in your favor. Back in the day, I knew people who fished the same spot for many years because that's where the big ones were and they knew it. Some did it for years and never caught the big one. Why? Because at one time or another, they hooked

it and it got away. The quest became a part of them, gave them purpose; it was the fight and the challenge, a will against will. As one story went back 60 to 70 years ago, there was a hole in the water that held such a large fish that it resembled a cross tie as it occasionally floated to the top. Most said it was the Elk River monster, much like the Loch Ness in Scotland. Many who caught a glimpse of it said it was a catfish while others claimed Muskie. Either way, it was a huge fish and for the mountain folk of that time, it was bragging rights for anybody brave enough and talented enough to land it. One fisherman, whose name is forever lost to time, was said to have hooked the monster and being a lightweight individual nearly drowned before his pole broke in the fight. The big fish pulled him till he was chest deep in water and in no way was he letting loose. After he acquired a new rig, he then tied himself to a tree and fished for that fish until his dying days never to hook it again. The Elk has a history second to none with fishing stories that could make a campfire last for days.

Fishing doesn't take a tackle box the size of a tool box, either. Bass on the Elk are not picky; whatever floats by that looks good they will eat, especially if it's crawdad or worm related. So, get out and beat the heat, find you a nice shady outside bend with some cover and start reeling them in. It's time to make your own memories and spin your own fish tales!

Gas Prices Continue to Fall in West Virginia

The average price for gasoline across Northern West Virginia is five cents lower this week at \$3.289 per gallon, according to AAA East Central's Gas Price Report.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| This week's average prices: | |
| Northern WV Average | \$3.289 |
| Average price during the week of July 3, 2023 | \$3.332 |
| Average price during the week of July 11, 2022 | \$4.637 |

The following is a list of the average prices in several West Virginia locations:

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| \$3.243 | Bridgeport |
| \$3.269 | Clarksburg |
| \$3.199 | Huntington |
| \$3.378 | Martinsburg |
| \$3.378 | Morgantown |
| \$3.228 | Parkersburg |
| \$3.323 | Weirton |
| \$3.294 | Wheeling |

Trend Pump prices barely budged over the past week, despite the expected demand surge due to the July 4th holiday. AAA predicted that more than 43 million people would hit the road to celebrate the nation's birthday. Despite the record number, the national average for a gallon of gas is just a penny higher since last week at \$3.54. Today's national average is four cents lower than a month ago and \$1.14 less than a year ago.

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gas demand increased slightly from 9.31 to 9.6 million barrels per day last week. Meanwhile, total domestic gasoline stocks decreased by 2.5 million barrels to 219.5 million barrels.

At the close of Wednesday's formal trading session, West Texas Intermediate increased by \$2 to settle at \$71.79. Oil prices have increased due to market concerns that supply may be tight through the remainder of 2023. However, price increases have been capped due to ongoing market fears that a recession will occur. Additionally, the EIA reported that total domestic commercial crude inventories decreased by 1.5 million barrels to 452.2 million barrels.

Motorists can find current gas prices nationwide, statewide, and countywide at gasprices.aaa.com.

AAA East Central is a not-for-profit association with 69 local offices in Kentucky, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

SPORTS

CCMS summer band practice heating up



The Mustang band cranks up the tunes at a football game. (Inset) The myth, the legend - Doug Wayne, master musician. (Photo by Allen Hamrick)

By Allen Hamrick

Alright, all you middle school students that love to play music and want to be a part of the greatest middle school band around, the table is set for the 2023 CCMS Band rehearsals. Legendary master band director and trap set guru Doug Wayne will be holding these rehearsals and bringing his expertise to the minds of future leaders in music and song. If you're interested in band at all, this is the place to be this summer and show off your talents. The CCMS band has a long tradition of being the best; other than a couple of hiccup years during the Covid-19 era, the CCMS band has buttered the ears of many family members and fans. They are a force on the football field with their wild, soul stirring music and drum beats that could turn even the meekest player into a Tasmanian devil. It is in your face music at every concert or venue they play - they are the CCMS Mustang band. Come and be a part of the best team with the best director; you will be glad you did. Rehearsals are scheduled to begin July 24 and will carry on through July 27. These

rehearsals are only for the students who will be in seventh or eighth grade band. Summer school buses will be running and school lunch will be provided. After lunch, participants will be given the opportunity to hit the pool for free for some much needed R and R.

The schedule is for breakfast to be served at 8 AM, and after filling your belly, rehearsals will begin at CCMS and last till 11 AM. At that point, students can have someone to pick them up at the school or ride the bus to Clay Elementary school for lunch then optional swimming at Clay County Pool. The activity bus will leave the pool at 2:30, and supervision will end for the day. Sounds like a good time for band students, for sure! Good food, good direction, food again and relaxing by the pool. If you are a 7th or 8th grade student and want to be a cog in the CCMS band, here is your opportunity. Go Mustangs!

Action photos of the Clay All Stars game on Friday



Photos by Allen Hamrick