

By: Betty Holcomb

It was a hot weekend in Clay as 60 participants started coming in on Friday, July 28 to check their animals in for the 2023 Clay County Ag Fair. A total of 56 FFA and 4-H members, and four Clover Bud (participants that are too young to be in 4-H) made up the 60 Ag Fair participants this year. There was a special barnyard parade just for the Clover Buds. Participants of all ages were ready to show off their pigs, cows, rabbits, lambs, goats and chickens. These kids have put in the work with purchasing the animals, the feed, and all that goes along with maintaining the show animals. Hours and hours of working to get these animals ring ready to strut their stuff. 11 craft vendors set up to sell items at the craft bazaar. A rock wall, courtesy of the WV Army National Guard Recruiting Office, was set up for all to enjoy, as well as a dunking booth. The evening ended with the buyer's dinner at 5 p.m., a free meal to enjoy for all who wish to attend, and the livestock auction at 7 p.m.

"The importance of this fair is the work ethic that it instills into our youth, along with building a knowledge base of agriculture. These projects are considered 'supervised agriculture experiences; where they learn about good husbandry practice, which is how we care for animals, along with housing, feed, water, handling, and moving medical needs. The youth learn calculations on butcher the animals to maximize profit. This program has educational benefits, as well as keeping the children engaged, providing them something to do, and is also a way to make some money with the buyers primarily being businesses supporting local youth, purchasing animals at well above market price, with proceeds going to the exhibitor's future investment," stated Wesley Armes.

Former FFA President Elijah Armes had a big day, taking first place in his class with his hog, Randy, weighing in at 226lbs. Armes also received first place in FFA Showmanship and was one of two recipients of the Clay County Agriculture Fair Scholarships. Armes will use

Saturday was a big day starting at 9 a.m. with feed to growth, compared to the optimum age to

DHHR, Mission West Virginia Partner on West Virginia Kids Thrive Newsletter

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) and Mission West Virginia today announced the publication of a new quarterly electronic newsletter for West Virginia's foster parents, adoptive parents, and kinship caregivers, West Virginia Kids Thrive. The newsletter includes helpful parenting information, important dates, available resources, and answers to submitted questions.

The West Virginia Kids Thrive newsletter is an extension of the Kids Thrive Collaborative, an ongoing effort by DHHR to involve its bureaus, community partners and stakeholders to help ensure home and community-based services are available and accessible statewide to reduce the risk of out-of-home placement in institutional or other settings. The Kids Thrive Collaborative offers the Resource Rundown, an informational video for parents and caregivers to share information on community-based mental and behavioral

health services. "DHHR is committed to helping kids and

families thrive in their home by improving access to communitybased mental health and social services," said Cammie Chapman, DHHR's Deputy Secretary of Children and Adult Services. "We realize that parents and caregivers appreciate receiving timely and helpful information in various formats, and hope the West Virginia Kids Thrive newsletter meets this need."

The July newsletter includes positive parenting tips for the teenage years, adoption subsidy continuation information for families with an adopted youth turning 18, strategies for summer, addressing obstacles for older youth in foster care, and statewide resource links.

Mission West Virginia, a long-time DHHR partner, promotes positive futures by recruiting foster families, providing life skills education, and creating community connections. To learn more about Mission West Virginia or to ask questions about foster care or adoption in West Virginia, visit www. missionwv.org.

To learn about career

opportunities that sup-

port West Virginia's children, youth and families, visit dhhr. wv.gov/Pages/Career-Opportunities.aspx. his scholarship dollars towards his education at Glenville Sate College where he will be majoring in Environmental Science.

Miss Breanna Hanshaw, former Ag Fair 2022 Queen, was also awarded the Clay County Agricultural Fair Scholarship. Breanna plans to attend Bridgevalley in the fall where she will be majoring in Nursing.

A special thanks to all who purchased these kid's animals this weekend. Thank you to the parents, vendors, volunteers, who made the 2023 Ag Fair a huge success.

From the drawing board to the trail, benches have arrived



Tilyr Bird and McKenzy Taylor set the bench into place.

SEE "Benches"

<u>_</u> CONT. ON PAGE 8

BOOKED 🥯 **CENTRAL REGIONAL JAIL**

BRAXTON COUNTY



Jeremy Allen Brown Booked 7/25/23 Grand larceny, Contributing to the delinquency of a minor, petit larceny



Jonathan Gay O'Dell Booked 7/29/23 Domestic assault



Kenneth Dwayne Shaffer Booked 7/26/23 Trespassing asked to leave, obstructing an officer

CLAY COUNTY

Johnny Eugene Brown Booked 7/30/23 No insurance

NICHOLAS COUNTY -



Joshua Bleau Barnett Booked 7/26/23 Possession of a controlled substance



Anthony Jones Hamrick

Booked 7/27/23

Sexual abuse by a par-

ent/guardian/custodian



Christi Dawn Koch Booked 7/24/23 No insurance



Louis Richard Koch Booked 7/24/23 No insurance, family court Capias



Jeffrey Dean Massengill Booked 7/28/23 Obstructing an officer, battery of officer without weapon



Jerry Ellen Rogers Booked 7/28/23 DUI, reckless driving





Gary Allen Barnhouse Jr. Booked 7/26/23 Capias



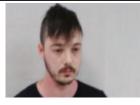
Cody Tyler Bell Booked 7/26/23 Poss. of cont. subs., rec./ transfer. stolen prop., breaking/entering, fleeing



Heather Dawn Bowling Booked 7/25/23 Worthless checks



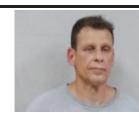
Kameron Dean Cook Booked 7/29/23 Grand larceny



Tyler Cameron Dolin Booked 7/25/23 Solicit a minor via computer, soliciting a minor via computer and traveling to engage in sexual activity



Gary Bradford Donelson Booked 7/27/23 Battery on gov. rep/ healthcare provider, public intoxication



Larry Steven Foster Booked 7/27/23 Capias

• The Birch River PSD will hold its regular monthly meeting on

Public Notices



Jack Benny Price II Booked 7/28/23 Capias (family court)

Puzzle Answers Weekly SUDOKU

	Super Crossword																			
	Answers																			
S	Т	А	Υ	Е	D	В	А	С	Κ		Τ	Κ	Е	А		S	Т	Е	W	S
Ρ	Α	G	Е	Т	U	R	Ν	Е	R		Т	Е	Х	Т		А	R	Ν	Ι	E
F	R	Е	S	Н	Ρ	А	Ι	R	0	F	Е	Υ	Е	S		Т	Ι	D	Е	D
			Ν	Е	Е			А	С	Е			Μ	Е	D	Τ	С	Τ	Ν	Е
С	0	L	0	R	S	Ι	Ν			D	Е	S	Ρ	А	Τ	R	0	۷	Е	R
R	Ι	0				D	0	Τ	Ν		L	Е	Т		Ρ	Е	Т	Е	R	S
A	L	Ι	S	Т	A	Ι	R	С	0	0	Κ	Е		U	Ρ	S			_	
М	E	R	G	Е	R		М	E	А	Ν	_	_	Ρ	R	Е		С	Ι	А	0
Ρ	R	Е	Т	Е	S	Т		Т	Н	Е	В	L	A	Τ	R	W	Ι	Т	С	н
					0	A	Т			۷	0	Ι	D			Е	R	A	Т	0
	S	С	Ι	Е	Ν	С	Е	F	A	Ι	R	Ρ	R	0	J	Е	С	Т	S	
A	L	A	R	М			R	E	Ρ	S	_		Е	Μ	U		_			
S	0	L	Ι	Т	A	1	R	E	R	Ι	Ν	G		G	R	A	Μ	Μ	A	R
Н	Е	М	S		U	Т	А			0	Е	U	F		0	Т	0	0	L	E
				L	S	D		S	1	Ν	С	L	A	1	R	L	E	W	1	S
A	S	A	S	E	Т		Ι	R	V		Κ	L	Μ	Ν	_			E	Т	Α
В	A	D	Н	A	1	R	D	A	Y	S			Е	А	Т	S	С	R	0	W
S	Н	R	A	Ρ	Ν	Е	L			A	М	Т			R	Н	0			
С	A	Ι	Ν	Т		W	1	L	D	Ρ	R	A		R	1	E	R	0	S	E
A	R	E	Ν	A		0	Ν	0	R		S	Ρ	A	С	E	S	A	۷	Е	R
М	A	Ν	A	Т		Ν	G	0	S		С	Е	Ν	Т	R	A	L	A	Ι	R

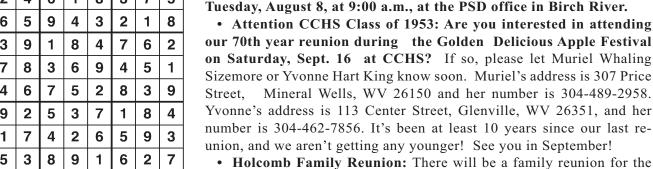
Anewer

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



or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac





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.

 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.



West Virginia Statewide Classified Network

Featured in WVPA Newspapers Across West Virginia

CAREER

TRAIN ONLINE TO DO MEDICAL Become a Medical Of-BILLING! fice Profes-sional online at CTI! Get Trained. Certified & ready to work in months! Call 877-635-0244. The Mission, Program Information and Tuition is located at Career-Technical.edu/consumer-information. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

HEALTH/MEDICAL

DONT LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-844-592-5113 PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRA-TOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim inde-pendence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Ino-gen One. Free information kit! Call 833-274-3943

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-405-3412 www.dental50plus. com/press #6258

INTERNET/TV

DIRECTV OVER INTERNET - Get your favorite live TV, sports and local channels. 99% signal reliability! CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12 months. HBO Max and Premium Channels included for 3 mos (w/CHOICE Package or higher.) No annual contract. no hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-855-656-0296

DISH NETWORK: Only from Dish- 3

cludes Multi-Sport with NFL Redzone. Switch and Get a FREE \$100 Gift Card. Call today! 1-855-736-4350

CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS home internet with EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G and 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, and data plans up to 300 GB. Call 844-230-3640 HUGHESNET SATELLITE INTER-NET - 25mbps starting at \$49.99/mo! Get More Data FREE Off-Peak Data. FAST download speeds. WiFi built in! FREE Standard In-stallation for lease customers! Limited Time, Call 1-877-567-2866

FREE HIGH SPEED INTERNET for those that qualify. Government program for recipi-ents of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veter-ans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus of-fer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-833-317-1335

MISCELLANEOUS

DONATE YOUR CAR, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Sched-ule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-964-4167 today!

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices -No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Mili-tary Discounts available. Call: 844-601-2044

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home es-timates make it convenient to shop year TV Price Guarantee! 99% Signal from home. Professional installation. Reliability, backed by guarantee. In- Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for

free consultation: 877-802-8381. Ask about our specials!

HANDS ON THE RIVER MASSAGE, Geraldine Gardner, LMT, 3422 Pennsylva-nia Ave., Charleston, WV. Call (304) 541-9139 for an appointment.

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Pur-chase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-844-295-2840

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920 Book manuscript submissions currently being re-viewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Dis-tribution. Call for Your Author's Guide 1-833-675-6435 or visit dorranceinfo.com/WV

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES TODAY with a GENERAC home standby generator. \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options. Request a FREE Quote. Call now before the next power outage: 1-844-901-2301

UP TO \$15,000 .00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses.Call Physicians Life Insurance Company-888-217-5559 or visit www.Life55plus. info/wv

SAFE STEP. North Americas #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-803-1282

Place YOUR statewide ad today any of three easy ways:

Call classifieds at this Newspaper

Or WVPA at 1-800-235-6881 or Visit www.wvpress.org



Thursday, August 3, 2023 CLAY COUNTY FREE PRESS - 3

So This is Old Age

By: Dr. James Snyder

The other morning I got up; at least, I tried to get up, but the bones in every part of my body had organized a labor strike against me. I'm not quite sure what they were protesting.

As I lay there groaning over these bones, I did not realize how many bones I had in my body. I'm sure some bones in my body shouldn't be there, and I'll have to ask my mother how they got there. The only problem is, she's in a nursing home with dementia.

If I thought my bones were creaking when I was lying in bed, the bones were screaming a lot louder as I rolled over and got up.

If I only knew what they wanted, I could help them.

As I wobbled out to the kitchen, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage some and said, "Well, old man. What's it like getting old?"

Even at this stage in life, my mind is active, and I had a very quirky response to that question, but fortunately for me, I did remember not to mention it.

I wobbled over to the table and sat down for breakfast.

After breakfast, I went to my office with a fresh cup of coffee, sat in my chair, and rambled through my mind.

This got me thinking about my grandfather. I now understand why he walked the way he walked. If only he were alive now, I could walk along with him.

I now regret all those years of making fun of him and my father as they get old. At the time, I never thought in a million years I would get as old as they were. But time has a way of changing your opinion about many things.

My wife came to the door of my office and said, "Do you remember your doctor's appointment for today?"

I didn't, so I got out my planner, and right there it was in plain sight, in my own handwriting, my doctor's appointment for 10 o'clock. Jotting things down in your planner so you don't forget something is great, but my problem is I forget to look at the planner.

Maybe this is the reason my bones were creaking this morning. They didn't want me to see the doctor because they knew I would tell him about my creaking bones, and he might do something about it.

I recently had a birthday and not sure which one because, throughout my life, I have had so many birthdays that it's hard to keep up. But this year, that birthday was a landmark in achieving old age.

I never knew what old age was, but now I'm beginning to comprehend it a little bit more.

At the doctor's, I complained to him about my creaking old bones and asked what I could do. He looked at me, smiled an old doctor's smile, and said, "That's the benefit of getting old and not dying. Just exercise more, and it will all go away."

It was easy for him to say because he's not my age. I hope I live long enough to see him when he is my age, so I can laugh at his creaking bones.

As we drove home, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked over at me and said, "Well, old man, what did the doctor have to say?"

"He told me," I said with a rather sour smirk, "that I need to eat more Apple Fritters each day. That will take away the pain in my bones."

Looking at me and not smiling, she said, "For your information, we will have broccoli for lunch today." Then she snickered one of her silly snickers.

If only I could remember to forget certain things, I wouldn't get into so much trouble. I just put on a fake smile, hoping she was joking.

My creaking bones are the least of my problems, at least for today.

Looking at her, I sweetly said, "Why don't we go out for lunch today? We can go to the restaurant of your choice."

She agreed, and we both smiled, and she pulled up at her favorite restaurant. As for me, I don't have a favorite restaurant:

THE BAPTIST CLASSROOM Pastor Doug Newell, IV That Makes Me Cry

It's hard to pick my favorite Andy Griffith Show episodes, but I am partial to the ones with the Darling family, the troublemaking, bluegrass-playing family from the hills. Every episode has a running joke where someone will call out a song, but someone else objects because it will make them cry, and they'll either pick out another song or try to get through it. What makes the joke is the absurd names of the songs; they don't sound very emotional. After she gets married, Briscoe says they should play "Keep Your Money in Your Shoes and it Won't Get Wet," but that makes Charlene cry. Another time, one of the boys suggests they sing "Never Hit Your Grandma with a Great Big Stick," But that's too sentimental for Charlene. The joke shifts in another show, and Briscoe objects to playing "Dirty Me, Dirty Me, I'm Disgusted with Myself." The joke only works by knowing that music is a powerful art form that can bring one to tears. The Darlings might not have had a lot, but they could move Sheriff Taylor with music and song.

Why is that? How is it possible that art has that kind of power? Gavin Ortlund, in his book Why God Makes Sense in a World that Doesn't, has a chapter dealing with this idea and compares two views explaining the effect music has on us and why. What happens in your brain when you listen to music? Can a purely naturalistic, evolutionary worldview explain the emotions music stirs in us? When you hear a beautiful song, is that just your body tricking you by producing dopamine and nothing more? Can naturalism give us a satisfying answer to why music can provide us with that feeling of transcendence?

I've sat in a concert hall and listened to a piece that moved me to tears. I've also been in a concert where no one made a sound after the piece was played for quite a long time. Eventually, there was an eruption of applause and a standing ovation. But for about 10 seconds, there was nothing but stillness. The music had moved people to a place of hushed silence. What evolutionary purpose does that serve? How can tunes played in specific keys bring a person to tears? How can a composer communicate anger, regret, mourning, loss, jubilance, or longing to people solely through music? Does the evolutionary, naturalistic, survival of the fittest explanation make sense or provide a satisfying answer?

I think music moves us because it's a gift from God. It was around before humans were created (Job 38:7), performed by men and angels (Revelation 14:3), and will continue in eternity (Revelation 14:2). Music would exist even if the world didn't. Famed cellist Yo-Yo Ma played some Bach for Steve Jobs and Jobs replied by saying, "Your playing is the best argument I've ever heard for the existence of God because I don't really believe a human alone can do this." Music moves us because God exists.

Three Hugs

By: Joseph J. Mazella

Last week my son, JJ, and I were in the grocery store trying to pick up another week's worth of food for our family. As I was watching my list and searching the shelves to get us our food, my son was scanning the aisles for people he knew. Even though he is 35 years old now he still has the heart of a child and the love of an angel inside of him. He may be considered a "Special Needs" person by the rest of the world but he has been my SPE-CIAL teacher on how to live and how to love for his entire life.

Just as I was bending down to pick up some cans of tuna fish I heard JJ call out the name of a teacher of his from his school days. There was such joy and cheerfulness in his voice as he called her name. He immediately went over to her and gave her a big hug. We caught up with her for a bit then started shopping again. When I was bending down to pick up a box of pasta I heard my boy call another name with equal joy. It was a girl he had gone to school with many years before but he remembered her face and name and gave her a huge hug too. Then as we were checking out and I was reaching for my wallet I heard my son call out again with such happiness upon seeing someone from the sheltered workshop where he works a few days a week. He walked over and gave her one of his special hugs as well. I could see, too, the light in her eyes brighten and the smile on her face widen after getting a hug from JJ. I left the store thinking that my boy had just made three people's lives better and happier just by being himself.

Our Special Needs people can teach us so much about how to live. Just think of how much better this world would be if we all hugged three people a day. Think of how much happier others would be if they heard their names called with such joy. Think of how pleased God would be if we all smiled, laughed, loved, and hugged with such pure and happy hearts.



I just like a restaurant to serve food. But not so with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Nine out of ten restaurants that we go to, she doesn't like. This is one thing that I have not yet forgotten, so I let her choose the restaurant.

We got seated, ordered our lunch, and had a wonderful time together. The only problem with eating out with her is she always orders broccoli.

We were finished eating, and the waitress brought our check. I smiled at her and reached into my pocket for my wallet, and much to my dismay, it was not there. I forgot my wallet.

Just when you think you've got a problem solved, it turns out quite different.

"My dear," I said as sweetly as possible, "I forgot my wallet. Do you mind paying for lunch today?"

That was the most expensive lunch I've ever had.

As I was thinking about this I couldn't help but remember what David said. "When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long" (Psalm 32:3).

What I take away from this is, when I keep silent about my age there other things that are going to give away my secret.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamessnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamessnyderministries.com.

Home Country By Slim Randles

"Hot? You boys think this here weather is hot? You jest don't know, do you?"

"What do you mean, Windy?" said Doc.

"Wellsir, back in the old days, you know, when we was younger, there came upon us here in the valley a hot-em-up wave that tried to kill us. Your folks ever tell you 'bout the wreck at the river with me and Old Man Jenkins?"

Didn't look like anyone had.

"Pass that syrup over, will ya, Steve? Thanks. Well, the hot-em-up started off slow, you know they do that sometimes. Little stuff like burnin' up your hands jest grabbin' a brandin' arn."

"Well, sure," Doc said, "if you're dumb enough to grab a branding iron, you're going to get burnt." "This here was the *handle* of the brandin' arn, Doc, not the part in the fire."

"Oh, I see. You were wearing gloves though, right?"

"Couldn't stand to have them on. Too hot. And sweat? Never saw nothin' like it.

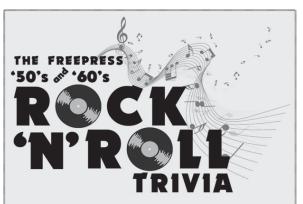
Old Man Jenkins sweated so much his boots filled up with sweat and it cooked his toes to a perfect parbroiled brown."

"Did he eat them, Windy?"

"Naw. We had plenty of mountain oysters around, you know how it is, and he said he hadn't had a shower in a while, so they probably wouldn't taste that good anyway. So he kept them."

"They didn't fall off?"

"They thought 'bout fallin' off. Thassa fact. But sometimes ol' Mama Nature knows how to help an ol' cowboy. Yessir, thass what saved Jenkins' toes. Had a terrible freeze that night and jest froze them toes back in place."



This American pianist and songwriter from New Orleans was one of the pioneers of rock & roll. He never had a #1 hit but between 1955 and 1959 he had almost 70 songs on the charts: eleven of those were top ten hits and 5 of them sold over one million copies each. He was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame as part of the first group selected. Who was he?

<u>Answer to last week's Trivia:</u> The first duo considered to be the first "soul men" was: Sam & Dave (Sam Moore & Dave Prater).



Nature, and Windy's stories, sometimes defy history.

The finest leatherwork items and art in the country. Check it out at www.artvincentleather.com.

Clay County Free Press

claycountyfreepress.com

Email:

news@claycountyfreepress.com advertising@claycountyfreepress.com subscriptions@claycountyfreepress.com

Michael Showell, Publisher

The Clay County Free Press (USPS 116-660) is published weekly at 291 Main Street, Clay, West Virginia. Subscription Rate: In County, \$31.00, Out of County, \$36.00, Out of State, \$41.00. Periodical postage paid at Clay, West Virginia. Address all mail (subscription, change of address) to: PO Box 429, Lewisburg WV 24901 or call (304) 647-5724 or Fax (304) 647-5767. POSTMASTER Please give old address and your new address.

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go toe-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Aug. 2, 2009: Golfers Sam Snead and Bill Campbell became the first two inductees into the West Virginia Golf Hall of Fame.



Fire Aug. 3, 1897: destroyed much of downtown Lewisburg. The town rebuilt and evolved in the next century into the hub of one of the state's major farming areas and a center for education and the arts.

Aug. 3, 1907: Harley Orrin Staggers Sr. was born in Keyser. Staggers served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 32 years.



Aug. 4, 1824: John Jay

Jackson Jr. was born near Parkersburg. Jackson was a prominent judge who became notorious among those trying to organize labor unions in West Virginia. He blocked an effort by Mother Jones and United Mine Workers leaders to organize the miners of northern West Virginia.



Aug. 4, 1897: Musician William Jennings "Billy" Cox was born near Charleston. Cox, known as the "Dixie Songbird," ranked as one of West Virginia's premier country music vocalists and songwriters during the 1930s.

Aug. 5, 1958: Jennings Randolph defeated former governor William Marland in the Democratic primary for U.S. Senate. Randolph soon the became senior senator from West Virginia and served for 26 years.

Aug. 7, 1864: In what became known as

the Battle of Moorefield. Union troops under Gen. William W. Averell attacked headquarters of the Gen. Bradley Johnson. The Confederates were routed and fled south into the town; the Union captured 500 men and 400 horses.

Aug. 7, 1877: West Virginia voters chose Charleston as the state capital over Clarksburg and Martinsburg.

Aug. 7, 1893: Parsons became the county seat of Tucker County. Parsons was named for Ward Parsons, a prominent resident and the largest landholder.



Aug. 8, 1915: Businessman Alex Schoenbaum was born in Richmond, Va. After settling in Charleston in 1943, he went into the restaurant business. His restaurants were named Shoney's when Schoenbaum's nickname was selected in an employee contest.

OBITUARIES

Linda Love Scott



Linda Love Scott, 83, of Dog Run, Clay County, entered peacefully into rest surrounded by her children on Friday, July 28, 2023, in Clay Health Center.

Born June 13, 1940, she was the daughter of the late David and Ola Love. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her late husband, Thomas Allen Scott.

Linda was a retired Autism Mentor for Clay County Schools and a graduate of Clay County High School.

Linda is survived by her sons, Craig Allen Scott of Saint Francis, South Dakota; Brian Mitchell Scott of Newton; and Adam Wilson Scott of Fairmont; daughter, Robin Childress of Clay; eight grandchildren, Ashley Childress of Clay, Cheyenne of South Dakota, Colton of Wayne, Nebraska, Luke Scott of Frametown, Ben Scott of Grantsville, Garrett Scott of Newton, WV, Nate Scott of Fairmont, and Nicky Scott of Jacksonville, Florida; four great-grandchildren, Gage, Zane, and Taylor Owens all of Clay, and Halle Jo Scott of Frametown; brothers, Jim Love of Virginia and Ron Love of Bomont; and sisters, Deloris Davis of Summersville, Shirley Young of Bomont, and Dixie Jarvis of Summersville.

Visitation services were held from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at Wilson Smith Funeral Home in Clay with a private family burial following the service.

Online condolence may be sent to the family at www. carlwilsonfuneralhome.com.

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

Candace Brook Mullins

Candace Brook Mullins, 30, of Lizemores, WV passed away at home on July 21st, 2023. Candace is preceded in death by her mother, Myra Lyttle-Mullins of Dixie, WV, and her grandmother, Mary Lou (Lucy) Lyttle of Vaughn, WV.

Candace is survived by her companion Russell Moore of Lizemores, WV. Candace is also survived by Eli and Macy of Lizemores, her father, Kermit Mullins of Lizemores, and brother Blake Mullins of IL. Candace left behind several uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, and friends who loved her very much.

Candace was a gentle and kind soul, who enjoyed friends, the outdoors, making memories and loved her children very much. She was smart, beautiful, funny, and carried a wonderful laugh. She would cross the ocean for anyone. May she rest in peace, and finally feel relief. A memorial service was held at Vaughn Baptist

Church on Friday, July 28th, 2023, at 5 p.m.

Online condolences may be sent to www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com.

Pennington-Smith is honored to be serving the Mullins Family.

David Clayton Samples

David Clayton Samples, 64, of Procious, WV went home to be with the Lord on July 20, 2023, at home after a long illness.

He was born on November 22, 1958 to the late Joseph Clayton and Emogene (King) Samples. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Kathy Childers.

David is survived by his wife, Jennifer (Salisbury) Samples; daughters, Sophie Paige Samples, Angel (David) Sanders, Jasmine (Alex) Burkhamer, and Kayla (Ethan) Boggs; stepchildren, Tristan (Madison) Boggs and Maddie Boggs; eight grandchildren; brothers, Timothy Clay Samples of Gassaway, WV and Christopher Jo Samples of Indiana; and sisters, Joann Hilbert of Clendenin, WV and Connie J. Schoolcraft of Procious.

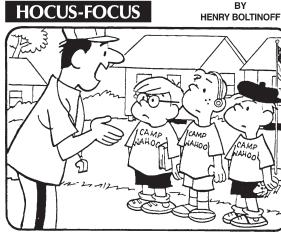
David will be missed and loved by all who knew him.

There will be no service at this time.

Online condolences may be sent to www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com.

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

lumber



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

	S	
	3	uper C
ACROSS	51 Malicious	103 String after J
1 Didn't	52 Start for	104 O'Hare abbr.
move any	historic	105 Times of
closer	53 "I'm outie!"	trouble with
11 Swedish	57 Practice	tresses
retail giant	exam, maybe	108 Has a helping
15 Frets	59 Legendary	of humble pie
20 Book you	title figure of	112 Explosion
can't stop	a 1999 horror	fragments
reading	film	113 Qty.
21 Pupil's book	63 Granola bit	116 Pi-sigma link
22 Palmer of	65 Invalidate	117 "I — Say No"
golf, to fans	66 Bards' Muse	(song from
23 Additional	67 Some	"Oklahoma!")
person called	schoolkids'	118 State flower
on to peruse	judged	of Iowa

	loser	any	5		n outie	e!"		trouble		I	5 Old	3	5		Menta	e iutu alist	le.	94 Pc	ounce		
11 5	Swedi			7 Pra	ctice		t	tresse	s		ane	esthet			Gelle	r		95 La	dy of	Sp.	
	etail g	liant	5		am, m							rindles				chapla		96 Cli		9	
	Frets Book y	011	5		genda figur			of hur Explo:		bie		gerie rth Va			iviag. stat	sales	i	vir 97 —		(sad)	
	Book you title figure of a 1999 horror				fragm			8 Darth Vader, as a boy				"Leav	′e —		97 — funk (sad) 98 1978-80 FBI						
	eadin	0		film			113					no" a	ctor		that"			sti			
	Pupil's Palme				anola I			Pi-sigi				chael	ld'a			n't de		99 Afi 1 00 Be		desert	
	olf, to				alidate ′ds' M			"I — S (song		0	10 Mc	ncho				now!' e link			nner E		
	Additic			7 Sor		400		Oklał		!")	11 Su					of NY		1 01 "Pa		Jiody	
	persor				oolkic	ls'		State				tham				s edge	Э		ue" ac		
	on to p sometl		Э		ged Istruct	lione		of Iow Sporti			12 Es: 13 Off			-	Minus		-	Ma 1 02 Lik	bakler		
	Ebbed		7	' 5 Sta		lions		– abo			14 Re		IOOK		— co Gin fl	iia avore			neutra		
	lowed				. VIP	s		(circa)				fled				ustere		1 06 To			
	vater				tback			Folda			15 La					era pa			one's		
	Prema namec				of jew 1 a sir			bed o e.g.	r tadie	Э,	16 Rik	dress			mayb	teach		1 07 Sti 1 09 H∈		ταπ	
	Rarity		f		mond	igic		— -ar	ms		17 Op					ce cos			court		
	Curativ	/e	8		glish c	lass		(old se				bitter			Rainy				idenc		
	stuff	+ -			icern	مامدم		Gps. s				ens	•		'U ca		1	1 10 To			
	Fills wi prayon				rt boro gen of			Oxfan CARE			18 Fra 19 Jev				seriou Heare		-		- Lady		
35 F		., cuy		sta	0			Ducte			24 No				of cou			114 Rie			
	opele	SS		1 Egg	g, in F		(coolin	g		29 Lad				evide				om, to)	
	about — Gra	nda	9		wrenc ibia" s			syster (and v			30 Runner's pain 31 OPEC vessel					esidue		Fonzie 115 Sticky stuff			
	- Gra Bring t		9	4 '60		alai		nine a			32 To				'— be			19 Jo			
	Author				lucino	gen		in this			33 Dic				oleas				e pono		
	Cony v		· 9		ain Sti	reet"	I	have)			34 Av					r part		120 OF			
	Bernad Longtii		q	no۱ Hov	/elist		DOW	/N			36 Wa 37 Wit				Aqua Ocea	tic bire	a 1	121 Jo	nn, ac e pono		
	Maste				erwar	e is		UV ra	v-		40 "Rh				Fla.		1	122 Sa			
٦	Theatr	e" ho	st		en sole	d	I	blocki	ng sta	at	Pa	ys" ra			A Sto			Ab	br.		
	ncrea		10	2 Hip				Sticky			41 Ark					s gras		123 Fe			
	Corpo combir			Go Go	ducer tti			Cake count	candi		45 Mil 46 Ma				Samu ustice			124 Siz 125 Go			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	,		15	16	17	18	19	
l.	[ľ	'	ľ	ľ	ľ	ľ	ľ	10			12					10	11	'		
20											21					22			1		
23										24						25					
20										24						25					
			26					27					28		29						
30	31	32				33	34			35	36	37						_			
30		32				33	34			35	30	37									
38						39		40	41		42				43						
4.4			45	46	47					40				40							
44			45	46	47					48				49							
50							51						52				53	54	55	56	
						50		50				0.4									
57						58		59			60	61				62					
					63		64			65						66					
	67	68	69	70				71	72					73	74						
75							76						77								
78					79	80					81	82		83		84	85	86	87	88	
89		<u> </u>			90	-	-		I	91			92		93	-	-		-	+	
				94				95	96					97							
98	99	100	101				102				103							104		+	
							102				100							104			
105					1	106				107			108		109	110	111				
110										110	111	115			110						
112										113	114	115			116						
117				1		118		119	120				121	122			1	123	124	125	
100	<u> </u>			<u> </u>		107	<u> </u>		<u> </u>		102	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			<u> </u>			<u> </u>		
126						127					128										
129						130			<u> </u>		131	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			-			1	+	

1per Crossword **COOLING TREND**

4 Like some 88 Cut again, as 47 Fierv felonv 48 A unified goal simple 92 Star status questions for the future



Differences: 1. Whistle cord is shortler. 3. Stripe is different. 3. Book is missing. 4. Headset is missing. 5. Frog is missing. 6. Flagpole is missing.



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 A Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc

PUZZLES ANSWERS PAGE 2

Thursday, August 3, 2023 CLAY COUNTY FREE PRESS - 5

`DUNDON"





"DUNDON" **RED ASH COAL**

June, 1957

Away -From-Homers

Check In Here

Former Widen Girl Weds Colcord Man



MRS. DANNY LUTHER

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Jones of Dorothy, announce the marriage of their daughter Gretta to Mr. Danny Luther of Colcord on April 16th. The ceremony took place in the Church of God parsonage with the pastor, Reverend John Smallwood officiating.

Miss Gloria Jones of Dorothy, and Mrs. Helen Morris of Detroit, Michigan were their sister's attendants, and Mr. Freddie Mancharia of Dorothy was best man.

The bride was attired in an all white evening gown, and wore a principals are graduates of Clear Fork High School in the 1956-57 class.

Following a wedding trip, the young couple began housekeeping in Cleveland, Ohio, where Mr. Luther is employed by the Republic Steel Corporation.

Lt. David A. White's wife (Marguerite Mullins) of Dille, expects soon to join her husband at Ft. Knox, Kentucky, where he has been on active duty with the Armored Division of the Army, attending officers' school. Lt. White received his Masters degree at WVU in early June this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williams (Juanita Butcher) of Cleveland. Ohio have moved from that city recently to Glenville, where Mr. Williams is a motor operator in the new coal mine just opened at Sand Fork near there. They have a 10 year old daughter, Cheryl Jean, who is happy to be nearer to her grandmother, Mrs. Mildred Gibson of Dille.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Landis Jarvis are now living in the Donohue Store apartment in Dille. Mrs. Jarvis is the former Miss Sharon Ann Johnson, and was married January 19th at her parents home in Dille by the Reverend Dencil Johnson. .

A. S. (Shorty) Richardson, time clerk for Elrico in the Widen office, is reported to be recovering satisfactorily from a major operation at CGH last week and hopes to be reading this notice from his home instead of the hospital. Daughter Charlotte and husband, Dr. and Mrs. Wm. B. Combs of Norman, Oklahoma, were here for a few days but have returned home.

Sorority Takes First Place Miss Ruth Ann Lykins writes jubilantly from Marshall College that her Sorority, Delta Zeta, together with Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity took first place in the annual Panhellenic Inter-fraternity Council Mother's Day Sing this year. The two winning numbers the sorority used to win were: "Dream Girl of Delta Zeta," and "There Are Such Things." Ruth Ann is a graduate of Widen High, and sang in the chorus here.

Short Sketches About

Where all think alike, no one

thinks very much.

Visiting in Swandale

Harold and Sue Johnson of Rhonda, are guests in their Aunt Eloise Robert's (Adam) home in Swandale. Harold expects to join the Air Corps on July Fourth while siser Sue helps us celebrate in Widen.

Dille Couple Here

Joe Bozo and Charlotte Dono-·hue (Mr. and Mrs. if you please) are home with Mrs. Bozo's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Donohue of Dille, enjoying a 30 days leave from service life in Newfoundland. Joe expects to be newscored out in-September.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Patton with their son and daughter, of Balboa, Canal Zone, visiting with Mr. Patton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. W. Patton.

Widen Sisters' Husbands Hit Big Jack-Pots

Word has recently been received about the good fortune of Mr. and Mrs. Joe P. Bail, formerly of "these parts," who were visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roma Grogg in Hamilton, Rhode Island, while attending an educational meeting in nearby Newport.

As of June first, Mr. Bail resigned his position with the West Virginia University Agriculture Department, to assume a similar position at Cornell University, Ithica, N. Y. Mrs. Bail is the former Miss Nelma Rapp of Widen, sister of Mrs. Roma Grogg (Joan Rapp), who together with her husband and son Randy Joe are residing at No. 1, Worsley Ave., Hamilton, Rhode Island, where Avia-Machinist's Mate Second tion Class Grogg (Bud) has just received his official promotion to that spot where he serves with the An-

Marine Sgt. Elvin D. Frame, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Frame of Swandale, is presently serving with the Marine in training at Quantico Virginia.

S-Sgt. C. F. Herring of the U. S. Air Force, was a Widen visitor last week on business in connection with the Ground Observation Post established here.

Mrs. Helen Jeffers of Swandale is enrolled in Southerton-Martz Beauty School in Huntington where she expects to complete her training as a beautician in December.

Proud Grandparents

Mr. and Mrs. Orval (Red) Martin from Wilmington, Delaware, write to say that they are celebrating the arrival of a brand new grandson, weighing in at 8 lbs. and 3 oz., named James McKinley Shinault. Now I gotta find out who the mama was before marriage. (Judith Ann Martin).

ti-Submarine Helicopter Squadron Nine at Quonset Point. He was one of only two mates from his whole outfit who made the grade.

Dille Girl "Capped" With Student Nurses

Miss Joan Baughman of Dille, one of the seventeen nurses who successfully completed a required advanced course in nursing at the McMillan Hospital in Charleston, was "capped" in a beautifully impressive service in the Baptist Temple on Thursday, May 30th in the afternoon. The Reverend Kyle Hazelden delivered the capping address after which the girls participated in a candlelight, service and repeated the Might sale Pledge."

NEED TO PUBLISH A PUBLIC NOTICE?

EMAIL THEM TO: LEGALADS@ MOUNTAIN MEDIANEWS. COM

FREE INTERNET Qualify today for the Government **Free Internet Program**

CALL TODAY (833) 317-1335

Bonus offer: 4G Android Tablet with

one time co-pay of \$20

ACP program details can be found at www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-fac

YOU QUALIFY for Free Internet if you receive Medicaid. SNAP, WIC, Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline and Tribal.





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

JOHN G. HUBBARD, DDS, PLLC

Summer Poison Safety Tips

The West Virginia Poison Center provides safety tips for summertime



Sunshine and warm weather means more people are enjoying the outdoors. There are a few common outdoor poisons people encounter more during the summer—tiki torch fuel, lighter fluid, and pool chemicals. Following a few safety tips from the West Virginia Poison Center can help keep people poison-safe during the summer season.

Read the directions!

A simple but important tip—read the directions on all products. Most products, from torch fuel to pool chemicals, are safe for use if the product directions are followed. If directions are not followed, a product can cause a poisoning.

Store products in their original container.

If a product is in a child-resistant container, make sure to put the child-resistant cap on correctly after each use.

Do not transfer products into food or drink containers. Some poisonous products look like beverages. For example, torch fuel and lighter fluid look like apple juice.

Protect your eyes and your lungs.

When opening pool chemicals, open containers carefully in a well ventilated area. Do not lean over the container while opening. Make sure the wind is blowing away from your face and not in the path of other people.

Keep torch fuel and lighter fluid up, away, and out of sight of children. If swallowed, they can easily be inhaled into the lungs causing serious injury or death.

Save the West Virginia Poison Center number—1-800-222-1222.

If a poisoning occurs, do not wait for symptoms to appear. Call the medical experts at the West Virginia Poison Center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

About the West Virginia Poison Center:

The West Virginia Poison Center provides comprehensive emergency poison information, prevention and educational resources to West Virginians 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. The WVPC is staffed by nurses, pharmacists and physicians with special training in treatment of poisonings. Located in Charleston, WV, the WVPC is a part of the West Virginia University-Charleston Division. Toll-free:1-800-222-1222. Website:www.wvpoisoncenter.org. WWW.CLAYCOUNTYFREEPRESS.C

LEGAL

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA THAT BEING THE JUVENILE COURT OF SAID COUNTY

IN RE: State v. N.L.N. Case Nos. 23-JA-24

In the matter of N.L.N., and the unknown whereabouts of Tiffany Kinter, Adult Respondent Mother of said infant.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION And

NOTICE OF ANSWER

To: Tiffany Kinter

(The object of this action is to notify the Adult Respondent Mother of an abuse and neglect petition herein filed so that said Adult Respondent Mother may answer the same to protect her 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 7th day of July 2023, and assigned Case Numbers 23-JA-24, wherein it is alleged that the Adult Respondent Mother of the Infant Respondent, N.L.N. (DOB: 07/03/23) is Tiffany Kinter, and that said Infant Respondent be placed in the custody of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, with said Infant Respondent 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 PER-MANENT TERMINATION OF CUSTODIAL AND PARENTAL RIGHTS TO SAID INFANT CHILD.

Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that Adult Respondent Mother, Tiffany Kinter, shall appear before the Honorable Jack Alsop on **30th day of August 2023, at 2:30 p.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 DEPART-MENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES, CHILD PRO-TECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION

BY: Jim E. Samples, Prosecuting Attorney, Clay County, West Virginia Entered by the Clerk of said Court on the 26th day of July, 2023.

asiosa Hanshaw

LEGAL

Tariff Form No. 8-C (Tariff Rule 14.2 et seq. (Historical Rule 30-C)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES UPON APPLICATION

NOTICE is hereby given that MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY, a public utility, has filed with the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA, an application containing decreased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing natural gas service to approximately 218,000 customers at various locations in the Counties of Barbour, Berkeley, Boone, Braxton, Brooke, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Grant, Greenbrier, Hancock, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mineral, Mingo, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Ohio, Pendleton, Preston, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Summers, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Wetzel, Wirt, Wood, and Wyoming.

The proposed decreased rates and charges will become effective November 1, 2023, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission, and will decrease revenue approximately \$50,389,000 annually, a decrease of approximately 24.2%. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers of MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY will be changed as follows:

C	DECREASE	DECREASE
Residential	\$ 14.12	14.36 %
Commercial	\$ 66.16	16.67 %
ndustrial	\$ 1,142.00	19.46 %
Resale	\$ 2,226.79	20.39 %

Resale customers of MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY include Canaan Valley Gas Company, Cardinal Natural Gas Company, Consumers Gas Utility Company, Hope Gas, Inc., Megan Oil and Gas Company, City of Philippi, and Southern Public Service Company.

The decreases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Each class may receive a decrease greater or less than stated here. Individual customers may receive decreases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested decreased rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing. Any decrease in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Public Service Commission. If a hearing is conducted, notice will be given of the time and place of hearing.

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

Mountaineer Gas Company Office

• 501 56th Street SE, Charleston, West Virginia 25304
 A copy of the proposed rates is available for public inspection at the office of the Executive Secretary of the
 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

The Rule 30-C procedure is designed to provide a procedure for changing rates charged to customers by natural gas distribution utilities based exclusively on the cost of purchased gas. Consequently, protest should be limited to the reasonableness of such costs and the method by which they are calculated. Anyone desiring to protest or intervene should file a written protest or notice of intervention within twenty-five (25) days following the date of this publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. Failure to timely intervene can affect your rights to protest any rate adjustments and to participate in future proceedings. Requests to intervene must comply with the Commission's rules on intervention set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All interventions must be mailed or hand-delivered and be addressed to Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323. Protests may be filed online through the Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that an application for Operator Assignment has been submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) located at 47 School Street, Suite 301, Phillipi, WV 26416-1600 for permit number(s): S200409, S200599, S200697 held by WV RECLAIM CO, LLC, 2122 LEATHERWOOD ROAD, BICKMORE, WV 25019. This application will assign RANGE NATURAL RESOURCES, INC., 200 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 400, CLEVELAND, OH 44122 as an operator on the permit(s) named above.

Comments on the application shall be in writing and shall identify the applicant and application number and should be sent to the DEP at the address above. Comments received by 8/28/23, or thirty (30) days from date of publication, will be considered.

A copy of the application will be available until 8/28/23, or thirty (30) days from date of publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries.

DEP Telephone Number 304-457-3219

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT MR-34-BR

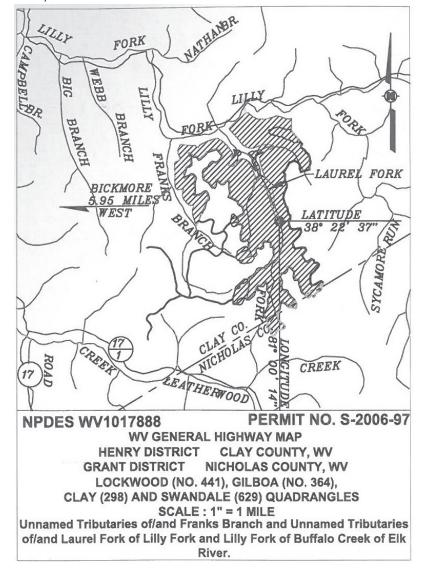
Notice is hereby given that WV RECLAIM CO, LLC, 2122 LEATHERWOOD ROAD, BICKMORE, WV 25019 has submitted an application for the **reissuance** of Article 11/WVNPDES Permit No. WV1017888 to the Department of Environmental Protection, 47 School Street, Suit 301, Philippi, WV 26416-1150 in order to maintain, monitor and operate a reclaimed surface mine, highwall miner, and augering operation in the Upper, Middle and Lower Kittanning, 5 Block, Clarion, Stockton and Coalburg seam/mineral bed. The operation will discharge treated storm water into unnamed tributaries of/and Franks Branch and unnamed tributaries of/and Laurel Fork of Lilly Fork and Lilly Fork of Buffalo Creek of Elk River and is located 4.1 miles west of Bickmore, in Henry and Grant Districts of Clay and Nicholas Counties, Longitude 81° 0' 14" and Latitude 38° 22' 37" (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

The Department of Environmental Protection is seeking information on private surface water intakes for human consumption located in the above listed receiving streams and located down stream of this operation. Please provide your name, phone number, mailing address, the name of the stream being with the intake, and the physical location of the intake. This information needs to be submitted to the address above.

An anti-degradation review has been conducted. Tier 1 protection is afforded because effluent limitations ensure compliance with water quality criteria for all designated uses. Where applicable, a full Tier 2 anti-degradation review has been conducted.

Comments on the Article 11 WV/NPDES application or requests for a public hearing regarding the Article 11/NPDES application shall be in writing and if a public hearing is requested shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Such written comments or requests should be sent to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) at the address above, and <u>must</u> also reference the Article 11/NPDES permit number shown above. Comments received by 9/4/23, or thirty (30) days from date of publication, will be considered. A copy of the Article 11/WVNPDES application, draft permit, rational page, and fact sheet (if required) will be available for inspection and obtaining copies during normal business hours at the DEP Regional Office located at the address above.

DEP Telephone Number 304-457-3219 Article 11/NPDES Permit No: WV1017888



LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT

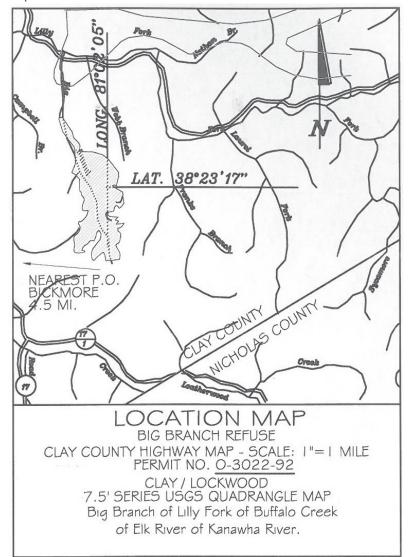
Notice is hereby given that WV RECLAIM CO, LLC, 2122 LEATHERWOOD ROAD, BICKMORE, WV 25019, has filed an application with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV 26416-1600 for a Certificate of Approval for a Dam to abandon for SMA/ Permit No. O302292.

The structure will discharge into Lilly Fk of Buffalo Creek of Elk River and is located 4.5 miles east of BICKMORE in Henry District of Clay County, Longitude 81° 2' 5" and Latitude 38° 23' 17" (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

Written comments on this application shall identify the applicant and application number and will be received by the Permit Supervisor at the DEP address above until 8/18/23, or fifteen (15) days from date of publication. A copy of the application will be available for review until 8/18/23, or fifteen (15) days from date of publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries.

DEP Telephone No. 304-457-3219



S-

Т

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

В

Α

BELL CREEK COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH NO Scheduled Services

At This Time
BELL CREEK
PENTECOSTAL CHURC

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 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

ELK RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

Ε

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

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

Н-

HALLBURG BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday 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

IDA BAPTIST CHURCH Bentree

L

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*

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

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*

м ———

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

CHRISTIAN CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching after Sunday School. Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM Pastor: James L. Balser

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

& 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

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 PROCIOUS

COMMUNITY CHURCH *Welcomes You!*

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*

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

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LIZEMORES

Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Service 6:00 PM Wednesday Service 7:00 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 ____

CHURCH

Night 7:00 PM

WALLBACK

days 9:45 AM

ning 7:00 PM

CHURCH

11:00 AM

Everyone welcome.

WALNUT GROVE

UNITED METHODIST

attend.

W -

VALLEY RIDGE

Sunday School 10:00 AM

Bible Study Wednesday

Evertyone is welcome to

METHODIST CHURCH

Preaching 1st, 3rd, 5th Sun-

Bible Study Wednesday Eve-

Pastor: Rev. Stewart Cottrell

Preaching 1st & 3rd Sundays

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 Procious. 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*

С

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.

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

GAULEY BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

G

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/Chilrcn/ 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

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

LAUREL FORK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Adonijah

L

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 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

Ν

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.* 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



WALNUT MEMORIAL CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 AM

Pastor: (304) 332-5503

Pastor: Jimmy Adkins

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



Summer woodworking students set benches along the Elk River Trail



Students take a much needed break after installing the 10' bench.

By Allen Hamrick

The beckoning call of the wild is within most West Virginians; it is why we live here and we die here. We have deep rooted vibrations of nature that adventurers from all over the world run to in this state. Scenic vistas will stir one's soul to a place where they do not want to return from, a place of peace and harmony with the two things that all humans need... nature and wilderness.

One particular quote that describes that need is this, "If all the green things that grow were taken from the earth there could be no life. If all the four legged creatures were taken from the earth, there could be no life. If all the winged creatures were taken from the earth, there could be no life. If all our relatives who crawl and swim and live within the earth were taken away, there could be no life. But if all the human beings were taken away, life on Earth would flourish. That is how insignificant we are." - Russell Means, Oglala Lakota Nation (1939-2012).

The world seems to be closing in all around us; the pressures of daily living take their toll as we fight the good fight to keep food on the table and a roof over our heads. We dream daily of a day where we can pack a bag full of the latest survival gear and go answer the call that drives us...the call of the wild. We imagine casting a fly into a wild stream flowing through the hills far away from the noise of the grind, and it captures our imagination and senses as we can just smell the aroma of a fresh caught trout on a spit with a cup of cowboy coffee in hand. The idea of backpacking into the wild, or perhaps pushing the limits of your physical ability on a mountain bike on back woods trails or just taking the time to enjoy the outdoors often causes us to rethink our own sanity, but we go anyway. We need places where the human spirit can still believe in some small way that adventure still exists. We need vast places where our eyes can open wide to the wonder and mystery of the trail we just stepped on. There is no better stimulant than the wilderness trail. We have an unconscious pull towards it; we react to it but at the same time feel as though common sense should have taken over, but it doesn't matter. Adventure is a leap into the unknown, leaving all you know to endeavor and make every effort to go and get back again knowing your trip is part of that natural vibration that makes West Virginia so great. Make no mistake, not all hikes, bike rides, canoe trips, off the grid camping trips or laboriously looking for that honey hole of trout will be easy. You pack a bag hoping you have everything you need to get back while at the same time wondering if you will ... or will even want to. You grab your walking stick or get on your bicycle and make that first move into a different existence away from the civilized life into an exhausting trek through old trails and new to feel the wind in your face, to feel alive again and







McKenzy uses a spud bar to get the air out of the concrete.



Tilyr gets the cement poured.

to kick start your heart. Or one can simply drive somewhere, pitch a tent in a state forest and become pioneers again with open fire cooking and exploring the back woods natural streams that only West Virginia can boast of. We carry our packs over trails, through streams, over rocks and every muscle and joint is strained, but the experience is well worth it. We forge out our own stories and tales of the trail to be retold upon the return to work all the while day dreaming of the time we can return.

Those of who live in West Virginia have the opportunity to go and enjoy and backwoods adventure. Our home is full of wild places, scenic views, open trails and hidden mountain streams that boast some of the finest in trout fishing. Some are easy to get to while others take effort and focus. There are miles and miles of trails that will give your eyes the chance to witness nature at its best, mountain landscapes that would turn you and a camera into an artistic brush with West Virginia as the work of art when travelled at the right time. West Virginia is home to many state parks and nine state forests. Rail trails are there to challenge the bikers and hikers and are a thing of beauty as you ride away from the beaten path onto the route the trains took



Tilyr Bird digs the holes for the bear bench.



McKenzy Taylor digs the holes for the depot bench.

many years ago.

One of the newest and most challenging state park rail trails is in our own neck of the woods just waiting to be used. The Elk River Trail is one of the most scenic rail trails in the state with cool hollows, waterfalls, and natural tunnels created by the forest. The Elk River runs the length of the trail that starts in Gassaway and will run all the way to Clendenin when completely finished. In the older days it was said that from Hartland to Clendenin was one of the most beautiful sections of the B&O. There are events that will be held on the trail and if you feel that call of the wild, hop on your bike and go the distance. The new state park will always be evolving, offering more opportunities for the adventurer. The trail has been a getaway for many hikers, bikers and horse riders from the beginning, and it continues to grow in popularity. Bathrooms, picnic tables and outdoor exercise machines have been installed for the trail rider's convenience.

Recently, students of the Clay County Schools summer school programs woodworking class completed three benches that they installed along the trail. A total of eight students worked on the benches over the course of three and a half weeks. This past week two students, McKenzy Taylor and Tilyr Bird, helped park officials install the new benches along the Clay County portion of the trail with one at Villanova, one behind CCHS and one near the mouth of Leatherwood Creek. These students worked hard to get these benches completed and installed so that not only would the trail be a great ride and hike but also a place of rest and reflection.

State parks are a needed habitat not only for the protection of the state's resources and history but for the people. They provide a place where people can in some way reconnect with the great outdoors with family and sometimes for that ride or run of solitude. These youth have provided a necessary implement for any trail users in the future to sit a spell, enjoy some great scenery and, as they used to say, take a load off. West Virginians, it's time to find a trail, whether it's a day's journey or just a hop skip and a jump, and take the time and get your body moving. The Elk River Trail is a great place to start becoming a part of West Virginia not just someone who lives here.

Remember, as the wise once said, "The earth doesn't need us, we need it." Don't let everyday life lose what flavor is has left and become automatic and with no luster. We need that shot in the arm that the West Virginia wilderness provides with the sounds, the smells and the escape. We could travel this state for years and never get enough of its lure. It's time to shape your own tradition and folklore for future generations and the best place to start is West Virginia, home of adventure.