



# Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple



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**Teresa Davis**

## From the Desk of the Assessor: Campaign announcement

Dear Citizens of Clay County,

It is with great enthusiasm that I announce my decision to seek re-election for the office of Clay County Assessor.

First and foremost, I am thankful to the citi-

zens of Clay County for the trust and confidence they have placed in me over the past seven years. It is my pledge to you that I will continue to serve the property owners of Clay County in the same professional capacity that

I have since first being elected.

I am hopeful you will allow me the opportunity to continue in that service for a third term as your Clay County Assessor.

Sincerely,  
Teresa Davis

## This Week in the House of Delegates

For the week ending Jan. 12, 2024

When members of the West Virginia House of Delegates gavelled in for the second regular session of the 86th Legislature Wednesday, Jan. 10, they did so in a freshly renovated chamber, enjoying several improvements both to safety and accessibility.

Several new faces among the membership resulted in House Speaker Roger Hanshaw, R-Clay, adjusting a few leadership roles, including a new Judiciary Committee Chairman.

Tom Fast, R-Fayette, who served as vice chairman of the House Judiciary Committee since 2020, has been named its chairman. Delegate David Kelly, R-Pleasants, will serve as vice chair while continuing as chairman of the Committee on Jails and Prisons.

"Tom is not only a well-respected attorney in his private life, but he also has a reputation for asking the kinds of detailed questions that help us create effective laws," Hanshaw said. "And with Delegate Kelly's perspective from his background in law enforcement, I know that committee will continue to do the deliberative, heavy lifting it's become known for."

The House unanimously passed an organizational resolution on the first

day of session to establish the Select Committee on Artificial Intelligence (AI). Delegate Jarred Cannon, R-Putnam, was appointed as chairman of the select committee, and Delegate Jordan Maynor, R-Raleigh, will serve as its vice chairman.

"I am honored to serve as the inaugural chairman for this committee," Cannon said. "In the face of the rapid evolution of AI technology, it is critically important that West Virginia position itself at the forefront to ensure it is integrated responsibly."

"This committee will dedicate itself to a thorough examination of potential legislative actions that align with the best interests of all West Virginians."

Deputy Speaker Matthew Rohrbach, R-Cabell, started the session with a new role in the National Conference of State Legislatures, having been selected to serve a two-year term as vice chair of the organization's Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The committee works on the national level to protect states' interests in federal decisions across a variety of matters, including behavioral health, Medicaid, maternal and child health, health workforce and prescription drugs.

"As we continue to work closely on health matters here in West Vir-

ginia, it's an honor and a privilege to collaborate with states throughout the country while we work together to protect our individual independence on the federal level," Rohrbach said.

The Committee on Workforce Development has a new vice chairman in Delegate Kathie Hess-Crouse, R-Putnam, who will work alongside its continuing chairman Evan Worrell, R-Cabell.

Less than 24 hours before the first gavel of the 2024 regular session, a new member took the oath of office. Republican James Robert "JB" Akers II, who was appointed by the governor to fill the unexpired term for the 55th House District, will represent the southwestern portion of Kanawha County.

"Growing up in a rural area and my years in Charleston have instilled in me a deep understanding of this diverse district: its urban pulse and rural heartbeat," Akers said. He will serve on both the Judiciary Committee and the Banking and Insurance Committee.

Both the Judiciary and the Health and Human Resources committees advanced legislation this week. A total of 682 bills have been introduced in the House, and the 60-day, regular legislative session ends at midnight March 10.



## WV leads nation in wildlife collisions; federal funding could lower the odds

By Nadia Ramlagan

West Virginia ranks number one in the nation for wildlife/vehicle collisions, with residents having a one-in-37 chance of hitting an animal in a given year.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation said in the first 11 months of last year, nearly 11,000 deer were hit on Mountain State highways, as well as 15 bears.

Jeremy Romero, wild-

life connectivity manager for the National Wildlife Federation, said safe wildlife crossings like underpasses, or overpasses with fencing help animals migrating or searching for food avoid darting out onto highways.

"By pursuing these important projects, we're going to reduce the amount of wildlife/vehicle collisions," Romero asserted. "There's been some studies out there that show that if the project's done right, it can reduce collisions by over 90%."

The federal infrastructure law allocated \$350 million to states and tribes over five years for wildlife crossing construction and related projects. According to insurer AAA, the average claim for hitting a deer in the region is around \$5,600 and continues to climb, due to rising parts and labor costs, and vehicle technology like sensors and cameras that are costly to replace.

Lori Weaver Hawkins, public affairs manager for AAA Bluegrass, explained wildlife crashes are more common dur-

MUSIC cont. on page 6



Big Otter students compete in science fair

The Big Otter Elementary Braves recently competed in the Clay County Science Fair. Students worked hard on their science projects, display boards, and interviews. Congratulations to the following students for their amazing work!

Sophia Boggs - 5th Grade - 2nd Place; Acelyn Tanner - 5th Grade - 3rd Place; Easton Laughlin - 4th Grade; Benzley Champ - 3rd Grade; Kinsley Duffield - 3rd Grade

## Mustang basketball has a tough time with the Bears



Payton Johnson hits for two points. Allen Hamrick photo.



# BOOKED



# REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

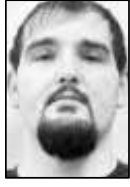
## NICHOLAS COUNTY



**Adam Shaun Green**  
Booked 1/9/24  
Possession of a controlled substance, bench warrant



**Dustin Joe Brantley**  
Booked 1/11/24  
No insurance, no proof of registration, no seat belt, failure to produce operators, driving revoked for DUI, defective equipment



**Dillan Ray Carte**  
Booked 1/9/24  
Probation violation



**Matthew Dillion Clay**  
Booked 1/14/24  
Battery of official



**Tyler Scott Anderson**  
Booked 1/9/24  
Probation violation



**Abby Marissa Jackson**  
Booked 1/9/24  
Probation violation



**Christopher Dewayne Morris**  
Booked 1/12/24  
Capias



**Renea Lynne Bloom**  
Booked 1/9/24  
Destruction of property, trespassing



**Franklin Daniel Moore Jr.**  
Booked 1/9/24  
Driving suspended for DUI third offense



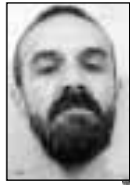
**Michael Kiyou Payne**  
Booked 1/7/24  
Capias



**Kevin Wayne Tanner**  
Booked 1/8/24  
Conspiracy to commit a felony



**Jennifer Dawn Stephenson**  
Booked 1/11/24  
False report of emergency



**Kenneth Wayne Sheets**  
Booked 1/10/24  
Family court



**Brandon Lee Tharpe**  
Booked 1/9/24  
Probation violation



**Amber Nichole Tharpe**  
Booked 1/9/24  
Probation violation

## BRAXTON COUNTY



**Marvin Louis Hickman**  
Booked 1/14/24  
DOR/DUI second



**Carl Woodrow Bender**  
Booked 1/9/24  
Sex abuse by parent or guardian, sexual assault in the first degree



**Ricky Lee Bennett Jr.**  
Booked 1/11/24  
Probation violation



**James Edward Tidwell**  
Booked 1/8/24  
Capias, fleeing on foot



**Tabitha Ashley Tanner**  
Booked 1/8/24  
Counterfeiting

## West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History seeks nominations for the 2024 Governor's Arts Awards

The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) is seeking nominations for the Governor's Arts Awards.

This biennial awards program celebrates the importance of the arts to economic development in the Mountain State by honoring individuals and organizations whose creative achievements and significant contributions to the arts enhance life in West Virginia.

A public awards ceremony will take place at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 6 p.m.

Nominees must be West Virginia residents or organizations based in West Virginia. Members of the selection committee; members of the West Virginia Commission on the Arts; WVDACH staff; and their immediate family members are not eligible.

Posthumous nominations are not accepted. Nominations for the 11 categories must be submitted through the nomination form linked below by Feb. 12, 2024,

at 11:59 p.m. The nomination form includes descriptions for each of the award categories, eligibility, and the selection process.

Use the link <https://wvculture.org/governors-arts-awards-2024/> to access.

Award categories are: Susan S. Landis Distinguished Service to the Arts – Individual

Susan S. Landis Distinguished Service to the Arts – Organization

Artist of the Year

Arts Organization of the Year

Arts in Education – Individual

Arts in Education – Organization

Folk Arts – Individual

Folk Arts – Organization

Emerging Artist of the Year

Emerging Organization of the Year

Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement

For more information about the Governor's Arts Awards, contact Jenna Green, State Arts Office director, at [Jenna.R.Green@wv.gov](mailto:Jenna.R.Green@wv.gov) or (304) 558-0240.

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## Puzzle Answers

### Weekly SUDOKU

#### Answer

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

### Super Crossword

#### Answers

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E	S	T	E	L	L	E		I	S	E	R	E		E	R	I	T	R	E	A
A	T	E		T	S	A		T	O	Y	E	D		S	A	L	E	T	A	G

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*Michael Showell, Publisher*

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You'll be shocked to learn this, but recently, there was a bit of a dust-up on social media. I could hardly believe it myself. This particular fight was over the Biblical interpretation of the Old Testament. The man who kicked off the kerfuffle wrote, "We cannot read the OT and point to Christ at will. We must only do so when we have clear proof that the text is pointing to or ultimately fulfilled in Christ lest we are guilty of gross allegory." I am opposed to gross allegory, but I'm not opposed to pointing to Christ. I would have wholeheartedly agreed with that statement once upon a time, but as my Grandpa used to say, "I could be wrong. I was wrong once before."

I don't know what Moses knew or didn't know other than what he wrote. I can't ask him how much he knew about the types and the shadows. I can't bring King David down to HQ and interrogate him under the bright lights, pounding my fist on the table, asking, "What

## THE BAPTIST CLASSROOM

### Jesus in the Old Testament

*Pastor Doug Newell, IV*

did you know and when did you know it!" All we have is what they wrote. But I do know that Jesus and the Apostles read the Old Testament in light of Christ's redemptive work. All Scriptures point and lead to Christ (Luke 24:27; John 6:39). I don't make up "gross allegory," nor do I try to read Christ back into the Old Testament.

I now have a firm conviction to read the Scriptures as our Lord and the Apostles understood and taught the Scriptures, that God designed the prior revelation of the Old Testament to point to and teach of Christ.

I probably wouldn't have thought much about it without my Wednesday night series of messages. I have been preaching a series on Psalms 22, 23, and 24 (all are welcome to come out to Buffalo Valley!), a trilogy of Messianic Psalms. Curiosity got the better of me, and I went to sermonaudio.com and looked for some sermons by some of the more famous men who hold that posi-

tion, looking to see if they had ever preached from Psalm 23. Surprisingly, I couldn't find sermons on that Psalm from any of the men I was looking for. In fact, on their site, there were not many sermons from the Old Testament, which was interesting and sad.

I'm thankful that these men wouldn't preach a Christless sermon and that they were convinced to preach the gospel. But I would rather follow the Apostle's method than follow, well, who would I follow? Must I read commentaries to understand what they said David was thinking before I can understand? Must I read the Old Testament like I'm in the Old Covenant? Is it really being faithful to the message of the Old Testament if you can't go from there to Christ?

If your system of hermeneutics prevents you from preaching from the Old Testament, the Bible of Jesus, and the Apostles, then you should probably rethink your methodology.

## O Energy, O Energy, Wherefore Art Thou O Energy

*By: Dr. James Snyder*

Since I have reached a certain age, I cannot reveal that age; my energy seems limited. I don't have the energy I once had. Where it has gone, I have not discovered yet.

I once inquired of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage where my energy went, and she replied, "Silly boy, you're over the hill, and so is your energy."

I almost asked her what that meant, but I didn't have the energy, and I didn't have the energy to climb back up that hill.

Not having enough energy does have its good side. One thing is that it is an excellent excuse for not doing something. For example, when my wife asks me to do something that I really don't want to do, I say, "My Dear, I just don't have the energy or I would do it."

Of course, she scowls at me because I think she knows exactly what I'm saying.

I have discovered that the word "retired" is something I didn't understand before. It means that I am tired over and over and over again. How I long for those pre-tired days of long ago.

I didn't understand how tired I was until recently.

A little over a year ago, our great-granddaughter entered our lives. When that happened, the great-grandmother opened "Grandma's Playtime Center." Now, the great-granddaughter is at our home during the week while her parents are working.

Seeing how much this little rascal grows within a year has been interesting. Somebody thought they were teaching her how to walk when, in reality, she learned how to run.

Hardly a step goes by with her that she's not running here and there. I open my office door, and before I fully open it, she ran inside before me. My challenge is finding the energy to get her out of my office.

Watching her running all day long it is a very tiring experience. I'm not sure where she gets all her energy but she seems never to run out. If only I could borrow some of her energy, it would be great. It would serve both of us well.

Since she's been staying with us throughout the week, I've realized how truly tired I was. Every day is a new level of tirement for me. I'm beginning to believe that there is actually no end to this tirement cycle.

I still come back to that question: where did my energy go? If I can answer that question, I might solve some of my retirement problems.

Thinking back on my former years, I remember how much energy I had when I was younger.

As a young kid, my parents made me go to bed early, and sleeping early was difficult. I sought ways to

convince my parents to let me stay up longer. No matter when I went to bed, I still had energy that I hadn't used that day. Oh, if only I could tap into that energy today.

Now, as I am older and in that tirement cycle, I look for excuses to go to bed earlier.

It has become a game between The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and me. We try to find new excuses to convince us to go to bed earlier. Sitting in my chair, I will begin to fake a yawning session. Looking at me, my wife asks, "Are you ready for bed already?"

Looking at my watch and seeing that it's not even 9 o'clock, I respond by saying, "Oh, no not yet!"

"You will tell me when you're ready for bed, won't you?"

I'm not too fond when she puts all the responsibility on me. If I had the energy, I would challenge her, but where do I get that kind of energy?

Occasionally, I will sneak a peek in her direction, and sometimes, I will see her eyes closed. I then say, "You're not asleep are you?"

She would quickly open her eyes, looks at me, and says, "No, I was just praying."

Finally, just before the clock hit 10 o'clock, she looked at me and said, "I think I'm ready for bed. I have to get up early tomorrow to take care of our great-granddaughter."

Only she could come up with a legitimate excuse to go to bed early. If only I could come up with a legitimate reason but I had to get up early in the morning I might be able to cash in on that. Usually, I'll respond by saying, "I'll join you when I find the energy to get up off of my chair."

Finding energy has become a hobby of mine. Unfortunately, I'm not too successful at this hobby.

I won't give up the search for energy. Surely, there is something I can do to tap into some kind of energy. Maybe the fault lies with climate change.

Thinking about this the other day, I remembered a Bible verse. "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31). Based on this, I have learned that waiting on God is the real secret to my daily energy. Like many people, I try to find my own energy and have failed many times. Only God can renew the strength I need to live each day for His glory.

*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*

I'm sure gonna shovel..."

"Well, yes you are," Doc said, quickly.

"Dewey's an interesting name," Dud said. "Was your mother ... dewy eyed when you were born?"

"That's D-E-W-Y. My name has the extra e in it. Actually, I was named for a famous man."

We sipped over that one for a minute.

"Thomas E. Dewey!" shouted Doc. "Governor of New York. Candidate for President. Your mother was a Republican, right?"

"Uh, no ... not him, I'm afraid."

Some of the earlier knights of the coffee table arrived just before daylight, flipping their cups to the upright and fillable positions, and were joined quickly by Dewey, which is an unusual occurrence. Doc was the only one of us downwind from Dewey, and we watched to see if any fainting took place, but evidently Dewey had not yet begun his job of transferring soil nutrients from the dairies to people's yards.

"How's it going, Dewey?" Dud said. We all like Dewey.

"Finer'n frog hair, Dud. My shoulder's in shape for a shovel and

## Numbers On The Water Tower

*By: Joseph J. Mazzella*

On a hill across the road from my old high school is a water tower. Each year the seniors will sneak up to it one night and write in giant numbers the year of their graduation.

This year as I was driving back from the post office I looked up at the water tower and was shocked. There was a giant number 24 on it. That couldn't be right. When I graduated there was a giant number 84 on it. It couldn't be 40 years since I graduated high school. Surely I wasn't that old. On the inside I sometimes still felt like an 18 year old. Where had all the years gone?

It seemed like I blinked and 40 years had flown by. As I drove

home I thought about all of those years. Waves of memories washed over me. There was the fun and hard work that had been my college years. There was the early years of struggle as a young husband and father just trying to make enough money to make ends meet. There was the tears and pain when my wife and I learned first one and then both of our sons were handicapped with Autism. There was the years raising my children and learning so much about love, laughter, and life from them. There was the delight and pride in seeing my daughter graduate from the same high school and college that I did. It was such a glorious tapestry of memories full of love, fear, joy, pain, struggles

and triumphs. And as I pulled into my driveway I thanked God for them all.

I doubt I will get another 40 years of memories here. But I am determined to make the ones I do get as beautiful, loving, and joyous as possible. I want to share all the love I can, create all the joy I can, help all the people I can, and make the world a better place every chance I can. I want to laugh, sing, dance, think, feel, write, share, and live in such a way that it makes Our Heavenly Father smile. Because I know in the end those numbers on the water tower don't really matter. Life does not end here. It goes on forever. And the best part is yet to come.

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Looking for someone to plow snow from the lot and shovel snow from the sidewalk for the Clay County Department of Health and Human Resources office in Clay, WV.

If interested, please contact  
Patty Martin at 304-872-0810

**Your Ad Could Be Here!**  
Call us at  
304-647-5724



# THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

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

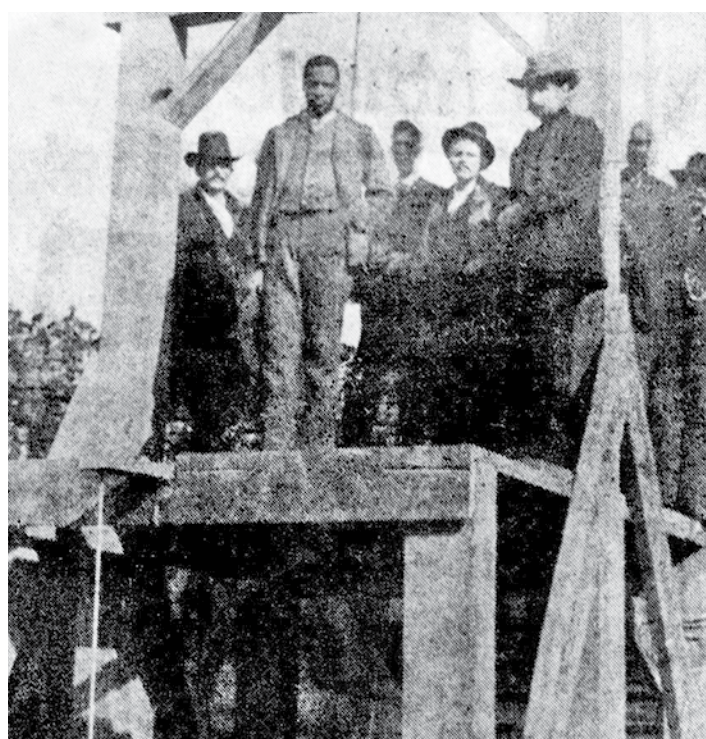
**Jan. 17, 1918:** The War Department hired a New York engineering firm to build the DuPont munitions plant in Nitro. Within 11 months, the powder plant and a complete town with houses, a civic center and a hospital, were completed.

**Jan. 17, 1956:** Musician Blind Alfred Reed died. He was a street singer, fiddler, and songwriter from Pipestem, Summers County. He also is a member of the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame.

**Jan. 18, 1842:** Wayne County was established from part of Cabell County. It was named for General "Mad Anthony" Wayne, a Revolutionary War hero who later defeated Ohio Indian tribes at the 1794 Battle of Fallen Timbers.

**Jan. 19, 1818:** The Virginia General Assembly established Preston County from part of Monongalia County. The new county was named for James Patton Preston, then governor of Virginia.

**Jan. 19, 1820:** Fairmont was established by the Virginia



legislature on the farm of Boaz Fleming. The original name of Middletown was changed to Fairmont in 1843.

**Jan. 19, 1844:** The Virginia General Assembly established Taylor County from parts of Barbour, Harrison, and Marion counties. The county was named in honor of U.S. Sen. John Taylor, a soldier-statesman from Caroline County, Virginia.

**Jan. 19, 1848:** Wirt County was created by the General

Assembly of Virginia from portions of Wood and Jackson counties. It was named for William Wirt, Virginia statesman and a presidential candidate in 1832.

**Jan. 19, 1894:** Railroad worker John Hardy was hanged for killing a man in a drunken gambling dispute. The episode inspired the widely popular ballad "John Hardy."

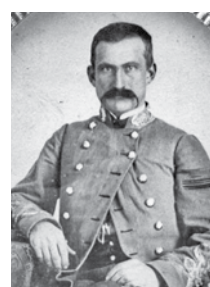
**Jan. 19-20, 1978:** An overnight snowstorm paralyzed Charleston. Unusual in that

more snow fell in the capital city than in Randolph County, total snow depth in Charleston averaged 24 inches, the deepest on record for the city. January 1978 became the snowiest month for both Huntington and Charleston, and extended cold kept snow on the ground into March, the longest known continuous snow cover for most West Virginia towns.

**Jan. 20-21, 1824:** West Virginia's most famous soldier, Thomas Jonathan Jackson, was born near midnight in Clarksburg. When Virginia left the Union in 1861, Jackson went with his native state. He commanded the strategically important post at Harpers Ferry until being appointed a Confederate brigadier general of infantry. He won the name "Stonewall" in the Battle of First Manassas on July 21, 1861.

**Jan. 21, 1906:** The first passenger train ran from Elkins to Charleston following completion of the Coal & Coke Railway. The new railroad, a project of former senator Henry Gassaway Davis, provided a much-needed north-south route through the heart of West Virginia.

**Jan. 22, 1927:** Confederate General John McCausland died. After the fall of the



Confederacy, McCausland fled the country. He returned in 1867 and spent the remainder

of his life on his large farm in Mason County.

**Jan. 23, 1850:** Raleigh County was established by an act of the Virginia General Assembly. The county's founder, Alfred Beckley, named it after Sir Walter Raleigh.

**Jan. 23, 1888:** Union leader Fred Mooney was born in a log cabin on Davis Creek in Kanawha County. He was secretary-treasurer of United Mine Workers of America District 17 from 1917 to 1924 and was a radical leader in the West Virginia Mine Wars.

**Jan. 23, 1890:** The United Mine Workers was organized at a meeting in Columbus, Ohio. Three months later, in Wheeling, UMWA District 17, encompassing most of West Virginia, held its first meeting, elected M. F. Moran as district president and launched what became a struggle of more than 40 years to unionize the state's coal mines.

## Wildlife

Continued From Page 1

ing morning and evening commute times. If traveling in an area with sparse oncoming traffic, she recommended turning up the headlights to help extend your range of sight.

"Go ahead and turn on those bright headlights," Hawkins advised. "That helps you see a little bit further distance. You

might be able to see those animals sooner and be able to take precautions."

Federal data show between 1 million and 2 million car crashes involving deer or other large animals every year in the U.S., causing around 200 human deaths, 26,000 injuries, and at least \$8 billion in property damage.

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## Super Crossword

**MONEY-CHANGING**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Combination spear and battle-ax
  - 8 Provo native
  - 13 Dawn deity
  - 16 Some fast autos
  - 19 Virtual merchant
  - 20 Strong cordage fiber
  - 21 Performs a charade of
  - 23 Thai money used to buy a Jacuzzi?
  - 25 Height when upright
  - 26 Protest at which people lie on the ground
  - 27 Bright red Indian money?
  - 29 "Madam" counterpart
  - 32 "The Dance" painter Henri
  - 35 Biceps locale
  - 36 Powerful auto engine
  - 37 "You missed your chance for folding over that Korean money?"
  - 42 Already-included tips, e.g.
  - 43 Lima locale
  - 44 "Rapa —" (1994 film)
  - 45 Like even scores
  - 46 Feel sore
  - 48 Refusals
  - 51 She sang "Constant Craving"
  - 56 Rocker Brian
  - 57 Facts, in brief
  - 59 Gobble up Iraqi money?
  - 62 Gal entering society
  - 63 Jazz's Chick
  - 65 Chaise place
  - 66 Cognizant of
  - 67 School where students learn about Swedish money?
  - 72 Norway's capital
  - 74 — facias (certain writ)
  - 75 Used skillfully
  - 76 "— favor, señor"
  - 79 Forms Ghanaian money into a cylinder shape?
  - 83 Brain tests, for short
  - 84 Suffix with meth-
  - 85 Venture out on one's own
  - 86 — Leppard
  - 87 Some PC readouts
  - 89 Kicked out of the game, for short
  - 90 Radio spots
  - 92 Bruins' sch.
  - 94 Major shock
  - 96 Query after someone is told they look like Iranian money?
  - 103 German auto
  - 104 Tampa Bay NFLer
  - 105 Over browned bread
  - 106 Houston-to-Madison dir.
  - 107 Whack some Mexican money?
  - 111 Rapper — Rhymes
  - 113 More intoxicating
  - 114 Refuse to contribute South African money?
  - 120 Getty of TV
  - 121 French river
  - 122 Asmara's nation
  - 123 Gobbled up
  - 124 Airport agcy.
  - 125 Played (with)
  - 126 Label on a bargain item
- DOWN**
- 1 Use an ax on
  - 2 One "A" of NCAA: Abbr.
  - 3 Chou En- —
  - 4 Nest dweller
  - 5 "If I Can't Have You" singer
  - 6 Says again
  - 7 Rive — (Paris' Right Bank)
  - 8 E-address
  - 9 Bistro bill
  - 10 Unpaid player
  - 11 Classic cracker brand
  - 12 Tennis-playing guy
  - 13 Kodak founder
  - 14 Prefix with -genarian
  - 15 Pentagon
  - 16 Reach as high as
  - 17 Large, deep serving dish
  - 18 Painter Jan
  - 22 R-X fillers
  - 24 Attending to the matter
  - 28 Certain Wall St. trader
  - 29 Said
  - 30 Antiseptic element
  - 31 Bucking bovines
  - 33 Jr., last year
  - 34 Spirited horse
  - 38 Eye coverer
  - 39 Takeoff strip
  - 40 Often-pickled veggie
  - 41 Pirate "Captain"
  - 46 From scratch
  - 47 Compelled
  - 49 In the lead
  - 50 Squelched
  - 52 Cat that roars
  - 53 "The Piano" Oscar winner
  - 54 Cable TV's — Geo
  - 55 Miracle- —
  - 57 Here, in Lyon
  - 58 Election mo.
  - 60 Elected (to)
  - 61 Virginia Tech team name
  - 64 Cold — (frigid)
  - 68 Court plea, for short
  - 69 Very angry
  - 70 Rule, in brief
  - 71 More than loads up (on)
  - 72 Assoc.
  - 73 Great Lakes' — Canals
  - 77 Like a single-guy band
  - 78 Traditional Irish brew
  - 80 Make laugh uproariously
  - 81 Hoopla
  - 82 "You Be —" (1986 hit for Run-D.M.C.)
  - 88 Jargon
  - 89 Women's patriotic gp.
  - 91 Secondary field of study
  - 93 George who played Danny Ocean
  - 94 Mosaic tile
  - 95 Long rodent feature
  - 96 Most suitable
  - 97 Assess again
  - 98 Skip over in speech
  - 99 Chalice, e.g.
  - 100 Nailed the test
  - 101 Desert of Mongolia
  - 102 Some purple shades
  - 103 Milo of films
  - 108 Piper's wear
  - 109 Twisty fish
  - 110 Average
  - 112 Comic Johnson
  - 115 Uno plus due
  - 116 H.S. proficiency test
  - 117 Gallery work
  - 118 Teachers' gp.
  - 119 Ham-marsjköld once of the U.N.

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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.

November 1957



been signally honored by Gov. Underwood's acceptance of the invitation to share our banquet table. It will be a great privilege for the Club's member to have the opportunity of meeting with the executive head of the state government.

It is sincerely hoped that every club member will be on hand at this affair and each member is entitled and expected to bring a guest. Any employee who is not a member and who would like to become a member of the Buffalo Valley Sportsman's Club is invited to contact Harold Dawson at the washhouse and apply for membership. Join up and become a part of one of the most active and progressive organizations in the state.

## Gov. Will Attend Sportsmen's Club Dinner At Widen

The Buffalo Valley Sportsman's Club will hold its annual membership dinner in the new Community Building at Widen on Saturday December 14, and H. L. Beattie, president of the club, has announced that Gov. Cecil Underwood will be the guest of honor. Mrs. Underwood is also expected to attend. Mr. Beattie is anticipating a gathering in excess of 300 persons at the dinner, which will also be in the nature of a dedicatory celebration of the completion of the new building.

Scott Williams, chairman of this year's event, has made all arrangements for the dinner, which will be served by members of the Senior Class of Widen High School, with the meal being prepared by Mr. Harry Taka, manager of the Widen Club. This year it's turkey, with all the trimmings.

The Sportsman's Club banquet has come to be one of the high spots of the year at Widen and each one thus far has been a memorable occasion, including the hoax of two years ago when the "Russian engineer" nearly caused a riot. Some of the club members have asserted that they'll have to see and hear Gov. Underwood before they're convinced that they aren't being jobbed again.

Invitations are being mailed to each member of the Sportsman's Club, in the form of a double postal card, one part of which is to be detached, signed and returned. Deadline for returning the reservation cards is December 7. That much time is needed in order to purchase the proper amount of food and to set up the tables for the banquet.

The exacting duties of his elected office force the governor to maintain a rather rigid schedule, and the Sportsman's Club has

## Get Turkey Dinner At School House Sunday

The Widen Band Boosters Club is sponsoring a turkey dinner with all the trimmings on December 1 at the school. Dinner will be served between the hours of one and four. Tickets are being sold now by members of the club and the price is only \$1.00 for adults and 50¢ for children. Please bring the whole family and enjoy a delicious meal.

Other forthcoming activities include a bake sale and bazaar to be held at the Y.M.C.A. on Monday December 10, 1957.

**WOMAN'S CLUB SPONSORS CHRISTMAS LIGHTING**

The Widen Woman's Club will again sponsor a Christmas Lighting Contest. Everyone is invited to participate. Three cash prizes will be given for the best lighting display. First prize \$15.00, second prize \$10.00 and third prize \$5.00. Judging will take place on the evening of December 22. Plan to have your decorations completed by that time.

**Leaders Cheer!**

The cheerleaders are really on the ball so that they will be ready for the coming basketball season. They are working out some new yells. They have been performing for the assemblies. The students are proud of Betty Craft, Judy Shaffer, Dawnie Backus, Lora Wilson, and Alice Hamrick who are doing a very good job of leading the cheering for the basketball boys.

## THE WIDEN NEWS

WIDEN, WEST VIRGINIA

HERBERT C. JOHNSON . . . . . EDITOR  
MISS GLADYS MARIE NEAL . . . . . Reporter

ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED UPON APPLICATION. THE PUBLISHERS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY ADVERTISING. PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY EMPLOYEES OF ELK RIVER COAL AND LUMBER COMPANY.

Saturday, November 30, 1957 — Next Issue December 21, 1957

### Little Talks With Big Thoughts

This is the month for Thanksgiving—a day set aside by our President to commemorate the thanks given by our early settlers for their first year of survival.

It should also be a day for each of us to give thanks, in his or her own way. Perhaps the year has had its share of sorrow, despair, or bad luck. But somewhere in the 365 days we can find one day, one hour, or one minute we could give thanks to Almighty God for having let us live that precious time.

So thank Him. You will feel better for this change from eternally asking of Him.

True love of country is not mere blind partisanship. It is regard for the people of one's country and all of them; it is a feeling of fellowship and brotherhood for all of them; it is a desire for the prosperity and happiness of all of them; it is kindly and considerate judgment toward all of them. The essential condition of true progress is that it shall be based upon grounds of reason, and not of prejudice. Lincoln's noble sentiment of charity for all and malice toward none was not a specific for the Civil War, but is a living principle of action.

—Elihu Root.

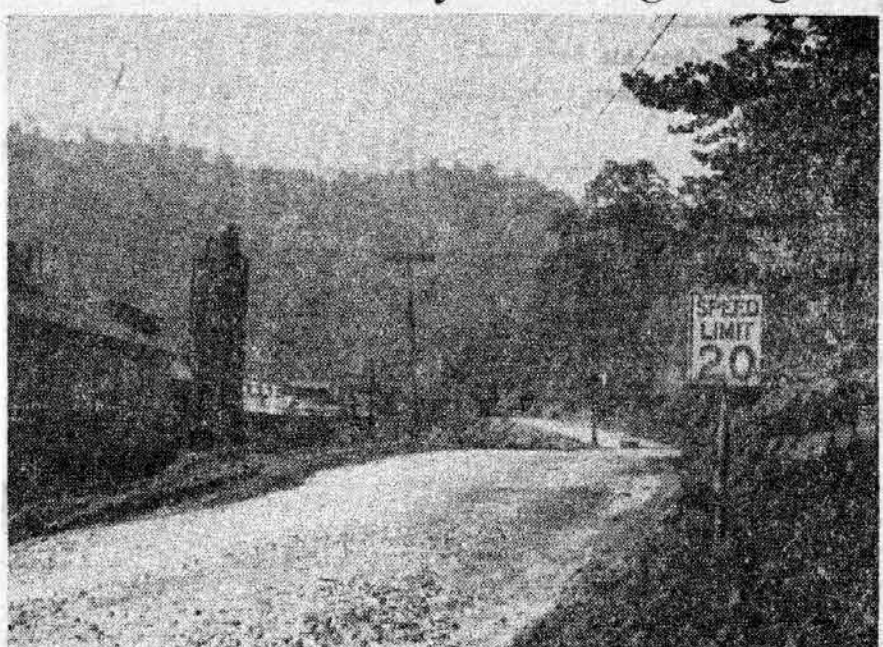
Give me the money that has been spent in war, and I will clothe every man, woman and child in an attire of which kings and queens would be proud. I will build a schoolhouse in every valley over the whole earth. I will crown every hillside with a place of worship consecrated to the gospel of peace.

—Charles Sumner

Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance, self-control, diligence, strength of will, content, and a hundred other virtues which the idle never know.

—Charles Kingsley

## Widen Street Improvements Constantly Showing Progress



This section of Clay street in Widen last month was given a thick filling of sand, gravel and dirt, rolled, then covered with slag; greatly improving the old mud stretch from the tippie bridge to the new community building approach opposite the Baptist Church building.

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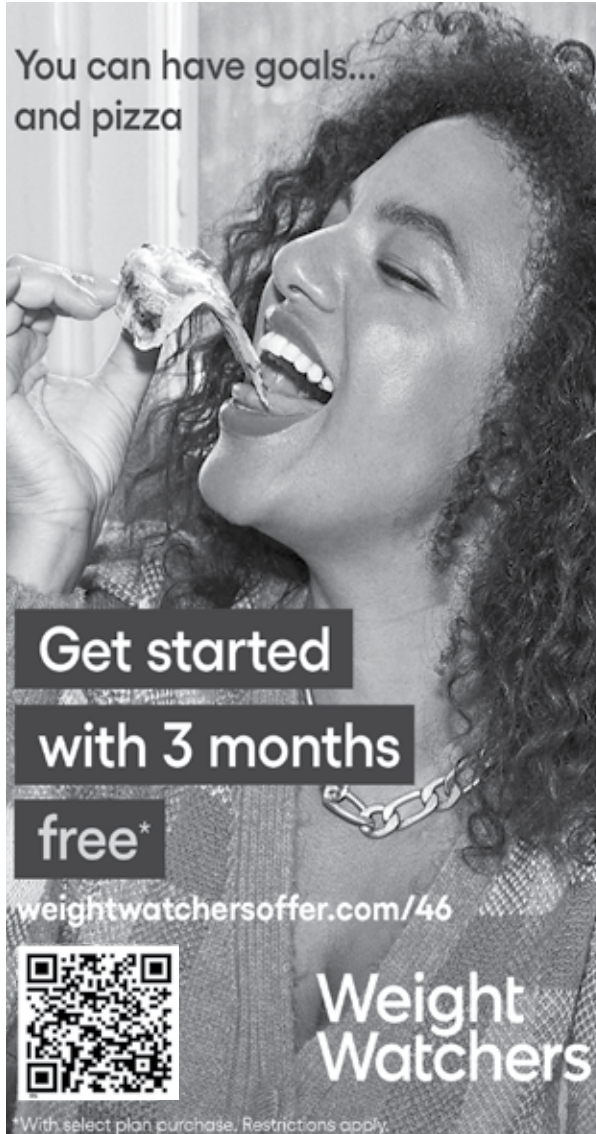
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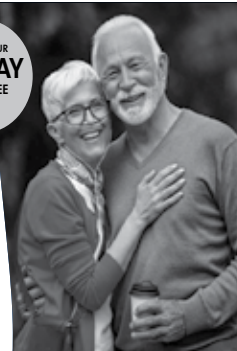
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# CHURCH DIRECTORY



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

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

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

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

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

**BURKE MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH** in Precious. 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., Bintree, WV  
Sunday School 10:00 AM  
Sunday Evening Service 7:00 PM  
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM  
Come and worship the Lord with us.  
Everyone Welcome!  
**Pastor: Michael L. Holcomb, Sr.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**E**

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

**F**

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

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

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

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

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

**G**

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

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

**H**

**HALLBURG BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday 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  
Morning 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  
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**  
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. Balsler**

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

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

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

**P**

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

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

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

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

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

**Q**

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

**R**

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

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

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

**S**

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

**T**

**THE AMERICAN CHAPEL AT ELKHURST**  
Saturday Services 7:00 PM  
Sunday School 10:00 AM

**Pastor: Hiram Lewis**

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

**U**

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

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

**V**

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

**W**

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

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

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

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

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

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

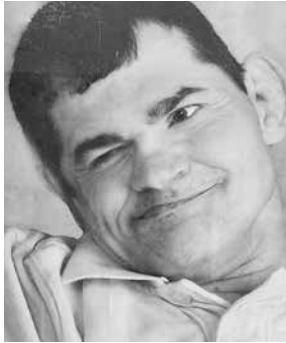
**WINGS OF DELIVERANCE APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
Rt. 4, 1/4 miles below Maysel on the left  
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM  
Sunday Night 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM  
Come worship the Lord with us!  
Phone: (304) 587-7410  
**Pastor: Jerry Hanshaw**





# OBITUARY

## Gordan Ray Bledsoe



James of Maysel; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was held on Wednesday January 10, 2024, 1:00 pm at Wilson Smith Funeral Home, Clay, WV, with a one-hour visitation prior to the service from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm. Burial was in the Friend cemetery, Ivydale, WV.

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

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

Gordan Ray Bledsoe passed away, January 2, 2024, at Ansted Medical Center, Ansted, WV.

He was born on April 10, 1953, to the late Max and Pauline Bledsoe of Ivydale, WV. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by 8 brothers and sisters,

Gordan is survived by his sisters, Edith Brown of Bickmore, WV., Donna Stinnett of Craigsville, Ro-chella Eyler of Virginia, Loretta Dickin-son of Martinsburg, Rose Allen of Geor-gia, Vicky Hess of Summersville, Joann

# How to file a comment

By PSC Chair  
Charlotte Lane

I want you to know that here at the Public Service Commission, we suffer through the same concerns that many of you do about the cost of gasoline, water and power bills, groceries, and every other budget item. The Commission wants to hear your concerns, and we take your comments very seriously.

We have simple means for you to express your thoughts. You can mail comments to us at 201 Brooks St., Charleston, WV 25301. But the easiest way is to simply use your computer. Take a look at our website at [www.psc.state.wv.us](http://www.psc.state.wv.us). Look in the yellow field to the left of the pictures of the commissioners. Under the first section, titled "Inside the PSC," you will see a highlighted section that says "Submit a Comment." Click on that. The next screen offers an easy way to submit one of two types of comments.

The first is a general comment or suggestion. Click on that and it will open a form. It looks busy, but it is fairly simple. At the bottom is a place for you to type in your comments and a submit button. The information will be directed through our internal system and will reach the proper people who are concerned with your issues.

This site also has a second button. This can be used if you are interested in a formal case already before the Commission. Because this involves a specific case, we require that you be properly identified as a legitimate person. Again, we want your comments, but we want to ensure that those comments come from a person with an interest in the case.

Fill out this form and add your comments, then we will verify who you



are. Once we complete the verification process, your comments will be added as an activity in the formal case process. We won't include crude or crank remarks, but welcome legitimate comments in any case.

So, here are two different ways you can get involved in the process and explain your position on issues before the Commission. We cannot guarantee your complains will be fully satisfied, but you can know that your words will be heard by the Commission. We look forward to hearing from you.

We have tried to make this process as simple as possible for your convenience. We hope you'll give it a try.

## LEGAL

### IN RE: NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW AND EQUALIZATION FOR THE YEAR 2024

Notice is hereby given that the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia will meet as a Board of Review and Equalization on the 2nd day of February, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the County Commission Courtroom located at 246 Main Street, Clay, WV and will continue in session thereafter from time to time until the work of the review and equalization is deemed by said Board of Review to be completed.

All persons having business before said Board of Review pertaining to equalization of taxpayer's property taxes are respectfully invited to attend said session. You may call 304-587-4259 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday for an appointment or the schedule of meetings.

APPROVED: NOVEMBER 27, 2023

*[Signature]* PRESIDENT  
CLAY COUNTY COMMISSION

## LEGAL

### Public Meeting Notice

The Clay County Board of Education will hold 2 public hearings allow interested parties to discuss and provide input for the 2024-20 school calendar. The first hearing will be held at Clay Elementary Tuesday, January 23rd, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The second hearing will be conducted at Clay County High School on Tuesday, February 13 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Anyone interested in addressing the Clay Cour Board of Education, at one or both meetings, should contact Mr. Philip Dobbins, Superintendent, at 304-587-4266, to have your name placed the agenda or sign up in person 15 minutes prior to the start of the hearir

There will also be a public comment period on the two calendar optio posted at [claycountyschools.org](http://claycountyschools.org) for students, parents, and staff to provi input to the Clay County Board of Education. If you have a comment question about the calendar options, please email them to Mr. Dobbins [claycountyschoolsystem@gmail.com](mailto:claycountyschoolsystem@gmail.com).

## LEGAL

### NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

No. 23-CIG-10  
IN THE MATTER OF: Z.X.K., Minor under the age of 18 years  
NOTICE OF PETITION AND HEARING  
TO THE UNKNOWN FATHER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on November 6, 2023, a PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN was filed relating to the above-named IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA by Vonda Keener.  
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a hearing on this Petition is scheduled for January 19, 2024 at 1:30 p.m., at the Clay County Circuit Court, Clay County Courthouse, 246 Main Street, Clay, WV 25043, before Honorable Judge Michael W. Asbury, Jr., at which time and place you may appear and make any objections known or otherwise protect your interest.

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.

*[Signature]*  
Circuit Clerk

## LEGAL

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

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service ([www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com)) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia, until February 13, 2024 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call	Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
015	2022810003	S381-REC/AL-24 00	STBG-2024(002)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS D-1 RECALL STRIPING 2024 DISTRICT WIDE COUNTY: BOONE, CLAY, KANAWHA, MASON, PUTNAM

**DBE GOAL:** 10% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

### REMARKS:

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

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on [www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com).

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

# LEGAL

### PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 23-0843-G-PC  
HOPE GAS, INC., STANDARD GAS COMPANY  
and BAZZLE GAS COMPANY, INC.

Joint petition for consent and approval for Hope Gas, Inc. to acquire Standard Gas Company and Bazzle Gas Company, Inc.

### NOTICE OF FILING

On October 27, 2023, Hope Gas, Inc. (Hope), Standard Gas Company (Standard), and Bazzle Gas Company (Bazzle) (jointly, petitioners) filed with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (Commission) a joint petition (Joint Petition) for Commission consent and approval of an acquisition transaction pursuant to which Hope would acquire certain assets of Standard and Bazzle used to provide gas utility service. Standard and Bazzle currently provide natural gas sales service to approximately 460 customers in Lewis and Braxton Counties, West Virginia.

In the Joint Petition, Hope, Standard, and Bazzle assert that the acquisition transaction will have no adverse effect on their customers, other public utilities, or the public in general. Following the transaction, the assets acquired will be owned and operated by Hope, subject to the Commission's continuing jurisdiction and regulation. From and after the closing of the acquisition, the Customers will become customers of Hope.

Upon the closing of the Transaction, the Standard customers will continue to pay Standard's existing base rates, purchased gas adjustment (PGA) rate, and a Legacy Surcharge rate increment, which surcharge equates to Hope's pipeline replacement and expansion (PREP) rate increment, as they change from time to time. Consequently, at close, based on the current base, PGA and surcharge rates proposed, the average monthly bill impact for the Standard customers as a result of the Transaction will be as follows:

Type of Customer	(\$) Increase/(Decrease)	(%) Increase/(Decrease)
Residential	\$13.35	21.37%
Commercial	\$25.87	17.23%

The Bazzle customers will pay Hope's existing rates, PGA rate and the Legacy Surcharge, as they change from time to time. Consequently, at close, based on the current base, PGA and surcharge rates proposed, the average monthly bill impact for the Bazzle customers as a result of the Transaction will be as follows:

Type of Customer	(\$) Increase/(Decrease)	(%) Increase/(Decrease)
Residential	\$60.60	170.56%

Hope proposes that the Standard customers will eventually pay the Hope base rates plus PGA rates and Legacy Surcharge as those rates change from time to time. If the Standard customers were immediately charged the Hope base rates, the current Hope PGA rate, and the current Legacy Surcharge rate, the average monthly bill impact for the Standard customers as a result of the transaction would be as follows:

Type of Customer	(\$) Increase/(Decrease)	(%) Increase/(Decrease)
Residential	\$28.79	46.08%
Commercial	\$64.85	43.19%

The Commission schedules this matter for evidentiary hearing to be held on February 21, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. and continuing to February 22, 2024, if necessary, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room, Public Service Commission Building, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. Interested persons should be able to view the evidentiary hearing via an internet livestream. In lieu of an in-person public comment hearing, the Commission will receive public comments online and by mail or hand delivery to the Executive Secretary's Office. All written comments should state the case name and number and be addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. The Commission website, [www.psc.state.wv.us](http://www.psc.state.wv.us), contains links to "Case Information," "Submit a Comment," and "Commission Webcast."

The Joint Petition is on file with and available for public inspection at the Commission, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia, and is available online at the Commission website ([www.psc.state.wv.us](http://www.psc.state.wv.us)). Anyone desiring to intervene or protest should file a written request to intervene or protest no later than thirty (30) days following the date of this notice, unless such period is otherwise modified by Commission Order. Failure to timely intervene or protest can affect your right to participate in or protest aspects of this proceeding. All requests to intervene or protest should briefly state the reason for the request to intervene or protest and comply with the rules set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All requests to intervene and protests should state the case name and number and be addressed to the Executive Secretary at the address listed above.

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

HOPE GAS, INC.  
STANDARD GAS COMPANY, and  
BAZZLE GAS COMPANY, INC.

# LEGAL

### NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned Successor Trustee, in accordance with the provisions of that certain Deed of Trust, dated August 29, 2003, made by Steve Morris, and Daniel R. Grindo, as Trustee, of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 107, at page 1066 (the "Deed of Trust"), to secure indebtedness described therein payable to Bank of Gassaway, in the amount of \$65,000.00, as evidenced by that certain Promissory Note dated August 29, 2003, made payable by Steve Morris to the order of Bank of Gassaway (along with any renewals, adjustments, extensions, or modifications, the "Note"), which Deed of Trust covers certain real estate situate in Clay County, West Virginia, more particularly described herein;

WHEREAS, Peoples Bank, as successor by merger, is the owner and holder of the Note and Deed of Trust. Pursuant to authority granted in the Deed of Trust, Peoples Bank, the owner and holder of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, appointed Zachary J. Rosencrance, a resident of Kanawha County, West Virginia, to serve as Successor Trustee, by that certain Appointment of Successor Trustee, dated December 6, 2023, of record in the aforesaid Clerk's office in Miscellaneous Book 36, at page 815.

Peoples Bank, the owner and holder of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, has notified the Successor Trustee that Steve Morris is in default under the terms of the Note and the terms of the Deed of Trust, and has requested, in writing, that the Successor Trustee sell the real property described in the Deed of Trust at public auction, in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Trust and applicable law.

TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned Successor Trustee will offer for sale at public auction on the 8th day of February, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern time, at the front door of the Clay County Courthouse, 246 Main Street, Clay, West Virginia, all those certain lots, tracts, or parcels of land together with the buildings and improvements thereon, easements, rights of way, and the appurtenances thereunto belonging situate in Clay County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows (hereinafter, the "Real Property"):

The surface only of that certain tract or parcel of land, situate on the north side of Elk River and bordering on State Route Nos. 4 and 16, bordering on the northern right of way line of said State routes a short distance above the State Garage, in Henry District, Clay County, West Virginia, and further bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a stake in said State Routes rights of way line, which stake is the upper corner to the land conveyed to Jennings P. Martin and which stake stands 275 feet upstream from the Williams line where same crosses said State Routes right of way line, and running thence up the hill with a line of the said Jennings P. Martin tract to a stake in the back line of the J.B. Wheeler 100-acre tract of land of which this is a part; thence up the ridge with said Wheeler's line 275 feet to a stake in said Wheeler's line; thence a straight line down the hill to a stake in the Carrie Reed heirs land; thence with the said Lower line of said Carrie Reed land to a stake in said State Routes light of way line; thence downstream with said right of way line 275 feet to the place of beginning, containing 7.5 acres, more or less.

BEING the same property conveyed to Steve Morris and Jeannie Morris, his wife, from Cecil L. Butcher and Wanda E. Butcher, his wife, by that certain deed dated the 11th day of July, 1985, and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 140, at page 189. Further being the same property conveyed by Jennie Morris to Steve Morris, by that certain deed dated the 26th day of August 1992, and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 158, at page 521.

### TERMS OF SALE

The Real Property will be sold for cash in hand on the date of sale, or under any different, other, or additional sale terms as the Successor Trustee, in his or her reasonable discretion, determines to be appropriate or advisable. The sale shall be further subject to the following:

1. Real estate taxes delinquent, due or payable or to become due and payable, all of which shall be the responsibility of the purchaser;
2. Any statutory lien or liens that may affect the subject property;
3. All covenants, conditions, restrictions, reservations, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record in the chain of title to the property, or which may be visible from a physical inspection of the subject property;
4. All liens and encumbrances of any nature whatsoever, including, without limitation, liens for real estate taxes, incinerator, sanitary and sewer charges, having priority over the deeds of trust referred to herein.
5. The purchaser at the sale shall be responsible for paying the costs of recording the Successor Trustee's Deed and the tax imposed by the State of West Virginia on the privilege of transferring real property (the cost of the tax stamps to be affixed to the Deed).
6. All of the property to be sold will be sold "AS IS, WHERE IS" in the present condition and with all faults and defects, if any, and without any warranty or representation, express or implied. The Successor Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the Real Property to vacate said property. The Successor Trustee will deliver a trustee's deed to the purchaser without any covenant or warranty (express or implied) in the form prescribed by W.Va. Code § 38-1-6. The Successor Trustee makes no representations and warranties about the title to the real estate to be conveyed. If the Successor Trustee is unable to convey insurable or marketable title to the purchaser for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit.
7. In the event that there are federal tax liens against the property, the United States would have the right to redeem the property within a period of 120 days from the date of such sale or the period allowable for redemption under local law, whichever is longer.
8. The undersigned Successor Trustee expressly reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and the right to adjourn the sale from time to time without notice other than oral proclamation at the time and place appointed for the sale. Such adjournment may be for a period of time deemed expedient by the beneficial owner and shall not be construed to be a waiver of the right to make the sale contemplated by this Notice.
9. The beneficiary of the Deeds of Trust and holder of the Note thereby secured reserves the right to submit a bid for the Real Property at the sale, which bid may be in the form of a credit bid.
10. The successful bidder will be required to execute a memorandum of sale upon the acceptance of the successful bid by the Successor Trustee.
11. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation that none of the grantors filed for bankruptcy protection before the conclusion of bidding, in which case the sale will be null and void and the purchaser's sole remedy, at law or in equity, will be return of deposit without interest.
12. The trustee's sale shall be open to online bidders.
13. A 10% buyer's premium will be added to the high bid for the Real Property. The high bidder shall pay the buyer's premium plus an additional 10% of its bid on the day of the sale (the "Good Faith Deposit"), with the balance to be paid in cash at closing within 14 days after the date of sale.

Additional terms of sale may be announced prior to the sale.

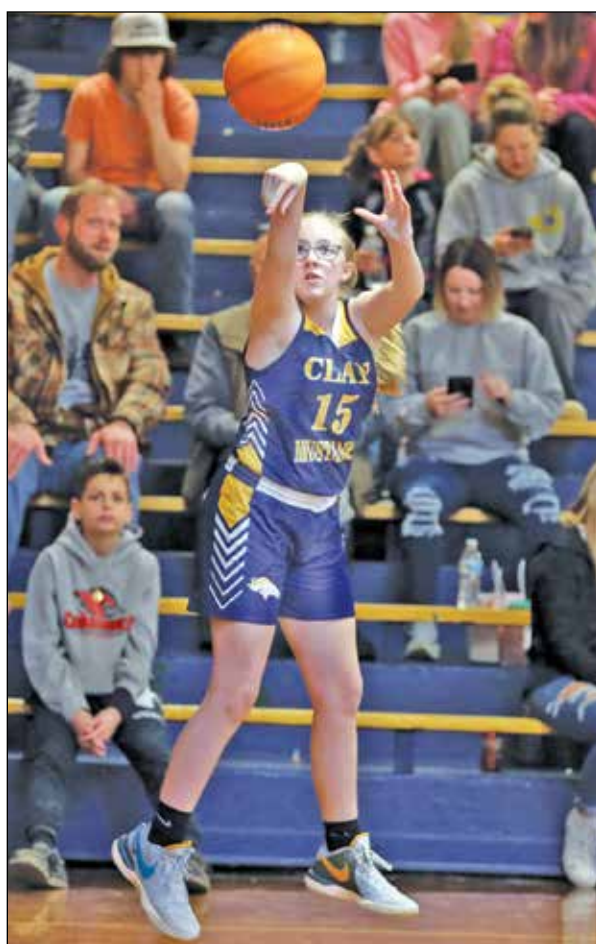
Any inquiries regarding this sale may be directed to Zachary J. Rosencrance, Successor Trustee, 600 Quarrier Street, Charleston, West Virginia 25301, telephone (304) 347-1100.

DATED: January 2, 2024

*/s/ Zachary J. Rosencrance*  
Zachary J. Rosencrance, Successor Trustee







Left, Autumn Rapp looks for dribbling room. Above center, Addison Taylor looks for two from the perimeter. Above right, Marissa Atha breaks the press.

# Mustang basketball dynasty falls to the Bears

By Allen Hamrick

The Lady Mustangs met their Waterloo this past week as they came face to face with a juggernaut as they took on the Lady Bears of Summersville. The Lady Bears brought their big game to the courts against the Lady Mustangs, and it was game on. First up, though, was the JV team who got the fans on the edge of their seats with some last minute power playing. Yeah, the score wasn't going to be on the sports news, but it did not lack for dramatic play. Kinley Ramsey hit a hope shot in the fourth period to take the lead in the game by one point with just a couple of minutes on the boards.

However, late in the 4<sup>th</sup> period, the Lady Bears drew a foul and sunk both shots from the cheat line putting them ahead by two. The Lady Mustangs drove down the court with just seconds left on the clock for one final attempt, but the ball went wide left and the sand run out of the hour glass for the JV team. The final score was 15-16.

The varsity team hit the courts, and, in practice, looked like they would be the team to beat. However, the Lady Bears had a plan. The Lady Mustangs may as well have tried to empty the Elk River with a five gallon bucket when play got underway. The Lady Bears started the full court press

from Hades; the Lady Mustangs were boxed in soon as they left the bench it seemed. The Lady Mustangs did manage to elude the press at times and did convert their energy into points.

That being said, the Lady Bears ate up more turnovers than grandma's kitchen could produce and racked up the points on the board. The Lady Mustangs just couldn't get a plan of attack to overcome the full court press of the Lady Bears and went down swinging. The final score was 13-44. Top shot in the game was Payton Johnson with 11.

The Mustang boys locked horns with the Bears at home. The Bears came out with some

quick offense and were loading up their side of the score board quick. The Bears' pressure threw the Mustangs' offense out of sync and held them to just 12 points in the first half; the Bears led 12 -26 at the half.

After a pep talk in the locker room, the Mustangs offense picked up the pace and went bucket for bucket with the Bears but gained no real estate on the boards. Every time these two teams meet, it promises to be a barn burner, and it was. In the 4<sup>th</sup> period, both defenses settled down to some tough basketball, and the offenses went into no man's land on the boards. The Mustangs and the Bears scored

little in the fourth and the final score was 33-47. Top shot in this game was Joel Elliott with 12 followed close by Devon Griffin with 8.

The teams will be back in action this week and so will the Panther team, that is if the weather doesn't put a chill on the events. Check the schedules and the schools for information. The Panther wrestling team will be at the Braxton for the Region Quad match on January 18. The CWVAC tournament for the Mustangs wrestling team was rescheduled for February 3rd, and they will be hitting the mats this week at Elkview on Thursday. Come out and support the teams.



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## Zeb's Whittlin' Corner and Jawin'

By Allen Hamrick, for entertainment purposes only

Hey folks, it's Zeb here as promised. I am unfolding my knife to give out some pointers on old time whittlin'. With ol' man winter chokin' out our john boats and a freeze freezin' the rivers in their tracks, there's not much to do till we thaw out. It is a good time to get prepared for when the sun does come out to heat up the hills and valleys and thaw out the fish in the river. So, what I will be doin' today is whittlin' a trap that has been used ever since I can remember.

I guess ever since Granny Izzle was a kid and maybe even farther than that. Maybe even when those two legged cat fish came about. Here in this neck of the woods it's still a trap used by many to rid their houses of varmints and such. The Indians used it to trap many animals for



food. Durin' my grandpa's days, it was the go to trap for catching anything from rabbits to crocodiles.

First, you drive a stake into the ground then whittle a chisel point on the end of it. Next, whittle the stick on a 45 degree angle like I did to set on top of the chisel end you just whittled. Then carve the stick that kinda lays horizontal with a notch to fit in the diagonal sticks point like shown. Once it is all whittled as shown, all that is left to do is to lean

a heavy object like a log agin' the top point on the diagonal stick as shown. Once that's done, sit back and wait for the varmints to take the bait. This is an easy whittle to do and is good at what it does. If you are stuck out in the woods or something, a trap like this could mean life or death to you or your party. It is a lot of fun to make so give it a try and be safe with the knife. Next time, we will whittle a bear. Until then keep a sharp edge...Zeb.

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