



Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple



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Clay County Commission approves new E911 communication dispatch purchase after system crash

by Gary Lee Stuber

The second of two monthly meeting of the Clay County Commission was held at 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 26, and lasted only 15 minutes. Commissioners discussed a crash of the E911 system that happened this past month, and they were told no new parts were available to fix it. The dispatch system was so antique that parts were not available. To get past the emergency, they were able to find a few used parts available for purchase. They were also told that if the system went down again there was no way in the future to fix it.

Commission President Joyce Johnson assured the public that the system was fully functional through the crash thanks to a backup system. They sent out bids for replacement systems and received only one bid. That bid was for \$46,100 from Tanner Communications. The two physically present commissioners, Johnson and Connie Kinder, and Commissioner David Schoolcraft participating via phone, unanimously accepted the bid

and arranged for Tanner Communications to begin the needed replacement.

The remainder of the meeting used for administrative items, including approving bills and purchase orders; approving previous meeting minutes; approving a list of Wills, Last Testaments, and final settlements; and appointing administrators for estates submitted to the commission.

Of bills submitted, commissioners approved purchases for the sheriff's office except those for which they had no receipts or authorizations. That is a conversation they will have with the sheriff and expect to resolve.

Commissioners also approved a temporary assignment of duties and a salary adjustment for Malinda Stewart who works for Jim Samples office. Presently, Malinda is doing the work of two people, doubling her hours until such time and they can get a new permanent employee hired.

The next commission meeting will take place at the Clay County Commission room at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 11.



Ms. Paxton's classroom was the second highest attendance score in the county with 95.82 percent for the sixth month of the school year. Pictured with students are Superintendent Dobbins and Principal Boggs

Student Attendance rates released

County wide student attendance for the sixth month of the school year was 91.97 percent. Clay Elementary School led the county with a 94.09 attendance rate, followed by Big Otter Elementary School with a 93.77 rate. Clay Middle School was third at 93.09.

The best classroom rate in the county was at H. E. White Elementary School with Addie Cole's second grade classroom at 97.74.

Second best in the county was at Big Otter Elementary with Jamie Paxton's second grade classroom at a rate of 95.82.

Jessica Stone was on top at Clay Elementary with 94.75 percent; Joy Miller was the best at Clay High School at 94.00; Richard Triplett at Lizemore with a rate of 93.93; and Clay Middle has a tie at 93.43 between Michelle Hamrick and Pamela Huffman.



Ms. Cole's classroom was the best attendance rate in the county with 97.74 percent. Pictured with students are Superintendent Dobbins and Principal Starcher.



County Commissioners Joyce Johnson and Connie Kinder.

PAX students named at Big Otter

Students at Big Otter Elementary are following the PAX Good Behavior Game and becoming role models for other students. These students show a positive attitude towards their classmates and teachers. PAX Stars are rewarded with a certificate and a special lunch with their family. Congratulations to the following students for being selected as the February 2024 PAX Leaders at Big Otter Elementary School!

- Mr. Vaughan 5th Grade - Taygan Boggs
- Mrs. Burns - 4th Grade - Jenna Paxton

- Mrs. Pierson - 3rd Grade - Jacob Sears
- Mr. Vaughan - 3rd Grade - Emma Stephens
- Ms. Jarvis - 2nd Grade - Jessie Cadle
- Ms. Paxton - 2nd Grade - Owen Paxton
- Ms. Douglas - 1st Grade - Zaydon Fugate
- Mrs. Collins - Kindergarten - Solomon James
- Mrs. Holcomb - Kindergarten - Natalie Young (Not Pictured)
- Mrs. Marks - PreK - Amelia O'Dell (Not Pictured)
- Ms. Sears - PreK - Tobias Snodgrass



WV Disaster Recovery Centers' Hours Change

The state-federal Disaster Recovery Centers in Boone, Calhoun, Clay, Harrison, and Kanawha counties will have new hours starting Feb. 29, 2024.

The centers are located at:
Clay County: 223 Main Street, Clay. Hours of operation: Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Calhoun County: 80 Spring Road, Arnoldsburg, WV. Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Boone County: 38 John Slack Circle, Racine. Hours of operation: Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Kanawha County (Belle): Bell Town Hall, 1100 E. Dupont Avenue, Belle. Hours of operation: Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Kanawha County (Penn VA): Penn

VA Coal Carbon Center, 13905 MacCorkle Avenue, Charleston. Hours of operation: Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If it is not possible to visit the Disaster Recovery Center or to apply online, call 800-621-3362. The toll-free telephone line operates from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week. If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service.

For more information on West Virginia's disaster recovery, visit emd.wv.gov, West Virginia Emergency Management Division Facebook page, www.fema.gov/disaster/4756 and www.facebook.com/FEMA.

Seasons end for Panther Basketball and Wrestling



L-R Zane Minger, 3rd place, James Sears 4th place, and Blake Coleman 6th place

story Page 8

BOOKED



REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

NICHOLAS COUNTY



Steven Paul Acree
Booked 3/1/24
Possession with intent, conspiracy



Kimberly Michelle Crites
Booked 3/2/24
Possession of a controlled substance



Norma Jean Duncan
Booked 2/29/24
Day report violation



Joshua Gauge Harvey
Booked 3/3/24
Wanton endangerment, shooting within 500 feet of dwelling, DUI



Jennifer Nicole Hawkins
Booked 3/1/24
Possession with intent to deliver controlled substance, conspiracy



Kyle Lee Hinkle
Booked 3/1/24
Fleeing DUI, fleeing in vehicle

NICHOLAS COUNTY



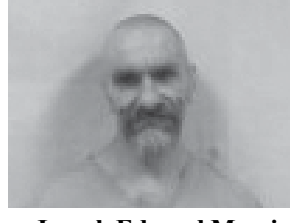
Hayley Elizabeth Hughes
Booked 2/28/24
Bond violation



Jason Tyler Lay
Booked 2/28/24
Day report violation



Jordan Louann Metheny
Booked 2/28/24
Child neglect, conspiracy, possession with intent



Joseph Edward Morris
Booked 3/2/24
Brandishing, domestic assault, domestic battery



Raymond Glen Neil
Booked 2/28/24
Bond violation, violation of protective order

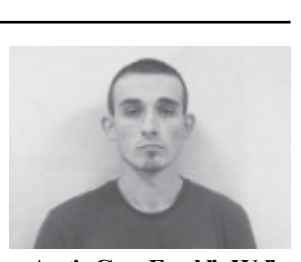


Billy Joe Duffield
Booked 2/27/24
Trespassing, prohibited person with firearm

CLAY COUNTY



Joseph Edward Hopkins
Booked 2/28/24
Possession of a controlled substance



Austin Gene-Franklin Walls
Booked 2/28/24
No insurance



Melinda Louise Carter
Booked 2/26/24
Possession with intent, conspiracy, probation violation



Amy Beth Dorsey
Booked 2/26/24
Bailpiece



Jordan Matthew Grubb
Booked 2/28/24
Stalking, harassment, intimidation of a witness



Stanley Joseph Heater
Booked 2/26/24
Possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance

BRAXTON COUNTY



Thomas Graham Jackson
Booked 3/3/24
Possession of marijuana, possession of controlled substance



Emilie Marie Rhodes
Booked 2/28/24
Obstructing an officer



Sarah Beth Stump
Booked 2/26/24
Desecration of flag, destruction of property, trespass on property other than structure or conveyance

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Courthouse News



Friday, March 8, 2024 Docket Schedule for Magistrate: Rider, Charles "Jeff:"

09:00 AM, State v. Roger Dale Rogers, Pre-Trial Hearing, Unsafe and improperly equipped vehicles; applicability of article to farm and road equipment, Driving while license suspended or revoked; General-Driving Suspended

09:00 AM, State v. Roger Dale Rogers, Pre-Trial Hearing, No vehicle insurance

09:30 AM, State v. Jonathan Fitzgerald Stutler, Pre-Trial Hearing, Operators license - Driving while license suspended or revoked, Possession of controlled substance without valid prescription

10:00 AM, State v. Renea Lynne Bloom, Pre-Trial Hearing, Unlawful removal, injury to or destruction of property, Trespass in structure or conveyance

10:30 AM, State v. John Jacob Foster, Pre-Trial Hearing, Possession of controlled substance without valid prescription

11:00 AM, State v. Marty L Schoonover, Preliminary Hearing, Burglary - Entry of dwelling or outhouse

11:30 AM, State v. Elizabeth Dori Ann Cullum, Pre-Trial Hearing, Operation without certificate of inspection or failure to produce certificate, Expired motor vehicle registration

01:00 PM, State v. James Edward Tidwell, Pre-Trial Hearing, Driving while license suspended or revoked; No vehicle insurance, Operation of vehicles without evidences of registration

erty designated a critical infrastructure facility
02:00 PM, State v. Adam Dwayne Parsons, Pre-Trial Hearing, Operators license - Driving while license suspended or revoked, Improper use of evidences of registration, Operation without certificate of inspection or failure to produce certificate, Possession of controlled substance without valid prescription
02:30 PM, State v. Elizabeth Ellen Roberts, Pre-Trial Hearing, Failure or neglect to properly endorse and deliver certificate of title to transferee or owner
02:30 PM, State v. Elizabeth Ellen Roberts, Pre-Trial Hearing, Driving too fast for roadway conditions, Operators license - Driving while license suspended or revoked, Failure to maintain motor vehicle insurance

10:00 AM, State v. Renea Lynne Bloom, Pre-Trial Hearing, Unlawful removal, injury to or destruction of property, Trespass in structure or conveyance
10:30 AM, State v. John Jacob Foster, Pre-Trial Hearing, Possession of controlled substance without valid prescription
11:00 AM, State v. Marty L Schoonover, Preliminary Hearing, Burglary - Entry of dwelling or outhouse
11:30 AM, State v. Elizabeth Dori Ann Cullum, Pre-Trial Hearing, Operation without certificate of inspection or failure to produce certificate, Expired motor vehicle registration

03:00 PM, State v. Syamantaka N Detamore, Pre-Trial Hearing, Operation without certificate of inspection or failure to produce certificate, Expired motor vehicle registration
03:00 PM, State v. Syamantaka N Detamore, Pre-Trial Hearing, Operation without certificate of inspection or failure to produce certificate, Expired motor vehicle registration

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Puzzle Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

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PUBLIC NOTICES

The Clay County High School Athletic Hall of Fame is currently accepting nominations for this year's induction class. Online nominations link can be found at claycountyhighschool.org. Physical nomination forms are available at Clay County High School and Clay County Bank. Forms can be mailed to: Clay County High School - Athletic Hall of Fame - c/o Trey Corwell, 1 Panther Drive, Clay, WV 25043.

The deadline for nominations is April 1. The induction ceremony takes place Saturday, September 21 at 4:00 p.m., just before the alumni dinner. All alumni are welcome to attend. Please feel free to call (304) 587-4226 with any questions.

The Elk Conservation District is holding a Fruit Tree and Plant Sale. There are raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, rhubarb, apple, plum, pear, and hardwood tree seedlings. Contact the ECD office to request an order form at 304-765-2535, 738 Airport Road, Sutton, WV.

Clay Roane Public Service District: Per motion passed on Feb. 15, 2024, the Board Meeting dates and times have changed to the following: Regular Board meetings shall be held each third Monday of every month at 6 p.m. via the online Zoom website. Except for the months of March, June, September, and December which will be held in person at the office of Clay Roane PSD, same date and time.

The Birch River PSD will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 12, at 9 a.m., at the PSD office in Birch River.

The Clay County Middle School afterschool program is still seeking donated sewing machines. If you have a working portable sewing machine that you no longer need and would like to donate to a beginning sewist, please drop it off at the Clay County Library earmarked for the CCMS sewing class. The manual would be great to have with the machine. Please, include your contact information. In the case that the class is too small for the number of machines that may be donated, leave a note saying what you want done with it. Thank you in advance for your support!

The Clay County WIC office located at 452 Main Street in Clay is open to serve the public every Monday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A Boxing Lesson

By Joseph J. Mazzella

It's funny how something can happen to you that you file away in the back of your heart and mind only to figure out what it was trying to teach you many years later. That is what happened to me today when I thought back on an old memory.

I was a teenager visiting my friend's home and he showed me two pairs of boxing gloves he had just gotten. Being boys we decided to give them a try with a boxing match in the yard. It soon became clear, however, that my friend had a boxing lesson or two while I'd had none. In addition to this he was taller than me and had a longer reach. Soon my face was red and stinging from jabs he landed while I missed every punch. I found myself growing madder and madder and my anger welled up inside of me. Finally I swung a wild hook that connected and I saw my friend wince in pain. But for some reason instead of feeling glad I felt bad. I didn't like hurting him. I dropped my gloves,

told him I'd had enough, and stopped the match.

Looking back on that memory now I can see that God was speaking to my heart and soul through my feelings that day. He was trying to teach me something but I was still too young and immature to see it fully. He was trying to show me that as much as this world tries to tell us otherwise, we are not here to hurt each other. We are here to help each other. We are all His Children. We are all one family. We are all here to love each other as much as we love ourselves. And any time we hurt another we hurt ourselves just as much.

I have never been in another boxing match since that day, but sadly I have still hurt people in other ways. Like all of us, I am a work in progress. After all of these years I am still learning how to live. After all these years I am still learning how to love. It takes a lifetime. But in the end I am sure God will get through to us all and we will spend eternity in His Love and Joy.

Dancing The Critter/ Bug Shuffle

By Dr. James L. Snyder

I must confess that I do have a liking for critters of all kinds. I enjoy feeding them out on the back porch, and boy, do they come hungry for their treats.

Two cats born in our garage are still hanging around. They come morning, noon, and night for their treats. In the morning, they like to come and have me scratch their head. I'm not sure what that has to do with anything, but I'm willing to scratch their head if that's what they want.

Unlike me, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is not very fond of critters of any nature. The only critter she likes is Yours Truly. I guess I'm enough of a critter to satisfy any longings like that. I hope she doesn't try to scratch my head.

When she goes to the door and opens it, the cats run in like they are crazy. As soon as they see that it's her, they turn around and race outside as fast as possible.

For me, it's fun to watch all these critters gather around as though they were friends.

We have about five cats, four raccoons, two possums, and lately, our newest critters are chickens from our neighbor next door.

For some reason, these chickens have found the kitty food on our porch and like coming over and enjoy a snack. I en-

joy watching them dance around on the porch, eating the snacks.

Also, the cats are sitting on the rocking chairs on the porch and over these chickens as they come for their daily treats.

If The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage sees these chickens, she immediately opens the door and chases them away. She will often throw water at them to keep them from returning.

Obviously, they're not that frightened of her and return on a regular schedule. To them it's Treats over Fear.

Out on the porch, we also have a bunch of birds, and at times hummingbirds. We have a lot of wasps and bees flying around. Then we have ants galore. Somehow, they found the bowl of kitty food and try to come as often as they can. The biggest obstacle, of course, is The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

A few years ago, we had foxes that came in the evening, but I haven't seen them for a while.

And then we have lizards. For some reason, they came to our back porch and moved in. They act like they own the place and do all kinds of lizardly things, much to the chagrin of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

I've heard a rumor about some black bear in our neighborhood. It would be a delight some night to see a black bear

coming on our back porch eating some kitty treats. Of course, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage would have an absolute meltdown if that ever happened.

I'm not sure who would be worse off, the black bear or The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

One morning, I was in the bathroom getting ready for the day when I noticed in the shower a little lizard. He climbed halfway up the wall and just stared at me. I think he thought I was the intruder.

I stared back, talked to him a little bit, and told him to be careful of the other person in the house. He just stared at me and blinked his eyes.

I had forgotten that incident, and later in the day, as we were drinking coffee together, I happened to remember it. I looked at my wife and said, "I had a special visitor in the bathroom this morning."

She stared at me and said, "Who was that special visitor?"

I laughed very heartily and said, "That visitor was Henry."

Looking rather strange and confused, she said, "Who is Henry?"

"Ah, my dear, it was a lizard. I just call him Henry because we're friends."

"In your bathroom?" She gasped.

With that, she jumped up and ran to the bathroom looking for Henry. I could hear her frantically calling his name for well over an hour. Finally, it grew silent, and she came out from the bathroom and

sat down.

"Well," I said with a smile, "did you meet my friend Henry?"

Scowling at me, she said, "I flushed your friend down the toilet."

I didn't know if I should have a memorial service for Henry or not. I'm pretty sure The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage would not show up at that service.

I'm patiently waiting for the next Henry to show up in my bathroom. Maybe the next time, I won't tell The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Or, perhaps I should catch one of those lizards, put it in her bathroom, and see what happens.

It might be a memorial service for me.

With that in mind, I thought of an important Bible verse. "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth" (Genesis 1:26).

From God's perspective, we who have been created in His image and likeness, have a responsibility to care for the animals God has created. He has authorized us to care for them in obedience to His Word.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnyderministries.com.

Manchin, Capito urge USPS to reevaluate initial mail processing facility review findings

Last week, U.S. Senators Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) submitted a letter to United States Postal Service (USPS) Postmaster General Louis DeJoy to express their concerns with the initial findings of the USPS Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) of the Charleston Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC). The initial findings recommend transitioning the Charleston P&DC into a Local Processing Center (LPC), which would result in a reduction of jobs and could also result in service disruptions and other negative impacts on the local workforce.

"The loss of the only P&DC in West Virginia would have a negative impact on our constituents and leave our state at a competitive disadvantage. Based on the information that has been provided to us, the full scope of potential impacts on West Virginia's postal services. While we understand the need for USPS to improve operational efficiencies, this should not come at the cost of West Virginia jobs and disruptions to service standards," the Senators wrote in part.

"As USPS proceeds, we urge you to work with affected stakeholders, including relevant unions, state and federal representatives, and West Virginia customers, to address these outstanding concerns," the Senators continued. "In the case of career reas-

signments, we ask the Postal Service to address the needs of impacted employees. Finally, we ask for proactive communication with postal workers about the impact of this MPFR on their careers."

The full letter is as follows:

Dear Postmaster DeJoy,

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the U.S. Postal Service (USPS)'s ongoing Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) of the Charleston Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) under the 10-year Delivering for America plan. As the MPFR's recommendations are finalized, the Postal Service must do right by West Virginia: minimizing staffing reductions, addressing impacts to affected workers and proactively preventing any deterioration of service. The Charleston P&DC is the largest mail processing and distribution facility in the state, and we are pleased to see that USPS' initial findings support keeping this critical facility open. However, we are disappointed to learn that the initial findings of the MPFR recommend a net reduction of jobs in West Virginia, and are concerned that the facility's transition to a Local Processing Center (LPC) collocated with a Sorting and Delivery Center (S&DC) could result in service disruptions and negative effects on the local workforce. Further, we question whether

USPS' facility review truly shows that this is the best course of action, given the inconsistent and nonspecific answers that we and the public have received.

The loss of the only P&DC in West Virginia would have a negative impact on our constituents and leave our state at a competitive disadvantage. Based on the information that has been provided to us, the full scope of potential impacts on West Virginia's postal services is unclear. While we understand the need for USPS to improve operational efficiencies, this should not come at the cost of West Virginia jobs and disruptions to service standards. We were proud to support the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 (PL 117-108) because we know the importance of USPS to West Virginia communities and ensuring the Postal Service meets the challenges and needs of our modern economy. As USPS modernizes this facility, we urge the Postal Service to ensure this process minimizes short- and long-term disruptions to mail service and delivery.

Due to these recent challenges, we are particularly concerned that the initial findings of the MPFR call for a net reduction of 24 craft and 1 management positions. The initial findings also reference potential reassignments for career postal workers. We are also concerned about how USPS plans to prevent any

service disruption during this transition period.

Furthermore, throughout the review process, USPS has not engaged with the public or postal workers openly and transparently. During the public review period, USPS held just one public meeting, which was initially scheduled during working hours on a weekday, only to be abruptly postponed four days before it was to be held and rescheduled for the evening of Valentine's Day, February 14, 2024. In addition, despite identifying a potential reduction of 25 staff, we have yet to learn who will be affected, how USPS plans to relocate these workers within the terms of the collective bargaining agreement, or the cost of implementing the transition and staff relocation. As USPS proceeds, we urge you to work with affected stakeholders, including relevant unions, state and federal representatives, and West Virginia customers, to address these outstanding concerns. In the case of career reassignments, we ask the Postal Service to address the needs of impacted employees. Finally, we ask for proactive communication with postal workers about the impact of this MPFR on their careers.

We look forward to working together to ensure that USPS can continue to serve the people of West Virginia efficiently and effectively. We thank you for your attention to this matter.

LEGAL

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF CLAY COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: Civil Action No.: 23-D-59
The Marriage of: and
Carey Beth Stutler Petitioner and Joshua Don Stutler Respondent

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

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

It appearing by affidavit filed in this action that Joshua Don Stutler is a non-resident of the State of West Virginia or had an unknown address. It is hereby ordered that Joshua Don Stutler serve upon Carey Beth Stutler, petitioner, whose address is 119 Circle Dr., Ravenswood, WV 26168, an Answer, including any related counterclaim or defense you may have to the Petition For Divorce filed in this action on or before the 28th day of March, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. If you fail to Answer the Petition for Divorce, a judgment may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

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

Entered by the Clerk of said Court 3/1/24.

Clarence Hunsbaw
Clerk of the Court

LEGAL

Notice of Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees

Notice is hereby given that the following estate(s) have been opened for probate in the Clay County Clerk's Office at P.O. Box 190, 246 Main Street, Clay, WV 25043-0190. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provisions of West Virginia Code 41-5-11 through 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court, shall file written notice of an objection with the County Commission through the Clay County Clerk's Office at the address listed above within 60 days after the date of the first publication or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred. Any person interested in filing claims against an estate must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-2 or 44-3A.

Settlement of the estate(s) of the following named decedent(s) will proceed without reference to a fiduciary commissioner unless within 60 days from the first publication of this notice a reference is requested by a party of interest or an unpaid creditor files a claim and good cause is shown to support reference to a fiduciary commissioner.

Publication Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024

Claim Deadline: Monday, May 6, 2024

APPOINTMENT DATE 02/23/2024

ESTATE NAME: **ANDREA MCCLURE ANDERSON**

EXECUTRIX SARAH ANN BIRD
1143 RIVER HAVEN RD
CLENDENIN WV 25045-5618

APPOINTMENT DATE 02/23/2024

ESTATE NAME: **DONALD D MOLLOHAN**

EXECUTRIX LAURA WANITA MOLLOHAN
9458 BIG OTTER HWY
NEBO WV 25141

APPOINTMENT DATE 02/09/2024

ESTATE NAME: **CHARLES EDWARD RAY**

ADMINISTRATRIX LISA KATHRYN RAY
3930 WALLBACK RD
WALLBACK WV 25285-9229

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 02/29/2024

Sheila Stone
County Clerk
Clay County
P.O. Box 190
246 Main Street
Clay WV 25043-0190

This Week in the House of Delegates

For the week ending March 1, 2024

Members of the West Virginia Legislature have one full week remaining in the 60-day regular session, and 58 bills have been completed so far.

All 100 members of the House of Delegates voted Wednesday to establish a communication portal for foster parents. House Bill 4975 would require the Department of Human Services to set up a foster parent information system within the existing child welfare information technology system. The cost to sustain the system would be split equally between federal and state dollars.

The bill also would take additional steps to improve conditions within the child welfare system by requiring quarterly evaluations of child protective workers' responses to information put in the new information technology system. The evaluations would be shared with the Foster Care Ombudsman and the Legislative Oversight Commission on Health and Human Resources Accountability.

The bill's lead sponsor, Delegate Adam Burkhammer, R-Lewis, is a foster parent. He described the measure as one step forward in a broad approach to improving the entire child welfare system.

"Once it's proved how

technology runs in this system, it can grow and it can bring other people into the system, ultimately helping across the board," he said. "I am passionate about this."

West Virginians who successfully file claims of less than \$3,000 against the state for road conditions would receive that money faster under the proposals of a bill Delegates unanimously passed Wednesday. House Bill 5595 would authorize those payments, which usually stem from extreme pothole damage, to come through the Legislative Claims Commission outside its regular claims process, which can take many months to resolve.

A bill that would create the Skilled Trades Apprenticeship Nontraditional Degree (STAND) program overwhelmingly passed the House Tuesday. House Bill 5435 would create within the West Virginia Community and Technical College System a program for apprentices or journeyworkers to obtain associate degrees in applied science while they perform on-the-job training and gain practical skills through federally recognized apprenticeship programs.

The House of Delegates unanimously voted Tuesday in favor of House Bill 5399, which would modify the state auditing practices and requirements of

volunteer and part-volunteer fire departments. It would eliminate duplicative fiscal audit requirements and would allow as many as 10 volunteer fire departments to participate in a pilot program using the West Virginia Auditor's Office West Virginia Checkbook fiscal reporting system. The proposal came from the work of several lawmakers during the legislative interim process after hearing from fire departments asking for ways to relieve their administrative burdens.

Also Tuesday the House voted unanimously in favor of House Bill 4882, which was introduced at the request of the governor. The measure would provide in-state tuition rates for all members and veterans of the National Guard, Reserves and Armed Forces as well as their spouses and de-

pendents.

Members of the House of Delegates unanimously approved House Bill 5530 Monday, which would require hospitals to disclose price and fee information for certain hospital services, in line with existing federal regulations, and would add a \$250 fine for hospitals that don't comply. House Health and Human Resources Committee Chair Amy Summers, R-Taylor, is the lead sponsor of the bill and explained not all hospitals follow the current regulations, but the fine may help drive them toward following the law that provides for better customer service in health care.

All these bills have gone to the West Virginia Senate for debate. The regular legislative session ends at midnight Saturday, March 9.

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CLAY COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA

In the Matter of Petition of Name Change of S.D.
Current Name S.D. Civil Action No. 24-P-8
To Judge Asbury
New Name S.F.

Legal Notice of Publication Change of Name

Order of Publication Circuit Court of Clay County West Virginia

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of April, 2024 at 9:50 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, Petitioner Brianna Deems will apply by Petition to the Circuit Court of Clay County, West Virginia, for the entry of an order by said court, changing name of S.D. to S.F. at which time any interested party may appear and be heard, if they so desire.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at his office.

ENTERED by the Clerk of said Court this 20th day of February 2024.

Clarence Hunsbaw
Clerk of the Court

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CLAY COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA

In the Matter of Petition of Name Change of Brianna Deems
Current Name Brianna Deems Civil Action No. 24-P-7
To Judge Asbury
New Name Brianna Floyd

Legal Notice of Publication Change of Name

Order of Publication Circuit Court of Clay County West Virginia

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of April, 2024 at 9:40 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, Petitioner Brianna Deems will apply by Petition to the Circuit Court of Clay County, West Virginia, for the entry of an order by said court, changing name of Brianna Deems to Brianna Floyd at which time any interested party may appear and be heard, if they so desire.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at his office.

ENTERED by the Clerk of said Court this 20th day of February 2024.

Clarence Hunsbaw
Clerk of the Court

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 4th day of April, 2024, at 12:00 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 right 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 Quanter Street, Charleston, West Virginia 25301, telephone (304) 347-1100.
DATED: February 21, 2024

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

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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 1956

Fads and Fashions By Mitzie Bailes

We here are again doing the natural thing.....discussing latest fashions in Widen High School. The wrap around skirt has made its debut and so have Ban-Lon sweaters. Among the most stunning wrap around skirts is a mixed tweed with toggle buttons down the front left side. Ban-Lon sweaters come in assorted colors. The sweater looks very dressy with the wrap around skirts. I have seen several, unusual attractive collars worn by our girls. They are very striking and are easy to care for.

The boys are wearing more and more stripes lately, some have striped shirts, socks, and hats. Some were pink, yellow, blue, red with black stripes. They look real cool. Several boys are sporting neat looking jackets, namely a gray nylon, a black suede and a variety of wool car coats, and several school coats also. They are reversible wool, one side is white with a red buffalo and the other side is red with a white buffalo. Only the basketball boys are eligible to have one.

Congratulations to the seventh, eight, and ninth grade home ec. girls on their style show at PTA on November 18. Everyone of them did a very fine job. We were particularly impressed with a yellow jumper and a brown empire waisted jumper.

Some of our teachers have returned to their bobby sock days by wearing rock and roll shoes with bobby socks to school lately.

Swandale Men Erecting New Auto-Foot Bridge Foundation



Workman Omer Gregorich (L.) and Dean Gray of Swandale, were on the job when this photo was made of the center foundation form on which will rest the pillar helping to support the new pedestrian-automobile bridge to be built at this location over Buffalo Creek in upper Swandale, thus doing away with the unpredictable ford giving access to the town via the "short cut" from route 11 at Harrison, which is only two miles across the hill, and has been rock-

ed and graveled most of the way this summer insuring an all-season road.

The two cement pillars now standing (one visible in the picture) will be lowered to make an easy approach, and the work is being done entirely with volunteer labor by Swandale men when they are off duty at the mill or mine in Widen. The cement base has already been poured and anchor rods placed. Just thought you might like to see how team-work makes progress possible.

Have You Heard That...

Husband Gets New Assignment

Mrs. Wm. J. Butcher of Ft. McClellan, Alabama writes to say that "we want to thank you for sending the Widen News to us Sgt. Butcher has been transferred to Fort Walters, Texas, and the kids and I will be visiting my parents in Ohio where they still receive the news Sgt. Butcher is going to Helicopter school and will train to be a pilot, receiving his commission as a Warrant Officer. Thanks again for sending the Widen News. It was read many times between the mail room and our house." Mrs. W. J. Butcher, 1150 Kenzie Ave., Akron, Ohio.

Son Receives Special Citation

Word has just been received that Airman Third Class Earl E. (Jake) Given recently received a "Certificate of Achievement for outstanding performance and academic duties," while he was attending the course of technical instruction in

electrical engineering at Sheppard Air Force Base. He led his class with a scholastic average of 66.

In writing to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Given of Strange Creek, his commanding officer, J. W. Wallace Brigadier General U. S. A. F., Wing Commander, stated further that "His technical ability and earnest application reflect great credit upon himself and is hereby commended for this notable achievement."

Mary McVicker Recent Visitor

One of our native Widenites who spent a long week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hickman here in late summer was Mrs. John Gilbert and their children John age 6, and James, age 3. Mrs. Hickman (Pat Griffith) and Mrs. Gilbert are old friends and they enjoyed seeing each other after a long separation. The Gilberts live in Akron, Ohio.

On Champion Pistol Team
State Conservation Officer Paul Patton of Gassaway, a native Widenite, was a member of the five-man district No. 1 pistol team from the Commission which won the championship in a shooting match of Conservation officers recently. Officer Patton is presently covering the Tyler County territory.

Undergoes Surgical Treatment

YMCA service station attendant Ralph Fields has been absent from his work lately due to treatment and major surgery to correct a foot difficulty. Bill Patton is substituting for him at the gas pumps.

Air Force Police Sergeant Here

Sgt. Dorsel H. Perry and his wife and children Pam and Mike came in last week to surprise Mrs. Perry's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dodrill. Mrs. Perry with the children expects to visit a while here. Sgt. Perry returned to his station the 27th.

Signal Corpsman Home

Mr. and Mrs. Dale McClung of Ft. Gordon, Georgia, near Augusta, made a hurried trip home to see their folks over Thanksgiving. Mrs. McClung is the former Miss Carol Adkins.

Dock Tractor Operator Promoted

Junior Gray, who was a tractor operator on the dock at the Swandale Mill, has been advanced to the position of lumber inspector, following the completion of a six months course at the John W. McClure National Hardwood School in Memphis, Tennessee, according to an announcement by assistant superintendent Noble Conner.

Airman Recovering From Fall

Aviator enthusiast Darrell Wood, general mine foreman here, is recovering from a fall from the roof of the new hanger he is building up the John Talbert hollow near the air strip where he lands and takes off in his new four passenger Piper Cub plane.

Operation Successful

Tom Bragg, blacksmith-machinist in the electric shop, is at his Harrison home again after a siege in Charleston General Hospital for internal major surgery.

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OBITUARY

The soul of Thomas John Carr left this earth to join the heavenly host on February 22, 2024.

Tom died at home after a short illness attended by his wife of 34 years, Beatrice May Carr, and his brother and sister-in-law William and Deborah.

Tom resided in Harrison in Clay County, WV. He was a devout Christian and was a member and trustee of Lighthouse Baptist Church in Ivydale, WV. He was also an army veteran of the Vietnam War, and a loving son, husband, father, and brother. Tom was retired from Lake Champlain Transportation Company of Burlington, VT, where he was a marine engineer and electrician. He was also a skilled mechanic

and could fix or repair just about anything.

Preceded in death by his father, Richard Albert Carr and his mother, Betty Lou Fogg, he is survived by his wife and three brothers, Daniel Robert of Jacksonville, FL, William Albert of Harrison, WV, and Stephen Edward of San Antonio, TX; a son, Joshua Caleb Carr, of Wallback, WV, and a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth Carr of Burlington, VT; and three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

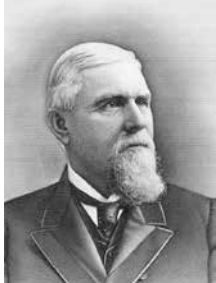
After cremation, a memorial service will be held at Lighthouse Baptist Church on March 9th beginning at 11 a.m. with Pastor Mark Dudley presiding. All who knew Tom are welcome to attend.

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

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

March 6, 1820: Joseph H. Diss Debar was born in France. Diss Debar was the designer of the Great Seal of West Virginia and the state's first commissioner of immigration.

March 6, 1828: Johnson Camden was born in Lewis County. In 1861, he opened one of the state's first oil wells, in Wirt County, and a refinery in Parkersburg in 1869. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1881.



March 6, 1900: A mine explosion at the Red Ash Mine in Fayette County killed 46 men. It was the state's first major mine disaster of the 20th century. Five years later, another 24 men were killed at the same mine.

March 7, 1856: Tucker County was formed from Randolph County and named for Henry St. George Tucker Sr., a Virginia soldier, statesman

and jurist.

March 7, 1929: The legislature adopted the official state flag. The state's coat of arms is emblazoned in color in the center. Above the seal is a red ribbon lettered "State of West Virginia," and a wreath of rhododendron surrounds the lower part of the seal. The white field of the flag is bordered on four sides by a strip of blue.



March 7, 1990: West Virginia teachers went on strike after negotiations with the governor's office and legislature failed to produce an agreement on a pay package. Teachers in 47 of the 55 counties were involved in the 11-day strike.

March 8, 1926: An explosion killed 19 miners at Eccles in Raleigh County. Ten men were saved by barricading themselves in the mine.



March 8, 1963: The state colors of blue and "old gold" were adopted by the legislature.

March 9, 1832: George Robert Latham was born. At the onset of the Civil

War, Latham turned his Grafton law office into a recruiting station, and he led the first Union troops in north-central West Virginia.

March 9, 1953: Football player Dennis Harrah was born in South Charleston. In the NFL, Harrah played in 168 games for the Los Angeles Rams (1975-87), was a six-time All Pro, and played in one Super Bowl.



March 9, 1965: President Lyndon Johnson signed the act establishing the Appalachian Regional Commission.

March 10, 1915: West Virginia's first Rotary International club was established in Wheeling.

March 10, 1920: West Virginia became the 34th state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guaranteed the right of women to vote.



March 11, 1847: Boone County was formed from parts of Logan, Kanawha and Cabell counties and named for Daniel Boone.

March 11, 1848: Putnam County was formed from portions of Kanawha, Mason and Cabell counties. It was named in honor of Gen. Israel Putnam, a leading commander at the Battle of Bunker Hill during the Revolutionary War.

March 11, 1856: Roane County was created from parts of Kanawha, Jackson and Gilmer counties. It was named for Judge Spencer Roane, a son-in-law of Patrick Henry.

March 12, 1835: Marshall County was created from part of Ohio County. It was named for John Marshall, chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

March 12, 1850: Wheeling Hospital was chartered. During the Civil War, the institution was used as a general military hospital. The Sisters of Saint Joseph were hired as army nurses, treating wounded Union and Confederate soldiers side by side.



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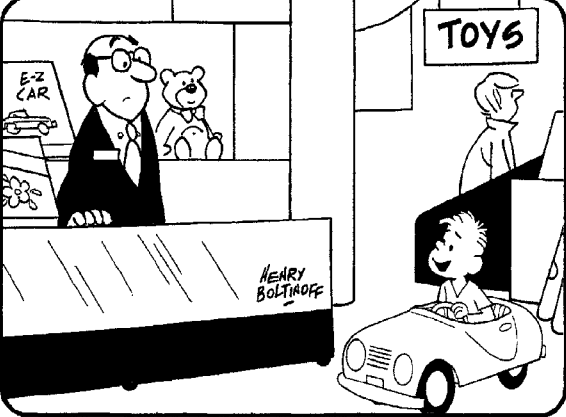
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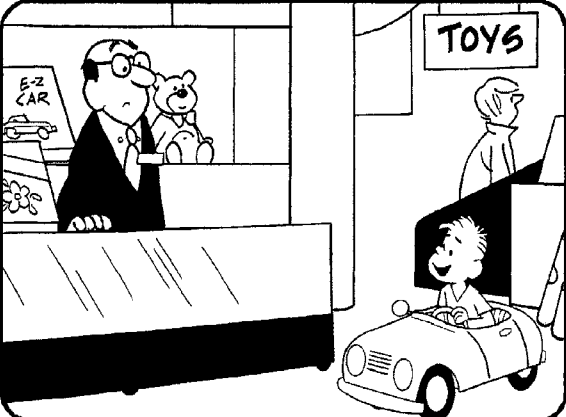
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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Car door is different. 2. Rear tire is moved. 3. Side mirror is added to car. 4. Teddy bear is moved. 5. Nametag is moved. 6. License plate is missing.

Super Crossword ADDITIVE-FREE

ACROSS	40 Technique for viewing a slow process quickly	78 Former "Idol" judge	119 Capital of South Korea	18 Tempestuous	70 Gas in signs
1 Not suitable	43 Cattle farm	79 Bob of play-by-play	120 Actress Best	24 Spicy cuisine	71 Gasless car
6 "Sorry to intrude ..."	45 Prefix with nourished	82 Wolfed down	121 Really mad	25 — Reader (magazine)	78 Tipoffs in hoops, e.g.
10 Capricious ideas	46 In a daze	84 Launching of people into orbit	122 The "T" of 66-Down	31 Carrier based in New Delhi	80 Christie's "A Pocket Full —"
15 Cartoonist Addams, informally	47 First first lady of the U.S.	88 Insurance payment	123 Day divisions	33 Hawke of film	81 Depots: Abbr.
19 Payments to the IRS	51 Gets close to	92 "The Simpsons" shopkeeper	124 Bargain	34 Salvador of surreal art	83 Not old-fashioned
20 Oscar winner Robert De —	55 Sesame seed paste	93 Was overlong	125 Restaurant notice that's applicable to this puzzle's seven longest answers?	35 Spicy	84 Cabinet dept. since 1965
21 Capital of Vietnam	56 Pucksters' org. with the Calder Cup	94 Dual-focus course about bodily structures	DOWN	36 From — Z	85 Twosome
22 Sword handle	57 Newspaper think piece	100 Some kitchen appliances, for short	1 Bit of news	37 Sig Nu, e.g.	86 Abbr. on military mail
23 Fifth Avenue skyscraper	60 Born as	101 From a northwest Italian port	2 Wine valley	38 Video game tomb raider	87 Societal
26 Other, in Acapulco	61 Toon sheet	102 Certain South African	3 Allies' rival	39 Teetering	89 It might have mascara on it
27 Identity hider	62 Hedy of "Ecstasy"	103 Arena level	4 Sprightly	40 — a soul	90 Pas' mates
28 Altitudes: Abbr.	66 Rome's — Fountain	105 "Hallelujah Chorus" composer	5 Mao — tung	6 Object of hate	91 Opal ending
29 — -C (PC copy command)	67 Dollar bill	106 Rough — wood	6 Thwacks	7 Thwacks	94 Horror-struck
30 What a groom may toss	68 Advance inquiry into a crime, e.g.	107 City vehicle	8 Before	8 Before	95 All-Star pitcher Denny
32 "Uh-huh"	72 Israeli city close to Ben Gurion Airport	108 Gas brand	9 Woman's quaint headpiece	9 Before	96 Yearly
34 Pioneer Boone, informally	73 Big name in life insurance	112 Water, in Acapulco	10 Jacuzzi, e.g.	9 Woman's quaint headpiece	97 Gordie of hockey
35 Orthodox Jewish movement	74 Decrease	113 What love is, per a Four Aces #1 tune, with "a"	11 Recital venue	10 Jacuzzi, e.g.	98 Itched (for)
37 Rapper — Rida	75 Doc for the neck up	118 Crate piece	12 Not Rep. or Dem.	11 Recital venue	99 Seine feeder
	76 D-H linkup		13 Mimi's "me" with a tune	12 Not Rep. or Dem.	104 Trendy again
	77 FDR or HST		14 Celebrates with a tune	13 Mimi's "me" with a tune	106 Stimulate
			15 Animal with a backbone	14 Celebrates with a tune	107 — fide
			16 Relative of a shout-out	15 Animal with a backbone	109 Phony
			17 Anew	16 Relative of a shout-out	110 Creates a lap
				17 Anew	111 Blood type, for short
					114 Prefix with pagan
					115 Part of TTYL
					116 HST follower
					117 Loud noise

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18						
19							20					21							22							
23						24						25						26								
27							28					29					30	31								
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37	38	39			40				41						42											
43						44																				
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68						69									70							71				
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94	95	96													97	98							100			
101																							104			
105																							108	109	110	111
112								113	114	115					116											117
118																										121
122																										125

Puzzle Answers Page 2

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Seasons end and seasons begin



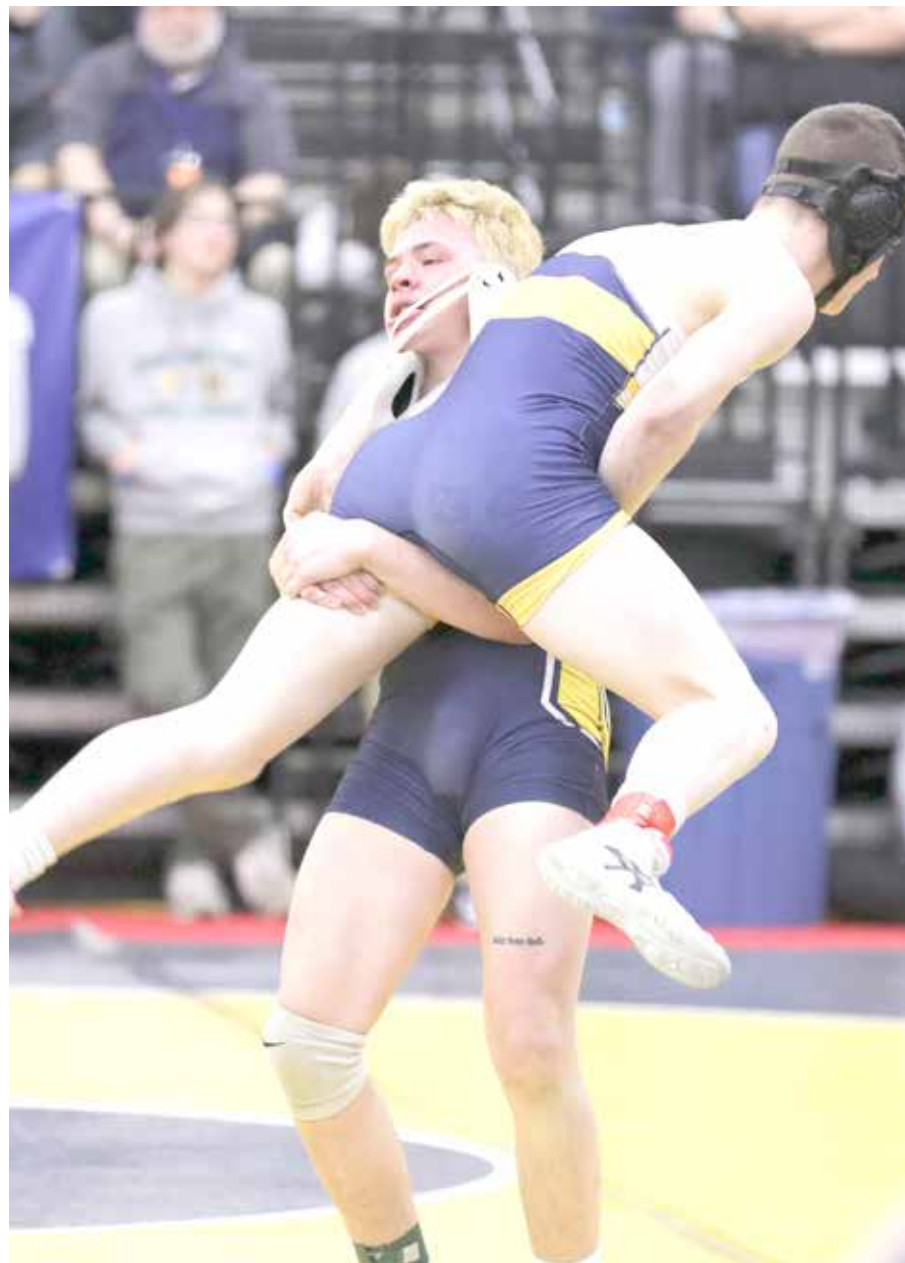
Logan Hobbs nearly gets the pin.

By Allen Hamrick

The Panthers ended their season with a loss against Charleston Catholic on Tuesday night by the score of 38 - 79. I will say this, they lack nothing when it comes to fast paced action. They gave what the fans paid for, but the parachute just wouldn't open to keep the season going. They came out looking like they would make this matchup with Charleston Catholic a good one; however, the wheels on the buck board started falling off in the first period and didn't stop till the axle broke. Charleston Catholic racked up close to 40 points in the first half and didn't look back. The Panthers usual scoring offense just couldn't get the job done this time. The Panthers have had a rough time with a mid season change in coaches, and they just couldn't seem to get in gear to this season. However, they are a young team and will return stronger next season. CCHS will lose four players - Kendall Truman, Micah Osborne, Zach Deyton, and Michael Adkins - as they move on to some form of higher learning. These were good ball players who gave a hundred percent in each game they played.

Panther wrestlers have ended their season on the mats at the State Wrestling Tournament held in Huntington over the past weekend. Once again this season, the Panthers were all out at every match up and qualified five individuals for the state competition. They went head to head all season and put some great individual records in the books. This final weekend was a tough event as some of the finest wrestlers were going down in flames getting beat early in the tournament. James Sears, at 113 pounds, wrestled a great tournament, went 4-2 and placed 4th overall. Zane Minger also wrestled a great tournament going 4-1 and placing 3rd overall. Blake Coleman in his freshman year had a great tournament. After losing his first match on Saturday, he fought his way back winning the next three matches and placing 6th in his first state tournament; only time will tell just how far he will go. Logan Hobbs and Dawson Chandler didn't place among the top scorers but wrestled some tough matches. Next year could very well be the year of the Panther.

With these two events finished, indoor sports come to a close for CCHS and CCMS for this school year. This can



Dawson Chandler looks for the take down.

only mean one thing - outdoor sports, spring, warm weather, gardens, fishing, racing and white water rafting. Small jaws and bucket mouths will be tail dancing as bent poles will try and land them. Baseball, softball, and track teams are gearing up, as well. Panther baseball and Lady Panther fast pitch softball teams are oiling up the mitts and rotator cuffs in preparation for their fun in the sun as try outs and rostering teams become a daily exercise. The track teams are getting the kinks worked out of their legs and arms and will be a threat at Field events. All of the schedules will be posted online

and made available so that you will know when and where to go. Clay County will indeed be the place for spring and summer action, and there will be lots to do to get out of those winter time blues. Not only can you take advantage of school and community youth sports, but there is opportunity for hiking, kayaking, fishing and biking. So, shake the spiders out of those lawn chairs, put batteries in the boom box and clean the mold out of the coolers - you don't want to miss all the opportunities this county has to offer. No excuses, the great outdoors of Clay County are heating up.



Micah Osborne works in a war zone.



Zach Deyton gets two in the paint.



Noah Collins gets in a tough lay-up.

Hill places at Regional Math Field Day

By Allen Hamrick

Congratulations to Luke Hill, 10th grade student at CCHS for placing at Regional Math Field Day held on February 27, 2024, at the University of Charleston. Hill finished in the top 15 high school students in the region as a sophomore. One hundred twelve students from fourth through twelfth grades from Boone,

Clay, Kanawha and Putnam counties gathered at the University of Charleston to compete as mathletes. Events included a written test, mental math, estimation computation and physical estimation. At the conclusion of some intense competition, Luke Hill placed among the strongest high school students in the area of mathematics. Way to go Luke!



Luke Hill places at Regional Math Field Day.

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