



# Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple



Volume 135 No. 11

Periodical Postage Paid at Clay, West Virginia 25043-0180

Thursday, June 27, 2024

\$1.00

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## Henderson completes Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy



Cadet David Railey Henderson

The Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy is pleased to announce Class 1-24 as the 62<sup>nd</sup> class to complete this West Virginia National Guard Program. Commencement exercises were held Friday, June 14th at Camp Dawson in Kingwood. A total of 85 graduates from 34 counties across the State of West Virginia successfully completed the requirements for graduation. CSM James Jones congratulated the Cadets and gave the commencement address.

The following Cadets participated from Clay County:

Cadet David Railey Henderson, son of Stephanie Henderson of Bickmore, was in Platoon 2. Cadet Henderson was recognized for receiving the Mentorship as well as obtaining the six Individual Val-

ues Recognition Ribbons.

All graduating Cadets have completed the residential phase of ChalleNGe, which includes activities in eight core component areas ranging from Service to Community to Employability Skills. Cadets in this class provided 3687.5 hours of Service to Community for such organizations as American Red Cross, Trout for Cheat, Camp Galilee, Girl Scouts of America, and Operation Gratitude. Following graduation, these Cadets will begin a one-year post-residential phase of ChalleNGe that includes placement activities in education and/or employment.

Applications are currently being accepted for Class 2-24 South that begins in October. Call toll-free at 1-800-529-7700 for more information.

## Summer heat, summer fun



Hiking near Adair.

See story on Page 8

## 2024 Golden Horseshoe Knighting Ceremony held

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) recognized the latest inductees of the Golden Horseshoe Society on Tuesday, June 11 at the West Virginia Culture Center. This year, 227 8th graders participated in a total of three ceremonies as they were knighted into West Virginia history.

Abigail Grandon, James Gunter, and Gabriel Shamblin, all of Clay Middle School, were knighted at the ceremony.

This year marks the 308th anniversary of the Golden Horseshoe legacy, and it remains the longest-running program of its kind in the country with the annual state recognitions dating back to 1931. In 1716 Governor of the Virginia Colony Alexander Spotswood organized and recognized a delegation of men who explored the land west of the Allegheny Mountains (most of which is now West Virginia). He presented each with a small golden horseshoe to commemorate their bravery in crossing the mountain.



## Manchin announces \$3.7M for severe storm repairs on the Buffalo Creek Trail

This week, U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (I-WV), member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced \$3,752,694 from U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Clay County Business Development Authority. The funding will support repairs to the Buffalo Creek Recreational Trail as a result of storms and flooding in 2016.

"I'm pleased that FEMA is investing more than \$3.7 million for repairs to the Buffalo Creek Recreational Trail in Clay

County after the severe weather events in 2016," said Senator Manchin. "It is vital that West Virginia communities receive resources to rebuild and recover after any storm or disaster comes our way. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will continue working with federal, state and local officials to deliver critical investments for the Mountain State."

The 2016 floods resulted in severe damages in Clay, Kanawha, Fayette, Nicholas, Summers and Greenbrier counties.

# BOOKED



# REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

## NICHOLAS COUNTY



**Cleva Nichole Cook**  
Booked 6/19/24  
Grand larceny, false info to law enforcement



**Jesse Ray Copen**  
Booked 6/23/24  
Burglary, disruption of religious process



**Domingo Garcia/Mendoza**  
Booked 6/19/24  
Failure to maintain control of vehicle, aggravated DUI



**Mark Alan Grose**  
Booked 6/21/24  
Domestic battery, domestic assault



**Ikeem Jarmer Hudson**  
Booked 6/20/24  
Obstructing an officer, battery of an official



**Brett Allan Naylor**  
Booked 6/20/24  
Trespassing, stalking, assault

## BRAXTON COUNTY



**Harold Luther Arnett Jr.**  
Booked 6/18/24  
Capias



**James Denver Criner**  
Booked 6/20/24  
Driving revoked for DUI third



**Jorge Geraldo Villarreal-Gutierrez**  
Booked 6/18/24  
Domestic battery, domestic assault



**Michael Wayne White Jr.**  
Booked 6/16/24  
No operators, no proof of insurance, no proof of registration, DUI first offense, defective equipment, failure to maintain control of vehicle

## CLAY COUNTY



**Renea Lynne Bloom**  
Booked 6/23/24  
Destruction of property



**Sabrina Eve Bookheimer**  
Booked 6/22/24  
Nighttime burglary

## CLAY COUNTY



**Franklin Edward Light**  
Booked 6/20/24  
No insurance, no proof of registration, defective equipment, driving revoked for DUI, possession of a controlled substance



**Adam Fredrick Wood**  
Booked 6/22/24  
Expired MVI, improper registration, driving while suspended

## Understand Your Hope Gas Bill

By PSC Chair Charlotte Lane

Today's column is part of an ongoing program by the Public Service Commission of West Virginia to help you read and understand your utility bills. Hope Gas has a relatively simple bill for consumers to see what costs they have incurred.

You will find a box under the listing of "Summary of Basic Charges" that can be found on the right side of the first page of your Hope Gas bill.

This information section updates customers as to credits and charges incurred since their last bill. It clearly states in bold letters total current charges, and a separate line tells the customer his or her total account balance.

Within this box is a breakdown of the billing. The line labeled "Gas Usage Charge" should reflect the largest billing cost, since it covers the amount the customer must pay for the gas used during the previous month. This is a dollar amount calculated on the basis of each 1,000 cubic feet of natural gas used that month by the customer. The Public Service Commission allows the company to bill for what it costs for it to purchase and

deliver gas. Its purchase price fluctuates, depending upon what the company must pay for gas it purchases.

The second-largest billing amount in this box should be what is listed as the service charge. Hope incurs fixed costs each month, regardless of the amount of gas used by its customers. This monthly service charge covers part of these ongoing costs. It includes such things as meter reading, billing, customer accounting, pipeline capacity, and operating and maintenance expenses.

Some Hope bills may also include municipal surcharge and excise taxes. These categories are dependent upon whether the customer lives within a municipal area that imposed such taxes. If so, then those will be on the bill as separate charges. Otherwise, they will not. Municipal tax and excise fees are simple pass-through charges and do not accrue to the company at all.

Hope has an excellent website that can give you more details about your bill and other helpful information. Once again, it is our aim and Hope's to make it easier for you to understand what you pay for when you pay your monthly bill. I hope you have found this to be helpful.

## April Red Meat Production

Commercial red meat production during April 2024 totaled 900,000 pounds. This was down 1 percent from April 2023. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 1,287,000 pounds live weight, down 3 percent from April 2023. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,100 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 71 pounds from the previous year, at 1,196 pounds. Commercial calf slaughter was not published because data were less than level of precision shown or not applicable. Commercial hog slaughter totaled 186,000 pounds live weight, up 2 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 306 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. United States - Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.64 billion pounds in April, up 10 percent from the 4.20 billion pounds produced in April 2023. Beef production, at 2.30 billion pounds, was 11 percent above the previous year.

Cattle slaughter totaled 2.73 million head, up 7 percent from April 2023. The average live weight was up 41 pounds from the previous year, at 1,395 pounds.

Veal production totaled 3.5 million pounds, 2 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 17,500 head, down 20 percent from April 2023. The average live weight was up 59 pounds from last year, at 338 pounds. Pork production totaled 2.32 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, up 10 percent from April 2023. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 290 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.4 million pounds, was up 4 percent from April 2023. Sheep slaughter totaled 188,800 head, 2 percent above last year. The average live weight was 119 pounds, up 2 pounds from April a year ago. January to April 2024 commercial red meat production was 18.3 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2023. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 9 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

April 2023 contained 20 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

April 2024 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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

## Puzzle Answers

### Weekly SUDOKU

#### Answer

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

### Super Crossword

#### Answers

M	A	M	B	O	P	E	T	C	O	C	E	L	L	C	U	S	P		
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			L	I	M	O	S	A	O	R	T	A	S	S	Y	N	E		
A	P	B	A	I	R	T	R	A	N	S	P	O	R	T	A	T	I	O	N
S	H	E	I	K	S	I	C	Y	T	I	A	R	A						
P	O	E	T	I	C	J	U	S	T	I	C	E	R	A	M	E	A	U	
I	N	F	A	T	U	A	T	E	D	E	P	A	R	T	M	E	N	T	S
R	E	E	L	E	V	E	R	E	L	E	N	A	I	N	D	I	E		
E	D	D	Y	S	A	P	S	A	T	E	A	M	S	T	O	P	S		

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## Clay County Free Press

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The Clay County Free Press (USPS 116-660) is published weekly at 291 Main Street, Clay, West Virginia. Subscription Rate: In County \$31.00; Out of County \$36.00; Out of State \$41.00

Address all mail (subscription, change of address) to: P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call 304-647-5724 or Fax 304-647-5767.

### POSTMASTER:

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## Treasurer Moore announces more than \$3.5M worth of unclaimed property returned during May

*Fifth-Highest Month for Returns in Program History*

State Treasurer Riley Moore today announced his Office's Unclaimed Property Division returned more than \$3.5 million worth of unclaimed funds to individuals, businesses and other organizations during the month of May.

"We're thrilled to continue returning funds at the fastest pace in state history," Treasurer Moore said. "May was the fifth-highest month of returns dating back to when the program began in 1967, and that was on top of April being our third-highest month for returns. We are proud to get these lost funds back to their rightful owners."

The Unclaimed Property Division returned a total of \$3,533,710 during the month. Since the fiscal year began last July, the Office has paid out a total

of nearly \$25.5 million worth of claims.

While the Office is returning funds at a record pace, it continues to receive a steady stream of new unclaimed properties from holders on a regular basis. The State Treasurer's Office currently has nearly \$438 million worth of unclaimed property listings in its database.

"Just because you didn't have anything listed a few months ago doesn't mean there isn't something for you now, since holders are continually turning over new listings to our Office," Treasurer Moore said. "This is why we're constantly telling people to keep checking our website - www.WVUnclaimedProperty.gov - to see if we're holding anything for you."

To learn more about the unclaimed property program and to search its database, visit www.WVUnclaimedProperty.gov.

## Did You See My Key?

### Dr. James L. Snyder

My life has been bombarded with questions from the beginning of the day until I fall asleep at night.

For the most part, I don't prioritize questions. Usually, when people ask me a question, there is something behind that question. If I don't see what's behind the question, I could answer it in such a way as to get myself in trouble—and believe me, I've been in trouble many times before.

This is no truer than with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. She can taunt me with a question out of nowhere. I get in deep trouble when I realize what is behind the question.

A good example is the other day when she came into the living room and, with both hands on her hips, said, "Did you see my key?"

At first, I had no idea what she was talking about. Usually, when she asks a question, I have been in Lala land for so long that I couldn't bring my thoughts together.

I looked back at her and said, "Oh, my dear, what key are you talking about?"

Looking into her purse, you will find she has a key to everything. I refuse to ramble through those keys because I might find a key she has for me. Of course, if I had seen that key, it might have solved a lot of my problems, or it might not have.

Responding to me, she said, "You know, the key to my car."

"You mean to your Sissy Van?"

I could hear her grit her teeth as she stared at me with one of "those stares".

"I had my key yesterday and I cannot find it today. Have you seen it?"

If I had seen her keys, this would've been a great opportunity for me. I could use them as a bargaining chip to get something for myself. Oh, how I wished I knew where that key was. Imagine what I could get for it.

"I'm sorry," I said reluctantly, "I have not seen your key anywhere."

On occasion, I have driven her Sissy Van, but it's been well over a year since I did. I tried to think of where those keys might be, and I searched a few places, but as always, I came up empty; what I wouldn't give to be able to find that key.

That's the way life is for me. I have an opportunity before me, but I just don't have the resources to seize it.

I hadn't seen her key for so long that I didn't even know what it looked like. But that didn't keep me from looking around because finding those keys

## An old dog, a young puppy, and me



Hankie

### By Joseph J. Mazzella

My daughter's dog, Thunder, has been in declining health for months now. He is eating less, sleeping more, and generally not doing well. Sadly, it is a pattern I have seen too many times as my own dogs have gotten older. Thunder is 12 years old or 84 in people years. It has always seemed so unfair to me that our dogs live such short lives compared to ours.

Seeing that Thunder's time was coming to an end, my daughter tried to adopt a new puppy to keep her other middle aged dog company. Unfortunately that didn't work out as she hoped. Her dogs didn't enjoy having a high energy puppy around so "Hank" the puppy ended up with me. Thankfully, my sons and both of my dogs adopted him as their own. Each day Hank runs and plays with them all until everyone is worn out but him.

Watching Hank romp, bark, chew, and play all day makes me wish that I still had the energy of a

puppy. On the age scale I am much closer to Thunder than Hank. My body tends to be sore and achy every day and I just can't do all the things I used to. And I know that I have lived more years here than I have left to go.

As I watch both Thunder and Hank, however, my heart fills with love for them. Dogs are such a gift from God. They teach us so much about life. They play with abandon. They love unconditionally. And they live each day with such joy. If we all could just live with the love our dogs do, this world would be a better place. I take comfort in knowing too that deep inside this old dog body of mine, the spirit of a young puppy still dwells. It is a spirit both loving and eternal. It is a spirit that will one day leave this world to be reunited with God and all the people and animals I have ever loved. And in that place of never ending Love, Joy, and Light there will be no more illness and no more good-byes.

would have been a treasure.

One thing about The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, when she starts something she never stops until she finishes it. Most of the time, it drives me crazy, which, according to her, is a very short drive.

If I don't find something I need at the time, I just quit looking, knowing that when I least expect it and when I'm not looking for it, I will find it. That's happened to me so many times I can't recall.

A friend used to say, "If you have something, you usually don't need it, and when you need something, you usually don't have it." That seems to be the rule in my life as far back as I can remember.

With The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, she must have it right then and there when she needs something. "Now" is her favorite word.

Trying to console her, I said, "If you just make up your mind that you don't need your keys right now, because you do have a spare key, you sooner or later will find it when you least expect it. That's just the way life is."

I can remember a dozen things I lost, and no matter how hard I looked for them, I could never find them. Then, I found them when I gave up and started something else and just assumed they were gone forever.

It was the next day, and I had forgotten about her lost key. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came to me and said, "Well, I found my key." She said it as though she was rubbing it in my face.

"Where did you find it?" I asked, curious to find out where it had been all this time.

Looking at me a little nervously, she said, "I found it in my purse." She paused for a moment and then continued, "There's a little pocket in front of one of my other pockets in my purse. I always forget that it's there, and I never looked until today."

I was happy for her and congratulated her on finding her lost key. The key was not lost; she had just forgotten where she had put it.

In my Bible reading today I read a very important verse. "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

There was a time when I was lost spiritually and didn't know it. The whole reason for Jesus to come into this world was for lost people just like me. At the time I thought I was fine, but then God interrupted my life and showed me I was indeed lost. It is through Jesus that I found my way back to God.

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.

## OBITUARIES



Bonnie Carolyn Meador

Bonnie Carolyn Meador, born on July 25, 1942, went to be with the Lord on June 19, 2024, at the age of 81. A woman of immense kindness, Bonnie spent much of her life in Clay County, WV, and enjoyed her later years in Fairmont, WV. Known for her warm and generous spirit, Bonnie always saw the best in everyone she met and believed in the inherent goodness of people.

Bonnie was a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who saw the beauty in everything around her. Her life was a testament to her love for her family. As a devoted mother, she dedicated herself to raising her seven children, finding joy in creating a warm and welcoming home. Bonnie took pride in keeping her home clean and orderly, a reflection of her meticulous and caring nature.

A talented cook, Bonnie was famous for her Sunday dinners, where her family gathered to enjoy her fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, homemade biscuits, and blackberry cobbler. These meals were more than just food; they were a celebration of family and love.

Bonnie had a deep appreciation for nature and found peace in the quiet moments spent observing the beauty of her surroundings. She loved to plant flowers and tended to a large garden, which brought her joy. Embracing adventure from time to time, Bonnie enjoyed hunting, fishing, and camping, activities that allowed her to connect with the world around her in meaningful ways.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Hubert and Beulah Grose; siblings, Roland Grose, Arlie Grose, Danny Grose, Raymond Grose, and Teddy Grose; and the father of her children, to whom she was married for 26 years, Billy Beasley.

Bonnie is survived by her siblings Billy Grose, Robert Grose, Troy Grose, Junior Grose, and Bessie Miller; her children Rebecca Truman (Bobby), Clifton Beasley (Inge), Curley Beasley (Aman-

da), Tammy Beasley, Sandra Nethken (Bobby), Betty Davis (Jeremy), and Frankie Beasley (Jimmie Sue); her grandchildren Bonnie Beasley, Sarah Villers (Joseph), Nathan Vickers, Crystal Beasley, Cody Shearer (Samantha), Jarrod Huynh (Jessica), Billy Beasley, Jennifer Clark (Fred), Melissa Korzun (Neil), and Hailey Becker; and her great-grandchildren Aura Shearer, Journey Small, Brayden Beasley, Jack Korzun, Freddy Clark, and Ivy Becker.

Bonnie's life will be celebrated on June 28, 2024, at Wilson-Shambelin-Smith Funeral Home at 154 Main St. in Clay, WV. Visitation will take place from 1:00 to 2:00 pm, with the service directly following at 2:00 pm. Bonnie's legacy of love, kindness, and faith will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

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 Meador family

### Ralph Sears

On Friday June 21, 2024, Ralph Sears, loving husband and dad of 5 children, passed away at the age of 72.

Ralph was born on September 17, 1951, at home in Clay County, WV to the late Herbert and Rosa (Rogers) Sears. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Herbert (Bubby) Sears.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Sears, his children, Greg (Gloria) Sears, Carl (Patrick) Sears, Angela (Joe) Robertson, Shane (Greg) Sears and Ryan (Vanessa) Sears; stepchildren, John Truman, and Tera Ferree; sister, Clara Sears; brothers, Dale and Pat Sears; Several grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Ralph enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending time with family.

Funeral Service will be held at 12:00 pm Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at Wilson Smith Funeral Home, Clay, WV with one hour visitation from 11:00 am -12:00 pm at the funeral home. A burial will follow in the Sears Brothers Cemetery, Moorefork, 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 Sears Family.

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# 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](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).

**June 26, 1887:** Sheriff Don Chafin was born in Logan County. Chafin was a bitter foe of union organizers and, with financial support from coal companies, used his many deputies to keep labor organizers out of Logan County.



**June 26, 1892:** Pearl Buck was born in Hillsboro in the home of her maternal grandparents. She received the Nobel Prize for Literature for *The Good Earth*.



Jack Freeman and Hal Greer  
Clay-Capitola

**June 26, 1936:** Basketball star Hal Greer was born in Huntington. Greer was the first Black athlete to play at Marshall College (now University). When his pro career ended in 1973, he held the NBA record for most games played and ranked in the top 10 in points scored, field goals attempted, and field goals made.

**June 27, 1897:** Musician Maceo Pinkard was born in Bluefield. The co-writer of "Sweet Georgia Brown," Pinkard was one of the most successful songwriters of the 1920s Jazz Era.

**June 27, 1961:** Hon-

*ey in the Rock* was first performed at Grandview near Beckley. The play by Kermit Hunter depicts the founding of the Mountain State in 1863.



**June 28, 1936:** Athlete Chuck Howley was born in Wheeling. A standout in college at WVU, Howley played linebacker for 12 seasons for the Dallas Cowboys. The six-time All-Pro was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2023.

**June 28, 2010:** Robert C. Byrd died at the age of 92. He was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1958, and he served until his death.

**June 29, 1845:** George W. Atkinson was born in Charleston. In 1896, Atkinson was elected gov-

ernor in an upset victory over Cornelius C. Watts of Charleston, ending 26 years of Democratic rule.

**June 29, 1952:** Writer Breece D'J Pancake was born in South Charleston and grew up in Milton, Cabell County. Many of Pancake's stories are set in Milton, fictionalized as "Rock Camp."

**June 29, 2012:** A violent storm called a derecho raced across West Virginia, leaving downed trees and damaged homes in its wake. About 688,000 homes and businesses lost power for a week during a widespread heat wave.



**June 30, 1914:** State-wide prohibition of alcohol sales became law in West Virginia years before it was enacted for the whole nation.

**June 30, 1929:** The Wheeling Symphony Orchestra gave its first concert at Oglebay Park.

**June 30, 1944:** Harpers Ferry National Historical Park was authorized as a national monument, the first in West Virginia.

**July 1, 1861:** Francis Pierpont, governor of the Reorganized Government of Virginia, called the legislature into session. The general assembly re-established governmental functions, provided for the raising of military units, and elected new U.S. senators and representatives.



**July 1, 1937:** Watoga State Park was opened to

the public. The Pocahontas County park is the largest of the state parks and among the oldest.

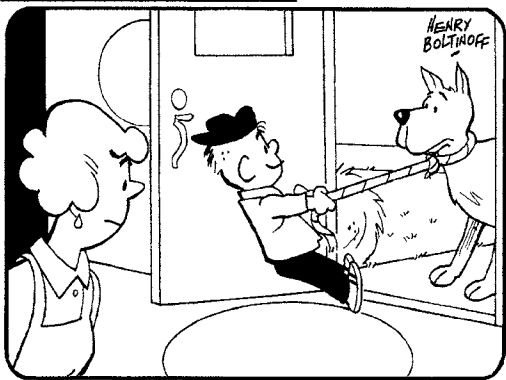
**July 1, 1971:** Southern West Virginia Community College was formed by joining the Marshall University branch campuses at Logan and Williamson. In 1995, the name changed to Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College.

**July 2, 1829:** Potter and businessman Alexander Polk Donaghho was born. He began a pottery operation in Parkersburg, creating hand-thrown, salt-glazed crocks, jars and other pottery that are avidly collected today.

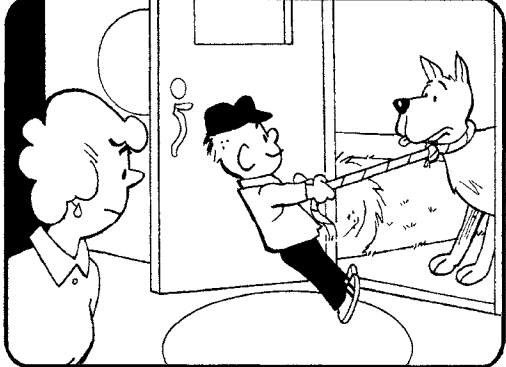


## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Legs are moved. 2. Hair is different. 3. Dog's leg is missing. 4. Cap is moved. 5. Tongue is added. 6. Apron is missing.

## ACROSS

- 1 Cha-cha's cousin
- 6 Chain selling dog chains
- 11 Honeycomb unit
- 15 Molar point
- 19 Ring around a lagoon
- 20 Sag down
- 21 Medley
- 22 Concerning
- 23 Basketball guarding strategy
- 25 Not dependent on eyesight
- 27 U.S. Navy petty officers
- 28 What a moving body has
- 30 Massey of movies
- 33 Lith. was one until 1991
- 34 Run for a long football pass
- 35 Gym class
- 42 Sts. and aves.
- 43 Remini of "Fired Up"
- 44 Decorative wheel cover
- 45 Put an — (cease)

- 47 Higher-ranking
- 49 Ballet garb
- 50 Emergency removal, for short
- 52 Construction girder
- 56 Commoners, collectively
- 58 Transaction of business via e-devices
- 61 Volcano in Japan
- 63 — Jose
- 64 "Luck Be a Lady" composer Frank
- 65 Enter
- 69 Work contrasted with a desk job
- 73 To be, in Marseilles
- 74 Belly
- 76 Mao — tung
- 77 Investments for later yrs.
- 79 Nickname for Michigan
- 83 Eggnog spice
- 88 Typed (in)
- 89 Trial run
- 90 Supplies with a staff
- 92 Oyster's prize
- 93 Cars for VIPs
- 95 Big arteries

- 97 "Auld Lang —"
- 98 Police alert, for short
- 101 Flight travel
- 105 Arab leaders
- 107 Really cold
- 108 Sparkly crown
- 109 Fitting retribution
- 114 Composer Jean-Philippe —
- 118 Possess with shallow passion
- 119 Eight U.S. ones are featured in this puzzle
- 122 Fishing spool
- 123 Eternally
- 124 Verdugo of "Panama Sal"
- 125 Art film, often
- 126 Water swirl
- 127 Maple fluids
- 128 First-string athletic group
- 129 Ceases

- 5 Nickname for Yale University
- 6 Adobe file suffix
- 7 Sooner than
- 8 Honky- — music
- 9 Mozart's "— Fan Tutte"
- 10 Loses one's inhibitions
- 11 Iran- — Affair
- 12 Race created by H.G. Wells
- 13 "The Mod Squad" cop
- 14 Amor, for one
- 15 Scouted before a heist
- 16 Loan shark
- 17 Put on, as a play
- 18 Corals, e.g.
- 24 Cain's eldest
- 26 Submitted by the deadline, say
- 29 PC panic button
- 31 Seagoing: Abbr.
- 32 Egg-white protein
- 35 Prune-to-be, perhaps
- 36 Acronym for many vacuum cleaner filters

- 37 Barks shrilly
- 38 Outer: Prefix
- 39 Paint crudely
- 40 Audio equipment brand
- 41 With a variety of hues
- 46 Like sumo stars
- 48 Ring official
- 50 Israeli carrier
- 51 — cava
- 53 Once, quaintly
- 54 PC brand
- 55 Paltry
- 57 Part of Babylonia
- 59 Dot in the sea
- 60 Erin of "Happy Days"
- 62 Custodial worker
- 65 Stare stupidly
- 66 Double-reed woodwind
- 67 In a lazy way
- 68 Inventive
- 70 Salt Lake City athletes
- 71 Admin. aide
- 72 "À —!" ("Adieu!")
- 75 Press release packet
- 78 Have dinner
- 80 Hawk's home
- 81 "Famous" cookie guy

## CABINET-MAKING

- 82 Pool cover
- 84 Bible division
- 85 Polite request beginner
- 86 Cube creator Rubik
- 87 Valley
- 91 Agra dress
- 94 Blunders
- 95 "Got a guess?"
- 96 Onset
- 98 Reach for the sky
- 99 Gave a buzz
- 100 Bellyached
- 102 Choir platforms
- 103 Behave
- 104 Partner of Athos and Porthos
- 106 Rome's home
- 110 Joe in a mug
- 111 Lone Star sch.
- 112 Ancient Brit
- 113 Duel sword
- 115 Prefix that's the opposite of 38-Down
- 116 "Take — from me"
- 117 Functions
- 120 Comedian Gasteyer
- 121 Aries' symbol

## Super Crossword

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	32		33				34							
35	36	37						38	39			40	41			42				
43					44							45			46					
47				48		49				50	51			52		53	54	55		
56					57		58			59			60							
				61		62			63			64								
65	66	67	68		69			70	71			72			73					
74				75				76				77			78					
79							80			81	82			83		84	85	86	87	
88							89					90		91		92				
				93		94				95				96		97				
98	99	100		101				102	103					104						
105			106					107				108								
109						110	111			112	113			114				115	116	117
118										119			120	121						
122					123					124						125				
126					127					128										

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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# THE WIDEN NEWS



The people who think alike should vote alike.

**"DUNDON"**  
RED ASH COAL

Where all think alike, no one thinks very much.

January 1958

## WIDEN WOMAN'S CLUB MEMBERS ATTEND HUSBANDS' NIGHT DINNER



Shown above are members of the Widen Woman's Club who attended the annual Husband's Night Dinner held at the Widen Club House November 23, 1957.

## Do You Know Why Widen Is Called Widen?

In glancing over some old issues of "The Widen News" we found an article in the November issue of 1928. Upon reading the article we wondered if perhaps there weren't people living in and around Widen now who do not know how Widen got it's name. For those of you who would like to know we are reprinting the entire article below:

We were honored some weeks ago with a visit of no less a person than Mr. L. G. Widen, of St. Albans, W. Va., who came at the invitation of Mr. J. V. Hinshelwood to address the pupils of our junior high school, who as you know, are compiling a history of our town as part of this year's work.

The subject of our sketch was enabled to give to them some valuable information regarding the earlier days of Widen, when it was nothing more or less than dense brush. Born at Stockholm, Sweden in the year 1855, Mr. Widen came to America in 1882 and surprising though it may seem that even in those early days it took only 12 days to travel from Stockholm to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in which state he labored for many years. Previous to his work for our

company he was engaged in road building around Queen Shoals, W. Va.

Returning to Sweden on a visit and to meet a certain young lady who he had promised (when leaving his homeland in 1882 that when he made good in America, he would come home and marry her, and he has fulfilled his promise for the same lady is with him today sharing his life and we believe shared some of the hardships which his particular line of endeavor entailed.

In April, 1910 Mr. Widen had charge of the grading of the last 3 1/2 miles of the B.C.&G. Railroad employing some 70 or 80 men and and on the completion of same he put in the foundation for our Tipple and Incline. The construction men in those days were cared for in camps and their commissary then was what is now referred to as our old store.

One of course, would be interested in learning just how Widen came to have this name, and that was the first question the writer put to Mr. Widen on meeting him and no words of mine can tell that story as those of Mr. Widen in reply to my question: He says that

it was intended to name the town "Rich Run" but the post office department would not accept any name with two words and this information came at a time when Mr. Bradley and the late Mr. G. Bray were in conversation with Mr. Widen, and Mr. Bradley immediately suggested naming the place Widen. He remonstrated saying that he did not want any such wild place called after him and Mr. Bradley assured him that he would build a real town and I have a letter on my desk received recently from Mr. Widen after his visit which states: "I was very much pleased to see such a good town and good people. Mr. Bradley has done what he said he would do in building a fine town."

I am sure the best wishes of our townspeople go out to Mr. and Mrs. Widen and hope they visit with us time and time again.

with 13 points and Barnette with 12 points.

On January 22, Widen lost again when they played Sand Fork High School—84 to 63. High point men for Widen were Barnett with 29 points, DeMoss with 15 points. High point men for Sand Fork were Johnson 36 points, and Burke 21 points.

Help support Widen's basketball team by attending all games. Schedules are being distributed through the courtesy of the Bank of Widen.

## WIDEN BAND BOOSTERS CLUB SELL CHANCES

The Widen Band Boosters Club is still busily selling chances on a 17" Zenith TV set. Tentative plans have also been made for a talent show in the near future. Dates will be announced soon. Mr. Simmons, band director, is working very hard to have his band members ready to go to the Band Festival which will be held in Huntington in the Spring. Mr. Simmons hopes to have fifty band members make the trip. At this festival each participating band is given a rating and we have high hopes of Widen's band getting an "excellent" rating.

## BUFFALOES IMPROVING DESPITE TWO MORE LOSSES

Widen High School's basketball team is steadily showing improvement since being handed the keys to a new regulation gymnasium.

On January 21, Widen lost to Walton High School—79 to 54. High point men for Widen were DeMoss with 16 points, Hamrick

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Published By Mountain Media, LLC

P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901

### Publisher:

Michael Showell [publisher@mountainmedianews.com](mailto:publisher@mountainmedianews.com)

### Editor:

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# LEGAL

## ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that SCREAMING EAGLE COAL, LLC, 1245 22 MINE ROAD, HOLDEN, WV 25625, has submitted an application to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV 26416-1600, for a **significant permit revision** to Article 3 permit number U201495 in order to add approximately 2,750 acres of underground mining limits in the Eagle Seam.

The revised permit will discharge into Peachorchard Branch of Twenty Mile Creek of Gauley River of Kanawha River and is located 4.54 miles, northwest of DRENNEN, in JEFFERSON AND GRANT Districts of Nicholas County, Longitude 81° 3' 18" and Latitude 38° 19' 16" (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

Surface of the area associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Appleatcha Land, LLC	200 Park Ave Ste 400, Orange Village, OH 44122
Screaming Eagle Coal, LLC	1245 22 Mine Road, Holden, WV 25625

\*and the mineral associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Screaming Eagle Coal, LLC	1245 22 Mine Road, Holden, WV 25625

Surface of the area within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

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\*and the mineral within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

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Appleatcha Land, LLC	200 Park Ave Ste 400, Orange Village, OH 44122

Written comments and/or requests for an informal conference of the permit renewal application shall identify the applicant and application number and will be received by the Permit Supervisor at the DEP address above until 8/04/24, or thirty (30) days from the date of **final publication**. A copy of the application will be available for review until 8/04/24, or thirty (30) days from the date of final publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

[http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/\\_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm](http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm)

The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries.  
DEP Telephone Number: 304-457-3219 Permit Number: U201495 REV # 3

\*These items are to be completed only for operations involving mineral removal.

Include location map in accordance with 38-2-3.2(b)(2)

Permit No.: U-2014-95

General Highway LOCATION MAP Revision No. 3

Grant and Jefferson Districts of Nicholas County  
Henry and Pleasant District of Clay County

Lockwood Quadrangle  
Receiving Stream: Peachorchard Branch of Twentymile Creek  
of the Gauley River of Kanawha River  
Nearest Post Office: Drennen, WV.  
Scale: 1" = 1 mile

# LEGAL

(2023-C-000173 - Clay County - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)

To: EDGAR CAMPBELL PETTIGREW, JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA, TRUSTEE OF THE J E CAMPBELL TRUST F/K/A CHARLESTON NATIONAL BANK, WILLAMAE D CAMPBELL, WILLA MAE CAMPBELL, WILLAMAE CAMPBELL TRUST, JOHN EDGAR CAMPBELL, J E CAMPBELL TRUST, EMMA LUETTA DAVIS, LUE DAVIS, O L DAVIS, DOROTHY JANE ROSS, MELINDA PETTIGREW, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

**DISTRICT UNION MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 0056 0000**

You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2023-C-000173**, located in UNION District, 800 AC FALLING ROCK O&G 2/6 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CAMPBELL WILLA MAE TR, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 7, 2024. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after November 1, 2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before October 31, 2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2022 - 16845.	\$ 131.11
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$ 0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2023 - 16898.	\$ 65.89
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 208.85
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$ 901.36
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to <b>WV State Auditor</b> - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ <b>1,307.21</b>

**You may redeem at any time before October 31, 2024, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.**

Given under my hand May 31, 2024

**G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.**

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia

Please return this letter and payment to the  
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Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

# LEGAL

(2023-C-000103 - Clay County - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)

To: JULIA A. NICHOLS C/O JAMES CLAY, OCCUPANT, JAMES B. NICHOLS, JULIA A. NICHOLS, JAMES B. NICHOLS JR, JAMES CLAY, JAMES CLAY, JUDY WHITE, JANICE PROCTOR, BRENDA KNUCKLES, SANDI EGGLESTON, SANDRA STILTNER, LYNN EARLS, ROSE MARY LETT, MARK LETT, BOBBY WHITE, LEE PROCTOR, ARTHUR CLAY, GLEN CLAY, RONNIE CLAY, OLIVE MAY, MESCAL NEWMAN, SHARON CLAY, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

**DISTRICT PLEASANT MAP 20 PARCEL 0061 0000 0000**

You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2023-C-000103**, located in PLEASANT District, 5 AC WTS SYCAMORE SUR, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of NICHOLS JAMES B ETUX, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 7, 2024. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after November 1, 2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before October 31, 2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2022 - 15014.	\$ 127.33
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$ 0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2023 - 15067.	\$ 62.38
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 133.85
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$ 740.63
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to <b>WV State Auditor</b> - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ <b>1,064.19</b>

**You may redeem at any time before October 31, 2024, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.**

Given under my hand May 31, 2024

**G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.**

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia

Please return this letter and payment to the  
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections  
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East  
Building 1, Room W-114  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.  
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

# LEGAL

(2023-C-000015 - Clay County - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)

To: CHARLES E TURNER, SARAH E TURNER, SARAH ELIZABETH TURNER, S E TURNER, L D TURNER, LEE TURNER, G E TURNER, MARY AGNES TURNER, R L TURNER, RAYMOND L TURNER, ALTA B TURNER, ALTIE TURNER, ELSWORTH TURNER, CLARA FAYE TURNER, FAY TURNER, FAYE TURNER, CHRISTINA TURNER, ELLEN PSIMER, ELLEN ASBURY, MARTHA WOODS, MARY BRAGG, FLORA GRAHAM, ELIZABETH JOHNSON, NORMAN JOHNSON, HESTER JOHNSON NELSON, DAVID B TURNER, D B TURNER, PATRICIA SLAUGHTER, CAMERON SLAUGHTER, JONATHAN TURNER, TEENA TURNER, JERRY E TURNER, JERYL G TURNER, GIULA B NUTTER, ETHEL STOVER, BOBBY STOVER, DAPHNE TURNER, NETA TURNER, ERNESTINE TURNER, DAVID W TURNER, CHARLES E TURNER, CHARLES W COLSON PRISON FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES, BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION, RBC MINISTRIES RADIO BIBLE CLASS, GLEN MATHEWS REVIVAL CRUSADE INCORPORATED, TRUSTEES OF THE TURNER CEMETERY C/O BOBBY STOVER, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

**DISTRICT BUFFALO MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 0508 0000**

You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2023-C-000015**, located in BUFFALO District, 45 AC WTS GROVES 1/2 INT O&G, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of TURNER SARAH E HRS, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 7, 2024. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after November 1, 2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before October 31, 2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2022 - 2020.	\$ 83.34
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$ 0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2023 - 2034.	\$ 21.42
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 118.85
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$ 926.18
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to <b>WV State Auditor</b> - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ <b>1,149.79</b>

**You may redeem at any time before October 31, 2024, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.**

Given under my hand May 31, 2024

**G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.**

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia

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West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections  
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East  
Building 1, Room W-114  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.  
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

# LEGAL

(2023-C-000158 - Clay County - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)

To: DOROTHY YOUNG, ROBERT DOUGLAS YOUNG, ROBERT D YOUNG, BOB YOUNG, DOROTHY YOUNG, DOROTHY ANNE STREMICK YOUNG, SCOTT S YOUNG, LEE YOUNG, RENEE AGEE, DAN AGEE, KIM CROISANT, BILL CROISANT, ROBERT YOUNG, ROBI ANN YOUNG, WILLIAM DONLY YOUNG, VALERIE YOUNG, JACK EDWARD YOUNG, CRAIG ALLEN YOUNG, BRIAN DOUGLAS YOUNG, DONLY S YOUNG JR., PHILLIP E YOUNG, GARNET YOUNG, MABEL GARNET KINCAID YOUNG, DONLY S YOUNG, FREMA YOUNG, FRANK S YOUNG, PHILIP S YOUNG JR., S EARL YOUNG, MARY YOUNG, P S YOUNG, JERRY O YOUNG, MICKEY W YOUNG, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

**DISTRICT UNION MAP 9 PARCEL 0012 0000 3002**

You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2023-C-000158**, located in UNION District, 130 AC WTS PORTER SUR 1/5 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of YOUNG ROBERT D, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 7, 2024. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after November 1, 2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before October 31, 2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2022 - 19223.	\$ 196.66
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$ 0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2023 - 19277.	\$ 126.95
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 178.85
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$ 889.43
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to <b>WV State Auditor</b> - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ <b>1,391.89</b>

**You may redeem at any time before October 31, 2024, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.**

Given under my hand May 31, 2024

**G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.**

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia

Please return this letter and payment to the  
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# Summer heat, summer fun

By Allen Hamrick

I understand it is hot, and for the most part, too hot to do anything but get to an air conditioned environment. The media is constantly warning of over exposure and heat exhaustion. Our bodies tell us to find a cool place and take a break, but at the same time, it is a perfect time to follow a river or stream, hike up the cool hollows of WV and cool off naturally. The outdoors offers plenty of opportunities out of the sun, whether it is on bikes, kayaks, fishing or hiking. People are finding ways to beat the heat and boredom of just taking it easy. Lots of people hit the Elk River during the heat wave and also bike the trail during the coolest hours and fish for trout and bass.

Biking is a physically demanding sport, and a great way to get fit if you want to lose a few pounds. In this heat, you need a few water breaks, but the ride is worth it. The Elk River provides many opportunities for kayaking as exhilarating as any other waterway in the state and is home to some of the best small mouth bass fishing. In this heat, most of the fish are deeper, so if you're going for a lunker bite, break out the kayak. Buffalo Creek is a way to beat the heat as many have found out already by fishing or just general stretching out in the water this past weekend. There is plenty of hiking to do, not only in Clay but in the surrounding counties as well, and many people are taking to the mountains on ATVs. This is not a time for just sitting at home unless that is your preference or the heat is too much; it truly is for some, and there is no need to push your luck. For those that can do so, get out

and enjoy it. For those that have to work in it, make sure to drink a lot of water and take a break when you need it. Depending on the way you look at things, this heat wave can make or break a person so it is important to do only what you can. Don't let the heat wave control you, just use good sense, stay safe and do what we have to do.

One particular hike, if you're feeling adventurous, is the hike from Cressmont to Dundon or vice versa, roughly a 12 mile hike through some of the most beautiful scenery you will ever see. The old railroad bed that now sports the new rail excursion bikes takes you through one of the more, if not the most scenic creeks in the state - Buffalo Creek. The new and improved rail has a hiking trail that follows the rail bed and sometimes joins it. So, if you decide to hike, use caution as you may encounter the rail bikes. It is breath taking, to say the least; not just the creek but being in nature itself away from all noises of the everyday hustle. About a mile and a half into the hike, you no longer hear the cars and it is just you and nature. The hike will take you through two old towns that nature has taken back, Adair and Avoca. There is nothing left except for memories and a cemetery located in Adair, but as you go through them you can almost hear the sounds of a once bustling railroad community and smell the sweet smell of creosote and coal smoke. A person can also mountain bike the trail, but keep in mind that it can be moderately vigorous. Fish are biting and the trails are waiting; get out and enjoy and don't forget the bait or your camera.



Y'aking the Elk



Fish are deep and under rocks.



Graves at Adair Cemetery



Jeepin' Lilly

## Lew and Zeb: Beating the heat

By Allen Hamrick


Hey, y'all Zeb here tryin' to write a few lines about summer fishin' before we all melt like butter on a hot biscuit. Yeah, it's hot; not just hot, but hot enough to have yer eggs and cakes on the hood of yer car for early mornin' breakfast. Pastor Tomasher was out on his lawn in Adam and Eve clothes declaring it was the end of the world and that the devil had set up home base here on the mountain. All the local springs and creeks have nearly dried up. Cattle, horses and mules search for the last remainin' wet spots and took to stompin' them into mud holes like pigs to get a cool spot. Freezy's ice cream hang out is making a killing in this heat; most localers have left their homes and camped in their parking lot just to look at the ice. People are payin' a dollar or tradin' firewood to stick their head in one of their freezers for 10 seconds. For a \$50 bill or a promise of the first bushel of corn, you get a whole minute among the frozen goodies. You may think it ain't worth it, but one minute is like a winter in Montana.

The power supply for the region is at its breakin' point due to there ain't enough water flowin' in the river to push the blades on the water wheel that fires the generator. So, people have come up with new ways to beat the heat till this spell is over. Ol' Lew had what we thought was a great idea. He found this stuff called Icy Hot at the hardware store and applied it to his skin all over. It was garnteed to cool you off no matter the heat, but you can imagine what happened when the hot took over. Lew, figurin' that icy hot meant it was real cold figured wrong. He was lobster red by

the time we got that salve off of him, and it took about a five gallon bucket of mud to cool him off. Granny Izzle cooked up a new remedy she called "sunny side down." It was a mix of spinach, chestnut burs, corn squeezins, salt, hemlock shavins' and Cheerios. There was other ingredients but she won't tell, just says "you take one drink of this and I garntee you won't care about the heat". So far, she's had a few bite the bullet, and true to her word, none seem to care. However, we haven't seen them since, either. As far as me and my missus, we done went to ground. We bored a hole like giant gophers and set up our base camp 30 feet back into the hillside. We are joined by our animals, kids and neighbors - its one big happy family, and on occasion, one is nominated to go out into no man's land and take note of any changes. If they don't come back, well...

Our summer fishin' patterns don't work in this heat so any information I can relay to you would be just guessin'. We decided to set the john boat in one of the last remaining eddies in the river; after all, people have to eat. We no more that set down in the boat than we shot back out of it leaving our melted boots stuck to the bottom and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns on our still smolderin' fishin' pants. That boat was hot enough to start brush fires. We flipped the boat in the water to cool off and it heated the water till the fish was tryin' to get out...we had plenty of fish for everybody.

Stay cool. This heat won't last forever, and then we can all huddle around the stove and complain about how cold it is. Until the next time, keep a tight line and your head in the freezer.



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