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In a year of record-breaking tornado storms, scientists are trying to determine if the trend is here to stay

“Supercharged” tornado events. New storm tracking tech. Climate change. There’s a lot that goes into figuring out weather patterns. Scientists want to understand what’s happening — and what it will mean for West Virginia.

by Sarah Elbeshbishi

This story was originally published by Mountain State Spotlight. Get stories like this delivered to your email inbox once a week; sign up for the free newsletter at <https://mountainstatespotlight.org/newsletter>.

A record number of tornadoes have ripped through West Virginia this year, leaving behind a trail of damage, as states east of the Mississippi River experience tornadoes more frequently in part due to climate change.

With 18 tornadoes, 2024 has been West Virginia’s most active season since 1998, when 14 tornadoes touched down in the state. Most of the recorded tornadoes this year occurred during the destructive April 2 storm, which hit communities across Cabell, Kanawha and Fayette counties.

Despite the record high, no definite conclusions can be drawn from just this one year. However, it is consistent with shifting trends in tornadic activity — partly due to climate change — which suggests that West Virginia could continue to see more and stronger tornadoes.

Eastern states, including West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Virginia, are seeing a greater likelihood of tornadoes, according to Victor Gensini, an associate professor in the earth, atmosphere and environment department at Northern Illinois University.

“We’re confident that the trend is real because it’s happening over a very broad area and it’s been happening over the last, not just five years, it’s been really happening over the last 40 years,” said Gensini.

Because of that, West Virginia may continue to see more tornadoes than before. But for now, scientists say several more years of research are needed to determine whether this year’s record high is an anomaly or part of the shifting trend.

“There’s no conclusion that you can draw that there’s going to be more tornadoes from now on based on this one year,” said John Peck, a meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Charleston, adding that the improved technology to detect tornadoes could also play a part in the higher number.

“The ability for us to detect tornadoes has gone up significantly over history with improvements in radar and remote sensing, especially with drone technology it’s a lot easier to go out and find the damage,” he added.

Jana Houser, an associate professor of atmospheric



Damage in Fayette County after a tornado touched down during the April 2 storm. Photo credit: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

sciences at The Ohio State University, echoed a similar sentiment, noting that there wasn’t a good way to standardize records and observations of tornadoes until the late 20th century.

“We don’t have a really strong understanding of what’s happened, especially prior to 1990,” Houser said. “So, I always like to kind of make that little cautious note there that, yes we do think that this is something unusual, but we don’t have a very long history of actually comparing this to.”

Over time, researchers have adjusted to those technology and software improvements, Gensini said. And despite those advancements, experts have continued to see the same upward trend in tornadoes east of the Mississippi, he added.

Besides just an increase in the number of tornadoes each year, West Virginia could also see an increase in tornadoes over a shorter period of time: Houser said experts have found that while the number of days that are favorable to tornadoes has decreased, there are a higher number of tornadoes on days there is tornadic activity.

“We’re having one or two events that are really just supercharged and creating like a whole lot of tornadoes,

which is a little bit unusual,” she added.

This trend could explain why most of the tornadoes West Virginia has experienced this year came during the April 2 storm.

While Gensini and Houser attributed climate change as a factor influencing the two trends, they both noted that the full extent of climate change’s impact on tornadic activity is still unclear.

“That’s where we don’t have a great understanding,” Gensini said. “Is climate change 5% of that role? Is it 100% of that role? 20% of that role? We don’t know exactly.”

According to Gensini, the field of study needed to fully understand the relationship between climate change and severe weather, including tornadoes, is still in its infancy, but experts are working to try to “push that needle forward.”

“It’s hard to directly equate climate change and tornadoes because tornadoes are such picky events,” said Houser. “But we can say the environmental conditions that would potentially favor tornadic storms are changing a little bit, especially in the geographic distribution of where those conditions are met.”

Health center to develop programs to fight WV food insecurity

By Mark Richardson

A West Virginia community health center is participating in a program addressing food scarcity.

The National Association of Community Health Centers’ 2024 Innovation Incubator creates ways to expand access to healthy foods. Cabin Creek Health Systems, based in Charleston, will have funding and guidance from experts to help it design and test community-based solutions.

Merrill Warschoff Press, senior vice president of partnership, development and innovation for the National Association of Community Health Centers, said the facilities are uniquely suited to address the issues.

“Health centers are highly effective and innovated with integrated models of care,” Press explained. “They reach far beyond the walls of the traditional exam room, not only to prevent illness and treat it but also to really address the social drivers that may cause poor health.”

The eight health centers chosen for the program will be awarded \$30,000 dollars each to develop and test new solutions over six months. The association will share the

results with 1,400 health centers across the country, affecting the care of more than 31 million patients.

A primary goal of the Innovation Incubator is to discover best practices for aiding millions of people and sharing information with health centers nationwide. Press pointed out the program seeks to find the underlying cause of clients’ health problems.

“Whether it’s food insecurity and poor nutrition, or even housing, joblessness, mental illness, substance use disorders,” Press outlined. “Advancing health equity really starts with finding solutions to the environmental factors that cause poor health outcomes.”

The clinics, including the one in Charleston, are tasked with imagining, building and testing sustainable solutions for their unique populations. Press noted many clinics provide what local markets sometimes cannot supply.

“Many health centers operate things like food pantries or work with their local food banks,” Press observed. “There are others who have their own community gardens or partner with local farmers markets-bring fresh, nutritious foods to their patients.”

July 4th celebration, Clay County style



JK Scott and John Sears were hamming it up in the shade.



The night sky was on fire as the event came to a close.



Hunter Diveley gets her birthday face painting.

See story on Page 8

BOOKED



REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

NICHOLAS COUNTY



Joseph Samuel Allen
Booked 7/5/24
Capias



Sarah Renee Rogers
Booked 7/4/24
Possession of stolen vehicle



Dustin Morgan Sears
Booked 7/2/24
Violation of protective order,
violation of bond



Gary Leonard Travis
Booked 7/7/24
Sexual abuse in the first
degree, battery on gov. rep./
healthcare provider

CLAY COUNTY

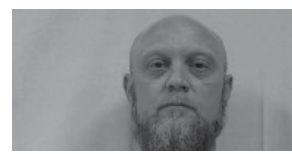


Jeremy Scott Burrows
Booked 7/4/24
Grand larceny

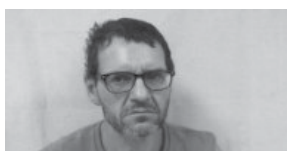


Douglas Craig Mitchell
Booked 7/1/24
Possession marijuana, pos-
session meth, battery

BRAXTON COUNTY



Benjamin Micah Gibson
Booked 7/2/24
Domestic battery



Jesse Alan Jordan
Booked 7/3/24
No insurance, driving re-
voked for DUI third, expired
MVI, defective equipment



Carissa Marie Liberti
Booked 7/5/24
Petit larceny, public intoxica-
tion



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OBITUARY



Donald H. Jarvis

Captain Donald H. Jarvis, 96 of Maysel, WV, a 35-year veteran of the United States Navy, entered into rest on June 29, 2024. He was born on December 29, 1927, to the late Greely and Gladys (Engle) Jarvis. Don graduated from Spencer High School on June 3, 1944, at the age of 16, attended Potomac State College from 1944-1946, and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1951. He was in flight training in Pensacola, Florida from 1951-1953 and was wounded in action in Vietnam on February 12, 1967. While in the service he served as an Air Officer, a Squadron Commanding Officer, a Naval Plant Representative and a Landing Signal Officer. He was awarded the Air Medal, the Purple Heart, the Navy Unit Commendation with Star, Expert Pistol; Expert Shot Rifle, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; World War II Victory Medal, Occupation Medal, Vietnam Campaign with Star, National Defense Service Medal with Star, Vietnam Service Medal with Clasp, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the American Defense Service Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon. He retired from the United States Navy on February 1, 1981, with the

rank of Captain. Don was very active in the community. He loved his community and was past president of the Lions Club, past president of Clay County Parks and Rec, past president of Clay Golden Delicious Festival, past president of WV Cattleman's Association, and served as Supervisor and past president of Elk Conservation District. He also worked with the Greater Kanawha RCD, was a Master Mason of the Masonic Lodge #126, Clendenin, WV, with 74 years of service. Don was instrumental in starting Maysel Park and the Clay County Agricultural Fair. Don is preceded in death by his children William Jarvis, Dona Jarvis, second wife Dora Jean Jarvis.

Don is survived by his wife of 15 years, Keyota Jarvis, and children Donald (Betty) Jeffery Jarvis of Port Charlotte, Florida, Alice Jarvis of New Castle, Delaware, stepchildren, Aric Braley, of Maysel, Briar Braley, of Elkview, Autumn Lehner of Maricopa, Arizona, and 13 grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, and friends who loved him dearly.

Donald H. Jarvis was a true American Hero in every sense of the word. He was a mentor to countless individuals. He will be greatly missed.

Funeral Service for Don will be Friday July 5, 2024, at Wilson Smith Funeral Home at 2:00 with a viewing for friends and family from 12 to 2:00, burial will follow at Amma Cemetery.

Wilson Smith is honored to be serving the Jarvis family.

West Virginia Department of Education Offers New Resource to Support Student Mental Health and Well-being

As part of National Mental Health Awareness Month, the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) is pleased to announce a new resource available to families, educators, caregivers and others to support student mental health. ParentGuidance.org, a 24/7 online platform, assists those who care for children to address and elevate mental health wellness and self-care. These tools are designed to enhance the human connections vital for school communities to thrive, and West Virginia is the first to offer them statewide.

Throughout the United States, ParentGuidance.org works with schools and their communities to empower families to support the mental health needs of children. In West Virginia, there is now free access to an array of tools including:

- Regular one-on-one parent coaching with cognitive behavioral health coaches
- On-demand parenting sessions taught by licensed therapists
- “Ask a Therapist,” a frequently updated question-and-answer forum

These resources are made possible through a three-year contract the WVDE has entered into with the national nonprofit The Cook Center for Human Connection to make ParentGuidance.org immediately available for West Virginia families. Across the country, 361 districts and 6,308 schools are using the organization’s model offering more than 3.3 million families in 46 states access to services.

In 2021, the American Academy of Pediatrics declared a national emergency, noting that child and adolescent healthcare professionals are “caring for young people with soaring rates of depression, anxiety, trauma, loneliness and suicidality that will have lasting impacts on them, their families and their communities.”

West Virginia, like the rest of the country, is facing a shortage of traditional mental health services. More than 700,000 people in the state live in communities that do not have enough mental health professionals. The WVDE will open access to underserved communities throughout West Virginia through ParentGuidance.org. Regardless of financial means, those needing help will have a direct line of support. Counties may also customize professional development sessions with The Cook Center to meet their individual needs. Bullying mitigation, isolation and absenteeism are examples of nationally recognized programs available at reduced costs for counties.

“Our educators are experiencing several mental health behaviors in our children that they have not seen previously,” said State Superintendent of Schools Michele L. Blatt. “ParentGuidance.org will provide resources that have never been reasonably available to many West Virginia families and communities. This will be a great asset and will make a difference in the lives of our children, the stability of our families, the mental health of teachers and school employees, and the progress of our schools.”

“We are proud to collaborate with the West Virginia Department of Education for the benefit of West Virginia families. This shows that they truly care about the role of parents in their children’s emotional well-being,” said Cook Center for Human Connection President and CEO Anne Brown. “By providing education, resources, and direct support to families, we look forward to helping the people who love and care for their children most: the parents.”

West Virginia families can learn more at wvde.us or ParentGuidance.org, and counties will also offer direct access on their websites as plans are rolled out statewide.

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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A Lot Brighter Than You Think

By Joseph J. Mazzella

I had just finished taking my dogs for their last walk of the day while darkness slowly fell over the mountains of my home. Just as I closed the door, though, a flicker of light caught my eye. I turned my head to see that a little lightening bug had flown in with us through the open door and was now frantically trying to get out again. As he flew slowly towards the door I quickly but gently closed my fingers around him. I could feel his little wings beat against the skin of my hand and a flash of light shown through my fingers. I opened the back door and stepped back outside. Then I opened my palm and watched the guy fly away flashing his light with gratitude in the darkness of the night.

Before I walked back in I took the time to gaze out on the meadow behind my home. There blinking on and off were hundreds of fireflies. Each time their lights came on I smiled again. It was so beautiful and so amazing that such tiny, little insects could produce so much light. I stood there in awe of this miracle I get to see each summer and thanked God for it and for all of His glorious creation.

Watching my lightening bug buddies again made me think too of the light each of us carries inside of ourselves. Often it too flickers and is not steady or even very bright. Yet, every time we shine it we grow a little brighter. And every time we share it we awaken the light in others to shine as well.

Do your best to share your love in this world then. Do your best to shine your light even if you think it is a mere flicker. You are a lot brighter than you think. And I will let you in on a secret: The more light you shine and the more love you share, the more light and love God will give you to share. It never ends.

Having a Brain Can Be a Problem

Dr. James L. Snyder

I have been showing people a picture of my brain for almost a month now. I've been having a lot of fun doing it and teasing people by saying, "I have proof that I have a brain."

In the beginning, I just believed that having a brain would be a wonderful experience for me. Little did I know that having a brain can create certain problems—problems that my brain not only cannot help but has produced.

I don't think a day has passed, but I have reminded The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage that I have a brain and proof of it. So far, she has gone along with me.

You would think a person with a brain would be able to solve every problem that comes his way. I was to learn that that was not necessarily true, and I have the scars to prove it.

It was Thursday morning, and I was looking for my Bible I used the night before at a prayer meeting. I looked everywhere, but couldn't find it.

Finally, I asked The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, "Have you seen my Bible? I can't seem to find it."

Looking at me with one of "those looks of hers," she said, "You have a brain, so you find it."

I wasn't expecting that and didn't know where it came from. She just stared at me, so I turned around and went back into my office. Later that day, I found it in my truck.

Whether I left it there the night before or somebody in our residence put it there to trap me, I don't know. I will keep a secret about which one I thought happened.

I returned to work, and it was a very good day.

I needed to go to Wal-Mart to pick something up. I looked around for my wallet, but I could not find it anywhere. I usually put it on the counter in the kitchen so I don't lose it.

Looking at the counter, I couldn't see it.

Just then, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage walked into the kitchen. I looked at her and said, "Have you seen my wallet? I thought I put it here on the counter, but I can't find it."

There was, again, that look of hers, and then she responded, "You have a brain, so why don't you use it and find it?"

I was not sure how to respond, so I went on looking for my wallet, and I eventually found it. I was not sure if I had left it where I found it or if somebody put it there to try to trick me.

At this point, I started thinking about all the time I spent boasting and bragging about having a brain and evidence to show that I actually did have a brain. I must say I had

a good time during that time. But now, it seems to have backfired on me.

I hate it when something backfires on me in a very negative fashion.

Going to my easy chair with a cup of coffee, I sat down and began looking at the picture of my brain. That was the evidence I needed to prove I actually did have a brain. As I looked at it for a few moments, I began to wonder, why is my brain not working right now?

As I looked at the picture, I thought maybe I had gone too far boasting about my brain. Maybe I should've let it go from the beginning. At the time I just thought I was having fun.

After finishing my coffee, I went into my office and began working on a project.

I needed to make copies of my project, but when I tried the copy machine was not working. I looked at it for a little bit and didn't quite know what to do. The only one who knows how to make this copy machine work is The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

What do I do now? I need to finish this project, and there is no way I can fix this and get it working.

My only solution was to ask my wife if she could fix the copy machine for me. I didn't know how to ask her. I knew her attitude all day, and I'm unsure how I could turn it into a very positive position.

Just then, my wife came to my office door and said, "I have some papers I need to copy. Would you mind if I used the copy machine right now?"

My day could not get any better.

"Oh my dear, yes of course, come and use it as long as you want to. I need to go to the bathroom for a few moments, so take your time."

I knew when I got back, the copy machine would be running.

Walking back into my office, my wife picked up the papers she had copied and was leaving.

"Everything okay?" I asked.

"Oh yes," she said, "no problems whatsoever."

I like it when a day ends on the positive.

In my reflection, a verse from the Bible came to mind. "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets" (Matthew 7:12).

I need to treat others as I would want to be treated.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnsnyderministries.com

West Virginia Folklife Seeks Applications Statewide for 2024-2025 Folklife Apprenticeship Program



West Virginia Folklife hosts a folklife apprenticeship showcase in Elkins featuring mushroom foraging with Sharon Briggs and apprentice Anthony Murray (center), soul food with Xavier Oglesby and his apprentice Brooklynn Oglesby (left), and fiber arts with Enrica McMillon and apprentice Barbara Weaner (right). Photo taken in 2023 by Michael Keller.

The West Virginia Folklife Program, a project of the West Virginia Humanities Council, is now accepting applications for its statewide Folklife Apprenticeship Program. Hosted biennially, this program supports traditional artists working with dedicated apprentices on a yearlong apprenticeship in their cultural expression or art form. Since 2017, the West Virginia Folklife Apprenticeship Program has celebrated traditional artists and helped them pass on cultural knowledge, stories, and techniques to their apprentices. Applications are due August 26, 2024 for the 2024-2025 yearlong program. Applications will be evaluated by a review panel in September, and successful applicants will be notified in October 2024.

Folklife apprenticeships can be based in music, dance, craft, fiber arts, occupational arts, foodways, storytelling, and much more. The traditions may be based in genera-

tions of practice in West Virginia or from more recent immigrant communities in the Mountain State. Traditional artists will receive \$3,000, and apprentices \$800 for their participation in the program. Teaching artists must apply with their proposed apprentices. Pairs may request an additional \$400 to pay for supplies related to their apprenticeship. Pairs design their own work plans and are expected to participate in a community presentation, recorded documentation of their apprenticeship experiences, virtual meetings as a cohort, and a final public showcase.

The West Virginia Folklife Apprenticeship Program is administered by the West Virginia Folklife Program at the West Virginia Humanities Council. It is supported with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. West Virginia Folklife is dedicated to the documentation,

preservation, presentation, and support of West Virginia's vibrant cultural heritage and living traditions.

Guidelines and applications are available at <https://wv-folklife.org/folklife-apprenticeship-program/>. For more information on the West Virginia Folklife Program, visit wvfolklife.org and <http://wvhumanities.org/programs/west-virginia-folklife-program/> or contact Jennie Williams at williams@wvhumanities.org or 304-346-8500.

The West Virginia Humanities Council, an independent nonpartisan nonprofit corporation, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council is supported by the NEH, the State of West Virginia, and contributions from the private sector. The purposes of the West Virginia Humanities Council are educational, and its mission is to support a vigorous program in the humanities statewide in West Virginia.

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.

July 10, 1769: Physician Jesse Bennet was born. He performed the first successful caesarian section in America in 1794, on his own wife and without proper equipment and with no antiseptics. He later established a large practice in Mason County and served as an Army surgeon in the War of 1812.

July 10, 1936: The temperature in Martinsburg reached 112 degrees. It tied the record for the state's hottest recorded temperature, which had been set August 4, 1930, at Moorefield.

July 11, 1861: The

Battle of Rich Mountain was fought in Randolph County. Union troops under Gen. George McClellan defeated Confederate forces, helping to secure northwestern Virginia (now West Virginia) for the North.

July 11, 1867: John Jacob Cornwell was born on a farm in Ritchie County. He served as the 15th governor of West Virginia.



July 11, 1976: Gov. Arch Moore dedicated the West Virginia Culture Center. The facility was built to showcase the Mountain State's artistic, cultural and historic heritage.

July 12, 2003: The Clay Center for the Arts & Sciences in downtown Charleston opened to the public. It combines a modern performing arts center with a visual arts museum and an interactive science center.

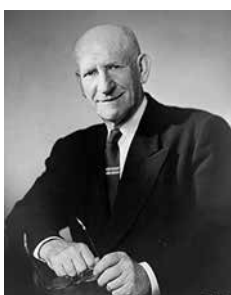


July 13, 1861: The Battle of Corricks Ford took place in Tucker County. During the fight, Confederate Gen. Robert S. Garnett became the first Confederate general killed in battle during the Civil War.



July 14, 1861: Union troops under Gen. Jacob Cox drove Confederate militia and cavalry out of town during the Battle of Barboursville. Union forces remained in control of Barboursville for the remainder of the war.

July 14, 1900: Gangster William "Big Bill" Lias was born in Wheeling, or Greece. For much of the mid-1900s, he was considered the leader of bootlegging, organized crime, and gambling in the Wheeling area.



July 15, 1886: Con-

gressman Cleveland Monroe "Cleve" Bailey was born on a farm in Pleasants County. He represented West Virginia's third congressional district for eight terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, 1945-47 and 1949-63.

July 15, 1988: Interstate 64 was completed when the final section between Sam Black Church and the West Virginia Turnpike was opened to traffic.



July 16, 1791: General Adam Stephen died. He fought in the French and Indian War and Revolutionary War, receiving a

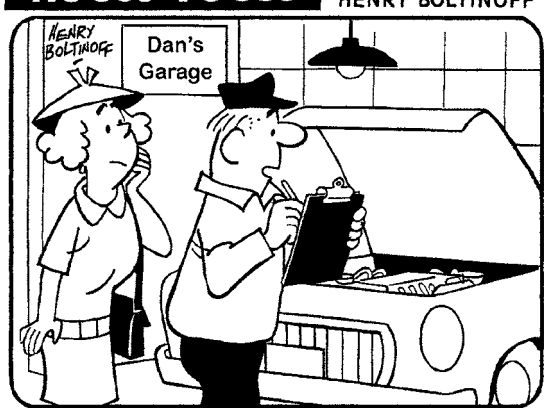
commendation after the Battle of Trenton and concluding his military career after the American loss at Brandywine. He played pivotal roles in the founding of both Berkeley County and Martinsburg.

July 16, 1869: Philanthropist Michael Late Benedum was born in Bridgeport. He made a fortune in the oil and gas business but is best remembered for establishing the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation.

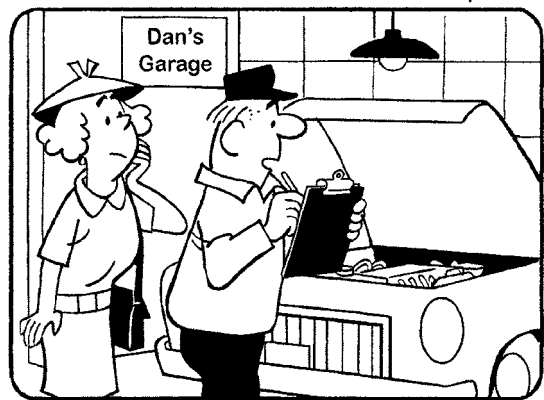


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Light is moved. 2. Shape of grille is different. 3. Belt is higher. 4. Arm is moved. 5. License plate is smaller. 6. Cap is different.

ACROSS

- 1 Male cats
5 "Unto the Sons" author Gay
11 Perp's place
15 Overwhelm, as with humor
19 Getting the task done
20 Region next to Catalonia
21 Minnesota ex-governor Carlson
22 Something to belt out
23 "Save As," "Print" or "Select All"
25 Name as a source
26 Liturgical act
27 "Alas, it wasn't to be"
28 Africa's Amin
29 Destitute
30 Sponsorship
31 Small telescope
34 Diner classic
37 Ancient Celtic priest
39 Join together in a labor group
40 Message on a protective book cover
45 Breastbone

DOWN

- 49 Holds fast (to)
50 Makes sure the task gets done
54 Kong or Koko
55 6/6/1944
56 Extracts via udders
58 Small gift for shindig guests
61 Purported psychic skill
62 — job on (messed up)
63 They propel paramercia
65 Actress Dunne
66 Spot in a hotel to book a room
70 Happen next
73 South African grassland
74 —-edged pages
75 Positive vote
78 Certain fruit bar
81 Sheriff's aides
83 U.S. fort holding gold
84 Scarfed down
85 More restless
87 Miserly sort
89 Stationery store product
92 Ping-Pong

ACROSS

- 94 Sweet snacks on sticks
98 Cry to an attack dog
99 Source of music to accompany silent films
103 Big name in concert pianos
108 Drizzles or sprinkles
109 Dog botherer
110 Cereal grain
112 Guileless
113 Verdi opera heroine
114 Fish's respiratory structure
115 Where the starts of eight answers in this puzzle might appear
118 Street — (rep in the city)
119 War god
120 Senator Sanders
121 Low- — diet
122 Model Banks
123 Heredity unit
124 See 95-Down
125 Kett of old comics

DOWN

- 3 Like many toothpastes
4 Attacked like a bee
5 Confucian "way"
6 Upper limb
7 Antifungal brand
8 "Good grief!"
9 Part of SST
10 Put a stop to
11 British actor Derek
12 Melodic passage
13 While being shipped
14 Film's Spiro or Ang
15 Person scattering seeds, say
16 Brother of Nintendo's Mario
17 Shenanigan
18 "Good grief!"
24 More chilly
29 Play on words
30 Wood-dressing tool
32 Twin of Apollo
33 Diminish
35 Engine oil, for short
36 — gritty
38 Twilight time
40 Precious green stone

ACROSS

- 41 Tosses in
42 British fellow
43 Lock unlocker
44 Alters in size, as a photo
46 Church area with pews
47 Resting atop
48 Nothing more than
51 Cut and dried soup veggie
52 "Dynamite" singer Cruz
53 Chimps' cousins
57 Future pupae
59 Clenched hand
60 Genesis boat
62 Low grades
64 "— be a shame if ..."
66 Really regret
67 Wang of dress design
68 Examine minutely
69 Person voted in to a seat
70 Cheese from Holland
71 Statistics expert Silver
72 Goblet part
75 Auth. unknown
76 Bear or Berra
77 Past partners

DOWN

- 79 Seismic occurrence
80 Being harshly criticized
82 Balls
83 "— Tiki"
86 "— deal!"
88 Actress Leah
90 Quebecois' national anthem
91 Butter bits
93 Takes heed
95 With 124-Across, dreaded time of the year for many allergy sufferers
96 Last words of a threat
97 Links org.
99 Land parcel
100 Fur-covered
101 Duck variety
102 Charge-free
104 "Twin Peaks" actor Jack
105 Be the champion of
106 Ward off
107 — Buena Island
111 Gillette razor
114 Choke
115 Crunchable muscles
116 — de Janeiro
117 Lion locale

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	2			5		3			
		7			6		8		
3			2						4
	4				7		2		
		2	9						1
5				8		6			
		3	2				4		
6					5	9			
	8		1						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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1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18			
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113																	116	117					
118																							
122																							

Puzzle Answers Page 2

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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

Clubs and Classes

10TH GRADE CLASS NEWS

Coach J. V. Pinney, in order to promote a conservation program in the 10th grade homeroom has ordered 3 films from the West Virginia conservation commission. They are: "The tree of Life", "Adventure of Junior Rain Drop," and "The River." These films are to be shown on January 13, 17 and 20.

The sophomore class had a Christmas party December 15, 1957 at Mr. and Mrs. Pinney's house. We played games and danced on the energy furnished by the refreshments prepared by Mrs. Pinney and served by Mr. Pinney.

Everybody but three attended the party and everyone had a wonderful time. We exchanged gifts and everyone was pleased and full of spirit and joy. We wish to thank the Pinneys for the wonderful time they produced for the class.

The sophomore Class lost it's second student this year. Jerome Keener left us to join the army on January 16, 1958. We hated to lose Jerome because he furnished plenty of laughter around the halls and class rooms.

SIXTH GRADE NEWS

We sixth graders hand painted pillow cases for our mothers' Christmas presents and a scarf for our hope chest. We cut out our own stencils. We decided to ask Miss Bailes to judge the sixth grade's textile paintings, because, Miss Bailes is the sponsor of the High School Art Club. Miss Bailes picked Brenda Kings painting for the first and Cleveland Brooks for the second prize winner.

Charles Mullins painted the best picture for the month of December.

We have been studying Ireland in Geography. Several people drew pictures to show what we have been studying about in Ireland. We have them arranged on our bulletin board. After we had finished studying Ireland a movie came in about "The magic of Ireland." It helped us in our study of Ireland.

SECOND GRADE NEWS

We wish to thank the people who helped us make money with which we bought our new Number Text Books.

SEVENTH GRADE NEWS

The 7th grade was proud to win

the Attendance Banner for the month of December.

We were glad that Joe Potasnik has come back from the hospital with his eye in good condition.

The seventh grade has a new member, Johnny Matheny, from Elkview High School. He is the son of Mr. A. R. Matheny, mathematics teacher in Widen High.

SENIOR STUFF

Senior Christmas dance was a success and the old gym was attractive with its Christmas decorations.

The Seniors have set their date for the rummage sale—the 31st of January. The quilt is also being chanced off on the 31st.

The seniors got their pictures back. We all are very proud they turned out so well.

We also have been having dances after our ball games. We have been having very good crowds.

We are planning to sell all-occasion cards soon.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Student Council has been selling candy, peanuts and chewing gum at the home ball games. They are doing very well.

For the benefit and enjoyment of the students, the council has started work on a School Song Sheet, which will include the words of favorite songs to be used during assembly programs.

F.H.A. CLUB NEWS

The Future Homemakers of America met Thursday, January 9, 1958 in the Home Economics Building.

They served refreshments in honor of Joyce Workman whose birthday was January 6, 1958.

Those who attended the meeting were: Lois Frame, guest, Donreta Sigman, guest, Mrs. Sizemore, Desti White, Carolyn Hutchison, Kathleen Hall and Joyce Workman.

P.T.A. NEWS

On Monday night January 20, 1958 Widen P.T.A. enjoyed a showing of an educational movie entitled "Not By Chance" which was furnished by the West Virginia Educational Association.

The movie proved interesting and thought-provoking to the parents and teachers.

BAND MEETING HELD

A special band meeting was held a few minutes before band practice on January 9, 1958, to elect a reporter and another music custodian. Mitzie Sue Bailes was elected to be the reporter of the band and Mildred Gibson was elected music custodian. The band decided to order extra casual band jackets for members who desire them. They will be red on one side and white on the other. The members also decided to buy pens for the officers of the band.

The Band is planning several concerts in the near future. They will perform for the grade school assembly on January 29, 1958. They will play for a return appearance at Dille, Dundon, and Swandale. The Band has been practicing on new music which they plan to use in the Spring concert.

Eighteen High School members will soon form a pep band, so they can play for the basketball games when they are needed. The members have not been picked as yet.

Help Boost your band! Join the Band Boosters and help send the Band to Huntington this coming spring.

Hamrick led Widen's scoring with 15 and DeMoss had 13. Barbarow was high for Troy with 27 points. The final score was Troy 46, Widen 42. Barnette, Butcher, and King were also scorers for Widen.

WIDEN LOSES TO TANNER

Tanner defeated Widen here on January 7, by a score of 59-37.

DeMoss led Widen's score with 17. King, Butcher, Hamrick, and Barnette were also point men for Widen. Wade headed Tanner's scoring.

SUTTON DEFEATS WIDEN

The Sutton Blue Devils defeated the Widen Buffaloes January 10, 1958 at Widen. The final score was 73-41. The high point man for Widen was David Hamrick leading with 11 points. The big man for Sutton was Eddie Stewart, who lead the Blue Devils with 32 points.

Other scores for Widen were: Butcher, 3; DeMoss, 8; King, 8; Barnette, 10; and Wilson, 1

Will Crown Queen

The Junior Class is making plans for the mid-winter Snowball dance which will be held on Thursday night, January 20.

A snow queen, elected from one of the classes, will be crowned at the dance.

Decorations and refreshments appropriate to the theme will be served.

Nominees for Snow Queen are: Alice Hamrick, senior; Lora Lou Wilson, Sophomore; Lillian Brooks, Freshman; Karen Wood, 8th grade and Pat Manning, 7th grade.

MR. AND MRS. REYNOLDS WIN ATTENDANCE BANNER

The sixth grade won the attendance banner for the fourth month with a percentage of 98.38.

Mr. Reynolds' seventh grade won for the high school with a percentage of 99.34.

Congratulations 6th and 7th graders.

Percentage of Attendance

Mr. Reynolds	Grade 7	99.34
Mrs. Reynolds	Grade 6	98.38
Mr. Pinney	Grade 10	97.48
Mr. Boggs	Grade 8	97.34
Miss Graham	Grade 2	97.23
Mr. Jackson	Grade 5	97.05
Miss Ashley	Grade 3	97.04
Mrs. Griffith	Grade 11	96.61
Mrs. Bragg	Grade 4	95.96
Miss Wood	Grade 12	95.83
Mr. Matheny	Grade 9	96.65
Mrs. Butcher	Grade 1	94.33
Mrs. Elliott	Grade 2	94.29

SPORTS

ROBERT ALLEN SPEAKS

Robert Allen of Morgantown and Frances Barnes of Clendenin are the two members of the Mountaineer Week Team which will appear before the Widen High School students on January 27 at 11:30 in the Y.M.C.A. Auditorium.

Each year West Virginia sends out teams of young people to visit among the high schools in the state. These young men and women explain the merits of a college education, the advantages of West Virginia University, and the fun of attending the University to interested high school students. They are prepared to answer any questions about the University.

TROY EDGES WIDEN

The Troy Trojans squeezed out the Widen Buffaloes with a four point margin in a game held here January 3.

The halftime score was 20-20, but the Trojans racked up 15 points in the third quarter while the buffaloes only got 11. Widen's center, Barnette, fouled out in the fourth quarter.

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West Virginia Maple Syrup Production Numbers

Maple syrup production totaled 12,000 gallons in 2024, up from 11,000 gallons in 2023. Number of taps was 70,000, up from 69,000 taps in 2023. Yield per tap was 0.171 gallon, up from 0.159 gallon in 2023. Acreage totaled 2,200 acres in 2024, previous year data are not available. Comparison data for 2023 were released by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture in coop-

eration with NASS. Sales data will be in the Crop Production Report released in June 2025.

United States – Maple syrup production in 2024 totaled 5.86 million gallons, up 17 percent from the previous season for comparable States. The number of taps totaled 17.1 million, up 5 percent from the 2023 total for comparable States. Yield per tap was 0.342 gallon, up

0.035 gallon from the previous season for comparable States. Acreage totaled 318,700 acres in 2024, previous year data are not available.

The 2023 United States average price per gallon was \$32.80, down \$1.70 from 2022. Retail prices in 2023 were \$55.70 per gallon, up from \$53.60 per gallon in 2022. Retail gallons sold totaled 636,000, down from 734,000 gallons sold in 2022. Wholesale prices in 2023 were \$44.40 per gallon, up from \$40.00 per gallon in 2022. Wholesale gallons sold totaled 520,000 gallons, down from 805,000 gallons in 2022. Bulk prices in 2023 were \$2.40 per pound, down from \$2.70 per pound in 2022. Bulk prices per gallon in 2023 were \$26.90, down from \$30.20 per gallon in 2022. Bulk gallons sold totaled 3.6 million, down from 4.3 million 2022.

Value of production, at \$159 million for 2023, was down 23 percent from the 2022 season. Estimates began for maple in 2024 for Connecticut, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Ohio, and West Virginia.

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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, July 4, 2024
Claim Deadline: Monday, September 2, 2024

APPOINTMENT DATE 06/12/2024
ESTATE NAME: **PHYLLIS CAROLYN CUMMINGS**
ADMINISTRATOR: HOMER CUMMINGS
534 TWISTABOUT RD
PROCIOS WV 25164-8072

APPOINTMENT DATE 06/11/2024
ESTATE NAME: **MELOANIE ANN MORRIS**
ADMINISTRATOR: ARTHUR DALE MORRIS
5205 CLAY HIGHWAY
BICKMORE WV 25019-9651

APPOINTMENT DATE 05/16/2024
ESTATE NAME: **DAVID EDWARD ZELLER**
EXECUTRIX: MARGARET JARRELL
8560 ELK RIVER RD
PROCIOS WV 25164-8040

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 06/24/2024
Sheila Stone
County Clerk
Clay County
P.O. Box 190
246 Main Street
Clay WV 25043-0190

WANTED:

Someone to haul some stone to fill in mud holes on the Butcher Cemetery road in Dille. For more information call: 304-332-5367.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES OF PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER CHURCH PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the Trustees of the West Virginia North District Church of the Nazarene will on or after July 19, 2024, convey, with consideration, to Jacob Matthew and Sandra Matthew, husband and wife, that certain tract or parcel of real estate situate in Buffalo District, Clay County, West Virginia, more particularly bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

BEGINNING at a stake at Strange Creek and running thence across the bottom, in a northeasterly direction with an outside line of a one and one half (1½) acre lot of which this is a part, one hundred eighty five (185) feet to a stake; thence running into said lot, in a southeasterly direction, a distance of one hundred eighty-five (185) feet to a stake; thence running in a southwesterly direction one hundred eighty-five (185) feet to a stake at said Strange Creek; and thence running down said creek one hundred eighty-five (185) feet to the place of beginning, and being a portion of said one and one half (1½) acre lot on which is located the building now used as a church and known as the "Gospel Tabernacle."

Being the same real estate conveyed to Trustees of the Church of the Nazarene at Dille, West Virginia, by Jennings Cart and Mable Cart, his wife, and Jackie Lee Cart, single, by deed dated August 5, 1952, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 71 at page 22. Dated this 27th day of June, 2024.

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July 4th celebration, Clay County style



Logan Truman cranks out the tunes.



Elsie Smith with Grandpa Eric Perdue at the corn hole competition.

By Allen Hamrick
On July the 4th, families gathered together for cookouts, fireworks, camping, boating and whatever else people do to entertain themselves. It was a time to reflect on the beginnings of our great country. We still have the freedom to remember and reflect. Camping spots were full, and fish were running scared as fishermen hit the rivers and lakes. Fireworks were sold and wallets emptied; backyards and hollers became filled with smoke, and the sulfur smelling haze drifted into open doors and made homes smell like a war zone. The Redcoats were raised from the dead, in target form, and blasted with shotguns to the cheers of many as the Revolutionary War was once again on display in backyards. Glasses full of the finest strain of hill medicine your stomach could stand were raised to toast the freedoms we have to party like animals.

Independence has many components, and as long as a person has determination and a brain and uses them, they can enjoy financial success, gain a good education, invent, go to church, own property, have a career and the list goes on. Independence doesn't just come from winning wars but also the sacrifice of those who have long since passed who were the guinea pigs to whoever was in power at the time to perfect the life we live today. Politics are politics, and if a person gets too close to it, they become mad and end up like sheep who can't even think for themselves anymore and our freedom

we hold dear becomes as last year's green beans. There is not one thing we can do about it, so why worry? We just wait for the dung to roll downhill and over top of us. In the meantime, we still have freedom and we intend on putting into practice it as long as it lasts. So...

July 6th rolls around, and it was revelry time in Clay as we celebrated Independence Day in Clay County fashion. It started off slow, but in time people let their hair down, whooped it up and painted the town red. Our separation from England became our own....so to speak. Thanks to the deep pockets of CMI2, we celebrated our freedom in a spectacular way with a street party that would rival a Lynyrd Skynyrd concert. Local talent brought out the strings, drums and microphones and filled the hills with country music, oldies and newbies. People were dancing in the shade and cutting the rust off their heels.

It was hot enough to evaporate a water buffalo, and I may have overheard someone say they brought some eggs to eat that their chickens laid that morning already boiled... it was hot. Either way, after Mayor Hubbard opened up the festivities with words of wisdom, it was Logan Truman who started the party, and start it, he did. Soon as he began slingin' chords on his six string, you knew it was gonna be good time. He was a mix between Chris Stapleton and Charlie Daniels and was laying down the vibes to get the spirit going. The boy needs to be

in Nashville and become the next Charlie Daniels. Patriot hats and glasses were given away, and they were a welcome personal shade to a naked head. It was kind of a drag that nobody gave away personal cold fronts that would have been readily used. Local artisans like the Trumans, Morrises, Holleys and others brought in their finest wares for sale to the passersby, and people got the opportunity to get involved in the art with mug painting. Faces were painted and were walking galleries of the artist who created the masterpieces. The food vendors were feeding the masses with local delicacies like barbecue and baked goods that would calm the bear in anybody's belly.

Local fishermen Luke Stewart and Micah Osborne have hit it big on the bass trail and are nearing the top of the food chain in professional bassin'. They will be heading to the national high school championship in August and need support for their trip. They were on hand with their BBQ and undoubtedly sold out. These boys have the skill to get to the big dance, and we will be looking forward to see how they do. Corn hole boards was brought out and the 4th of July tournament got started with some of the finest bag flingers in the county. Once that was finished, it was time for the Clay County equivalent of Rush to take the stage. It was the Tim Miller band who entertained the crowd for two hours with roaring voices and cranked up amps driving the weakest legs to get up and dance. Who needs a band that

charges a house mortgage for two hours when you can get the talent from our backyard? These boys lung busting music and instrument work was cranking and carried the show into the night.

When the night wrapped around the hills and the sky turned dark, it was time for the icing on the cake...the fireworks. People dotted the hillside everywhere, sitting on tailgates with eyes fixed on the sky. This year's fireworks, brought to you by CMI2, promised to be a big one, and the show did not disappoint anybody. It started with a rapid fire to get a person's attention and from there it was 16 minutes of pure adrenalin rush as the explosions filled the night sky with color and brilliance. The show finished in spectacular fashion with an explosion that rocked the windows and spread light from one end of the town to the other with high arching flare.

Simply put, this 4th of July party was a good time and finished as the country started - with a shot heard round the world. Thanks to all those who put this event together for the citizenry; it was a much needed event. Remember this as we celebrate - take time to reflect on our country's history. America is a place where hard work, a strong mind and love of country and her people should be top on the list. Remember where you came from because it will light the path to the future. This country is still one of the greatest countries to live in, so enjoy the freedoms and don't ever take it for granted.



The Tim Miller Band entertains the crowd.



Brenda Morris was surrounded by her craft work.

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Art and Teresa Truman display their ceramic Gnomes and Shrooms.