Volume 135 No. 11

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Thursday, December 26, 2024

51497 13936

Science Fair winners announced

The following students placed at the Science Fair held earlier this year.

Elementary Winners:

Energy Science (Individual):

1st Place- Singing Glass (Emmett Houseknect) CES 3rd Place- Which Battery will Last Longer? (Paisley Morton, Zoey Jennings) CES

Energy Science (Group):

2nd Place- Solar Oven (Brynlee Peters, Zyair Nichols) CES

Engineering (Individual)
1st Place- What is a Fluid Coupling? (Caitlyn Hens-

ley) BOE
2nd Place- Rubber Band Car (Owen Paxton) BOE

2nd Place- Rubber Band Car (Owen Paxton) BOE 3rd Place- Ping Pong Pick Up (Noah Garvin) BOE Engineering (Group)

2nd Place- The Science of Parachuting (Vance Hamrick, Brayden Street, Alexander Holcomb) CES Material Science (Individual)

1st Place- Do Colors Affect Physical Comfort? (Lyndsay Nichols)CES

2nd Place- What Brand Pop is the Best? (Ellayna Brown) BOE

3rd Place- Which Shape Melts Quickest? (Easton Laughlin) BOE

Material Science (Group)

1st Place- What's Poppin? (Jenna Paxton, Reagon Payton) BOE

2nd Place- Which Liquid Dissolves Skittles the Fastest? (Holley Ramsey, Nevaeh Ramsey) CES

1st Place- What is a Hydraulic Lift? (Benzley Champ) BOE

Animal Science

Physics

1st Place- Science With Sammie? (Kinslee Duffield) BOE

2nd Place- What Supplemental Feed do Deer Prefer the Most? (Jase Beck) BOE

Chemistry (Individual)

1st Place-The Science Behind Fudge Texture(Harper Faulkner) BOE

2nd Place- What Milk Chocolate Melts the Fastest?

(Cooper Bird) CES

3rd Place- Lemon Juice VS Vinegar (Zoey Raynor)



The first place winners (pictured) will be moving on to the Regional Science Fair.

BOE

Chemistry (Group)

1st Place- Elephant Toothpaste (Leora Nine, Tessa Kiser, Nevaeh Jones) CES

3rd Place- Homemade Lava Lamps (Charlotte Elliott, Emma Nine) CES

Earth & Environmental Science (Group)

3rd Place- Borax or Salt (Brystol O'Dell, Kinsley Taylor) CES

Earth & Environmental Science (Individual)

1st Place- Erosion (Jett Wilmoth) BOE

2nd Place- Surface Tension (Iris Miller) BOE Medical Science (Group)

3rd Place- Flavor War (Savanah McMillion & Lila Duffield) CES

Medical Science (Individual)

1st Place- We Eat Nails (Abigail Samples) CES Plant Science (Individual)

1st Place- What Liquid Make Grass Grow the Fast-

est? (Paisley Adkins) BOE
2nd Place- Will it Grow? (Adalyn Boggs) BOE
3rd Place- Strawberry DNA (Kynlie Persinger)

Middle School:

BOE

Plant Science: 1st Place: Will it Grow? (Sophia

Boggs)

Earth & Environmental Science What Contaminants are in Local Waters?(Alex Holcomb, Tyler Holcomb, & David Samuels)

Chemistry- 2nd Place: Rainbow Rain (Hannah Gandee).



Keaton Patterson



Reagan King

Clay Elementary Students Shine in Forest Essay Contest

Two talented students from Clay Elementary, Keaton Patterson and Reagan King, recently made their mark in the statewide Forest Essay Contest. Sponsored by the Division of Forestry and Natural Resources at West Virginia University, the contest was part of Forest Products Week and aimed to highlight the vital role forests play in West Virginia's economy.

The competition challenged students to write a 350-word essay exploring a tree in their backyard. Participants were asked to identify the species of the tree, note any signs of wildlife, and assess its health. Their essays not only showcased their knowledge of nature but also their creativity and observational skills.

Keaton Patterson earned a well-deserved second place for his essay. Keaton's creative writing brought his observations of a very tall oak tree in his back yard. It also included some runins with a squirrel he named, "Sandy." He demonstrated a deep understanding of the importance of trees in providing food and shelter for wildlife. Reagan King secured third place with her insightful essay about a sassafras tree. Reagan's essay told of her trips with her uncle to see this tree and taste the wood, which she says tastes like root beer!

Both students will receive cash prizes for their outstanding entries, while their teacher, Mrs. Gauding, will be awarded a gift card. "We are very proud of Keaton and Reagan," says their principal Megan Starcher. This contest was a wonderful opportunity for them to connect with nature and showcase their writing talents. The Forest Essay Contest not only celebrated West Virginia's forests but also encouraged students to appreciate the trees and wildlife in their own backyards.

Panthers take a hit at home; Mustang basketball dominates



Joel Elliot gets points on the board. Allen Hamrick photo.

See story on Page 10

BOOKED



REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

NICHOLAS COUNTY



Joshua Caleb Bolen Booked 12/16/24 Circuit court Capias



Stacy Marie Hughart Booked 12/18/24 Violation of parole



Matthew Dale Jarrett Booked 12/16/24 Sexual abuse first degree



Paul Michael McKinney Booked 12/18/24 Probation violation



Jared Heath Smearman Booked 12/18/24 Bond violation



Derek Brent Strickland Booked 12/17/24 Home confinement violation

CLAY COUNTY



Nicholas Ray Davis Booked 12/17/24 Destruction of property, grand larceny, burglary



Bobby Edward Nichols Booked 12/16/24 Failure to register as a sex offender

Puzzle Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword -

Answers E D I CON ARF DANDURYEA FLEETS GROWINGWEARY NESTLINGR|E|A|A | W | I | N | G | A | N | D | A | P | R | A | Y | E | R | I M A M S I M M I C A S WILLIAMTHACKERAY I C E T R A Y S S S I S I S S A R A E SADIE A W E T H O LLOYD PRIESTS IRS REPULSED Y E N S H O R S E A N D B U G G Y E R A EUBIEFAN GASH |T|H|I|N|G|S]A|S|T|H|E|Y|A|R|E| DEREG KOA ANTSINE S P A R S E L Y H E A R Y E H E A R Y E FARE TANGOS REPS D R E W C A R E Y J I G P O S T T A X I O W A S O A K O L E U N A L I K E

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Big Otter PAX students named













































Students at Big Otter Elementary are following the PAX Good Behavior Game and becoming role models for other students. Students show a positive attitude towards their classmates and teachers. Congratulations to the following students for being selected as the November & December 2024 PAX Leaders at Big Otter Elementary School!

Mr. Dustin Vaughan – 5th Grade – Jase Beck & Jenna Paxton

Mrs. Burns - 4th Grade - Ellayna Brown & Ty

Mr. Dylan Vaughan - 4th Grade - Tripp Sears & Cattie Boggs

Mrs. Pierson – 3rd Grade – Kathryn Hanshaw & Abigail Shamblin

Ms. Paxton - 3rd Grade - Aaliyla Young & Jessie

Ms. Jarvis -2^{nd} Grade - Courtney Duffield &

Lacey Tanner Ms. Douglas – 1st Grade – Kylie Persinger &

Stephanie Thompson Mrs. Collins – Kindergarten – Haven Huffman & Holdyn Billups

Mrs. Marks - PreK - Lincoln Vaughan & Phoebe Mrs. Montgomery - PreK - Kendall Duffield &

Addison Watkins

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Electric Magic!



By PSC Chair Charlotte Lane

Could anything be more important to us, or less thought of, than the supply of electricity we use everywhere and every day? Electricity transformed humankind. It lengthened our days for both leisure and work. It has made it infinitely easier to prepare food, while making food so much tastier. It warms us and cools us.

It allowed for truly miraculous progress in medicine, science, and exploration. It revolutionized engineering and made the computer, telephones, television, and airplanes possible. It has allowed us to reach for the stars and beyond. It expanded our ability to obtain an education. It has drawn the world much closer and, sadly, allowed it to become far more dangerous.

The prestigious National Academy of Engineering chose electricity as mankind's single greatest engineering achievement of the 20th Century. And no wonder or perhaps it is a wonder. But I certainly endorse the academy's choice.

Just take a moment to think of the ways electricity has improved your life. The number of things that come to mind is colossal.

Can you envision a world in which you cook your

food on an open fire, use candles to light your dwelling, and draw your water from the nearby stream before you

In West Virginia we are fortunate to have two major electrical systems serving our state. Those systems are backed up by a regional transmission system that allows us to share electric power generated and transmitted through 13 states and the District of Columbia.

While we are discomforted at times by storms that down power lines, it is rare that any of us is out of electric power for a very long period of time. We do not suffer the electric brownouts or blackouts that plague so many urban landscapes in the United States because the supply of power cannot keep up with their heavy

While our power sources are not perfect, I would put them up against just about any other system in the nation. I think for reliability our power companies, backed by the regional grid, generally provide a good product.

So, as you drive around and see the colorful, twinkling lights that make this season so delightful, give a thought to that magical power that is so helpful to all of us and makes such a difference in our lives.



The Worst Christmas I Can Remember

Dr. James L. Snyder

The best holiday for me is Christmas. I enjoy everything about Christmas except paying for many gifts. But looking back, it's all been worth it. I can't think of anything I would ever change.

It's the one time of the year that families get together who usually aren't together during the year because of

work schedules and so forth.

I look forward to our great Christmas gatherings. There was a time in our family when the number of family members increased every year. I thought when we had children, that would be the end of it. But wouldn't you know all of our kids decided to have their own kids? And it's even come to the point where some of our grandkids are having their own kids.

Oh boy, when will this stop? Actually, I hope it doesn't stop.

Everybody looks forward to the Christmas holiday and everything associated with it. It is very hard to have a bad Christmas, no matter what seems to happen.

After our Christmas holiday, I was sitting in my easy chair drinking coffee and reflecting on all the Christmases I had as a child. Those were fun times. I got to see relatives I haven't seen the rest of the year.

It was then I remembered something—the worst Christmas I ever had. I had forgotten about this, but all of a sudden, it came to mind. When I was young, before I became a teenager, my

parents would take me and my siblings downtown to meet Santa Claus. We would sit on his lap, take a candy cane from him, and tell him what we wanted for Christ-

When we were done, he would say, "Ho, ho, ho," give us a Merry Christmas look, then send us back to our I vividly remember the first time I told him that I

would love to have a pony for Christmas. He agreed to bring me a pony, and then he did his "ho, ho, ho" rou-When I got up that Christmas, I noticed no pony un-

der the Christmas tree. As I thought more about it, I realized that nothing was under the Christmas tree that I had asked Santa for. I couldn't understand it. My parents told me Santa would bring me the Christmas presents I asked for. Of course, I believed them. Several Christmases passed, and the same thing hap-

pened or didn't happen. And I was just a little bit confused about this guy called Santa Claus. Why wasn't he good to his word? I remember the year I turned 13. I was now a teenager,

and so I had graduated to that smart level of being a teenager.

At school, we were having some kind of Christmas party, and they were talking about Santa Claus coming down the chimney to put presents under the Christmas tree and in the stockings hung by the fireplace. I didn't

think too much of it at the time. That Christmas Eve, as we were getting our Christmas tree all "holidayed" up, I felt that something was missing with our Christmas decorations. Then, it hit me rather strongly.

"Dad," I cried in alarm. He looked at me and said, "What's wrong son?"

I looked at him angrily and asked, "Dad, where is the chimney?

With a curious look, he responded, "What are you talking about?"

"It's beginning to make sense," I seriously said to my father. "I now know what's wrong with our Christmas. I now know why I haven't got my pony." My dad had no idea what I was talking about and

asked me to explain. "This week in school they were telling us all about Christmas and Santa Claus and Rudolph the red nose

reindeer. One of the things they told us was that Santa Claus comes down the chimney to bring his gifts.' I paused for a moment and then continued, "So, that's why I've not got my pony for Christmas. Dad, where is

our chimney? My dad was momentarily confused and had no idea how to respond to what I was saying.

"Well, son," my father said, "we don't have a chimney. We don't even have a fireplace so we don't need one."

"How then is Santa going to get me my Christmas presents under our Christmas tree I asked for while sit-

Thinking back over that now, I couldn't help but laugh. My father had a hard time explaining to me why we didn't need a chimney for Christmas time. Every year, just before Christmas, I ask, "Dad, will we have a chimney this year?

After a while, he got tired of hearing me ask that question and refused to come up with any more excuses.

I was confused about Santa Claus and Christmas, not knowing what to believe. It took me some time to sort out the Christmas holiday.

As I reflected on this, I thought that many things in

life need sorting out. We believe something and then find out it wasn't the truth. Jesus addressed this in John 8:31-33, "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in

my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. The truth about Jesus and His birth sets us free, and that truth can only be found in the Word of God.

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

A Christmas gift for Mom

By Joe Mazzella

My first born child, JJ was supposed to be a Thanksgiving baby. It was 3 weeks later, however, when my wife went into labor. It was a dangerous delivery and in the end we had to have an emergency c-section before he was born on December 16th, just 3 days before our first wedding anniversary.

Nine days later we drove to my Mom and Dad's house for Christmas. My wife was still sore from her surgery so I made her comfortable on the couch and gave JJ to his grandma to hold. As we all talked and laughed I noticed that Mom wasn't saying anything. I looked over at her and she was still holding JJ in her arms and speaking to him in gentle tones. Her smile was so joyous and her eyes were moist with tears. I knew that she had just been diagnosed with cancer and my heart filled with love for her. I was happy that I was able to give her the Christmas gift of her grandson and I prayed that they would

have many years together.

Sadly, that didn't happen. Mom died on a cold, winter's day just four years later when I was only 25 and JJ was only 4 years old. I felt so bad that she wouldn't be able to watch him and my other children grow up. Yet, over the years I feel that she has. I can still see and feel her loving presence around them over and over again. It comes in so many ways and so many forms. Sometimes I will see strange lights near them that I can't explain. Other times butterflies will flutter around their heads like they are being guided there by an invisible hand. And always when I look in each one of their faces, I can see her own loving smile and sparkling eyes.

God Loves us all so much and God wants us all to bring Love into this world in both large and small ways. My Mom did that every day of her life. And even after her life in this world was over, her Love continues on. May that be said for each of us.

Senate President-Elect Randy Smith Pledges Commitment to West Virginians

In an exciting and surprising moment for the state of West Virginia, Senator Randy Smith, R-Preston, has been selected as the Republican caucus nominee for Senate President for the upcoming term.

Members of Senate will take their oaths of office on January 8, 2025, at which time they will officially elect Senator Smith as Senate President for the 87th Legislature

With a strong record of fighting for the citizens of the state and a clear vision for the future, Senator Smith is

set to lead West Virginia towards a brighter tomorrow. After the process of being selected as the Senate President, Senator Smith expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve in this new capacity.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to have been chosen as the Senate President for West Virginia,' Smith said. "I woke up this morning living the American Dream. As I begin the transition into leadership, I am committed to working tirelessly on behalf of all our citizens to advance policies that will improve our state and ensure a prosperous future for generations to come.

Senator Smith outlined his priorities for his tenure as Senate President, focusing on areas such as protecting West Virginian's freedoms, economic development, commonsense social policies, and government reform. He emphasized the importance of unifying the Senate to work together to move West Virginia forward.

"Now is the time for unity and collaboration," he said. "Together, we can address the challenges facing our state and build a stronger, more vibrant West Virginia.'

As he prepares to assume his new role, Senator Smith made his first move by choosing business leader Senator Patrick Martin, R-Lewis, to be his majority leader.

"Patrick is a bright and talented individual. I have said for a while that he is the hidden gem in our chamber and everyone is about to find out how gifted this young man is," Senator Smith said. "I have full confidence that he will no doubt be one of the most effective Majority Leaders in our state's history."

Being tapped as the new Majority Leader, Senator

Martin becomes the youngest Majority Leader to ever serve in that capacity.

"I am honored to serve under Randy Smith as he becomes Senate President and excited to work alongside all my colleagues in the Senate," Senator Martin stated. "Randy is a Godly man whose dedication to faith, family, and the people of West Virginia sets a strong example for us all. As the youngest Majority Leader in West Virginia Senate history, I'm eager to bring fresh energy to our work and help guide our state toward a brighter future.'

Senator Smith wanted to publicly thank his colleagues for their support and pledged to lead with integrity, transparency, and a steadfast commitment to the people of West Virginia.
"I am confident that by working together, we can

achieve great things for our state," he said.

Senator Smith will officially assume the position of Senate President on January 8. During this transition period, he will be building out the remainder of his leadership team. West Virginians can look forward to leadership.

a time of stability and commitment to them under his

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lot and shovel snow from the sidewalk for the

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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.

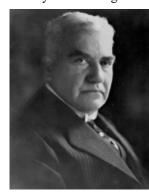
Dec. 25, 1887: Folk art-

ist James Tyree Rexrode was born in Pendleton County. He created a visual record of rural West Virginia life in the early 20th century. He died in 1976.



Dec. 26, 1917: Instrument maker Harold M. Hayslett was born in Putnam County. Hayslett's violins, violas and cellos have received awards for tone and workmanship, and are cherished by collectors and players alike.

Dec. 27, 1797: The county seat of Ohio County was moved from West Liberty to Wheeling.



Dec. 27, 1923: Businessman and Point Pleasant native Michael Owens, who revolutionized the glass industry through automation, died at age

Dec. 28, 1879: Brigadier General Billy Mitchell was born in France. As chief of the Army Air Service, Mitchell ordered aircraft of the 88th Squadron to perform reconnaissance during the 1921 Miners March on Logan.

Dec. 28, 1978: The last

trains ran on the Greenbrier Division, a branch line of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway. Ûnlike most C&O branches in West Virginia, the Greenbrier Division was not a coalhauling line but served the valley's timber industry.

Dec. 29, 1861: Confederate soldiers burned most of downtown Sutton. The town slowly rebuilt but remained small until the local timber industry boomed in the 1890 to 1920 period.



Dec. 29, 1928: Humorist and political cartoonist James Frederick Dent

ACROSS

1 Drag race

8 Schuss, e.a.

11 Stinging flier

15 Contributed

mask feature

toward chaos

1950s TV series "China

- Field (Mr.

Met's home)

31 * Getting tired

34 Baby bird 38 Evergreen with red arils

39 Actress Polo

42 Young

51 Mosque

54 Scrooge

19

43

65

69

76

84

102

108

131

57

official

portraye

Alastair

40 Stephen of "V

moray, e.g.

43 Cowl wearer

45 * Hope when

the situation

is desperate

for Vendetta'

19 Halloween

20 Hoodwink

22 Leave off

23 Tendency

21 Falco of TV

24 Fido's noise

25 * Star of the

Smith"

27 BLT seller

28 Naval forces

vehicle

was born in Charleston. His talent for turning daily events into delightful anecdotes gained him national fame. Reader's Digest reprinted 194 items from his columns, and radio commentator Paul Harvey often used his work.



Dec. 29, 1970: John Denver and two friends completed the song "Take Me Home, Country Roads." Denver performed "Country Roads" in West Virginia on several occasions, notably for the opening of the new Mountaineer Stadium in Morgantown in 1980.

Dec. 30, 1901: McKendree Hospital started providing medical care in rural Fayette County. It was one of three hospitals established by the state in the fast-growing coal-

Dec. 30, 1917: The temperature in Lewisburg dropped to 37 degrees below zero. It is the coldest official temperature on record for the state



Dec. 31, 1939: Larry Combs, one of the world's leading orchestral clarinetists, was born in South Charleston. He started studying woodwinds at age 10 and was principal

clarinetist for the Charleston (now West Virginia) Symphony Orchestra at age 16. He later served in the same role for symphonies in Montreal and Chicago and was inducted into the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame in 2009.

Dec. 31, 2007: Sara Jane Moore was released from prison after serving 32 years for trying to kill President Ford. Moore grew up in Charleston and later moved to California, where she joined left-wing groups and became an FBI informant. She spent part of her incarceration at the Federal Prison Camp in



JANUARY 1 FUN

88 Genetic

89 Spider's

hatching

pouch

93 With it,

94 Lyricist

100 Even a

single

101 "-haw!"

105 Regal seat

106 Playground

109 Wipe clean

114 Big name in

manner

119 Chip topper 120 Fish spawn

121 She-sheep

122 Mug handle

124 Bit of

117 Small kid

Brown' 112 Delight in

thesauruses 115 In a fitting

fixture

110 "Bad, Bad

113 Nimble

92 NFL goals

in old slang

Gershwin 95 Battle with

spongy balls 96 "So funny!"

97 Light beams

99 Actress Alley

48 Sierra, Yukon

and Acadia

49 Trendy

berry

50 Shells out

56 Very thin.

57 "It matters

to me"

58 Escorted

52 Boggy areas

53 Motorists' gp.

as clouds

from outside

and caboodle

59 Org. with bag

screeners

61 Fox-sighting

62 Jagged, as a

leaf's edge

Need You"

singer Leo

64 Hopper of old

63 "When I

gossip

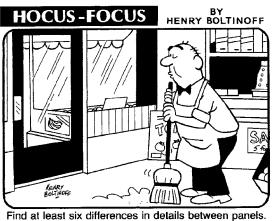
68 Fake coins

72 Previous to

78 Japanese

71 Not fooled by

60 The whole





Differences: I. Ear is larger. 3. Cash register is missing.

6

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Weekly **SUDOKU**

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Super Crossword

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107 Suffix with

Carol

116 Cab cost

118 Agents.

124 Net, as

128 Saturate

130 Dissimilar

108 How Alaska

is populated 111 * Town

crier's cry

117 "It takes two"

dances

in brief

123 Happy dance

earnings

127 Ames' state

129 Bullfight yell

131 Legal equal

133 Despite this

132 Brontë's Jane

134 What the last

four letters

of eight key

answers in

this puzzle

considered,

cryptically

miaht be

* "The Price

Is Right" host

6 Of Swiss

mountains

Asian land

10 Get by logic

11 Joins closely

cavity fixers

chimpanzee

"Baby Mama"

7 Playa del –

8 Climb up

9 Divided

12 Org. for

13 Thereafter

14 Counterparts

of manis

15 Cousin of a

16 Poehler of

17 Fight (for)

28 "Just my

opinion,

in a text

Banks 31 Fitness locale

32 Early auto 33 Award for U2

34 All-time low

36 Once called

35 Creeping

vine

29 Supermodel

18 Zeta follower

26 Pronounces

55 Minerals in 104 Six-legged thin sheets

"Vanity Fair" novelist 61 "One World"

musician John

65 Holders of frozen cubes 66 Girl in

the fam 67 "Insecure"

actress — Hawkins

dance 70 Astonishment **73** E'en if

75 Actor Bridges **76** Fathers

79 Auditing gp. **81** Was disgusting to

84 Deep desires 85 * Period

superseded by automobiles

89 Ragtime

pianist Blake 90 Aficionado **91** Large cut

92 * Three-part novel by Gertrude Stein 98 Green-light

102 Removal of restrictions. for short

103 RV refuge

org.

39

1 Honorarium

45

4 Tossed

5 "Relax!"

79

117

86

103

DOWN

2 Writer Rand 3 Lay in place

wearers

40

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111 112

123

129

133

46 Suffix with

owl or wolf

Vardalos of

Hollywood 11

37 Fido's threat noodle type 41 Intertwine **80 I**n no 44 Tartan skirt danger

30

74 Globe

77 Ergo

82 Playwright

O'Neill

83 Links letters

86 Dangerous

87 Vetoing vote

word wit 125 Rap sheet

126 Boomer's kid

16

36 63 62

100 101

99

107

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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119 120 121

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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.



March 1958

The Red and White Review WIDEN SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL TERM - 1957-58

WIDEN HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM STAFF

ASSISTANT EDITOR	
CLUB EDITOR Delano Fa	
CLASS EDITOR	Reba Eagle
CIRCULATION	Ronald Cottrell
SPORTS Paul 1	DeMoss and Russell Butcher

Correspondence...

Dear Sally,

This is good-by until next year. I've enjoyed our correspondence immensely, and I hope you won't forget me during the summer.

I guess that you, too, are caught up in a mad whirl of activity. The last six weeks of school are too full and too busy to allow for enjoyment of them. It's only after everything is over that there is time to remember and favor the remembrance.

Play rehearsals are over-the play is a thing of the past. I hope those who saw it enjoyed it as much as I did taking part in it. The final feeling of accomplishment surely is reward enough for these continuous, time-taking, and often nerve-wracking rehearsals.

I must confess that there were times when I wished I'd never taken a part, but, of course, that was never a sincere wish. Actually, I loved "doing the play" and so did the rest of the cast ...

There is no feeling in the world like that nervous anxious tenscness before the final performance of "Class Play" nor is there a like feeling for the hilarious released spirits in the performers when the curtain falls for the final time. Oh man!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

The election of the President and Vice-President of Student Council for 1958-59 will be held April 25. Those running for the office of President are: Judy La Corte, Junior; and Lillie Nash, Sophomore. Those running for Vice-President are: Ruby Holcomb Junior; and Lora Wilson, Sopho-

At that time there will also be elected six Members-At-Large.

The candidates are as follows: Sophomores, Karen Donohue and Dawne Backus;

Activities are flitting by. The prom and graduation exercises are all that are left. Oh. No! Exams! Let's not talk about them, eh?

The prom should be a lovely affair. We've made plans for pretty decorations and were planning food-Good food! To top it all, the dance will be in the New Community Building and it in itself is "Cool".

Student Council elections are next on the agenda. We always have lots of spirit and excitement at that time. No, I'm not a candidate for anything, but I have definite opinions on what kind of officers we need, so I'll make up my own mind and I'll vote as I please.

That's the fought-for right of an American Citizen - and I'll fight for it too!

Summer vacation is well-earned this year. I, for one, need it. During the first week I intend to lie in the sun and soak up all the warmth that I haven't had this long cold winter.

Have a nice time this summer! I know I will!

Love,

Coed.

Freshman, Robert Baughman and Jane Gibson; Eighth, Dave Shaffer and Gary

Graham;

Seventh, Roger Baughman and Pat Manning.

Campaign speeches will be presented for and by the Candidates on April 23.

The Student Council sponsored a bake sale April 19 at the Y.M.C.A. They wish to thank

Clubs and Classes

The Senior activities are drawing to a close. We presented our play on April 24, and we have begun our final plans for our trip to New York. We will leave on Wednesday, May 21, at 5:45 from the C&O Depot at Montgomery. We will travel through the State of Virginia, District of Columbia, Pennsyl-Maryland, Delaware, vania, New Jersey, crossing the Hudson River and entering the State of New York. We will arrive in New York City at 9:20 A.M. on May 22. After we leave the depot we will tour lower New York. At 12:30 P.M. we will arrive at the Plymouth Hotel for our room assignment. The afternoon and evenwill be open for independent activities. On Friday, May 23, we leave the hotel at 8:30 for a boat trip around Manhattan Island. At 2:00 P.M., we visit the NBC Stndios. In the evening we will attend Radio City Music Hall.

On Saturday, May 24, we have the entire day open for shopping, etc. At 6:30 P.M. we leave by subway for Coney Island. On Sunday. May 25, we have the day open for our choice of what we want to do until 4:00 P.M. We pack our bags and get ready to head for Home. At 6:45 we leave New York. On Monday, May 26, we will arrive at Montgomery, tired but enriched with the travel experience and sights of the largest city in the world.

JUNIOR CLASS

Plans for the annual Junior-Senior Prom are under way. The dance will be held on Friday May 9, in the New Community Build-

The Juniors spensored a Bunny-Hop in the school gym on Thursday, April 3, from 7:30 till 9:30, Tiny White bunnies carrying a number were planed on each geust and during intermission a door prize was presented to Dawne Backus, holder of the lucky number. The class netted \$9.75 on the dance.

The Junior Class is proud to announce its candidates for the annual student council election. They are: Judy La Corte-President, Ruby Holcomb- Vice President, and Joyce Workman and

FRESHMAN CLASS

The Freshman Class of Widen High School has selected its canfor members-at-large, namely Jane Gibson and Robert Baughman. The student of the month nominated from our class was Terry Shaffer. The girls are looking very pretty in their Easter outfits and spring dresses. Feels very good to be in summer dresses again!

FOURTH GRADE

The Fourth Grade has a new boy. His name is "J.B." Butcher. He transferred from the Dille

The Fourth Grade gave an assembly program. The audience seemed to enjoy it. We enjoyed giving it.

We have already had our achievement tests. Now we know how smart we are.

SECOND GRADE

We enjoyed the spelling match with Miss Graham's Class last

Our room was gay with bright colored baskets last week. We want to thank our home room mothers for helping the Easter Bunny fill

Second Grade Wins Attendance

Miss Graham's second grade won the Attendance Banner for the 7th month with a percentage of 99.74.

The seventh grade won for the High School with a percentage of 99.72.

Crongratulations 2nd and 7th graderst

Percentage Of Attendance Miss Graham ... Grade 2....99.74 Mr. Reynolds Grade 7... Mrs. Butcher Grade 1... 98.35 Mr. Pinney ... Grade 10... 98,21 Mrs. Reynolds Grade 6 ... 97.98 Miss Ashley ... Grade 3.... 97.16 Mrs. Bragg ... Grade 4... 96.96

Mr. Jackson Grade 5. . . 96.90 Mrs. Elliott. Grade 2... 96.84 Mr. Matheny Grade 9. 95.68 Mr. Boggs Grade 8. 95,60 Miss Woods Grade 12 94.38 Mrs. Griffith ... Grade 11.... .94.00

Judy Shaffer for Members-at-Large.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 24-0678-G-D

HOPE GAS, INC.

Application to change depreciation rates

NOTICE OF HEARING

On August 7, 2024, Hope Gas, Inc. (Hope) filed an application to change depreciation rates (Application) pursuant to Rule 20 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Procedural Rules), 150 C.S.R. 1 and its general ratemaking authority under W.Va. Code § 24-The Commission set a procedural schedule, including a hearing on

the Application that will begin at 9:30 a.m. on March 26, 2025, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Commission's offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. The hearing set by the Commission's September 27, 2024, Procedural Order was cancelled.

Anyone desiring to intervene should file a written petition to intervene within 30 days following the date of this publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. All requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the request to intervene and comply with the rules on intervention set forth in the Commission's Procedural Rules. The Commission will receive public comments until the beginning of the hearing. All written comments and requests to intervene should state the case name and number and be addressed to the Commission Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. Public comments may also be filed online at http://www.psc.state.wv.us. scripts/onlinecomments/default.com by clicking the "Formal Case"

HOPE GAS, INC.

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CLAY COUNTY THAT BEING THE JUVENILE COURT OF SAID COUNTY IN RE: State v. S.Z.D. and Z.B., Case No. 24-JA-36-37

In the matter of S.Z.D. and Z.B., and the unknown whereabouts of Tiffany D. Bevill, Adult Respondent Mother of said Infants, Craig Allen Beeth, Adult Respondent Father of S.Z.D., John Dozer, Adult Respondent Psychological Father of S.Z.D. and Johnathan Bartsch, Adult Respondent Father of Z.B.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION And

NOTICE OF ANSWER

Tiffant D. Bevill, Craig Allen Beeth, John Dozer, and Johnathan Bartsch.

(The object of this action is to notify the Adult Respondents of an abuse and neglect petition herein filed so that said Adult Respondents may answer the same to protect their interest.)

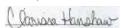
You are hereby notified that an abuse and neglect and/or abandonment petition has been filed with the Circuit Court of Clay County, West Virginia, on the 14th day of November 2024, and assigned Case Numbers 24-JA-36-37, wherein it is alleged that the Adult Respondent Mother of the Infant Respondents S.Z.D. (DOB: 10/31/11), and Z.B. (DOB: 12/13/13), is Tiffany Bevill, and that said Infant Respondents be placed in the custody of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, with said Infant Respondents remaining in the care, custody and control of the said Department since that time in accordance with WV Code §49-6-3. You are hereby notified that you have the right to answer said petition and you have the right to have counsel present at all stages of these proceedings and ALL PROCEEDINGS CAN RESULT IN THE PERMANENT TERMINATION OF CUSTO-DIAL AND PARENTAL RIGHTS TO SAID INFANT CHILD.

Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that the Adult Respondents, Tiffant D. Bevill, Craig Allen Beeth, John Dozer, and Johnathan Bartsch, shall appear before the Honorable Jack Alsop on the 18th day of January 2025, at 1:00 p.m., at the Clay County Courthouse, 246 Main Street, Clay, West Virginia, otherwise judgment by default will be taken against them at any time thereafter, and termination of your custodial and parental rights may be ordered by the Court.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Clay County, West Virginia, at the Clay County Courthouse. Clay West Virginia.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION

BY: Wayne King, Prosecuting Attorney Clay County, West Virginia Entered by the Clerk of said Court on the 11th day of December 2024.



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NOTICE OF SALE

Please take notice that The Board of Education of the County of Clay ("Board") has determined that the below-described real estate is no longer needed for school purposes and that beginning at 11 o'clock a.m. on the 4th day of January, 2025, at the former H. E. White Elementary School building located at 501 Bomont Road, Bomont, Clay County, West Virginia 25030, the Board will proceed to sell WITHOUT WARRANTY at public auction, subject to all the terms and conditions set forth in this Notice of Sale, and subject to chapter 18, article 5, section 7 of the Code of West Virginia of 1931, as amended, all of its right, title and interest in and to that certain real estate lot containing approximately 4.87 acres ("Property"), situate in Union District, Clay County, West Virginia, more particular described as follows: BEGINNING at stake on the northeast bank of said Porters Creek at the mouth of a small drain flowing

into said Creek from the northeast, in a line of the tract of which the property hereby conveyed is a part, thence with a line thereof down said Porters Creek N. 22 - 06 minutes W., 1,000.5 feet to the two hemlocks, a corner to the Bomont Church property; thence up the hill with a line of said Church property S. 86 - 23 E., 261 feet to a stake near a 14 inch black oak; thence around the hill S. 21 - 47 E., 817.2 feet to a 12 inch white oak standing about 20 feet northwest of a small drain; thence S. 50 - 58 W., 241 feet to the place of beginning, containing 4.87 acres, more or less, according to a survey made on the 15th day of February, 1950, by W. Herbert King, Engineer, and being a part of that certain tract of 85 acres, more or less, conveyed to Carl B. Young and C. M. Young by T. R. Hanson and wife by their deed dated the 29th day of May, 1946, and recorded in Deed Book 52, at page 261, in the office of the Clerk of the County Court of Clay County; the said C. M. Young having conveyed his interest therein to the said Carl B. Young by deed dated the 3rd day of July, 1947, recorded in Deed Book 55, at page 547, in said Clerk's office.

Being the same property conveyed to the Board by deed dated February 22, 1950, from Carl B. Young and Lela W. Young of record in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia in Deed Book 63, page 239. The Property is designated for tax assessment purposes Tax Parcel 91, Tax Map 13, Union District, Clay County, West Virginia.

The Property will be sold and conveyed by quitclaim deed, WITHOUT WARRANTY, "AS IS" and "WITH ALL FAULTS" and subject to any and all validly continuing and existing rights of way, easements, reservations, exceptions, restrictions, covenants, conditions, conveyances, encumbrances, liens, agreements, leases and other matters affecting the Auction Property.

The sale will further be made subject to (a) such facts as might be revealed by an accurate survey and visual inspection of the Property, (b) the purchaser assuming and the quitclaim deed shall provide that the purchaser assumes all responsibility and liability for hazards associated with the Auction Property (whether past, present, future, known or unknown), including but not limited to, environmental, and (c) the purchaser indemnifying the Board for any loss, claims or demands arising out of or related to purchaser's use of the aforesaid right of way and easement area.

Bidding on the Auction Property shall begin at One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00). The Board reserves the right to refuse any and all bids and to adjourn the sale from time to time without any other notice other than oral proclamation at the time and place of the sale or any continuance or adjournment thereof. The sale shall be to the highest responsible bidder, but all bids are conditioned upon (a) the acceptance thereof by the Board at its first regular meeting following the auction, which acceptance by the Board may be withheld for any reason or no reason whatsoever, and (b) the below terms and conditions regarding the sale and its consummation.

The sale shall be made upon the following additional terms: Ten (10%) percent of the sales price shall be paid to the Board by the high bidder in cash at the time of the auction and the balance in cash is due simultaneously with the tender by the Board of the quitclaim deed, and such other terms as may be ordered by The Board

In advance of the auction date, inquiries concerning the Property may be directed to Philip Dobbins, Superintendent of Clay County Schools, at (304) 587-1179.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE

By: Philip R. Dobbers

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Panthers take a hit at home; Mustang basketball dominates





Jacoby Nichols gets two the hard way.



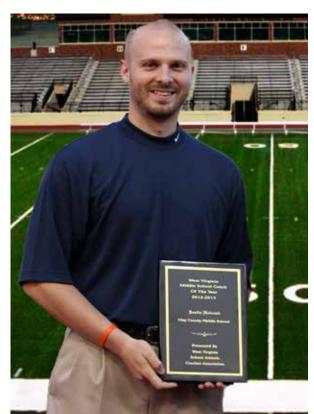
Michael Foster gets two in the paint.



Trent Gibson gets fouled on this layup.



Mason Sears demonstrates the semi hook shot.



Coach Holcomb received his award in 2013.

By Allen Hamrick

The Panther basketball team played their home opener against Midland Trail this past week. After losing their opener to Summersville, the Panthers were due a win. Starting his first season as head coach of the Panthers is Justin Holcomb who won coach of the year in 2013 for All Sports in WV after having a winning streak of 58 straight games. Coach Holcomb will bring with him a new look and style to the team. It will take some adjustment time, and only time will tell just how good the team will be under Coach Holcomb. Clay County basketball fans wish him and the team the best.

Looking to start the season off right on their home court, the Panthers were going to have a rough game to get it done. Midland Trail has a fast defense and an acrobatic team that can give you a game if you want it. The Panthers came out with all guns blazing and the game went into turbo action. Both teams were hitting the hoops and were staying pretty even with a slight edge going to Midland Trail who led 11-8 at the end of the first period. Both teams were zeroing in on getting their distance but also missing some good looks at the basket. The boys came out, bellied up to the B-ball Bar and were determined not to take a hit on the chin in front of the home crowd.

In the second period, the Panthers started really getting

in the paint and getting points the hard way. Joel Elliott started finding his range from outside the normal limits, dropping threes like a poker game. At the half, it was 25-23 with Midland Trail hanging onto a wishbone lead. The third period saw the Midland Trail defense step up their skirmish skills and put a damper on the bucket making of the Panthers. The Panthers shot the shots but couldn't get them to fall, and turnovers took the pin out of the grenade for the Panthers in the third. At the end of the third, it was Midland Trail up by seven points at 38-31. The Panthers would have to get busy in the fourth.

Seven points are not hard to overcome, but it would be if they couldn't stop them from scoring. In the fourth period, the Panthers cranked up the amps and were wearing out the hoop but so was Midland Trail. With minutes ticking off like a time bomb, the Panthers played fast paced basketball but just couldn't get the break on defense as Midland Trail went on to win the game 54-45. Nobody on the team crossed over into the double digits on scoring, but the top shots were Joel Elliott with nine and Noah Collins with eight.

This game was a strong home opener for the Panthers, but they will have to go to the drawing board before the next game and work out some bugs. Don't fret, they will get there. The season looks promising for the boys to play well; there are a lot of games left. Next up for the Panthers will be Webster on December 30 where they will be on the road. The next home game will be against Gilmer on January 2, 2025. The Lady Panthers hope to break the ball and chain and get out of their losing streak at home against Poca on December 19th. Go Panthers!!

In other basketball news, the Mustang dynasty continues to dominate the hardwood, stomping all opponents into the polyurethane. Their last wins were big ones as the Lady Mustangs ground South Harrison into burger, beating them 36-10. They will play one more time at the Winter Classic on December 27th. The Mustang boys stomped South Harrison into grape juice Tuesday night beating them 45-28. Their next game will be on December 27th at Valley Middle. Come out and support the

In other sports news, the LKC rankings have came out and congratulations go out to football players Jacoby Nichols, Ayden Brown, Noah Collins, Joel Elliott, Blake Coleman, James Grose, Jaxon Brown and Seth Robinson - they all received the 1st Team All Conference award. Also getting the 2nd team All Conference award was Jaden Morris, Kohan Ramsey and Christian Bryant. Receiving Honorable Mention LKC was Cain Atha and Kendrick Sutphin.

Lew and Zeb's Old Fashioned Holidays

By Allen Hamrick

Hey folks, its Zeb here drainin' some ink for ya. Here it is near time for old Claus to start slingin' all them gifts out of his sleigh fer all the little ones to enjoy. He is gonna streak through the air dodging shotgun blasts, birds, and snow squalls all so our little ones can be content on Christmas morn. Kinda makes you wanna break out in song don't it? Now you know Bull Snort an Buford an Crybaby and Vixen...Bonehead an Pea Brain an Bucky an Shave Tail... but do you recall the most biggest buuck of all? Pucker the big lipped white tail had the biggest rack around, and if you ever saw him, you would wanna bring him down...... Well, at least that's the version sung around the pot belly at Pap's barber shop. This time of year, all the good that's in anybody tries its best to sneak out and become a part of the festivities. For some, that good is limited, if you know what I mean. Christmas is the only holiday of the year that lasts longer than the family dinner or get together. Its preparin' at its finest - cookin', cuttin' the tree, decoratin' the tree, hangin' lanterns, shoppin' and buildin'. Why, it lasts near a month. Don't forget the singin', local quartets to full blown choirs brave the cold and their health to bring the gift of music to the hills and hollers we call home.

Now I'll admit, some of them singers could calm storms with their sweet tunes, but others could rattle the ears on a concrete statue and make the moon plug its ears. Granny Dingle decided she would join one of the groups last year and offer her services to the needy. They decided their first stop was at Rood Dellar's grandmaw's house due to her being a hundred years old. She came out on the porch with coffee in one hand and her Bible in the other ready to hear the Christmas tunes of old. Granny Dingle opened up her wind pipes on Silent Night and hit a note that was so sour Grandmaw Dellar lost her

hearin' and busted her coffee mug, while all 50 of Rood's

goat herd stampeded and was head buttin' anything that

looked like it was makin' that awful sound. Granny's

kater wallin' sent ten people to the hospital with minor

butt cheek bruising. Needless to say, Granny has to sing but in her house under the floor boards facing the dirt.

Christmas always brings joy to our hills - deep snows, horse drawn sleigh rides by candle light, the finest cooks preparing their meals and the scent fills the air as it send a warm invite to all who smell it as it drifts through the valley. It's a good time to be alive. Dads are busy building toys declaring to their kids that they are helpin' Santa. From sleds to doll houses, smoking pipes to promises of a better year ahead, all gifts do not have to be bought; some of the best require just a sacrifice of time and thought spent on makin' somethin' special for the ones you love.

Over the years, there was a couple that in people's eyes was poor, but at Christmas he would cut the tree and she would prepare the meal. There were no presents but there were gifts, gifts that truly mattered. The man would get his neighbor who played the fiddle, and as he sawed the strings, the man would take his wife by the hand and dance into the night under the light of oil lamps. We don't see that these days as things that truly matter have fell prey to Amazon and Google, among others, and a whole new world has opened up for people to explore. For me I like the old one. Why, a person can just sit in a chair and do all their shoppin' with the touch of a finger. I wonder if it's the reason that folks have lost their touch with nature; without love there is no sacrifice just the need for more.

Ah, that's just me bein' a softy, I reckon, but round here we ain't lost touch with nothin'. We all like to get presents, and my favorite is my own meat loaf and my own bowl of cole slaw with no strings attached. Course I like a good pan of biscuits as well. There's lots of singin' and a ton of food and plenty of joy to go around. This may not be the normal for where you are, but it is here. Grandmas sit in special chairs and tell their favorite Christmas stories to all who listen, from little ones to big ones. Their stories fill hearts and minds with imagi-

nation with memories of times we only wish we could

have been a part of. Some of the stories have a sack of



Granny Izzle caroling the blues.

wind tied to 'em, but they bring a smile to some much needy faces. One story was about a mule named Christmas Cleetus. It is a story that will wrap you in awe, but I'll tell it to ya some other time as my ink bowl is just about empty.

So, this Christmas, be sure to remember the true meaning of Christmas before it's gone into history books we no longer read. Sing yer songs in earnest and watch out for the goats. Give a gift that costs nothing but effort - light some candles, take a sleigh ride, send a card experience Christmas the way it should be with charity and love. From all of us here in our neck of the woods, me and Pepper, Lew and Gracie, Pap and the rest of the crew, have a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!