# Winter 2025 hits Clay County

Thursday, January 16, 2025

#### By Allen Hamrick

Volume 135 No. 11

Well, it would seem that winter weather is here again mimicking lasts year's event around this same time. In the latter part of January, the sun didn't shine for about a week in any direction, and we were buried under a few inches of snow. This time, however, not only did the snow hit but ice and sleet as well with the temperatures dropping into single digits making it nearly impossible to travel. The power

tled water is worth a gold nugget and popcorn has become a Sunday dinner. Many people relish the thoughts of staying in after preparing themselves to withstand the harsh elements of winter - the food is stored, wood split and piled to dry and the water supply prepared for sub zero temps. Others put it off and are scrambling for food, water and some form of heat, some scratching for wood under a foot of snow. Schools have traded the noise

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time. Let's not forget this past summer's drought and how the yellow jackets were in force in biblical proportions. Something had to happen, the earth around us needed a drink and the yellow jackets needed their wings clipped, hence a bitter winter. It's unhandy, to say the least, but necessary in the broad scheme of things. We are human, after all, and winter being the coldest and darkest season of the year with short days and long nights takes our sanity to the brink of cracking. We grab shovels in an attempt to stand against the snow but it just keeps coming; we cringe as the lights flicker and blankets become extra layers of clothing. The 15 year old heat pump groans under the pressures of the cold and the wood pile you thought would get you through a winter is nearly gone. Old man winter blows his icy breath and freezes the rivers, streams and driveways. Winter will either get to your inner essence with its icy grip or draw out the will to survive and your adven-

Winter is a time of dormancy, life and death hinged upon the degree of the day. Beauty is abundant yet inside that beauty lays a breakdown of misfortune ready at the gate to take its toll on the unprepared. Back yards become filled with sleds and inner tubes, and screaming people, aged kids to adults, are where winter finds its home. When the brutal snow squalls blister the skin, humankind suddenly allows the white

turous nature.

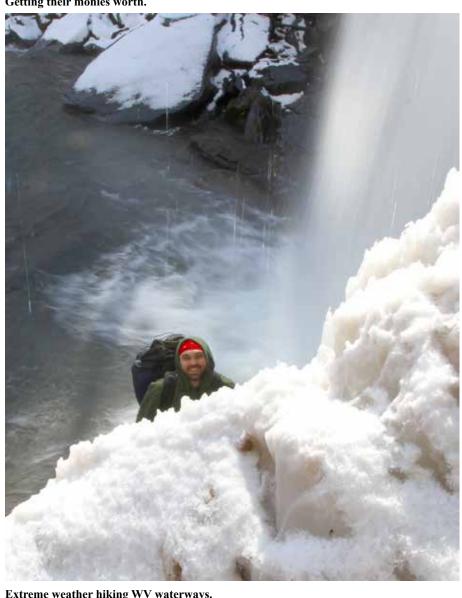
death on slopes and mountain tops as our will is tossed to the wind. When the brakes are let go, there is no assurance of a slow stop and a good time around the fire place.

Winter 2025 has been a daily struggle against the bitter cold for the most part, whether it's getting back and forth to the job or just waiting wrapped in a blanket for the next oak to drop on the lines and take away the only heat you have. As rough as it is for us, most will weather the storm and come out on the other side of it. Yet, with all its brutality and unyielding attempts to keep us wondering about tomorrow, it is a time when opportunity knocks. We are always on the move and seldom have the time to take stock of who, what, why, where and when spring, summer and fall return.

The spring thaw will return in 2025, we hope, but until then, batten down the hatches and drag out a good book; winter's just getting started. We have to slow down and get our bearings for the up and coming year, and winter is the time to do it. Troubles will come, and sometimes they last, but there are always men and women that have our six when the lines hit the ground and the roads get icy. Winter brings out the best of people and the worst, but through it all, winter is here for a reason. Whether you enjoy it or hate it, use it for what it is designed for. After all, it's only 63 days or 9 weeks, whichever number gives you more hope, until



Getting their monies worth.



Extreme weather hiking WV waterways.



Looking for berries.

## Speaker Hanshaw announces plans for upcoming 87th Legislature

House Speaker Roger Hanshaw, R-Clay, today announced several leadership roles within the West Virginia House of Delegates and a change to the committee format for the upcoming 87th Legislature.

Hanshaw, first elected to the House in 2014, is expected to be elected House Speaker for the fifth time when the House convenes for the 87th Legislature Wednesday, Jan. 8.

"Each of the ladies and gentlemen who will come to this building to take the oath of office will do so with the confidence of the 1.8 million West Virginians who are counting on us to chart a course of leadership and progress that will improve their daily lives," Hanshaw said. "A new Legislature is an opportunity to adjust the foundation we

have here to facilitate the work of the House, and we believe the lineup we've assembled will bring about new discussions, new approaches and new solu-

Returning to the position of Majority Whip will be Delegate Marty Gearheart, R-Mercer. Delegate Matt Rohrbach, R-Cabell, will serve as Speaker Pro Tempore as well as continue to serve as Deputy Speaker, a role Delegate David Kelly, R-Tyler, will take on as well.

Delegate Pat McGeehan, R-Hancock, will serve as House Majority Leader. Several members will serve as Assistant Majority Leaders: Delegates Tom Clark, R-Webster; David Green, R-McDowell; Keith Marple, R-Harrison; Delegate-elect Dave McCormick, R-

Monongalia; Erica Moore, R-Roane; Mickey Petitto, R-Harrison; and Elliott Pritt, R-Fayette.

Gearheart will be aided in his role with several Assistant Majority Whips: Delegates Jim Butler, R-Mason; Jordan Bridges, R-Logan; Eric Brooks, R-Raleigh; Dave Foggin, R-Wood; Delegate-elect Sarah Drennan, R-Putnam; and Bill Ridenour, R-Jefferson.

The Conference Chairman role will be filled by Delegate Mike Hornby, R-Berkeley, who will help facilitate majority caucus meetings and policy discussions among Republican members. Delegates John Paul Hott, R-Grant, and Doug Smith, R-Mercer, will return to their roles as Conference Vice Chair-

"In addition to a strong blend of new

and established leadership, I'm excited to implement a new format for our committee work here in the House," Hanshaw said. "For far too long, the success rate of a legislative session has been measured by the number of bills passed, and that's just not the appropriate assessment for what should be a focus on problem-solving.

"We've seen that the low-hanging fruits, such as the elimination of the food tax and creation of an Intermediate Court of Appeals, have already been picked after 10 years of a Republican majority. What's left are the complex, complicated issues that will require a different approach to lawmaking."

The House will have six standing committees: Health and Human Resources, Energy and Public Works,

# BOOKE



## REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

#### **BRAXTON COUNTY**



Anthony Lyle Hardway Booked 1/10/25 Trespassing on property other than structure or conveyance



Randy Nathan Larch Booked 1/9/25 Robbery



Scott Michael Marler Booked 1/13/25 DUI First offense



CLAY COUNTY —

Justin Lee Flanagan Booked 1/12/25 Capias



NICHOLAS CTY.

Sarah Beth Balcourt Booked 1/9/25 Violation of bond



Brandon Lee Baumgardner Booked 1/12/25 Battery of officer without weapon, obstructing an officer, domestic battery

#### NICHOLAS CTY.



David Luke Bennett Booked 1/11/25 Domestic battery



Kourtnie LaShawn Bennett Booked 1/11/25 Domestic battery



Alvin Ray Hardway Booked 1/9/25 Violation of bond



Jon James Jaynor Booked 1/12/25 Domestic battery



Samantha Nicole Jaynor Booked 1/12/25 Obstructing an officer, domestic battery



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## Judge Lorensen Named Chief Judge of **Intermediate Court of Appeals for 2025**

The Intermediate Court of Appeals of West Virginia today announced Judge Charles Lorensen has been selected to serve as the Court's chief judge during 2025.

The Intermediate Court of Appeals is a three-judge appellate court created by the West Virginia Appellate Reorganization Act of 2021 (Senate Bill 275). It officially opened July 1, 2022. The three judges currently serving on the Court are Chief Judge Lorensen, Judge Dan Greear and Judge Ryan White.

The Court's jurisdiction includes appeals of final orders or judgments in civil, family court, workers' compensation, administrative and guardianship/conservatorship cases.

The Chief Judge is chosen by members of the Court and serves a one-year term. In addition to Chief Judge Lorensen's designation for 2025, the judges have also designated Judge Greear to serve as chief judge in 2026, with Judge White serving as chief judge in 2027.

### **Puzzle Answers**

### Weekly SUDOKU

#### **Answer**

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

### **Super** Crossword –

### Answers



### **OBITUARY**



**Thornton Bird** 

On January 1, 2025, Thornton "Thurman" Bird went home to be with Christ.

Thurman was loving husband, father, grandfather. He was an avid fisherman, retired mechanic of the UMWA, and a US Army Veteran.

his Son, Timothy Bird; Daughter, Tammy Bird; Grandchildren, Micheal Bird (Syndi), Amber Bird-Kemp (Zach), and Nicholas Davis. Great Granddaughters Kyra Duffield and Hazely Bird; Brother, Charlie Bird; Sisters, Carol Sizemore (Ken), Patty Jones (Randy).

He is survived by

Thurman was preceded in death by Wife, Macil Bird, Grandson, Chad Duffield, and parents, Thornton and Neva Bird.

Thurman will be missed by friends and family

Graveside Service for Thurman was be held on Wednesday, January 8,2025 at 1:00, at Clay Memorial Gardens, Clay WV. Wilson Smith is honored to be serving the Bird family.

#### Gory McLaughlin

Gory "Gene" McLaughlin, 83, of Charleston, WV, formerly of Ivydale, WV, passed away January 1, 2025. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend to all who knew him. Gory "Gene" was born March 8, 1941, in Ward, WV to Effie Emogene Lantz McLaughlin and Gory Golden McLaughlin.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Larry Dean McLaughlin, nephew Terry Allen McLaughlin, granddaughter-in-law Jamanda Rollyson Moore and great granddaughter Emelia Jane Moore.

He leaves behind his wife of 60 years Joan Smith McLaughlin, daughter Genalee McLaughlin Moore (Richard), grandsons Tyler Moore, Aaron Moore and Caleb Moore, sister Fran King (Danny Mc-Coy), sister-in-law Joyce

LET THE PROS

McLaughlin, brother-inlaw Richard "Dickie" Smith (Melanie) and nieces and nephews.

retired Gene from Union Carbide in South Charleson where many knew him as "Buffalo" and from Cleveland Plant and Flower Company in Charleson where many called him "Dilly".

Per Gene's wishes he will be cremated and interment will be at Sunset Memorial Park, South Charleston, WV.

There will be a Celebration of Life Saturday, January 18, 2025 at 1 p.m. at Valley Christian Assembly, 1703 Bigley Avenue, Charleston, WV. In lieu of flowers please make donations to Valley Christian Assembly.

The family would like to thank Wilson Smith Funeral Home, Clay, WV for their thoughtful and compassionate care during this difficult time.

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

Leaf Filter

## Courthouse





Wednesday, January 29, 2025 Docket Schedule for Magistrate: Bass, Scott:

09:00 AM, State v. Jacob Hunter Grose, Pre-Trial Hearing, DUI – impaired state 09:30 AM, State v. Sandra Jo Bishop, Pre-Trial Hear-

ing, Possession of a controlled substance without a valid prescription (6 counts) 10:30 AM, State v. Matthew Scott Taylor, Pre-Trial

Hearing, Breaking and entering non-residence, petit lar-

11:00 AM, State v. Samuel Todd Murphy, Pre-Trial Hearing, Persons prohibited from possessing firearms – convicted of a crime punishable by more than one year, trespass on property other than structure or conveyance, hunt or fish without a license, hunting/trapping/fishing on lands of another, required attire for deer hunters

11:30 AM, State v. William Raymond West, Pre-Trial Hearing, hunting or fishing on revoked license

01:00 PM, State v. Ricky Farrell Taylor II, Pre-Trial Hearing, Breaking and entering non-residence, petit larceny

01:30 PM, State v. Jamie Alexander Ramsey, Pre-Trial Hearing, Operation without certificate of inspection or failure to produce certificate, failure to maintain motor vehicle insurance

01:30 PM, State v. Jamie Alexander Ramsey, Pre-Trial Hearing, no proof of registration, counterfeit inspection certificate

01:30 PM, State v. Jamie Alexander Ramsey, Pre-Trial Hearing, unsafe and improper equipped vehicles, operator's license - driving while license suspended or

01:30 PM, State v. Jamie Alexander Ramsey, Pre-Trial Hearing, Operators license – driving while license suspended or revoked, operation without certificate of inspection or failure to produce certificate

01:30 PM, State v. Jamie Alexander Ramsey, Pre-Trial Hearing, no proof of registration, expired MVI

01:30 PM, State v. Jamie Alexander Ramsey, Pre-Trial Hearing, no proof of insurance, failure to maintain motor vehicle insurance

01:30 PM, State v. Jamie Alexander Ramsey, Pre-Trial Hearing, failure to attach registration plates to rear of vehicle, operator's license – no license in possession 02:00 PM, State v. Vincent Edward Samples, Pre-Tri-

general - driving suspended, No insurance 02:00 PM, State v. Vincent Edward Samples, Pre-Trial Hearing, Defective equipment, failure to produce

al Hearing, Driving while license suspended or revoked;

operators 02:30 PM, State v. Michael E. Haines, Pre-Trial Hear-

ing, trespassing livestock

03:00 PM, State v. Robin Dawn Neal, Bench Trial, overtaking and passing school bus - no injury

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#### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

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

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



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## **Melting The Ice**

#### By Joe Mazzella

It was the coldest part of January several years ago. The jet stream had dropped and an arctic blast had arrived from Canada. The overnight temperatures had dropped below zero and the raw northern wind made it feel even colder. I had left my water dripping the night before but it had still frozen in the pipes. I sat outside then near the opening where the water lines came out of the ground and up into the house. I had run two extension cords through my back door to space heaters I had sat near the water pipes and was hoping they could get the water flowing again.

As I adjusted the heaters to get the warm air on the pipes the cold air of the day blew and sliced into me painfully. I saw the sun breaking through the clouds trying its best to warm the earth but the cold air of Winter was keeping it at bay, my pipes frozen, and my body shivering and hurting. My lips were chapped, my face felt raw, and my fingers were aching from the cold. Finally I went back inside. When I did I saw my loving daughter holding a steaming cup of coffee for me to drink. I smiled, took a sip, and let the liquid heat flow down my throat and warm my insides. I thanked my daughter for the cup and took another sip. And then I heard the most beautiful sound in the world: water flowing from the kitchen faucet.

As I went back out to carry the heaters back inside, I looked up at the sun and thanked God for a beautiful day, a beautiful world, and a beautiful life. As cold as it was I still felt the warmth of His Love shining through. Then I went back inside to hug my daughter and enjoy my coffee.

Sometimes this world feels like a very cold place. Sometimes it seems to do its best to keep the light, warmth, and Love of God at bay. But when we shine our light we can help God to drive away the darkness. When we share our warmth we can help God to take away the cold. And when we share our Love we can help God to melt the ice around another's heart.





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# Ugly is as Ugly Sees

By Dr. James L. Snyder

I was drinking a cup of coffee in the middle of the shopping mall. I don't like going to shopping malls, but The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage sent me to get a new dress shirt for Sundays.

I told her I could wear the same one I wore last year, but she has different ideas about the dress code.

I was drinking coffee to settle my nerves and then pick up a dress shirt for the year. I don't know why I need one every year because they all look the same to me, but The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage supervises my dress code.

While enjoying my coffee for a moment, I watched people as they walked by. It took me a while, but I began noticing the people walking by me.

One person was walking toward me, and I almost

fainted. I have seen ugly people before, but this one

baked the cake. Maybe it was my glasses, but I had never seen anybody as ugly as that before. Of course, I try not to look in my bathroom mirror.

Then, another person was coming my way who looked as ugly as the first person I saw. I begin to see

looked as ugly as the first person I saw. I begin to see ugly people all over the place. I didn't know if I died and was transported to some planet or something but a lot of ugly people surrounded me.

I will admit that among these ugly people were some very nice-looking people, but there were not quite as many as I would have liked to see.

An older woman walked by very slowly, and I saw

her face. From what I could tell, 50 years ago she had a complete facelift. I'm sure it looked okay at the time, but over the years, that beautiful face developed into a very ugly, wrinkly one.

I will never know why people have facelifts, tummy tucks, and all that kind of plastic stuff. When some

tucks, and all that kind of plastic stuff. When somebody young gets a facelift, they don't realize that if they live for the next 50 years, they're going to look very bad. A facelift is not forever. I read about a woman going for a complete make-

cost her over \$150,000. If I had \$150,000, I would not put it on my face!

Why are people so obsessed with how they look?

over. I don't know what they call it, but it was going to

Why are looks so important to most people?

I thought shout that as I set there drinking my soffer

I thought about that as I sat there drinking my coffee, wondering how my life would change if I got a facelift, a tummy tuck, or whatever else they do.

The longer I sat there, the uglier people were as they walked by. But I got to thinking—maybe they were looking at me and thinking I was the ugliest person they'd seen all day. At that moment, whenever anybody walked by and looked at me, I smiled—just in case.

When I got home that night, I hung up my new shirt and went into the living room, where The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was setting.

"Did you get the dress shirt I sent you to get?" She said very sarcastically.

"I did," I said with a smile.

Then I sat down, looked at her, and said, "Do you think I should go and get a facelift? And if so, where do you recommend I ought to go?"

As soon as she calmed down from laughing, she said, "The recommendation I would give you is that antique store just around the block." Then she laughed some more.

I was quiet for a moment, and then heard her say,

"Is anything wrong with the mirror in your bathroom? Maybe you need to get a new mirror."

Around our living room are pictures of our children,

grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren. Looking at them, I responded, "Aren't those children cute? They look so lovely, don't they?"

Of course, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage

was on my side with that and agreed that our grandkids were all very cute.

I then got serious and asked her, "What if some of

them grow up to be as ugly as me?"

I heard a loud gasp from her side of the room, and

when it quieted down, she said, "That's not possible!" I then went to my computer, where I had a bunch of photographs. I pulled up one and showed it to her. "What do you think of that picture?"

She looked at it and said, "That's a very cute young boy."

"That picture is of me when I was young. Now look at me."

I brought up another cute picture and showed it to

her. "Do you know who this is?"

She smiled and said, "That's a picture of me when I

was young."

"I wonder," I said sarcastically, "if ugly runs only in

my family."

All I heard from her side of the room was snickering,

and I wasn't going to ask any more questions.

"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the orna-

ment of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of

God of great price" (1 Peter 3:3-4).

My heart is more important than my face.

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

Cont. from Page 1

### **HANSHAW**

Finance, Government Organization, Education and Judiciary. The Standing Committee on Finance will have four subcommittees and all other standing committees each will have three subcommittees. The committee process also will see changes.

The Speaker will refer each introduced bill to a standing committee or a subcommittee, and similar to the floor session's three-day process, a bill going through the committee process may cover three days: Introduction, with agency reviews and comments from the public on day one, markups to the bill on day two and committee votes on day three. Both the subcommittees and standing committees will follow this process.

"Not only did we want to build in specific and predictable steps with appropriate timing for the committee process, but we also wanted to better execute our oversight role," Hanshaw said. "Not every problem is solved by enacting a new law, and we think regular discussions with Executive Branch agencies will give all of us a better understanding of the challenges, successes and resources out there in every corner of our state."

The Standing Committee on Finance will be led by Chairman Vernon Criss, R-Wood, with Delegate Clay Riley, R-Harrison, serving as Vice Chair. Its Subcommittee on Revenue will be led by Gearheart as its Chairman and Delegate Chuck Horst, R-Berkeley, as Vice Chair. Delegate Trenton Barnhart, R-Pleasants, will be Chairman of the Banking and Insurance Subcommittee and Delegate Walter Hall, R-Kanawha, will be the Vice Chair. The Investments Subcommittee will have Delegate Jarred Cannon, R-Putnam, as Chairman and Delegate-elect Ray Canterbury, R-Greenbrier, as Vice Chair. The Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman will be Hott and Roy Cooper, R-Summers, will serve as its Vice Chair.

Delegate Brandon Steele, R-Raleigh, will serve as Chairman of the Standing Committee on the Judiciary and Delegate JB Akers, R-Kanawha, will be its Vice Chair. The Courts Subcommittee will be led by Delegate Phil Mallow, R-Marion, as its Chairman and Delegate Andy Shamblin, R-Kanawha, as Vice Chair. Delegate Buck Jennings, R-Preston, will serve as Chairman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee and Delegate Bryan Ward, R-Hardy, as its Vice Chairman. Delegate Laura Kimble, R-Harrison, will lead the Legal Services Subcommittee as its Chairman and Delegate Josh Holstein, R-Boone,

will serve as its Vice Chair.

Delegate Evan Worrell, R-Cabell, will serve as Chairman of the Standing Committee on Health and Human Resources. Delegate Michael Hite, R-

Berkeley, will be its Vice Chair. The Public Health

Subcommittee will be led by Delegate Scot Heckert, R-Wood, and Vice Chairman Geno Chiarelli, R-Monongalia. Delegate Adam Burkhammer, R-Lewis, will be Chairman of the Human Services Subcommittee with Delegate Margitta Mazzocchi, R-Logan, serving as its Vice Chair. The Health Care Regulation Subcommittee will have Delegate Dean Jeffries, R-Kanawha, serving as Chairman and Delegate Adam Vance, R-Wyoming, as its Vice Chair.

The Standing Committee on Government Organization will be led by Delegate Chris Phillips, R-Barbour, as its Chairman and Doug Smith, R-Mercer, as Vice Chair. Its Subcommittee on Government Administration will have Delegate Jonathan Pinson, R-Mason, as its Chairman and Delegate Mark Dean, R-Mingo, as its Vice Chair. The Subcommittee on Local Governments will be led by Chairman Dana Ferrell, R-Kanawha, and Vice Chairman Mike DeVault, R-Marion. The Agriculture, Commerce and Tourism Subcommittee will be led by Delegate Wayne Clark, R-Jefferson, as its Chairman and Delegate Patrick Lucas, R-Cabell, as its Vice Chair.

The Standing Committee on Education will be led by Chairman Joe Ellington, R-Mercer, and Delegate Joe Statler, R-Monongalia, will serve as its Vice Chair. The Delegate Chris Toney, R-Raleigh, will serve as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Education and Delegate Jeff Campbell, R-Greenbrier, as its Vice Chair. Delegate Lori Dittman, R-Braxton, will be Chairman of the Higher Education Subcommittee with Delegate Jimmy Willis, R-Brooke, serving as its Vice Chair. Delegate Kathie Hess-Crouse will serve as Chairman of the Educational Choice Subcommittee and Delegate Mike Hornby, R-Berkeley, as its Vice Chair.

Delegate Bill Anderson, R-Wood, will be Chairman of the Standing Committee on Energy and Public Works with Delegate Mark Zatezalo, R-Hancock, serving as its Vice Chair. Delegate Bob Fehrenbacher, R-Wood, will serve as Chairman of the Energy and Manufacturing Subcommittee with Delegate George Street, R-Preston, as its Vice Chair. The Economic Development Subcommittee will be led by Chairman Gary Howell, R-Mineral, and Vice Chairman Jordan Maynor, R-Raleigh. Chairman Daniel Linville, R-Cabell, will lead the Environment and Infrastructure Subcommittee with Delegate Rick Hillenbrand, R-Hampshire, serving as its Vice Chair.

"We know this will be a big adjustment for a lot of us, especially our staff and the public, but we are optimistic about this approach, which we think will be easier to follow and will lead to a more solutionoriented approach to lawmaking," Hanshaw said.

## 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.



Jan. 15, 1864: Frances Benjamin Johnston was born in Grafton. Johnston gained national renown as the first female press photographer and enjoyed a long and remarkable career as one of the nation's leading documentary, portrait and artistic photographers.

Jan. 16, 1850: Lawman Dan Cunningham was born in Jackson County. remarkable career involved him in the Hatfield-McCoy Feud, the West Virginia Mine Wars, and the destruction of moonshine stills.





Jan. 16, 1869: Ephraim Franklin Morgan was born in Marion County. Morgan, a Republican, was governor during the tumultuous West Virginia

Mine Wars. Jan. 17, 1918: The War

Department hired a New

York engineering firm to build the DuPont munitions plant in Nitro. Within 11 months, the powder plant and a complete town with houses, a civic center and a hospital were completed.



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

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

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

Jan. 19, 1820: Fairmont was established by the Virginia legislature on the farm of Boaz Fleming. The original name of Middletown was changed to Fairmont in 1843.

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

Jan. 19, 1848: Wirt County was created by the General Assembly of Virginia from portions of Wood and Jackson counties. It was named for William Wirt, Virginia statesman and a presidential candidate in 1832.



Jan. 19, 1894: Railroad worker John Hardy was

hanged for killing a man in a drunken gambling dispute. The episode inspired the widely popular ballad "John Hardy."



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

Jan. 19-20, 1978: An overnight snowstorm

9 One-sharp

10 Sticky gunk

**11** Hit — (run

trouble)

13 Fruity drink

15 Busy crawler

mayonnaise

speed, briefly

19 "Your Song"

24 Whole lot

29 Ice cream

33 — -friendly 34 She was Mrs.

35 Stephen of

Gorbachev

"Still Crazy"

36 Nuptial oath

38 Point of view

43 K-O linkup

45 Toon frame

37 Buddhism

branch

drink

32 "Tsk!"

singer John

14 Foot part

16 Artsy cap

17 Garlicky

18 Replay

12 Urbane

into some

musical key

55 Popular

Aussie boots

56 Avocado dip,

60 Fidel's cohort

for short

61 Sweltering

kudzu

73 "— Lisa"

**74** PC key

70 Go in haste

75 Gin inventor

Whitney

76 Ski lift type

language

83 And so on:

Abbr.

77 Pakistani

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

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



JOINED FOR

A PURPOSE

97 Actor Ayres

98 A, in Berlin

99 Self-help

author

LeShan

101 Lyric-penning

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF **HOCUS-FOCUS** 





Hand is moved. 4. Mouth is open. 5. Straw is different. 6. Table

Differences: I. Fingers are not showing. 2. Counter is not as wide.

## **Super** Crossword

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Wish-granting spirits
- 7 Greek vowel 12 Records file
- 20 Punch combo
- 21 Splotchy
- GI garb 22 He played Al Bundy
- on TV 23 Planners
- of campus events
- 25 Often-pickled
- red vegetable **26** Atop, in
- poems 27 Lena of
- 'The Reader" 28 Latin "I love"
- 30 Patron saint of sailors
- 31 Brotherhood 39 Capital of a
- Mexico state 40 Hard to find
- 41 Burdened
- 42 Travail 44 Political cam-
- paigners for a particular issue
- **50** Wonderment 53 Dragon in
- **57** Suffix with
- racket 58 Not at all tight

- "The Hobbit"
- alternative to massage 104 "Carpe —!"

103 Japanese

- 108 Newspaper
- of the USSR
- 112 Managers of houses in a subdivision

- 118 SpaceX **59** Medieval founder Musk protectors 119 Formed a lap
- of trade 63 Icebox **120** "Leave the pros" 65 Boise's state
- **121** Anna of 66 Gel in a lab

a moral code

76 Bath fixture

79 Printer fluid

on end

85 Surfs the

88 Fighters of

contact

**94** Corrective

95 Pitching star

96 It consists

football

100 Aspirin target

81 More devious

internet, e.g.

92 Madison Ave.

93 Sea, in Paris

eve surgery

of 13-player

animal cruelty

80 Years

- 67 By means of fashion
- 68 Claimed 122 It has Cut
- psychic gift and Copy 69 Regulators of commands
  - 126 Apt playing card for this puzzle's
  - theme? 131 Company
  - VIP 132 Barrymore or
  - Waters of "Pinky"
  - 133 Consignment shop deal 134 "I have no
  - idea!" 135 - Dame
  - 136 A whole lot

#### DOWN

- 1 Become lenient
- 2 Intestine:
- Prefix 3 Of axons and
- dendrites
- 4 "--- be my
- honor"

- 8 Philippine capital
- 6 Prince, e.g.

- 5 Ram's mate

- 7 Eye-related
- 46 Fish eggs 47 Seep out
  - 48 Wields 49 Crime doer

- - 54 Sharp as
- 50 French bud 51 Join nuptially

  - 52 Pitching stat
- - of Arg. 90 Little drink 91 Giraffe's kin

93 Be certain

- 84 Dark loaf 86 Fly trapper **87** Jazz's - Gyra 88 Mecca-to-Medina flight 89 Country east
- 62 "... sad and Gershwin 102 Ballplayer of dreary everywhere D.C., in brief -": Stephen 105 Apple com-Foster puter camera 63 Suitable **64** Disloyal sort 67 Ivy and
  - 106 Bible book before Job 107 Mark with
- multicolored spots 71 Electees, e.g. 109 Optical
- 110 Exact 72 Diner offering look-alike 111 Licoricelike
  - seeds 112 Listens to 113 Classic song
  - 114 Actress Shearer
- **115** PC key **78** Tennis' Björn **82** Positive vote 116 Dutch painter Jan
  - 117 Dove's call 123 Roman 1,200 124 Biblical
  - verb suffix **125** — de plume 127 Figure skater Midori
  - 128 To's partner 129 Company
  - VIP 130 Timothy Leary's drug

All rights

#### Weekly **SUDOKU** 3 4 9 3 8 6 3 6 4 5 3 8 9 5 6 6 4 2 1 9 2 3 8 1 3 2 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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#### 12 13 14 15 18 20 22 23 25 24 26 31 33 35 37 39 40 43 51 53 58 65 69 82 85 87 88 89 90 91 96 100 101 | 102 103 104 |105 |106 |107 108 109 110 111 113 | 114 | 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 |124 | 126 128 | 129 131 132

135

134



# THE WIDEN NEWS

The people who think alike should vote alike.

## "DUNDON" RED ASH COAL

Where all think alike, no one thinks very much.



**April 1958** 

## Class of 1958 - Widen High School



Seated from left to right: Reba Ann Eagle, Patricia Ann Young, Betty Jane Craft, Helen Louise Ellis, Mitzie Sue Bailes, April Zoe

Manning, Joanne Louise Conner, Joan Truman Dawson and Iris June Lloyd; Standing from left to right; William Nallen Laxton,

Cecil Carl Ellis, Ronald Gene Cottrell, Paul David DeMoss, Alice Myrea Hamrick, Bernard Russell Butcher, Lois Jean Frame, Lanty

Delano Facemire and Opal Lillian Dodrill. Not pictured are Howard and Lanty Wilson.

Lois Jean Frame is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norris Frame of Strange Creek, West Virginia. She was born August 20, 1940 at Widen, West Virginia. She is 5"2" tall and weighs 101 pounds. She has blonde hair and geeen eyes. Lois has attended school at Widen for tweive years. During her school years she was a member of Art, FHA, Handieraft, Library, Chorus, and Dramatics clubs. She was also secretary of Dramatics and Reporter of FHA. She was Mrs. Dana in the Senior play "No Boys Allowed;" She attends church st Walnut Grove Methodist Church. She plans to work for the summer and go to nurses training in the fall at Charleston General Hospit-

Opal Lillian Dodrill is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earlie Dodrill of Strange Creek, W. Va. Lillian was born at Strange Creek, W. Va., February 13, 1940. She is 5'4" tall and has auburn hair and dark brown eyes. She attended grade school at Strange Creek and Dille W. Va. She entered Widen High School in her freshman year, and she has been very active in her school work. In her freshman, sophomore, and junior years she was a member of the chorus. Club. During her junior year having been an honor roll student, she was taken into the National Honor Society. She was student of the month for February 1957, and was a guest of the Rotary Club in May 1957.

In her senior year, Lillian was President of the Senior Class, secretary-treasurer of Student Council and secretary-treasurer of National Honor Society. She was also Student-of-the-Month for October 1957 and represented her Student Council at the Annual Conference held at Jackson Mills, in October, 1957.

In completing her senior year she has been given the honor of giving the farewell address at her commencement exercises.

Lillian attends Walnut Grove Church. Upon graduation she plans to attend Business College in Canton Ohio.

Mittale Sue Bailes is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Onas A. Bailes of Widen. She was born in Charleston, W. Va. on April 10 1940. She is 5 feet tall. She has hazel eyes and dark brown hair. Mitzie spent her whole twelve years in the school at Widen. She has been a member of F.H.A. club, 4-H club, Dance Club, Chorus Club and Dramatics Club. She was also a member of Widen Safety Patrol in the fifth and sixth grade. She has been member of Widen Baptist Church for six years. She is the secretary of her Sunday school class. Mitzie was awarded a fouryear pin for not missing Sunday School for four years. Mitzie has been a member of Girl Scouts for seven years. She has been reporter and treasurer of the Girl Scouts. She attended the Kanawha County Girl Scouts camp at Caldwell, W. Va., for four years. Mitzie was awarded a friendship award last year at Camp Ann Bailey, She has been in band for three years and was the reporter for the band for a year. She won the Student Director pin in 1957 which was awarded by the Dramatic Club. Mitzie Suc plays the part of a thirteen year old girl in the Senior Class play. She plans to go to the Nurse Training school at Charleston General Hospital or get a job in Parkersburg.

Howard Vernon Wilson Jr. is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Wilson of Strange Creek, W. Va., and was born at Sutton West Virginia July 2 1940 Howard is 5'6" tall and weighs 140 lbs. He has black-hair and gray eyes.

He attended elementary school at Dille. Howard has been a member of the Art Club, Reporter for Dramatics Club, and Club editor of the Widen School Paper. He played the part of "O'Brien" Police Officer in the senior class play, "No Boys Allowed."

Howard plans to work at Widen after graduation.

Carl Ellis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Ellis of Widen, West Virinia. He was born April 1940 in Widen. He attended b grade school and high school Widen.

He is a member of Art Club ; is a former member of the Athle Club. Carl has participated baseball and basketball since tering Widen High School played three years of junior h basketball and two years of h school basketball, and is now p ing for the Widen independ team. He played baseball in

9th grade and in his junior year he played a few games with the Widen Independents. He is six feet tall and weighs 153 pounds. As yet Carl hasn't decided what he wants to do when school is out.

Ronald Gene Cottrell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Newt Cottrell of Widen, W. Va. He was born October 2, 1939 at Groves Creek, W. Va. He is 5'10" tall an weighs 135 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes. Ronald has attended Widen Schools for twelve years. During his school years he was manager of the Widen Basketball Team in the eighth grade and again in his junior year.

He played on the football team in his freshman year, and also played basketball that year. Ronald was reporter for Art Club and also for the senior class. During his senior year, Ronald worked for the company on the afternoon shift.

He was a member of the Boy Scouts and was on the Safety Patrol in grade school. He went to Washington with the patrols when he was in the fifth grade. Ronald plans to work for the company after graduation.

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## **HURCH DIRECTORY**



Sunday Night Services 6:00 PM Wednesday 7:00 PM Everyone is welcome! Pastor: Paul E.

ALTA CHURCH OF GOD

BELL CREEK COMMUNITY BAPTIST NO Scheduled Services

At This Time

**BELL CREEK** PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Tuesday Night 6:00 PM Thursday Night 6:00 PM Sunday Morning 10:00 AM PM Pastor: Lee Holiday (304) 632-1135

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH of Adonijah. Preaching from K.J.V. Bible Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Morning 11:00 AM Sunday Evening 7:00 PM Thursday Evening 7:00 PM

BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH, Porter Creek Road,

Bomont, WV Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Night Service 7:30 PM Thursday Night Service 7:30 PM Everyone welcome!

Pastor: Junior Davis BICKMORE BAPTIST

CHURCH located at Bickmore on Fola Road Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 11:00 AM Sunday Evening 6:00 PM Wednesday evening services 7:00 PM

Pastor: Ralph D. Lane

BIG OTTER BAPTIST CHURCH OF IVYDALE

Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 11:00 AM Wednesday prayer service and Bible Study 6:30 PM Pastor: Danny Richardson

BIG UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Sunday Evening Service 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays Preaching 6:00 PM

Wednesday Night Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 PM 2nd Sunday Communion Service 6:00 PM

Pastor: Pete Shaffer

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

**BUFFALO VALLEY** 

**BAPTIST CHURCH** Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Sunday Evening Service 6:00 PM

Radio Broadcast, Sunday Morning 9:00 AM. WCWV Summersville

Everyone Welcome Pastor: Doug Newell IV

BURKE MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH in

Procious. Across Camp Creek Bridge on the left. Preaching Every Sunday 9:00 AM

Sunday School 10:00 AM Bible Study every Wednesday 7:00 PM Pastor: Jerry Chandler

CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF LIZEMORE

Prayer Service and Bible Study, Tuesday 7:00 PM Regular Service Sunday Nights at 7:00

Sunday School 10:00 AM Pastor: Thurman Sizemore

**CHURCH OF GOD** BENTREE

Sangamore Rd., Bentree, WV Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Evening Service

7:00 PM Wednesday Service 7:00 PM Come and worship the Lord

with us. Everyone Welcome!

Pastor: Michael L. Holcomb, Sr. CLAY COMMUNITY **CHURCH** 

Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM Wednesday Night Service 7:00 PM. Everyone welcome.

CLAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM

Worship 11:00 AM. Everyone is Welcome! Pastor: Wilma Dobbins

**CLENDENIN UNITED** 

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH 10:00 AM - Sunday School 11:00 AM – Preaching 6:00 PM

Wednesday 7:30 PM Pastor: Fred Walker

**CLIO COMMUNITY CHURCH** Sunday School 10:00 AM

Sunday Night Preaching 7:00 Wednesday Worship

Everyone welcome. Pastor: George Stickland

7:00 PM

COLD SPRINGS GOSPEL

TABERNACLE, Upper Falling Rock, Clay County Sunday Morning Worship

Sunday School 11:30 AM Sunday Evening Service 7:30 PM

Tuesday Evenings 7:30 PM Teachings from the King James Bible

Everyone welcome! Pastor: Darris Barker

CORNERSTONE INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH, Rt. 3, Newton

Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM

Wednesday Prayer Service/ Discovery Clubs 7:00 PM Pastor: Roy Huffman

ELK RIVER BAPTIST **CHURCH** 

Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 11:00 AM Wednesday Service 7:00 PM Saturday Night 7:00 PM Pastor: Brace Cook

FAIRVIEW BAPTIST TEMPLE

Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday Evening 6:00 PM Wednesday 7:00 PM

Pastor: Bret Wiley

FAITH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Dutch Ridge Laurel Road Sunday Service 6:00 PM Tuesday Service 6:00 PM Everyone Welcome!

Pastor: Brother B. J. Evans Associate Pastor: Lee Roy Anderson

FAITH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Bomont, WV Sunday Service 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM Wednesday Service 7:00 PM

Pastor: Nick Bird Phone 304-548-6665

FLAT FORK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 PM Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Worship 11:30 AM Pastor: Chris Johnson

FOLA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 11:00 AM Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM Wednesday Adults Bible Study & Kids for Christ 7:00 PM

GAULEY BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor: Daniel Tanner

Sunday School 9:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM Junior BYF/Senior BYF

6:00 PM Sunday Evening Worship 7:00 PM

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM Wednesday Kids/Chilrcn/

Youth 7:00 PM **GOSPEL LIGHT** 

COMMUNITY CHURCH Located on Rt. 119 at the mouth of Gabe. All Sunday night services begin at 7:00

PM. Everyone welcome. Pastor: Rev. David Smith GROVES CREEK

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

HALLBURG BAPTIST **CHURCH** 

Sunday Sunday 10:30 AM Sunday Night Preaching 6:00

Pastor: Michael Jackson

HARTLAND COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH Wednesday Night Service

Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday Night Service

6:00 PM Pastor: Jeremy Holcomb

HORNERS FORK MISSIONARY BAPTIST **CHURCH** 

Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday Evening Worship Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM

Wednesday Evening Youth

Sunday School 10:00 AM

7:00 PM Pastor: Joe Dawson

HOUSE OF PRAYER Hansford Fork Rd, Maysel, WV (off Rt. 36) Pentecostal/Full Gospel Sunday Morning 10:00 AM Sunday Evening 6:00 PM Wednesday evening 7:00 PM

Pastor: James R. Paxton

Pastor: (304) 587-2996

(home), (304) 587-2703

(church)

**IDA BAPTIST CHURCH** 

Bentree Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 11:00 AM Wednesday Prayer Service & Bible Study 7:00 PM Wednesday BYF 7:00 PM. All ages welcome. Also have crafts, etc., all children

welcome. Pastor: Larry Skaggs

INDORE BAPTIST **CHURCH** 

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM Sunday Class 11:00-12:30 Preaching Lunch 12:30-1:30 PM Wednesday Service 6:30-7:30 PM Everyone welcome!

IVYDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 Evervone Welcome! 304-395-9990 Pastor: Freddie Elliott

JODIE BAPTIST

**CHURCH** Come Worship with Us! Sunday School 10:00 AM Morning Worship 11:00 AM Evening Service 7:00 PM Wednesday (BYF) 7:00 PM

Wednesday Night 7:00 PM JOHNSON CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Vineyard Ridge Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Night Service

7:00 PM Wednesday Night 7:00 PM

JUBILEE MOUNTAIN **CHURCH** 

103 Main Street, Clay, WV

Sunday 10:00 A.M. - 12 noon For more info call 304-587-

Pastor: David Davis

LAUREL FORK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Adonijah

Sunday Morning 10:00 AM Sunday Night 7:00 PM Wednesday Service 7:00 PM Youth Meeting 7:00 PM

LEATHERWOOD FREEWILL BAPTIST **CHURCH** 

Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Service 7:00 PM Wednesday Services 7:00 PM

LIBERTY ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 11:00 AM Wednesday Night: Bible Study/Prayer Meeting and

Youth Group 7:00 PM Pastor:

John Barnhouse

LICKFORK BAPTIST **CHURCH** 

Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 10:00 every Sunday Morning Sunday Night Services 7:00 PM

Wednesday 7:00 PM Come worship with us! Pastor: Herb Vance

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Everyone welcome! Pastor: Mark Dudley

LITTLE LAUREL MISSIONARY BAPTIST **CHURCH** 

Phone 304-286-5909

Sunday School 10:00 AM Morning Worship 11:00 AM Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Everyone Welcome! Pastor: David McLaughlin LIVING GOD WORSHIP

CENTER We invite you to come and worship with us. Thursday Evening 7:00 PM Sunday Morning 10:00 AM

LIZEMORE CHURCH

Pastor: Cecil Lee

OF THE NAZARENE Sunday School 10-11:00 AM Church Service 11-12 Noon Wednesday Service 7:00 PM Pastor: Robert Thomas

M

MAYSEL COMMUNITY

Sunday School 10:00 Sunday Night 6:00 PM Monday Night Service 6:00 PM

Wednesday Night Prayer

Meeting/Bible Study 6:00 PM Everyone welcome! MAYSEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Everyone Welcome Pastor: Jim Hamrick

MIDDLE CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday Night 6:00 PM Wednesday Night 7:00 PM

Pastor: John Osborne MT. OLIVE **COMMUNITY** CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Preaching 7:00 PM

Wednesday Prayer Meeting

Everyone welcome!

MUD FORK CHURCH Sunday & Jr. Worship Service 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Sunday Night 6:00 PM Wednesday Night & Jr.

Church Service 7:00 PM Everyone Welcome! Pastor: Christopher Stout

NEBO BAPTIST CHURCH Preaching every Sunday Morning at 10:00 AM

Sunday School 11:00 AM Preaching, Prayer Meeting Wednesday at 7:30 PM

NEW ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Service 11:00 AM Sunday Night 7:00 PM Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM

Please join us in Praise! Pastor: Gary Walker

NEWTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching every Sunday

Pastor: Kenneth Boggs NEWTON BAPTIST **CHURCH** 

11:00 AM

Adult Choir Practice Sun. 9 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM Sunday Night Service 6:00 PM Wednesday Night Prayer Meet-

ing & Bible Study 7:00PM Pastor: Darius Walker Pastor Emeritus: Ron Fisher NOAH'S ARK FULL

GOSPEL CHURCH Thursday 7:00 PM Sunday 7:00 PM Pastor: R.J. Mullins, Sr. o -

O'BRION ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching after Sunday School. Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM Pastor: James L. Balser

OVAPA METHODIST **CHURCH** 

Preaching every Sunday at 9:45 PM Sunday School 10:30 AM Sunday School on the 2nd Sunday is at 10:00 AM Wednesday 7:00 PM

Phone 304-587-2955 Pastors: Cindy & Roger Dunlap

OTTERLICK COMMUNITY CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Night Service 6:00 PM

Bible Study Thursday 6:00 PM Pastor: Gene Copen

OTTERVALE ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching every Sunday, except 5th, 11:00 AM Prayer Meeting Tuesday

Pastor: Rev. Rick Sams

Evening

PEOPLES COMMUNITY **CHURCH** 

Sunday School 10:00 AM Wednesday Night 7:00 PM Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM

Take time out for Jesus, he

took time our for you. Pastor: Freddie Schoolcraft PISGAH FREEWILL

BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Evening Bible Study & preaching 6:00 PM

PLEASANT DALE BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching Sunday 11:00 AM Wednesday night Bible Study

Pastor: Dennis Vance

Saturday Night Preaching Pastor: Wayne Litton PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM

7:00 PM

Sunday Evening 6:30 PM Wednesday Night 6:30 PM Everyone welcome.

Preaching 11:00 AM

Pastor: Wayne Smith **PROCIOUS COMMUNITY CHURCH** Welcomes You! Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 11:15 AM Bible Study 2nd, 4th, 5th

Pastor: David Walker

QUEEN SHOALS F.G.C.

Wednesday Night 6:30 PM

**CHURCH** Sunday Morning 10:00 AM Sunday Night 7:00 PM Thursday Night 7:00 PM Everyone Welcome!

Pastor: Scott Means

RISEN LORD CATHOLIC CHURCH at Maysel Sunday Liturgy 8:30 AM followed by Religious Education

9:30 AM Wednesday Liturgy 6:00 PM Everyone welcome! Pastor: Father Matheus Ro SVD

Pastoral Associates: Father Dominijus Boak SVD ROGERS FORK BAPTIST

Sunday School 10:00 AM Saturday Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM Sunday Worship 7:00 PM Everyone welcome!

Pastor: Delbert McKenzie

**CHURCH** 

**RUSH FORK COMMUNITY CHURCH** Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 2nd & 4th Sunday 11:00 AM Every 1st and 3rd Sunday

Singing or Preaching 11:00 AM Wednesday Prayer Service & Bible Study 7:00 PM Come see us in church. Pastor: Harry Dobbins

STRANGE CREEK CHURCH

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

THE AMERICAN CHAPEL AT ELKHURST

Saturday Services 7:00 PM Sunday School 10:00 AM Pastor: Hiram Lewis

TRINITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM

Sunday Worship 6:00 PM Wednesday Night Service 7:00 PM. Everyone welcome!

Pastor: Clifford Samples

Preaching 11:00 AM

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LIZEMORES

Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Service 6:00 PM Wednesday Service 7:00 PMEvervone welcome Pastor: Don Dobbins

**UNITY GOSPEL TABERNACLE** 

Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 11:00 AM Sunday Night 6:00 PM Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00 PM

attend.

**W** -

VALLEY RIDGE **CHURCH** 

Everyone welcome!

Sunday School 10:00 AM Bible Study Wednesday Night 7:00 PM Evertyone is welcome to

WALLBACK METHODIST CHURCH Preaching 1st, 3rd, 5th Sun-

days 9:45 AM Bible Study Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM Everyone welcome.

Pastor: Rev. Stewart Cottrell

UNITED METHODIST **CHURCH** Preaching 1st & 3rd Sundays 11:00 AM

WALNUT GROVE

Sunday School 10:00 AM Pastor: (304) 332-5503 Pastor: Jimmy Adkins

WALNUT MEMORIAL **CHURCH** Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 10:00 AM

Thursday Evening Service 7:30 PM Everyone welcome!

Pastor: Lester Tanner WHITE PILGRIM METHODIST CHURCH Preaching Sunday 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM

Pastor: Paul Coon WHITESTAR TABERNACLE CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 AM

Everyone welcome!

Sunday Night 6:30 PM Wednesday Night 6:30 PM Pastor: Rev. Mike Hall WIDEN BAPTIST

CHURCH

6:00 PM

Sunday School 10:00 AM Preaching 11:00 AM Sunday Night Service 6:00 PM

Wednesday Night Service

Everyone welcome!

Pastor: Randy Tinney WINGS OF DELIVERANCE APOSTOLIC

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

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## Mountain State Spotlight: Department of Justice extends scrutiny of West Virginia's foster care programs as state fails to show required improvements

The agreement, established in 2019 between the DOJ and the state, was set to expire last month, but was quietly extended. Data analyzed by Mountain State Spotlight shows a recent uptick in foster kids in group homes despite goals to reduce these numbers.

by Erica Peterson for Mountain State Spotlight

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.

West Virginia's long-troubled foster care system will remain under federal scrutiny for an undetermined period of time, under a legal agreement quietly reached last month.

The new agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice dials back some oversight provisions, but extends a mandate that the state Department of Human Services continue to fix systemic problems with West Virginia's efforts to help foster kids with a wide variety of disabilities.

"The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) continues to partner with the Department of Justice as DoHS's system improves," said spokeswoman Whitney Wetzel in an emailed statement. The agreement stems from an investigation that

concluded West Virginia was violating the rights of children under the Americans with Disabilities Act by unnecessarily sending them to group homes and residential treatment centers.

"The State has needlessly segregated thousands of children far from family and other people important in their lives," wrote DOJ investigators in their 2015 findings letter. "With adequate services, the State could successfully treat these children in their homes and communities."

In 2019, the DOJ and West Virginia reached an agreement to address the findings, by working to prevent kids with serious mental health conditions from unnecessarily entering treatment facilities. This included ramping up a number of programs designed to make mental health treatment more accessible in communities across the state. The agreement was set to terminate on December 31, 2024, if West Virginia reached substantial compliance with the terms. The amendment signed last month extends the oversight but does not set a new end date.

Many, but not all, of the kids being sent to these kinds of homes are in the foster care system. A class action lawsuit filed on behalf of foster kids that is scheduled for a bench trial in March alleges the state's response to the long-standing and systemic deficiencies in the foster care system — including too few foster homes, not enough community mental health support and insufficient staffing — has been "slow, indecisive and inadequate." Because of this, kids are being harmed: unnecessarily warehoused, shuffled



The West Virginia Department of Health and Department of Human Resources building in downtown Charleston. Photo by Kristian Thacker.

from place to place and suffering further abuse.

West Virginia has spent the past five years challenging the lawsuit, arguing that fixes were already in the works, and that foster care regulators had "met these challenges head-on, with transparency, determination, and innovation." One of the state's arguments has been that work was already ongoing with the DOJ, and that West Virginia should be given a chance to implement that agreement.

But the amendment to the agreement shows that West Virginia has not yet satisfied the requirements. And the state's own data shows that recently, there's been an uptick in kids in residential treatment centers.

The original agreement set a goal of reducing the number of kids in group homes and treatment facilities to 822 by the end of 2022. DoHS met that goal, and set a more ambitious one of putting no more than 712 kids in these types of homes by the end of 2024. But though the number fluctuates slightly month to month, the yearly average has instead increased since 2022, according to the monthly reports the regulators submit to the state Legislature.

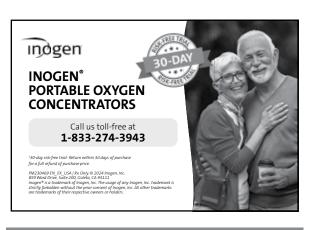
As of last month, there were 819 kids in residential mental health treatment facilities.

The changes to the agreement remove the requirement that an independent subject matter expert assess West Virginia's progress on a quarterly basis. Instead, it puts the onus on West Virginia to publish reports twice a year describing its efforts to satisfy the requirements and assessing its success.

That's troubling to Marcia Lowry, a lawyer whose group, A Better Childhood, is representing foster children in the class action case.

"We are very concerned about the elimination of the subject matter expert because this is obviously a serious problem, one that's gone on for a long time, and one about which the state has not made a substantial amount of progress," Lowry said.

The amendment also gives the state more time to develop a data display system to measure whether children are still being unnecessarily institutionalized. The original deadline for this system was 18 months after the agreement was signed, which would have been in November 2020. It also clarifies how West Virginia should be sampling children to determine its success, and lays out a number of additional documents the DOJ is requiring the state to regularly submit.





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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, January 16, 2025

Claim Deadline Monday, March 17, 2025

ESTATE NUMBER: 770

APPOINTMENT DATE 01/10/2025

ESTATE NAME: FORREST L. MORRIS AFFIANT LESTER B MORRIS 363 CARDINAL DRIVE RITTMAN, OH 44270-1074

ORDER OF PUBLICATION IN THE FAMILY COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

THE MATTER OF: R.J.C.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-FIG-6

THE OBJECT OF THIS SUIT IS TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN FOR THE MINOR NAMED HERE TO: JEFFREY SCOTT CLEATOR, FATHER OF THE MINOR

It appearing by verified pleading filed in this action that after the exercise of due diligence by Petitioner, Sheena Leedy & Alexander Leedy, AND Mother of the Minor Shilo Lippert, the exact identity and whereabouts of Jeffrey Scott Cleator, father of the minor, whose whereabouts are unknown to the Petitioners & Mother. It is hereby ordered that Jeffrey Scott Cleator, Father of Minor, serve upon Petitioner's Sheena Leedy & Alexander Leedy, whose address is, 221 Virginia Street Kenbridge, VA 23944, and Mother Shilo Lippert at 123 Shamblin Run Rd., Procious, WV 25164 an answer, including any related counterclaim or defense you may have to the Petition for Appointment of Guardian filed in this action or before the hearing date. You are advised that a hearing will be held on March 6, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. in the Family Court, 246 Main Street, 2nd Floor Clay Courthouse, Clay, WV. 25043 before the Honorable Judge Harley Stollings at which time and place you may appear if you so be advised. If you fail to do so, thereafter the Court will be asked to appoint guardian for the minor children and such other relief as set forth in said Petition. A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office.

Entered by the Clerk of said Court: January 3, 2025.

( langua Hamphaw