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Rural steering committees help to close WV learning gaps

By Nadia Ramlagan

Appalachian counties are expanding efforts to help ensure children are off to the right start in their education.

Research shows attending a high-quality preschool before kindergarten can boost well-being and economic outcomes later in life but most rural kids lack access to these types of centers or such programs as Head Start.

Cathryn Miller, West Virginia state director for Save the Children, said rural community leaders in Nicholas County have formed a local steering committee to tackle the issue.

“Ranging from education professionals, health care providers, child care providers,” Miller outlined. “We have local government officials included, caregivers and just other folks in the community.”

Rural child poverty can also worsen learning gaps. Miller pointed out in some West Virginia counties where Save the Children programs operate, the child poverty rate is as high as 38%. According to the National Rural Education

Association, nearly one in seven rural students experiences poverty, one in 15 lacks health insurance and one in 10 has changed their residence in the past year.

Miller added the steering committee is looking at the root causes driving setbacks in early learning.

“That will enable the group to explore what’s driving kindergarten readiness outcomes that our school districts are seeing, and identify key areas for intervention,” Miller emphasized.

Nick Carrington, managing director of community impact for Save the Children, stressed rural kids across the nation face systemic barriers to receiving a good education, especially very young children.

“Rural areas themselves have been under-resourced historically, with just 7% of philanthropic dollars going to rural places that represent more than 20% of the national population,” Carrington reported.

Federal data show more than half of rural families with kids under age 5 live in a child care desert.



Elk River Bigfoot is now one handed.

Bigfoot’s arm has been amputated

By Allen Hamrick

The now nationally known statue that stands ominously on the state owned Elk River Trail, known as Elk River Bigfoot, has had his right arm purposefully and carelessly severed. Unfortunately, it was only a matter of time before someone had to break out the saw, or shoot, burn or chop down this wooden icon. It is hard to understand why someone would think it’s a good idea to deface or disarm state property, especially something that hundreds if not thousands of people have come to enjoy.

This statue was crafted by local summer enrichment students last year in ten sweltering summer days in 95 to 100 degree weather from start to finish. Elk River Bigfoot has been recognized by

the West Virginia Paranormal Trail as

part of their network of haunted places to visit. He is on national registers with GPS coordinates for Bigfoot hunters and has grown into an attraction for Clay County. The site has created a ton of anticipation and fun for visitors and whoever did this apparently cares little for any of it. Whoever thought it was a good idea to do this, go ahead and brag about it, the WV State Park System would love to pat you on the back and hear your side of the story.

As Clay Countians, we need to take care of each other and our treasures and never accept this kind of cowardice. I mean, how tough or famous does it make you when you deface and destroy something positive in a county of so little?

This Week in The House Of Delegates

For the week ending Feb. 21, 2025

In addition to carrying out their legislative work this week, members of the West Virginia House of Delegates joined members of the Senate to collect donations for West Virginians affected by recent flooding.

“We’ve had record-setting flood waters, three feet higher than historic records, with county-wide damage,” Delegate David Green, R-McDowell, said during the Feb. 21 floor session before requesting a moment of silence. “There was no community in McDowell County that did not feel the impact of the flood. Sadly, our greatest loss was that we have lost four community members: three in the flood itself, a couple and their 2-year-old grandchild, as well as a seasoned firefighter.”

Delegate Green said 75% of McDowell County residents were left without power or water and roadways were so heavily impacted more than half the county had been heavily restricted from accessing its only hospital.

“Many residents are currently stranded, even today with their personal access bridge or roads washed away completely,” he said. “We have residents in our county that have lost their homes and some who are living in emergency shelters throughout the county.”

Green explained that the county’s schools are on “temporary hold,” and the state superintendent is working with the county superintendent to craft a plan for students to be able to finish the school year.

“We truly appreciate our service providers working very hard to help restore our services,” he said. “I’m very pleased to say, and thankful to say, that we only have 10 homes now without power. With water, we still have close to 4,000 residents without public water in addition to 2,000 residents who can’t use their wells

until they’re sanitized. It’s also estimated 35% of our county is still without phone service.

“We truly say thank you. We are in need of help, but we are confident our statesmen and our nation will rally around and help, and we say thank you sincerely for the members of this body that have personally reached out and shown their care and support, we say thank you. It’s my understanding that there are supplies that are being sent and again, just a massive thank you from myself and for our constituents in McDowell County. McDowell County is resilient, we are a county that loves one another, and with each other’s help and help from our friends and neighbors across this great nation and this wonderful state, we will get through this and come back together stronger and better.”

Several bills moved through the House committee process and to the floor this week, including House Bill 2042, which would allow for a guardian ad litem to request a court-appointed special advocate for a child in neglect and abuse cases.

“The more favorable outcomes come out of these cases when CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocate) is involved,” said Delegate Adam Burkhammer, R-Lewis, the lead sponsor of the bill. “CASA is a volunteer program, so we’re not talking about adding a bunch of staff and adding a bunch of dollars to our budget; we’re looking at community involvement, the opportunity to volunteer in abuse and neglect cases, and what we’re trying to do is get an extra set of eyes on our kids and in these cases.”

A total of 794 bills have been introduced in the House, and the last day to introduce bills is March 18. The 60-day, regular legislative session ends at midnight April 12.

Blood Drive upcoming

There will be a Blood Drive at Clay County High School, 1 Panther Drive, Clay, on Wednesday, March 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. There are several appointments remaining, please visit redcrossblood.org to schedule your appointment today.

CCHS wrestling qualifies three for State Competition



Regional Champion Blake Coleman on his way to a pin. Photo by Allen Hamrick.

See story on Page 8

BOOKED



NICHOLAS COUNTY



Roger Lee Auxier III
Booked 2/17/25
Stalking (harass/follow)



Kendrick Levi Dodrill
Booked 2/22/25
Petit larceny, financial exploitation of an elderly person/protected person/incapacitated adult



James Ervin Pileggi
Booked 2/18/25
Concealment of a deceased human body, conspiracy, murder, obstructing an officer

CLAY COUNTY



James Luther McCune
Booked 2/21/25
No insurance, no registration



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PUBLIC NOTICES

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

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

Puzzle Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

S	P	O	T		O	H	M	S		O	R	B	I	T	S		J	A	I	L
A	R	R	O	W		R	O	O	T		N	O	I	S	E	S		A	L	K
H	A	R	D	E	A	R	N	E	D		C	A	S	H	E	W		M	A	N
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REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

Treasurer Pack launches online firearms auction for first time in office history

State Treasurer Larry Pack today announced his Office has launched an online firearms auction that is restricted to registered federal firearms license (FFL) dealers for the first time in Office history.

“This online firearms auction will help modernize my Office’s Unclaimed Property Program and put dollars back into West Virginia law enforcement agencies sooner rather than later,” Treasurer Pack said. “Funds generated from this program have become instrumental in helping our local police and sheriff’s departments purchase new equipment so they can better serve the public.”

This is the first year FFL dealers will be allowed to make bids online. There are currently 113 firearms and 400 pounds of ammunition up for bid for the online auction. Bids must be submitted to gunauctions@wvsto.gov by March 10 at 9 a.m.

According to the Online Auction Guidelines, only one bid per auction will be accepted. The firearms and ammunition description list are posted on the State Treasurer’s website as well as a short video showing the firearms.

Firearms will not be shipped under any circumstance. The winning bidder will be required to set up an appointment with Assistant Treasurer of Records and Security Mike Comer by emailing mike.comer@wvsto.gov or calling (304)-340-5021 to arrange for pick up and payment.

The State Treasurer’s Office hosts in-person firearms auctions every year at its secure warehouse in Kanawha City. In addition to the online auctions, the Treasurer’s Office will continue to host separate onsite auctions requiring FFL dealer to attend in-person.

The Treasurer’s Office sent a QR code to FFL dealers in West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina. The QR code directs dealers to the registration page and YouTube video link that displays the firearms and a lot list that describes each model and serial number for each firearm.

Under West Virginia’s Unclaimed Property Code (Chapter 36, Article 8A), state and local law enforcement agencies are mandated to report and turn over any unclaimed, seized or outdated firearms in their possession to the State Treasurer’s Office for auction.

The Office is required to hold an in-person auction every six months. The next in-person firearms auction is scheduled for March 27. The auction will consist of over 600 firearms.

The following 14 law enforcement agencies have turned over firearms for the March 27 auction:

Bluefield Police Department
Cabell County Sheriff’s Office
Doddridge County Sheriff’s Office
Gilmer County Sheriff’s Office
Jackson County Sheriff’s Office
Lewis County Sheriff’s Office
Monroe County Sheriff’s Office
Putnam County Sheriff’s Office
Terra Alta Police Department
Upshur County Sheriff’s Office
Violent Crime Task Force
Wood County Sheriff’s Office
Wyoming County Sheriff’s Office
West Virginia State Police – Berkeley Springs, Buckhannon, Saint Mary’s Detachments

The firearms available for auction are considered abandoned and remitted by law enforcement agencies annually to the Office’s Unclaimed Property Program, according to state law. The auctions typically include weapons that are older and no longer used by a department, or that have been seized as evidence and sitting in storage rooms for an extended amount of time following the disposition of a case. They can also include weapons taken from individuals who are not legally allowed to own firearms.

“It’s important to make sure these law enforcement agencies have the tools they need to keep our communities safe whether that be new safety gear, personal body armor and other necessary resources,” Treasurer Pack said. “I look forward to holding our 13th in-person firearms auction at our secure warehouse in Kanawha City. This will be my first auction attending as State Treasurer, and I hope to continue the program moving forward.”

During the last in-person firearms auction in September 2024, there were 307 lots consisting of 627 firearms and 300 pounds of ammunition up for bid, making it the largest inventory for the firearms auction in Office history.

More information about State Treasurer’s Office’s firearms auctions is available at www.wvtreasury.gov/FFL-Auction.

To learn about the unclaimed property program or to find out if the Office is holding any money for you or your family, visit www.WVUnclaimedProperty.gov.

One firefighter dies in line of duty and another injured

One firefighter has died, and another was injured while responding to a structure fire in McDowell County, WV.

On Monday, Feb. 17, at approximately 7:25 p.m., McDowell County 911 received a report of a structure fire in the 12000 block of Marshall Highway in Jolo, WV. They immediately dispatched the Bradshaw Volunteer Fire Department, Raysal Volunteer Fire Department, and War Volunteer Fire Department.

Once en route, a member of the War VFD became ill and stated to the driver of the fire apparatus that he needed medical attention. The driver immediately turned the fire apparatus around and started driving in the direction of Welch Community Hospital. They met up with an EMS unit and transferred the firefighter to that unit. The EMS unit continued to Welch Community Hospital with the firefighter. While in transit to the hospital the firefighter became unconscious, and CPR efforts were initiated by the attending EMS crew. The firefighter was later pronounced dead at the hospital.

At the fire scene, a Bradshaw VFD firefighter collapsed with difficulty breathing and smoke inhalation. That firefighter was transported to a landing zone in Iager where he was loaded onto an aeromedical helicopter and flown to CAMC General Division in Charleston.

The firefighter from War VFD is Deputy Chief Jeffrey Lawson, 54 years old, from War, WV. He has been transported to the WV Office of Chief Medical Examiner for an autopsy. The firefighter who collapsed at the scene is Gary M. Coleman, 51 years old, from Jolo, WV. He has been treated and released overnight at CAMC General Division. The structure that was on fire is also the residence of Mr. Coleman.

The death of Deputy Chief Jeffrey Lawson is being considered a Line of Duty Death by the West Virginia State Fire Marshal’s Office. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

OBITUARY



Charlotte Ray

Charlotte Loraine Ray (James) was born September 30, 1941, in Gas-saway, WV. She went to be with the lord early in the morning on February 23, 2025. She was preceded in death by her par-ents, Shedric James and Vera James (Hawkins). She will be met at the Gate of Heaven by her 2 brothers, Charles and Ray, she will also get to see her beloved son Charles Edward Ray (Ed-die). She will be greatly missed by the survivors who mourn her. Her Hus-band Arthur E. Ray, her daughter, Sherri L. Ben-

nett (husband Bill), Her Daughter-in-Law Lisa Ray, Her Grandchildren, Frank, Ray, James (wife Kitty), Darren, Lori, and her great grandchildren, Jessica, Vera, and Scot-tie as well as many other nieces, nephews, friends and family she loved dearly.

After Ed separated from the Marine Corps, she went on to become the Valley Fork Postmas-ter in 1967. She was very beloved, many people will miss her, and her family will always hold her in their hearts, and most of all, she loved Je-sus Christ with her whole soul mind and body and was a wonderful example to her children and family for how to be a Christian. She will be sorely missed and remembered as long as any of us are alive.

Funeral services were held at Wilson Smith Fu-neral Home on Wednes-day February 26, 2025, at 1:00 with a one-hour vi-sitation prior from 12- 1 for friends and family.

Wilson Smith is hon-ored to be serving the Ray family

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Weather Is A Lot Like Life

By Joe Mazzella

If there is one thing this year’s long winter has taught me it is that weather is a lot like life: you have to take it one day at a time. January this year has truly been one long, dark, cold, gloomy Monday all month long. Heavy snow followed heavy snow with no warm days in between to melt them. In fact, for week after week we seemed trapped in an arctic deep freeze with temperatures falling into the single digits during the days and below zero at night. I had taken a fall earlier in the month too and sprained my left arm badly. Still, I shoveled out over and over in spite of the pain. I also left the water dripping each night knowing that a higher water bill was better than paying to fix frozen, busted water pipes.

Then as February approached we finally got a warming trend that fully melted the snow but also came with heavy rains that caused flooding, rock falls, and landslides. And the warmth was brief too because winter wasn’t over yet. More snow was on the way and spring still seemed a long way off. It was like all the daily pains and struggles we face in life were reflected a lot in the weather this year.

That is why I am doing my best to take it one day at a time. Each morning when I wake up I thank God for another day to live and another day to love. I give thanks too for my cozy, warm home, for fresh water, electricity, and all the conveniences of life that we so often take for granted. I know too that each day will have its own problems, challenges, pains, and struggles. Yet, through them all choice is still mine. I can choose love. I can select joy. And I can share them with everyone I meet. Then I will bring a little happiness, a little warmth to this day no matter what the weather holds. Yes, weather and life are best taken one day at time. And how we take that day is up to us. May all of yours be taken with warmth and lived with love.

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LEGAL

TRUSTEE’S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the authority vested in him by that certain Deed of Trust, dated June 24, 2008, and duly recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Document No. 35448, in Book No. 119, at Page 929, Syamantaka Detamore and Jessica Taylor did convey unto Norman L Folwell, Esq., Trustee(s), certain real property described in said Deed of Trust; and the beneficiary has elected to appoint Seneca Trustees, Inc., as Substitute Trustee; and default having been made under the aforementioned Deed of Trust, and the undersigned Substitute Trustee having been instructed by The Huntington National Bank to foreclose thereunder, will offer for sale at public auction at the front door of the Clay County Courthouse in Clay, West Virginia, on

April 1, 2025 at 9:45 AM

the following described real estate, together with its improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in 05 - Pleasant District, Clay County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

All of the surface only of the following two contiguous tracts of land situate on the headwaters of Pack Fork of Big Sycamore Creek, Pleasant District, Clay County, West Virginia, bounded and described as follows:

TRACT ONE: Beginning at a sycamore stump, near the road, and running thence S. 64 1/2° W. 74 poles to a gum on top of mountain; N. 25° W. 94 poles to a sourwood; N. ____° E. ____ poles to a gum; N. 81°E. 105 poles to a set stone near said Pack Fork and at county road; thence with said road poles to place of beginning, containing forty-five (45) acres, more or less.

TRACT TWO: Beginning at a cut stone, corner of Aric J. Baker and H. A. Walkers heirs; thence due East 56 poles to a marked hickory on top of mountain; S. 32° W. ____ poles to set rock; thence in a western course and straight line to a set stone at country road; thence with country road to place of beginning, containing fourteen (14) acres, more or less.

Being the same property conveyed unto Syamanataka Detamore and Jessica Taylor by Deed dated March 22, 2007, filed for record on April 2, 2007, in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 199, at Page 1146. Also being the same property conveyed unto Larry Lane Taylor and Mary Elaine Taylor by Deed dated June 1, 1982, of record in the aforesaid Clerks office in Deed Book 132, at page 436.

At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have an address of: 1447 Pack Fork Road, Lizemores, WV 25125.

The referenced real estate will be conveyed with no covenants of warranty, and subject to all covenants, restrictions, easements, rights of way and reservations which may be a matter of record in the aforesaid Clerk’s Office or visible upon the ground, all prior liens and encumbrances, including, without limitation, liens for real estate taxes, incinerator, sanitary and sewer charges. The purchasers at the sale shall be responsible for paying the recording costs and also the tax on the privilege of transferring real property (the cost of the tax stamp to be affixed to the deed). The purchasers shall be responsible for payment of all real estate taxes.

The subject property will be sold in “AS IS” condition. The Substitute Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

TERMS: \$8000.00 in cash and/or certified funds as deposit at the time of sale with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of sale.

FEDERAL TAX LIEN: In the event that there are Federal Tax Liens against the property, the United States would have the right to redeem the property within a period of 120 days from the date of such sale or the period allowable for redemption under local law, whichever is longer.

Pursuant to the Deed of Trust, the Trustee may postpone the sale by public announcement at the time and place designated or by posting a notice of the same, and act by agent in the execution of the sale. The parties secured by the Deed of Trust reserve the right to purchase the property at such sale.

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Don’t Call Me Stupid, Just Whisper It

Dr. James L. Snyder

One thing that irritates me is people talking behind my back. I want to be part of the conversation because I know more about me than they do. Or at least I think I do

While in the mall recently, I passed two people, and I heard one say, “Doesn’t he look stupid?”

Tempted as I was, I didn’t turn around and inquire what they were talking about. Why did they think I looked stupid?

I have found out that when I hear something, I usually don’t hear the whole story. If I don’t hear the whole story, I’m going to get it wrong, and if I react, I certainly will look stupid. Why do I care if someone I don’t know thinks I look stupid?

If The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage says I look stupid, that is a completely different scenario. I need to get the information she has so I can change whatever I need to change so I don’t look stupid in her eyes. Really, her opinion the only one that really matters to me.

As often as I have heard this throughout my life, you would think I would have reached the point of post-stupidity. I’m not sure what that means, but I’ll let it go for now.

At my age, I don’t care what people think I look like. If someone thinks I look stupid, I’m quite okay with that. I just don’t want them shouting to the rest of the world. Whisper it, and let’s keep it between us.

How often have I made a mistake judging someone by their outward appearance? I’ve gotten into a lot of trouble down the years doing that. I don’t need to judge people. Whatever people are wearing and how they look is none of my business whatsoever. And I’ll keep my thoughts to myself. At least I try.

While at the mall, I see people whose looks are very close to the neighborhood of stupid. Why they wear what they wear or don’t wear is something I will never quite understand.

Years ago, there was a sense of decency in what people wore. Today, however, that sense of decency is far gone. I sure do miss those good old days.

What does stupid really look like? How can I tell that someone looks stupid just by walking past them?

As a daily discipline, I strive not to judge people before I really get to know them. After getting to know some people, you find out they’re not really what they first appear to be. They’re not as stupid as they look nor as smart as they look.

While in the mall, I passed several people with tattoos all over their body. Tattoos, ear piercings, nose pier-

ings, and even one had a tongue piercing. I have no idea what these things are called or why anybody would want to do that.

Never in the morning have I gotten up, gone to my bathroom, looked in the mirror and said to myself, “You need to get some tattoos today.” I’m not even sure my mirror would allow me to do that.

If somebody has all of these tattoos and piercings, it has nothing to do with me. If they think it makes them look special, that’s quite all right with me. I work very hard at not judging people. Sometimes, it’s hard, but I work at it all the more. If somebody wants to look the way they look, who am I to tell them it’s wrong?

I’ve been going to the same barber for around 30 years. During that time, the hair on my head has gotten thinner and thinner, and if I blame the barber for that, I am stupid. It’s not my barber’s fault, and really, it’s not my fault. I didn’t tell any of my hair to leave, but they have, never to return.

Judging somebody by his or her outside appearance really challenges decency. I’ve counseled many people over the years and learned one thing: most of them do not want to hear the truth.

They will ask me a question, but they don’t want me to tell them the absolute truth. They want me to tell them what they want to hear.

That’s the kind of world we live in today. Nobody wants to hear the truth or tell the truth, and everybody is completely happy with that. Well, I’m not.

I think of a joke about Abraham Lincoln. This may not have happened to him, but in the joke, Abraham’s wife gets a new dress, puts it on, comes before her husband and says, “Abe, does this dress make me look fat?”

If Abraham Lincoln were as smart as I think he was, he would never have answered that question.

So, if you think I look stupid, don’t say it out loud; just whisper it, and let’s keep it between the two of us. Then, I won’t tell people what I think about you.

Thinking about this I was reminded what Jesus said. “Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment” (John 7:24).

Jesus did not judge according to appearance. It’s not how we look, but how we act that is the defining factor. So, instead of concentrating on my outside, I need to focus on my inside, that is my relationship with Christ. That is how God will judge me in the final day.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail Jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnsnyderministries.com

Home Country

Slim Randles

“Shore is cold ‘round here,” said Windy, stirring in more sugar. “Went out this morning to the pick ‘em up truck and half my farkels were dang near froze off ‘fore I got that heater a-goin.”

“I hear ya,” said Dud.

“Lose more farkels that way,” added Doc.

“Is farkels a medicine word, Dod?”

“Not really, but it says what you want to say when it’s this cold.”

The talk went along through two refills, a side of bacon and a short stack.

“Bet it don’t get no colder’n this in Alaska,” said Dud.

“You’d be wrong,” said Emma, she of the kind smile carrying the ready coffee pot. “Spent five years up there. Down here in winter, you get cold. Up there in winter, you get dead.”

She had our rapt attention.

“You mean chill factors and stuff like that?” asked Doc.

“Nope,” Emma said. “Want me to warm that cup for you, Steve?”

Steve nodded. Cup appropriately topped off.

She set the coffee pot down on the next table, which was empty. “They invented ways to kill people up there. In winter, it’s the williwaw.”

“Willy-what?”

“Williwaw. It’s a wind, sorta,” she said. “And if it hits you, you probably are going to die. It starts up at the top of a mountain and blows straight down a slope into whatever’s at the bottom. Blew one guy clear across Cook Inlet to the other side. The police said if the inlet hadn’t been frozen over, he’d have drowned.”

“Well, that was a lucky thing, wasn’t it?”

“It woulda been if he hadn’t froze to death on the way down.”

Brought to you by Slim’s book “Strange Tales of Alaska, ’which may be found on Amazon.com.

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THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

Feb. 26, 1869: The legislature approved a bill moving the state capital to Charleston.

Feb. 26, 1972: One of the country’s worst mining-related disasters occurred on Buffalo Creek in Logan County. A coal waste dam collapsed, sending 132 million gallons of water, coal refuse and silt into the valley. In the end, 125 people, including entire families, were killed, and 1,000 people were injured.

Feb. 26, 2022: Fire destroyed the historic administration building of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind in Romney.

Feb. 27, 1867: Marshall College (now university) was established as a normal school to train teachers. The first term began June 15, 1868, with 25 students enrolled in three departments.

Feb. 27, 1871: Summers County was established from segments of Fayette, Greenbrier, Mercer and Monroe counties. The county was named after George W. Summers, one of West Virginia’s founders.

Feb. 27, 1871: The leg-

islature approved an act incorporating the city of Huntington.

Feb. 28, 1831: Fayette County was formed by the General Assembly of Virginia from parts of Kanawha, Nicholas, Greenbrier and Logan counties. The county was named for the Marquis de Lafayette, the French military officer who served under George Washington during the Revolutionary War.

Feb. 28, 1858: McDowell County, the southernmost county in West Virginia, was created from part of Tazewell County, Virginia. The new county was named after James McDowell, a governor of Virginia.



Feb. 28, 1875: Musician Edwin “Edden” Hammons was born in Pocahontas County. A subsistence

farmer and hunter, he is remembered as one of West Virginia’s finest traditional fiddlers.



Feb. 28, 1909: Athlete John Zontini was born. Nicknamed the “Sheik of Seth” for his outstanding football career at Sherman High School in Boone County, he still holds state high school and Marshall University rushing records.

March 1, 1831: Jackson County was created from parts of Wood, Mason and Kanawha counties and named in honor of Andrew Jackson, the seventh president.

March 1, 1870: The legislature passed an act to create a branch normal school at West Liberty. For the next 61 years, the school was a teacher pre-

paratory institution. It is now a university.

March 1, 1898: Homer



Adams Holt was born in Lewisburg. In 1937, he became West Virginia’s 20th governor.

March 1, 2011: Sutton



native Jorea Marple was sworn in as West Virginia’s first female superintendent of schools.

March 2, 1840: The Virginia General Assembly granted a charter for Bethany College. From the beginning, it has been

a four-year, baccalaureate-degree college, the oldest such institution in West Virginia.

March 2, 1896: Clair Bee was born in Pennsboro. Bee was a successful, innovative college basketball coach and widely published author of both technical basketball books and young adult fiction centered on sports.

March 2, 1915: A blast swept through Layland No.



3 Mine in Fayette County, killing 114 men.

March 2, 1927: The West Virginia capitol building known as the “pasteboard capitol” was destroyed by fire. This wood-frame building in downtown Charleston had been built in just 42 days after the previous Victorian-style capitol building burned in 1921.

March 2, 1961: Governor Wally Barron signed legislation that granted Marshall College university status.

March 3, 1843: Barbour County was created from parts of Lewis, Harrison and Randolph counties and named for Virginia jurist Philip Pendleton Barbour.

March 3, 1890: Teacher and civic activist Memphis Tennessee Garrison was born in Virginia. She helped develop NAACP chapters in southern West Virginia and created the Christmas Seal Project.

March 4, 1849: Earl Williams Oglebay was born in Bridgeport, Ohio. He became one of Wheeling’s most successful industrialists and generous benefactors.

March 4, 1893: Governor William MacCorkle gave his inaugural address in which he warned that West Virginia was “passing under the control of foreign and non-resident landowners.”

March 4, 1924: Blues musician Nathaniel H. “Nat” Reese was born in Salem, Virginia. Growing up in Princeton, Reese learned and played blues, jazz, country and dance music throughout the southern coalfields. He is a member of the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Sign is lower. 2. Log is different. 3. Thumb is moved. 4. Cap is different. 5. Jacket is longer. 6. Elbow patch is different. 7. Jacket is longer.

Weekly SUDOKU

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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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Super Crossword

SONG TITLES

- ACROSS**
1 Teenage witch played by Melissa Joan Hart
8 Breakwater embankment
15 Nintendo title plumber
20 Germ-free
21 Singer with the 2018 hit “Boo’d Up”
22 Put up, as a building
23 Patti Smith
25 Flat, as cola
26 One of the two Pro Bowl gps.
27 Rantle
28 Notices
30 Hero type
31 Nina Simone
39 Napoli’s nation
41 Alien-seeking proj.
42 City near Disney World
43 Manicure tool
46 Oxidizes
49 Put the kibosh on
50 Missy Elliott
53 Dir. from Miss. to Mich.
56 Pre-CIA gp.
57 Ad featuring Smokey Bear, e.g.
- 58 “Science Guy” with multiple Emmys
59 Honorable
60 Busy airport
63 George Strait
69 World capital in the Andes
74 ‘60s war zone
75 2010-14 Mets member
76 Britney Spears
79 Plane ticket detail
80 Large musical disk
81 Encyc. unit
82 Tosses out of the game, for short
85 “Law & Order” spinoff, in brief
88 Busy insect
89 Bessie Smith
97 Plane ticket detail, for short
98 Mafioso John
99 Narrates rather quickly
100 Running
104 “This Is Life” journalist Lisa
106 Totally in favor of
107 Chuck Berry
- 112 “Casablanca” woman
113 “Dies —” (Latin hymn)
114 — Schwarz
115 Peculiar
118 Just making, with “out”
120 Liza Minnelli
127 Roaring cat crossbreed
128 Remove loose coverings from
129 “Tartuffe” playwright
130 Thick
131 Ancient Jewish ascetics
132 Slung mud at
- DOWN**
1 Very long tale
2 Dating from
3 Furniture pieces for lying or sitting
4 Tach abbr.
5 Judge Lance
6 Petty peeve
7 Have — on one’s shoulder
8 “Black Panther” actor Andy
9 “Xanadu” gp.
10 Sitcom ET
11 “679” rapper Fetty —
12 Make laugh
- 13 Thin streets
14 “In this way”
15 Spanish for “month”
16 Skilled crafter
17 Go further in the book, say
18 Apple digital storage service
19 Verdi opera
24 Mess up
29 Hercules player Kevin
32 Afflictions
33 Natural talent
34 Greet loudly
35 Architect Saarinen
36 Double — (Oreo option)
37 Wife on “The Addams Family,” casually
38 Big to-do
39 Lowdown
40 Mai — (rum drinks)
44 Track circuit
45 Mag staffers
47 Ex-Yankee Martinez
48 James Bond genre, in brief
51 Ox of Tibet
52 “Doggone it!”
53 Punishment for a tube watcher
54 “Me neither”
- 55 Rival of Ben & Jerry’s
59 Nibble (on)
60 Suspend
61 Scanned market ID
62 Busy insect
64 With one flat, musically
65 Brief snooze
66 Biotech-created food
67 Atop, in verse
68 Japanese salad green
69 Links gp. for women
70 Club for a 69-Down member
71 Small fortune
72 Letters of invitation?
73 American assn.
77 Margarine, quaintly
78 Adobe Acrobat suffix
83 Fourth of a yr.
84 That girl
85 Large yellow bloom
86 Put the kibosh on
87 KGB’s land
89 Paree “to be”
90 Native New Zealander
- 91 WWII battle town in France
92 Glue — (brand of adhesive in a tube)
93 Hog sound
94 Tesla auto, e.g.
95 String necktie
96 Quiet stretch
97 Fuel gases
100 Off-track
101 New film type in the 1920s
102 What “@” is
103 Rotational force
105 Big blunders
108 Man-goat deities
109 Marsh plants
110 Capture
111 Campus buildings
116 Have the guts
117 Made blond, maybe
119 Test for college srs.
121 Prior to, in sonnets
122 Indian flatbread
123 Not closed, in verse
124 — -pah band
125 Heady brew
126 Day, to Diego

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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.



May 1958

THE WIDEN NEWS

WIDEN, WEST VIRGINIA

H. L. BEATTIE

MANAGING EDITOR

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

PEARLE D. WILLIAMS

VICTOR B. SHINGLER

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Widen Notes

Dear Jerry:

It seems that Spring is really here, everyone is busily house cleaning and painting, planting flowers and mowing lawns again. Everything is nice and green and the Dogwood and Redbud have bloomed and are practically gone.

Plans are well underway for our big Fourth-of-July celebration. Seems like this celebration gets bigger and better every year. Do plan to bring the children and come this year, we'll be looking for you.

Dr. and Mrs. E. Burns Gray recently spent a weekend with Dr. Gray's parents in Lebanon, Virginia. Their daughter, little Carmen Gray, returned home with them after having spent several weeks with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Gray.

Mrs. D. L. McMillion spent the weekend of the 17th with daughter Ann and her husband Jimmy Wood and their children in Princeton, West Virginia.

Darrell and Marion Wood have a brand new baby boy. He was born May 12 and has been named Jonathon Darrell. The way papa Darrell has been passing out cigars you would think it was their first instead of their fifth!

The School Band wound up the year with a big banquet at the club house. They really enjoyed the delicious food which Mr. Taka is so noted for. Mr. Beattie was the speaker of the evening and the children came away with a new enthusiasm after hearing his encouraging remarks.

Mary Subrick was in town the other day visiting with all her old friends and neighbors. You remember Mary, I'm sure. She is Nick Subrick's wife and they lived here for many years and raised three fine sons, Alex, Joe and Andy. Nick is retired now and he and Mary live in Charleston, West Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Craft and daughter Lynn visited with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Craft, over Mother's Day weekend. Lynn is nine months old now and is getting cuter all the time. Gene works for the I. B. M. Company in Knoxville, Tennessee, and has been there for two years.

The Seniors were in gay spirits as they took off for New York on May 21. Sam and Irene Shelton and Gene and June Frame went along as chaperones. This will probably be their last fling together and I'm sure they will enjoy it thoroughly.

Dr. Moyers is back in the hospital again, and as you can imagine he isn't enjoying it a bit! He's been having back trouble which is very painful and he definitely doesn't like staying in bed. Mrs. Moyers returned to Widen for a brief visit last week from a hospital where she has been acting as a "special nurse" for her husband. Dr. Moyers has been there for the past three weeks or so, and will probably have surgery the last of this month.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Johnson were guests of the Richwood Shrine Club at a meeting Sunday, May 25, 1958, in the Masonic Hall in Sutton.

The swimming pool is getting a face lifting. Club members are busy painting the pool and getting it ready for the grand opening. The Buffalo Valley Sportsman's Club recreation area is really beautiful this spring. Tennis enthusiasts are making good use of the new tennis court. Plans are underway for building a Club Lodge building which will be a nice addition to their present facilities.

The Band Boosters Club is going to have a food stand at the swimming pool this Summer. They hope to raise enough money this Summer to purchase some new instruments and equipment that they need very much. Band members are raising a big garden and are planning to sell their vegetable to help boost their treasury. Widen's School Band will go to Buckhannon on May 30, to play for the Strawberry Festival.

Jean Munsey visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Branty Hickman, a few days this month. It was nice seeing Jean again and it seems she doesn't change in the least—still young and pretty!

Doris Dee Dawson Wood is visiting with her family on Kanawha Street. Doris' husband, Lt. Larry Wood, is being transferred from Wichita Falls, Texas, to an air field in Georgia. They expect to be moved to their new assignment the early part of June.

Herb Johnson had a letter recently from Mrs. Vala Baughman Summers which he handed to us. Seems that Vala had chanced upon a copy of the Widen News some place and found it so interesting that she wanted to be put on the mailing list, and that we did! Vala was a member of the first graduating class of Widen High School in 1932, which was—imagine—25 years ago! It doesn't seem possible does it? She is the sister of Mr. Flavy Baughman, who is an electrician here and a long time employee of Elk River Coal and Lumber Company. Mrs. Summers has a sister Velda who was also graduated from Widen High School that same year. They both live in Charleston, are registered nurses, and do private duty nursing in Charleston.

Theodore Johnson is home from the hospital again and is slowly improving. He has been getting out in the sun these last few days which is a good sign. All his friends would like to see him back in circulation again.

Relda Jean Nettles has been added to the YMCA counter's staff of girls and now goes about her duties like a seasoned veteran.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene George are planning to go to Cincinnati to attend the high school graduation of their daughter Judith.

It's time to go to press and we had better call it a day. If you do anything news-worthy please drop us a line so we can tell your friends about it. So long 'till next month.

—Co-Eds.

MEMORIAL DAY

In May, Memorial Day is celebrated in most cities and towns throughout the country, by military parades, the planting of red geraniums and flags on the graves of the veterans of our different wars. Speeches are made by prominent men and prayers by the clergy. Eloquent speeches depicting our heroes valor. Beautiful prayers for the rest of their souls; solace for their families.

But all the speeches, all the prayers, could not reach the majesty and assurance God Himself has created; as all over the grounds flowers and trees again spring into their renewal of life; and peace reigns over-all.

RAIL FANS WILL VISIT THE BCGG RAILROAD

Some of West Virginia's sturdy and still on-the-job steam locomotives will puff and wheeze for some visiting members of the American Historical Railway Society, over the Memorial Day weekend.

On May 30 the group will make a trip on the New York Central's non-steaming "Beeliner" from Charleston to Hiltop and return. The "Beeliner" trip, through otherwise inaccessible hill country, has always been a "must" for railroad buffs, for besides unusual motive power, it offers scenery, tunnels and a spectacular wye on a high trestle.

On Saturday, May 31, approximately 300 members of the Society will board a Buffalo Creek and Gauley Railroad train for a trip to Widen and return, plus a trip up Lilly Fork, where logging operations of the Elk River Coal and Lumber Company are in progress. This trip up Lilly Fork will take them across the same stream twelve times, not by bridge or trestle, but by simply fording the stream.

The Sunday, June 1, trip will be on the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company Railroad, leaving Richwood at 8:30 A.M. for a ride into virgin timber country.

The Daniel Boone at Charleston will be the headquarters of the visiting rail fans.

SWANDALE GIRL ELECTED SECRETARY

Mrs. Monta Lee Clingenpeel, R. N., of the E. I. duPont de Nemours Company medical clinic, was elected secretary of the Kanawha Valley Industrial Nurses' Club for the coming year at a recent meeting of the club. Mrs. Clingenpeel is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gregorich of Swandale, West Virginia.

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

BELL CREEK COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
NO Scheduled Services
At This Time

BELL CREEK PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
Dixie
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 Prociuous. 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 PM
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 PM
Wednesday Worship 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome.
Pastor: George Stickland

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Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 AM
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
Pastor: Daniel Tanner

GAULEY BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
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/Chilren/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.
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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 PM
Pastor: Michael Jackson

HARTLAND COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
Wednesday Night Service 7:00 PM
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 School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 PM
Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 PM
Pastor: Joe Dawson

HOUSE OF PRAYER
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Sunday Evening 6:00 PM
Wednesday evening 7:00 PM
Pastor: (304) 587-2996 (home), (304) 587-2703 (church)
Pastor: James R. Paxton

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
Everyone 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 25043
Sunday 10:00 A.M. - 12 noon
For more info call 304-587-4779
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 CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Mark Dudley
Phone 304-286-5909

LITTLE LAUREL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
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We invite you to come and worship with us.
Thursday Evening 7:00 PM
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Pastor: Cecil Lee

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

MAYSEL COMMUNITY CHURCH
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

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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 11:00 AM
Pastor: Kenneth Boggs

NEWTON BAPTIST CHURCH

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'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 Evening
Pastor: Rev. Rick Sams

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
Pastor: Dennis Vance

PLEASANT DALE BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching Sunday 11:00 AM
Wednesday night Bible Study 7:00 PM
Saturday Night Preaching
Pastor: Wayne Litton

PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening 6:30 PM
Wednesday Night 6:30 PM
Everyone welcome.
Pastor: Wayne Smith

PROCIIOUS COMMUNITY CHURCH
Welcomes You!
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:15 AM
Bible Study 2nd, 4th, 5th
Wednesday Night 6:30 PM
Pastor: David Walker

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Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 7:00 PM
Thursday Night 7:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: Scott Means

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Wednesday Liturgy 6:00 PM
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Pastoral Associates: Father Dominijus Boak SVD

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

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
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Worship 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Service 7:00 PM.
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Clifford Samples

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LIZEMORES
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Service 6:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
PMEveryone 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
Everyone welcome!

VALLEY RIDGE CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Bible Study Wednesday Night 7:00 PM
Everyone is welcome to attend.

WALLBACK METHODIST CHURCH
Preaching 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays 9:45 AM
Bible Study Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome.
Pastor: Rev. Stewart Cottrell

WALNUT GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Preaching 1st & 3rd Sundays 11:00 AM
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
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Paul Coon

WHITESTAR TABERNACLE CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:30 PM
Wednesday Night 6:30 PM
Pastor: Rev. Mike Hall

WIDEN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Service 6:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Randy Tinney

WINGS OF DELIVERANCE APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
Rt. 4, 1/4 miles below Maysel on the left
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM
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Pastor: Jerry Hanshaw



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Panther wrestling sends three to State Competition



Caiden Bryant - 2nd place



Christian Bryant - 4th place



James Sears - 5th place

By Allen Hamrick

The Panther wrestling team traveled to Braxton High School to compete in the Region II championship on Saturday, February 22. Here is where it would be determined who would move on to compete for a state title in Huntington. The top four in each weight class will move on. This was yet another

year the CCHS team would make their mark on the mats. Three Panther wrestlers grappled to the top four. Blake Coleman at 144 pounds became a Regional Champion, Caiden Bryant placed second and Christian Bryant placed 4th. James Sears just missed the cut coming in 5th place.

It was a good tournament for the wrestling team,

and even though they didn't place high as a team, a first place, a second place and a 4th are not bad for the squad. The State Wrestling Tournament will be held at the Big Sandy Arena on Thursday, Friday and Saturday the week of March 6th. Come out and support the Panther wrestling team in their final tournament of 2025.

Mustangs take 4th in the CWVAC Championship



Collin Elliott and John Paxton received All Conference and Canaan Payton received All Tournament.

By Allen Hamrick

The Mustangs have gone into the CCMS history books with a great season. The boys made it happen by defeating Webster County Middle School in the first game of the CWVAC tournament this past week. It was a close game that left no nails on your fingers. It was a tough road against one of the toughest opponents that middle schools could have put on the courts. It was a game that went bucket for bucket and defense for defense. The Mustangs came out and started slow but got their game

on track quickly. In the end, it was the Mustangs over the Highlanders 50-49. This sent the boys to the final four, a place they haven't been since 2017. They were pitted against George Washington in the first round of the finals and couldn't get the game going their way.

After losing that match, they were up against Wahama Middle School, and it was another tough outing for the Mustangs. In the end, the Mustangs placed 4th and were 2nd in the Eastern Conference. Collin Elliott and John Paxton were recognized as All Conference players and

Canaan Payton was recognized as All Tournament player. These are a fine bunch of boys who had each other's backs all season. From JV to Varsity, they stood their ground for each other, and that is why they made it as far in the season as they did. Each player on the team played a part in the success. The coaches led this team to be the best they could be and instilled in them a desire to win and to stay focused. These traits will help them succeed in whatever their lives lead them to. Once again, congratulations to the Mustangs - it was an awesome year.



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Briar Dorsey gets the steal on the Highlanders.