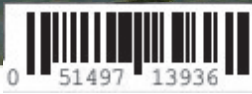




Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple



Volume 136 No. 78

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Thursday, September 18, 2025

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Quilt Raffle set for Historical Society Fundraiser

The Clay County Quilters Guild has donated a beautiful quilt to the Historical Society to raffle off as a fundraiser. The quilt is queen size (106"x87) and the pattern is "pinwheel." Tickets are \$1 per ticket, or \$5 for six tickets. Include your name, address, and phone number, and mail your order to: Clay Co. Historic Landmarks Commission, P.O. Box 363, Clay, WV 25045. You can

also contact a member of the historical society or stop by our booth at the Golden Delicious Apple Festival to order tickets. All proceeds will help support the Clay County Historic Landmarks Commission. The drawing will be held at our regular monthly meeting on Nov. 6. You do not have to be present to win. Thank you for helping to support the Historical Society!

Clay County cross country teams off to strong start



Marissa Atha has medaled in each of her first four races this season.



Gunner Dobbins earned the first medal of his cross country career at the Braxton No Excuses Invitational.

The Clay County cross country teams are off to a strong and promising start to their 2025 season, with multiple medalists and continued improvement from both middle and high school runners. After competing in four challenging meets across the region, the runners from Clay County Middle School (CCMS) and Clay County High School (CCHS) are showing grit, growth, and determination.

The season kicked off at the Cornfield Crawl Invitational at Riverside High

School on Aug. 23. Leading the charge for the CCMS girls was Marissa Atha, who claimed her first medal of the season with a third place finish out of 59 runners. She was joined by Danae Stricker and Tara Conley, who put in strong efforts of their own. For the middle school boys, in his first ever cross country race, Gunner Dobbins was the top Clay finisher, placing 21st in a competitive field of 100 runners. Sam Hubbard and Holden Reed also represented the team well. In the high school

CROSS COUNTRY cont. on page 8

Luke Hill named a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist

Earlier this week, officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of more than 16,000 Semifinalists in the 71st annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Locally, Luke Hill from Clay County High School has been named a Semifinalist.

These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 6,930 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$26 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. About 95 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and

approximately half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title.

NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by about 300 business organizations, higher education institutions, and individual donors that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

Steps in the 2026 Competition

Over 1.3 million juniors in about 20,000 high schools entered the 2026

LUKE HILL cont. on page 3

Linda Rhodes passes away days after from being appointed to BDA Board

By Gary Lee Stuber

The first regular meeting of the Clay County Commission for the month of September was held on Monday, Sept. 8, at 9 a.m. and was marked by catching up on mostly regular business since only one August meeting was held. All three commissioners were present: David Schoolcraft; Joyce Johnson, president; and Duane Legg. County Clerk Shelia Stone was also present. Routine business included approving minutes from the previous meeting, bills, purchase orders, budget revisions, and erroneous assessments as presented by the Assessor. Other regular duties of the county's highest government officers included fiduciary appointments as presented by the county clerk, affidavit and waivers of final settlements, and last will and testaments.

The county acknowledged that Ambulance Service employee Aiden Taylor had a major status change advancing from Basic to an Advanced EMT. This comes with a pay raise. At the same time they accepted resignations of Paris Williams and Brittany Pierson from the 911 Communication Center. Vickie Gency was approved for employment by the Clay County Circuit Clerk.

Despite Terry Martin's absence to announce and explain it, the Commission approved payment request #11 for \$210,044.55 for the Big Otter Nebo Waterline Extension Project.

Probably the most important, or at least, most moving moment of the meeting was the Clay County 2025 Childhood Cancer Awareness Proclamation. This was read by Commissioner Legg, and in part, says:

"Whereas, to date, childhood cancer remains the leading cause of death by disease in children under the age of 19 in the United States, and whereas in the US forty-six children, between the ages birth through age 19 will be diagnosed with cancer every day, totaling more than 16,000, and in West Virginia alone there

are more than 70 children diagnosed with cancer a year. WV children are being treated at WVU Children's Hospital in Morgantown, Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center at Hoops Children's Hospital in Huntington/Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington and CAMC Children's Cancer Center in Charleston..."

And later finishes with:

"Whereas all children affected by cancer, their families, medical professionals, caregivers, and friends join West Virginia Kids Cancer Crusaders, Inc., to continue the collaborative efforts to provide support network, raise awareness, and funds for those affected by childhood cancer, and make a positive difference for patients, families and survivors in the future. Now therefore, be it resolved that we, the Clay County Commission, do hereby proclaim September 25 as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. We ask all citizens in Clay County to participate and are encouraged to join us in this observance."

There are very few Clay County citizens who do not know, or are related to someone presently receiving cancer treatment. Those who cannot contribute financially can offer prayer for all these children.

The commission also approved new members to the Clay Business Development Authority and includes: Sierra Marling, Samantha Ramsey, Sara Blankenship, and Linda Rhodes.

Three days after being appointed to the Clay Business Development Authority, Linda Rhodes suddenly passed away. Linda has functioned over these many years on various boards, including being an active member of CAEZ of WV, Inc. She also worked with the FFA and her special passion was for 4-H. In a world where too many people are self-centered and do not participate in any community efforts, Linda was diamond in a field of glass. She will certainly be missed by many.

Clare Dawson Named to SNHU President's List

Clare Dawson of Duck has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's (SNHU) Summer 2025 President's List. The summer terms run from May to August.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit, accredited

institution with a 92-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 200,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner.

Panthers fall to the Raiders



Joel Elliott looks for the end zone. Allen Hamrick photo.

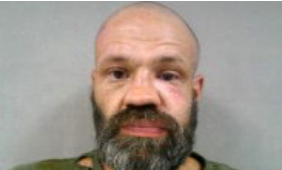
See story on Page 8

BOOKED



REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

NICHOLAS COUNTY



Jonathan Eddison Adkins
Booked 9/14/25
Possession of controlled substance, open dump violation, prohibited acts, fleeing on foot



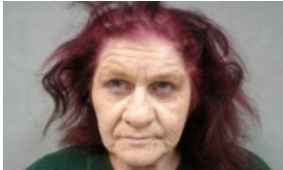
Richard Aurthur Brown
Booked 9/8/25
Capias



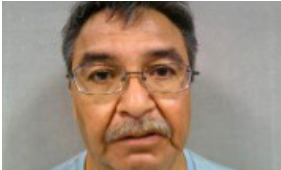
Corrina Dawn Bush
Booked 9/15/25
Possession controlled substance



Haley Nicole Cloninger
Booked 9/12/25
Bailpiece

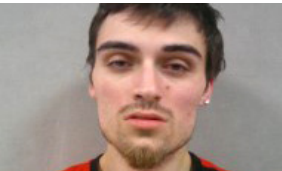


Denell Lucille Johnson
Booked 9/15/25
Possession controlled substance

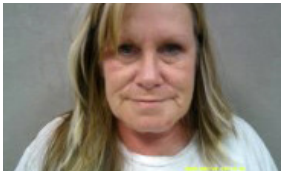


Lawrence Joseph Lacoote
Booked 9/15/25
Battery

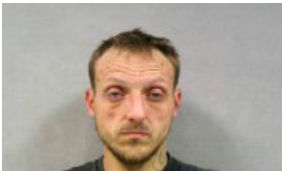
NICHOLAS COUNTY



Jackson Briar McCutcheon
Booked 9/8/25
Possession of controlled substance, grand larceny, entering without breaking



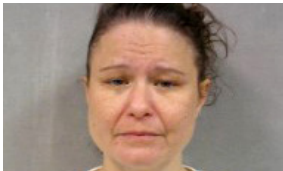
Diana Lee Murphy
Booked 9/15/25
DUI



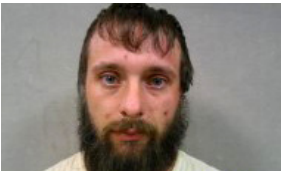
Colton Eugene Naylor
Booked 9/11/25
Wanton endangerment, persons prohibited from possession firearms, unlawful restraint, strangulation, destruction of property, domestic battery



Cliff Bryan Salisbury
Booked 9/11/25
Murder in the first degree, indictment



Cierra Jo Batton
Booked 9/13/25
Obstructing an officer, domestic battery, domestic assault

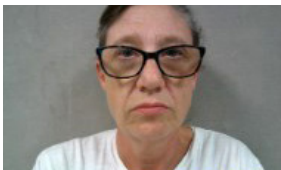


Zachary Collin Boggs
Booked 9/10/25
Failure to register as a lifetime sexual offender, prohibited person with firearm

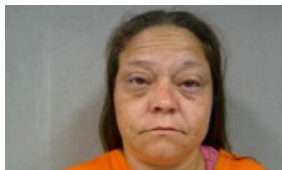
BRAXTON COUNTY



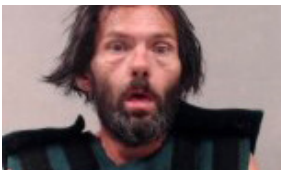
Aaron Mycal Cuellas
Booked 9/8/25
Possession with intent, conspiracy



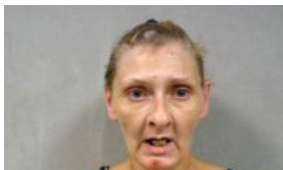
Mandy Beth Gibson
Booked 9/14/25
Domestic assault, domestic battery, obstructing an officer, fleeing



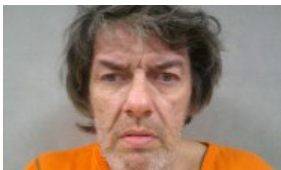
Maria Dawn Marks
Booked 9/14/25
False information, obstruction



Michael Wayne McKinney
Booked 9/9/25
Obstructing an officer, trespassing, destruction of property

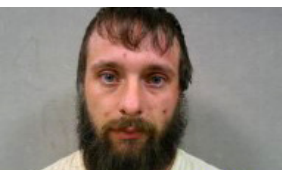


Emilie Marie Rhodes
Booked 9/12/25
Trespassing asked to leave



Ken Allen Roupe
Booked 9/8/25
Possession with intent, conspiracy

CLAY COUNTY



Zachary Collin Boggs
Booked 9/10/25
Sex offender registry violation, Capias

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Puzzle Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

P	A	R	I	S		A	S	S	N		O	A	H	U		D	E	M	O	N	
A	M	I	N	O		W	A	K	E		O	M	A	N		O	R	O	N	O	
P	A	N	C	A	K	E	M	I	X		P	A	S	S		M	U	S	T	E	R
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			T	O	N	I		G	Y	M	N	A	S	T		T	A	N	D	Y	
S	M	E	A	R		U	G	O			M	A	R	A		B	I	R	E	M	E
P	O	S	T	A	L	M	A	I	L		P	O	W	E	R		M	O	W	E	R
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D	U	E	T	O		E	G	O	S		T	O	R	E			I	T	E	M	S
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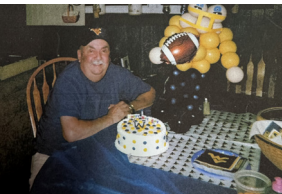
Big Otter students receive new iPads



Students at Big Otter Elementary School are excited to be using brand new iPads in the classroom! Each student received a school iPad to help make learning more

engaging, interactive, and personalized. Students are also learning technology and digital literacy skills. The iPads were made possible by excess levy funds.

OBITUARIES



Robert Bess

Robert “Bob” Howard Bess, 83, of West Virginia, passed peacefully into the arms of his Lord on September 7, 2025, after a lengthy illness. Born on August 29, 1942, in Cedar Grove, WV, Bob was preceded in death by his parents, C. Howard and Ethel Bess; his sister, Phyllis Bess; his brother, Melvin Bess; and, most heartbreakingly, by his three children, Denise Bess, Robert “Robby” Bess, and C. Dwayne Bess. Bob is survived by his devoted wife, Linda Gray Bess; his stepsons, Ronnie “Mark” (Deanna) Jarrett and Matthew Jarrett; and a large family of grandchild-

dren and great-grandchildren. He shared a special bond with his great-grandsons, Isaiah and Jacob Osborne, who brought him much joy in his later years. A warrior in every sense, Bob proudly enlisted in the U.S. Army with the desire to serve in Vietnam. There, he became an assault helicopter pilot flying Hueys with the 187 and earned a reputation for skill and bravery. On many missions, he even landed under heavy fire to rescue a friend, an act that showed both his courage and his loyalty. Flying into danger to bring others home forged unbreakable bonds with his brothers-in-arms. Several of these men will travel great distances to honor him—a true testament to his character. Bob carried that same spirit into civilian life. A Chevy man through and through, he loved his cars almost as much as he loved his time outdoors. He was an avid deer hunter, finding peace in

the woods and joy in sharing those stories with family and friends. Professionally, he worked tirelessly on behalf of others, serving as a Union Representative at GMC in Cincinnati, OH, a Field Representative with the UMWA, and Director of Health and Safety with the West Virginia Workers’ Compensation Program. His voice was always raised for fairness and protection of others. Later in life, Bob moved to Florida to be near his Vietnam Crew Chief, Phillip Bryant, and Phillip’s wife Beverly. Quickly becoming “Uncle Bob” to their children, he cherished that extended family deeply. A passionate sports fan, Bob was a dedicated WVU Football season ticket holder for more than 20 years. Fittingly, WVU’s recent victory over Pitt in the Backyard Brawl felt like a salute to one of their proudest supporters. A Celebration of Life will

be held Saturday, October 11, at 2:00 p.m. at the UMWA Union Hall in Canelton, WV. For those unable to attend, the family welcomes memories and stories of Bob to be shared during the service. Please send remembrances to Deanna Jarrett at dljarrett1974@yahoo.com. Following the ceremony, a catered dinner will be served. In honor of Bob’s lifelong generosity, any leftover food from the celebration, will be distributed to members of the community in need and flowers will be placed upon the graves of Bob and his children. Per his wishes, Bob will be cremated and laid to rest beside his children at Kanawha County Memorial Garden in Glasgow, WV. Above all, Bob will be remembered as a warrior, an advocate, a loyal friend, and a man who never missed a chance to feed others and make them feel welcome.

Dennis Cunningham Jr.

Dennis Martin Cunningham Jr., 88, of Ivydale, passed away on September 12, 2025, after a short illness. He was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Naomi (Templeton) Cunningham; Mother Tressie

(Dean) Cunningham; father, Dennis Cunningham Sr; brother, Roy Cunningham; infant son, Cunningham. He is survived by daughter, Theresa Donze; brothers, Jerry and Bruce Cunningham of Ivydale; Grandsons, Joshua Asbury and Ryan Donze, both of Akron, Ohio; great grand-

children, Peyton Asbury, Layla and Levi Donze; many nieces, nephews and wonderful friends. Special thanks from the family to Keith and Melissa Cunningham, for seeing after Dennis. Dennis retired from Babcock & Wilcox with 38 years’ service. He also

enjoyed hunting and his antique cars. Graveside Service will be held for friends and family at Duffield Cemetery, at 2:00 on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, with minister Gary Drake. Wilson Smith Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Cunningham family.

Clay County Free Press

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A Pair Of Jumper Cables

By Joe Mazzella

It was early spring. I was driving home after dropping my son off at the sheltered workshop where he works a few days a week. I was enjoying the sight of the trees full of light, green leaves. I was smiling at the sun shining in the clear sky and the wild flowers growing along the side of the road. And I was thanking God for a blessed and beautiful day. It was then, though, that I saw them. Standing in front of an old, beat-up car with its hood up was a young couple.

I pulled off the side of the road next to them to see if I could help. The young woman was doing her best to hold back her tears while the man’s tight face was full of frustration at the situation. Their battery had stalled out again and they had barely made it to the side of the road. I helped the man tighten the connections on his battery and then got a pair of jumper cables out of my trunk. I sympathized with what they were going through. Their ancient, ailing, rusting car reminded me of the brown sedan I had when I was their age. In fact, I became quite good at using jumper cables because that old car of mine needed them so often.

I hooked up the two batteries and after a minute their car jumped back to life again. They thanked me for my help but I could see they were still stressed out from the situation. As they drove off I prayed that soon they would be laughing and smiling again.

The problems and pains of this life are only temporary. But the love we have for each other is eternal. Perhaps the best way then to deal with our own suffering here is to learn how to have compassion and caring for others. We are, after all, one family in this world. God put us here to love each other. God put us here to help each other. God gave us kindness and compassion to share with all those we meet. And sometimes it is only our Love that can give another’s worn out heart the jump start it needs to get going again.

Home Country

Slim Randles

Doc hadn’t even finished loading his coffee with fake sugar before Steve piped up.

“I think it’s disgusting and weird and unnatural and it should be outlawed!” the tall cowboy said, coming to rest at the philosophy counter of the Mule Barn truck stop.

“Aw Steve,” said Doc, “the coffee isn’t that bad.”

“Coffee? Nay, I say unto you, Doc. It ain’t the coffee ... it’s them Academy Awards on the television. You see them? All them good-looking women Scotch-taping themselves into those dresses so they almost stay on? Those weird guys they’re with who only shave on Tuesdays?”

“And this makes you angry?”

“Sure does, Doc. Those folks make a lot more money than I do and all they have to do is dress up and talk to those red carpet cameras.”

“Well, Steve,” said Dud, “we can do just as good as they can. Stand up.”

Steve looked around and then stood slowly. Dud picked up a bottle of Tabasco sauce and, using it as a microphone, turned to the breakfast crowd in the Mule Barn.

“Good morning, folks, and we’re so happy you could join us here on KRUD this morning to welcome our list of celebrities. Oh, look, it’s Steve, the pride of farrier life and heavy anvils. Steve, wherever did you get that outfit?”

“Well,” said Steve, grinning, “it’s a creation of Levi Strauss, and please note the genuine brass rivets.”

“Give us a twirl there, cowboy.” And he did, to great applause.

“And your headwear today, Steve, that would be what ... Stetson?”

“Yessir. A genuine John B. Stetson original. Five ex beaver fur felt.”

“The sweat stains?”

“Those were added later, actually, Dudley. A genuine cow pen fillip to offset the otherwise stunning look of my entire ensemble.”

“So as not to overwhelm the onlookers, I suppose?”

“Precisely. We don’t want ordinary people to think they’ll never achieve this look, you see.”

“An admirable pursuit,” Dud said.

“Noblesse oblige, I believe,” said Steve.

“Not until lunch,” said Loretta, topping off the coffee mugs. “Breakfast special is bacon and a short stack.”

(BF) Do you require lots of makeup to make you feel like a real man? Boy, are you reading the wrong column today!

How Much Fun Is Too Much?

Dr. James L. Snyder

If you don’t have any fun in life, what is the purpose? I know life is more than just having fun, but there is a place for fun in our daily lives.

Everyone has their idea of what fun is, and we don’t always agree on that. Take, for example, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage has an entirely different idea of fun than her husband.

What I consider to be fun, she doesn’t like at all. What she considers fun, I don’t understand at all. But there are quite a few times that we have had fun together. I should really write them down so that I don’t forget them. The next time we have fun together, I’m going to make a note.

As for me, I get things confused, and sometimes I say the wrong word. Everybody is guilty of that at some time. But when I do it, I get into some really deep trouble.

Last week, for instance, we went to the mall together. We don’t often do that because I really don’t like the mall. When I go to the mall, I like to go to the coffee shop, get some coffee and let The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage do all the shopping.

This week we went together, and just as we got into the mall, we encountered some friends of ours that we haven’t seen for a while. I always enjoy catching up with friends and having a little fun together.

He and I drifted away from my wife and his wife. I’m not quite sure what the ladies were talking about, but then I wouldn’t understand it anyway, even if I had heard it.

My friend was a little obsessed with his wife buying purses all the time. He never called them purses; he called them bags.

“I don’t understand,” he said to me, “why women need so many of these bags. Why can’t they be satisfied with just one.”

Then he went on describing all of those “bags” his wife had at home.

“I can bet that she’s going to buy another bag today here at the mall,” he said with a little bit of sarcasm. We laughed together because we both knew what he was talking about.

I then pointed over to my wife and said, “Look at that lovely bag over there.”

I didn’t realize that I used the wrong word. My friend always called a purse a bag, and so I followed along with him. I wanted him to see the nice purse my wife had. But, when I said, “Look at that lovely bag over there,” I got into so much trouble that I don’t know if I’m out of it today. As usual, my wife heard every word that I said, and she looked at me with one of her looks and both hands

on her hips.

That alone convinced me I was in for some trouble. My fun time had evolved into “I’m in trouble time”. I didn’t say what she heard me say but what she heard me say is what I said. How I’m going to get out of this is beyond my pay scale.

Sometimes when we’re having fun, people hear us say something, but they interpret it in the opposite direction. There’s something about words that can really get you into trouble.

I like to have fun and enjoy pulling friends into the experience, but I need to know where to draw the line. And after all of these years of matrimonial bliss, I don’t know where to draw the line.

I stared at my friend for a moment, and he began to smile because he knew that I was in trouble.

“Well,” he said to me, “my wife and I need to get going.” And they walked away, leaving me with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and the trouble I was in.

The way she looked at me, I knew I had come to the end of having fun that day. Nothing I could say or do could ever undo what I said.

As we walked out of the mall to our vehicle, I tried to think of something to say that would make up for my blunder. Even though I work with words all the time I could not come up with the right words to use at this time.

As we drove home in the Sissy Van, she was very quiet and focused solely on driving. I, on the other hand, was focused on being quiet. There’s a time to speak and a time to be quiet. As a veteran husband, I am still learning when it’s time to be quiet.

I’m not going to give up on having fun, I’m just going to try to be more delicate in the fun I choose at the time. That will not be easy, but sometimes you have to pay for the fund that you have.

As I was thinking through this I couldn’t help but think of a special Bible verse.

“Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding” (Proverbs 17:28).

When I open my mouth people can see what a fool I am. If I keep my mouth shut I hide all that foolishness. My new goal is to show a smile with my mouth and keep my mouth shut.

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

Updated Child Care Access Data Dashboard highlights growing gaps and urgent need for action

Team for West Virginia Children and the West Virginia Association for Young Children have announced new updates to the Mapping the Gap: West Virginia Child Care Access Dashboard, a first-of-its-kind tool launched in 2023 to provide real-time insight into child care supply and demand across the state.

The dashboard was created to shine a light on the persistent challenges families face in finding child care, particularly in rural communities. Since its launch, it has become a trusted resource for policymakers, child advocates, and families to better understand where gaps exist and how access to care is changing over time.

Key Updates in 2025:

The newly updated data, current as of this month, reveal several concerning trends:

- Decline in Family Child Care (FCC) providers: About 1 in 6 Family Child Care homes (an individual who provides regular, ongoing child care for a small group of children in their own private home) have closed since last year, declining by 15.6 percent from 918 Family Child Care Homes in January 2024 to just 775 today. This decline hits rural areas especially hard.

- Persistent access gaps: While some counties such as Marshall and Roane have made progress in reducing their child care access gaps, others, including Preston and Barbour, have seen the gaps widen significantly.

- Counties most under-resourced: Wood, Kanawha and Berkeley have the most total children without access, according to the model. Tyler, Ritchie, Wetzel, Doddridge, and Pleasants counties continue to face the most severe shortages of child care slots per capita.

- High percentages of children without care: In counties such as Wetzel, Calhoun, and Clay, the majority of children under six with working parents still lack access to licensed child care.

These findings are reinforced by county-by-county data, allowing state and local leaders to better see where progress is being made and where urgent intervention is

LUKE HILL

National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2024 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state’s percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

To become a Finalist, the Semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the Semifinalist’s academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT or ACT scores that confirm the student’s earlier performance on the qualifying test.

From over 16,000 Semifinalists, more than 15,000 are expected to advance to the Finalist level, and in February they will be notified of this designation. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this

group of Finalists. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

National Merit Scholarships

Three types of National Merit Scholarships will be offered in the spring of 2026. Every Finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit \$2500 Scholarships that will be awarded on a state-representational basis. About 830 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards will be provided by approximately 150 corporations and business organizations for Finalists who meet their specified criteria, such as children of the grantor’s employees or residents of communities where sponsor plants or offices are located. In addition, about 150 colleges and universities are expected to finance some 3,600 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

National Merit Scholarship winners of 2026 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July. These scholarship recipients will join approximately 389,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

Continued from Page 1



THE WIDEN NEWS

The people who think alike
should vote alike.

"DUNDON"
RED ASH COAL

Where all think alike, no one
thinks very much.



September 1958

CLUBS

ART CLUB

The Art Club plans to do several units of work during the year '58-'59, such as pencil drawings, water coloring, and art appreciation. The latter will include famous artists and some of their works.

Sponsor—Miss Bailes
President—Joe Woods
Vice President—Karen Mick
Secretary and Treasurer—Barbara Young
Reporter—Betty Sigman

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council's first project is completed. The new name plaques for car placement have been put up on the fence at the school house.

President Judy LaCorte and Vice President Ruby Holcomb were elected by the student body last spring. Other officers elected were: Secretary-Treasurer—Judy Shaffer; Reporter—Dawne Backus; Sergeant-at-arms—David Hamrick.

DRAMATICS CLUB

The "Footlighters" met to organize their club on September 2, 1958, in room 14. Officers elected were President — Judy Shaffer, Vice President — Ruby Holcomb, Secretary-Treasurer — Rosa Gibson, and Reporter—Nancy McMillion.

There are twenty-five members enrolled under the sponsorship of Mrs. Leona Griffith and Mrs. Betty Sizemore.

Happy Birthday

HIGH SCHOOL

Adkins, Pearl	Sept. 17
Conner, James	" 11
Dancy, Pearl	" 8
George, Eugene	" 10
Hall, Cathleen	" 27
Hamrick, David	" 18
Hardway, Junior	" 5
Hutchinson, Carolyn	" 23
Sigman, Charles	" 11

GRADE SCHOOL

Adkins, Chilton	Sept. 4
Butcher, Nancy	" 30
Gibson, Richard	" 26
George, Walter	" 9
Harliss, Linda	" 30
Haygood, Anna	" 17
King, Roger	" 6
Lane, Stephen	" 3
Marple, David	" 1
Mick, Roger	" 7
Napier, Billy	" 25
Potasnik, Teresa	" 8
Sizemore, Anna	" 18
Tinney, Janet	" 25
Young, Glen	" 24

PETTICOAT RULE HAS FLED

The men of Widen High have risen to new heights! They have taken arms against the persistent tide of female rule. They have faced a show-down in a general election and have emerged victorious. No longer will policies of class activities be determined by the "weaker sex"—muscles, brawn and brains will prevail. We face a new era. Man has come into his own. Every single high school class has elected a male president. Congratulations men!

AT LAST, IT'S HERE!

The most pleasant thing has happened in Widen High School. There is a new spirit of cheerfulness and gaiety floating around the corridors. School is a happy place. Grumbling and complaining seems to have been overthrown. Isn't it heartening and inspiring, too, to begin each day with smiles and eagerness to face it's problems? Isn't it amazing how quickly those problems dissolve into nothing when we tackle them with a confident smile.

Hail to thee Blythe Spirit! Stay with us.

WILL STOCK TURKEYS

According to Mr. David D. Gilpin, Game Manager of District IV of the West Virginia Conservation Commission in Beckley, West Virginia, in a communication to Mr. H. L. Beattie, Vice President of the Buffalo Valley Sportsman's Club, the area on Twenty-Mile Creek has been approved for a turkey stocking by the Charleston Office of that Commission. The stocking of turkeys on Twenty-Mile will be made as soon as possible, but not until after the close of the approaching hunting season.

The Club is requested to do some development work in the area to aid in getting the turkeys established. The cooperation of all landowners in that vicinity is needed in protecting the turkeys.

ELK RIVER SETS THREE RECORDS DURING AUGUST

During the month of August, 1958, Elk River set three new records, according to the U. S. Geological Survey. Elk river during that month has (1) the largest average flow of any August on record, (2) the largest single day's flow ever recorded during the month of August, and (3) the largest low-point flow ever recorded in August.

WIDEN CUB SCOUTS COMPLETE YEAR'S WORK

The Cub Scout Pack III of Widen, sponsored by The Buffalo Valley Sportsmen's Club, is nearing the completion of a year's work. Cub scouting is a program for boys aged 8 to 11 and emphasizes citizenship, character and cooperation. A Den Mother is needed for every eight boys and leaders are scarce. So, if anyone is interested in registering a boy and will volunteer to serve as Den Mother, your help will be welcome indeed.

The boys in Den 3 have earned the following awards:

Cecil L. Butcher, Jr. — Bobcat, Bear; Walter George — Bobcat, Wolf; David Brown — Bobcat, Wolf, Bear; Ira Joe Lane—Bobcat; Steven Taylor — Bobcat, Wolf, Gold Arrow Point; Daniel Wood—Bobcat, Wolf; David Woods—Bobcat, Wolf; Jerry James—Bobcat.

Mrs. Kathryn Taylor is Den Mother for Den 3 and Eugene C. George, Jr. is Den Chief. Mrs. Okel Dorsey and Mrs. Helen Morris are Den Mothers for Dens 1 and 2. The following boys in these Dens have earned their Bobcat pins: Mike Woods, Keith Jones, Bobby Dorsey, Phil Morris, Pat Morris, Mike Truman, Ronald Conner, Neal Morris, Steve Lane, Larry Buck and Mike Davis.

B. E. Taylor is Cubmaster and the person to contact if you want Cub Scouting for your son.

WIDEN WOMAN'S CLUB TESTED RECIPE

Submitted by JOYCE BUTCHER
PEANUT BUTTER CRISS
CROSS COOKIES

1 cup shortening (2 sticks oleo)
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup white sugar
1 cup brown sugar
2 beaten eggs
3 cups flour
1-8 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons soda
1 cup peanut-butter
Cream shortening, vanilla, sugar and add eggs. Beat well. Stir in peanut butter. Add sifted dry ingredients. Form in tiny balls with the hands, press with back of fork to make criss cross on cookies. Bake at 375 degrees Fahrenheit for 10 minutes. Makes 50 to 60 small cookies.

WEST VIRGINIA SCENERY IS FIRST IN POPULARITY

West Virginia's mountain scenery ranks first in popularity among out-of-state tourists but there is an increasing number who would like to see better facilities for enjoying it, according to Don Crislip, executive director of the West Virginia Industrial and Publicity Commission.

Crislip bases his conclusions on information obtained from post card questionnaires which the Industrial and Publicity Commission collects each year from visiting tourists as a part of its annual tourist trade survey.

Although this year's survey is not completed, Crislip said, a random selection of questionnaire cards shows a large number of visitors wanting more and better roadside parks, with drinking water and toilet facilities; more pull-offs, where motorists can get off the highway and enjoy the scenery, more roadside signs, pointing to scenic and historic spots; more tent and trailer camps; and more publicity, so that the people in other states will know more about what West Virginia has to offer.

Cards tabulated so far indicate that nearly half of the tourists come to West Virginia to enjoy the scenery with the hospitality of the state's residents and the state park system each drawing about ten percent of the popularity vote, Crislip pointed out. Roads and the inadequacy of various types of tourist trade facilities were the subjects of most complaints, he said.

The list of satisfied tourists seems larger this year than usual, Crislip declared. Such words of praise as "Don't change a thing," "It is a wonderful state," or, "We liked everything about your state," are found on many questionnaire cards, he explained.

SENIORS WAIT ANXIOUSLY

As the school news goes to press, the seniors are awaiting official word from the post office that a much-desired C.O.D. package has arrived.

Since September 15, pay day, the Seniors have been carrying large sums of money—only as far as homeroom, though. There it goes to rest in a wooden cigar box along with the word "paid" written across an enclosed invoice.

What does all this mean? Class Rings, of course! those wonderful bits of precious metal which were ordered last fall, after long and careful consideration by the seniors of today.

West Virginia Statewide Classified Network

Featured in WVPA Newspapers Across West Virginia

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MISCELLANEOUS

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NO MORE CLEANING OUT GUTTERS GURANTEED! LeafFilter is the most advanced gutter protection for your home, backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-844-295-2840 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 20% off! Seniors and military save an additional 10%. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

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your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-844-640-0583

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SAFE STEP. NORTH AMERICAS #1 WALK-IN TUB. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-803-1282

GET A BREAK ON YOUR TAXES! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855-368-9004 today!



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Place YOUR statewide ad today
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LEGAL

(2024-C-000062 - Clay County - ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC)
To: BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE C/O HEATHER ATKINS, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, D/B/A PRODIRECTIONAL, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES C/O DALE H. HARMON, JACKSON KELLY PLLC, UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC C/O PATTERSON-UTI, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF CHESSIE C. CONNER, RALPH NOEL CONNER, LAWRENCE P. CONNER, HAROLD C. CONNER, CLAUDE M. CONNER, PEGGY CONNER, JANE ANN MARTINEZ, JACK ALLISON CONNER, JAMES RALPH CONNER, MARK STEPHEN ANDERSON, KATHY NORMAN, KATHLEEN ALLISON CONNER, ERIN CONNER, DONNA CONNER, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC, UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC., PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE, HEATHER ATKINS, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT HENRY MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 0178 0000
You will take notice that ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2024-C-000062, located in HENRY District, 41 AC N S ELK O&G 3/8 OF 1/4 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CONNER CHESSIE C HRS, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 10, 2025. ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 3815.	\$	85.69
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024 - 3795.	\$	27.41
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	104.39
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	309.92
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	527.41

You may redeem at any time before August 31, 2025, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand August 21, 2025

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

(2024-C-000008 - Clay County - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)
To: CHARLES E. TURNER, SARAH E TURNER, SARAH ELIZABETH TURNER, S E TURNER, L D TURNER, LEE TURNER, G E TURNER, MARY AGNES TURNER, R L TURNER, RAYMOND L TURNER, ALTA B TURNER, ALTIE TURNER, ELSWORTH TURNER, CLARA FAYE TURNER, FAY TURNER, FAYE TURNER, CHRISTINA TURNER, ELLEN PSIMER, ELLEN ASBURY, MARTHA WOODS, MARY BRAGG, FLORA GRAHAM, ELIZABETH JOHNSON, NORMAN JOHNSON, HESTER JOHNSON NELSON, DAVID B TURNER, D B TURNER, PATRICIA SLAUGHTER, CAMERON SLAUGHTER, JONATHAN TURNER, TEENA TURNER, JERRY E TURNER, JERYL G TURNER, GIULA B NUTTER, ETHEL STOVER, BOBBY STOVER, DAPHNE TURNER, NETA TURNER, ERNESTINE TURNER, DAVID W TURNER, CHARLES E TURNER, CHARLES W COLSON PRISON FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES, BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION, RBC MINISTRIES RADIO BIBLE CLASS, GLEN MATHEWS REVIVAL CRUSADE INCORPORATED, TRUSTEES OF THE TURNER CEMETERY C/O BOBBY STOVER, DEBORAH CROSKEY FISHER, DEBBIE FISHER, ROGER TURNER, LORRAINE TURNER, CHARLOTTE CHANDLER, ANNA WHINERY, EUGENE CHANDLER, GENE CHANDLER, DAVID WHINERY, SUE TURNER, SUSAN TURNER, MARITA ANDERSON, RAY TURNER, AVIS JOHNSON, AVIS M. JOHNSON, ANNA WHINERY, JONATHAN TURNER, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT BUFFALO MAP 13 PARCEL 0002 0000 0000
You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2024-C-000008, located in BUFFALO District, 45 AC WTS GROVES FEE (1/2 O&G OUT), which was returned delinquent or nonenetred in the name of TURNER L D HRS, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 10, 2025. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 2033.	\$	301.52
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024 - 2014.	\$	294.38
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	210.80
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	820.42
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,627.12

You may redeem at any time before August 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand August 28, 2025

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

(2024-C-000084 - Clay County - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)
To: JOHN RANDOLPH OSBORNE, J F WILSON, ROXIE WILSON, MARY IRENE WOFFTER, CECIL PERRY WILSON, CLOVA JARRETT WILSON, MARY ANN WILSON, LEWIS WOOFTER, JOHN FREDERICK WOOFTER, PERRY W WOOFTER, JOHN RANDOLPH WOOFTER, C P WILSON, H M YOUNG T B STEPHENSON, GLENDORA STEPHENSON, M A YOUNG, J FRED WILSON, MARY J WILSON BAUGHMAN, NORA WILSON HICKMAN, LORING WILSON, MARTHA E WILSON GIBSON, S HENDERSON WILSON, W ADDINGTON WILSON, J W BAUGHMAN, W E GIBSON, J M HICKMAN, WV TAX DEPT. TAX COMPLIANCE DIVISION RE: JUGMNT 23/352 & 23/280 ACT. 2064-5102, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT HENRY MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 1165 0000
You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2024-C-000084, located in HENRY District, 100 AC WTS BUFFALO O&G 1/2 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonenetred in the name of WILSON J F HRS, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 10, 2025. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 7620.	\$	90.86
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024 - 7597.	\$	30.24
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	120.80
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	838.41
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,080.31

You may redeem at any time before August 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand August 28, 2025

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

(2024-C-000061 - Clay County - ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC)
To: BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE C/O HEATHER ATKINS, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, D/B/A PRODIRECTIONAL, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES C/O DALE H. HARMON, JACKSON KELLY PLLC, UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC C/O PATTERSON-UTI, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF CHESSIE C. CONNER, RALPH NOEL CONNER, LAWRENCE P. CONNER, HAROLD C. CONNER, CLAUDE M. CONNER, PEGGY CONNER, JANE ANN MARTINEZ, JACK ALLISON CONNER, JAMES RALPH CONNER, MARK STEPHEN ANDERSON, KATHY NORMAN, KATHLEEN ALLISON CONNER, ERIN CONNER, DONNA CONNER, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC, UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC., PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE, HEATHER ATKINS, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT HENRY MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 0177 0000
You will take notice that ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2024-C-000061, located in HENRY District, 42 AC WTS BUFFALO O&G 3/8 OF 1/2 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CONNER CHESSIE C HRS, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 10, 2025. ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 3814.	\$	85.69
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024 - 3794.	\$	23.76
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	104.11
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	309.92
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	523.48

You may redeem at any time before August 31, 2025, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand August 21, 2025

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

(2024-C-000245 - Clay County - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)
To: DAMRON WALTON, KAYLA JONES, PATRICIA LORAIN WALTON LINEBERRY, GLEN WALTON, MAYSEL WALTON, MARY MASEL DURHAM WALTON, GLENN ALLEN WALTON, GARY JONES, DAVID W LINEBERRY, DAMRON WALTON, CONDA WALTON, KAYLA JONES, CHRISTOPHER VIA, STEPHANIE JOHNSON, BRIAN JOHNSON, MONA KAY WALTON HELPER, WANDA RAE WALTON, DOUGLAS ALLEN WALTON, EMMA MAE JOHNSON, GARY LINEBERRY, BONNIE LINEBERRY, TRACI SATTERWHITE, SARAH JOHNSON, ABRAM JOHNSON, LUKE JOHNSON, PHILLIP SATTERWHITE, AMANDA SATTERWHITE, GRANVILLE SATTERWHITE, EMMA E DURHAM, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT UNION MAP 25 PARCEL 0014 0000 3003
You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2024-C-000245, located in UNION District, 53 AC LITTLE SYCAMORE SUR 1/4 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonenetred in the name of PATRICIA LINEBERRY EST, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 10, 2025. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 18474.	\$	161.60
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024 - 18486.	\$	121.74
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	117.02
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	793.41
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,193.77

You may redeem at any time before August 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand August 28, 2025

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

(2024-C-000196 - Clay County - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)
To: DAVID M CAMPBELL C/O AMOS CAMPBELL, DAVID M CAMPBELL, DAVID MATTHEW CAMPBELL, AMOS LLOYD CAMPBELL, CHARLENE CAMPBELL, GEORGE CAMPBELL, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT PLEASANT MAP 13 PARCEL 0017 0014 0000
You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2024-C-000196, located in PLEASANT District, 12 AC WTS SYC SUR, which was returned delinquent or nonenetred in the name of CAMPBELL DAVID M, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 10, 2025. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 13290.	\$	222.32
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024 - 13292.	\$	208.06
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	195.80
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	779.91
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,406.09

You may redeem at any time before August 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand August 28, 2025

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

(2024-C-000005 - Clay County - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)
To: ROBERT L JACKSON C/O TIM SUVANNOPARAT, ROBERT L JACKSON, ROBERT BOB LOUIS JACKSON, IRA JACKSON, MARY JACKSON, TIM JACKSON, TONI JACKSON, TIM SUVANNOPARAT, TONI SUVANNOPARAT, TIM L JACKSON, UTAIWAN P SUVANNOPARAT, UTAIWAN P JACKSON, TONI JACKSON, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT BUFFALO MAP 12 PARCEL 0023 0000 0000
You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2024-C-000005**, located in BUFFALO District, 5 AC FLAT FORK SUR, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of JACKSON ROBERT L, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 10, 2025. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 1075.	\$	105.35
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024 - 1085.	\$	48.39
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	150.80
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	779.91
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,084.45

You may redeem at any time before August 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand August 28, 2025
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

(2024-C-000053 - Clay County - ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC)
To: DAVID CALLISON, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF GEORGIA YOUNG CALLISON, MARY HELEN LEMON, PAUL RAY CALLISON, JOHNNIE P. CALLISON, JOHN CALLISON, DAVID CALLISON, WILLIAM CALLISON & LISA PURVIZ, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT HENRY MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 0110 0000
You will take notice that ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2024-C-000053**, located in HENRY District, 250 AC GRANNIES CRK MIN 1/10 OF 42/512 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CALLISON GEORGIA Y HEIRS, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 10, 2025. ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after March 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before February 28, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 3533.	\$	86.43
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024 - 3508.	\$	23.96
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	166.35
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	234.91
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	511.65

You may redeem at any time before February 28, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand September 4, 2025
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
TO: Randy David May Magistrate Court Case No.: ____
1670 Darnell Hollow Rd. Family Court Civil Action
Glen WV 25030 No.: 25-DV-40
DOB: 9/25/1980
ORDER OF PUBLICATION PROTECTIVE ORDER
1. The object of this suit is to obtain protection from the respondent.
2. The object of this Publication by Class I legal advertisement is to notify the Respondent of the PROTECTIVE ORDER prohibiting the above-named Respondent from having contact with certain individuals. This Order may affect property and other rights of the Respondent. Violating this Order may subject the Respondent to criminal sanctions. The Respondent is strongly encouraged to obtain a copy of this Protective Order from the Circuit Clerk of the county listed above.
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:
It appearing by evidence duly taken in this action that you could not be found in or you have left the State of West Virginia, you are hereby notified of the ORDER referenced above, a copy of which may be obtained at the Clay County, Circuit Clerk's office. This PROTECTIVE ORDER will remain in effect until 9/25/25.
A Final Hearing is scheduled for the 25th day of September, 2025, at 10:30 AM, before the Clay County Family Court.
Issued 9/11/25 at 11:22 AM
Christal G. Perry
Clerk of the Court

NOTICE

I, along with James Dalton, Roy Echard, Anthony Frame, Tad Jackson, Noah McKim and Nathaniel McKim have leased the property in Log Shoals that was formerly owned by Ivydale, LLC and is now owned by We-R-Farmers. Otter district map 16, parcels 23, 24, 25, 26 and map 20, parcel 18. Trespassing and hunting are strictly prohibited, and violators will be prosecuted. If you have any hunting gear on this property you have 30 days to remove it. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation. Log Shoals Hunting Club.

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LEGAL

(2024-C-000256 - Clay County - ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC)
To: DAVID CALLISON, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF GEORGIA YOUNG CALLISON, MARY HELEN LEMON, PAUL RAY CALLISON, JOHNNIE P. CALLISON, JOHN CALLISON, DAVID CALLISON, WILLIAM CALLISON & LISA PURVIZ, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT UNION MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 0034 3004
You will take notice that ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2024-C-000256**, located in UNION District, 250 AC GRANNIES CRK MIN 1/10 OF 42/512 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CALLISON GEORGIA Y HEIRS, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 10, 2025. ONONDAGA HOLDING CO, LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after March 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before February 28, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 16889.	\$	86.43
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024 - 16916.	\$	23.96
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	104.66
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	234.91
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	449.96

You may redeem at any time before February 28, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand September 4, 2025
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
Under authority of that certain Deed of Trust dated April 23, 2008, from Randy B. Jeffrey and Wilma J. Jeffrey to E. Dennis White, Trustee, of record in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia in Trust Deed Book No. 119, at page 240, securing a promissory note in the principal amount of \$56,619.28, payable to Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc., and default having been made in payment of the promissory note secured by the aforesaid Deed of Trust and sale requested by Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc., the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the front door of the Clay County Courthouse in Clay, West Virginia on September 26, 2025 at 3:15 p.m., subject to all reservations, exceptions, easements and other matters which appear of record, and subject to all unpaid taxes, if any, the following described real estate, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate on Groves Creek, in Buffalo District, Clay County, West Virginia, more particularly bounded and described as follows:
BEGINNING at a stake in a line of the land of which this is a part in the county road, thence N. 4-½ E. 109 feet to a white oak, a corner to this land and also a corner to Tom Young, and with said line N. 46-½ E. 20 poles to a stake in the road, S. 44-½ E. 8 poles to a stone pile, S. 46-½ W. 20 poles to a stone, thence N. 44-½ W. 8 poles to the place of beginning, containing one (1) acre, more or less. Together with a Fleetwood Manufactured Home, Serial No. VAF1719AB63589GT13.
Being the same property conveyed from Randy Jeffrey to Randy B. Jeffrey and Wilma J. Jeffrey, husband and wife, by Deed dated April 23, 2008, of record in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Deed Book No. 202, at page 341.
Terms of the sale: cash or certified funds due on date of sale.
Given under my hand this 3rd day of September, 2025.
/s/Marc B. Lazenby
Marc B. Lazenby
Substitute Trustee

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Panthers lose a tough one at Roane

By Allen Hamrick
It was a tough outing for the CCHS Panthers Friday night as they took on the Raiders of Roane County. Roane County still had a buzz on after taking their game to the state championship against Frankfort last year. Last season the Panthers took the Raiders to their limits in what would prove to be one of the best games ever played on the old grass field. It was to be a tough matchup with the Panthers losing key players and Roane doing the same, so the game would be a toss-up. The Raiders wanted to make a statement and were on the board quickly with fourteen points in the first quarter, making the game look like it was going to be a long night for the Panthers. However, Cooper Collins found Jakoby Nichols in the flat and after shaking a Raider, Jakoby went “ALL THE WAY,” and brought



Brody Scarbro dishes out the stiff arm.

the game to 7-14 Raiders. The game slowed down a bit with both defenses stepping up before the Raiders added another TD prior to the half making the score 7-21. Before the bands started playing their halftime tunes, the Raiders capitalized on a botched punt attempt and as the ball squirted around the end zone, the Raiders fell on it and scored again. So, at the half it was Panthers 7 Raiders 35. This took a little wind out of the sails for the Panthers, but they did not give up until the last play of the game. The offense tried working in the second half but was unable to get much going against the Raiders. The Raiders continued to add salt to the wound, adding another 14 points before the final whistle. The Panther defense did a respectable job not allowing this game to go into a special page in the history



Cooper Collins looks across the middle.

books. When the lights went out, the final score stood at Panther 14- Raiders 49. It was a tough game to be sure, but the Panthers held on against the Raiders; with some tightening up on offense they will be hard to beat. When two good teams like the Panthers and the Raiders meet, the winner is determined by who makes the least mistakes and then capitalizes on their opponent’s mistakes. There were some questionable calls, but there will always be in any high-pressure game like this rivalry. The Panthers will get it all sorted out; it is still early in the season, and they have plenty of opportunities left. Get out and enjoy the game this week and support the CCHS Panthers.



Jakoby Nichols shakes off the tackler.



Cheyenne Adkins fires up the crowd.

New turf gets broken in by the Panther JV

By Allen Hamrick
This past Monday was opening night for the first game played on the million-dollar turf. The champagne bottle was prepared for the christening and the field looked good enough to eat on. The Panther JV would do the honors of breaking it in with an actual game. They butted heads with the Nicholas County Grizzly JV, and it was going to be a tough one for sure. The JV Panthers hit the field and immediately



Adam Canfield gets a piece of the QB.

looked like the wheels were about to come off. The Panthers were having a challenging time getting the ball snapped without scrambling for it. Both defenses settled in and played some good football as the Grizzly JV was first on the board with a kind of trick play to get into the end zone. The Panther JV also got on the boards as the defense crowded the Grizzlies into the end zone for a safety.

By the half, the score stood at 2-8 Grizzlies. After



Collin Elliott looks for running room.

that it was pretty much the same thing as the Panthers still struggled under center getting the ball snapped properly. The Panther defense did a good job, but the offense just could not capitalize on Grizzly mistakes. When it was over the new field had its first loss, and the Panther JV lost the game 2-16. Mistakes will cost a team, and the cost was touchdowns. The Panther JV will have some figuring to do before the Raider JV comes to town on Monday evening.



Matthew Nealy breaks up the middle.

CROSS COUNTRY

Continued from Page 1

In the high school girls’ race, Abigail Grandon led the way, with Ashley Roberts also competing. For the high school boys, Kaden Fitzwater placed 22nd out of seventy-four runners, followed closely by Andrew Tanner, Bret Smith, Evan Bass, and Isiah Woods. The second meet took runners to the Cabell Midland High School XC Festival, one of the largest cross country events in West Virginia, on Aug. 30. With nearly 200 runners in some races, Clay County athletes rose to the occasion. Middle school standout Marissa Atha continued her impressive streak, earning her second medal by placing 19th out of 190 runners. Teammates Stricker and Conley also ran strong races. On the boys’ side, Dobbins again led CCMS, supported by Hubbard and Reed. In the high school girls’ race, McKinley Mahan was the top runner, with Grandon, Cheyanne Taylor, and Roberts rounding out the field. Fitzwater led the high school boys again, followed by Daymian Stricker, Woods, Tanner, Jackson Stricker, and Bass. At the Irish Invitational held at Coonskin Park on Sept. 9, the medals kept coming. Marissa Atha earned her third medal of the season, finishing 8th overall out of 98 runners. She was joined by teammates Stricker, Conley, Dolores Poland, and Lilian Goebel. The middle school boys had another strong showing, with Dobbins leading the pack, followed by Hubbard, Reed, and James Mullens. In the high school girls’ race, Mahan again led the team, with Grandon and Taylor close behind. Fitzwater made his mark in the boys’ race, earning his first medal of the season with a 25th-place finish. Tanner, Bass, Woods, Smith, and Jackson Stricker rounded out the team. The most recent meet, the Braxton No Excuses Invitational at Holly Gray Park in Sutton, saw perhaps the strongest overall team performance yet. Atha dominated again, capturing fourth place out of 93 runners



Kaden Fitzwater earned his first medal this season at the Irish Invitational at Coonskin Park.

from 17 schools, earning her fourth medal in as many races. She was joined by Stricker, Conley, Goebel, and Poland, who all ran competitive races. For the CCMS boys, Dobbins earned his first medal of the year with an impressive 15th place finish out of 110 runners from 18 schools. Hubbard, Reed, and Mullens also had solid performances. The Clay County cross country teams continue to improve, with runners across the board setting new per-



Abigail Grandon is one of the leading runners for the CCHS Girls' XC team.

sonal records and gaining valuable racing experience. They are showing steady improvement and a lot of heart as they head into the next stretch of their season. With personal bests being set in nearly every race, the athletes are peaking at the right time. Next up the teams will compete at the Big Ditch Lake Invitational in Cowen on Sept. 16, followed by the Calhoun Invitational at Calhoun County Park on Sept. 20. Good luck to all runners as they continue to chase success this season!