



Proudly Serving Grant County for 128 Years

## Spring Mountain Festival, April 26-28

The Grant County Chamber of Commerce will host their annual Spring Mountain Festival on April 26-28 at the Petersburg City Park. See the event's entertainment lineup on page 8A.

## A quick catch-up with the Lady Viking Softball team

Following a Saturday afternoon win over Berkeley Springs (14-5) and a loss to Pendleton County (16-8), the Lady Vikings are sitting at a 13-4 record for the season. The team has picked up several strong... see page 1B.

## Grant County students bring home social study fair awards

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) hosted more than 500 students in Charleston last week as part of the... see page 1B.

## Support the Petersburg Food Pantry

As always, you may drop off your non-perishable donations to the Petersburg Interfaith Pantry at the Grant County Press. Monetary donations will also be forwarded to the food pantry.

## COVID-19 UPDATES

The Grant County Health Department now has the following immunizations. Call 304-257-4922 for an appointment.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

- Wilson Trustee's Sale
  - Downtown Pavilion Bids
  - Estate Notices
  - Grant County Commission Levy Estimate
- Pages 3B-4B



## Obituaries

Mary Louise Bowers  
Bob Coffman  
Wanda Judy

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Sports	1B-2B
Classifieds/Legals	3B-4B
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## poll question

Do you feel you have an understanding of how to make sure your vote counts in the board of education race?



Let us know on our Facebook page



# Superintendent discusses levy, taxes and how they impact local schools

Next month, Grant County residents will be asked to cast their vote on whether the local school system keeps its current excess levy in place or, potentially, lets that funding lapse.

The issue of the school levy will be on the May primary ballot, with voters able to either vote for or against the measure.

Grant County superintendent Mitch Webster sat down last week to discuss his view on the positive impact the levy has on students and the community.

Beyond the direct impact of the additional funds to assist

with facility upgrades and repairs, additional personnel and funds to expand school safety, Webster said the levy also makes the county more eligible to receive grant funds that can go towards large projects.

Specifically, Webster pointed to the new \$5.3 million pre-kindergarten expansion that has been approved for construction at Petersburg Elementary School.

"When you go to the SBA [West Virginia School Building Authority] and ask for money for a project like that, they can

somewhat laugh at you if you don't bring any county money to show good faith that you as a community are willing to invest in it, too," Webster said. "They usually like to have 20-30%. But we were able to bring \$500,000 to the table and, in return, received nearly \$5 million. And, if we had not had the levy in place, I don't know if we would have had the funds to put that match forward."

Webster clarified that the matching funds are not levy money but the levy allowed them to free up the matching

funds from other sources.

The levy on the ballot will be slightly smaller than the one approved in 2020, dropping from 26% to 21.6% and will raise nearly \$10 million over the course of five years. Currently, 44 out of 55 counties in West Virginia have an excess levy in

See School, page 7A



Last week, Petersburg High School students received a vivid reminder of the dangers that come with driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Members from the Petersburg Volunteer Fire Company, Mount Storm Volunteer Fire Company, Grant County Ambulance and the Grant County Sheriff's Department (with support from Maysville Volunteer Fire Company who was called away due to an emergency) performed the annual mock accident at PHS prior to the prom weekend. *photos courtesy of pufc*

# Commission names new EMS director, approves purchase of thermal drone for PVFC

After a series of discussions with candidates during an executive session, the Grant County Commission announced last week that Jeffrey Teter would be hired as the new director of Grant County Ambulance.

The announcement came near the end of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Grant County Commission on April 9.

Beyond his work with emergency medical services, Teter is a volunteer with the Maysville Volunteer Fire Company and president of the Grant County Volunteer Fire Association. He is set to officially begin in the new role later this week.

The commission also met with Hunter Whetzel, Ashton Barr and Marshall Collins to discuss the purchase of a thermal drone - a piece of technol-

ogy for which the recent brush fires have highlighted as a need.

"Pretty much what ours allows us to do is get up into the air and take a picture," Whetzel explained. "If the wind is high, we can't really fly. That was a big issue we had during the fires we just had a few weeks ago."

Whetzel said that the drone can be especially helpful in search-and-rescue efforts, allowing the department to get an image to search for signs of clothing or any indication of the missing person. However, with the current drone used by the department, this is limited heavily by weather and daylight.

Whetzel requested the commission assist the department in funding the purchase of a thermal drone, which he said will help provide a much more effi-

cient image for search and rescue or even early fire detection.

"With a thermal drone, they collect heat and puts out a picture of that," Whetzel said. "If it detects heat, it shows up in a very bright color on that screen in our hands while we are operating that drone. For search-and-rescue, that will save us a lot of time and maybe prevent having to call in a helicopter with thermal imaging."

Whetzel explained that the drone the department was requesting to purchase was often used by hunters, who use the technology to find an animal they had shot which had fled. The new drone would also be able to fly in winds of up to 50 mph and can operate in the rain.

See County, page 7A

# Criminal charges filed in AWP closure

Criminal charges have been filed in Hardy County surrounding claims that the recently shuttered Allegheny Wood Product's (AWP) owner failed to provide promised payments to a pair of independent contractors.

The criminal complaint

See Charges, page 7A

# Woman admits to selling thousands of fentanyl pills locally

A Maryland woman has admitted to supplying thousands of fentanyl pills to dealers in Grant County and the surrounding areas.

According to a press release from the United States Attorney's Office, Daniela Marie Giancoli, 34, of Baltimore, Md., has plead guilty to a charge of conspiracy to distribute fentanyl.

According to court documents and statements made in court, Giancoli supplied large amounts of fentanyl to dealers in Grant County and elsewhere.

Nearly 9,000 fentanyl pills, weighing more than two kilograms, were found during the investigation. Giancoli and co-defendant, Michael Matthews, worked together out of their Baltimore apartment to sell drugs to more than 10 dealers in the area.

Giancoli is facing up to 20 years in federal prison. A

See Fentanyl, page 7A



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# BOGAL FLAVOR

**By Camille Howard**  
I'm still waiting on a part for our refrigerator, so in the meantime, we have a mini fridge on the counter that holds a quart of milk, a pint of half-n-half, a few sticks of butter, some cheese slices and a couple bottles of water.

It's a big improvement over the big cooler on the deck. Going out in the rain, in the dark, to get some milk or an apple was an inconvenient mess. We've always had leftovers in our fridge and have a second meal out of them, or I used them for my lunch at work.

Now I have nothing like that. I have to think about what I make or order. It's also cut down severely on the grocery shopping, and in turn, my caloric intake. I don't know about you, but having a fridge full of cheese, fruit, snacks, leftovers, etc. causes a lot of "grazing" that I don't need to do.

I don't think I've lost any weight, but it has changed my habits some. It was always odd to me when I read historical books, that people visited the green grocer, butcher, baker, at frequent intervals.

According to the guru of all information, the internet, refrigerators became common in the average household in the 1940s. They were available before

that, but not everyone had electric or gas to power appliances installed in their homes.

I wonder how many little mom and pop shops closed up when the refrigerator became common.

At the farm, my grandma had a refrigerator, but she also kept some things cool in the spring house.

At the time, many refrigerators had one big door with the freezer inside, and a drip tray underneath it.

Grandma used to keep hot dogs in that pullout tray and we kids must have gone through pounds of those things in a summer.

We used to eat them cold or stick one on a granny fork and roast it over the open gas flame on her range.

The one we had at home had a removable egg tray on the door towards the top. One time my sister was digging around in the fridge and the door started to close on her. She stood up, bumped the bottom of the egg tray with her head and a dozen eggs flipped and smashed on the floor.

My favorite thing was to sneak into the fridge and get a mouthful of whipped cream from a spray can.

The worst thing was trying to get an ice cube out of those crazy aluminum ice trays with the handles across the top. First you had to run some water

across them to melt the ice a little so you could work the lever.

After trying to get it to release the cubes with no results, you resorted to smashing, using hot water or finding dad. Even the plastic trays that twist were and are a complete pain. Especially when you go to get a few cubes out and find an empty tray.

There was also the occasional defrosting of the freezer when ice built up, usually using pans of hot water to speed things up. This being necessary because children kept open-

ing the refrigerator door on hot summer days before the introduction of air conditioning. "Shut the refrigerator door!" could be heard quite often.

I sometimes wonder how my parents and grandparents survived hot summer days with no A/C, big families and small refrigerators.

.....  
Since warm days are becoming more frequent, here is an icebox recipe, which I may try after my fridge is fixed.  
Have a great week!

## EASY LIME ICEBOX CAKE

- 1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
  - 1 cup heavy cream
  - 2 tablespoons sour cream
  - 1/4 cup freshly squeezed lime juice (from 3 to 4 limes)
  - 5 ounces (about 1 1/4 sleeves) Ritz crackers
  - 2 teaspoons finely grated lime zest
- Make the filling:  
Add condensed milk, heavy cream, and sour cream to a mixing bowl. Add the lime juice and whisk until the mixture is smooth and thick, about 1 minute.
- Layer:  
Use a 1/2 cup measuring cup to add filling to the bottom of an 8-inch

cake or pie pan and spread evenly to cover the bottom. Top with a single layer of Ritz crackers.

Repeat, alternating layers of filling and crackers, ending with a final layer of the remaining filling; you should have 3 layers of crackers and 4 layers of filling. Sprinkle the top with lime zest.

— Chill and serve:  
Loosely cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 2 hours or overnight. Serve chilled. The pie will keep well in the fridge for up to 3 days or in the freezer for up to 1 month. If frozen, let thaw for 10 minutes at room temperature before serving.

## Donnie Kessel is GRCC Resident of the Week

**By Ravenna Redman**  
**Director of Social Services**

The employees of Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center have chosen Harold "Donnie" Kessel as their GRCC Resident of the Week. Donnie has been a resident of our facility since October 19, 2023. He was born on December 25, 1934, at Scherr, West Virginia, delivered by Dr. Dyer, to Arthur and Alice (Wolfe) Kessel. Donnie was the baby of six boys. He had four half-brothers, Lynn, Dorsey, and Vernon Leon Kessel and Lester Keith Wolfe. He had one brother, Arthur "Mike" Kessel. He is the last remaining member of his family.

Arthur was a farmer and owned the Kessel Lumber Company. Alice was a stay-at-home mother. Donnie spent his childhood on the farm, and most of his days in the woods. Alice was active with her sons, teaching them how to hunt

and fish.

Donnie attended elementary school in Scherr, and then transferred to a schoolhouse in Medley. He completed his high school education at Petersburg High School, where he played on the football team. While in high school, Donnie met his future bride, Bernadine Bergeson.

In January 1954, Donnie enlisted in the U.S. Army. He would be stationed in Garmisch Germany, where he served as a military policeman. He completed his service in 1956.

In 1957, Donnie married Bernadine. After his service, Donnie enrolled in college under the GI bill. He attended Potomac State College, and then transferred to West Virginia University. He received his bachelor's degree in animal husbandry. He began his career for the Soil Conservation Service, in Greenbrier County.

On March 1, 1959, their

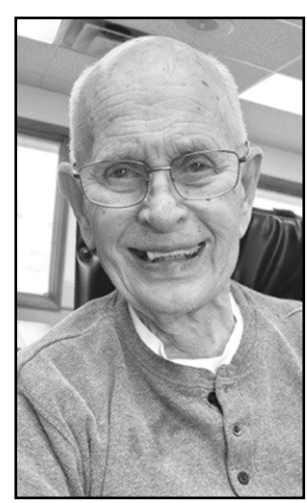
first son, David Kessel was born. His younger brother, Bernard followed on January 19, 1962.

Donnie continued to work for the Conservation Service, which evolved into the Natural Resources Conservation Service through the federal government. He retired in 1992. He is proud of his career.

After retiring, Donnie came back home and started his second career farming. At times, he would refer to farming as his hobby. He joked that he would have as many cows as his retirement would allow. He was interested in the genetics of breeding cattle.

After coming home, Donnie also enjoyed hunting and fishing like he did when he was younger.

Donnie and Bernadine traveled to all the National Parks. They went to Norway, and back to Germany to where Donnie had been stationed. They also enjoyed going to Nags Head,



North Carolina, and Florida.

Donnie loves playing cards, especially rummy and poker. He was a member of the Ruritans and the Kiwanis. He is a member of the Grace Lutheran Church had previously served on the church council.

Donnie is most proud of his sons and his grandchildren. They have four grandsons, Derek, Zebulon, Jesse, and Ben, and two granddaughters, Miranda and Lauren.

Unfortunately, David passed away on July 15, 2010, because of a vehicular accident. Bernard passed away after a 20-month cancer battle on January 18, 2022. Donnie and Bernadine both continue to grieve for their sons but are very thankful for their grandchildren.

Donnie's health declined to the point that the family was not able to provide for his care at home, and he became a member of the GRCC family.

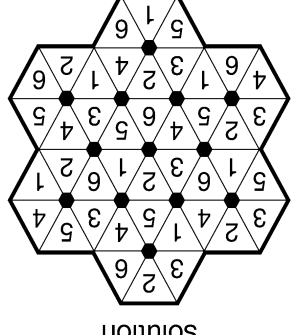
At the facility, he enjoys visiting with family and staff.

Congratulations Donnie on being GRCC's Resident of the Week!

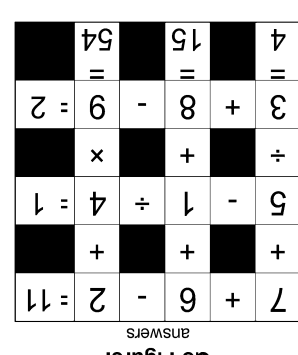
### ANSWERS FROM PUZZLES ON PAGE 5B

Power is actualized  
only when word and deed  
have not parted company. — Hannah Arendt

**Cryptogote**  
answer

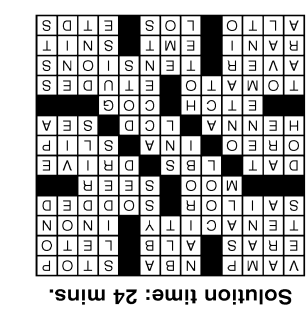


**Solution**



**Go Figure!**  
Answers

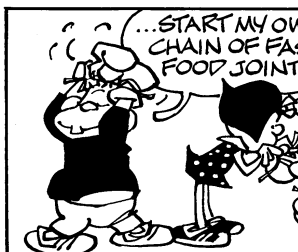
- 6. Sodium, Podium
- 7. Probe, Prose
- 8. Faster, Fatter
- 9. Rough, Rouge
- 10. Parts, Parts



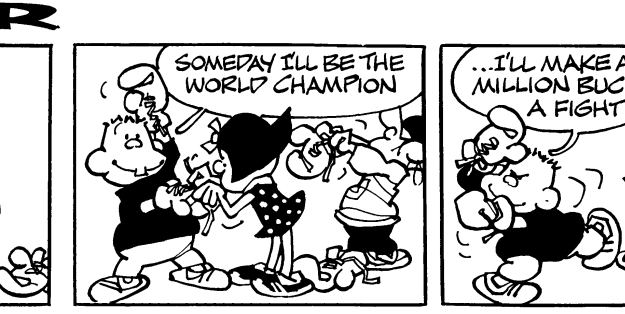
**King Crossword**  
Answers

- 1. Pierce, Pierre
- 2. Break, Bleak
- 3. Towel, Tower
- 4. Daily, Dolly
- 5. Canyon, Cannon

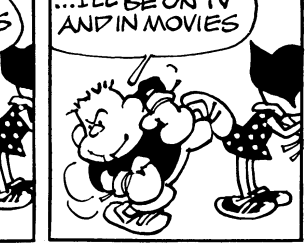
### SNOWFLAKES



### Even Exchange



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# State Social Studies Fair hosts 500 students, Grant County brings home medals



First place winners Norah Jackson and Raelyn Davis

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) hosted more than 500 students in Charleston last week as part of the 2024 West Virginia State Social Studies Fair (WVSSSF).

Students worked individually and in teams to enter approximately 320 projects. The event brought students from 40 counties to the Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center and featured the largest competition field within the last 10 years.

Students in grades 3-12 presented projects in content areas such as anthropology, economics, political science, U.S. history, psychology and more.

Participating students earned first place in their school, county and regional competitions. Judges scored projects based on a student-led oral presentation, research and findings, theme and overall display.

Social studies education challenges students to ask thought-provoking questions, predict outcomes, create solutions and draw conclusions from recog-

nized behavioral patterns.

The WVSSSF expands these learning outcomes by rewarding students for their dedication to extracurricular education and providing authentic learning opportunities that enhance their self-development, research, communication and critical thinking skills.

"It is inspiring to see students so passionate about their education and confident in their skills and talents. The future of the Mountain State shines bright knowing students of this caliber are tomorrow's thought-leaders, innovators, teachers and more," said State Superintendent of Schools Michele L. Blatt.

"This experience is something I hope will carry them throughout their educational journey and into their careers, knowing they are capable of anything they aspire to do."

The WVDE established the WVSSSF in 1977 in partnership with Marshall University and with input from a group of West Virginia social studies teachers. The first fairs were



First place winners Ava Hess and Addi Bergdoll

in Huntington and later moved to Charleston.

The competition field was comprised of three divisions, each with first-, second-, and third-place winners:

Division One: Grades 3 – 5; 82 winners

Division Two: Grades 6 – 8; 87 winners

Division Three: Grades 9 – 12; 85 winners

Grant County brought home several medals in both Division Two and Division Three.

Taking first place in Division Two, Sociology, Group, were the team of Norah Jackson and Raelyn Davis. Their project was Elizabeth Blackwell - First Wave Feminist.

Also taking a first place in Division Two, U.S. History, Group, was the team of Ava Hess and Addi Bergdoll. Their project was Hedy Lamar - The Mother of Wi-Fi.

Second place winners in Division Two from Grant County were:

Kaylee Wolford and Elianna Alt, Anthropology, Group, with their project, A Cherokee Way of Life;

Adelyn Rumer, Economics, Individual, with her project, Moo Problems Moo Money;

Maggie Whetzel and Charolette Rexroad, Economics, Group, with their project, One for the Money Two for the Show.

Taking third place honors in Division Two, Anthropology, Individual, was Lucy Groves with her project, Stitching the Seams.

In Division Three, Haley Judy was awarded second place in U.S. History, Individual, for her project, Tylenol Murders.

Also in Division Three, Angela Willis was awarded honorable mention in Psychology, Individual, for her project, Depression and Anxiety.

A list of winners and photos of the event may be found at [wvde.us](http://wvde.us)

Parents of the participants accompanied them to the state contest. Organizing the county fair was MES principal Megan DiBenedetto, PES principal Bubba Hedrick, PES teacher Teddy Ketterman, and Barb DiBenedetto.

# Petersburg FFA members place in regional scholastic contest



William Waddy V



Preston Mayfield



Angela Willis

The Eastern Regional FFA Scholastic Contest was held in Pendleton County on Thursday, April 11. There are a total of eight schools in the region competing for the chance to advance on to state.

Petersburg FFA announces the following winners:

Preston Mayfield won second place in the Underclassman Creed Contest, William Waddy V won first place in the Extemporaneous Speech Contest and Angela Willis won third place in the Prepared Speech Contest.

All winners were awarded certificates by the Regional Representative, Ron Hudson of the PCHS FFA.

All first-place winners qualify to advance on to state. Waddy will be representing Petersburg in the state competition in July.

The Petersburg FFA is under the direction of Missy Whetzel.

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Applicant must have character that is respectful of other students and teachers in a manner that shows leadership, honesty, integrity, and consideration of others.

Further information on eligibility and criteria can be obtained by calling 304-567-2121, M-F from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by emailing: [admin@sksr.com](mailto:admin@sksr.com).

Applications are available at the telephone office in Riverton or can be downloaded online at [www.spruceknob.net](http://www.spruceknob.net)

Deadline for submission of application is April 19, 2024.

APRIL 15<sup>th</sup> - APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>

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### WV shared editorial GOP gubernatorial primary still a messy logjam

The Charleston Gazette-Mail

Polling has shown West Virginia Republican and independent voters aren't particularly fired up about any one candidate for governor, and that trend continues in a new poll released with only about a month to go before the election.

A MetroNews poll conducted last week shows Attorney General Patrick Morrisey with a slim lead over Moore Capito among likely voters, 31% to 29%. However, the poll shows Capito with a lead over Morrisey among independents.

Nothing new there. Morrisey and Capito have been the leading candidates in a crowded field in every poll that's been conducted so far. Both candidates have also been within the margin of error (in this case, 4.9%) of overtaking the other in most of those polls.

But the other consistent trend is that a sizable number of respondents still haven't made up their minds. The MetroNews poll showed 10% of voters are undecided, and another 3% prefer someone other than Morrisey, Capito, car dealer Chris Miller or Secretary of State Mac Warner.

Granted, that's way down from a poll released last year showing "undecided" leading the entire field, at 29%, just above Morrisey at 28%. Still, if the new poll accurately reflects likely voter opinions, that's a huge chunk of voters for a race that's so close, which throws the whole thing into a foggy logjam.

No one candidate is likely to pick up that entire bloc of undecided voters, and it's far from certain whether the 3% who say they prefer another candidate will even vote or that they'll pick someone who is on the ballot. But even if all of those voters fragment among the four candidates, where they go could make a huge difference at the top.

Interestingly, this new poll has Miller, son of Rep. Carol Miller, R-W.Va., at 16% and Warner at 12%. Warner has consistently been around that number in a variety of polls, but Miller was previously polling in the single digits. Miller's campaign has been pouring on the advertising as of late, while Warner's camp has been mostly silent, at least in terms of TV ads bombarding viewers during the early evening local news slots.

As Morrisey, Miller and supposedly nonaffiliated political action committees have hammered each other over who is more supportive of Trump and who would ban transgender athletes harder (a somewhat meaningless issue, considering West Virginia already has a transgender sports ban), Capito is now running a more toned-down campaign (by 2024 standards, anyway).

Logjam, continued on Page 5A

### You have until April 23rd to

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the growing clique of authorized whiners



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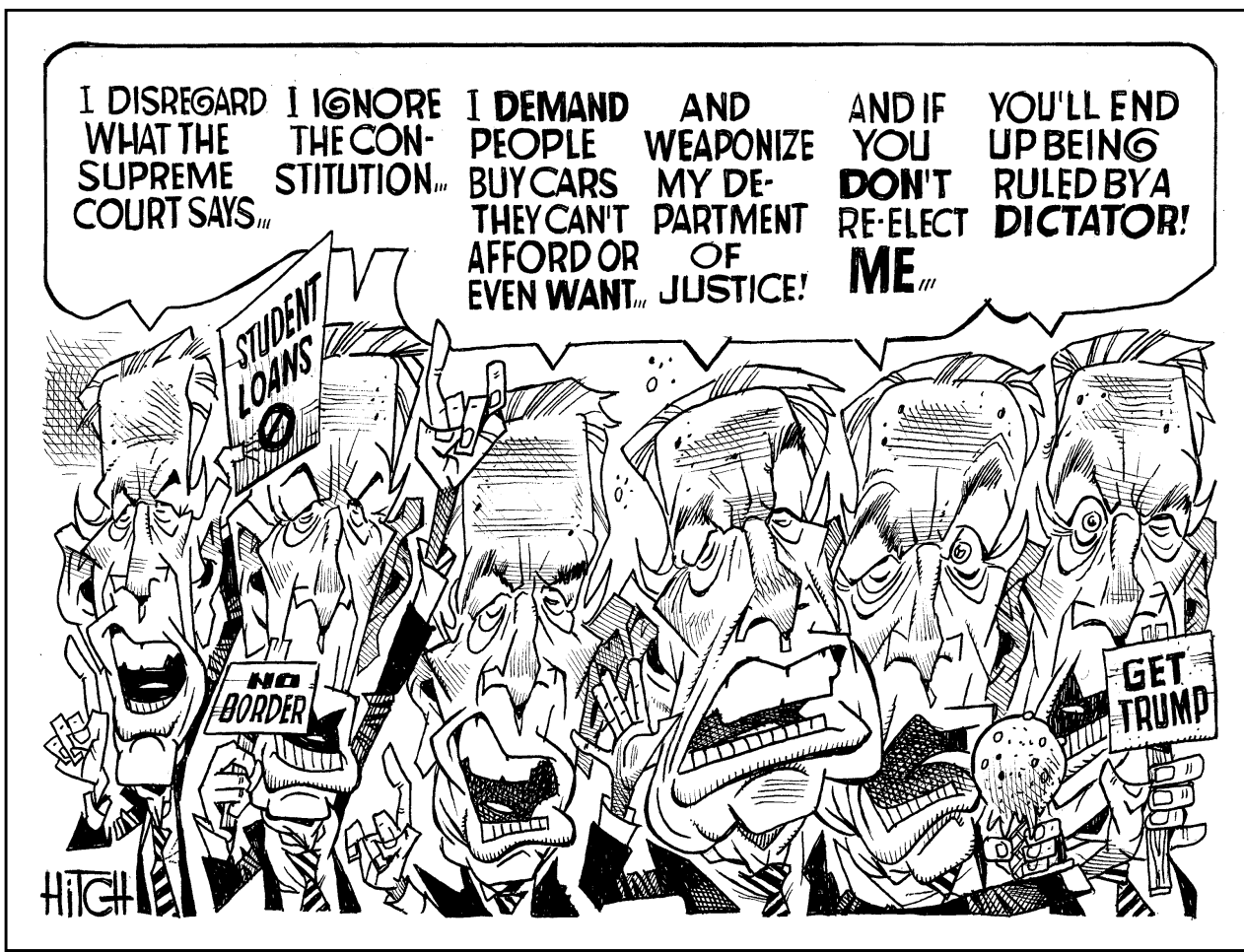
### REGISTER TO VOTE

If you've never registered or have recently moved, visit [GoVoteWV.com](http://GoVoteWV.com) or the office of the Grant County Clerk 5 Highland Avenue, Petersburg

If you don't vote, don't complain



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### Secretary of State Mac Warner says W.Va. will not accept voter registrations illegally gathered by federal agents

After a recent frustrating and convoluted conference call between the White House and secretaries of state, W.Va. Secretary of State Mac Warner has doubled down on his staunch opposition to the latest attempt by the Federal Government to take over voter registration processes from states.

In March 2021, President Biden signed Executive Order 14019 (the "EO"), which improperly claims, "it is the responsibility of the federal government to expand access to, and education about, voter registration and election information[.]"

It goes on to require every federal agency head to design plans related to voter registration, ensure access to certain incarcerated individuals in federal custody, and design a ballot tracking system for absentee voters under UOCAVA.

There is no such responsibility enumerated in the U.S. Constitution, and the 10th Amendment clearly states that powers not expressly given to the federal government are reserved to the states.

After waiting a year for

the White House to explain the EO's legality and implementation, Secretary Warner led a coalition of 14 other secretaries of state and sent a letter to the White House calling on the president to rescind his unconstitutional directive.

"Article 1 Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution says the times, places, and manner of holding elections,

shall be left to the state legislatures," said Secretary Warner.

"West Virginia will emphatically not give up our state's duty to register voters in a nonpartisan manner to the federal government, nor will we accept voter registration forms collected by federal agents. White House overtaking of state responsibilities is something we will fight all the way to the Supreme Court."

Warner added, "In addition, Section 7 of the National Voter Registration Act says states - not the federal government - shall

offer voter registration opportunities. The White House knows they are prohibited from self-assuming power over the states' voter registration processes.

"Biden's EO [executive order] is federal overreach. This executive order is nothing more than another attempt by the White House to take away states' powers, federalize our

**"West Virginia will emphatically not give up our State's duty to register voters in a nonpartisan manner to the Federal Government, nor will we accept voter registration forms collected by Federal agents." - Mac Warner, WV SOS**

elections, and turn voter registration into a partisan activity. Voter registration should be an apolitical service by individual states."

The coalition of states objecting to the EO waited nearly two years and heard nothing from the White House. That changed last week when the country's chief election officials were notified on a call with the White House that they are implementing voter registration-related policies.

Mississippi Secretary of State Michael Watson was on that call. In his op-ed released recently, Secretary

Watson states, "I then had the chance to ask a White House official about the plans submitted by each agency to carry out the illegal executive order. I was told those plans are not public, and they never intended for them to be public. So much for transparency."

The White House did not consult with state election officials in the development of the policies and plans to implement the EO, nor did the White House explain the need to deploy substantial federal resources to enact their plans during a presidential election cycle.

"I take great issue with the White House in that they did not consult state election officials before ordering federal agencies to develop and deploy plans on how to engage in voter registration activities in our respective states," Warner said.

"Now they expect us to voluntarily give up our constitutional duty to register voters in the manners that states' legislatures prescribe.

Voter  
Continued on Page 5A

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the article last week concerning feral/stray cats. Why in the world would the city think trapping/ euthanizing will solve the problem? Even if an entire colony of cats would be effectively removed this way, it would only create an "vacant" area for new cats to move into.

And fining the caring people that feed them? Would the fines also happen for less than tidy homeowners who leave trash cans full of bits of food with lids not firmly shut?

Let's leave our hard working police force to fight crime, as they were hired to do - not prosecute compassionate people who don't know what else to do about the animals in their area and care enough to try to do what they can for these kitties.

The article mentioned that Sarah Moomau contacted the city of Winchester to ask about how they deal with their stray/ feral problem, and she received no suggestions.

I challenge Ms. Moomau to contact someone such as AlleyCat.org, to find answers to her questions. They cite numerous

examples of populations of cats that are dwindling, not increasing, by aggressive use of the Trap/Neuter/Release program- TNR.

Or she could also contact Cats Cradle in Harrisonburg, who would give her solid advice on how to begin to address our own overpopulation problem.

TNR involves trapping entire neighborhoods of cats, getting them "fixed" so they can no longer reproduce, plus administering vaccinations, and ear tipping each cat so those in the neighborhood know these cats have been treated.

The cats no longer have the urge to mate, so the screaming and fighting for dominance is gone, plus urine marking to establish territory is greatly diminished. A spayed or neutered cat is much calmer and better behaved!

People living in town should not have to go through what "D.K." is currently experiencing. City Council, PLEASE step up and affect some real change with proven methods that actually have a shot at really working!

Yes, this is not a once and done solution. It will take likely years of work-

ing hard to get each cat taken care of plus also targeting newcomers that undoubtedly will continue to appear for a while.

It is a long term project - expensive, time consuming, and frustrating at times when people continue to discard unwanted animals-opening up a whole new portal, but it DOES work!

PLEASE, we need a LOW COST spay/neuter clinic here. Can we offer potential businesses a tax break or other incentives to move in here? Can we work with nearby organizations already established?

Right below the article mentioned was an outstanding example of what the community can do when the right people step up and take action.

Our dog pound now has top of the line runs and kennels for the incarcerated pups and a high rate of adoption, instead of the ancient concrete "cells" and almost certain euthanasia that used to await any poor soul that found themselves locked up.

Solutions won't come easy, or fast ... but with proper guidance this issue can be a thing of the past.

Gwen D. Cox  
Petersburg

Dear Editor:

The April 2, 2024 Press had the following inaccurate statements concerning my presentation to the Grant County Commission:

1. The Commission president, NOT I, requested the information from the Seneca Rocks Development Board and was denied the information. There is a commissioner on the Seneca Rocks Development Board and unless the information was confidential, he should have shared the requested information with his fellow commissioners.

2. I NEVER mentioned the 911 Advisory Board's by-laws nor did I get any of my information from their by-laws. My information concerning commissioners serving on the 911 Advisory Board came from APPROVED County Commission minutes.

I did a timeline of the Commission minutes from 1997 to 2024. It was only in 2017, 2021 and 2022 that the minutes state all three commissioners have voting rights. In 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2013, 2014, 2018 and 2019 there were

Letters  
Continued on Page 5A



# Remember When



April 21, 1954

Little Shirley Alberta Sherman was found practically unharmed Tuesday morning following a 48-hour search for the missing three-year-old child in the remote Alleghany Mountains near Petersburg. And ironically, the man who found the youngster lying along Will Run Creek about 1.5 miles from the spot where she disappeared, was not looking for the girl.

Six men from Grant County left for Fairmont where they were inducted into the armed service. They were: Dale Secrist of Medley; Byron Heavner of Forman; Donald Hanlin of Mount Storm; Samuel Moats of Petersburg; Kenneth Durst of Gorman; and Paul George of Petersburg.

Veach-Townsend Clinic births included: Mr. and Mrs. James Evans of Moorefield, a daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Willard Riggleman of Martin, a son; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Idleman of Scherr, a son; Mr. and Mrs. James Martin of Arthur, a daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Orville Mowery of Brushy Run, a daughter; and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Mongold of Dorcas, a son.

Successful applicants who passed their drivers' examinations included: Donald Barger of Maysville; Marlin Calhoun of Brushy Run; Everett White of Job; Mary Mitchell of Petersburg; Clifford Cosner of Mount Storm; Delores Sites of Dorcas; Emily Shreve of Maysville; Justin Thorn of Petersburg; Mary Crites of Kessel; Gene Evans of Maysville; Flo-da Vandevander of Cherry Grove; Curtis Crites of Rig; Neva Harman of Pe-



Shawnee Milling Co., South Main Street, Petersburg, was located where the new NAPA store is now.

tersburg; Gerald Keplinger of Greenland; and Weldon Hipp of Mount Storm.

April 15, 1964

The announced merger of the Petersburg and Moorefield branches of Loewengart and Company Inc. in February, had begun, and 30% of the Moorefield operation had already been moved to Petersburg. It was believed that the complete move would require at least two more months.

A stork shower was held at the home of Mrs. Lucy Hedrick on April 2, in honor of Mrs. Bruce Mongold. Ellie Cline served as co-hostess with Hedrick.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. Eston Whetzel of Petersburg, a daughter, April 7; Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Lewis of Moorefield, a daughter, April 8; Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Sherman of Moorefield, a son, April 9; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Phares of Maysville, a daughter, April 12; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hartman of Moorefield, a son, April 12; Mr. and Mrs. Arno Ketterman of Maysville, a daughter, April 12; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Thompson of Circleville, a son, April 12; and Mr. and Mrs. David

Gilinski of Petersburg, a daughter, April 14.

April 17, 1974

The Grant County Court meeting in regular session, appointed Robert Sites to the position of county administrator to serve as liaison between the county court and other county agencies.

The Grant County Industrial Park received a big boost in the form of a \$211,000 grant from the federal government. The Economic Development Administration formally approved the funds for the 60 acre park.

A tractor trailer went out of control at Gorman and before it had come to rest, damage estimated between \$75,000 and \$100,000 had been caused. The west-bound rig, hauling a load of molasses for Southern States Cooperative out of Baltimore, went out of control on U.S. Route 50, struck the bridge spanning the Potomac River, tore out about 100 feet of guard rail and slammed into a three-story apartment house.

Dr. Howard Maxwell, active member of the Grant County Board of Education, filed as a candidate in

the primary election.

Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Treadway of Arlington, Va., announced the birth of a son, John Chapman, April 11, at George Washington Hospital.

To the dismay of the Vikings, they dropped their first baseball contest of the season to an experienced Keyser nine by the score of 3-2.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hawk of Scherr, a daughter, April 10; and Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Mowery of Moorefield, a daughter, April 10.

April 18, 1984

Grant Memorial Hospital officials were studying a pair of proposals designed to boost increased use of the 96-bed facility. Over the last two months, patient census levels hovered near 40 beds per day. GMH was moving ahead with plans to reopen the obstetrics ward. In addition, the hospital recently commissioned a feasibility study to determine the potential of starting an alcohol/substance abuse rehab center.

At the annual meeting of Potomac Valley Bank stockholders, John E. McDonald, cashier, was presented a watch and plaque, in recognition of 25 years of service to the bank. He began his career in 1958 as a teller.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Snyder were honored by their children on their 50th wedding anniversary, at the Maysville Fire Hall, March 27.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kuykendall of Maysville announced the birth of a daughter, Erika Danielle, April 9, at Rockingham Memorial Hospital, Harrisonburg, Va.

## Petersburg VA clinic to host veterans toxin exposure outreach event

A PACT Act outreach event will be offered at the Petersburg VA Clinic, 15 Grant Street, on Thursday, April 18, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

This event will provide information regarding the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022 and provide a screening for toxin exposure as well as help veterans apply for enrollment in VA health care.

The PACT Act expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for veterans who were exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange or other toxins while in the military.

No reservations are required to attend.

## Logjam Continued from Page 4A

Pollsters picked up on this to some degree, telling MetroNews that Morrissey and Miller seem to be fighting one another to secure far-right, hardline voters, while Capito (son of Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va.) is courting independents.

Next month's GOP primary happens to be the last, at least for the foreseeable future, in which independents are allowed to vote and, despite recent registration gains by the GOP, roughly 30% of West Virginia voters are independents or registered as something other than Republican or Democrat. Those independents lean Republican and played a huge part in helping the GOP take control of the state after more than eight decades of Democratic Party dominance.

By wooing those voters, Capito might manage to slide through, if Morrissey and Miller continue to pursue a path of mutually assured political destruction.

Bear in mind that polls, especially those focusing on candidate popularity, are limited in what they reveal. The numbers can only infer what voters might be thinking, and sometimes offer even less as to why.

For now, the undecided voters remain the most interesting factor in the horse race aspect of this ugly battle for the GOP gubernatorial nomination.

## Medicaid denture bill signed; law becomes effective July 1

By Lori Kersey - West Virginia Watch

Gov. Jim Justice approved a bill that aims to make dentures more accessible to Medicaid recipients.

With Justice's signature last month, House Bill 4933 will become effective July 1.

Medicaid currently covers diagnostic, preventative and restorative dental services, with the exclusion of cosmetic services. The bill changes the state's cap on Medicaid dental coverage cap from \$1,000 per year to \$2,000 over two years. It's meant to allow Medicaid recipients to get both sets of dentures at the same time at a cost of about \$600 each.

Dental care professionals say because of the current cap, Medicaid recipients were not able to get both sets at the same time, which goes against the standard of care for dentistry.

The Senate and the House of Delegates had both passed versions of the legislation unanimously.

Hallie Mason, executive director of the West Virginia Dental Association, said the organization applauds the governor and Legislature for recognizing a bureaucratic obstacle to oral health care and fixing it.

"The new law enables dentists to provide more care to Medicaid patients in fewer office visits," she said. "It will not increase the cost of the care, so it is a win for Medicaid patients and taxpayers."

## Renew your vehicle registration online, get free digital registration card store in your smartphone wallet

It's that time again. It's time to renew your West Virginia vehicle registration. The West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles will send you a registration renewal reminder postcard 60 days before your registration expires.

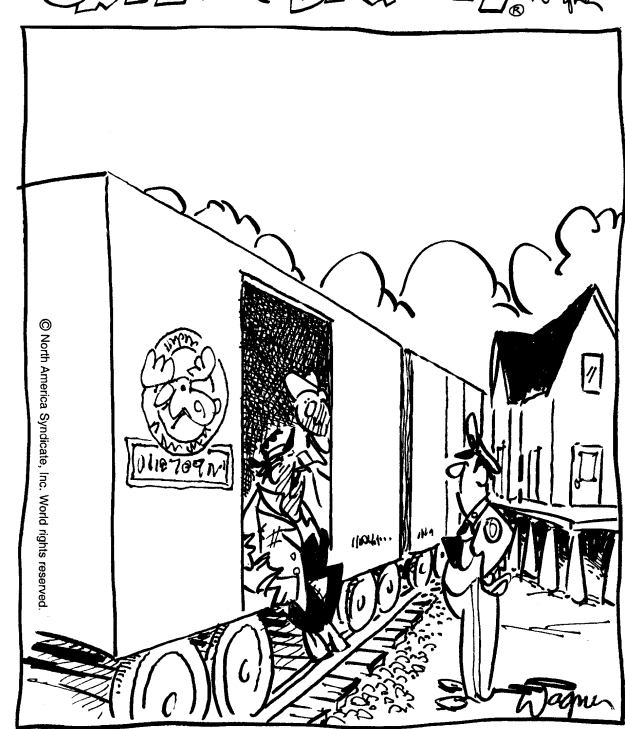
You can renew your registration in several ways. Make sure to have your current registration card, proof of vehicle insurance, and proof of your personal property tax payment before trying to renew your registration.

You can visit one of the West Virginia DMV's 26 regional offices, your local county sheriff's office, or go to a WV DMV Now kiosk. You can also visit the DMV website at [go.wv.gov/selfservice](http://go.wv.gov/selfservice) or scan the reminder postcard to renew your registration online.

The added benefit of renewing your registration online is getting a free digital registration card. The card can be stored in your smartphone wallet. Once you renew your registration online, you will receive a confirmation e-mail message with a link showing you how to download the digital registration card to your phone. You will also get a registration card in a PDF format. A paper copy and decal will be mailed to you.

More than 8,000 West Virginians have already downloaded digital registration cards.

GRIN & BEAR IT by Wagner



## Voter

Continued from Page 4A

"What's even more disgusting is the timing of these announcements. Biden issued his EO three years ago in 2021, and they have been working behind closed doors until now. Their lack of transparency and coordination is ab-

horrent. Now that it is an election year, they roll out their plan to make over 600 federal agencies voter registration centers and try to do so without explanation or legal justification.

"This is Biden's attempt to improperly influence the outcome of the November General Election," Warner said. "The timing of the White House rollout is not

coincidental. It is blatant election interference. West Virginia will not stand for this."

Warner continued, "The vague plans announced by the Biden Administration will duplicate the excellent work our county clerks do on a daily basis. They will also exacerbate issues like disenfranchisement, voter rolls bloated with duplicate

registrations, voter confusion, delays in local processing, and separation of powers.

"Adding federal agencies to an already complex administrative process will make it even more challenging for election officials to ensure timely and accurate registration services before the election."

## Letters

Continued from Page 4A

NO commissioners on the 911 Advisory Board which you left out of the Press.

I only deal in facts and would appreciate the Press giving accurate reporting when covering my presentation.

Respectfully,  
**Jane Kite Keeling**  
Petersburg

Dear Editor:

In my previous LTE (12 March) did I write, "...the far-right's so-called strength is based on an existential ignorance..." Additionally, did I write concerning of, "...the propaganda game of inverted narrative," commonly deployed by same far-right to induce confusion in the less politically adept. Both of

these points call for elaboration.

Respective of "inverted narrative," it will again be best to offer an example of this discombobulated far-right mischief wherein will pointedly be made clear the ultimate, lamentable, emptiness of this same far-right's *raison d'être*.

Specifically, the term "RINO" ("Republican in Name Only") is applied by the far-right to traditional Republicans. As much is exceedingly inane insofar as traditional Republicans (two of the better known being veteran conservative pundit George F. Will, and former Congressperson Liz Cheney) support American Democracy and the Freedoms that attend therewith. Conversely, those that level the term "RINOs" at traditional Republicans — and as many of their influential

leaders have forthrightly expressed — are dismissive of Democracy and the Constitution upholding same. This, obviously, can only be construed as those labelling as "RINOs" traditional Republicans are they themselves in fact the "RINOs!" Q.E.D.

Concerning the fear inherent to the far-right — and for which fear the far-right (over)compensates with machismo, misogyny, and/or white male exceptionalism — this fear is founded on an existential lack. The void generated — for example, by the demise of "Communism" — required filling. Thus, as explained by 20th century psychologist, Erich Fromm: "The frightened individual seeks for somebody or something to tie his self to; he cannot bear his own individual self any

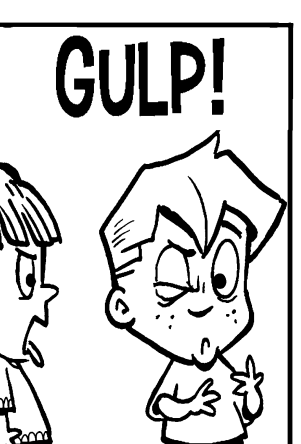
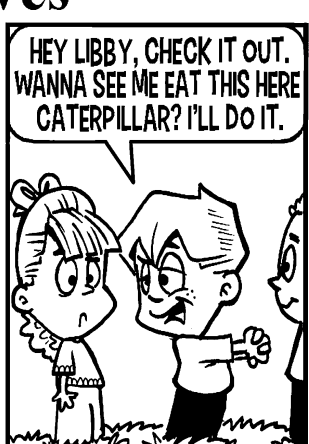
longer, and he tries frantically to get rid of it and to find security again by elimination of the burden: the self."

The far-right void was readily filled by unabashed power-hungry, lucre-loving, leaders preying upon their less sophisticated followers. Hence, did these — themselves confused, however power-hungry — leaders deploy a cheap anti-Democratic nationalism, supported by an even cheaper (and easier) white supremacy and misogyny!

Therewith, has the far-right's "existential lack" lamentably not been de-voided with Truth and Justice (authenticity), but with a self-evidently blind Untruth and Injustice (inauthenticity).

**Charles L. Zorbaugh, Sr.**  
Petersburg

## Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

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# Local and area obituaries

## MARY LOUISE HARMAN BOWERS

Educator, entrepreneur, and colorful member of the North Fork community, Mary Louise Harman Bowers passed away at her home at Seneca Rocks, West Virginia, on April 8, 2024. She was born January 4, 1931, at Macksville, the daughter of Ivan and Gae Vance Harman.

Louise attended the one room schools in the Harman Hills before graduating from Circleville High School with the class of 1948. She then went to Davis and Elkins College where she became certified to teach K-12 as well as obtaining a Bachelor of Science in business.

Upon graduation she began teaching in a small two room school at Doe Hill. Part of her job each morning was to light the hanging kerosene lamps and she practiced until she was able to hop from chair to chair and light them all with one wooden match. Parents would donate food so she would put the roast on to boil when she got to school, students would peel potatoes, and a parent would come before lunch to help get everything ready. She also taught at Short Gap and other schools before joining the staff at Circleville High School in 1957 to teach typing and shorthand.

Over the years she trained students who were recruited for the FBI and CIA because of their clerical skills, students who served as court reporters for the United States Supreme Court, and in 1969 Louise and her student, Shirley Weese Sherman, were honored in Chicago as the National Touch Shorthand Teacher and Student of the Year.

Louise received her master's degree in counseling and when the South Branch Vocational Center opened, she began a second career in education serving as the center's counselor. When she retired from education, she and her husband built and opened Skate World, Bowers' Wood-sedge Trailer Park, and Macksville Mart.

A staunch Republican, Louise was a member of the Pendleton County Republican Committee, WVEA, PCEA, West Virginia Association of Retired School Employees, and was a 62-year member of Franklin Chapter #138 Order of the Eastern Star. In 1950 she joined the WVU Extension Homemakers Onego-Seneca Club in order to drive her mother and her friends to meetings. She continued with the Dixie CEOS club making her a 73-year participant of the extension



program. Although she was a member of High Rock Church, she taught Sunday School as long as she was able at Valley Chapel Church in Riverton.

Louise loved to travel-first with her friends Ivan and Debbie Jirak, and then later with the school groups that explored other countries. Some of her favorite trips were to Italy, Egypt, Israel, Australia, and Germany.

On December 24th, 1952, Louise married Ward Conley Bowers. This marriage lasted 47 years until Ward passed away in 1999. Along the way they had two daughters Mary Christine and Suelinn. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her daughter Mary and her sister Juanita. She is survived by her daughter Suelinn, her sister Dottie Harman Roy, her brother John Verzicht, five grandchildren—Kyle Mahluo, Kaela, Keenen, Patrick, and Miles Bowers; a special niece, Vickie Skavenski; three special nephews, Sonny O'Neil, Kevin Roy, and Carl Bowers; nieces Jeanne O'Neil and Angie Nestor; her goddaughter Deana Jirak and godson Jonathan Jirak; her angel of a caregiver, Caroline Hoffman, her nighttime companions, Sherry Hedrick, Nancy Watson, and Sally George, and four special friends—Patsy Hedrick, Dona Bennett, and Neil and Mary Robinson in addition to many great-nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were Sunday afternoon at High Rock Church at Seneca Rocks, W.Va. with Pastor Robert Baer officiating. Entombment was in North Fork Memorial Cemetery, Riverton, W.Va.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in honor of Louise to North Fork Memorial Cemetery, Maintenance Fund, c/o Jack Bennett 390 Harper Gap Road, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884.

Memories and words of comfort may be left at [www.basagic.com](http://www.basagic.com) or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home. (4-16-24)

## ROBERT G. COFFMAN JR.

Robert Glenn "Bob" Coffman Jr., 66, of Maysville, W.Va., passed away Thursday, April 11, 2024, at his home.

Born Aug. 26, 1957, in Petersburg, W.Va., he was a son of the late Robert Glenn Coffman Sr. and Martha Frances (Self) Coffman.

Bob is survived by one sister, Donna Walp (Larry) of Petersburg; two brothers, Nicholas Coffman of Petersburg and Richard A. Coffman of Maysville; several nieces and special nephew, Lance Walp of Petersburg; special niece, Amy Urich of Petersburg; and several great-nieces and nephews.

Bob was a 1975 graduate of South High School in Springfield, Ohio. He was a lifelong truck driver



and retired from Hinkle's Trucking.

Honoring Bob's wishes his body will be cremated and services will be private.

Arrangements are by Schaeffer Funeral Home, Petersburg. Condolences to the family may be left at [www.schaefferfuneralhome.com](http://www.schaefferfuneralhome.com) (4-16-24)

## WANDA J. JUDY

Wanda Jeanette (Ours) Judy, 83, of Petersburg, W.Va., passed away Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at her home.

Born Oct. 13, 1940, in Petersburg, she was a daughter of the late Carl E. Ours and Louise (Hepner) Ours.

In addition to her parents, Wanda was preceded in death by one daughter, Denise Crites; two brothers, John E. Ours and Richard A. Ours; and five sisters, Alma L. Huffman, Patricia A. VanMeter, J. Ruth Pack, Barbara L. Bensenhaver and E. Joyce Ours.

Wanda is survived by her husband of 62 years, Roger L. Judy whom she married Nov. 9, 1962; three daughters, Jill Smith (Junior) and Mitzi Judy both of Petersburg and Bridget Vance (Leroy) of Upper Tract, W.Va.; son-in-law, John F. Crites of Petersburg; seven grandchildren, Nathan Smith (Jessica), Dustin Crites (Julie), Chastity Crites, Kelsi Wimer (Rex), Zachary Kile, Hailley Vance and Kyndal Vance; one stepgranddaughter, Renee Haines; six great-grandchildren, Paslee Thompson, Payden Adkins, Reagen Kimble, Rylee Crites, Rayden Crites and Audrey Paige Kile; one sister, Pam Ours Berg of Petersburg; several nieces and nephews and great-nieces and nephews.

Wanda was a 1959 grad-



uate of Petersburg High School. She was a Christian by faith and attended Dorcas Baptist Church. Wanda was a homemaker before working at the Petersburg Garment Factory and Advantage Foods.

Wanda enjoyed spending time with her family. Her passion for NASCAR, and particularly for her favorite driver, Dale Jarrett, was a topic she could discuss bringing joy and excitement to the conversations.

Funeral services were Saturday afternoon in the chapel of Schaeffer Funeral Home, Petersburg, with Pastor Steve Davis officiating. Interment was in Dorcas Baptist Cemetery, Dorcas, W.Va.

Memorials may be made to the Judy family, c/o Schaeffer Funeral Home, 11 North Main Street, Petersburg, WV 26847.

Condolences to the family may be left at [www.schaefferfuneralhome.com](http://www.schaefferfuneralhome.com) (4-16-24)

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. The villains Sanballat and Geshem are only mentioned in which book? 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther
2. From Ephesians 5, what did Paul recommend as a substitute for wine? Water, Laughter, Love, Holy Spirit
3. Who condemns drinkers who start early in the morning? Job, Isaiah, Ezra, Esther
4. Which king had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen? David, Jehoash, Solomon, Neco
5. Who wrote the book of Revelation? John, Jude, Matthew, Peter.

- ANSWERS: (1) Nehemiah, (2) Holy Spirit, (3) Isaiah, (4) Solomon, (5) John the Revelator.
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Annual  
**Lahmansville Cemetery  
Lotholders Meeting**  
Monday, April 29th at 7 p.m.  
Lahmansville  
U.M. Church Basement

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Call today **304-355-8033**

**In Appreciation**  
The family of Kenneth Phares would like to thank everyone for the cards, gifts, food, thoughts and prayers during our time of loss. A special thanks to Hospice and Pastor Coleman Clark. The meal provided after the funeral was appreciated.  
**Hilda, Patricia, Barbara & Allen**

**Sincere Thanks**  
We would like to thank all who donated to our Mother's funeral. Thank you for the cards, food, keepsakes, prayers, flowers, and those who sent message(s) on Facebook. We would especially like to thank Hospice, Bishop James Kimble for conducting the funeral, Sister Linda Kimble for leading the songs, Brother Benjamin Kimble, for the opening prayer and Sister Linda Cooper for the closing prayer. Pastor Craig Howard for the kind words, the pallbearers, and Schaeffer Funeral Home.  
May God bless each and every one of you,  
**Trent and Tricia Kesner**

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## MES students of the month for March



Maysville Elementary School students of the month for March are (front) Layton Phares, Mason Moreland, Maverick Kuh and Carson Lambert and (back) Grayson Moreland, Mikala Miller, Jayla Bierkamp, John Luke Watts, Paxton Traub and Tatem Keplinger. Not shown, Stihl Eversole.

**Sunday, April 28 • City Park  
Spring Mountain Festival • Everyone Welcome!**

**Worship in the Park**  
**FISHERS OF MEN**  
MARK 1:17

Follow Me  
When He said to them  
Follow Me  
I will make you fishers of men.

Spring Mountain Festival  
Sunday, April 28, 2024 | 10:00 am

Brought to you by:  
The Petersburg Church of God  
Bishop Stephen Noel & Pastor Yvette Noel  
& The Grant Co. Ministerial Assn.

Speakers: Pastor Robert Baer Jr., Grove St. United Methodist | Pastor Kevin Channell, Petersburg Presbyterian  
Pastor Coleman Clark, Cabins Assembly of God | Pastor Cheryl George, Main St. United Methodist | Pastor Larry Hakes Pastor Craig Howard, Brake Covenant Brethren | Pastor Stephen Noel, Petersburg Church of God

# School

Continued from front

place, of these 23 run full 100% levies and 14 have at least 50%.

Webster said the county did not have any excess levy for education in place from the late 1990s and early 2000s until the current levy was passed in 2020. However, prior to that, levies were routinely voted on and funded in Grant County.

Webster explained that, when it comes to excess levies, Grant County is in a unique position due to the distribution of the county's tax burden.

"In our county, nearly 60% of the entire amount

raised by our levy comes from the power plant," Webster said. "And that doesn't event affect Grant County residents, because they sell their power to Virginia. So that is a Virginia-based tax that can help fund West Virginia education. There probably isn't any other county in the state that has that opportunity."

This is in addition to the new tax credit that will allow state residents to write off their personal property taxes as tax credits.

"This is the first year it has come into effect," Webster explained. "But it will apply to personal property tax such as vehicles, but not real estate, and that personal property

tax will be able to be written off as a tax credit, dollar for dollar."

The 2023 West Virginia Personal Property Tax Rebate was signed into legislation last year and will allow West Virginia taxpayers to write off personal property taxes. Webster said, for many taxpayers, personal property taxes are the highest tax amount paid annually.

Webster pointed to a recent state-mandated audit performed by an independent auditor that fully examined all the funds collected and used by the school system last year, including all levy money and funds received as part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP or Covid funds).

"We recently had a really positive audit," Webster said. "And if there had ever been any misappropriation of levy funds, it would have been caught in that audit and, rightfully, would have brought it to everyone's attention."

However, the fiscal audit found no findings and returned with no recommendations, something Webster said is rare.

"The question at the end of the day is what do we want our communities and schools to look like," Webster said. "I want all kids, not just for my grandkids but for all of our children, to have the same opportunities they have in Doddridge County or in Kanawha County. And its

just hard to do that without a levy."

Webster said the best way to look at the funding the school receives from state and federal sources, as meeting the very basic needs of a county's school system. Any additional opportunities, extracurriculars or upgrades, need to be funded from other sources.

## Voting

The final topic addressed by Webster is the often confusing ballot and voting directions surrounding elections for Grant County Board of Education members.

Webster explained that three seats on the board are currently empty, including one seat that must be filled

by a Union District representative and one seat that will be filled as a reduced two-year term due to it being an unfinished term following the resignation of former board member Pandora Barr.

Two Union District candidates will be on the ballot, Jared Amtower and Charles Shreve.

As a result, voters are advised to vote for at least one Union District representative (both can be voted for and count towards total vote count).

The candidate of the three elected members that receives the least number of votes will fill the unfinished two-year term.

# Charges

Continued from front

was filed late last month by Hardy County Sheriff Steve Dawson and alleges that AWP owner and president, John W. Crites Jr., issued bad checks to loggers Mark Rexrode and

Victoria Dyer. The suit claims that these checks would later bounce after Dyer and Rexrode had each delivered a load of logs to the AWP yard near Moorefield.

The lawsuit alleges that Rexrode is owed approximately \$26,182 and Dyer is owed approximately

\$10,858.

AWP closed suddenly earlier this year and was forced to terminate hundreds of employees and contractors.

Attorney Isaac Sponaugle is representing Crites in the matter and issued a statement, saying that while the anger from the

complainants was understandable, the issue was not criminal and needs to be resolved through civil action.

"While I can not go into great detail about an ongoing case, I can say that these charges came as a complete surprise," Sponaugle said in the state-

ment. "The bank forced Allegheny Wood Products to shut down. The bank declared a default and froze its operating accounts. For valid reasons, people are angry. Yet, a company not paying bills after a bank seizes its money doesn't rise to the level of a criminal case. This is a civil

matter. Creditors are trying to use the criminal justice system to skip line in the federal civil action. The criminal charges should be dismissed."

# County

Continued from front

"That technology is perfect for what we need because it pretty much is the same thing, we are just dealing with humans instead of animals," Whetzel said. "The hope is that it will reduce the amount of time spent out in the woods. The plan is once we get on scene, as soon as we get a certified pilot there, we can send out the thermal drone to search before we even send rescue workers into the woods."

Whetzel said the drone will allow rescuers to pinpoint the missing person's location and lead searchers straight to their location, reducing the danger to not only the missing person, but also the search and rescue workers.

"Nothing will ever be a 100% success rate," Whetzel said. "The helicopters don't even have a 100% success rate. But it is going to make it much easier and much safer. It will minimize the amount of manpower we need to put into the woods and help us, hopefully, find somebody

quicker that could ultimately save a life that we may not have been able to without that technology."

Whetzel explained that he is currently a certified drone pilot and that several others in the county have taken the class and are planning to take the test for certification in the future.

Whetzel said beyond search and rescue efforts, the thermal drone can also be used to better battle fires, allowing first responders to get a better scope and understanding of the fire that could not be obtained without thermal imaging.

"You can put it in the air and get all the photos you need," Whetzel said. "Then you can determine exactly where that fire spread, how big that fire is and, at nighttime if there are hotspots we can't see from the ground. For structure fires, I know the state fire marshal had his out for the The Office pub fire that we had, because it was a significant incident. So, being able to get those aerial pictures can tell you not only what you have but also help in telling you the safety of that building."

Whetzel said he volun-

teered his own personal drone for use during the recent fires, however, said that while he was glad he could help, it would be beneficial to have one that belongs to and is always available to the fire companies and other public service agencies in the area.

"We are willing to work alongside law enforcement, I know they can be a great resources in cases of man-hunts, the other fire departments in the county, we want this to be an effective resource for everyone," Whetzel said.

The commission re-

sponded positively to the request and discussed the possibility of splitting the cost of the drone, which was estimated to be approximately \$13,200, with the City of Petersburg. Whetzel said the request had been submitted to the city but had not yet been determined.

After a further discussion, the commission voted unanimously to fund the entire purchase for the department, meaning they could take steps towards purchasing the drone.

# Petersburg Civil Air Patrol Cadets get involved in NASA Globe 2024 Solar Eclipse Project

By: 2nd Lt Diana Layton

Cadets from Petersburg's Potomac Highlands Composite Squadron got involved in retrieving data during the April 2024 Solar Eclipse. Cadets were enrolled in the Civil Air Patrol Solar Eclipse Citizen Science Project, to

make the most out of the astronomical event. Our very own PHCS took part in an event that involved over 250 squadrons, across seven time zones; this is a HUGE event to have had the opportunity in being a part of. Civil Air Patrol partnered with NASA's Globe Eclipse Project to

document and report data prior, during and after the eclipse. To accomplish the tasks given, the cadets collected quantitative and qualitative data including air temperature, wind weather reports, wind speed and direction, cloud cover and types of clouds. After collecting the data, the cadets turned in their observations, which were entered into NASA's Globe Observer app. By completing their observation tasks during this rare event, the cadets earned NASA 2024 Eclipsis Solis patches.

Before the eclipse, PHCS team members met at the squadron for a day full of learning, safety briefings, fun and STEM activities. The cadets learned how to make a rubber band powered helicopter, a simple electric motor using paper clips and batteries, and more. Civil Air Patrol focuses on STEM activities as part of its aerospace education mission. It's estimated that more than 2 million STEM-related jobs will go unfilled in the next five years, CAP is working to illuminate, motivate, and educate youth about pathways toward aerospace-related STEM career fields.

Solar eclipses are a great opportunity to observe the physics of light. During a total eclipse, a special shadow is created called a Penumbra, which is caused when the moon blocks some of the light from the sun. The April 8, 2024 solar eclipse's shadow covered most of North

America, which will not happen again in the United States until 2044. For years now, astronomers have recorded their solar eclipse observations by making drawings, PHCS cadets got to do the same in their personal data collection booklets. Potomac Highlands Composite Squadron's Solar Eclipse team members collected five hours' worth of data for the mission. Today's technology allows us the convenience of cameras and other electronic devices to capture solar eclipses with detail, however, sketching your observations adds a personal touch.

Another portion of the eclipse observations included the effects of solar eclipses on plants and

# Fentanyl

Continued from front

federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. sentencing guidelines and other statutory factors.

Matthews plead guilty in 2023 and will be sentenced this month.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Warner prosecut-

ed the case on behalf of the government. The Potomac Highlands Drug Task Force, a HIDTA-funded initiative that includes members from the Grant County Sheriff's Department, investigated.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Michael John Alois presided.

wildlife. Throughout history, many people have made assumptions and myths of what exactly happens to our surroundings during an eclipse. Plants and animals do not survive by assumption or myths, they react to nature and alter their behavioral cues according to what is happening around them. The darkened sky and lowered temperatures brought on by a solar eclipse causes the wildlife to act as if nighttime is near. In the plant and wildlife world, the sun is their clock. Why does this matter? Scientists, biologists and many more try to understand the effects on the natural world, because they can't talk to us.

We learn to understand nature through observations, changes in natural behavior and overall actions of living things. The world can learn so much through the eyes of things that don't speak to us with words.

To learn more about Civil Air Patrol and all they do, visit [www.gocivilairpatrol.com](http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com), or stop by for a local meeting at the Grant County Airport on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in learning more about NASA observations, visit [www.science.nasa.gov](http://www.science.nasa.gov).



C/SrAmn Hennessey observing the eclipse



C/AIC Rumfelt observes the eclipse



Lt Banks and C/AIC Rumfelt use VHF radios to observe if the eclipse interferes with radio transmission. photos courtesy of diana layton

# Spring Mountain Festival bringing a variety of entertainers, vendors and family fun April 26 - 28

## Gary Annette & Ken



Saturday, April 27th • 3:45 - 5:30 p.m. • Acoustic Jam

## SPENCER HATCHER



Saturday, April 27th • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

## Corey Hager



Saturday, April 27th • 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

## Keplinger Bluegrass



Sunday, April 28th • 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.



Saturday, April 27th • 11 a.m. - Noon



Friday, April 26th • 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Plan to attend the Grant County Chamber of Commerce 31st annual Spring Mountain Festival.

There will be food and vendors throughout the Petersburg City Park and all concerts are free to attend.

Along with the entertainment will be the popular bounce houses for kids, horse and pony rides, festival parade, antique car, truck and tractor show and motorcycle show.

The trout derby at the city pool will be held Saturday and Sunday with different times for age groups.

Don't miss Worship in the Park on Sunday at 10 a.m. (see page 6A). A complete schedule will run in next week's Press.

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### THE CITY OF PETERSBURG PUBLIC NOTICE ZONING REQUEST

Hearing- Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 6:00 & 6:30 p.m.

The City of Petersburg Zoning Board Hearing will be held at City Hall in the Council Chambers to hear the following zoning request:

**6:00 p.m.** — John Paul Hott II, property owner at 207 N. Main Street, requests a zoning change. The property is currently zoned PRO-Professional, Residential, Office Districts. The request is to be rezoned to C-3 Commercial Highway District, with a Special Exception (E-3) to accommodate selling construction and farm equipment.

**6:30 p.m.** — Ann Glover, property owner at 109 North Main Street, currently zoned C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Districts, requests a setback variance for off-street parking.

These requests will be described in more detail at the hearing.

Any objections to this request must be submitted in writing by COB on 4/30/24 or presented in person at the hearing.

The hearing will be held at the Petersburg City Office, 21 Mountain View St., Petersburg, WV 26847

## Young Writers grades 11-12 winning story

### Dreaming Again

By Ashley Kisner, PHS

I found a beautiful spot to lean against a sturdy rock as the sun set behind the rocky peaks of the mountains, throwing a warm golden glow across the vast sky.

Watching the birds fly in the sky reminded me of how I was when I was younger, always running around with my siblings. Closing my eyes, smelling the pine, I drift off into a land where anything is possible.

Walking the mountain trail in the new land, I spot two people walking towards me. The first is a brown-haired woman, clearly confident, walking towards me. As she comes closer, I spot a sense of familiarity within her smile. In the blink of an eye, I'm no longer standing in front of her anymore, I'm her.

I thought being here would give me a sense of displacement, but I feel at home. She's confidently walking down a bustling street, listening to the live music playing outside of an old cafe. I know I've never heard of this song before, but it also feels like my favorite song.

Passing by the old cafe, looking for cars, the music starts to distract me as I step onto the road. I feel some pain; then I am back staring at the brown-haired girl's smile. The smile never falters even when she starts to apologize for the memory.

Before I can answer her, I am tapped on the shoulder by a blond curly-haired woman. Once again in the

blink of an eye, I'm transported to another place, but this time I recognize the place; it's where I am now, in the real world.

I am watching the sunset from on top of the rock I'm asleep on. The only thing I feel now is pure joy. I don't think I've ever been this happy before. This time I have a dog by my side. He's a breed I've dreamed of owning one day. He's a beautiful Australian Shepherd wearing a red harness, embroidered with the name Jasper.

Running around barking, he seems excited to have made it to the top of the mountain. I somehow know something bad is going to happen. Maybe he's going to slip or he's going to be attacked by something. I jump off the rock to try to grab him, I see him scared then I'm back in the strange place. The blond-haired woman starts to apologize like the brown-haired woman.

"I've always felt bad for Jasper. He didn't deserve to watch something like that." the brown-haired woman says. Bearing a sad smile, the blond-haired woman continues, "He was always so loyal; you know he stood by me for days after that."

"Back to the topic, hello Alex," the brown-haired woman says with a warming smile "I am you from a past life." I feel the realization settle into a pit of nervousness in my stomach. "You've had several lives. We are only two of them, others included being a scientist or a professor. You have had many adventures, some ended when you

were old, and some ended young."

I take a breath in "Why am I here?" I asked, wanting answers. The blond-haired woman perks up, happy to hear the question "I got this one; we have been in this cycle for so long. Living and dying for nothing. We are forever cursed to this cycle; we make no change to this world no matter what we do."

For example, three lives ago when we were a scientist in the 1900s, we studied for so long on one thing, curing the Spanish Flu. When we finally figured it out and tried to make it known, we died."

Giving them a sympathetic smile, I ask "Why are we in this cycle?"

The brown-haired woman glances at the blond-haired woman and says, "In all our lives, we lived to impress others. We never lived to just live. We believe that this cycle will continue until we stop caring about what others think."

"That's all? I thought it would be something difficult." I say chuckling to myself. "Everyone lives to impress someone, whether it's their boss, parent, sibling, friend, or a stranger. It's impossible to not care." Looking at both sad women I ask, "How will this cycle ever end?"

The blond-haired woman looks up at me. "That's the point it's impossible. The only thing we can do is hope for someone to come along and change it."

Starting to feel myself wake, I quickly ask,

"Why tell me if I can't do anything to stop it?" Feeling myself fade out of the strange land, I focus everything onto the voice, but all I can hear is "When you die, you'll be..."

I wake up soon after. I live three years more. I never figure out what I am supposed to do. I spend my last years living, studying my past lives and trying to piece them together. Even after my death, I never stop studying hoping one day I'll see the brown and blond-haired women again. Even now, ten years after my death, all I can do is hope this cycle will end as I sit in my bedroom, petting my puppy, Jasper.

**Let us protect what you value most.**

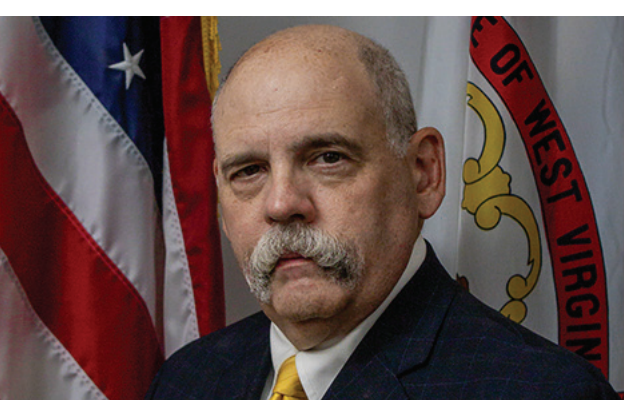
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# WEST VIRGINIA PRESS

B Section  
**Sports**

April 16, 2024

## Lady Vikings hold a 13-4 record with several more games left in the season before playoffs



Following a Saturday afternoon win over Berkeley Springs (14-5) and a loss to Pendleton County (16-8), the Lady Vikings are sitting at a 13-4 record for the season. The team has picked

up several strong wins this season, including back-to-back early season 23-2 and 13-0 victories over Berkeley Springs, a 9-0 victory over East Hardy High and a 14-6 victory over Moorefield High.

The team is led by head coach Dwayne "Bubba" Hedrick with assistance from Doug Swick, Estel Sites, Derek Cooper, Jamie Alt, Matt Allanson and Kayla Roby. Lady Vikings playing

on the 2023-24 team are: senior Samantha Colaw; junior Addison Kitzmiller; sophomores Olivia Kimble, Gracie Carpenter, Ella Chew and Kylei Berg and freshmen: Shyane Tawney, Jordan Riggleman, Claire Kaposy, Lacey Moyers, Cheyenne Sites, Miley Tingle and Blair Loy.

The team is still set to face off against multiple local teams, including Tucker County, Frankfort, Pendleton County and Keyser High School. The team has already picked up victories over Tucker and Frankfort, one loss to Pendleton and

it will be the first time this season they match off against Keyser High School. The Lady Vikings are next set to take on Allegany High School tonight at Michael Field at 6 p.m.



## MES archery qualifies to compete in the national Archery tournament

The Maysville Elementary School Archery team has announced that the team has qualified to compete in the annual National Archery in Schools Program (NASP) National Archery Tournament set to take place in

Kentucky next month. The team competed late last month in the NASP state tournament in Charleston. During the event, archer Callie Roberts finished in sixth place in the elementary school girls division and John

Watts, who finished sixth in the elementary school boys division. The MES archers are set to shoot at the national tournament on May 11.



# GO VIKINGS AND TIGERS!

# Help raise funds for your cause:

## Registration for the 17th annual Run For It race now open

The Tucker Community Foundation announces the launch of its yearly Run For It campaign. The campaign will conclude with a 2k walk and a 5k walk/run on Sept. 28, in Davis, W.Va., in conjunction with the annual Leaf Peepers Festival.

Participants and teams can now register for the race.

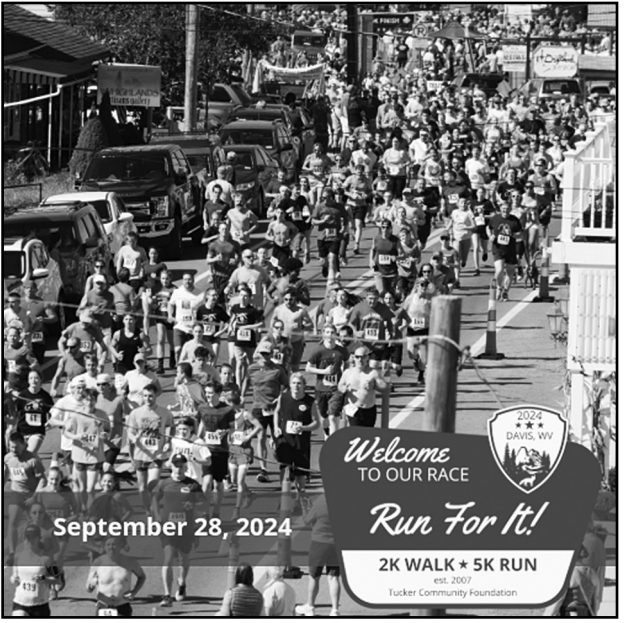
To register, individuals and teams can easily sign up online by visiting [runsignup.com/Race/WV/Davis/RunForIt](https://runsignup.com/Race/WV/Davis/RunForIt) or completing the individual and team registration forms on the foundation's website at [tuckerfoundation.net/run](https://tuckerfoundation.net/run).

Online registration is encouraged to simplify the registration process.

Team registration for in-person and virtual races ends Aug. 31, and individual registration for in-person and virtual races ends Sept. 21.

Run For It is more than just a race; it is a fundraising opportunity that supports a wide range of causes that make a positive difference in the communities they serve.

The program has gener-



ated over \$2.8 million for nonprofit and charitable organizations in Barbour, Grant, Mineral, Pocahontas, Preston, Randolph and Tucker counties in West Virginia and Garrett County, Md.

The causes supported include the arts, animal welfare, challenged athletes, charities, churches, civic organizations, community improvement projects, cultural organizations, educational activities, emergency services, environmental causes, historic preservation, hospital and

medical programs, libraries and literacy programs, parks and recreation, senior citizen programs, Tucker Community Foundation operations, and youth organizations.

According to Angie Pase, development director for the Tucker Community Foundation, "Nonprofit and charitable organizations in our region often struggle with limited resources, but Run For It encourages these organizations to use their resources to gain critical operational support. The program has been im-

mensely successful, and it also serves as a great networking opportunity that has brought together various agencies, programs, projects, and people to promote a healthy lifestyle and regional philanthropy. We strongly encourage every nonprofit or charitable organization in our service region to participate in this one-of-a-kind fundraising opportunity."

Over the past 16 years, Run For It has positively impacted the local economy by attracting serious racers and families to the area and supporting local businesses.

In 2023, the event attracted 1,389 walkers and runners and raised approximately \$287,595. These funds helped 79 nonprofit organizations and groups in the Potomac Highlands and beyond.

To learn more about Run For It, visit [runsignup.com/Race/WV/Davis/RunForIt](https://runsignup.com/Race/WV/Davis/RunForIt) or [tuckerfoundation.net/run](https://tuckerfoundation.net/run). You can also contact the Foundation by email at [runforit@tuckerfoundation.net](mailto:runforit@tuckerfoundation.net) or by phone at 304-478-2930.

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## Potomac Valley Muzzleloaders shoot results



The Potomac Valley Muzzleloaders met April 7 at Turner Park in Maysville. Twenty shooters participated with the following results:

**Men:** first - Adam Eckard 193<sup>xxx</sup>, second - Tim Plum 185<sup>xx</sup>, third - Terry Mulligan 179<sup>xx</sup>, fourth - Macrae Warner 176<sup>xxx</sup>, fifth - Mick Malone 176<sup>xx</sup>.

**Women:** First - Makarla Young 112x, second - Beckie Warner 110x.  
**Junior:** Gracie Jones 37.  
**Pistol winners:** First -

Macrae Warner 25, second - Steve McKenzie 32, third - Rodney Warner 28, fourth - Terry Mulligan 24, fifth - Randol George 22.

**LET'S GO Bowling**

**GOLDEN LANES ODD COUPLES MIXED LEAGUE**  
 April 2nd

TEAM STANDINGS:  
 Split Happens 84 - 44, WELD 74 - 54, Terminators 73.5 - 54.5, Vetter's Guns & Ammo 71.5 - 56.5, NKOTB 68 - 60, Empire Strikes 63.5 - 64.5, Outlaws 63 - 65, Country Cars & Trucks 61 - 67, Lucky Strikes 58.5 - 69.5.

ald 187, Emily Stark 177. (HANDICAP): Rachel Stark 274, Suzie Berg 269, Ashley Wratchford 264, Teresa Sullivan 245.

**HIGH SERIES WOMEN (SCRATCH):** Dee Anna McDonald 539, Ashley Wratchford 520, Rachel Stark 518, Sarah Earle 506. (HANDICAP): Ashley Wratchford 736, Rachel Stark 734, Teresa Sullivan 695, Dee Anna McDonald 689.

**HIGH AVERAGE (WOMEN):** Carissa Michael 187.01, Dee Anna McDonald 174.80, Denise McGreevy 155.11, Emily Stark 155.08.

**THURSDAY NIGHT MEN'S LEAGUE**  
 April 4th

TEAM STANDINGS:  
 Builders Center 86 - 42, American Classic 81 - 47, Strikeforce 69 - 59, Petersburg Oil Company 69 - 59, Vetter's Mini Mart 62.5 - 65.5, Country Cars & Trucks 61.5 - 66.5, Golden Lanes 61 - 67.

**HIGH GAME (SCRATCH):** Cohan Kesner 289, William Barr 256, Jon Hedrick 254, Mike Smith 248, Gary Leatherman 246. (HANDICAP): Cohan Kesner and William Barr 308, Mike Smith 289, Jon Hedrick 282, Gary Leatherman 273.

**HIGH SERIES (SCRATCH):** Cohan Kesner 759, Gary Leatherman 706, Michael Hedrick 658, Jon Hedrick 655, Eddie Baldwin 650. (HANDICAP): Cohan Kesner 816, Gary Leatherman 787, Eddie Baldwin 785, William Barr 778, Mike Smith 760.

**HIGH AVERAGE:** Cohan Kesner 209.94, Michael Hedrick 205.27, Terry Wratchford 204.75, Richie Burgess 204.71, Zachary Arbaugh 202.92, Larry Walp 200.99.

**SBV WOMEN'S LEAGUE**  
 April 8th

**HIGH GAME (SCRATCH):** Dee Anna McDonald 214, Helen Bell 183, Emily Stark and Linda Helmick 182. (HANDICAP): Helen Bell 242, Dee Anna McDonald 237, Linda Helmick 228.

**HIGH SERIES (SCRATCH):** Dee Anna McDonald 549, Emily Stark 496, Cherry Hammons 473. (HANDICAP): Dee

Anna McDonald 618, Linda Helmick 601, Valarie Cook 595.



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**NOTICE TO POTOMAC EDISON CUSTOMERS WITH RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS THEIR PROPERTY**

Potomac Edison has contracted for Transmission Vegetation Maintenance of its electric transmission line rights-of-way located in Grant County. This work is necessary to ensure safe and reliable electric service to its customers. Prior to any work being performed, several attempts were made to personally contact each property owner affected. The following property owners were not able to be contacted:

**Grant County**  
 Kenneth Riggelman Et Al: Property located off Never Ending Dr: Parcel 16-03-0183-0001-0000  
 John B and John D Bradshaw: Property located off Old Field Rd: Parcel 12-02-0252-0002-0000  
 Joshua Humphrey and Ashton Pratt: Property located off Patterson Creek Rd: Parcel 12-02-0251-0009-0007  
 Barbara and Kenneth Swick: Property located off Medley Ln: Parcel 12-02-0250-0013-0000  
 Greenland Lodge Inc: Property located off Greenland Gap Rd: Parcels 12-02-0229-0005-0000-0000, 12-02-0229-0001-0000, 12-05-0228-0038-0000, 12-05-0228-0020-0000  
 Rachel Lynn and William Muntzing: Property located off Laurel Dale Rd: Parcel 12-05-0228-0019-0000  
 Beverly Meyer Family Trust: Property located off Union Hwy: Parcel 12-05-0227-0005-0012  
 U L 2 LLC: Property located off Union Hwy: Parcel 12-05-0227-0008-0000  
 Warren Halt Estate: Property off Communications Dr: Parcel 12-05-0227-0003-0001

Work on these properties will be performed by qualified Vegetation Management contractors, on or after two weeks from the date of this publication. Work may include, but is not limited to, the removal or control, (mechanical or through the use of EPA registered herbicides) of trees and brush within the transmission corridor, side trimming of trees along the corridor, and removal of selected trees outside the corridor that pose an immediate threat to Potomac Edison facilities.

For additional information concerning work on the listed properties, please contact Justin Hunt, Transmission Forestry Spec, (724) 255-9461, Oakland Service Center, 12454 Garrett Hwy, Oakland, MD 21550.

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# Community Meetings & Events

**Meet the BOE Candidates:** Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m. at the Forman Community Center, Lahmansville. The five candidates for the board of education have been invited to share their platforms and a representative from the Grant County Schools Levy Committee will discuss the proposed school levy.

**GRCC Helping Hands:** Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center is looking to start GRCC Helping Hands, a community group made up of friends and relatives of GRCC's residents, to support improvements with the facility. If interested, attend the GRCC Helping Hands meeting Tuesday, April 30, 6:30 p.m. at GRCC, 127 Early Avenue in Petersburg. For more information call Ravenna O. Redman at 304-257-4233 ext 5242 or rredman@gcnh.us

**Civil Air Patrol:** The Potomac Highlands Composite Squadron is recruiting cadets (ages 12-18) and adults to become members. The squadron building is at the Grant County Airport, Johnson Run Road, Petersburg. Meetings are Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Contact Lt. John Banks at john.banks@wvwp.gov. go-civilairpatrol.com

**Convention of States** meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Petersburg American Legion. Come join the group that will save our country. <https://conventionofstates.com>.

**Grant County Adult Education** enrolls students for their High School Equivalency and does TABE testing for the DHHR every Friday from 8:30 am-12 noon. Call 304-257-1277 to schedule or request information.

**Grant County Board of Education** meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 5:30 p.m. at the board office on Jefferson Avenue.

**Grant County Commission** meets every month on the second Tuesday at 9 a.m. and the fourth Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. in the lower level conference room. For the agenda check grant-county.wv.org

**Grant County Historical Society** board of directors meetings will be posted on the Society's Facebook page. Members are welcome to attend.

**Grant Memorial Hospital board meetings** are held the fourth Monday at 7 p.m. in the administrative conference room at Grant Memorial Hospital.

**New Beginnings Community Outreach**, Thursday, 6-9 p.m. at First Baptist Church.

**Patterson Creek Ruritan Club** meets the second Thursday of each month, 6 p.m. at Forman Community Center in Lahmansville.

**Potomac Highlands Cancer Support Group** for cancer patients and caregivers, meets the first Monday of every month, 5 p.m. at Living Hope Baptist Church, 1 Veach St., Petersburg. Refreshments.

**Petersburg City Council** meets the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at City Hall on Mt. View St.

**T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** meets at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Living Hope Baptist Church, North Fork Highway, Petersburg, (just after the post office on left). Call Wendy DeiCas at 304-257-2349. for more information.

*To post meetings or make changes, call 304-257-1844 or email [news@grantcountypress.com](mailto:news@grantcountypress.com)*

## DAD JOKES

Doctor: I have to inform you, there's only a 50% chance of surviving this procedure.

Patient: Then let's do it twice!

I stopped at a roadside attraction claiming to be the world's smallest wind turbine. I gotta say ... not a big fan.

I made a playlist for hiking. It has music from Peanuts, the Cranberries and Eminem.

I call it my trail mix.

## Just Like Cats & Dogs

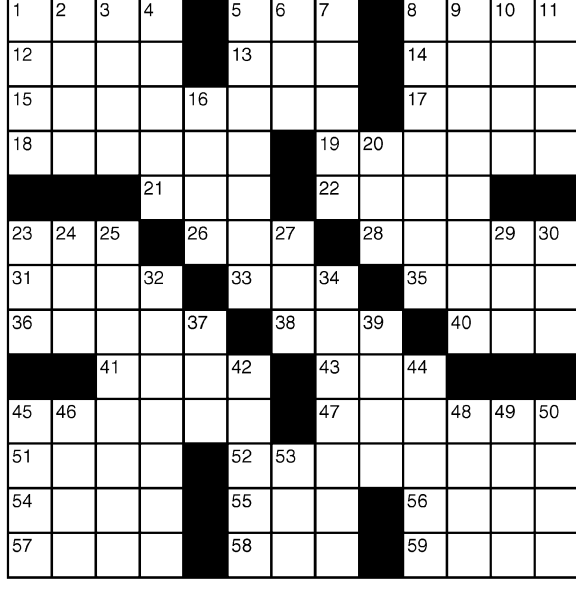
by Dave T. Phipps



## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Siren
- 5 Cagers' gp.
- 8 Halt
- 12 Eventful periods
- 13 Cleric's tunic
- 14 Jared of "House of Gucci"
- 15 Persistence
- 17 Privy to
- 18 Tar
- 19 Laid down the lawn
- 21 Cattle call
- 22 Crystal gazer
- 23 Not "dis"
- 26 Scale abbr.
- 28 Impetus
- 31 Crunchy cookie
- 33 Chef Garten
- 35 Faux pas
- 36 Reddish dye
- 38 PC screen type
- 40 Salty expanse
- 41 Leave an impression?
- 43 Gear tooth
- 45 Salsa ingredient
- 47 Chopin pieces
- 51 Say it's so
- 52 Stresses
- 54 Hindu royal
- 55 911 responder
- 56 Tizzy
- 57 Sax range



- 58 — Angeles
- 59 JFK postings

### DOWN

- 1 Nov. honorees
- 2 Bailiwick
- 3 — -pedi
- 4 Sacred song
- 5 Capital of Kenya
- 6 Crunchy sandwich
- 7 Void
- 8 Small burgers
- 9 Curly strands
- 10 Oklahoma tribe

- 11 Frogs' hang-out
- 16 Hip
- 20 British ref. work
- 23 Homer's cry
- 24 "Right you —!"
- 25 Multi-family dwelling
- 27 NBC weekend show
- 29 Compete
- 30 Ecol. watchdog
- 32 Toronto's province
- 34 Emphasizes

- 37 Play segment
- 39 Pixels
- 42 "Monopoly" buy
- 44 Appearance
- 45 Skater
- 46 Ellipse
- 48 Word of warning
- 49 Author
- 50 Bygone fliers
- 53 Punk-rock subgenre

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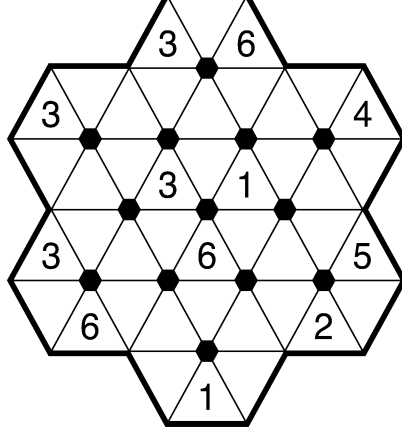
## FUN & PUZZLES

PUZZLE ANSWERS FOUND ON PAGE 2A

### SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



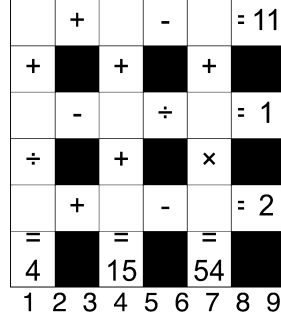
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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## GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.



DIFFICULTY: ◆◆◆  
 ◆ Moderate ◆◆ Difficult  
 ◆◆◆ GO FIGURE!

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## CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

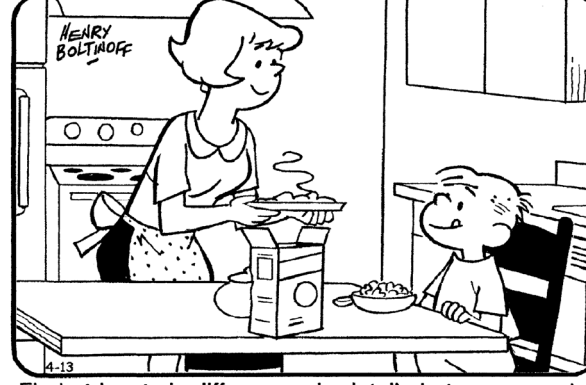
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

FSJIP MU TVYRTZMDIO  
 SKZH JQIK JSPO TKO OIIO  
 QTBI KSY FTPYIO VSAFTKH.  
 — QTKKTQ TPIKOY

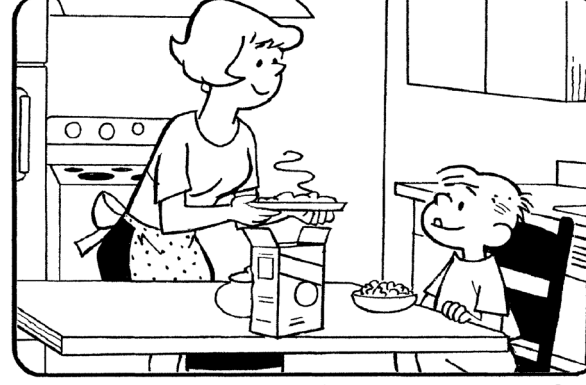
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Spoon is missing. 2. Box is different. 3. Collar is missing. 4. Mouth is different. 5. Refrigerator handle is not as long. 6. Oven handle is missing.

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## Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

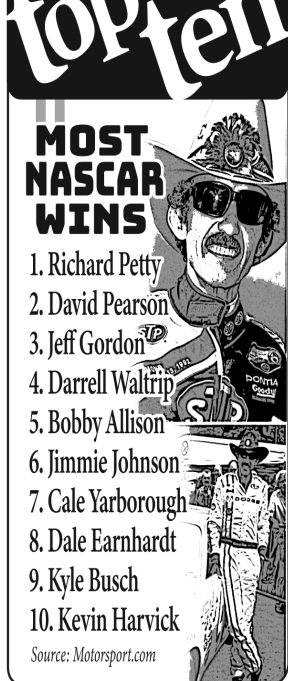
- |                    |                   |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Jab with a fork | ___ _ _ _ _ C _ _ | Nobel winner Curie | ___ _ _ _ _ R _ _ |
| 2. Snap into       | __ R _ _ _ _      | Dreary             | __ L _ _ _ _      |
| 3. Drying cloth    | ___ _ _ _ _ L     | Pisa sight         | ___ _ _ _ _ R     |
| 4. Every 24 hours  | __ A _ _ _ _      | Lacy mat           | __ O _ _ _ _      |
| 5. Gorge           | ___ _ _ _ _ Y _ _ | Big gun            | ___ _ _ _ _ N _ _ |
| 6. Salt            | S _ _ _ _ _ _     | Speaker's platform | P _ _ _ _ _ _     |
| 7. Investigate     | ___ _ _ _ _ B _ _ | Writing style      | ___ _ _ _ _ S _ _ |
| 8. More rapidly    | ___ _ _ _ _ S _ _ | Hesitate, fumble   | ___ _ _ _ _ L _ _ |
| 9. Coarse          | ___ _ _ _ _ H     | Baton              | ___ _ _ _ _ E     |
| 10. City of Light  | ___ _ _ _ _ I _ _ | Hair divisions     | ___ _ _ _ _ T _ _ |

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## LYME DISEASE WORD SEARCH



- BITE
- BLACK-LEGGED
- BULLSEYE
- DEER
- DIAGNOSTIC
- DOG
- FEVER
- HOST
- ILLNESS
- INFECTION
- JOINTS
- LYME DISEASE
- NYMPH
- PAIN
- PARASITE
- PATHOGEN
- PREVENTION
- RASH
- RESPONSE
- SPIROCHETE
- SPREAD
- STIFFNESS
- SYMPTOMS
- TICK



- MOST NASCAR WINS**
- 1. Richard Petty
  - 2. David Pearson
  - 3. Jeff Gordon
  - 4. Darrell Waltrip
  - 5. Bobby Allison
  - 6. Jimmie Johnson
  - 7. Cale Yarborough
  - 8. Dale Earnhardt
  - 9. Kyle Busch
  - 10. Kevin Harvick
- Source: Motorsport.com

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