

Issue 16 • Two sections • 14 pages USPS 226480 • Petersburg, WV \$1.20

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## **Petersburg Middle School Archery Team** season wrap-up

The Petersburg Middle School archery team is wrapping up a successful 2024-25 season, however, will be sending two individual archers to compete next month in the national tournament.... 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.

There is currently an increased need for: **Canned Fruit and Veggies** 





## Obituaries

Dale Harper Jo Ann Watts

disagree with the U.S. Department of Justice that Google has monopolized search features on the internet and should be held to antitrust enforcement?



Let us know on our Facebook page

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## Latest broadband expansion project completed for 117 new addresses, HardyNet now available

Grant County's effort to expand high speed internet is making a big step forward this month with an announcement from HardyNet Telecommunications that they will officially be signing new customers in the South Mill Creek Road area.

The project, which was a partnership between the Grant

County concerned about new push for

Could cause project delays and impact economic development

satellite

internet

On Friday, the Grant County Commission held a special meeting to sign a letter in support for Fiber to Home internet projects, expressing concern about the current refocus away from in-ground fiber internet towards satellite and wireless options.

In total, the county has worked to find funding for \$7,948,218 worth of highspeed fiber internet projects through their partnerships with Micrologic (located out of Buckhannon), HardyNet and Shentel.

Of these projects, the county has given \$1,864,255 and has funded 110 miles of fiber, covering 1,333 under-served addresses.

Recently, Micrologic and Frontier submitted applications for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, which is a federal initiative that was to provide \$42.45 billion to expand internet across the United States. In total, the program would connect approximately 25 million American homes who are currently lacking access to reliable internet services. In West Virginia alone, the program was set to bring high-speed internet to 114,000 homes and businesses.

"Recently, there was going to be an announcement on that funding," said commissioner Tyson Riggleman. "Micrologic had contacted me because they had been invited down to Charleston for an announcement. The very next day, the whole announcement was shut down and delayed for 90 days."

Riggleman said he has since spoken with Gary Bolton, the president and chief executive

See Fiber, page 7A

County Commission and HardvNet, will cover 117 new addresses and consist of five new miles of high speed fiber.

The expanded service received \$416,984 of grant funding from the Line Extension Advancement and Development (LEAD) Program, a grant funded by the West Virginia Department of Economic Development and the West Virginia Broadband Enhancement Council.

To receive the grant, the county and HardyNet each provided a \$70,000 match towards the overall \$556,984 project.

HardyNet is a nonprofit cooperative located in neighboring Hardy County and has been providing service to the area since 1953. It was initially created to provide telephone service to the more rural region of eastern Hardy County. While the company started its life as a telephone company, it transitioned into an internet and television provider in the 1990s.

"We are excited to be able

to offer Grant County residents high speed fiber optic internet," explained company representative Derek Barr. "We began as a company striving to fill a need in rural Hardy County that would not be fulfilled by larger companies. That is a goal that has allowed us to keep our local identity, meaning if a customer calls with an issue, you know that someone local will be an-

See Hardynet, page 7A



## Man charged with harassing and attempting to intimidate a state trooper

A Grant County man is being accused of attempting to retaliate, harass and intimidate a West Virginia State Trooper after the officer appeared as a witness in a hearing concerning a crime against a child.

The incident occurred on Feb. 27, when Alexander Scott Mongold, 29, of 1804 Michael Avenue, Petersburg, was scheduled to attend a hearing at the Grant County Courthouse in which he was the defendant for a crime being brought by the Crimes Against Children unit of the state police. Following the hearing, Mongold allegedly used his car to block in the trooper in the courthouse parking lot and proceeded to "harass and intimidate" the officer.

While blocking in the officer's vehicle, Mongold yelled at the officer, telling him to "take his badge off."

When Mongold finally allowed the officer to pull out of the parking lot, he then sped up his vehicle to get behind him and follow him on Route 220. Mongold continued to follow the officer through Petersburg and into Hardy County in the direction of the West Virginia State Police Moorefield/Petersburg detachment.

During the incident, the trooper contacted assistance from a fellow officer to stop Mongold from following him.

According to a police report filed on the incident, a second officer left the detachment and responded to Route 220 South at the bottom of the detachment driveway. This officer observed the original officer drive past, followed by the black Mazda driven by Mongold.

The second officer pulled out behind Mongold and performed a traffic stop on him. During the stop, Mongold allegedly became immediately belligerent, telling the officer that he "didn't

answer questions." When the officer told him why he had been stopped, Mongold argued, saying that he was "was going home" then allegedly changing his claim to indicate he was "going to his mother's

house." He then accused the first officer of making a false statement, claiming he had never confronted the officer. When asked what his side of the story was, Mongold told the officer that he "pled the fifth." The officer then told him that he would be obtaining a warrant for his arrest and advised him not to follow or

harass the state police officers. The report claims that Mon-

See Crime, page 7A

304-257-4494







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By Camille Howard

They came ... all week. One early in the week, two more on Wednesday, two more on Thursday and 15 more on Saturday.

Two left Saturday morning and the rest stayed until Sunday. And we were missing four that usually come!

It was a full house. Thankfully it was warm enough to go outside. To be truthful, it was too hot to stay inside.

Between the 80 degree weather, the burners and oven going strong, running the dishwasher and the front and side door being opened and shut many times, plus all the warm bodies, the air conditioning just couldn't keep up.

But that didn't stop us from eating and talking. After dinner the guys had the task of hiding the eggs for the egg hunt. I think we got carried away with the amount of eggs we had versus the number of kids, though.

The guys hid eggs all around the house, shed, cars, down the driveway and clear to the bottom of the hill.

Every kid had a basket full and then sat down to check out their finds. Our two little guys though they had to crack the eggs on the concrete to get them open, like they've seen at breakfast, and managed to smash a couple in the process.

When all the eggs were opened we discovered no one had picked up the \$5 lucky egg, so the hunt resumed.

It was finally found at



the bottom of the hill by one happy hunter.

After the hunt, we all enjoyed dessert and a baby shower for my nephew and his wife (their first).

It may seem like a lot of activities in one day, but we're spread out across five states, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Ohio, so we make the most of our time together.

We FaceTimed my Mom, brother and sisterin-law (who couldn't come because of illness), so they could watch the egg hunt and shower, and say hello to everyone.

The dads and granddads loaded up all the kids and took them to the city park for an hour of play time and then everyone was worn out and ready for a quiet

We were up bright and early the next morning for sunrise service at church and a fellowship breakfast, followed by morning worship. Craig's brother joined us for the services, also.

I was in charge of getting our grandson Jamison, to church. He was dressed in his Sunday best and ready to go with his blanket, monster truck and

As we were walking downstairs to go to the car, looking down he said, "I like those, Nanny." Thinking he was talking about

stuffed Micky Mouse.

HAM MASHED

POTATO CAKES

4 cups mashed potatoes

1/4 cup all-purpose flour

1 deseeded and minced

2 teaspoons minced

½ cup plain bread

shallow frying

mayonnaise for

In a large bowl add

the mashed potatoes,

chopped ham, Mozzarel-

la, egg, all-purpose flour,

Stir the potato mix-

jalapeño and minced

Sour cream or

serving

4-6 tablespoons oil for

½ cup chopped ham

2 cups shredded

Mozzarella

jalapeño

garlic

crumbs

Have a great week! ture together until well I combined, the mixture I should be thick and I should hold its shape. If it's too loose, add a tablespoon of flour at a time (this will depend on I the consistency of your I mashed potatoes)

my shoes, I said, "Well.

thank you!" And then he

myself. Kids can make you

afternoon nap we're back

at it. With a fridge full of

leftovers I won't have to

cook for a few days and can

hopefully get outside and

The wind has been ter-

start cleaning up the yard.

rible and there a things

blown all over the place. I

found some type of grill/

smoker cover down in the

pond that must have come

from a neighbor's house.

Wonder what else I'll find?

mashed potatoes left from

Easter dinner, here's a reci-

pe to make use of them.

If you have ham and

I laughed at him and

After a long Sunday

said, "I like your stairs."

humble, that's for sure.

Use an ice cream scoop to scoop out the mixture and form it into patties about 1/3-inch thickness. Coat each cake evenly in I the plain bread crumbs and set aside.

Heat oil for shallow frying in a pan over medium-high heat and fry the patties in a single I layer on each side for 3-4 minutes till golden brown on both sides.

Serve hot with sour cream or mayonnaise. Makes 18.

# Thanks for Shopping Locally!

## **Faithful Friends Animal Clinic**

Franklin, WV Will be closed Saturday, April 26th





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## DoHS announces launch of summer EBT program for West Virginian students is enrolled in a school that formation.

The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS), Bureau for Family Assistance has been approved to issue Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) during the 2025 summer period.

All eligible children will receive a one-time \$120 in grocery benefits this summer. Summer EBT benefits can be spent on items that are covered by SNAP benefits. All West Virginia EBT retailers accept Summer EBT benefits.

There are two pathways to be eligible for Summer

Pathway #1: The child

is between the ages of 6-17 and receives certain benefits, such as SNAP, WV WORKS, some types of Medicaid, Foster services, or is homeless, a migrant, a runaway, enrolled in WV HeadStart, or has been approved through a National School Lunch Program application. The child DOES NOT need to be enrolled in a WV public school.

Please note: If your child is eligible through Pathway #1, the household DOES NOT need to complete an application for Summer EBT.

Pathway #2: The child is between the ages of 4-21,

participates in the National School Lunch Program, and is approved through an income application for Summer EBT. The entire household must be at or below 185% of the federal poverty limit.

Households can apply online at schoolcafe. cations can be picked up at any DoHS county ofan application by visiting Households may be re-

com, or complete a paper application. Paper applifice, or you can download dhhr.wv.gov/bfa/programs/ Pages/Summer-EBT.aspx. quired to verify income inPlease

note: Local school districts and boards of education will not accept Summer EBT applications. DoHS is the organization responsible for determining eligibility for Summer

Most children eligible under Pathway #1 will receive Summer EBT benefits by the end of the 2024-2025 school year. Beginning in June 2025, most children under Pathway #2 will receive benefits within 30 days of submitting an approved Summer EBT application.

Highlands

## **Community Meetings and Events**

mac Highlands Composite Squadron is recruiting cadets (ages 12-18) and adults to become members. Meeting Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Grant County Airport, Johnson Run Road, Petersburg. Contact Lt. John Banks at john. banks@wvwg.cap.gov. gocivilairpatrol.com

Grant County Adult Education enrolls stufor their High dents School Equivalency and does TABE testing for the DHHR every Friday from 8:30 am-12 noon. Call 304-

Answers to

puzzles on Page 5B

sable relationship. they're probably in a

are inseparable. I think The two weasellike mammals **guswe**r

CryptoQuip

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Solution

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 grantcountywv.org

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

**Grant County Family** Support Center events Spanish classes, Wacky Wednesdays and more. All activities are free at their facility on 101 Alt Ave.,

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

Thursday of each month, 6 p.m. at Forman Communi-

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

Potomac

Cancer Support Group

for cancer patients and

caregivers, meets the first

Monday of every month, 5

p.m. at Living Hope Baptist

Church, 1011 North Fork

T.O.P.S. (Take Off

Pounds Sensibly) meets

at 5:30 p.m. every Tues-

day at Living Hope Baptist

Church, North Fork High-

way, Petersburg, (just after

the post office on left). Call Wendy DeiCas at 304-257-

2349 for more information.

Highway. Refreshments.

Petersburg.

Patterson Creek Ruritan Club meets the second

ty Center in Lahmansville.

Solution time: 26 mins.

solution SHOWFLAKES

Banner, Banter Hurry, Harry Greek, Green Brake, Broke Rivers, Rivera Answers

- King Crossword Margin, Martin

Glare, Glade Oliver, Sliver Quick, Quirk

answers

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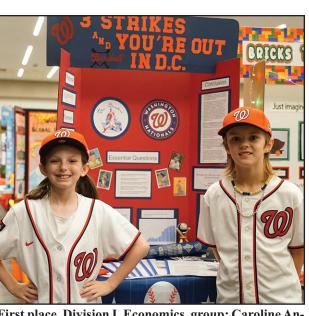
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## Five Spot"

## **Grant County students bring home** awards from state Social Studies Fair



First place, Division I, Economics, group: Caroline Anderson and Calvin Riley with their project "3 Strikes and You're Out! Baseball in DC."

Second place, Division II, World History, group: Ava

Hess and Sloane Morrissey with their project "The

Dark Lady of DNA."

The West Virginia De-

partment of Education

(WVDE) welcomed 540

students to the 2025 West

Virginia State Social Stud-

ies Fair (WVSSSF) April

Students in Grades 3-12

representing 43 counties

submitted 349 projects

showcasing individual and

Students earned their

way to the WVSSSF as

11, in Charleston.

group work.

SOCIAL STUDIES FAIR



First place, Division III, Economics, individual: Adalyn Rumer with her project "Moo Problems Moo Mon-



Third place, Division III, Sociology, individual: Charley Rexrode with her project "England's Rose Caught Between Two Thorns."

first-place winners at their school, county and regional fairs. Projects were critiqued based on a student-led oral presentation, research methods, theme, overall design and an ab-

OCIAL STUD

The WVSSSF allows students to apply handson knowledge of concepts taught in social studies classrooms to projects of interest. This requires they

sis, ask thought-provoking questions, recognize behavioral patterns, while also building their civic en-

"Ours is one of the longest-running fairs of its kind in the country, and our success is built on the dedication of families and teachers and the creativity and curiosity of our stu-

National Organ Donation

group gathered to raise

awareness about the im-

portance of organ donation

of the countless individu-

als who are waiting for a

life-saving organ transplant

and the impact that organ

donation can have on so

Mount Storm, shared his powerful story of being an

organ recipient. He was put

on the organ transplant list

a little over two years ago

and got the call at 4 a.m.

one morning informing him

that a liver was available.

Travis stated that being a

recipient of an organ is the

most humbling thing he has

ever experienced, receiving

the gift of a working liver

donated from someone he

Hansrote of

many lives.

Travis

On this special day, a

Month April 16.

dents," said State Superintendent of Schools Michele L. Blatt.

The WVSSSF dates back to 1977 and was established by the WVDE in partnership with Marshall University.

The divisions were categorized by grade: Division One - Grades 3 - 5; Division Two - Grades 6 - 8; and Division Three -

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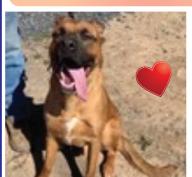
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energy and is lovable. **Female - mixed breed.** Brown, short hair, medium

size, very sweet and gentle.

Female - mixed breed. Brown, medium hair, smaller in size, very sweet.

If you are interested in any of the dogs, please contact 304-257-1725.

Any dogs that are adopted from the kennel **MUST** have an appointment at the vet before they leave the kennel. The appointment has to be confirmed by Grant County Parks and Recreation. If a dog isn't spayed or neutered, the person adopting the dog WILL be responsible for getting the dog spayed or neutered immediately. Also, the dog will require vaccinations. After you adopt a



conduct historical analygagement and geographical understanding.

Grades 9 - 12. Celebrating National Organ Donation Month at GMH grateful for. His story high-

> have on the lives of others. For more information on becoming a donor, visit www.donatelifewv.org.

> lighted the urgent need for

more organ donors and the

impact that one person can

## Fair mandatory weigh-in dates for swine, sheep and goats

WVU Extension has announced the mandatory weigh-in dates for all swine, sheep and goats to be shown at the Tri-County

All weigh-ins will be at the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Petersburg at the following times:

Swine - May 3, 9 a.m. noon and May 7, 5 - 8 p.m.

Sheep/Goats - June 14, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and June 18, 5 - 8 p.m.



It was a brisk and windy Hospital for the flag-rais-

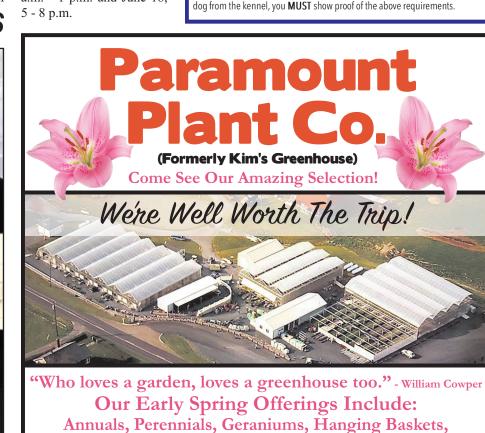
day at Grant Memorial ing ceremony celebrating

**Travis Hansrote** 

## never knew but is forever Petersburg FFA members compete at PCHS



Petersburg FFA members competed in the Eastern Regional Scholastic event hosted by the FFA Chapter at Pendleton County High School April 10. Taking first place in Freshman Creed was Adalyn Rumer. Annah Helmick placed third in Prepared Speech and Angela Willis placed third in Extemporaneous Speech.



Proven Winners, Strawberry Plants, & Vegetables

Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm • Closed Sunday

353 Arkton Rd., Broadway I-81 to Exit 257, North on Rt 11 for 1 mile, Right on Arkton Rd.

Page 4A **April 22, 2025** 



## PAGE OF OPINION AND STATE NEWS

## The Spring Mountain Festival is celebrating 32 years and going strong

The annual Spring Mountain Festival in Petersburg is at the beginning of the festival season in West Virginia and an opportunity to get over the winter blues.

This year's weather looks promising and the festival will be delivering another great year of entertainment, food, fun and vendors this weekend.

No matter what your budget, you can enjoy all the entertainment for free, sign up the kids for the trout derby at no cost, and hopefully talk to friends you may see there.

Also on the free list is the annual parade on Saturday morning and the dog and puppy parade, which is new this year, on Sunday afternoon. Plus, there's plenty of fun for the kids at the bounce houses and on the playground equipment at the park.

A big thank you goes out to the Grant County Chamber of Commerce for taking on the planning of such a large event and providing a great weekend for locals and visitors alike. For a complete schedule see Page 6B.

Hope to see you in the park April 25, 26 and 27!

## W.Va.'s Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation is doing something right

By Jack Bernard - West Virginia Watch

"Our correctional industry leaders and employees have recognized that operating a successful prison system includes preparing the incarcerated population for a productive life outside of the system. This effort involves parole and probation agencies, social service providers, work-release employers, and support from the community." — Joe Thornton, former Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety (DMAPS)

West Virginia is sometimes unfairly criticized by outsiders that are unaware of the state's many positives, such as its friendly people and beautiful, scenic mountains. But even the state's residents may not be aware of some of West Virginia's other accomplishments. For example, the successful rehabilitation of people exiting state prisons.

A recent report by Suzuki Law found that West Virginia's recidivism rate is lower than all but four states. This positive finding is consistent with a PEW survey taken more than a decade ago which also found West Virginia to have the fourth lowest recidivism rate.

A recent report by Suzuki Law found that West Virginia's recidivism rate is lower than all but four states

More broadly, the American criminal justice system must do more than just say "goodbye" to discharged inmates; it must take pro-active steps to help with a very difficult transi-

tion. As indicated below, such action results in all of us being safer and lessens our tax burden. A large portion of the world's total inmates are here

in the United States, where almost a half million new inmates enter the system each year. Currently, we have nearly 2 million people incarcerated, the majority in state prisons at tremendous cost to state taxpayers. And 1 out of 5 are in jail due to mostly non-violent drug offenses. States like West Virginia with lower recidivism rates

have more effective programs for dealing with people convicted of crimes and eventually released. While West Virginia's 24% recidivism rate may sound high to the uninformed, it is less than half that of Delaware (65%), the highest state. And West Virginia's historically lower rate did not simply happen by accident, prison reform has been a priority for a while. In 2013 and 2015, Democratic Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin

and West Virginia's Legislature made a very conscious decision to identify and employ "scientifically validated" "best practices" to improve the state's justice system, for both youth and adults. In a rare illustration of how government can — and should — work, both the GOP and the Democrats agreed on the need for reform. Then, together, they accomplished it, all without pointing fingers as is so

Senate Bill 371 (2013) enacted reforms regarding the adult offender system. The Justice Reinvestment Initiative employed assessment and treatment of "behavioral health and substance abuse" to reduce recidivism. Instead of incarceration, the state established "day report centers," successfully utilizing "treatment and recovery services" versus incarceration.

Senate Bill 393 (2015) zeroed in on "at-risk youth" where they lived, providing them with home-based guidance and mentoring. Previously, these children were committed to youth detention facilities, i.e. jails.

Corrections - continued on Page 5A

## **GRANT COUNTY** Grant County Press LLC......Publisher

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## Morrisey signs West Virginia's 2026 budget into law

By Steven Allen Adams The Intelligencer Wheeling

It is official: West Virginia has a balanced general revenue budget for fiscal year 2026 beginning in July, though the budget approved by Gov. Patrick Morrisey included several vetoes of individual line items to create more of an unappropriated balance to address future issues.

In a press release late Thursday night, Morrisey announced that he signed House Bill 2026, the vehicle for next fiscal year's general revenue budget.

Morrisey presented his version of the budget bill to lawmakers on the first day of the 60-day annual legislative session on Feb. 12, nearly one month after he and Department of Revenue officials estimated that a \$397 million hole existed in the fiscal year 2026 bud-

But by April 11, the House of Delegates and state Senate came to a compromise on the budget. The compromise set the fiscal year 2026 general revenue budget at \$5.318 billion, slightly lower than the adjusted \$5.322 billion general revenue estimate for fiscal year 2026 presented on behalf of Morrisey and the \$5.321 billion approved by the Senate Wednesday.

"When I took office, I inherited a \$400 million structural budget gap in the upcoming fiscal year, which would grow to nearly \$600 million in the years ahead if it was not immediately addressed," Morrisey said in a statement.

"Many tough fiscal decisions have been made in finalizing the FY 2026 budget, which seeks to

Virginia priorities," Mor-

did use his line item veto

authority to adjust sever-

al line items in the fiscal

year 2026 budget, reducing

spending by approximately

\$37.7 million, bringing the

total general revenue bud-

get down to \$5.280 billion.

Morrisey

risey continued.

However,

"The fiscally conservative budget I signed tonight makes progress tackling structural gaps and begins to place us on a pathway toward financial stability in the future."

- Gov. Patrick Morrisey

"The fiscally conservative budget I signed tonight makes progress tackling structural gaps and begins to place us on a pathway toward financial stability in the future.

'Much work remains in the next fiscal year to address budget shortfalls, but I applaud the Legislature for sending me a budget that closely resembles my original proposal and begins to address long term issues while funding West

right-size our ongoing base expenditures in General Revenue and Lottery funds," Morrisey wrote in his veto letter submitted Thursday to the Secretary of State's Office. "This includes main-

taining a strong level of budgetary reserves, limiting the growth rate of the base, and committing to address long-term liabilities." While Morrisey only

reduced some line items, others were completely vetoed, including \$300,000 for Mountwood Park in Wood County, \$100,000 for the Willow Bend Agricultural Innovation Center in Monroe County, \$50,000 for the Math Counts program, \$300,000 for the Green Acres Regional Center in Cabell County, \$250,000 to the West Virginia University College of Law, and \$250,000 to the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) pro-

One of the biggest lineitem veto reductions by percentage was the reduction of the line-item expenditure for the Court Appointed Special Advocates program from \$1.1 million to \$300,000 - a 72.7% reduction. CASA programs provide advocacy for children who are victims of abuse and neglect.

"This program has primarily been funded by state and federal grants,' Morrisey wrote in his veto message. "In light of the ability to obtain grants and the ongoing budget chal-

**Budget** Continued on Page 5A

## WV schools save money with solar. To save coal, politicians want to stop the practice.

By Sarah Elbeshbishi **Mountain State Spotlight** 

As Superintendent Todd Alexander anticipates a continued decrease in state funding for Wayne County Public Schools, he's always looking for ways to

So, when he found out he could supplement the school district's power with solar panels and save millions in electricity costs at no upfront cost, he pur-

As a resident of West

Virginia's 2nd Congressio-

nal District, I was disheart-

ened to see Congressman

Riley Moore posing in

front of the CECOT "me-

ga-prison" in El Salvador

internationally known for

its harsh conditions and

questionable detentions, in-

cluding people like Merrill

Gutierrez, Andry Hernan-

dez Romero, and Kilmar

Abrego Garcia who are re-

portedly being held without

isn't leadership, it's a pho-

to-op. It's especially frus-

trating when many of us

here in Mineral County and

across the district are work-

This kind of behavior

ever committing a crime.

- a site that has become

Dear Editor,

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Wayne County Public Schools is now estimated to save nearly \$6.5 million over the next 25 years.

But Sen. Craig Hart, who represents part of Wayne County, offered a bill during West Virginia's legislative session that would prevent other schools and governmental institutions from doing the

"If you're not getting a better deal, I don't see any reason for them to be

ing hard just to afford gas

officials to be good stew-

ards of taxpayer dollars,

not to use them for out-

of-country publicity stunts

that offer no real benefit to

The people of West Vir-

the people they represent.

ginia deserve a represen-

tative who prioritizes our

needs: good-paying jobs,

safe communities, health-

care, and support for work-

leads with compassion and

common sense, not some-

one chasing headlines at

the expense of human dig-

nity and local concerns.

**Jason Armentrout** 

Fort Ashby, W.Va.

We need someone who

ing families.

We expect our elected

and groceries.

in that contract," Hart said during a March Senate Energy Committee meeting. "I don't think a school is a good place to make a political statement about your utilities and whatnot."

Sen. Scott Fuller, R-Wayne, also threw his support behind the legislation, arguing that supplemental power agreements don't support the coal and natural gas industries.

"It just seems to me that we are doing something that is counterproductive for the state of West Virginia," Fuller said.

If schools are allowed to use green energy, "then we're fighting ourselves," Fuller said. The agreement between

Wayne County schools and Solar Holler, a solar company based in Wayne County, is known as a power purchase agreement. The company pays to put solar panels on schools, and in exchange the school system uses the power generated, paying less than it would cost from the utility. Hart's bill would have

limited such agreements for any public entity, inoption for renewal.

cluding schools, to a maximum of five years with an between six to 25 years. It takes a while before developers fully recoup the costs they invested into the agreement, said Heather Ransom, marketing and residential sales director for Solar Holler.

So, a five year contract "essentially maximum eliminates" these agree-

The power purchaser for example Wayne County Schools — "didn't have to foot the bill for any of the upfront costs. Someone, however, did. So that's on the side of the developer and in order to finance it, five years just won't cut it," she said.

During the committee meeting last month, Hart, R-Mingo, said that part of the idea behind the bill came from what he thought were excessive rate increases built into proposed contracts he had reviewed. He also said that such long-term contracts could be risky because no one knows what electricity rates will look like so far in the future. "A school could be en-

tering into a 10, 20, however-many-year contract, and really be coming out the

Solar Typically, contracts fall **Continued on Page 5A** 



**April 20, 1955** 

The student council of PHS conducted an election among the students for the purpose of selecting officers to operate the town government for a day. Those elected were: Donald Graham, mayor; Joan Smith, recorder; Donald Huffman, chief of police; and Jack Bowman, Edgar Nelson, Carol Bensenhaver, Billy Riggleman and John VanMeter coun-

Robert Snyder of Lahmansville was sworn in as new director of the Force Operations Administration mission in Afghanistan.

Manning Muntzing, son of Atty. And Mrs. H.G. Muntzing, who was a junior at the University of North Carolina, was invited to become a member of Phi Beta Kappa, an honorary scholastic fraternity. Muntzing had an A average for his three years in col-

The Ft. Pitt Brewing Co. of Pittsburgh announced the acquisition of the services of William S. Michael of Petersburg, as a road salesman.

Mr. and Mrs. N.W. Sites entertained with a dinner at their home, in honor of their son, Pfc.Rudy Sites and Mrs. Sites. Sites, who was stationed in Germany, was on a 30 day leave.

## April 21, 1965

Clemens Gaines and his three sons from Baltimore, became stranded in a remote section of the Smoke Hole, during a canoeing excursion. Two of his sons were injured when their canoe capsized and Gaines and his other son were forced to walk about

five miles for help. An Army helicopter from Fort Belvoir, Va., was called to the scene and rescued the injured boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Demby Berg of Maysville announced the marriage of their daughter, Peggy, to Roger Earle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Earle of Moore-

Grant County Schools were to participate in Project Head Start, which was being organized under the Economic Opportunity Act. It was to be an eight week preschool program designed primarily children who were to enter school in the fall. The federal government was to provide 90% of the funding, while the Grant County Board of Education was expected to provide the remaining 10%.

Grant County Golden Horseshoe winners were: Mary Kisamore of Petersburg; Linda Lou VanMeter of Petersburg; John Veach of Petersburg; and Janet Wilkins of Bayard.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. George Colaw of Blue Grass, Va., a daughter, April 14; and Mr. and Mrs. Norman Simmons of Petersburg, a daughter, April

#### **April 23, 1975**

The South Branch Railroad Users Association meeting at the Moorefield City Hall voted unanimously to petition the Chessie System Inc. to withdraw rail abandonment plans for the Green Spring to Petersburg spur line.

Two special meetings of the Grant County Commission were held at which time the levy order was approved, a new deputy assessor Donald Abernathy for Union District was administered the oath of office and final plans for the new court house were ap-

Among the local births announced last Friday at Memorial Hospital, Cumberland, Md., was a daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Valentini of Scherr.

The main speaker at Viking all-sports banquet was to be Rocky Bleier, star running back for the World Champion Pittsburgh Steel-The Vikings were cruis-

ing along with a 5-1 record, with two more wins coming last week. The only blemish on the record was that 14-6 thumping at Moorefield.

## **April 17, 1985**

Second District Congressman Harley O. Staggers Jr. (D) was on hand for a groundbreaking ceremony to kick off the start of construction on the Lunice Creek Dike.

The Grant Memorial Hospital board of directors set next month as a final decision date on whether or not to proceed with the establishment of a hospice Melissa McDaniel of

Petersburg was chosen as one of Potomac State Freshman Rotarian Students. This honor was received for achievement of a 4.0 scholastic average. On March 20 marked the

opening day of Bob's Muffler Center, Petersburg's newest muffler shop. The business is located in the same building as the R&O Tire Center and owned by Bob Hyre.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Lambert of Petersburg, a son, April 8; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Whetzel of Dorcas, a son, April 10; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Wratchford of Moorefield, a son, April 12; and Mr. and Mrs. Lenwood Brake of Petersburg, a daughter, April 13.

## TSA begins REAL ID full enforcement on May 7 or another acceptable ID,

The TSA (Transportation Security Administratio) announces the imminent implementation of its REAL ID enforcement measures at TSA checkpoints nationwide.

On May 7, TSA will no longer accept state-issued identifications that are not REAL ID compliant at TSA security checkpoints.

All airline passengers 18 years and older, including TSA PreCheck® members, must present REAL ID-compliant identification such as a passport, at TSA security checkpoints.

Passengers who present a state-issued identification that is not REAL ID compliant and who do not have another acceptable alternative (e.g., passport) can expect to face delays, additional screening and the possibility of not being permitted into the security checkpoint.

More information on REAL ID can be found at this link TSA.gov/real-id.

not, otherwise the bill becomes law without the governor's signature.

"On a day meant to reflect compassion and kindness, Governor Morrisey instead chose to cut support from those who need most: children in foster care, families facing serious illnesses, veterans who have honorably served our country, and students who deserve safe and modern learning environments," said Del. Anitra Hamilton, D-Monongalia. "This is not only unkind-it shows deeply misplaced priorities."

## **Budget**

Continued from Page 4A

lenges we are facing, a cautious and prudent approach must be taken to avoid building the State's base

"A huge thank you to the West Virginia Legislature for creating a dedicated line item for CASA in this year's proposed budget. We are incredibly grateful to our state lawmakers for prioritizing supports for children in foster care," the West Virginia CASA Association posted on social media Friday. "Albeit reduced, the Governor's final allocation establishes a crucial foundation of state support and recognition of CASA's essential role for child welfare in West Virginia."

With Morrisey's lineitem vetoes, that leaves approximately \$42 million of unappropriated monies in the fiscal year 2026 general revenue budget.

Morrisey also used his

line-item veto on sections of the surplus section in the back of the budget. HB 2026 included a section for one-time items to be paid out in order based on available surplus tax collections left over at the end of the current fiscal year.

The four items totaled more than \$210 million, including \$125 million to the Division of Highways,

GERALD, HONEY, GO WASH YOUR

HANDS. IT'S TIME FOR DINNER.

Amber Waves

\$75 million to the Division of Economic Development project fund, \$10 million to the Water Development Authority and \$250,000 to the Cabell County Commission for Lily's Place. Morrisey reduced the \$125 million for the Division of Highways to \$100 million and vetoed the other three surplus section line items.

In his veto letter, Morrisey alluded to additional challenges that could face the state budget in fiscal year 2026, including possible changes to the federal Medicaid program, increased health care costs for the state Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA), and other changes in state funding from federal reforms.

"A cautious and prudent approach must be taken to avoid spending the State's surplus balances due to anticipated out-year budget gaps and to address likely fiscal challenges involving Medicaid, PEIA, and potential changes to the federal tax code," Morrisey wrote.

Morrisey presented lawmakers several supplemental appropriation requests during the 60-day legislative session, making use of available surplus monies the state is expected to end the current fiscal year with, making it unlikely that there will be enough excess tax collection at the end of the fiscal year on June 30 to

MADE MY SPECIAL

BLACK BEAN AND

CORN CASSEROLE

Division of Highways appropriation in the back of the budget.

fund the full \$100 million

In a press release Friday afternoon, the West Virginia Democratic Party criticized Morrisey for ing the veto just 10 minutes prior to the beginning of Good Friday, the start of Easter weekend. The Governor's Office received HB 2026 last Saturday. When the Legislature is in session, the governor has five days to sign or veto an appropriations bill regardless of whether the Legislature is in session or

Corrections

Continued from Page 4A

budgeting senior analyst, I

visited and evaluated such

facilities in Georgia in the

1970s. I guarantee you that

they were problematic, as

well as personally disturb-

other red and blue states

with high recidivism rates

ka, Arkansas, Rhode Island

and Colorado — have not

come together to install

scientifically based reforms

that have been proven to be

successful in West Virgin-

ia and other more enlight-

ened states. Per one legal

expert, "By adopting evi-

dence-based rehabilitation

programs and supporting

OH, DON'T GIVE ME THAT LOOK.

- such as Delaware, Alas-

It is a true shame that

former inmates in their transition back into society, we can reduce recidivism rates, improve public safe-As a state planning and ty, and ease the economic

> burden on taxpayers." High recidivism can be reduced by providing inmate educational and rehabilitation opportunities, and support after release from prison including employment assistance, housing and education. But the first step is to recognize that there is a problem.

Jim Rubenstein, a past WVDOC Commissioner, once stated, "I am proud of our staff's commitment to the WVDOC's goal of reducing offender recidivism." Mr. Rubenstein, everyone reading this column will agree. I just hope other states will follow in your footsteps.

## by Dave T. Phipps



## Poultry exhibition and sale events suspension to be lifted May 1

As of May 1, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) will lift the suspension on all poultry exhibitions, shows, swaps, meets, and poultry sales at flea markets or auction markets based on the following conditions being met:

· No HPAI detections in West Virginia commercial poultry or backyard flocks located near commercial premises during April.

· No major HPAI-related developments in neighboring states that would result in quarantine zones impacting West Virginia's poultry industry.

This decision follows careful monitoring of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) situation across the state and surrounding regions. The WVDA will continue to monitor the situation closely in collaboration with federal and state partners, particularly through the remainder of the spring wild bird migration season, which runs through mid-June.

Since early 2022, a nationwide outbreak of HPAI has impacted commercial and backyard poultry operations, prompting biosecurity measures nationwide. The original suspension in West Virginia was implemented out of an abundance of caution to protect the state's poultry industry, which remains the largest contributor to West Virginia's animal agriculture economy.

## **Biosecurity Still Critical**

Although poultry events may resume, the WVDA strongly encourages poultry owners, event organizers, and exhibitors to maintain strict biosecurity practices:

- Limit and monitor access to poultry areas
- · Continue disinfection of equipment, vehicles, and · Keep domestic flocks separate from wild and migra-
- tory birds · Report any unusual illness, sudden death, or drop in
- egg production

#### **Report Sick Birds** To report signs of illness or unexpected mortality in

poultry flocks, contact WVDA's Animal Health Division

at 304-558-2214.

### Solar **Continued from Page 4A**

loser in the deal," said Hart.

However, in these agreements yearly power rates are pre-determined for the length of the contract and guarantee some level of savings, Ransom said. She also said that while the rates do include increases

over the length of the agreement, they are lower than the average rate hike of a utility. In the case of Wayne County, the school system is

guaranteed a minimum 3% savings each year of its con-

tract. And if that is not met, the school system can get out Ransom said that the \$6.5 million the school system is estimated to save on its power bills is likely to be much

more as electricity rates continue to increase. During the March meeting, Sen. Ben Queen, R-Harrison, said he was worried about a school system in his

Calhoun County Schools was the first school district in the state to sign this type of contract. The school system is estimated to save more than \$700,000 in power costs over its 25-year agreement with Secure Solar Futures.

"I can tell you, \$740,000 is a lot of money in Calhoun County, even if it is over 25 years," said Queen.

The bill would also apply broadly to public entities. Sen. Glenn Jeffries, R-Putnam, asked if they could narrow the bill to only apply to schools. He said he was concerned about how it would impact the various municipalities in his district that have similar agreements.

While he said that he could live with that, Hart countered, asking if they could grandfather in all public entities except for schools with existing contracts.

The bill did advance out of the Senate Energy Committee to be voted on, but was parked in the Senate Rules Committee, where it stayed until the legislative session

Hart later said in an interview that he planned on amending the bill if it ever left Senate Rules to narrow the scope so it only applied to school systems.

"We want to be conservative as we can be with the Board of Education's money," he said. "This can always be revisited another time, but we want to make sure that the schools are not taken advantage of."

Alexander, the superintendent, expects less state funding for Wayne County schools in coming years. School enrollment is going down around West Virginia and is expected to continue to decline over the next decade.

"We try to look at every avenue possible to save mon-

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## Local and area obituaries

Jo Ann (Cooper) Watts, 83, of Seneca Rocks, W.Va., went to her heavenly home on Monday, April 14, 2025, at Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center, Petersburg, W.Va.

Born June 20, 1941, at Seneca Rocks, she was a daughter of the late Russell Morral Cooper and Mary Bessie (Teter) Cooper.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Marlin Lee Watts on October 10, 2000; four sisters, Othetta Conrad, Geneva Champ, Ruthle Smith and Virginia Rose Rexrode; and three brothers, Daniel Cooper, Randy Teter and Carl Cooper Sr.

After graduating from Circleville High School in 1960, Jo Ann dedicated her life to her family, her passions and her community. She was a devoted mother to her daughter, Rhonda Mauzy (Brad) and her two sons, Marlin "Sonny" Watts Jr. (Karen) and Nick J. Watts (Sherry). Jo Ann's love and guidance extended to her five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren whom she adored and cherished, Drue Mauzy (Nikita), Kayla Bryant (Justin), Paige Riggleman (Logan), Samantha Evans (Zach) and Keaton Watts; Colin Mauzy, Ethan Mauzy, Raelyn Mauzy, Mary Mae Kimble, Jessie Kimble, Ava Bryant and Luna Evans; two sisters, Catherine George (Junior) of Baltimore, Md. and Betty Gordon (Donald) of Circleville, W.Va.; two brothers, Herbert Cooper (Dorothy) of Baltimore and Fred Cooper (Patricia) of Seneca Rocks; and numerous nieces and nephew.

Jo Ann was a member of Riverside Church. Her



baking for family gatherings was paralleled only by her steadfast faith and commitment to her church. She enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Jo Ann enjoyed playing softball in her day, playing the piano and the guitar. We'll hold close the lessons she taught through her actions and the way she lived her life. Jo Ann was a blessing to us all, and her memory will be cherished forever.

Funeral services were Thursday morning, April 16, at Riverside Church on Dollytown Road, Cabins, W.Va., with Pastor Tommy George and Pastor P.J. Landis officiating.

Burial followed in the Cooper-Bible Cemetery, Seneca Rocks.

Memorial contributions may be made to Riverside Church, Dollytown Road, Cabins, WV 26855 or Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center, 127 Early Avenue, Petersburg, WV 26847.

Arrangements were by the Schaeffer Funeral Home, Petersburg. Condolences to the family may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com. (4-22-25)

Dale Lee Harper, 85, of Riverton, W.Va., passed away at his home on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, following an extended illness.

Born January 29, 1940, in Simoda, W.Va., he was the son of the late J. Paul Harper and Mary (Adams) Vandevander.

On April 17, 1965, Dale married Shirley M. (Mallow) Harper, who survives in Riverton.

Mr. Harper graduated in 1958 from Circleville High School and was a member of the North Fork Baptist Church. After graduation, Dale drove a dairy truck delivering milk for Hartzler Dairy Farms before moving to Beltsville, Md., and working at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. After marriage, Dale and Shirley moved back to West Virginia where he was employed by Howes Leather Company in Bartow, W.Va. and later attended the West Virginia State Police Academy while employed at Huttonsville Correctional Center. He transitioned from there to driving a school bus for the Pendleton County Board of Education where he enjoyed the day to day interactions with the students until his retirement in 2002. He was an avid hunter and

fisherman. In addition to his wife, Dale leaves behind to cherish his memory a daughter, Sandra Waldron (Randy) of Petersburg, W.Va.; a son, Mark Harper (Tammy) of Petersburg; two sisters, Kay Newbrough (Freddie) of Shinnston, W.Va. and Jo Ann Gilardi (Mike) of Bartow; five brothers, William Vandevander (MaryAnn) of Durbin, W.Va., Daniel Vandevander of Bartow, David Vandevander (Don-



na) of Bartow, Dallas Vandevander (Becky) of Green Bank, W.Va. and Douglas Vandevander (Amy) of Thornwood, W.Va.; a brother-in-law, Fred Grear; four grandchildren, Kelsey Longbon (Dalton), Kensey Harper, Alex and Adrianna Waldron. He was preceded in death by a sister, Judy Grear.

Funeral services were Thursday afternoon, April 17, at the Basagic Funeral Home chapel, Petersburg, with the Rev. Mike Clements officiating. Interment was in the North Fork Memorial Cemetery, Riverton.

Memorials may be made to North Fork Baptist Church, POB 46 Riverton, WV 26814. Memories and words of comfort may be left at www.basagic.com or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home. (4-22-25)

## **ANNUAL MEETING** LAHMANSVILLE CEMETERY

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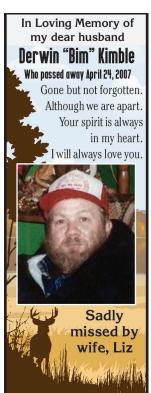
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# Five generations



Five generations of the Alt family: (center front) Delores Sites Propst; left, David Alt (grandson); right, Dylan Alt (great-grandson) holding Deklan Jack Alt (great-great-grandson) and (back) Darren Alt (son).





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Five generations of the Alt family: (center front) Delores Sites Propst; left, Dennis Alt (grandson); right, Jackson Alt (great-grandson) holding Remington JoAnn Alt (great-great-granddaughter) and (back) Darren Alt (son).



dogwood legend

The ancient stories say that the dogwood tree was tall and straight-limbed in the days of

Jesus, and its wood was chosen to build the cross for His crucifixion. Afterwards, the dogwood was cursed to grow gnarled and short, so it would never again be used to crucify, and the bracts of its flowers were given the mark of a driven nail and seeping blood. The center was given

the likeness of a bowed head bearing a crown of thorns. Sources: hgic.clemson.edu, plantmegreen.com, wikipedia.org

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If interested, visit Indeed.com and search for Hawse Health to view the full job descriptions and apply online. Alternatively, you can email your resume to tnelson@hawsehealth.com or mail to P.O Box 97, Baker, WV 26801



HHC is an EOE

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## HardyNet Continued from front

swering that call. They can know that the issue will be solved by someone who is right here in the area."

Barr explained that fiber-based internet is the best option for broadband internet, with reliability that is currently not able to be offered by other alternatives, including satellite. According to Barr, the

speeds available from fiber are limited only by the technology on both ends of the infrastructure, meaning as technology advances on both the provider's and customer's end, even faster service will become available.

HardyNet has partnered with Grant County in the past to bring fiber internet to the Grant County Office of Emergency Management and 911 Center and currently has ongoing projects in Hampshire County as well.

Barr said the partnership with the county has played a key role in the project progressing, explaining that counties and municipalities are able to provide updated mapping, the addresses of under-serviced homes and the locations of permanent residences and weekend and vacation houses.

"We appreciate the work being done by Grant County to help ensure their residents have this internet," Barr said. "We have a good relationship with them and are hopeful to continue doing projects with them in the future."

Barr said this partnership also played a crucial role in the acquisition of grants and funds that helped the project move forward. He explained that much of this effort was overseen by Becky Kimble, the fiber projects manager for the company. Barr explained that Kimble coordinated all the regulations with the state, oversaw document filings and worked with both the state and county to help manage the project.

He clarified that HardyNet would also continue to evaluate what they are able to offer in the Grant County area with hopes of continuing to expand service offerings in the future.

For any Grant County residents that live in the South Mill Creek Road region interested in discussing the services that are now on offer by HardyNet, they can contact the company at 304-530-5000.

## **Fiber**

**Continued from front** 

officer (CEO) of the Fiber Broadband Association and Kelly Workman, the director of the West Virginia Department of Economic Development and the Office of Broadband West Virginia Broadband Enhancement Council as well as a few elected offi-

"It looks like our governor [Patrick Morrisey] is currently pushing Starlink as an alternative option," Riggleman said. "Starlink is currently available to our citizens now and if they wanted to purchase that, they could. But my concern is, I don't know how that is going to help us with economic development or growth."

Riggleman explained that larger businesses that move into the area will require in-ground fiber internet. He pointed to his own professional experience as a technical manager with Woodmark Cabinetry, saying the company uses Starlink as a back-up to the two fiber lines that run to their facilities.

"In those cases, wireless is a great backup option so you don't have to worry about any downtime in cases of repairs," Riggleman said. "However, fiber is much more reliable and affordable for the residents of Grant County."

Commissioner in Hagerty agreed, saying that he currently uses Starlink at his residence, explaining that the upfront cost of the technology installation is approximately \$600 with the monthly cost running between \$130 and \$160. Riggleman said that this is a steep increase from local providers, saying he uses Shentel in his home, which costs approximately \$85 a month and provides 400 mbps upload and download speed.

"Wireless just can't provide that speed right now," Riggleman said. "The more wireless that is used, the slower the speeds that will be able to be offered. There is also more reliability with a hard-line. And I am talking about economic development here for us. The future of our county relies on infrastructure. We are working on broadband now and are looking into focusing on water now as well. So to me, it is very, very important to continue pushing fiber to the homes and let the governor know what the better long-term investment is for the state of West Virginia."

Hagerty agreed, saying that in his experience, the more people using the wireless internet at a given time can drive down speed for those users.

According to reporting done by the Mountain State Spotlight, the recent delay in the funding announcement has been attributed to a federal decision to perform a "rigorous review" of the program, saying that the current program over-favors traditional onthe-ground internet providers. The review is slated to allow nontraditional providers like Starlink, to receive more funding than previously allowed.

Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, said in a statement following the announcement that she supports any improvements to the program but didn't want West Virginia to "wait longer than is necessary or to have to redo" its proposals and applications.

Riggleman said that he had heard from his conversation with Workman that there may be an agreement in the works that will assist residents with the upfront \$600 cost if they choose to switch to Starlink; however, this will not impact the monthly \$130 to \$160 price tag. Then, after that 10 years, the agreement may end or change and could potentially not assist in the cost of replacing technology in the home as it advances.

Riggleman also pointed to a concern about the lack of local technical support. Hagerty verified that there wasn't customer support through Starlink the same way it exists with local companies.

"You put in an order online then they get back to you that way," Hagerty said. "You put in the ticket and they tell you what to do online. There isn't anyone you talk to, it's all very automated."

Riggleman compared this to other companies in the area working to provide fiber internet, saying they have customer service lines that can be called for assistance and can provide in-person technicians to help when necessary.

"Not everyone is technically savvy and I think it's important that they have someone they can talk to when they are trying to troubleshoot internet problems," Riggleman

ly 20 minutes after the

hearing in the parking lot

so he could confront the

trooper. Later, surveillance

video from the courthouse

was obtained that appears

The commission voted unanimously to sign the letter in support for Fiber to the Home projects and agreed to send it to the governor's office as well as multiple other elected officials.

Riggleman explained that Pendleton, Mineral and Grant counties are the most under-served areas of the state when it comes to high speed internet, meaning they will be impacted the most by the change in direction. Pendleton in particular will be additionally impacted due to the quiet zone required for the Green Bank Observatory, with concern being voiced by their local officials on how satellite will affect

"We can't afford to put Starlink up everywhere," Riggleman said. "Because our residents can't afford it. It's available now if anyone does want it."

that area.

## Crime **Continued from front**

gold continued to be belligerent, claiming that he was recording the interac-

The officer then ended the stop and pulled into the nearby Par Mar gas station to complete his computer

Immediately after being advised not to follow the officers, Mongold allegedly pulled into the gas pumps behind the officer and proceeded to stand at the gas pumps, gassing his

vehicle and "staring" at the officer's vehicle.

During the course of the investigation, the officer secured a statement from a witness who had been at the courthouse at the time of the original alleged confrontation.

The witness told offi-

cers that they had heard a man yelling and believed that there may have been investigation also claims counting of events. that Mongold allegedly waited for approximate-

Mongold was charged with intimidation (harassment of a public officer/ witness) and retaliation against a public officer/

## U.S. Attorney's Office convicts Mexican National for role in drug trafficking operation in the Eastern Panhandle

month to his role in a drug trafficking organization that sold cocaine, heroin, and fentanyl throughout the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia.

Rocha has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and to distribute one kilogram or more of heroin and illegal reentry. According to court documents and statements made in court, Rocha, living in California, used his connections with the Sinaloa Drug Cartel in Mexico to supply controlled substances to the drug trafficking operation. Others then would sell cocaine, heroin, and fentanyl in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties.

Rocha is facing at least 10 years and up to life in federal prison for the drug charge and faces up to two years for the reentry charge. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Lara Omps-Botteicher is prosecuting the case on behalf of the government.

Rocha was initially arrested as part of a largescale dismantling of two drug trafficking rganizations, including one with ties to the Sinaloa Drug Cartel.

In July 2024, then United States Attorney William Ihlenfeld announced charges against individuals who were operating a largescale fentanyl and cocaine trafficking operation out of an autobody shop in Martinsburg. The group is alleged to have imported significant amounts of drugs

Rocha, age 31, of Mexico, the U.S. Postal Service as 43, of Fresno, Cali.; Sergio has admitted earlier this well as from a source connected to the Sinaloa Cartel. Saul Alexi Padilla-Garcia, 34, of Shepherdstown, and seventeen others have been charged after an investigation that included close coordination with federal law enforcement agents in Chicago and Northern California.

"This case underscores the scope of the threat posed by Mexican drug cartels to the people of West Virginia," said U.S. Attorney Ihlenfeld at the time. "These transnational organizations will operate anywhere that there is profit to be made, including here in our region. Fortunately, we have one of the best drug task forces in the country to push back against dangerous groups

like this one.' The arrests were the culmination of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation that began in 2023. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach.

In addition to Rocha and Garcia, those charged during the dismantling included: Juan Carlos Suarez-Lugo, age 55, from Martinsburg, West Virginia; Victor Jose Canales, 45, hometown unknown; Alexis Alvarado, 37, Ranson; Mauricio Antonio Alvarado-Flores, 37, hometown unknown; Olvin Luis-Melendez Robles, age unknown, Harrisburg, Penn.; Mario Pellot-Acevedo, 58, Martinsburg; Eddi Heredia Cruz, 27, Shepherdstown,

Manuel Sanchez Gomez,

Jose Alberto Camarena from Puerto Rico through 37, Cali.; Angel Lopez, Rubio Pacheco, 33, Fresno. Cali.; Moises Marrero, 39, of Ranson; James Reyes, 54, of Martinsburg; David Reyes, 60, Hagerstown, Md.; Charles Edward Branson, 53, Martinsburg; Danny William Mendez Delacruz, 41, Martinsburg and Yan Lionel Diaz-Cruz, 27, Ranson.

The Eastern Panhandle Drug Task Force was the lead investigative unit. Other investigative agencies that assisted include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, including the Pittsburgh, San Francisco, San Juan, and Philadelphia Field Offices; United States Marshals Service; Homeland Security Investigations; United States Postal Service; Drug Enforcement Administration, the Louisville and Chicago Divisions; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; West Virginia State Police; Martinsburg Police Department; Ranson Police Department; Charles Town Police Department; Berkeley County Sheriff's Office; Jefferson County Sheriff's Office; West Virginia Air National Guard; Mineral County Sheriff's Office; Grant County Sheriff's Office; Hampshire County Sheriff's Department; Keyser Police Department; Northwest Regional Drug Task Force, Virginia; Pennsylvania State Police; Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Pennsylvania; Winchester Police Department, Virginia; Frederick County Sheriff's Office, Virgin-

ment, California. This case is part of Operation Take Back America, a nationwide initiative.

ia; Virginia State Police;

Sunnyvale Police Depart-

some form of altercation about to occur. The original officer that Mongold was accused of harassing reported that he did not respond to the defendant during the interaction. The



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# Sports

April 22, 2025

# Viking Baseball team takes down Southern Garrett 2-0



# Petersburg Middle School archery team celebrates winning a season

The Petersburg Middle School archery team is wrapping up a successful 2024-25 season, however, will be sending one archer to compete next month in the national tournament.

Over the course of the season, the team competed

in six tournaments. The team's top showing was a first place win at the B-U 4H Kickoff Invitational in January.

During the season's events, the team had several archers place in the top 10.

The team qualified to send two top archers, Callie Roberts and Shayla Rohrbaugh, to compete in the West Virginia State Archery Tournament.

However, while the season may be nearing an end, they are far from

finished. During the state competition Roberts placed second there which qualified her to compete at the Eastern National Tour-







Left: The Petersburg Middle School archery team following the B-U 4H Kickoff Invitational. Above: Callie Roberts and Shayla Rohrbaugh at the West Virginia State Archery Tournament in Charleston.

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ing or mowing jobs in the Moorefield/Petersburg area. Call 304-703-0248. 4/15-4/22f

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NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION TO CREDITORS, DISTRIBUTEES AND LEGATEES

Notice is hereby given that the following estate(s) have been opened for probate in the Grant County Clerk's Office at 5 Highland Avenue Petersburg, WV 26847-1705. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provisions of West Virginia Code 41-5-11 through 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court, shall file written notice of an objection with the County Commission through the Grant County Clerk's Office at the address listed above within 60 days after the date of the first publication or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred. Any person interested in filing claims against an estate must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-2 or 44-3A.

Settlement of the estate(s) of the following named decedent(s) will proceed without reference to a fiduciary commissioner unless within 60 days from the first publica-

tion of this notice a reference is requested by a party of interest or an unpaid creditor files a claim and good cause is shown to support reference to a fiduciary commissioner.

First Publication Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 Claim Deadline Date: Saturday, June 21, 2025

**ESTATE NAME: EXECUTRIX:** 

ASHLEY OTTO 4 MURDOCK ROAD BALTIMORE, MD 21212-1744

CALVIN C. RICHARDSON JR.

**ESTATE NAME:** ADMINISTRATRIX: MICHAEL CARL MULLENAX REBECCA SUE MULLENAX 415 CHAMPION RD. PETERSBURG, WV 26847-8105

Subscribed and sworn before me on the 17th day of April, 2025 Lora A. Bennett,

Clerk of the Grant County Commission

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Settlement of the estate(s) of the following named decedent(s) will proceed without reference to a fiduciary commissioner unless within 60 days from the first publica-

We Bring communities together! LEGALS • LEGALS tion of this notice a reference is requested by a party of interest or an unpaid creditor files a claim and good cause is shown to support reference to a fiduciary commissioner.

> **ESTATE NAME: EXECUTRIX:**

First Publication Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 Claim Deadline Date: Saturday, June 14, 2025 DAVID L. SCOTT JR. PATRICIA A. SCOTT

**ESTATE NAME:** ADMINISTRATOR:

3657 S MILL CREEK ROAD PETERSBURG, WV 26847-8831 DAVID MICHAEL ROYER KEVIN ROYER

105 KEARSARGE COURT

STEPHENSON, VA 22656-2071

Subscribed and sworn before me on the 11th day of April, 2025

Lora A. Bennett, Clerk of the Grant County Commission

4/15-4/22

## **DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS** NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until May 13, 2025 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call Contract 2021000717

**State Project** 

GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

Federal Project Description

S399-STR/IP-25 00 NHPP-2025(019)D PAVEMENT MARKINGS INTERSTATE STRIPING **STATEWIDE** COUNTY: STATEWIDE

DBE GOAL: 10% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractors' license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must submit electronically with their bid a Proposal

The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com. The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

#### WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION **DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS** NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

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Contract 2021000242

State Project S399 -STRIP 25 02

Federal Project HSIP-2025(091)D

Description PAVEMENT MARKINGS 2025 APD CORRIDOR STRIPING **STATEWIDE** COUNTY: STATEWIDE

DBE GOAL: 7% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractors' license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must submit electronically with their bid a Proposal Guaranty Bond for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the

date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com. The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award 4/22-4/29

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## Young Writers winning stories continued from last week

What They Know Won't Hurt Them By Lucy Groves, PHS Ninth/10th Grade Division

Stars danced around a crescent moon, illuminating the darkness of night with a pale glow full of warmth. A cool breeze gently fluttered my hair and sent chills down the length of my spine. The scent of freshly cut grass wafted through the air, and the call of a lonely whip-poor-will echoed through the protective mountain walls of Appalachia.

Alone with my thoughts is how I like it best, and the chaos of life has prevented me from having any downtime. Wanting to be anywhere besides the entrapping walls of my room, and it being the middle of the night, I ended up laying down against the sweet-smelling earth of the grassy knoll next to my house. Something about the tranquil landscape offered the ultimate escape from the calamity of life, and lately I have found myself drifting farther away from reality and closer to the comfort of solitude.

Gazing across the horizon, my eyes fell upon a small pond at the bottom of the knoll. It was not particularly big, but it was just large enough to take two paddleboards out on. Memories came flooding back all at once, taking me back to years I would rather leave in the past.

I stared mindlessly out my window, anxiously willing the clock to work faster. My childhood friend, Matthew, and his family were coming back to town for the weekend. I had not seen him for years, and I was nervously anticipating the moment I would see him again.

After what seemed to be hours of waiting, I finally saw a familiar black sedan pull into the driveway. I stared in joy, a stupid smile plastering my face, as Matthew climbed out of the backseat. He had grown about four inches, and his hair was a bit longer, but he seemed to be the same person I remembered. I bolted out of my room, nearly tripping over my own feet. Throwing open the door, I offered a warm welcome to his parents before I flung myself into an embrace with him.

He hugged me back, but not nearly as enthusiastic as I was. Pulling away, I looked up at him, slightly questioning. He smiled back awkwardly and gave a small greeting, but he then quickly looked away. Hiding my disappointment, I started back to the house, him following right behind. We entered the kitchen to find a conversation already deep in the heart of politics. I looked back to Matthew, who looked just as uncomfortable as I felt. He glanced at me, and I motioned for him to follow me

back outside. As we strolled back into the fresh air, I attempted to talk to him, but he was wholeheartedly unamused. Giving up, I just walked, him trudging along in my footsteps. I found myself climbing the knoll next to my house, and I flopped down as I reached the top.

Matthew sat down next to me, still not making eye contact.

I suppose I should have expected this. After all, it had been such a long time since we had seen each other. Nonetheless, it stung that he seemed to be upset that he was here. Staring at my shoes, I silently cursed myself for getting my hopes up so quickly.

"Has that pond always been there?" Matthew suddenly asked, nodding to the little body of water at the base of the hill.

Caught off guard, I looked up and replied "Huh? Oh, no. Dad built it last summer. He made it just wide and deep enough to put a paddleboard or two on it, but that is about it. We can go out on it if you'd like."

His brows furrowed as he contemplated his options, yet he resignedly agreed. Together we walked down the hill to the water's edge. Two paddleboards floated gently side by side, and we both stepped gingerly on our respective boards. In total silence we paddled to the middle of the pond and stopped. Matthew surveyed land around us, but I stared fixatedly at him.

Suddenly, I was angry at him. Why was he being so rude? We finally got to see each other again, yet he had barely uttered a word since he arrived. He refused to even look at me, no matter what I did or said. We had been so close just a few years ago, but now we could have fooled someone into thinking we were total strangers.

I gripped my oar and jabbed him swiftly in the stomach. He looked in shock as he fell backwards into the water. Arms flailing desperately, he stared at me in horror as he struggled to keep his head above water. I watched as his eyes filled with horror, his mouth full of water, and he slipped under the surface. Feeling an overwhelming numbness overcome me, I observed silently as the water went still at last.

I rowed my own board back to the shore, and I began walking back to the

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house. I pinched my arms, forcing tears to my eyes, and I rehearsed the story in my head. I reached the door, and I threw it open,

screaming hysterically. "Mom! Dad! He's gone! He drowned in the pond! I-I tried to save him, but there was n-nothing I could do. Oh, Matthew..."

Looking down at the pond, I realized that the anniversary of Matthew's death was in a week. For the five years he has been gone, there have been no questions asked about what happened. For all they knew, he had lost balance and fallen off, and I did not have the time or strength to save him. The story fit, and

it was accepted. I stood up and began walking back down to my house, leaving the pond and the memory behind me. It is not like anybody will ever find out, so why worry about it? What they don't know won't hurt

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FREE ESTIMATES

## Gladys Kozlik is Resident of the Week at **Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center**

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

The employees of Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center have chosen Gladys Kozlik as their GRCC Resident of the Week.

Gladys has been a resident of our facility since April 12, 2024. She was born on June 26, 1946, to George and Gladys (Kehoe) Deeters in Washington, D.C. She has a older brother, Raymond Deeters.

George Deeters was a car mechanic and her mother Gladys Deeters worked as a civilian secretary for the U.S. Army. George Deeters passed away when Gladys was 11 years old.

Gladys enjoyed working in the garden with her mother, and planting flowers. She attended Cora Kelly Elementary School and graduated from George Washington High School, where she participated in VOT, Vocational Office Training. Both schools were in Alexandria Va.

After she graduated high school, she was a secretary for the government. She met Robert Kozlik and married him in 1966. "I became a stay-at-home mom." The couple had two children, Mark and Jill. "I enjoyed just being a mom and being with them in the moment." Unfortunately, the marriage ended in divorce. Gladys was married a second time, and it ended in divorce as well.

Gladys eventually went to community college and became a dental assistant. She was a dental assistant for over 20 years. She also served as the Dental Assistant President of the Northern Virginia Dental Assistance Association.

After being a dental assistant, Gladys became a professional organizer. She becomes more excited, talking about it, and one can tell she genuinely enjoyed it. "It was a fun job. I enjoyed collaborating with people and helping them make their space more usable." She was able to help her clients determine what they needed in their lives.

Gladys has lived in Strasburg, Chantilly, Norfolk, and Vienna, Va. She also lived in California. "It was nice. We had beautiful weather every day." She eventually moved to Maysville, W.Va., with her daughter, Jill.

Gladys also enjoyed traveling. One of her memorable trips was a cruise to Alaska. "We got to see the whales." She also traveled the West Coast with friends. However, her favorite place is the beach. When asked which beach, Gladys replied, "Any near the ocean."

Gladys was also a dancer. She loves ballroom dancing, especially the west coast swing. "I would dance every other night. It was so fun to learn different dances." She is sad that she is no longer able to dance, "You need balance to dance, and as you get older, the balance goes."

Gladys also enjoys watching television. She likes watching Antiques Road Show: however, her favorites are mystery shows, especially Blue Bloods. "Tom Selleck is a good actor. Unfortunately, this season is the last one. They are already producing

something else." She adores photography. "I would just take pictures of anything that caught my

eye, but mainly scenery." Another hobby she used to pursue was making collages and memory boards.



It was part of her organization business. "It helped people to visualize what was profoundly important in their lives. I am a visual person, and most people are. Doing the collages and memory boards helps put things in perspective."

Unfortunately, Gladys' health declined to the point where she needed nursing home care. "It is hard when your body no longer works the way you want it. I miss dancing. I miss doing things."

Congratulations Gladys, for being our GRCC Resi-

At the facility, Gladys enjoys talking with staff, and attending group activities. She likes going outside to enjoy the sunshine.

dent of the Week!

## Denise McGreevy 159.28, Cherry Hammons 158.26. Community

**Art Show** 

Eastern WVCTC, sponsoring a community art show and artists may submit their work for the May 27- June 13 event.

Complete the online submission form by the deadline of Friday, May 16. Co-judges for the event are Kristen Colebank and Donna Davy.

Drop-off and set-up is scheduled for Saturday, May 17 and Wednesday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Pick-up and takedown is set for Saturday, June 14 and Wednesday, June 18 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

There will be a reception Tuesday, June 3, from 4 - 6 p.m.

Prizes awarded for first place \$250; second place \$175; third place \$125; two honorable mentions \$50 each; student award \$25 Amazon gift card and an Eastern gear pack; Easton's choice \$50.

Information and online submission form at https:// easternwv.formstack.com/ forms/eastern community\_art\_show\_2025



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# Lanes

### **ODD COUPLES** MIXED LEAGUE **April 8th**

TEAM STANDINGS: Terminators 88 - 36, Vetter's Guns & Ammo 85 -39, Split Happens 73 – 51, MMATFB 69 – 55, Empire Strikes 66 - 58, Country Cars & Trucks 60 - 64, WELD 54 - 70, Family Traditions I 46 - 78, Family Traditions II 46 - 78, Happy Bowlers 32 – 92.

## **MEN**

HIGH GAME (SCRA-TCH): Jon Hedrick 258, Phil Crews 256, Larry Walp 234, Arron Faxon 225. (HANDICAP): Phil Crews 269, Jon Hedrick 262, Larry Walp and Roger Earle 248.

HIGH SERIES (SCRA-TCH): Phil Crews 686, Jon Hedrick 656, Cohan Kesner 651, Arron Faxon 630. (HANDICAP): Phil Crews 725, Jon Hedrick 668, Arron Faxon 663, Larry Walp 657.

HIGH AVERAGE: Cohan Kesner 212.39, Jon Hedrick 205.83, Troy Mc-Greevy 201.06, Ed Wompler 197.81.

## WOMEN

HIGH GAME (SCRA-TCH): Carissa Michael 213, Dee Anna McDonald 204, Emily Stark 203, Rachel Stark 193. (HANDI-CAP): Emily Stark 241, Jordan Ketterman 238, Rachel Stark 238, Wendy Whetzel 234.

HIGH SERIES (SCRA-TCH): Carissa Michael 607, Dee Anna McDonald 555, Emily Stark 526, Rachel Stark 518. (HANDI-CAP): Jordan Ketterman 667, Rachel Stark 653, Carissa Michael 646, Dee Anna McDonald 642.

HIGH AVERAGE: Dee Anna McDonald 173, Emily Stark 162.13, Ashley Wratchford 160.14, Denise McGreevy 156.60.

#### THURSDAY NIGHT **MEN'S LEAGUE** April 10th TEAM STANDINGS:

Balls Deep 84.5 - 47.5, Golden Lanes 75.5 - 56.5, Vetter's Guns & Ammo 73 - 59, Vetter's Mini Mart 72 - 60, Chillmers 71 - 61, Strikeforce 70 - 62, Petersburg Oil Company 66 – 66.

HIGH GAME (SCRA-TCH): Tyler Halterman

258, Andrew Kesner 247, Trace Miller 243, Derek Miller 238, Mike Smith 235. (HANDICAP): Trace Miller 296, Jake Myers 293, David Robertson 287, Tyler Halterman 286, An-

drew Kesner 276. HIGH SERIES (SCRA-TCH): Andrew Kesner 681, Tyler Halterman 664, Derek Miller 662, Larry Walp and Andrew Hawk 649. (HANDICAP): Larry Walp 769, Andrew Kesner 768, Jake Myers 765, David Robertson 756, Walter Barnes 754.

HIGH AVERAGE: Cohan Kesner 215.66, Evan Kesner 208.23, Don Himelright 207.70, Jon Hedrick 202.77, Tyler Halterman 199.39, Gary Leatherman 198.89.

#### **SBV WOMEN** April 14th

HIGH GAME (SCRA-

TCH): Linda Kenyon 185, Marsha Leslie 179, Dee Anna McDonald 177. (HANDICAP): Linda Kenyon 238, Marsha Leslie 219, LInda Helmick 216. HIGH SERIES (SCRA-

TCH): Dee Anna McDonald 504, Penny Sites 499, inda Kenyon 481. (HAND-ICAP): Linda Kenyon 640, Penny Sites 601, Linda Helmick 590.

HIGH AVERAGE: Dee

has been told often, including in the movie 1754 or 1755. But God's grace had apparently "Freedom" and in the biographical film planted a seed in Newton's heart, and he began "Newton's Grace."

John Newton, the author of "Amazing Grace," had been a slave trader who had a conversion experience in 1748. Following a mutiny by his crew, Newton was put ashore on Sierra Leone and forced to work on a lemon and lime plantation, becoming virtually a slave himself.

After being rescued and on his return to storm where it appeared that all was lost. and its crew, were saved from destruction.

Although this marked a turning point in Newton's life, he didn't immediately end his

The story behind the hymn "Amazing Grace" career as a slave trader, continuing in this until studying theology and eventually became an Anglican clergyman and ardent abolitionist.

God's grace often produces conversions which appear suddenly in response to a particular event or crisis in our lives and yet it may take years or even decades for the conversion to have its full effect in our lives.

When I think of the many times in my life England, his ship was battered by a violent when God's grace saved me from what could have been utter destruction, I realize how often Newton called out to God for help and his ship, I've been lost or blind to something which only God could show me.

Often God saves us from ourselves.

> Join Us for Worship <

- Christopher Simon



-1st Stanza of "Amazing Grace"

'Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost. but now am found, was blind, but now I see.'

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#### Rev. Johnny Goldizen; 12 miles on Knobley Rd. from Maysville; Pastor "PJ" Landis; 1 mile north of Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 worship 10 a.m. a.m., evening worship 6 p.m., Crossroads

**Bayard Church of God** Pastor Joey Thomas; Spruce St., Bayard; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6:30 p.m., Wednesday family

#### **Bayard United Methodist** Rt. 90, Bayard; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11:15 a.m., Tuesday

**Antioch Church of God** 

Wed. Bible study 7 p.m.

training hour, 7 p.m.

Bible study 7 p.m. **Believers Mennonite** 

## **Fellowship**

Pastor Robert Weaver; Marvins Chapel, Fish Hatchery Rd. Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m., Wed. prayer and Bible study 7:30 p.m. Fourth Sunday 7 p.m., third Wed. service at Grant Rehab and Care Center 6:15 p.m.

## **Bethel Church**

Pastor Brian Henson; Rt. 220 south Hartmansville Rd; Sunday school of Petersburg. Sunday morning worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday school 11 a.m., Wednesday 7 p.m.

### **Bethel Pentecostal** Church

Three miles south of Petersburg on Rt. 220; Sunday school 10:30 a.m., worship 6:30 p.m. and Thursday worship 7:30 p.m.

#### **Brake Covenant Brethren Church**

Pastor Craig A. Howard; North Mill Creek Rd. at the twin bridges, Dorcas; Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship & children's church 10:30 a.m. Live streamed on Facebook at Brake Covenant Brethren Church. Tuesday Zoom Bible study, senior junior youth. Morning devotions Monday - Friday on Facebook. www.brakecbc.com

#### **Brick Covenant Brethren Church**

Pastor Randy Cosner; Rt. 42 north, Maysville; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. Tuesday family night at 6:30 p.m.

#### **Brushy Run Church of God**

Pastor Phillip Marcum; U.S. Rt. 220 15 miles south of Petersburg; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

## **Cabins Assembly of God**

Rev. Max Cochran, interim pastor, Rts. 28/55, Cabins; Sunday school 10:30 a.m., worship 6 p.m., Prayer meeting Wednesday mornings 10 a.m.; Bible study third Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.

## **Calvary Temple**

Pastors Eric & Gloria Georg, Rt. 50 west, Mt. Storm, Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday choir practice 7 p.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.

#### The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Bishop James D. Kimble; Valley

View St., Petersburg; sacrament meeting 9-10 a.m.; children's primary 10:10-11 a.m.; Sunday school 1st and 3rd Sundays; priesthood quorums and relief society 2nd and 4th Sundays; 5th Sundays - combined meetings.

## **Church of the Lord Jesus Christ**

Ave., Petersburg; Sunday worship 10 a.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

**Corner Church** Rev. Joseph Gerstell; Rts. 28/55, Pastor Roger Leatherman; 8 mi. Cabins; Sunday school 10 a.m.

Worship at 11:15 a.m. Bible study

Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

## **Cornerstone Family Fellowship**

Petersburg on Rt. 42. Sunday

## **Community Church**

Pastor Charles Lomasney; 8013 Lunice Creek Hwy/Rt. 42 S., Maysville. Sunday worship 10 a.m.

#### **Davis Baptist Church** Rev. Paul Donaldson; Jordan Run Rd., Maysville; worship first and

third Sundays 6 p.m. **Dorcas Baptist Church** Pastor Steve Davis, South Mill Creek Rd., Dorcas; Sunday

worship 9 a.m., Sunday school 10

## **Elkhorn Chapel**

a.m.; Wed. Bible study 7 p.m.

Pastor Glenn A. Vance Jr.; Elkhorn Road, Dorcas. Sunday worship 10 a.m., Thursday Bible study 6:30 p.m.

## **Emoryville United Methodist**

10:30 a.m., worship 11:15 a.m.

### **Faith Assembly** of God

Pastors Mark and Debbie Nicol; Rts. 28/55, Petersburg; Sunday worship 10 a.m., Wednesday Bible study 6:30 p.m.

#### **Falls Assembly** of God

Five miles off Rt. 42 on Knobley Road; Sunday morning 10 a.m., evening wor-ship 6:30 p.m., Wednesday 7 p.m.

#### **First Baptist** Church

Lead Pastor Shannon Earle, Associate Pastor Frank Ketterman. Virginia Ave., Petersburg. Sunday school 9 a.m., worship 10 a.m., Sunday youth 6 p.m., Wednesday senior youth 6 p.m. and Bible study 6:30 p.m. Saturday men's Bible study 7 a.m. and Bible study 6:30 p.m.

#### **Gordon Chapel United Methodist**

Pastor Dave Webb: off Rt. 220. Landes; Sunday school first & third Sundays 10 a.m., other Sundays 9:30 a.m.; worship first & third Sundays 9 a.m.

## **Grace Lutheran Church**

5 Pine St., Petersburg; Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship 10:30

#### **Grove Street United Methodist**

Pastor Robert Baer Jr.; 11 North Grove St., Petersburg; Sunday worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday school 10:45 a.m., Wednesday prayer and share 6 p.m. (For weekday devotionals, follow the link at www.grovestreetumc.org)

#### **Hedrick Chapel** Church

Pastor Jim Tompkins, 6119 South Mill Creek Rd., Rough Run; Sunday school 10 a.m. and worship 11 a.m.

#### **Harmony Baptist** Church Pastor Gary Crislip; 713 Country

Road, Maysville; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m., Wednesday Bible study 7:30 p.m. Jordan Run Union

## Church

Pastor Rick Bergdoll; Jordan Run Pastor Calvin Redman; 1 Hyre Rd., Maysville; Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.

> **Knobley Covenant Brethren Church** south of Rt. 50 on Knobley Rd.; Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship

10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible study

6:30 p.m.

#### Lahmansville **United Methodist** Pastor Mark Sprouse; Patterson

Creek Road, Lahmansville; Sunday school 10 a.m.; worship every first and third Sunday at 11 a.m.

### **Landmark Holiness Tabernacle**

Pastor Wendell L. Everett; Patterson Creek Road, Arthur; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 Wednesday service 7 p.m.

## Lighthouse **Community Church**

Rt. 42 south, Maysville; Sunday school 10 a.m., evening worship 6:30 p.m. **Living Hope** 

## **Baptist Church**

Pastor Matt Smith; 1011 North Fork Highway, Petersburg. Sunday school 9:30 -10:30 a.m., worship 10:45 a.m., Wednesday Bible study 6:30 p.m.

## **Locust Grove Church**

Pastor Kevin Staggs; Bismarck Rd. off Rt. 93/50, Mt. Storm; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m.

## **Love Christian Assembly** Pastor Justin Murray; 3 miles

north of Petersburg on Rt. 220; Sunday worship 10 a.m., kids church 10 a.m.

## **Main Street United Methodist**

Pastor Cheryl George; 102 North Main St., Petersburg. Services at 11 a.m. on YouTube, Facebook or in person (when available).

#### Maysville **Bible Brethren**

Pastor Lynn Durbin; Rt. 42 south, Maysville; Sunday school 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m., Sunday evening 6 p.m., Wed. Bible study and prayer meeting 6:30 p.m.

#### **Maysville Christian Community Church**

Rev. Joseph Gerstell; Rt. 42/ Cemetery Rd., Maysville; Sunday worship 10 a.m.; Sunday school 11 a.m.; Bible study Tues., 7 p.m.

#### **Memorial Covenant Brethren Church**

Pastor Shawn Champ; Highland Ave., Petersburg; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m.

#### **Mount Carmel** Church

Patterson Creek Rd., Arthur; Sunday worship 8:45 a.m., Sunday school 9:45 a.m. Prayer meeting every third Sunday at 6 p.m. In person or 1Zoom. Request a link

#### **Mount Hebron United Methodist** Pastor Mark Sprouse; Ridge Rd.,

Petersburg; worship every Sunday at 10 a.m., Sunday school 11 a.m.

**Mount Storm** 

#### **Presbyterian** Rt. 50 east, Mt. Storm; Sunday

worship 9 a.m., Sunday school 10 a.m.

**Mount Storm** 

### **United Methodist** Rt. 50 east, Mt. Storm; Sunday

school 9 a.m. and worship 10 a.m. **North Fork** 

#### Mennonite Miller, Pastor; Sunrise David

Drive, 2/10 mile on right, Petersburg. Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m., fourth Sunday evening 6 p.m., prayer meeting and Bible study first & third Wednesday at 7 p.m.

## **North Mill Creek Baptist Church**

North Mill Creek Rd., Dorcas; Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship 10:45 a.m., Wed. Bible study 7 p.m.

#### **Oakdale Christian** Church Pastor Lynn Rohrbaugh, Rig Road,

Rig; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. p.m., Wednesday prayer and Bible study 7 p.m.

## Oak Dale Covenant **Brethren Church**

Pastor Randy Cosner; Rt. 93, Scherr; Sunday worship 9:45 a.m., Sunday school 11 a.m.

#### Otterbein **United Methodist** Pastor Mark Sprouse; Jordan Run

Rd. & Rt. 42, Maysville; Worship every Sunday 9 a.m., Sunday school 10 a.m.

#### **Petersburg Church of God** Pastors Stephen & Yvette Noel;

Myrtle Ave., Petersburg; Sunday school 9:30 a.m., morning worship and Kid's Zone 10:30 a.m., Wednesday FTH 7 p.m.

Petersburg

**Presbyterian Church** 

Rev. Fletcher Hutcheson; North

### Main St., Petersburg; Sunday worship 11 a.m.

**Potomac Valley Baptist Church** Pastor Ted Anderson; Rt. 42 south, Maysville; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6

p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.

## **Rig Assembly of God**

Pastor Bradley Taylor; Rig Road; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday evening 6 p.m., Wednesday prayer and Bible study 6:30 p.m.

## **Riverside Church**

Pastor Tommy George; Rts. 28/55, Dolly Town Road, Cabins; Sunday school 10:30 a.m., evening service 6:30 p.m., Wednesday 7 p.m.

## Rough Run Church

Pastor Randy Mongold; South Mill Creek Rd., Dorcas. Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m., Wednesday prayer meeting / Bible study 7 p.m.

## **South Branch**

**Baptist Church** Pastor Matt Perrine; 496 Veterans Lane, Petersburg. Sunday services 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday prayer and Bible study 7 p.m.

#### **South Mill Creek Church of the Brethren**

Pastor Bill Johnson; South Mill Creek Road near Mozer; Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. first four Sundays.

## **Spirit of Life Church**

Pastor Brian Hipp; Rt. 28/55 west, Petersburg; Sunday worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6 p.m., Wednesday 6 p.m.

#### St. John's **United Methodist** Pastor David Webb; Rt. 220 south,

Petersburg; Sunday school first and third Sundays 11 a.m., second, fourth and fifth Sundays 10 a.m. Worship first and third Sundays 10 a.m. & second Sunday 11:15 a.m. St. Mary's Catholic

## Fr. Arul Anthony; Grant St., Petersburg; Sunday mass 10 a.m. Daily

Church

mass Wednesday at noon. St. Paul United Methodist

#### Pastor Cheryl George; Patterson Creek Rd., Lahmansville; worship 9:30 a.m. every Sunday.

If there are changes to

any church listing,

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## Worship

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## Is this puppy ready for a long hike?

DEAR PAW'S COR-NER: I adopted a beautiful pup at about 3 months old this winter. Now that the weather is warming up and "Blondie" is about 6

The Spats

**ACROSS** 

Persian Gulf

emirate

Little lie Chances, for short

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15 Thesaurus

18 Deserves 20 Legal docu-

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12 Winner's gesture

months old, I can't wait to start going on hikes with her. How far can a puppy that age walk? Do you have any safety tips?

— Carl J., via email **DEAR CARL:** Blondie sounds like an amazing pup! With the correct training, she will eventually be able to accompany you on some hikes -- but not this season.

Puppies at 6 months of age should only take limited walks, ranging from five to 10 minutes max, on level ground. Don't take them farther -- pushing them too soon can cause a host of physical problems because

their growth plates haven't fused.

Most experts recommend lengthening walks gradually starting from about 9 months. For longer distances over uneven ground, and when training dogs to carry their own panniers, wait until they are 12 to 18 months old.

So, you won't be able to take Blondie with you on day hikes this year -- unless you carry her. There are special "sport sacks" just for carrying small- to medium-size dogs. Think of it as a fitness challenge for you, and a way for your pup to learn to love the out-

OUR MARRIAGE IS

A WINDSHIELD..

60

In the meantime, you can work on Blondie's obedience training. It's critical that she respond immediately when you call her, especially out on hikes. She should also be well socialized to people and other dogs -- this prevents a lot of grief on the trail. Right now is the perfect time to do that, and to bond with your dog so that you have fun whether you're outdoors or not ..

Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@ pawscorner.com.

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## by Jeff Pickering



## King Crossword PUZZLES

me" speaker

33 Sinbad's bird

34 Pigs' digs

tree

46 Heaps

40 Emulate

36 Praline nuts

38 Greek chees-

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51 Hot temper

Serb or Croat

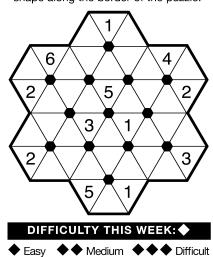
"Shark Tank"

**PUZZLE ANSWERS FOUND ON PAGE 2A** 

## by Japheth Light

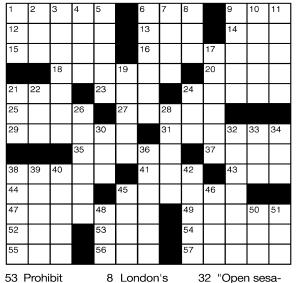
There are 13 black hexagons in the

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.



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by Donna Pettman



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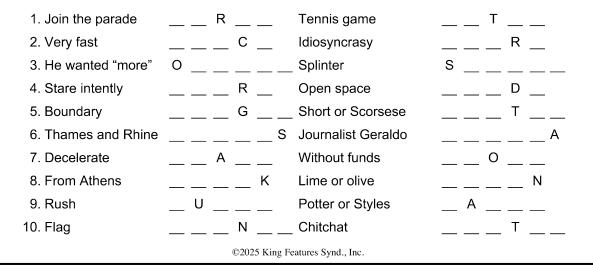
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**Exchange** 

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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.



## DAD JOKE

**Wife:** Please stop eating so much salt.

Me: Why? Wife: Too much sodium can lead to high blood

pressure, heart attacks

and strokes. Me: So you're saying too much sodium is a salt with a deadly weapon? Wife: (Pours more salt on my food)

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

HER MORE. IT WAS GOING GREAT, UNTIL SHE NOTICED I WAS JUST READING ALL HER INSPIRATIONAL PLAQUES IN THE KITCHEN.

MY WIFE ALWAYS TELLS ME I NEED TO ENCOURAGE

## **CryptoQuip**

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error

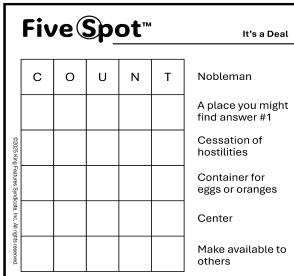
Clue: B equals W WOF WBM BFPHFDDXTF IPIIPDH

PQF XLHFNPQPJDF. X WOXLT

WOFE'QF NQMJPJDE XL P

HPJDF QFDPWXMLHOXN.

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Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common

FiveSpot is a trademark of Michael McLinden

02508

**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINOFF **DENTIST** DR. GLICK OPEN

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



6. Tie is thinner. different. 4. Door is not as wide. 5. Name on door is lower. Differences: I. Eyes are different. 2. Hat is larger. 3. Lapel is

**ABSTRACT** 

**ALMANAC ARCHIVES** 

**AUTHOR** 

**BOOKS** 

**BROWSER** 

CARD

**CATALOG** 

CIRCULATION

**CITATION** 

COURSE

**DESK** 

**EDITOR** 

**GLOSSARY** 

**INDEX** 

**JOURNAL** 

**KEYWORD** 

LOAN

**MOVIES** 

**PERIODICAL** 

REFERENCE

**RENEW** 

**RESERVE** 

**STACKS** 

On the roof of the nasal cavity (the space behind your nose) is the 'olfactory epithelium," which contains millions of receptors that sense odor molecules. Through the air, odor molecules drift into the nasal cavity and stimulate some of the receptors, which then stimulate the brain to recognize that odor from among the many thousands of different smells cataloged in the brain. Source: kidshealth.org

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# LOT OF BOOKS WOF

X G E R U L U Α R Ε D N Ι K Α F C B F В P U X F R X P P G L A L C L R C E 0 A N B C V D P A U K 0 N B V S E E E S S P V R Ε R N W Y Т Т W L W S Н D Ι D Y Н X M E X Ι E R Н Α K V E G E S D A L B X R М J C B 0 P Α D U F S F Ι В X E R Н R R 0 L L K Ι М L В E K Y Ι J T Ι Y U L 0 G 0 T D S A M W Т R R D W Н Y P Ι Α Α W Τ Τ S K 0 0 В R Y K E S Н T Ι L N L R K C S 0 S Н N E S E F C U E В T V N L P V Α Α 0 0 Н C C G Ι Ι Τ Ε C R Α C M W U W N D R D L A R Ι R S M T R Y R C Ι G R E W Н C T Ι J Ι A Ι Y 0 C S B Α Т W 0 Y N C C K 0 Α G R V E T S Y Α B N Α Н Α W C R E S D T X C Ι Ι S E T H Α Α N Y Υ T U C A Ι Ι X E V Ε F J Н X L E C L E

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Page 6B GRANT COUNTY PRESS, Petersburg, West Virginia April 22, 2025

## Annual Spring Mountain Festival loads on the entertainment, adds new events for the weekend of April 25, 26, 27

Trout derby, entertainment, vendors, kid fun, vehicle shows still on the schedule

FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH Festival Opens at Noon! Jack and Davis Reid

Free Admission

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH** 

Festival Opens at 9 a.m.

Parade lineup at PHS Baseball field 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Opening Ceremonies honoring Veterans and First Responders

11:00 a.m. - Noon Raymond's Gymnastics

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Justin Hensley

12:00 - 4:00 p.m. **ATV Rides** 

12:00 - 5:30 p.m. Trout Derby at the Pool

1:00 - 6:00 p.m. **Bounce Houses** 

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Tennessee Mojo 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Jonathan Zinn / Fender Ridge

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Rewind

**SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH** 

Church Service

Fly Fishing Class

Motorcycle Show

Dog and Puppy Parade

**Engine Show** 

Off The Railz

Petersburg Church of God

Antique Car, Truck, Tractor &

Trout Derby at the Pool

Festival Opens at 10:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Noon

Noon Noon

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

4:00 p.m.





Jack & Davis Reid Friday, April 25 • 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

It's the 32nd Spring Mountain Festival and there's plenty to do for the whole family during the weekend.

Back again this year is the Trout Derby on Saturday and Sunday for all age groups as well as a fly fishing class. Advance registration is required. The form can be found on the Festival's Facebook page or inside this year's program.

Saturday will start with a parade and opening ceremonies at the Park and ATV rides, a new addition, will begin at noon.

New to the Festival is the Dog and Puppy Parade on Sunday, beginning at noon. There will be prizes and registration is free at https://square.link/u/BI-Kuc8gl or go to the Facebook page Spring Mountain Festival, Petersburg WV and click on the link.

Sunday's church service in the park will again be a combined service featuring members of the Grant County Ministerial Association. Later on, festival goers can check out the Antique Car, Truck, Tractor and Engine Show plus the Motorcycle Show.

This year's Festival features a stream of free concerts beginning Friday night through Sunday afternoon. You'll also see this year's Spring Mountain Festival queen, Sophia Smith, in the park along with other pageant win-

Admission to the park is free. Bicycles, skateboards, etc. are prohibited as well as pets unless they are participating in the Dog and Puppy Parade.

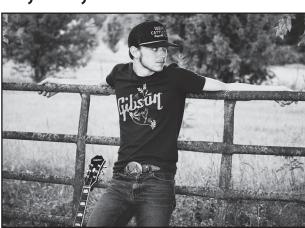
Also during the weekend will the second annual Petersburg Pickleball Tournament on Saturday, April 26, beginning at 9 a.m. in the City Park sponsored by the Petersburg Lions Club. Look for registration information on their Facebook

That same day from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. is the fifth annal Spring Fling and Grant County Schools Art Show at the Landes Arts Center. Stop in at 20 Mountain View Street to see the artwork and enjoy refreshments and music.

There's lots to see and do during this great weekend of fun right here in Pe-



Off The Railz Sunday, April 27 • 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.



**Justin Hensley** Saturday, April 26 • 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.



Tennessee Mojo Saturday, April 26 • 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.



Jonathan Zinn / Fender Ridge Saturday, April 26 • 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.



Rewind Saturday, April 26 • 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.



We are seeking additional housing for our Moorefield, WV facility



## **BROILERS**



Contact **Duke Dunkle** 304.703.7407

Larkin.Dunkle@pilgrims.com



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year round. All litter amendments and bug spray paid

year round. We offer many opportunities to expand existing farms. Upgrades can be done within one year of transfer.

## **BREEDERS**

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Pilgrim's Moorefield Breeder Department is seeking additional housing for hatching egg production for our growing facility.

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208 S. Main St. Moorefield, WV 26836



Visit our website www.pilgrims.com



Contact us





EOE, including disability/vets