

Proudly Serving Grant County for 129 Years

4-H volunteers put up pinwheels in honor of Child Abuse Prevention

This April, Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA America) and its nationwide network of state chapters unite for National Child Abuse Prevention (CAP)... 7A.

Maysville Archery team pick up wins at state

The Maysville Elementary Tigers Archery team traveled to Charleston to compete in the 2025... page 1B.

FOOD BANK

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: Peanut Butter and Jelly Canned Fruit and Veggies

READ THE LEGAL ADS

Obituaries

Rick Borrer
Ruth Cosner
Todd McDonald
Dennis Shirk

poll question

Do you have a positive or negative opinion on President Trump's recent tariff changes?

Let us know on our Facebook page

Local Flavor	2A
Opinion pages	4A-5A
Obituaries	6A
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Classifieds/Legals	2B,3B
Business Spotlight	8A

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First ever Cyber Vikings robotics student travels to Utah for competition

Petersburg High School took another step forward into the quickly advancing world of technology this year by sending a competitor to the school's first ever robotics competition in Provo, Utah.

The goal of competing was born from Viking senior Clifton Stewart's (also known as CJ) longstanding interest in technology, programming and his special fondness for building with Legos. Stewart, a Petersburg resident and son of Dominique

Wright, has autism and is in PHS's special education program. While the program helps him overcome some struggles with communication, some of his classes do not challenge him or his unique skill sets.

"I have always liked computers," Stewart said during his presentation. "They are sometimes easier for me to interact with than people. I had learned some simple programming before but now I had a new challenge."

With help from his advisers, Stewart formed the Cyber Viking Team and while he was the only PHS student in the competition, he formed a strong friendship and mentorship with members of the Beehive Academy. Beehive Academy is a specialized science, technology,

engineering, and mathematics (STEM) charter school located in Sandy, Utah.

After months of work and planning, Stewart headed to Utah.

The trip marked a lot of firsts for Stewart, who made his first plane ride along with his mother and his American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter, Jeanne Kimble. Stewart has a hearing impairment, which didn't slow him down at all during the competition. In fact, his work on his presentation and interview ended up winning him a Judge's Choice award.

For the competition, Stewart put together a presentation on robotics and built his very own robot. Complete with a long arm and specialized programming,

the robot was designed to complete specific tasks during the competition. He worked closely with his mentors and teammates at Beehive Academy during the process, getting guidance from the team's coach, Annie Drennan.

"I was so excited when the robot kit first arrived," Stewart said. "Everyone that walked through our space stopped to watch us put the robot together."

The competition was hosted by the First Tech Challenge (FTC) program that emphasizes not only hands on technology work but also courtesy and professionalism in the field.

"The founders wanted two

See Robotics, page 7A

Children capture attack on video during burglary

A Grant County man is facing multiple felonies after allegedly breaking into a home and attacking a man during a domestic dispute.

Travis J. Borrer, 38, is facing felony burglary and strangulation charges as well as misdemeanor battery and destruction of property charges after he allegedly broke into an ex-girlfriend's home and attacked a guest.

The incident took place in Petersburg on March 28 when Grant County 911 received a frantic call from a female victim saying she needed help and yelling at someone to get out of her home.

An officer with the Grant County Sheriff's Department arrived at the scene and spoke with the female owner of the residence. The woman told officers that Borrer, had come to her home angry over a domestic issue. Officers noted that the woman and Borrer were not currently in a relationship and were separated.

The victim told officers that Borrer demanded she open the door but she refused and told him to leave.

Borrer refused and proceeded to kick down the victim's front door, breaking off the

See Attack, page 7A



Above: Clifton Stewart with his robot and awards that he won at the First Tech Challenge robotics competition in Utah. He traveled to the event with his mother, Dominique Wright, and his American Sign Language interpreter, Jeanne Kimble. Right: Stewart with his competition mentors and teammates Mayank Gupta and Max Dillier. Gupta and Dillier attend the Beehive Academy in Sandy, Utah. Their team assisted Stewart during the event where he was the sole representative of the Cyber Vikings.



PHG strives to bring awareness to programs that assist adults with developmental disabilities

Last month marked National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, an important moment to remember not only the youth in the community struggling with developmental disabilities, but the many adults who are impacted by similar struggles. One community organization that is striving to assist those with a developmental disability and their families is the

Potomac Highlands Guild, who offers not only support and programs but also fully living support.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), developmental disabilities are defined as a group of conditions creating an impairment in physical, learning, language, or behavior areas. Oftentimes, these conditions begin during the person's

developmental period, may impact day-to-day functioning and usually last throughout a person's lifetime. The CDC explains that most developmental disabilities begin before a baby is born, but some can happen after birth because of injury, infection, or other factors.

In total, over 5 million people in the United States were diagnosed with an intellectual

and/or developmental disability in 2020, including 2.28 million adults. This does not include the 2.88 million children diagnosed with developmental delays not associated with an intellectual disability (including autism spectrum disorder).

National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

See PHG, page 7A

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LOCAL

FLAVOR

By Camille Howard

Did you ever have one of those weeks when you can barely drag yourself around and work days seem to last forever?

That was last week for me. I was so looking forward to Friday when I could finally get home and just drop on the couch for an hour.

But, there are always errands to run after work. I got home and unloaded my bags, carried them up to the house and opened the front door ... and an odd odor welcomed me.

I couldn't place it and after getting things put away in the kitchen I started looking for the origin of that smell.

It wasn't the kitchen garbage can and it wasn't the cat litter in the laundry room. I narrowed it down to somewhere between the dining room and living room but still couldn't find it.

As the evening wore on the smell got worse and had the fragrance of road kill.

Maybe something died outside, so I looked around the house but that wasn't it.

I got out some fabric freshener and sprayed it around which helped a little but not enough.

I opened the front door and a window and finally I'd had enough and went upstairs to get away from it.

All I could think of was the cats dragged something in that wasn't quite dead and it got away and kicked the bucket in some secluded

spot.

The next morning it was still there, so I went hunting again. Finally I saw what it was, a small mouse in among the electric and charging cords underneath one of the end tables.

It wasn't there the night before so I surmised it was dragged from somewhere or I missed it when it was darker in the room the previous evening.

There is no reason for a dead mouse to be in our house. With five cats you would think one of them would have taken care of it.

For such poor job performance there will be no treats for a week. Not that it will do any good. Cats just don't care.

I'm just thankful I found it before we had to move out!

And speaking of moving, my daughter, son-in-law and grandson are moving to Weirton this week and will be sorely missed.

I can't say I'm happy about it, but I am glad they've been here for the last four years.

While they were packing up their house, I was presented with some very old cooking pamphlets from several companies back in the 1920s and 1930s.

When I opened the front

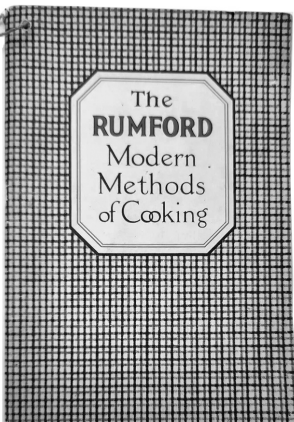
cover of one it said "Helen R. Abbey" which was my Great-aunt Becky on my dad's side. She was a nurse for many years and lived in Pittsburgh.

She was a hoarder, so it didn't surprise me when I saw her name inside the little cookbooks. I remember

going to her house to visit and the hallways were lined with boxes and there was barely a place to sit down.

I think I was a little scared to do much more than sit there, not wanting to be the cause of an avalanche.

One of the cooking pamphlets was from the Rumford Company, makers of baking powder and called



"Modern Methods of Cooking, from the 1920s.

The cover was missing, although the back cover was stuck inside and a little worse for wear. The funny thing is that the little string that goes through the hole drilled in the corner of the book, is still here. I found the picture you see here online because the book I have is so damaged.

I came across a recipe for Cinnamon Rusks, and had no idea what is considered a rusk, but it looked like the ingredients for a cookie.

I looked up the name online and it is more like a scone. And we all know those are perfect with tea or coffee!

A lot of things change over the years, but here is a recipe that is close to 100 years old and still a delicious treat to enjoy.

Have a great week!

CINNAMON RUSKS
2 cups flour
1 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons sugar
4 teaspoons Rumford Baking Powder
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
2 teaspoons cinnamon
1/2 to 2/3 cup milk
1 egg
2 tablespoons shortening
2 tablespoons sugar for top
Sift flour, salt, sugar, baking powder, nutmeg and cinnamon together. Add milk to beaten egg and mix with flour to

make a soft dough. Add melted shortening. Mix well.

Turn out on floured board. Cut pieces of dough in uniform sizes and shape into small rolls. Place close together in well greased biscuit pan. Set to rise in warm place 10 minutes.

Just before putting in oven, brush tops with milk and sprinkle with sugar. Bake in a moderate oven.

Makes 10-12 rusks.
A moderate oven is considered 350°-375°F.

Community Meetings and Events

The Potomac Highlands Beekeepers Association (PHBA) will meet Thursday, April 10, at 7 p.m. upstairs at our home at the Romney Fire Department, 175 S. High Street in downtown Romney. All meetings are open to the public. If you are interested in learning about beekeeping, are a beginner or are an experienced beekeeper, this is a forum where you will be able to learn and exchange beekeeping information.

Petersburg Presbyterian Church's pizza, prayer and praise, Sunday, April 13, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Food, singing, devotions, crafts and sharing. 20 N. Main Street, Petersburg. Call 304-257-4255 or email petersburgpresbyterian@gmail.com if you will be attending. Free and open to everyone.

Civil Air Patrol Potomac Highlands Composite Squadron is recruiting cadets (ages 12-18) and adults to become members. The Squadron building is at the Grant County Airport,

Johnson Run Road, Petersburg. Meetings are Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Contact Lt. John Banks at john.banks@jwwwg.cap.gov. go-civilairpatrol.com

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

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

Grant County Commission meets every month on the second Tuesday at 9 a.m. and the fourth Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. in the lower level conference room. For the agenda check 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 tax prep held (by appointment). All activities are free at their facility on 101 Alt Ave., Petersburg.

GRCC Helping Hands will meet April 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center chapel, 127 Early Ave., Petersburg. For more information call 305-257-4223 ext 5242.

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

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

Petersburg City Council meets the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at

City Hall on Mt. View St. **Potomac Highlands Cancer Support Group** for cancer patients and caregivers, meets the first Monday of every month, 5 p.m. at Living Hope Baptist Church, 1011 North Fork Highway. Refreshments.

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



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ELECTIONS FOR AMERICAN LEGION POST 78

2nd Thursday in April: Nominations for Officers

4th Thursday in April: Final Nominations for Officers and Voting

2nd Thursday in May: Installation of Officers

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Petersburg Builders Center in Petersburg is looking to expand its team!

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Answers to puzzles on Page 3B

After an opponent presented me from getting even one point, I had to give him a shout-out shout-out.

Cryptopuzzle

Solution time: 23 mins.

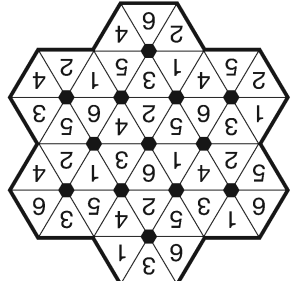
Answers

King Crossword

10. Austin, Austen	6. Elate, Slate
9. Forge, Force	7. Nickel, Nicked
8. Danny, Dandy	2. Crest, Crust
3. Latter, Litter	1. Bride, Brine
4. Chill, Chili	
5. Talker, Tanker	

S	P	I	R	G
S	G	N	I	R
N	I	A	R	G
N	A	G	R	O
G	N	O	L	A
N	O	L	A	T

Answer



Answers

King Crossword

1. Bride, Brine
2. Crest, Crust
3. Latter, Litter
4. Chill, Chili
5. Talker, Tanker

LAST DAY TO SEE

WOMEN in WAR

AN EXHIBIT EXPLORING WOMEN IN US MILITARY CONFLICTS FROM COLONIAL TIMES TO THE PRESENT

FRIDAY, APRIL 11th

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Free and Open to the Public during regular library hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This exhibit is a traveling exhibition from the U.S. Army Women's Museum, Fort Gregg-Adams, Virginia, and is being presented in venues in WV by the West Virginia Humanities Council.

Persons requiring accessibility assistance should contact GCAC before the event at P.O. Box 988, Petersburg, WV 26847 or GCArtsCouncil@gmail.com.

Vetter honored at nurses conference

The West Virginia University Cancer Institute hosted its first Oncology Nurses Conference March 28, at the Erickson Alumni Center in Morgantown.

This event brought together more than 218 oncology nurses from 13 WVU Cancer Institute locations for a full day of learning, collaboration, and celebration.

The conference highlighted the vital role oncology nurses play in advancing patient care and fostering innovation.

Brooklyn Vetter, MSN, RN, WCC, Nurse Manager of the Grant Memorial Hospital Cancer and In-

fusion Center, shared updates as one of four panel members during a discussion highlighting WVUCI centers.

In addition to the educational programming, the event celebrated the exceptional contributions of oncology nurses through a special awards ceremony.

Grant Memorial Hospital announces that Vetter was honored as the first-ever recipient of the 2025 Oncology Nurse Leader of the Year Award.

She was recognized for outstanding leadership and dedication to elevating oncology nursing standards



SBCTC students bring home gold, silver and bronze from the SkillsUSA West Virginia competition

High school, middle school and post-secondary students from South Branch Career and Technical Center traveled to Fairmont State University the last weekend in March to compete in the SkillsUSA state competition.

GOLD MEDALS

- Callie Sites, Basic Health Care Skills.
- Chloe Miller, Cosmetology, HS.
- Maria Leonardi and Haily Vanmeter, Fantasy Hair and Makeup, HS.
- Claudia Fitzwater, and Kaylee Wolford, Fantasy Hair and Makeup, MS.
- Shelby Runion, Natu-

ral Hair Design and Braids-MS.

- Emily Adams, T-shirt design, MS.
- Francis VanMeter, model Nataley Hedrick, Nail Care, PS
- Hannah Bennett, Pin Design, HS.
- Madelyn Cook, Pin Design, MS.
- Avery Feaster, Action Skills.
- William Waddy, Achilles Judy, Jeb Wagner, Aaron Roth and Kailee Armen-trout, Quiz Bowl.

SILVER MEDALS

- Elliot Busl, Fantasy Hair and Makeup, PS.
- Andrew Mowery, In-

dustrial Motor Control.

- Allee Yakubow, Claire Kaposy and Miley Tingle, Promotional Bulletin Board.
- Cashton Kisamore, Basic Residential Wiring.
- Emily Guerrero, Natu-ral Hair Design and Braids, PS.

• Joe Riggleman, Kelby Rumer, and Madison Whetzel, American Spirit.

BRONZE MEDALS

- Jared Baker, bronze, Plumbing.
- Macee Ours, Welding sculpture.
- Jacob Wolfe, Carpen-try.
- Mavis Keiter, Cosme-

tology, PS.

- Kaelynn Reigel, David Shreve, Glenda Miller, Luke Adkins, Criminal Justice Quiz Bowl.
- Paislee Alt model, Kyrstin Kesner, Esthetics.
- Owen Reel, Gracie Ours, Garrett Nuzum and Tyler Martin, Health Knowledge Bowl

Also during the competition, Kourtney Alexander and Owen Reel were elected as state officers for 2025-26.



SKSRT ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Spruce Knob Seneca Rocks Telephone, Inc. will award a \$500 scholarship to two graduating seniors whose parents or legal guardians are current customers of Spruce Knob Seneca Rocks Telephone, Inc.

Applicant must be a member of a current graduating class, must achieve a minimum 3.0 GPA or in the upper 1/3 of the class, and must be accepted as a full-time student in an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school.

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

Further information on eligibility and criteria can be obtained by calling 304-567-2121, M-F from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by e-mailing jmiller@sksr.com

Applications are available at the telephone office in Riverton or can be downloaded online at www.sksrt.com. Deadline for submission of application is April 18, 2025.

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Petersburg high/middle school students of the month for March



Emily McDonald



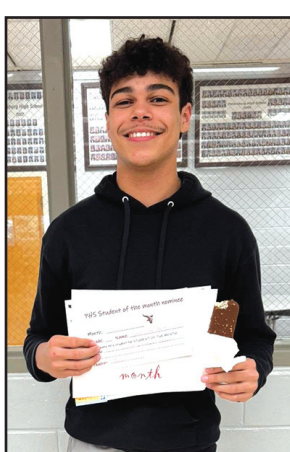
Charlotte Rexrode



Caden Arbaugh



Xander Higgins



Cowen Gomez-Burton



Dawson Ketterman

MES honor roll students for the third nine weeks

Maysville Elementary School principal, Megan DiBenedetto, announces the names of those students earning honor status for the third nine weeks of the 2024-25 school year.

A Honor Roll

Lilly Hawk, Karley Kessel, Adilyn Law, Ella Riggleman, Callie Roberts, Reese Rohrbach, Dominic See, Nadia Swick, John Watts, Sadie Carr, Alexa Conrad, Lonnie Cook, William Cook, Gracelyn Crocker, Jace Evans, Zoey Evans, Faith Funk, Kaylee Goldizen, Maggie Evans, Jase Kuh, Aaralyn Martin, Paxton Miller, Josiah Morrell, Jemma Poore, Abigail Shirk, Rachel Shreve, Sawyer Welch, Elovie Bogan, McKenzie Bonner, Lucas Clark, Savannah Goldizen, Myla Heare, Mckenley Hedrick, Christian Herron, Leah Keplinger, Jameson Kessel, Evelyn Kochenderfer, Carson Lambert, Payten Lambert, Paisley Moreland, Chase Nellis, Allie Redman, Kai Ross-er, Camden Barger, Chase

Berg, Qumaisa Cole, Audrey Hall, Oriana Heavener, Joseph Herrmann, Chasity Jenkins, Tatem Keplinger, Ryleigh Layton, Lillie Roberts, Miley Runion, Madilynn Sullivan, Kaylee Sutherland, McKenna Taylor, Kanon Bell, Hope Berg, Holden Chandler, Kylie Cosner, Brayden Higginbotham, Jacob Lambert, Haven Mongold, Sadie Rohrbach, Devlin Rotruck, Hunter Bunker, Brynn Butler, Liam Drake, Jacob Getz, Maverick Harper, Rowan Heare, Greyson Layton, Alylaa Miller, Kendall Mongold, Mason Moreland, Hadessah Morrell, Ryleigh Schell, Remington Shanholtz, John Carson Smith and Reed Welch.

B Honor Roll

Ezra Hesse, Madaline Rohrbach, Tyler Evans, Kane Devas, Mason Kisamore, Zaiden Wilson, Zoey Donaldson, Stihl Eversole, Aiden See, Kynleigh Barger, Aubrey Berg and Hannon Combs.

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If interested, visit [Indeed.com](https://www.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



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Hitting close to home: West Virginia's cultural heritage should be defended, not defunded. *DOGE's proposed humanities cuts imperil the Mountain State's cultural economy*

By Eric Waggoner, Executive Director
West Virginia Humanities Council

The West Virginia Encyclopedia Online? Deleted from the internet.

The West Virginia Folklife Program's preservation of our unique traditions and culture? Gone.

Hundreds of annual History Alive! presentations to schools, libraries, churches, and community centers across West Virginia? Canceled.

Last week, the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) targeted the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) with devastating funding cuts, putting West Virginia's rich history, cultural tourism, and community programs at immediate risk. These cuts will pull nearly a million dollars per year in Congressionally approved federal funding out of West Virginia, directly affecting historical societies, museums, festivals, and organizations that work tirelessly to preserve and share the enthralling story of our Mountain State.

In our role as the NEH's official state affiliate, the West Virginia Humanities Council, a nonpartisan nonprofit organization, has delivered NEH funding throughout West Virginia since 1974, providing programs and giving grants to organizations and initiatives that celebrate our cultural heritage. These efforts ensure that West Virginia's history and culture remain alive and accessible for future generations.

Our grants and programs can be found in all 55 counties, everywhere from cities to the smallest communities. We have supported initiatives as wide ranging as Arthurdale Heritage in Preston County and the Contemporary American Theater Festival in Shepherdstown.

Our West Virginia National Cemeteries Project and the History Alive! speaker series are just two examples of how we bring state, national, and military history to life and create invaluable experiences for students, residents, and visitors alike.

Along with important programs like these, our support for West Virginia studies and civics programs has made the West Virginia Humanities Council a national leader in the arts and humanities for people of all ages.

Kenzie New Walker, executive director of Matewan's West Virginia Mine Wars Museum, attests that Council grants "have enabled us to create new permanent exhibits, support Appalachian authors, and launch innovative programs — many of which continue to thrive well beyond their initial funding. The success of the Museum over the past decade is, in large part, thanks to invaluable partners like the West Virginia Humanities Council."

But our work is about more than just preserving history — it's also about contributing to a thriving cultural economy by fueling our state's businesses and tourism industry.

We coordinate with in-state businesses, corporations, foundations, and cultural organizations to create productive, sustainable partnerships between the public and private sectors that benefit us all.

The West Virginia Humanities Council is federal funding done right—locally directed and locally delivered, with transparency and accountability to the people of West Virginia.

West Virginia's Congressional representatives know the impact of our work, and have demonstrated their support year after year through regular appropriations. With the help of Congressionally approved funding, our Council contributes over \$1.2 million annually to the state's cultural economy. DOGE's proposed cuts would terminate that contribution, effective immediately.

If budget cuts must come, those cuts should not reverse the essential work of sustaining and growing our state's arts and humanities by decimating our up-and-coming cultural heritage economy — work that is supported by the West Virginia Humanities Council on every day of the year, everywhere in the Mountain State.

More information may be found at www.wvhumanities.org.



WV House approves legislation requiring cities to hold elections on same day as state's

By Lori Kersey
West Virginia Watch

The West Virginia House of Delegates has signed off on legislation that would require municipalities to hold their elections on the same day as state elections. Delegates passed Senate Bill 50 Monday with a vote of 96 to 2.

Supporters of the bill say requiring municipalities to have their elections along with state elections will save cities and towns money and encourage voter turnout. According to the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office, 113 municipalities across the state will have their elections in 2025, which is not a year for state elections.

Morgantown's election, for instance, is scheduled

for April 29. Bridgeport's election will be June 10.

Under the version of the bill passed by the House, cities and towns have until 2028 to hold their elections on the same day as state elections. Delegates approved the change in a floor amendment offered by Del. Geno Chiarelli, R-Monongalia, on Friday.

The Senate passed the bill unanimously on March 3. In the Senate's version of the bill, the deadline was 2032. Those who advocated for a later deadline have said that some municipalities established their election dates in their charter, and that changing the charters may require an election. Others argued that state law would supersede municipal law and allow

cities and towns to change the dates sooner.

The Secretary of State's Office also supported a later deadline, saying in a statement that it would allow more time for municipalities to conduct local redistricting for any conflicts with geographic, precinct and political districts. Redistricting is especially an issue for smaller municipalities, a spokesman for the office said.

Del. Larry Kump, R-Berkeley, spoke in support of the bill Monday, saying that in his district, Hedgesville and Martinsburg have low voter turnout because of "weird" election days.

"By mandating that all West Virginia elections are held on normal elec-

tion dates, Senate Bill 50 will eliminate the taxpayer burden of holding these special elections, but importantly, will also increase voter awareness and election turnout," Kump said.

He relayed a story about moving to West Virginia years ago and asking about cities' having "weird" election days. He said he was told that the off-year elections entrench government officials by ensuring that their friends come out to vote for them but others stay home, unaware of the election.

The bill will now go back to the Senate to consider the change the House made to the bill.

Warner expresses frustration over Morrissey's veto of election transparency regulation

By Kris Warner
WV Secretary of State

Democracy dies in darkness. Elections are influenced by money. When those two altruisms converge, we're left with a society that is subject to the desires of the wealthy elite who know how to "play the political influence game."

On April 1st, Governor Patrick Morrissey, my colleague on the Board of Public Works, vetoed a rules-bundle bill containing dozens of agencies' rules that have been published for public review and comment for at least eight months. Included in that rules bundle were updates to long-standing, common-sense campaign finance rules that aim to increase transparency in political campaign finances.

Like many under the dome, I was shocked. Not only is it questionable whether a governor can "veto" a Legislative Rule, this was the first time anyone raised concerns with this Rule's language in the last eight months.

Governor Morrissey's reason for vetoing Senate Bill 369 was due to easily remedied technicalities in two other rules, and then most pointedly because of a State Election Commission rule and "its imprecise and unwieldy regulation of political action committees [that] will likely cause confusion for those attempting to have their voices heard in our political process."

I'm frustrated with how we got here.
I'm frustrated with how many legislators, staff,
and attorneys had their days hijacked because
of this easily avoidable situation.

Who, I wonder, is "attempting to have their voices heard in our political process" that cannot under our existing or proposed rules? Federal and state laws provide broad protections and rights for citizens to voice their opinions. The government's interest in regulating that speech has been extensively litigated.

To avoid losing the dozens of other agency rules contained in the bundle,

my staff upended their day along with senior counsel and staff of the House and Senate, as well as the governor's attorney, and amended the language to ensure the transparency and clarity provisions remained. I am grateful to the Legislature for its staffs' professionalism and efficiency in getting this common-sense bundle back on track.

So the new language has not been seen by the public, has not gone through the arduous and transparent public comment and legislative rulemaking and review process, and there was no time to conduct the type of necessary legal research and constitutional checks on the new regulations. This is not how rules should be passed. The public deserves better than a last-minute change

in, of all things, campaign finance regulations.

I'm confident that the revised language is palatable—it merely provides guidance for existing law. But what if it were something else such as a topic that impacts the daily lives of citizens, the public health, our schools?

Had we been approached, we would have explained the well-researched updates and offered to clarify any ambiguous provisions. But that's not what happened.

Instead, with the swipe of a pen, the governor dismissed a rules-bundle, of which only the Joint Committee on Rules likely has the power to disapprove, that consists of conservative ideals that allow persons and organizations to engage in West Virginia politics in a transparent and fair manner so that the public clearly knows who is spending money in our elections.

Regulation
Continued on Page 5A

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I was prompted to write this letter when listening to a local, Christian-oriented, radio station interview a Reverend. One issue broached in said interview was, "Christian nationalism," and upon this issue did the interviewed Reverend and myself fully agree: Christian nationalism is absurd.

More, as the good Reverend indicated, is Christian nationalism an oxymoron [oxymoron: "something (as a concept) that is made up of con-

tradictory or incongruous elements"]. Specifically, was not Jesus — as clearly expressed in the New Testament — far above the petty, worldly, squabbings of "nationalism?" And, as such, so too Christians? Nevertheless, perhaps a quote from an article published in 2024 might assist in illuminating the matter. Said article is entitled, "Christian Nationalism Doesn't Just Threaten Our Nation — It Threatens Our Faith."

Christian nationalism is the belief that the Amer-

ican nation should be a Christian theocracy, and that government should take active steps to keep it that way. Christian Nationalism seeks supremacy over all else; whereas our Lord never did. Our nation is a country founded for religious freedom — for all religions — even those we don't agree with...we can not and should not force our faith onto others, nor should we marginalize them for not believing.

Doing so would only damage the strong nation that our forefathers fought

for and worked so hard to forge.

"Christian nationalism" — on the face of it, as well as in its "depths" — is, obviously, ridiculous. Jesus washed his hands of as much as unworthy of Christians; any thinking, authentic, Christian could not but concur. It is for these reasons that whenever a politician — in whatever country — invokes Christianity in support of their policies that I become suspicious.

Charles L. Zorbaugh Sr.
Petersburg

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Remember When



April 6, 1955

Eight juniors and two seniors were inducted into the Petersburg chapter of the National Honor Society. Inducted were: Juniors, Jack Bowman, Eddie Nelson, Naomi Stark, Wilma Wampler, Esther Frazier, Sharon Roby, Johnny Parks and Freda Smith and seniors, Delores Brooks and Harlan Yokum.

Captain and Roy Harvey and children of Gormanian returned from France, where they had been stationed with the Army.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reel entertained with a birthday party in honor of her father, Henry Alt, who celebrated his 82nd birthday.

Lt. Gene Hart, a Navy nurse, was spending 10 days with her mother, Nell Lee Hart. Lt. Hart was stationed in California.

April 7, 1965

A Gorman, Md., lumber worker, Wilmer Ray Pifer, 51, died Sunday when his pickup truck skidded off U.S. Route 50 into a ditch.

White Water weekend was a huge success with crowds estimated at 10,000 viewing the races.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Shanholtz were honored at an open house on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary, at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Roswell Alt.

Petersburg High School, in competition with 20 other state high schools, topped honors at the statewide Speech Drama Festival held in Morgantown. The drama cast, comprised of Judy Pack, Jane Kite, Brenda Boor and Trent Veach received an “excel-



High winds and downed trees were reported across the county in the April 9, 1975 issue of the Press. One site you won't see these days after a wind storm is a toppled phone booth (not sure of the location in Petersburg area). The Petersburg Manufacturing Company on North Main Street reported part of their roof had been torn off and employees in that area of the building were working under blue skies.

lent” rating for their one-act production of Pink and Patches.

Mrs. Ward Turpin completed an extended course with the National Floral Institute, a division of Lifetime Career Schools of Los Angeles, Calif. Turpin was an employee of Bishoff's Florist in Petersburg.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. Willis Goldizen of Maysville, a son, March 30; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miller of Petersburg, a son, April 1; Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Berg of Petersburg, a son, April 4; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Franz of Maysville, a son, April 5; and Mr. and Mrs. Lester Keplinger of

Maysville, a daughter.

Barbara Ann Keplinger of Maysville and Donald Wayne Harris of Antioch were united in marriage at Oakland, Md., March 15.

Mr. and Mrs. John Miller of Brushy Run announced the engagement of their daughter, Myra, to Gerald Huffman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lane Huffman of Petersburg.

April 9, 1975

The second weekend of White Water events experienced extremes in the weather, but failed to hamper the success of the “most popular” White Water weekend among boaters. Registration for both races were above that of

last year's event, with the middle states wildwater race with 200 entries and Sunday's downriver race with over 500 participants entered.

The Grant County Board of Education was to by title and deed convey the Mount Storm Elementary School building and property to the Grant County Commission for \$10.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. John Nesselrodt of Burlington, a son, April 2; and Mr. and Mrs. John Smith of Maysville, a son, April 4.

Coach Bill Kline's Viking baseball team opened with a surprisingly strong 9-0 win over the Franklin High School Panthers.

April 3, 1985

An early morning blaze, Thursday, completely destroyed the Kessel Lumber Company's Petersburg milling plant. Estimated damages from the blaze were set \$2.5 million. To be laid-off in the wake of the fire were an estimated 50 employees, with another 15-20 logging contractors affected. An additional 35 private loggers were also affected.

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell alt of Maysville announced the birth of a son, Kevin Duane, March 15, at Winchester Medical Center.

The U.S. Achievement Academy announced that Ralph Hensley III, a PHS senior, had been named as a 1985 United States National Award winner in leadership and journalism.

This week in the West Virginia House of Delegates

Budget, PEIA, Licensing, permitting, prompt payment

By Ann Ali
Deputy Chief of Staff
and Communications
Director

Week ending April 4

Members of the House of Delegates began the process of completing a balanced state for the next state Fiscal Year, which begins July 1.

The House passed its budget bill, House Bill 2026, by a vote of 80 to 17 with three Delegates absent Friday afternoon. The total General Revenue budget in the bill is \$5,113,274, 982 with an expected General Revenue surplus of \$128,750,000 reserved for what is commonly referred to as the “back of the budget.”

The House Finance Committee built the budget using the Fiscal Year 2025 budget as its starting point and guide. The bill used long-standing vacancies in

many agencies to effectuate a small 2% savings as well as roughly \$300,000 savings in salaries as a result of department mergers.

House Bill 2026 increased the employer share to PEIA for all agencies by about \$40 million. The House budget put back the broad 10% cut made to the Department of Human Services last year, as well as an increase to the Department's line items based on its requests for a total of about \$90 million.

The Department of Health's Birth to Three program sees an increase of \$7 million and the Division of Corrections receives a \$30 million increase over the previous year's budget in House Bill 2026.

Another increase from the previous budget included in this year's budget bill is \$5 million going to appointed counsel as well

as a new \$1.8 million to court-appointed special advocates. The measure now goes to the Senate for debate.

The House passed Senate Bill 458, the Universal Professional and Occupational Licensing Act of 2025, by unanimous vote Monday. The measure would require the board of any profession regulated under W.Va. Code Chapter 30, which includes dentists, funeral directors, practical nurses, accountants, architects, foresters and physical therapists, to issue an occupational license to a resident of the state who is licensed in at least one other state in the same discipline and who meets several requirements for good standing. The bill currently is with Gov. Morrissey for action.

House Bill 2002, Establishing the One-Stop Shop

Permitting Process, also passed the full House Monday by unanimous vote. It has gone to the Senate for debate and would streamline the state's permitting processes while making them more accessible through a public dashboard.

All 100 Delegates voted Tuesday to send House Bill 2152, the Prompt Payment Act of 2025, to the Senate for deliberation. It would require state agencies to pay legitimate and uncontested invoices within 45 days of receipt and late payments would be reported to the State Auditor, who would be required to publish and online list of noncompliant agencies.

The 60-day, regular legislative session ends at midnight April 12.

Regulation

Continued from Page 4A

So while we were able to get the rule back on track, I'm frustrated with how we got here. I'm frustrated with how many legislators, staff, and attorneys had their days hijacked because of this easily avoidable situation. Election-related regulations are directly within my jurisdiction ac-

cording to the State Constitution and West Virginia Code as the State's Chief Election Officer. Campaign finance regulations fall to the State Election Commission, of which I am a member by law. In the future, I'm hopeful that concerns with election regulations are raised before the time-clock runs out, and so the public has ample opportunity to participate.

Lenten Luncheons

continue on Wednesdays

Petersburg Church Women United and the Ministerial Association are sponsoring the annual Lenten Luncheons in the fellowship hall at Petersburg Presbyterian Church.

Lunch, is soup, sandwich and dessert, will be served promptly at noon with a message provided

by a local pastor, and will end at 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$5. Everyone welcome.

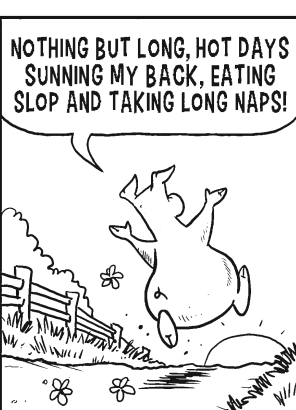
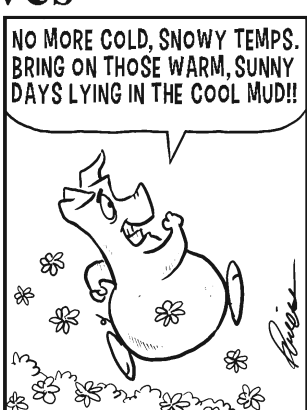
Speakers scheduled are:

April 9 - Rev. Cheryl George of Main Street UM Church.

April 16 - Rev. David Webb of St. John's United Methodist Church.

by Dave T. Phipps

Amber Waves



Opening dates for Monongahela National Forest recreation sites

Below are the opening dates for developed recreation sites on the Monongahela National Forest. The information is intended to be effective through Memorial Day (May 26) but may change based on local conditions or new information.

An updated schedule of open recreation sites is expected in early June that will cover site operations through the end of July. Please visit the Mon's Recreation Conditions Report at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recmain/mnf/recreation> for the most current information.

Campground and picnic shelter reservations for some sites may be made at www.recreation.gov. Dispersed camping opportunities are not included in the information, below, but are available in many areas of the Forest year round.

Visitors can contact ranger district offices listed for details. Important safety reminder - the lack of cell phone service on the Monongahela National Forest is something to consider when trip planning, but with a little preparation, you can unplug and still have a safe and fun trip.

Learn about recreating safely and responsibly on your national forest at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/visit/know-before-you-go/responsible-recreation>.

Opening dates for recreation sites on Cheat-Potomac Ranger District (304-478-2000) in the Elkins and Parsons areas:

Opening dates for recreation sites on Cheat-Potomac Ranger District (304-257-4488) in the Petersburg and Seneca Rocks areas:

- Big Bend Campground – April 8
- Dolly Sods Picnic Area – April 15, weather permitting
- Forest Road 19 in the Dolly Sods area – April 1, weather permitting
- Forest Road 75 in the Dolly Sods area – April 15, weather permitting
- Gandy Creek Dispersed Camping (County Route 29) - Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 15
- Gatewood Group Campground – April 18
- Jess Judy Group Campground – April 8
- Red Creek Campground – April 15, weather permitting
- Seneca Rocks Discovery Center – April 4, through May 18 Friday - Sunday from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, May 19 through Sept. 1 daily from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm
- Seneca Rocks Picnic Area – April 1
- Seneca Shadows Campground – April 8
- Spruce Knob Lake – Lake open year-round; toilets open April 15
- Spruce Knob Lake Campground – April 18
- Spruce Knob Observation Tower – Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 15

For more information about recreation facilities and other district opening dates, contact the district office near the location you would like to visit. Contact information is listed at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mnf/about-forest/offices>.

EASTER

Worship & Celebrations

Petersburg Presbyterian Church

Palm Sunday, April 13, worship service at 11 a.m. Maundy Thursday, April 17, 6 p.m. Communion service in the fellowship hall with a light meal. Easter sunrise service, 6:30 a.m. at Maple Hill Cemetery. Worship at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Grove Street UMC

Pastor Robert Baer invites you to Easter Week Services at Grove Street UMC in Petersburg that include a Maundy Thursday (full table communion) service April 17 at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall, Good Friday service April 18 at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary and Easter sunrise service April 20 at 7 a.m. with breakfast immediately following. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Brake Covenant Brethren Church

Easter sunrise service, April 20, 6:30 a.m. Play, children's program and music followed by breakfast. Morning worship will begin at 9:30 a.m. The church is located at 176 North Mill Creek Rd. at the twin bridges near Dorcas.

Falls Assembly of God

Easter weekend events - Friday 6 p.m., film and prayer time; Saturday 1 p.m., fun for the kids, egg hunt and more; Sunday, 10 a.m. morning worship. See Page 6A.

All churches are invited to have their Easter services printed here. Please send a brief description to news@grantcountypress.com, drop by the Press office or call 304-257-1844. No charge.



Local and area obituaries

RICHARD N. "RICK" BORROR JR.

Richard Nicholas "Rick" Borrer Jr., 73, of Petersburg, W.Va., passed away Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital, Morgantown, W.Va.

Born November 10, 1951, in Petersburg, he was a son of the late Richard N. Borrer Sr. and Helen (Hardy) Borrer Hyre. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his stepfather, Bruce Hyre; one brother, David Zane Borrer; and one stepsister, Jean (Hyre) Courtney.

Rick's legacy is carried forward by his loving wife of 51 years, Shelby J. (Moyers) Borrer; one daughter, Aimee (Borrer) Keplinger and husband Brian of Moorefield, W.Va.; one son, Nicholas Borrer and wife Maria of Morgantown; four grandchildren, Simon, Rylee, Reese and Little Brysen; one sister, Sandie Metzger of Petersburg; a special niece, Alisha Black; one stepsister, Jane (Hyre) Fleming and husband Greg of Oak Island, N.C.; and one stepbrother, Bruce "Icky" Hyre and wife Mary Cay of Petersburg.

Rick was a young boy when his dad died. Rick's first job was picking up trash at the Petersburg Drive-In. Later he was a lifeguard at the City Pool and worked for the former Barr's Texaco in Petersburg pumping gas, washing windshields, checking the oil and washing cars. Rick was a proud 1969 graduate of Petersburg High School and attended college. In 1976 Rick started Borrer's Radio/TV Repair business. He spent many years bringing life back to the screens of his neighbors as a beloved TV repairman. He was known as "Mr. Fixit", being a plumber or helping build anything.

This boy "Rick" loved his grandkids, Simon, Rylee, Reese and Little Brysen. Whether outside

JEFFERY "TODD" McDONALD

Jeffery "Todd" McDonald, 56, of Fisher, passed away Tuesday, April 1.

Born July 2, 1968, in Lorain, Ohio, he was the son of Forist James "Big Jed" McDonald Jr. of Moorefield and the late Annabelle Laura (Berg) McDonald.

On February 14, 2001, Todd married Valerie Ann (Bergdoll) McDonald, who survives in Fisher.

Mr. McDonald attended Moorefield High School and was employed by American Woodmark in Moorefield for over 20 years until his illness. He was saved and baptized at the Cabins Assembly of God Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Shantel Renee McDonald of Fisher; one son, David Alan Cassell of Baker; two brothers, Forist "Little Jed" McDonald III of Dorcas and Brian McDonald of Moorefield; and three grandchildren.



flying a drone or taking pictures of them or sitting on the swing with a popsicle or watching them sled ride. Rick would stack leaves so they could jump in them or sit on a chair holding them while they watched cartoons. It was Rick's pride and joy just being with his grandkids and watching their dogs.

Rick was a gifted musician who found joy in playing the guitar and singing at church. His passion for music was a means of worship and connection with his faith. Rick was a humble man, never seeking the spotlight, and his songs were original compositions that he penned himself and were heartfelt expressions of his love for Jesus Christ. Rick was a faithful member of Bethel Church, Petersburg. In his final days on earth, Rick often spoke of his readiness to go Home to Jesus. These words were so comforting to his family.

Funeral services were Friday morning in the chapel of Schaeffer Funeral Home, Petersburg, with Pastor Brian Henson officiating. Burial followed in the Newhouse Cemetery. Rig, W.Va.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Gideons International, Bethel Church, c/o Myra Huffman, 3330 Franklin Pike, Petersburg, WV 26847 or American Cancer Society.

Condolences to the family may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com (4-8-25)



He was preceded in death by one son, Brandon Cassell.

Funeral services were Saturday morning with Pastor Max Cochran officiating.

Memorials may be made to the family c/o the Basagic Funeral Home, POB 400, Petersburg, WV 26847. Memories and words of comfort may be left at www.basagic.com or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home. (4-8-25)

Ruth Arvella Hawk Cosner, 94, of Rig, W.Va., entered the glorious gates of heaven on Friday, April 4, 2025, surrounded by her family.

Born in Maysville, W.Va. on March 30, 1931, she was the daughter of the late Ohley M. and Willye (Schell) Hawk.

Ruth was a true inspiration to all, a faithful servant of the Lord. Her contagious love of life always made her such a joy to be around.

Ruth attended school in Maysville until marrying Toney A. Cosner and settling at their home in Rig. Ruth worked many years at American Woodmark until her husband's health declined and she then decided to retire and take care of him. Ruthie as most would call her would find joy in prayer, strength in scripture and peace in the promise of eternal life. Sewing and baking brought her pleasure, making sure that everyone that stopped in for a visit never left with an empty stomach. She loved being out in nature gardening, hunting, fishing, camping at Vepco Lake and spending time with family and friends.

Surviving Ruth is her son Andy Cosner; two granddaughters, Angela (Greg) Berg of Maysville and Toni (Hunter) Kite of Moorefield, W.Va; two great-grandsons, Jeremy Berg and Kile Berg; and two great-granddaughters, Savannah Kite and Anniston Kite. Ruth is also survived by some very special neighbors, Van Hardy, Victor Carr, Carolyn Dolan, Damie Carr and their families that she loved so dearly.

Ruth was preceded in death by her husband,

DENNIS R. SHIRK SR.

Dennis Ray Shirk Sr., 82, of Essex, Md. and formerly of Seneca Rocks, W.Va., passed away Saturday, March 22, 2025, at Medstar Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore, Md. Born May 23, 1942, in Seneca Rocks, he was a son of the late Homer P. Shirk and Mae (Vance) Shirk. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, Loy Dale Shirk; and one sister Betty Jean Cunningham.

Mr. Shirk is survived by his wife of 61 years, Dixie Lee (George) Shirk; four children, Dana Jackson and husband Evans of Saint Pauls, N.C., Tonya Ours and husband Melvin of Rough Run, W.Va., Dennis Shirk Jr. and wife Katie of Canandaigua, N.Y. and Derek Shirk of Abingdon, Md.; four grandchildren, Megan Willis of Saint Pauls, N.C., Jordan Ketterman of Rough Run, Dennis Shirk III of Canandaigua and Ryan Shirk of Canandaigua; three sisters, Mary Shirk of Baltimore, Helen Nelson of Belair, Md. and Marie Rosario of Quakertown, Pa.; one brother, John Shirk of Sparrows Point, Md.; and many, many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly.

Mr. Shirk loved his family. He was a private person, honest and hard-working. He never met a stranger. He loved watching sports, playing cards with his brother and sisters. He enjoyed gardening and tinkering in the yard fixing things. He will be deeply missed, but we know he is at rest with our Lord in heaven, with those he loves.

Graveside services were



Toney A. Cosner in 2006; one brother, Ralph Hawk; three sisters, Lorene Purdum, Oleda VanMeter and Marie Harper; and a special daughter-in-law, Linda L. Cosner.

Ruth was an active member of her community, always taking care of others and doing whatever needed to be done. Her entire life she held an unwavering faith in God, which she shared with those who surrounded her. She found comfort in Bible verses such as

II Timothy 4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. She now rests in the arms of our Savior, free from pain and sorrow, rejoicing in the presence of the Almighty.

Funeral services were Monday afternoon in the chapel of the Schaeffer Funeral Home, Petersburg, with Pastor Dan Sterns officiating. Burial followed in the Scherr-Idleman Cemetery, Scherr, W.Va.

Memorial contributions may be made to Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center, 127 Early Avenue, Petersburg, WV 26847.

Condolences to the family may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com (4-8-25)



Saturday afternoon, March 29, at North Fork Memorial Cemetery, Riverton, W.Va. with Pastor Jim Tompkins officiating.

Arrangements were by the Schaeffer Funeral Home, Petersburg. Condolences to the family may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com (4-8-25)

Palm Sunday

April 13, 2025

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EASTER

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SATURDAY @ 1PM: Food, games, face paints, bounce house, EGG HUNT, prizes, & MORE
SUNDAY @ 10AM: Easter Morning Worship Service

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BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Haggai (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. Where does Jesus speak of separating the sheep from the goats? Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

3. Who told Saul that rebellion was as bad as witchcraft? Moloch, Mamath, Marduk, Samuel

4. From Proverbs 18, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth ..." Himself, Life,

ANSWERS: (1) Old; (2) Matthew (25:31-33); (3) Samuel, (4) Good thing; (5) 120; (6) Five



Robotics

Continued from front

things out of it - first, a place where engineering and robotic skills were an exciting and inclusive sport where everyone could go pro, unlike some more traditional sports,” said Drennan, who has been coaching robotics teams for more than 15 years. “But on the other side of it, they wanted to cultivate an atmosphere of engineers that they would want to work with in the future. They strived to develop a program that encourages teams to work together in a cooperative way and not just in a bubble. Teams that would help the community and grow positive programs together.” Kimble said the competition also encourages teams to work with their own communities and local businesses during the

process. During the competition, Stewart was able to meet his new friends in person and formed a close friendship with two fellow competitors, Max Dillier and Mayank Gupta. Both Dillier and Gupta are juniors at Beehive Academy and second year members of the Beehive Academy robotics team. The full Hive team consists of 13 members. Like Stewart, Dillier and Gupta’s love of robotics was also born from their early interest in Legos and the joy that comes with building and designing something new. The competition consisted of a field that is designed to test specific abilities for the robots to do. This year, the competing robots had to pick up a specified object and place it in a designated set of baskets or clip something onto a space in the field. “I wanted to make an

arm that would rotate with some sort of claw to grab samples and specimens,” Stewart explained during his presentation. Dillier and Gupta both competed on the same team as Stewart during these challenges. “Each team will think of different ways for their robots to complete the challenges,” Kimble said. “The robots themselves were all very different.” Approximately 24 teams competed in the Utah qualifier with awards ranging from competition performance to sportsmanship and behavioral awards. The competition includes a second round of competition in which two teams partner up to complete a final round. The teams are partnered based on choice, starting with the higher ranked teams getting first choice on who they partner with. The Hive was the top ranked team after

dominating in the opening round and, despite PHS’s team size, excitedly picked Steawart (and the Cyber Vikings) to join them in the second round. “Working with CJ was such a great experience,” said Dillier. “He succeeded so well and it was amazing. We beat two state records with CJ during the qualifying rounds while we were there. It was a huge payoff to see how the hard work and mentoring we did together worked. The impact we made tangibly mattered and we got to see that. Plus we all worked together so well. It was also such a great thing to see how much CJ enjoyed everything in such a real way.” Dillier said the photos he has from the event with Stewart have become some of his favorite keepsakes. Beyond just the challenge of building the physical robot, the competition also tests students’ ability

to program. The first section of the competition requires the robots to complete tasks based solely on programming as opposed to directed controls. It isn’t until the second portion that competitors are able to manually drive their robots. “This program lets students learn just amazing resilience,” Drennan said. “They have to troubleshoot and work as a team. And I don’t think there is any career or college you can go to where those will not be necessary skills. Then whatever area they are in, they are learning technical skills.” Drennan said that while the competition does focus on technical skills, the program also heavily features team building as well as all around social skill building. Kimble said the program was very welcoming of both her and Stewart,

striving to not only live up to their goal of inclusivity but also ensure that his hearing impairment did not get in the way of his hard work. “As an interpreter it was a unique but really fulfilling challenge,” Kimble said. “There were many instances of me not really having an exact word to interpret and would rely more on showing exactly what we were trying to communicate.” Stewart said he would like to continue building his skills in technology and would love to return to the competition next year as an alumnus. He is set to graduate from PHS this spring, carrying with him the title of being the first ever Cyber Viking and hoping that another PHS team will rise to fill the role.

PHG

Continued from front

came into place under President Ronald Reagan with the goal of creating more inclusive lives and support for those diagnosed with these disabilities. “I don’t think we as a community completely understand how impacted our area is by these disabilities,” said Teresa Mowery of the PHG. “I think when autism became more prevalent there was more information that became available, but that has only really been in the past few years. Prior to that it was a very real issue that simply wasn’t widely discussed.” The causes of developmental disabilities are broad, with the CDC noting that some of the most common known causes of intellectual disability include fetal alcohol syndrome; genetic and chromosomal conditions, such as Down syndrome and fragile X syndrome; and certain infections during pregnancy. However, other factors such as low birthweight, premature birth, multiple births and infections during pregnancy

are also associated with an increased risk for many developmental disabilities. While the conversation around children diagnosed with a developmental disability has been on the rise recently, one very necessary conversation that still exists in the community is ensuring that adults with these disabilities are able to live happy, fulfilling lives while receiving the support they need. To assist with this, PHG runs a residential services program aimed at bringing independence and dedicated care to these adults. According to their website, PHG owns and operates two apartment facilities for consumers with long-term mental illness and another owned site houses two to three developmentally disabled adults. As part of their care, PHG provides supervision for several consumers that rent their own houses or apartments and acts as a Medicaid Provider of Record for three Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF) for individuals with intellectual disabilities group homes within the region. In total, PHG operates six houses in Petersburg and three in be-

tween Mineral and Hampshire counties. The PHG’s residential services program has been in operation since the 1980s and is available to clients over the age of 18. “We staff the houses 24-hours a day,” Mowery said. “We provide whatever services they need. We come in and provide everything from outings, taking them to appointments, work on programs like the Title 19 waivers with them, we are very active in the community. We are at the pool, at the theater, at bingo games. We make sure they get to be a real part of the community and as involved as possible. They recently went to see Annie at the theater [Landes Arts Center] and they loved that.” Mowery said this can also offer a great deal of support for families, who can often feel overwhelmed by caring for their loved one while also providing the least restrictive environment possible. Program participants range in age from their early 20s to their mid-70s. In recent years, PHG has been working to expand the residential services program

but has been heavily impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. “At one point before Covid, we were setting up new houses but that was really stalled because of the pandemic,” Mowery said. “We were only able to open one house during Covid and then after that it has been an issue of finding, hiring and keeping staff. We have a really good program and some great staff that work with our clients. But it has been a real struggle to add to that team.” PHG also offers a day program available to clients with developmental disabilities. This program has between 18 to 20 daily participants, who find work in the community through the program. “We do car detailing, we do a greenhouse and are currently getting our plants ready to go, we host a spring and winter bazaar, so we work all year round on different tasks and crafts,” Mowery said. “They do what they can and are comfortable with and the staff will do parts as necessary. During the day we are just finding ways to contribute to the

community in fulfilling ways.” Mowery said participants in the day program often hang and fill bird feeders at the senior center as well as other community service programs. “The community is really good to us and they are really good to our clients,” Mowery said. “We love to give a little bit back. So if somebody needs a little bit of help, they will gather everyone up and get together to do what they can to give that help. They clean a couple of churches around the area, when they do the car detailing they will save that money for a local trip to special events.” Mowery said that the program also gets community clients that participate in the day program and is open to everyone who qualifies and not just residential services program participants. “We are really proud of that program,” Mowery said. “And I just want to let everyone know that if they have an adult family member with developmental disability, we have openings in that program. If they are interested in coming one day a week

or if they are interested in getting more involved, we would be more than glad to meet with anyone who may be interested in the program.” Mowery said these programs can be extremely impactful for aging caretakers, including parents who are reaching their 60s and 70s. “There are a lot of individuals with special needs in this community,” Mowery said. “We have had phone calls from the emergency room telling us they have an 80 year-old patient who is in poor health who is still acting as a sole caretaker for their 60 year old son or daughter. They have special needs and they need somewhere to go. It is hard to watch some of these families struggle in silence.” Mowery said PHG still hopes to expand the program in the future, however, that is not likely to be possible until staff needs can be met. For more information on these programs, contact Mowery at 257-1155 (ext 251).

Attack

Continued from front

recently equipped chain bolt lock. The officers also noted that the victim’s children as well as other juvenile guests were present in the home’s living room playing a card game when this occurred. Borror then proceeded past the female victim into the house to the bedroom looking for the female victim’s male guest (who

officers identified as being in a relationship with the victim). Borror proceeded to drag the male victim out from under the bed by his ankles and proceeded to strike him multiple times in the face. Boror then allegedly grabbed the male victim by his throat and threw him up against the wall. Borror then began to walk out of the house when the verbal argument continued. During this exchange, Borror returned

to attack the male victim again, grabbing him by the neck and shoving him against the living room wall. The altercation left a round shaped hole in the wall from the back of the victim’s head. He then left the residence. According to a police report filed on the incident, while on scene, Borror had called into Grant County 911 wanting to speak with deputies about the incident and asking if they were coming to get him. The responding deputy

noted that the male victim had red marks on the front and back of his neck as well as on his shoulders, chest and face. He also had a busted lip, a black eye and blood coming from his right elbow from a laceration. The juveniles who were present during the attack had recorded a portion of the altercation which was later shown to the deputies on scene. The footage was consistent with the statements made during the investigation.

The male victim also presented Facebook messages to deputies that showed Borror threatening to attack him and saying “I’ll catch you out somewhere, you got one coming.” The male victim was transported to Grant Memorial Hospital for further evaluation of his injuries. Borror was taken into custody and arraigned in the Grant County Magistrate Court without further incident.

Grant County 4-Hers and volunteers helped put up pinwheels to help bring awareness to Child Abuse Prevention Month

This April, Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA America) and its nationwide network of state chapters unite for National Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month, championing the theme: “Powered by Hope, Strengthened by Prevention.” At the heart of this campaign is our North Star—a world where all children and families are living a purposeful and happy life with hope for the future. To achieve this vision, the community must prioritize prevention—ensuring that families have the resources, support, and connections they need before challenges become crises. “Every child deserves the opportunity to thrive, and every family deserves the support to build a strong foundation,” said Alex Mathias, WVU Ex-

tension Agent and PIP Grant recipient. “Hope fuels resilience, and prevention provides the tools to create lasting change. This April, we celebrate the power of prevention and the communities that make it possible.” CAP Month National Event: Join Prevent Child Abuse America and partners for a first-of-its-kind national event, bringing together advocates, families, and leaders to strengthen prevention efforts. The event is called Advocacy Action Day and will be held on April 17, 2025. On this day, supporters are urged to contact lawmakers in support of increasing funding for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CB-CAP) programs under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act. Another initiative will be

a Social Media Campaign. Participants are encouraged to follow PCA America for shareable content, action steps, and real stories of hope and prevention in action. Prevention: The Pathway to a Brighter Future “Prevention is possible. With the right policies, investments, and community support, every family can thrive,” said Dr. Melissa Merrick, President and CEO of Prevent Child Abuse America. “Hope is what inspires us to dream of a better future, and prevention is what turns those dreams into reality.” Through evidence-based programs like Healthy Families America, PCA America empowers families with critical resources—helping them navigate challenges such as economic hardship, childcare access, and

health concerns. By investing in preventive solutions, the network is laying the groundwork for a healthier, more hopeful future for all children. About Prevent Child Abuse America Prevent Child Abuse America is the nation’s oldest and largest organization dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect before it happens. Guided by their North Star, they work to create a world where all children and families live a purposeful and happy life with hope for the future. Through advocacy, innovation, and a commitment to equity, PCA America is building a future where prevention is a reality for every family. To learn more about CAP Month 2025 and how you can get involved, visit preventchildabuse.org/cap-month2025.

Join them this April—celebrate hope, strengthen prevention, and help build a world where every child and family thrives How to Get Involved in CAP Month 2025 • #WearBlueDay – April 4, 2025: Show your support by wearing blue and sharing photos using #WearBlueDay2025, #PoweredByHope, and #CAPMonth.

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Meet the 2025 Lady Viking Softball Team



Team Roster	
Aunalyn Anderson	9
Quenlynn Cole	9
Ella Markwell	9
Taylan VanMeter	9
Ryleigh Hall	9
Rylie Armentrout	9
Katie Rohrbaugh	9
Abigail Nettles	9
Karlie DiBenedetto	9
Kinsley Crites	9
Olivia Kimble	11
Shyane Tawney	10
Addison Kitzmiller	12
Jordan Rigglesman	10
Lacey Moyers	10
Cheyenne Sites	10
Miley Tingler	10
Blair Loy	10
Gracie Carpenter	11
Ella Chew	11
Head Coach: Dwayne "Bubba" Hedrick	
Assistant Coaches: Doug Swick, Estel Sites, Derek Cooper, Jamie Alt, Matt Allanson, Kayla Roby	



Maysville Archery team brings home wins in state tournament



The Maysville Elementary Tigers Archery team traveled to Charleston to compete in the 2025 WV DNR Archery in the Schools State Tournament March 29. They placed fourth as a team out of eight schools which allows them to compete in the National Tournament at Kentucky, held in May.

Two archers individually placed. Lillie Roberts earned seventh place against 97 competitors in the girls' division, shooting a 267. Paxton Miller placed 10th against 106 archers, shooting a 274.

Also placing in the Middle School girls' division was Callie Roberts who earned second place out of 100 competitors in the state tournament. She shot a 284 and will compete in the National Tournament at Kentucky in May. Shayla Rohrbaugh also shot well and placed in the top 30.

The elementary team is coached by Leon Evans, David Evans, and Billie Bennett. The middle school team is coached by Vicki Huffman and Rory Kuh.

WVU freshman gymnast has Grant County roots



A freshman member of the WVU gymnastic team that was selected to the Big 12 All-Freshman Team has ancestors in Grant County.

Emerson Smith grew up in Columbus, Ohio and has been in gymnastics since she was five years old. She started competing when she was seven at Buckeye Gym in Westerville, Ohio. Her competitions took her as far as The Bahamas, California, Canada, Florida. She was Level 10 for five years and a four-time national qualifier.

Smith has competed in all the WVU Team Meets as a freshman. Her events include floor exercise, vault and balance beam. Her strongest event has been the floor exercise with her highest score being 9.925.

While competing as a Mountaineer, WVU earned the bid to the NCAA National Regional Championship hosted by Penn State.

Her parents are Joelle and Trevor Smith of Columbus.

Joelle is the daughter of Jalane and John Berg of Gettysburg, Pa. John was the son of Clarence "June" Berg Jr. and Margaret Cunningham Berg. John and his family spend his early childhood days living on Myrtle Ave. June was the son of Clarence Berg Sr and Elva Berg. They resided on North Avenue.

continued from last week

Until She Could

By Noel Shreve
Fifth/Sixth Grade
Division

The year is 1864, in a small town in Michigan. It was a cold and dark evening, the only noise being the wind rustling outside. A mother was watching over her baby, rocking it gently back and forth in her arms as the baby slept peacefully.

"Oh Celeste, you are so beautiful ..." her mother whispered to Celeste, moving the infant's thin blonde hair away from her face.

Suddenly, the door swung open, and a tall man stood at the doorway, gazing at the mother and baby with a frustrated look in his eyes.

"Mary, what are you doing? Put the baby back in her cradle, you need to clean up the kitchen," the man told his wife, his voice cold, yet quiet as to not wake up Celeste.

"Yes, I'm sorry. I'll do that now Alex," Mary responded, walking over to Celeste's cradle and setting her inside. Then, she walked out of the room and headed to the kitchen to clean up.

As the years passed, Celeste grew, and so did her problems. She was never allowed to go to school, although she loved books and learning new things. Her parents thought it was

a waste of time, and she never understood that. The boys her age got to go learn, and even some of the girls did.

One day, when Celeste was 12 years old, she was helping her mother cook dinner for when her father came home.

"Mother, why don't you work like father does? You're always at home while he leaves for his job. I want to work like father when I'm older," Celeste questioned, looking up at her mother as she awaited her response.

"Celeste, you won't work when you're older either. Your husband will work to provide for you and your family while you stay at home, cook, and clean like I do. That's enough work for a lady as it is," her mother explained, refusing to look at Celeste.

"Mother, that isn't fair! I have seen women work before, so why can't I?" Celeste asked, raising her voice.

"Celeste, that is enough," her mother snapped, "I don't like it either, but that's life. Get used to it."

Celeste reluctantly backed down and continued helping her mother. The idea of having to do this her entire life wasn't ideal. But she didn't have much of a choice, did she?

Many years have passed

since then, though. At 16, in the year 1880, Celeste was involuntarily married to some man she barely even knew. Celeste despised him, he reminded her of her father. She never mentioned it, though, she knew better. Then, at 18, in the year 1882, she was forced to have her own children and raise them.

Her mother had been correct. Celeste ended up just like she did. She had no job, even if she still dreamt of one. The only work she was allowed to do was bake, tidy up, and watch over the children. She felt as if she had no purpose except to be a wife to her

The Missing Bat

By Luke Neptune, PES
First/Second Grade
Division

It was a hot summer day at Camden Yards. Luke, a professional baseball player, was at batting practice. It would soon be game time and he was on fire!

Luke was using his lucky bat that he hit his very first home run with in the major leagues! When he finished practicing, he hung up his bat and went to the locker room to drink some Gatorade.

Later when the game started, Luke took his position at shortstop. A batter for the other team hit a high fly ball and Luke caught it! He also snagged a ground

ball.

After his team got three outs, it was time for Luke to bat. He noticed that his bat was missing. He had to use a different bat and struck out. Then, Luke missed ground balls the whole game and continued to struggle while batting.

Luke needed his bat. He went into the locker room to retrace his steps. He went to his locker and found his bat covered up by his ball bag. Luke grabbed the bat and went running back to the dugout. He was excited because he was just in time for his turn to bat.

Luke was feeling nervous because he had not played well all day. He stepped into the batter's box. The first pitch Luke hit a foul ball. The next pitch, he swung and missed.

Luke took a deep breath and stepped back into the batter's box. The next pitch, he swung as hard as he could and the ball went flying out of the park!

Luke hit a homerun with his lucky bat and helped his team win!

This story is a reprint from last week with the correct author's name.

lieve it! Did you hear the radio? Women can vote now!" Celeste exclaimed, a smile which she hadn't felt in years painted onto her face.

"So? That won't affect you, Celeste. You won't vote; I'm not allowing it to happen," John told Celeste, feeling annoyed that she'd even bring it up.

"Oh, well, alright then. If you don't want me to go, I won't," Celeste whispered in response, feeling defeated. She walked back to the kitchen, and continued cleaning.

In the morning, after

John left for work, she felt as if something had changed. Like a switch had gone off in her head. She didn't care about what John told her to do this time. She was going to vote if it was the last thing she did.

Celeste's hands trembled as she signed her ballot, feeling the pressure of countless generations behind her. As she put her ballot inside the box, she felt as if she'd broken something. She broke her silence as a woman, and now her voice mattered just as much as a man's voice would in the future of America.

Leta Carr selected as GRCC Resident of the Week

By Ravenna Redman Director of Social Services

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

Leta has been a resident of our facility since December 6, 2024. She was born on June 11, 1952, in Cumberland, Md., to Boyd and Velma (Kisamore) Phares. Leta has three older sisters, Bernice Harvey, Bonnie Keplinger, and the late Shirley Myers. Leta is the baby of the family.

Boyd Phares was a carpenter. "He built a lot of buildings in Petersburg." Velma was a working mother. During Leta's childhood, Velma worked as a nursing assistant at Grant Memorial Hospital, Windsor Knit, a sewing factory and ran a shoe store.

"I grew up in the Ridges and we were near our first cousins. We spent our time playing games like Red Rover, Red Rover and Red Light and Green Light." When asked if they had chores to do, Leta replied, "We helped clean house, and washed dishes."

Leta has special memories of her parents. "Mom made dolls out of thread spools. Dad would take blocks of wood, and put spools on them, making cars, and dump trucks. We looked forward to those. We would take the cars and play in the mud. Mom was not too happy with us for that."

Growing up, Leta attended Petersburg Elementary School. "We walked two miles to get to the bus stop and then rode 10 miles into town. I liked school. The teachers were able to explain it to our level. Gladstone Snyder was the principal, and Helen Sherman was the secretary. Mr. Snyder was genuinely nice." Leta graduated from Petersburg High School.

Leta met Vernon Carr through family. She was at a family function when Vernon came up to her, telling her who he was. "I didn't want anything to do with him at first, but

he was persistent," Leta recounts with a grin and a twinkle in her eye. "My parents gave us permission, and we started dating at 16. He came to our house, and we would sit on the swing, because that is how we dated in those days." (Family ties were strong; her sister married Vernon's brother, and his sister married Leta's uncle.) The couple dated for two years and were married on December 11, 1969.

Vernon was in the army for eight years and he was ordered to Vietnam the April following their marriage. While Vernon was in Vietnam, Leta stayed with her mother. Their daughter, Juneta Spurlock was born on December 23, 1970. Once Vernon returned stateside, the young family moved to Colorado Springs, where Vernon was stationed. They lived there for three years, and their second daughter, Becky Helmick was born on September 10, 1972. Leta was a stay-at-home mother while Vernon was in service. The family returned to Grant County after Vernon completed his service.

After returning to Grant County, Leta worked various jobs. She worked at Monarch Mills as a cashier, Dairy Queen, and when the children were teenagers, she worked at the American Legion. She also worked at Wal-Mart in the fabric department. She retired in 2014, and reports that she was more than ready to do so.

One of her significant experiences in her life had to do with volunteer work. She worked as a volunteer EMT on the Grant County Ambulance Service when it first started. "I was volunteering 40-45 hours a



week. I loved it. I saw a great deal, but I got to help people."

Leta reported that she didn't travel much, but enjoyed a family trip to Assateague Island, where they saw the Chincoteague ponies in the Pony Swim.

Leta is most proud of her family. "One of my favorite things to do is hang out with family." Along with their two daughters, Vernon and Leta have seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She loves spending time with them.

Leta enjoys crafting and loves to knit, weave, crochet, and sew. She also likes to do word search books. She also loves visits with her pug, and her daughter's animals. She is a true animal lover.

Leta is a member of Cabins Assembly of God Church. She served as a Sunday school teacher in the past and enjoys attending the women's group.

At GRCC, Leta enjoys a variety of activities, including bingo and crafts, and also enjoys watching TV in her room.

We are blessed to have Leta as part of our GRCC family. Congratulations Leta on being GRCC's Resident of the Week.



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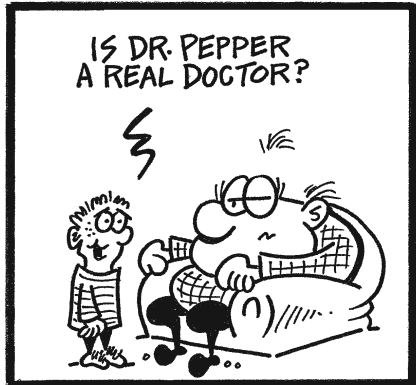
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Tick season shifts into full gear — are you ready?

DEAR PAW’S CORNER: My dog “Happy” and I went hiking this weekend, and when we got back to the car, I did the usual check for bugs and

The Spats



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King Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Mediocre
 - 5 Church seat
 - 8 Greenish blue
 - 12 Tora —, Afghanistan
 - 13 Noshed
 - 14 PETA concerns
 - 15 Slight criticisms
 - 17 Pear-shaped fruits
 - 18 Step
 - 19 Hot dish holder
 - 21 Oodles
 - 24 Log chopper
 - 25 Mandatory coll. courses
 - 28 Calendar entry (Abbr.)
 - 30 Zodiac animal
 - 33 Chit
 - 34 Concepts
 - 35 Swelled head
 - 36 Singer
 - 37 Proscribes
 - 38 Eve’s mate
 - 39 Born
 - 41 Entryway
 - 43 Dress designation
 - 46 Ignited again
 - 50 Shake — (hurry)
 - 51 Dropouts

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18							19	20				
				21		22	23		24			
25	26	27			28		29			30	31	32
33				34						35		
36				37					38			
			39	40			41	42				
43	44				45		46		47	48	49	
50					51	52	53					
54					55				56			
57					58				59			

- 54 Portnoy’s creator
 - 55 Coffee vessel
 - 56 Barrel part
 - 57 Fine spray
 - 58 Sort
 - 59 Curry and Reinking
- DOWN
- 1 Cookouts, briefly
 - 2 LummoX
 - 3 Met solo
 - 4 Customs
 - 5 Bud
 - 6 Bordeaux summer
 - 7 Left on a map
 - 8 Tack on
 - 9 Trembled
 - 10 Desire
 - 11 Celeb’s aide
 - 16 Buddy
 - 20 "Phooey!"
 - 22 Zilch
 - 23 Shell out
 - 25 Estuary
 - 26 A gazillion years
 - 27 Groups of five
 - 29 El —, Texas
 - 31 Turkish title
 - 32 Oft-tattooed word
 - 34 "A likely story!"
 - 38 "Queen of Soul" Franklin
 - 40 Skating figure
 - 42 Scrap
 - 43 Italian cheese, for short
 - 44 Sci-fi race
 - 45 Iso-
 - 47 Boxer Spinks
 - 48 Press
 - 49 Recipe amts.
 - 52 Web address
 - 53 Squid squirt

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Over the next few days, brush through Happy’s coat frequently to dislodge any additional ticks. Newly hatched ticks are indeed tiny and hard to see. Run your hand through Happy’s coat so that you can check his skin for visible bites or lodged ticks. If you notice a bull’s-eye rash around an area, contact the veterinarian.

If you haven’t treated your hiking boots or clothing with permethrin yet, now is the time to do so. Spray the treatment outside, away from Happy or any other animal, and do not let Happy near those

clothes until they have dried completely. The permethrin will stay effective through a few washes.

To keep ticks out of the house, follow similar procedures to flea prevention. Give Happy a regular flea and tick preventative; vacuum and mop the house regularly, and terminate any ticks you find.

A new edition of “Fighting Fleas” is coming, and 10 lucky readers will get a free, signed copy! To enter, email ask@pawscorner.com. Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@pawscorner.com..

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by Jeff Pickering

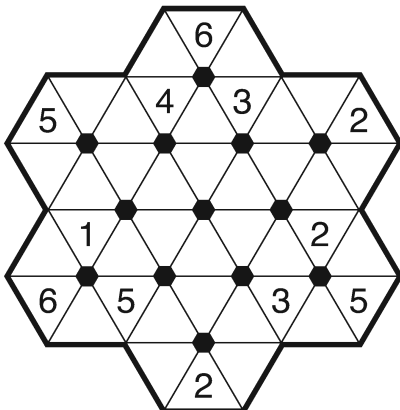


FUN & PUZZLES

PUZZLE ANSWERS FOUND ON PAGE 2A

SNOWFLAKES by Japheth Light

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



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

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DAD JOKES

I was going to cook alligator for dinner ... but then I realized I only had a croc pot.

I have a chess set that is missing some pieces. Guess I need to find a pawn shop.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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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: J equals C

HNFC DOA JSDDMAKSF
JVNNFAI SH OA EWD INYF VPJO
HNPM DN CVNY OPH ESHDWVA:
“MNSK NF DOA VSFCA.”
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You Are Here

R	I	G	H	T

_____ on red

Belonging to them

Continental quart

Modify

A boat tie?

Second in a horse race

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

02506

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Tree is moved. 2. Hat is reversed. 3. Man is thinner. 4. Glove is missing. 5. Fence is shorter. 6. Window is moved.

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Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

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

- 1. Combat — A — — — — Baby feeder
- 2. Defeated one — — S — — — Hermit
- 3. Household task — — — R — — Selected
- 4. Concierge — — R — — — Wanted sign
- 5. Movement M — — — — — Idea
- 6. Smallest amount — — — — T — — Fido’s rope
- 7. Bates of “Psycho” — — — — — N Customary
- 8. Persuade — — J — — — Tapestry creator
- 9. Acquire knowledge L — — — — — Ache for
- 10. Rupture — — — S — — Charred

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Along beaches and shorelines, we are bombarded by ions, which are negatively-charged particles in the air produced by the pounding surf. A beach can have as much as 2,000 negative ions per cubic centimeter, as opposed to a crowded city that may have less than 100. Some research indicates that exposure to negative air ions is linked to reduced depression, lowered anxiety and improved feelings of well-being.

Sources: eoleaf.com
bmcpyschiatry.biomedcentral.com
www.coastalpharmacyandwellness.com
www.thestoryisthething.com

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SPRING HAS SPRUNG WORD SEARCH

D N P C T S H G W E A K R W L N P F N K
W U E G R R R T Z W B D P W Z Y E W L
K F E L G C S E E S R H L Z G N K U C K
S O U I L F W I W B L D Z T N P I D I U
C U D G C O T C N O I F H U W N N R K I
I H N S N O P A D S L R S K K P D O T L
I G L S E I R L U N E F T W I W R I H K
C Z U A H E R F L O P C M H G O S F W G
H T D P N I R P I E O N T S W D E C D R
N I N L T U N T S K U N O S W G G G T E
F U O I D S O E A G C H I R P I N G I E
T Y F N K H K L N I N D T S E N Y T N N
L N G G E O E S E G L I N E A D T P I Y
G N N H M W G C H R I P N G C P G M D F
H U I G U E G F C B R I G E D B P Z I T
L B D E F R S I C C P N R A K H F O Z F
E W D I S S I K R T A W B K R A E N B A
W A U R D T B R E E Z E C H U D W S G P
N S B M R B L O O M S T I F F B E A K U
S W O R G Y A R Z D P G B K A L P N I F

APRIL
AWAKENING
BLOOMS
BREEZE
BUDDING
BUNNY
CHIRPING
EGGS
FLOWERS
GARDEN
GREEN
GROWS
INSECTS
NEST
POLLEN
REBIRTH
SAPLING
SHOWERS
SPRING
SUNNY
SUNSHINE
TREES

Grant County Schools names teachers and service personnel of the year



Congratulations to this year's high school teacher of the year, Rachel Wratchford. Presenting the award was Superintendent of Schools Mitch Webster and Petersburg High School Principal Jodie Long.



Congratulations to this year's elementary school teacher of the year, Medea Harvey. Presenting the award was Superintendent of Schools Mitch Webster and Petersburg Elementary School Principal Bubba Hedrick.



Congratulations to this year's service personnel of the year, Mrs. Rogers. Presenting the award was Superintendent of Schools Mitch Webster and Petersburg High School Principal Jodie Long.

Grant Memorial Hospital to host health fair May 3

WVU - Grant Memorial Hospital will host its inaugural health fair Saturday, May 3, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the gravel parking lot next to the GMH Ben-senhaver Clinic.

The event will bring together hospital departments and community partners to provide health information, screenings, and resources focused on wellness and preventative care.

The health fair will also include educational exhibits and medical service providers, including Bonnie's Bus and LUCAS mobile screening units, which will be on-site to offer breast and lung cancer screenings. To schedule an appointment for either screening, please call 304-257-5806 in advance.

Other features include:

- Heritage Hearing and other local organizations providing health-related resources and services.
- An inflatable colon exhibit, highlighting the importance of colon cancer screenings.
- Healthy Saturday Blood Screening, available from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. To schedule an appointment,

call Julie Kesner at 304-257-5806.

- EMS WV Mobile Healthcare Simulation ambulance and Healthnet Aeromedical Services, available for tours, weather permitting.

- GMH's Bone and Joint Center of Excellence will host a Joint Replacement Patient Reunion and Reception at noon under the GMH tent.

- B-RAD's food truck will be on-site, offering meal and snack options for attendees.

The event will be held under a large white tent, ensuring that activities can proceed rain or shine. Community members are encouraged to attend to learn more about available health services and participate in screenings.

Whether you are looking for medical information, want to participate in the screenings, are considering a job in healthcare, or simply want to learn more about what is going on at the hospital, consider attending.

For more information, contact Grant Memorial Hospital at 304-257-5806.



Take 5

In less time than it takes to get ready for movie night you can register to vote.



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library week
April 6-12, 2025

Spring Vendors

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
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The Grant County Chamber of Commerce
Welcomes you to the 32nd Annual

The logo for the Spring Mountain Festival is a white rectangular frame containing the text "Spring Mountain Festival" in a stylized, white, cursive font with a red outline. The frame is set against a bright orange background. Surrounding the frame are various spring-themed illustrations: two purple and yellow butterflies, one in the top right and one in the bottom left; several tulips in shades of pink, orange, and red; and white daisies with yellow centers. Green foliage and stems are also visible.

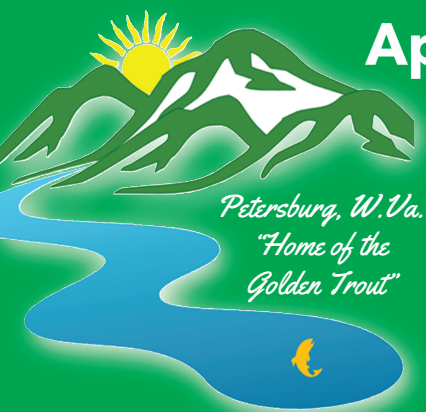
Spring Mountain Festival

April 25, 26, 27, 2025 | PETERSBURG CITY PARK
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Schedule of Events

Friday, April 25th

Festival Opens at Noon!

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

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Free Admission



Saturday, April 26th

Festival Opens at 9 a.m.

9:00 a.m.

Parade lineup at
PHS Baseball field

10:00 a.m.

Parade

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



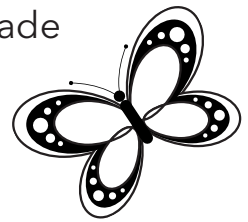
Clearway

Events may be subject to change. Due to insurance regulations, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades and scooters are prohibited in the festival area. Vehicles allowed only with proper permits. No pets allowed. Not responsible for accidents.

Schedule of Events

Sunday, April 27th
Festival Opens at 10:00 a.m.

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 10:00 a.m. | Petersburg Church of God
Church Service |
| 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Trout Derby at the Pool
Fly Fishing Class |
| Noon | Antique Car, Truck, Tractor &
Engine Show |
| Noon | Motorcycle Show |
| Noon | Dog and Puppy Parade |
| 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. | Off The Railz |
| 4:00 p.m. | Festival Closes |



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Festival

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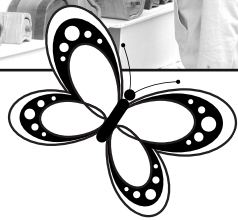
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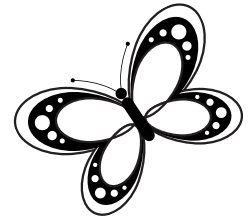
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It's Our 32nd Anniversary!



The Grant County Chamber of Commerce orchestrates the Spring Mountain Festival each year during the last full weekend in April. The festival is in its 32nd year and was first started in 1992 and has been the first Fairs and Festivals Event each year in West Virginia.

Its roots run deep in Grant County and date back to the White-Water Weekend that was an annual event every year starting in 1973 and running to 1979. White Water Weekend was centered around kayak and canoe races on the North Fork of the South Branch River and culminated each year with the April Fools Race of "anything that floats that's not a boat." The previous year, 1972, the US Championship Canoe Races were held on the North Fork which sparked the weekend that was combined with a Golden Trout Festival to become White Water Weekend. Local craftsman, Clubs and vendors provided food and crafts to crowds that would literally walk miles to come see them. White Water Weekend died out after several floods destroyed the rapids and traffic issues forced its curtailment.

This left Grant County and the Petersburg community searching for a new festival to take the place of White-Water Weekend. In 1992 the Grant County Chamber of Commerce sponsored the first Spring Mountain Festival in the Petersburg City Park. The festival at its roots centered on local crafts, artisans and food vendors with entertainment, a parade, and numerous activities for young and old.

Today the Festival has grown to include a WV Fairs and Festivals Pageant, free entertainment (sponsored by local businesses) ranging from Blue Grass to Country and Classic Rock to Gospel with gymnastics for the young and young at heart. Bounce houses, ATV rides and Trout Derby keep the children busy. There are Food Vendors serving BBQ, sausages, and almost any kind of Festival Food that exists. Artisans and other craft vendors are spread throughout the park selling their unique wares. The Parade with Bands, Military Units, Fire Engines, and Pageant Royalty and business entries is one of the biggest events of the year.

Annually the Spring Mountain Festival attracts 5000-6000 visitors to the 3-day event that is advertised on TV, the Web and social media and draws people from the surrounding states and District of Columbia. The Spring Mountain Festival continues to grow and is a great time for everyone that attends.



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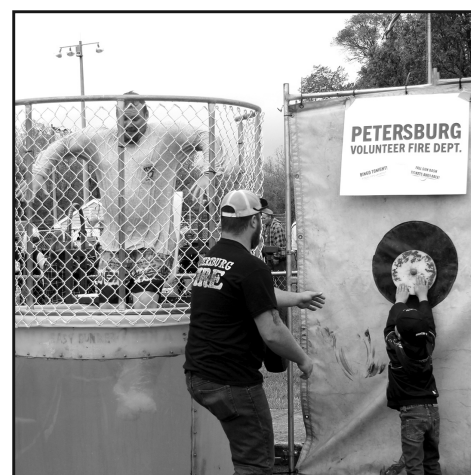
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Saturday, April 26th
11 a.m. - Noon



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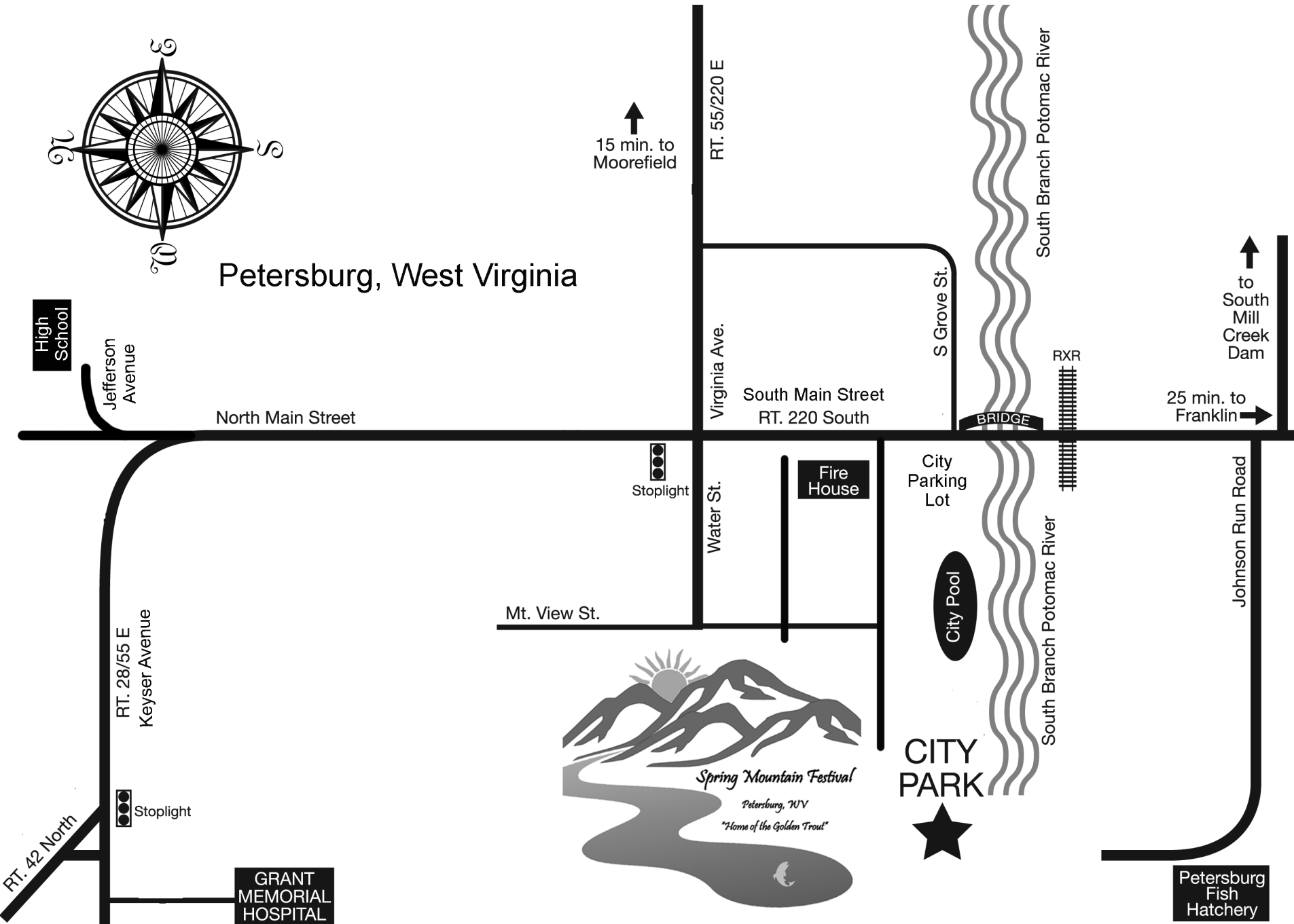
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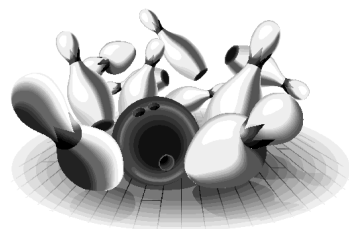
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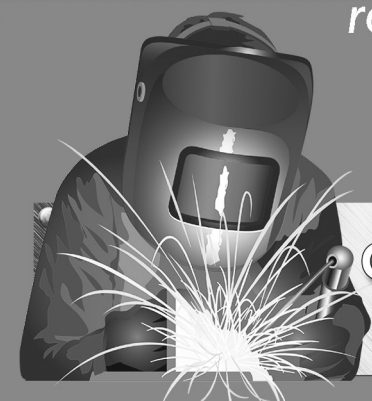
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Spring Mountain Festival Trout Derby

Location: City Pool - Petersburg

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4 Trout Limit Per Kid Preregistration Required

FISHING TIMES

Saturday, April 26th

Age Group: 0-3 years 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
4-6 years 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
7-9 years 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
10-12 years 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 27th

Age Group: 13-18 years 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
19 years & Up.. 11:30 - 12:30 p.m.
Fly Fishing Class 9:00 - 10:00 p.m.

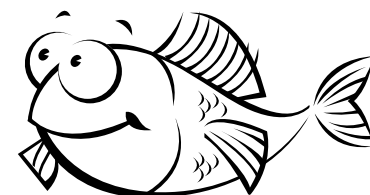
PRIZES AWARDED AT END OF EACH SESSION

Event coordination and prizes provided by Three Rivers Guiding.
All trout from Mountaineer Trout Farm courtesy of Greer Lime.

Registration Form

2025 Spring Mountain Festival Trout Derby
April 27th, 28th
Event Location -Petersburg City Pool

Name: _____
Age: _____ Phone: _____
County: _____ Gender: _____



Release of Liability/Photo Release

As parent or legal guardian of above named child, I certify that said child has my permission to attend and participate in the above named SMF Trout Fishing Derby, held at said times and location. In signing this form, I hereby waive and release all other participants, the host, sponsors and all other officials or parties involved in the derby from all claims and/or injuries incurred in connection with this derby. I also hereby grant the sponsor and co-sponsors the unconditional right to use the name, voice and photo- graphic likeness of the child in connection with any of their audio/visual productions, articles, Facebook, or press releases.

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Spring Mountain Festival

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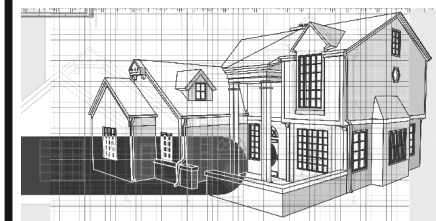
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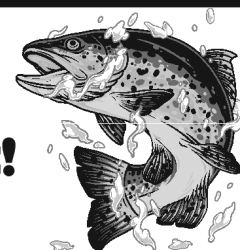
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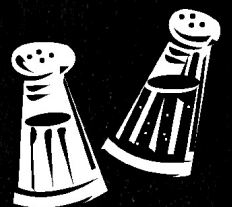


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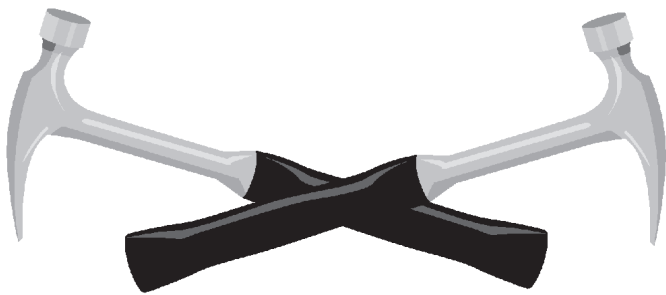
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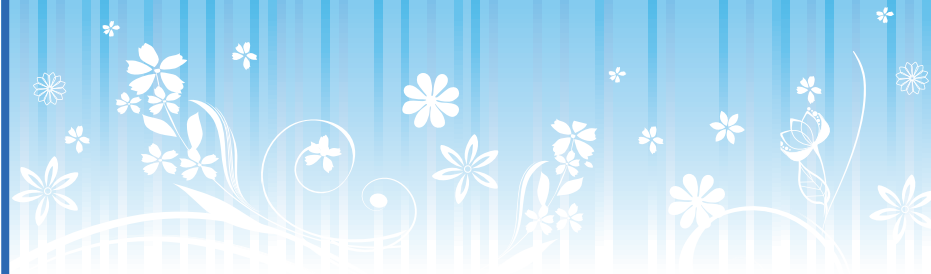


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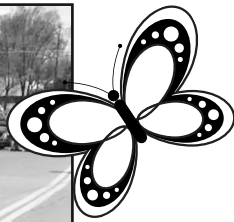
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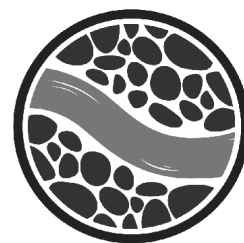


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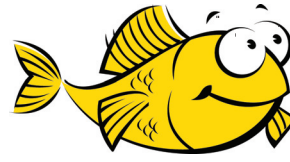
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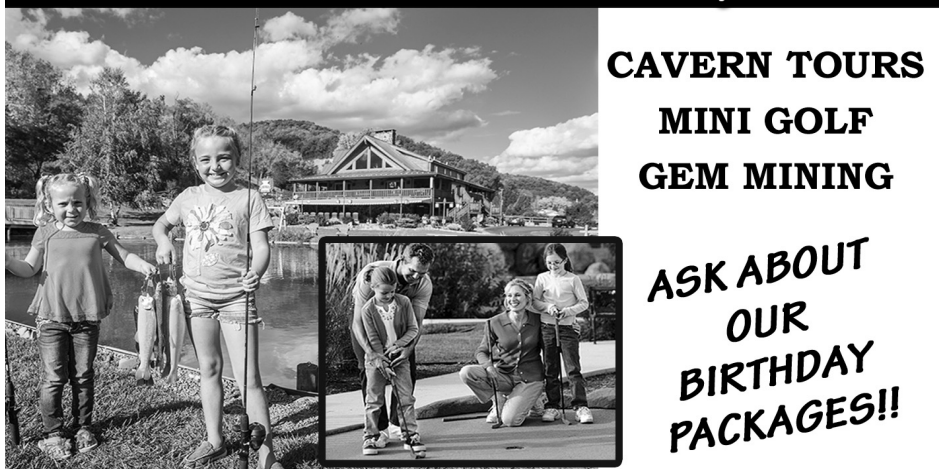
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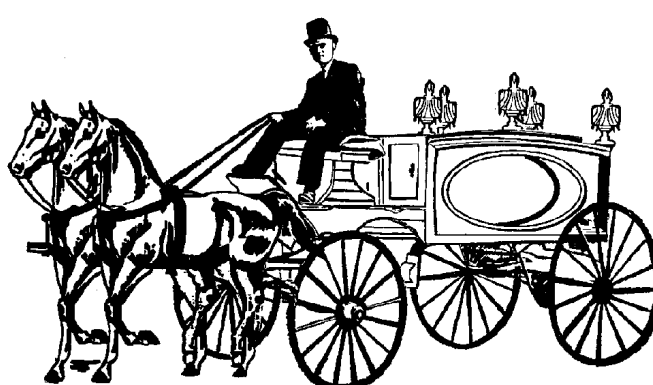
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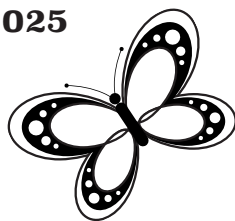
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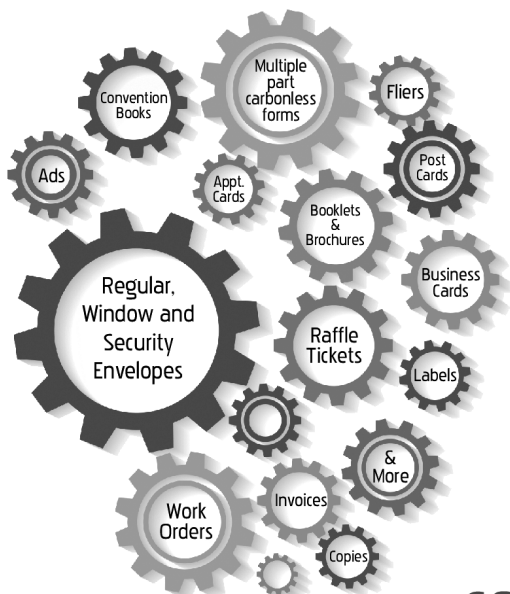
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