









# Golden Lanes: 50 years of family fun

Golden Lanes bowling alley celebrated their 50th birthday Sept. 16, with a community open house.

The Thorne family, who opened the doors of Golden Lanes in 1973, welcomed guests which included family, league members past and present, and many friends.

The lanes were first opened by the late Carl and Lena Thorne along with their children, Carl Delmas Thorne, Sue Thorne Earle and Randy Thorne.

Throughout the years the family has continued to bring family friendly entertainment, home cooked meals and homemade pies to the community.



Carl Delmas Thorne, Sue Thorne Earle and Randy Thorne



One of the first bowling teams, Potomac Valley Bank, included Gerry Bland, Wilard Earle and team captain Jr. Ours, who wore their team shirts for the occasion.

## PHS Class of '73 meets for 50th reunion



Class of 1973 recently met for their 50th reunion at the North Fork Ruritan. There were 49 in attendance out of 54 who RSVP'd to come. This is the most they have had in attendance at any reunion so far. The total with guests was 85. North Fork Ruritan provided the meal. The class also recognized their 16 deceased classmates.

## GRCC spotlight employees for September



Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center September employees in the spotlight, are (above) Keri Robinette who works in the Odyssey Therapy department and Kelli Phares, who has been a CNA at the facility for 17 years. They are shown with Sydney Nazelrodt of Summit Community Bank, which sponsored the spotlight. Not pictured is spotlight employee Josalynn Helmick, who has been a CNA at the facility for four years.

## Registration open for the WV Women in Agriculture conference at Canaan Valley

The annual West Virginia Women in Agriculture Conference provides research-based and practical educational opportunities for agribusiness women while fostering networking and leadership development.

Workshops focus on the five areas of risk management and production enterprises.

Farm tours highlight successful operations and provide opportunities for

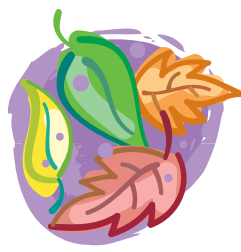


participants to learn from other's experiences. The conference rotates

annually to demonstrate the diversity of agricultural enterprises throughout West Virginia.

This year's conference is set for Nov. 17-18, at Canaan Valley Resort and Conference Center in Davis.

Registration, which is now open, and conference information may be found at extension.wvu.edu under the Agriculture tab.



## Why do the leaves change their colors?

It won't be long until the leaves on the trees will start changing their color from green to all colors of the rainbow.


Rain or dry weather has nothing to do with it. It is that the days start getting shorter and the temperature starts to get cooler.

The trees stop manufacturing chlorophyll. In place of chlorophyll, carotenoids start showing up. These are pigments of brown, yellow and orange that put in the beautiful colors of nature that everyone likes to see and admire.

To local people ... be careful. The leaf peepers will be driving slow looking at these beautiful colors and you could run into them.

Just be careful and let these wonderful people observe the color of nature. It doesn't last long and the people will be gone.

Submitted by Charles Teter, Riverton



**Happy 93rd Birthday Uncle Jim Wilson on Sept. 26**

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Boxes are \$100 each. SNAP/EBT is accepted. Place an order online at [potomachighlandsproducers.com](http://potomachighlandsproducers.com).

Pick up: Oct. 2-3 from 12-5 p.m. at 316 Eastern Drive, Suite 201 in Moorefield.

The Potomac Highlands Producers is a project supported by Eastern WV Community and Technical College that works together with farmers in the Potomac Highlands of WV to sell more local food products and raise awareness of the abundance of goods available.



[potomachighlandsproducers.com](http://potomachighlandsproducers.com) @potomachighlandsproducers

**SALE AUCTION SATURDAY OCT. 7 10 A.M.**

**ESTATE OF ESTYL SHREVE**  
405 Birchwood Drive, Franklin, WV  
Located behind the Pendleton Community Bank

**GUNS:** Marlin 336CB - 38/55 - Winchester; Ruger Arms Pistol 22 Auto; Bryco Pistol - 380; Smith/Wesson 38 cal. pistol - pearl handles; Old Revolver (Unknown).

**ANTIQUES:** auto harp, harmonicas, fiddle, banjo, guitar, oak china cabinet, lots of kerosene lamps, crocks, baskets, iron kettle, sad irons, cow bell, well pulley, cross cut saw, wood boxes, milk bottles, glass church, lard press, guardian ware, copper boiler, grain cradle, wash tub, church bench, Hank Williams 33 albums, oil paintings by G. Shreve, Smoke Hole books, Treasure Mountain Collection, coffee grinders, sheriff items, belt buckle, Pendleton County Bank items, pocket watches, Sheriff from Smoke Hole books, quilts, tobacco tins, mantle clock and match tin.

**TOOLS:** rototiller, tools (mechanic, hand, power, yard), lawn mower, ladders, and grinder.

**HOUSEHOLD:** kitchen table, grandfather clock, dishes, pots, pans, glassware, book shelves, end tables, recliner, lamps, couch, pictures, clocks, curio cabinet, china cabinet, desk, wood file cabinet, microwave **AND MANY OTHER ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION!**

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Watch for photos and complete listing on [auctionzip.com](http://auctionzip.com)



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Shared editorial

Education: Everyone has a role to play in improvement

The Parkersburg News & Sentinel

It seems no matter how you convey the results of testing — an A-F analysis or the Balanced Scorecard that has been in place since the 2017-18 school year — West Virginia schools are still doing a poorer job for our kids than they were doing pre-pandemic; and a poor job in general.

Balanced Scorecard results for the 2022-23 school year show there has been a small improvement over last year's performance in the annual statewide assessment, but we haven't gotten back even to 2018-19 levels.

Improvement is good, of course, but even with improvement, only 55% of West Virginia students PARTIALLY met the standard for English Language Arts. We were at 56.9% before the pandemic. Only 50.6% of students partially meet the standard in math, compared with 53.5% pre-pandemic.

But because parents should not be content with partially educated students, let's look at the percentage deemed proficient. This time around, 35% of students tested were proficient in math, down from 39% in 2019. ELA proficiency was at 44%, down from 46% in 2019. Science proficiency was 29%, down from 33% pre-COVID.

That is simply unacceptable.

Parents and guardians can and should visit [wv.us/essa/dashboard.html](https://wv.us/essa/dashboard.html) for specifics on your children's school districts.

Once we overcome our disappointment and frustration there is another step to take. Blaming schools and educators is easy — and certainly the responsibility lands in their laps. But what are families, communities and lawmakers doing to support them and give our students a better chance to excel?

As teachers take a look at these scores and figure out how to do better for our students, no doubt there will be concerns such as "How do we get lawmakers out of our way while we try to educate these kids?" "How are we supposed to focus on teaching when our schools are also caring for the physical and mental health of students, feeding them (sometimes clothing them), keeping them safe, and offering a haven they might not have at home?" "How are we going to get the resources we need to teach when our communities' economies are still in shambles?"

And, "How do we convince students to prioritize their educations when families and communities too often place no value on — in fact, in some cases have a negative attitude toward — getting an education?"

There is blame to spread far and wide on this problem.

Teachers and school systems will use the data to get to work toward greater improvement. As they do so, we must ask ourselves, are we ready to do our share?



By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Can you afford a new car?

If you can't afford a new car now, it's not going to get easier.

Supposedly the average new car price in America is "about" \$30,000 according to [ftc.gov](https://ftc.gov). Be wary of the preposition "about." It gets tougher all the time to walk out of a dealership with a new car that has very many bells and whistles for under \$35,000. The average payment for a new car is \$700 according to [bankrate.com](https://bankrate.com). A more reasonable car payment means you have to have a sizable down payment or receive a lot of credit on your trade-in. Many Americans are financing their cars for 72 months and they are often worn out when traded. Often there is still some balance owed that is refinanced in the new deal. This creates an ongoing financial hardship for millions of Americans.

Millions of Americans struggle with bad credit ratings which impacts their car loan deal.

In most parts of America, you have to have a car. There are some locations in our country where you can make it with buses and trains but that is a small section of America. If you live on the East Coast between NYC and Washington, D.C. then you might be able to survive without a car. If you live in Tomahawk, Kentucky you must have a car.

The United Auto Workers are striking for better pay and benefits. Many of the plant employees are making over \$30 an hour but lower tier employees are making less than \$20 an hour for the same kind of work. The UAW is asking to end a tier system which pays employees less

New car - Continued on Page 5A



Lee Hamilton

been struck by how little attention many national reporters have paid to a potential third-party bid by the group known as No Labels.

The organization, which says it's committed to bipartisanship and political centrism, has secured ballot access in at least 10 states, and appears positioned to do so in others, as well.

This has Democrats worried. Third parties in presidential contests have mostly served either as after-thoughts or as spoilers, and it's not hard to see a No Labels presidential ticket taking votes from Democrats' likely nominee, Joe Biden, and assuring the election of the Republican candidate—probably Donald Trump.

That's an unpalatable option for most Democrats and even many independents, and it may be why some prominent Republicans are pushing for a No Labels candidacy.

It's probably impossible for party leaders to leave strategic considerations aside, but for the rest of us, there are lessons for both parties in No Labels' traction this year.

Beyond the politics, a message to notice from No Labels

Many Americans are tired of the intense partisanship they see at the national and state levels. And for some voters, the policies the group is promoting seem to strike an attractive ideological balance.

These include policy prescriptions that call for reining in spending to



keep the national debt from growing faster than the economy; regaining control of our borders but ensuring a path to citizenship; criminal justice reforms "so career criminals can't keep committing crimes" while at the same time, "keeping dangerous weapons away from dangerous people"; committing to make U.S. students number one globally in math and reading within a decade; and a bald statement that "no child should be forced to go to a failing school."

Now, as anyone with experience in creating policy will tell you, there is

a big difference between promoting noble-sounding ideals and crafting legislation that will help the country live up to them. Or to put it another way, the devil's in the details.

To this end, I'm struck above all by No Labels' overarching key point—one that many politicians of both parties who are inclined toward the center have been trying to make for years: "America can't solve its biggest problems and deliver the results hardworking taxpayers want, need, and deserve unless Democrats and Republicans start working together side by side on bipartisan solutions."

There's no doubt that this is what a lot of Americans would prefer—and, ironically, it's what a lot of politicians could make happen without a third party nipping at their heels. In fact, it already is happening.

The huge 2021 infrastructure bill? Bipartisan. A new effort to regulate AI? That's a Democratic senator from Connecticut and a Republican from Missouri working together. Modernizing STEM education? That's from a New Hampshire Democrat and a Tennessee Republican, also in the Senate.

Of course, work like this often flies under the radar. As fall wears on,

No Labels  
Continued on Page 5A

Up in smoke: WV squandered tobacco settlement funding. Now's the time to bring it back.

The tobacco industry has a playbook, script and strategy that continues to effectively work in West Virginia. Twenty-five years ago, it experienced a stinging blow that was our first and only opportunity to strike back. Today, we continue to squander that opportunity.

In 1998, the tobacco industry and 46 states, including West Virginia, reached what is known as the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement. In return for exemption from legal liability for the deadly consequences of using their products, the tobacco companies agreed to make annual payments to the states to fund anti-smoking cam-

paigns and public health programs.

But there was no requirement for the states to use these funds as intended was not written into the agreement. That was a mistake.

In 2005, the West Virginia Tobacco Settlement Medical Trust Fund was created, seemingly with good intentions. But one year later, in 2006, the Rainy Day Part B fund was created, using, in part, the Tobacco Settlement Medical Trust Fund.

In just a few years, millions meant for tobacco prevention and treatment were moved like a shell game.

In 2007, West Virginia

allocated more funding for tobacco control in the state budget than ever before—\$7.1 million. This was far less than the \$27.8 million recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but it's the most the state has budgeted since. The amount hovered around \$5 million until 2017, when the state zeroed out the funding altogether. It now stands at \$455,000 per year.

West Virginia is still the state with the most adult smokers and in 2017, we had one of the highest adolescent smoking rates in the country. More than 1 in 3 West Virginia high school students reported current use of e-cigarettes, which

was a 150% increase from 2017 to 2019 alone.

West Virginians never stopped smoking; we just stopped talking about it. As an opioid epidemic unfolded, and a pandemic raged on, we've diverted our eyes from tobacco — still the leading cause of illness and death in the world.

There's a heavy financial toll for all of this. It's estimated that smoking costs our state \$1.17 billion in direct health care costs annually, with \$298.1 million in Medicaid costs.

As we continue to look the other way, the tobacco industry will continue its unrelenting, ever-adapting

Smoke  
Continued on Page 5A

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

Hats off to the Landes Arts Center board and executive director for a wonderful 15-year celebration of the Landes Arts Center. It was an evening of reminiscences, entertainment, and great food.

The Landes Arts Center board dedicates hours to provide a service to the community. It is not just a monthly meeting and home they go. Along with the executive director they arrange and assist with scheduling, advertising, set up, and take down for the events.

This Center was a combined effort by everyone in the community and is an incredible facility. The total construction cost was \$2.7 million, but most impor-

tantly, \$1.1 million were donated by individuals and businesses to finish the project. Additionally, there were thousands of dollars of in-kind donations along the way. Proof positive remarkable things that can be accomplished when everyone works together.

In the '70s and '80s we had wonderful plays that were performed in the old "A" gym or the Petersburg Elementary School.

We had talented teachers from the high school and Shepherd College South Branch who produced plays which included students and adults of all ages. They were a smashing success with lasting memories.

Luckily, we had leaders in the community who saw the need for a performing

arts center. There is one disconnect in all this; there is not a mentoring opportunity for students to participate in theater. We have a wonderful band director, coaches, and art teachers, but we need a drama teacher. This facility is here to engage students and we are missing a golden opportunity for our students.

This facility has housed numerous school art shows and band concerts. I know these students will remember with pride their work hung in the Center or they performed on stage. Many talented students in the arts have graduated from PHS because of mentoring by a teacher and have gone on to become teachers, artists, performers, sing in their church choirs, or paint for

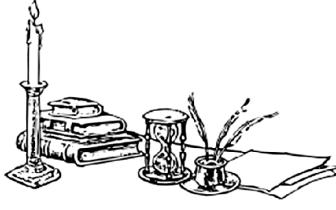
fun. They will have fond memories of these days.

The Grant County Board of Education needs to partner with the Landes Arts Center and fund a position to hire a drama teacher. We need to take this facility and our educational opportunities to the next level.

Again, I thank the Landes Arts Center board and executive director for hosting the celebration. It was a wonderful event and best wishes for a bright future.

Blessings,  
Phyllis Cole  
Petersburg  
cc: Grant County Board of Education  
Landes Arts Center Board  
WV Theater East





# Remember When



**September 23, 1953**  
Plans were completed for the welcome home celebration for Grant County's three prisoners, Sgt. James A. Alt, Sgt. Ralph W. Hartman and Cpl. Vernon Rohrbaugh, of the Korean War. Pvt. Virgil A. Smith of Kline, who entered the army Feb. 25, 1953, finished his basic training and sailed for Germany, July 31. Sgt. Carl Smith of Petersburg was serving in Korea and was expected to return home in two months. Mr. and Mrs. Vance Bensenhaver entertained with a 16th birthday party at their home in Moorefield, in honor of their son, Johnny. Mr. and Mrs. John L. Mullenax of Horse Shoe Run announced the birth of a son, at Garrett County Memorial Hospital, Oakland, Md. Pvt. Jacob Thorne of Arthur was serving with the armed forces in Korea. Pvt. Marvin Mauzy was continuing his career as a member of the famed "All American" 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Cpl. Roland Borrer of Landes was stationed with the armed forces at Camp Beale, Calif.  
**September 25, 1963**  
T.R. Carney, owner of the Western Auto Associate Store, was recognized for 10 years of service to his community. Those who passed their driver's test were: Vera K. Mowry and Roy Stephen Harman, both of Petersburg; Darl C. Troy of Dorcas; Tracy L. Feaster of Antioch; Paul W. Borrer of Landes; Abraham J. Evans of New Creek and James R. Plaugher of Purgitsville. Sheriff John Groves reported employment of O.G. Webley to the post of deputy sheriff, replacing Mrs. Wayne C. Boor. Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hughes of Antioch, a son, Sept. 17; Mr. and Mrs. Randall Judy of Petersburg, a son, Sept. 18; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rohrbaugh of Moorefield, a son, Sept. 19; Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Snell of Petersburg, a daughter, Sept. 20; Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Cassell of Moorefield, a daughter, Sept. 21; Mr. and Mrs. Er-

nest Rubright of Gaylord, Mich., a son, Sept. 21; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Roach of Riverton, a son, Sept. 22; and Mr. and Mrs. George Barr of Kessel, a daughter, Sept. 23. Petersburg traveled down to Charles Town with a slim squad of 22, saw their squad grow even smaller during the afternoon at the hands of a boiling sun and the injury jinx, but came out on top by a score of 13-6.  
**September 26, 1973**  
Blane Michael resigned from the administrative staff of the U.S. District Court for Northern West Virginia to enter the private practice of law in his native Grant County. He was to open a law office on Pine Street in Petersburg. Births at Grant Memorial Hospital included: Mr. and Mrs. Joe Whetzel of Arthur, a daughter, Sept. 17; Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Henry of Maysville, a son, Sept. 17; Mr. and Mrs. Arno Ketterman of Dorcas, a son, Sept. 19; Mr. and Mrs. Clark Wolford of Harman, a daughter, Sept. 22; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Shoemaker of Moorefield,

a daughter, Sept. 22; and Mr. and Mrs. Don Alt of Petersburg, a daughter, Sept. 23. Ridgeley topped the Vikings 19-6  
**September 28, 1983**  
The Grant County Commission acted at their regular meeting to bail out the Mountain Top Public Service District from default and possible federal receivership by giving them a \$30,000 grant. Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Berg of Petersburg announced the birth of their son, Justin Clyde, Sept. 19. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Phares Sr. announced the engagement of their daughter, Marcia L., to Donald G. Wratchford Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Wratchford Sr. of Petersburg. For the third week in a row the PHS Viking football team was celebrating a shut-out victory over what had been expected to be a strong opponent. The Vikings coasted to their third straight victory with a 40-0 win over Circleville and was 3-1.

## Grant Memorial Hospital now offering tobacco cessation program

Nationally, only 6% of people who try to quit smoking for the first time succeed. When smokers participate in therapy, they are four times more successful. When medication aids are used smokers are three times more likely to quit. If you are thinking about quitting smoking, you now

have local help to be successful. Grant Memorial Hospital in Petersburg, has implemented a new program to help members of the region stop smoking. This tobacco cessation program is managed by a certified tobacco cessation nurse, in conjunction with a physician assistant, and

is accomplished through individual scheduled clinic times. The certified tobacco cessation nurse will work one-on-one with patients to help them understand tobacco use and provide a personalized plan to quit. They will also provide tools to handle withdraw and stress, teaching tips to

help resist the urge to use tobacco, and education and resources to help obtain nicotine replacement products. Most insurance companies cover this program. For more information, contact the GMH/WVU Cancer and Infusion Center at 681-892-0154.

## WV State Treasurer condemns Biden administration's net-zero investment and financing principles

**WV Press Sharing**  
State Treasurer Riley Moore has condemned a new effort by the Biden Administration and U.S. Treasury to encourage the banking and financial services industries to implement an accelerated transition of investment and financing activity away from the coal, oil and natural gas industries. The U.S. Treasury Department last Tuesday released new "Principles for Net-Zero Financing & Investment" encouraging American financial institutions to leverage their economic power to transition the country away from the coal, oil and natural gas industries. "This is yet another attempt by the Biden Administration to use command-and-control central planning tactics to implement the Green New Deal policies that have been repeatedly rebuked in Congress," Moore said. As part of its focus to encourage the nation's financial institutions to implement net-zero activities, the principles call for companies to use their financing, investing and advisory services to promote a "managed phaseout" away from fossil fuels and accelerate the transition to zero-emissions assets.

It specifically calls on financial institutions to direct capital toward replacing coal-fired power with wind and solar generation. "This policy framework is a direct shot at West Virginia's economy," Moore said. "It's sad that when consumers are facing skyrocketing gas and electricity prices this Administration's solution is to double-down on the failed policies that have driven the rampant inflation of recent years. "West Virginia is standing firm against these efforts by enacting reforms like our Restricted Financial Institutions List, which prohibits financial institutions from doing business with my office if they take actions intended to harm the fossil fuel industries — and institutions that comply with this new Biden agenda may find themselves on this list," he said. Treasurer Moore and West Virginia have been leading the way in the fight against the extreme climate agenda from the Biden Administration and their allies on Wall Street. Last January, Moore was the first elected official to divest funds from BlackRock over its activist behaviors. He also championed legislation to create the country's first Restrict-

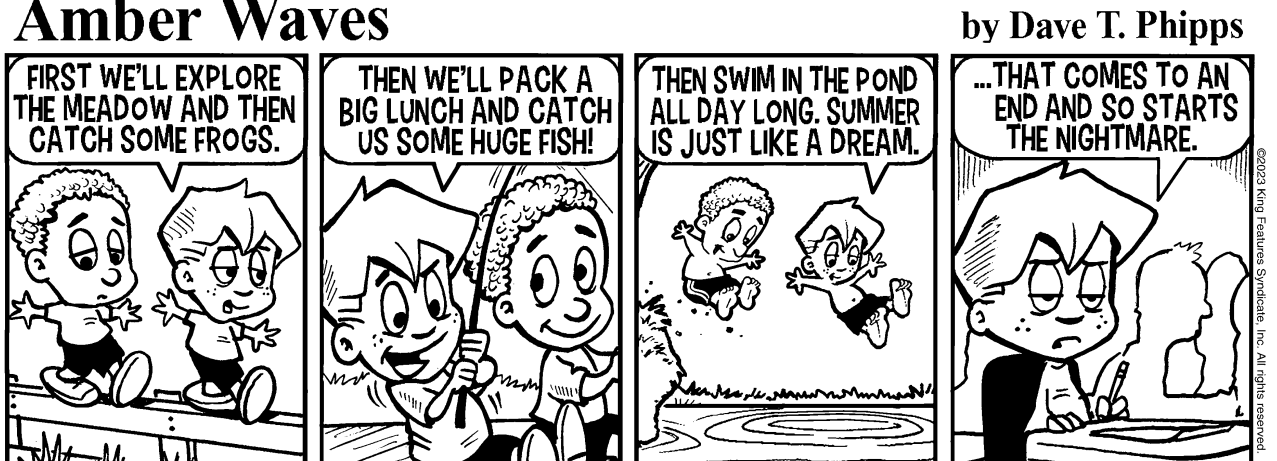
ed Financial Institutions List, which prohibits state banking contracts with institutions shown to be engaged in boycotts of the fossil fuel industries. Treasurer Moore has also worked with and supported colleagues in other states — including Arizona, South Carolina, Utah, Arkansas, Missouri, Louisiana, Florida, Kentucky and Oklahoma — as they implement similar measures in their states. "We need to restore investment in traditional energy sources like coal, oil and natural gas and restore America's energy independence and quit using the heavy hand of government to prop up failed technologies that do not make economic sense," Moore said. greater acceptance within a legislative body and among the public, and—just as important—last beyond the next change in power. As voters, we don't need a third party to help us make this happen: We can choose political candidates of both parties who, in both their rhetoric and their values, show that they can and will work across the aisle. But if No Labels' appeal to ordinary voters can serve to remind politicians and their party leaders that there's a hunger for centrism and bipartisanship in the public at large, then that's all to the good. Lee Hamilton is a senior adviser for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government and was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

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## No Labels

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it's more likely that what we'll be reading about in the press is the opposite: the House GOP's talk of impeaching President Biden because of—well, it's a little unclear why—and its continued brinksmanship over a potential government shutdown. Moreover, many ambitious politicians, looking for an edge, believe it's in their interest to stoke division, since they can raise funds from riled-up partisans and then drive election turnout by inflaming their base. The problem is, that's no way to govern. Over the course of our history, bipartisanship has often produced better, longer-lasting legislation. It means a proposed law will reflect a wide range of views, win

by Dave T. Phipps



## Lawmakers call for special session on WVU's budget crisis

**Nadia Ramlagan - West Virginia News Service**  
A group of West Virginia Democratic delegates is calling for a special session to address West Virginia University's budget shortfall. Del. Evan Hansen, D-Morgantown, said the legislature shares responsibility for the university's budget crisis, which has resulted in plans to slash 143 faculty positions and eliminate nearly 30 majors. The university's board approved the cuts last week. Hansen pointed out that over the years, the university's funding has declined by tens of millions of dollars, and added people statewide will feel the impacts of a diminished university system. "It's a big hit on the local economy and on the regional economy, and for the families of people who are losing their jobs," Hansen noted. "Across the state, there's a lot less discretionary funds available for various programs that provide services in counties all across West Virginia." The university is facing a \$45 million deficit, which its president, E. Gordon Gee, said is due to declining state funding and decreased enrollment. In addition to Hansen, three other delegates are asking the governor to call the legislature into session to support the university. Hansen emphasized some of the programs targeted for cuts related to diversifying the energy sector and others, have value for the employers and businesses in the Mountain State. "For example, the public administration program is very important in West Virginia," Hansen outlined. "The parks and recreation program that's being eliminated is something that doesn't make a lot of sense to me, given that we're leaning into an outdoor recreation and tourism based economy."

## New car

**Continued from Page 4A**

for doing the same work. UAW wants their pay increased by 36% over the next four years. They also are tired of working 60-to-80-hour weeks just to survive. They are asking for a four day or 32-hour work week but paid for 40 hours. They also want the defined benefit pension reinstated for all the employees. General Motors ended its defined benefit pension January 1, 2007. They are also asking for better medical insurance for the lower tier employees. The UAW says the big three gave up cost of living adjustments during the 2008 financial crisis when GM and Chrysler went bankrupt. The UAW says that this has resulted in a tremendous pay decrease for the auto workers. The 401k retirement plan is going to be the best that American companies are going to offer going forward. In the old days many companies offered defined benefit plans. If you worked 30 years then you were promised a certain retirement wage. The big three auto makers once had such benefits but they will never go back to that because they know it's unsustainable. If a company will match or pay even half of what you pay into your 401K then you are doing well. We all surely hope for the best for all concerned. Everybody has to make money. In the meantime, most of us will be shopping around to see what we can afford. Paying an extra 36% percent or whatever it might be for a new car will be difficult for most Americans.

## Smoke

**Continued from Page 5A**

strategies to hook our kids. Watch the vaping stores mushroom up across every rural town in our state. Listen to teachers and parents talk about vaping in the school bathrooms, not just in high schools but middle schools, too. It's hard to believe that 25 years ago, we were handed an opportunity to fight back. And yet, our policymakers continue to divert needed funding to anything but its intended purpose. The good news is that our state still collects tobacco settlement payments and funding from a tobacco tax. It receives over \$232.4 million annually from tobacco settlement payments and taxes combined. West Virginia continues to suffer the greatest consequences at the hands of the tobacco industry yet spends only 5.8% of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommended funding annually. It's time to allocate funding where it was intended to go. The Legislature should increase the tobacco control budget to \$27.4 million annually. Funding should target youth prevention and cessation programming specific to marginalized populations, such as the Black and LGBTQIA+ communities. We should beef up the services provided by the WV Quitline and market it in all communities across the state. And importantly, the state's tobacco control budget should be widely available and transparent, with annual evaluation data presented to the legislature before each session. As the tobacco industry adapts to younger consumers, so should we. And that means spending tobacco settlement funding as it was intended in the first place.





## Health Department October schedule

3, 10, 17, 24, 31	<b>Immunizations Clinics:</b> By appointment only on Tuesday afternoons.
By Appt. Only	<b>Vaccines, blood pressure screenings and family planning supplies.</b> New patients, please bring your immunization records. All patients need to bring all insurance card information with them on every visit. Free or minimal charge for vaccines and family planning supplies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PCV20/Prevnar, Shingles/Shingrix</b> can be given if your insurance does not cover it to <b>eligible adults</b>.</li> </ul>
By Appt. Only	<b>Confidential testing and treatment for HIV and STDs/Sexually Transmitted Diseases.</b>
Covid-19	For Covid-19 information, visit the website <a href="https://dhhr.wv.gov/covid-19">dhhr.wv.gov/covid-19</a> . NEW UPDATED COVID VACCINE HAS BEEN APPROVED, HOWEVER THE VACCINE HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED. Information will be posted and announced when the vaccine is available.
13 & 20	<b>Women's Health Clinics (Family</b>

## Candidate

Continued from front

reconsider putting his name on the ballot.

"I said if this is something I am supposed to do, then God will create a path," Cain said. "I thought that would mean six to eight years from now. But, God has a sense of humor. Two days later I was on my computer, doing research for work, and then, breaking news popped right then saying that Congressman Mooney had announced he was running for Senate."

Alex Mooney is the current congressional incumbent for the 2nd District, however, in November 2022 he announced he would not be running for congressional re-election but will instead be running against incumbent Joe Manchin for United States Senate. After learning this, Cain said he felt called to run. Since then, he has hit the road, traveling the state and meeting constituents.

Cain said the primary focus of his political agenda sits firmly with his deep belief in the United States Constitution and the rights it grants to citizens.

"There is an agenda that has been on my heart and my mind from the very beginning, it is the core of my campaign," Cain said. "Protect our country's constitutional rights, which I really feel have been under attack by authoritarianism. Whether that is free speech, freedom of religion or the right to bear arms. Another big one that we often overlook is the Fourth and Fifth Amendments."

Cain explained that during his years of experience working in cyber-security, specifically with the FBI and the National Security Agency (NSA), he has signed multiple nondisclosure agreements pertaining to how the United States government conducts spy activity on non-citizens.

"These programs were never meant to be used on American citizens but we are finding out, even just a few weeks ago, that there was a federal circuit court judge that announced that over 250,000 Americans have had 702, which is a section of FISA [Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court], that is warrantless searches on digital information," Cain said. "Again, this was never intended to be used on American citizens, only foreigners. There have been over 250,000 illegal 702 warrantless searches on American citizens. And this isn't just one side, yes there were a lot of people related to January 6 that had illegal searches done on them, but also a lot of people that were protesting the George Floyd situation also had illegal searches done against them. So this should be a bi-partisan issue that everyone should care about."

Cain said another focus

he would carry with him to the office would be a dedication to free speech, including unjust censorship.

"It is one thing when a private company decides to censor, it is another thing when you have the FBI paying \$7 million to Twitter to suppress stories, like the Hunter Biden laptop story," Cain said. "Or to shut down accounts, just because they don't like what is being said on those accounts. When you have the federal government colluding with corporations, that is essentially what fascism is."

Another important issue to Cain's campaign is national security, an issue he says may seem far away, but impacts everywhere - including Grant County.

"National security also involves our border and we have massive amounts of fentanyl that is coming across our border into our country," Cain said. "Everywhere we go in West Virginia, I am meeting people who have been affected by fentanyl. They have a family or a loved one, or know someone who has died or been incarcerated because of it. We have a massive number children being raised by their grandparents because their parents are locked up, or sometimes even great-grandparents because both that child's parents and their grandparents are locked up or are using drugs. It is a horrible situation."

Cain said that while it is difficult to pinpoint an exact solution to the drug epidemic and its path that crosses the southern border, he is certain it cannot go on the way it has.

"When we talk about this, we are talking about saving our state and, really, our nation," Cain said. "And now when you look at what is going on with fentanyl at the border, they are mixing in other chemicals, just making it more deadly. It makes Narcan completely useless and puts our police officers at risk, and of course the lives that will be lost to overdoses."

Cain and his family moved to West Virginia from California just a few years ago, but said he knew immediately he had found his home.

"We moved to West Virginia because this is where I want my family to live," Cain said. "I want to live in a state where people have the same values as us. Where they love God, they love their country and where they have a respect for family."

Cain said the state's respect for the 2nd Amendment sends a clear signal on the state's respect for their citizens' rights.

"I love West Virginia, I love this state and I am so glad to live here and to call myself a West Virginian now," Cain said. "And, not to focus on one issue too

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much but I do think it is a really important issue, to me you can tell a lot about a state by the way they behave with the 2nd Amendment. If somebody respects the 2nd Amendment, they respect all the other rights."

Overall, Cain said his experience, good and bad, has led him to where he is now and he will strive to make decisions that honor not only his fellow West Virginians, but his fellow Americans.

"No other candidate has been challenged and faced something like I have faced," Cain said. "Where they had everything to lose and yet they still chose to do the right thing. And nothing to gain but trouble. That is where I know I made the right choice as a whistle-blower and gave up everything for my country because it was the right thing to do. I think that sets me apart. Not that the other candidates wouldn't make the same decision, but they

haven't been in a situation where they had to make that decision - but I have. And I can promise, I am a man who carries a strong fear of God. That is what drives me. And that isn't just to avoid doing evil, but to ensure I am doing good. I think it is just as wrong to not do the right thing as to do the bad thing. And that is who I am. I can't promise I can accomplish everything I set out to do, but I can promise I can pray about the decisions I make, that I will make sure I communicate and am available as much as I can be to the people here in West Virginia - and the people here in Grant County."

For more information, including his stances on other issues, more on his background and his current work, including with the Parental Bill of Rights, visit his website at [www.natecain4wv.com](https://www.natecain4wv.com) or find him on Facebook at NateCain4WV.

### Thank You

The family of Wendell Stump would like to express our sincerest gratitude to all those who provided us with prayers and support on our loss.

The cards, visits, calls, flowers, food and memorials were greatly appreciated. We would also like to give a heartfelt thank you to Lynn Rohrbough for the service.

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL!**  
**SHIRLEY STUMP & FAMILY**

# Obituaries

### ROGER HUFFMAN

Roger "Alan" Huffman, 70, of Seneca Rocks, died Monday, Sept. 18, at Mon Health Medical Center, Morgantown.

Born May 1, 1953, he was the son of the late Ward and Betty (Haren) Huffman. He was also preceded in death by one brother, Frankie Huffman.

Mr. Huffman attended school in Seneca Rocks and Circleville High School. After 44 years of service, he retired from Greer Lime as a heavy equipment operator.

He is survived by his wife, June D. (Reed) Huffman of Seneca Rocks; one son, Jeremy Huffman of Circleville; one sister, Judi McCoy of New Creek; three brothers, Bradley Huffman of Riverton, Dan Huffman of Seneca Rocks, and Tom Huffman of Petersburg; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were Friday morning at the

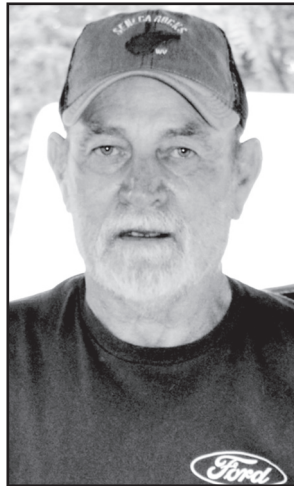
### JANET E. EAKIN

Janet Elaine (Shoemaker-Willis) Eakin, 82, of Old Fields, died Wednesday, Sept. 20, at her home under the care of Grant Memorial Hospice as well as her personal group of home health care providers.

Born March 16, 1941, in Rada, she was the daughter of the late Willie Love Shoemaker and Hazel Loveta (See) Shoemaker. She was also preceded in death by an infant son Guy William Willis; first husband, James H. Willis; two brothers, Theodore Grant Shoemaker and William Oliver Shoemaker; and one granddaughter.

She was a homemaker and farmer. Later she worked as a bookkeeper for Hines Tire and Supply in Morgantown. She was a member of the Burlington First Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband Joseph Albert Eakin; one daughter, Cynthia Elaine Charlton; two



Basagic Funeral Home, Petersburg, with Pastor Tom Shaum officiating. Interment was in the North Fork Memorial Cemetery, Riverton.

Memorials may be made to the family, c/o the Basagic Funeral Home, P.O. Box 400, Petersburg, WV 26847.

Memories and words of comfort may be left at [www.basagic.com](https://www.basagic.com) or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home. (9-26-23)

sons, Gregory Sheldon Willis and Jeffrey Steven Willis, both of Burlington; stepchildren, Joseph Albert Eakin Jr., Alisha Jane Eakin Darnell Strakal and Belinda Lee Eakin Thobois, all of Morgantown, Raymond Wayne Eakin of Charles Town, Matthew Curtis Eakin of Fairmont, Walita Smallcanyon of Paige, Ariz. and Karen Beaver of Grand Prairie, Texas; one sister, Holly Bosley of Burlington; 28 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild; and numerous other relatives.

At Janet's request, there will be no services, she donated her body to WVU Medical Research. Memorials and words of comfort may be mailed to the family at P.O. Box 185, Old Fields, WV 26845, at [www.basagic.com](https://www.basagic.com) or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home. (9-26-23)

*Peace*

The LORD will give strength unto his people;  
the LORD will bless his people with peace.  
Psalm 29:11

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# Ambulance

Continued from front

“hurtful” to dedicated employees. For more information on this meeting, see the Sept. 19 edition of the Press.

As a result of that discussion, another meeting was held on Sept. 21, in which the commission met with Jeremy Hottinger and Bobby Funk, the Grant County Ambulance managers.

## The Proposals

In the meeting, Funk and Hottinger presented two options that they believed would account for the loss of transports while also ensuring minimal changes to personnel.

The first proposal submitted by the managers places two crews in the county, two responders in Mount Storm and two responders in Petersburg. However, this proposal also includes an additional response option of keeping both managers in place. Funk explained that while he and Hottinger served as management for the ambulance service, they are also trained medical responders who go on call when they are needed.

“You have one crew in Petersburg 24-hours a day and you have one crew in Mount Storm for 12-hours a day then they come to Petersburg,” Funk said. “The way that works is everyone starts in Petersburg and then the crew that is going to the Mount Storm takes an ambulance and goes up the mountain for 12 hours. That being said, we have two ambulances that fit in Mount Storm station, the second ambulance that fits up there I want to leave in the station. That way there are two units up there during the day, then when the crews comes down at eight, that ambulance is still up there for anyone who wants to run. If we have part-timers that want to do runs up there, they have an ambulance.”

Funk said this system was also a safer option for the county as it removes the need for employees to make the trips in their personal vehicles while on county time and also maximizes crew availability.

This proposal would cost the county approximately \$860,000 in employee pay and benefits. This would overall be a reduction of approximately \$194,000 in costs for the county. Over the past few years, employee pay and

benefits has accounted for between 63% and 78% of the ambulance service’s overall budget.

## Transport Concerns

Funk said this proposal would also allow the county to continue doing scheduled transports.

The second proposal presented by the managers would include a chase medic, which is a secondary, non-transport vehicle that can be dispatched with ambulances. Funk said that while a chase medic may be necessary in the future, this proposal was more costly at about \$1.2 million.

Both Funk and Hottinger expressed skepticism that HealthNet would be able to run all GMH transports. The director of HealthNet, Clinton Burley, and GMH chief executive officer (CEO) John Sylvia have both told the commission that the company could handle the load.

“I hope it works up there, I really do,” Funk said. “I want to put this out, I have done this a long time and when one company does 911 and transports together, you always cheat the other side sometimes. If they have too many transports going out, then you cheat your 911 system. And also, if there are too many 911 calls, you cheat the transport side. So I do think it is better to have one company do one and one do the other. That being said, I know me and Jeremy feel this way, if they do get backed up and say something bad is going on, if they have a bad patient, if they would call and ask us to take one - we don’t mind doing it. But I do think having one company do one and another the other is better.”

Hottinger also said that the commission’s original data showing a run of just over three calls a day is outdated, with most days averaging five calls a day in the past two months. Funk agreed, saying this increase was also occurring in the Mount Storm area with their average call volume also increasing.

Funk suggested also that mutual aid still carry on similar to now, however, the ambulance traveling to county lines to pick up patients or assist.

Overall, the commission said they were aware the ambulance service would never be profitable; however, their goal was to reduce losses. He also cautioned that the county has

be financially cautious but being on a “purchase rotation” with equipment has been helpful. This rotation ensures that gear does not expire all at once, creating an expensive replacement bill in a single fiscal period.

“We understand that the ambulance isn’t going to be profitable,” said commissioner Scotty Miley said. “At the end of the day our goal is to lose the least amount of money as possible. If we can get into the \$300,000 to \$400,000 range that would be good. That is something the county can afford to subsidize. I’m not sure what is going to happen in the future. There is a war on coal and we have been a very coal friendly county and we worry about that future.”

Commissioner Tyson Riggelman said that over the past few years they have been asked to cut back the county’s budget by over \$1 million.

“Ultimately we have a couple of goals,” said Miley, who volunteers as a driver with the ambulance service. “One, we want to see the 911 coverage on the mountain and in Petersburg be 24-hours a day. That has been a goal of past commissions too. If the Mount Storm Fire Department would be interested in converting some area, we can look at that. They didn’t really seem to have the resources to do that or the room to expand. We would never put a dollar value on someone’s life, never. And one advantage we have is some really good employees. I know they have helped my family, they save lives. I’ve had the opportunity to work with some of them and they do a great job, truly. And that is something no one can take away from you guys. We are just trying to make this thing work for everyone. We have to take care of the taxpayers and take care of the need. There are a lot of factors.”

## Community Speakers

Multiple other community speakers addressed the commission during the meeting, including Leonard Smith of the Mount Storm Fire Company. Smith said that the Mount Storm Fire Company has land available to construct a new ambulance facility on the mountain and urged the commission to come look at the property.

The next speaker was Kristi Carle, an employee

with GMH who expressed concern with how the issue was handled by the commission overall.

“The biggest takeaway I have right now is that it really appears that the three of you are very disconnected from what’s happening with these organizations,” Carle said. “I would really implore you take the advice of your legal counsel to talk to people. You can’t just say that a guy told me that transports would be covered then change laws that will impact the community. I respect the fact that your goal is to lose the least amount of money but you do serve us, the community. It is non-negotiable to lose a team. I don’t see how anyone could come to a different understanding based on just what I have heard at this meeting.”

She encouraged the commission to speak with EMS personnel and leadership before any other decisions were made.

Amy Urich, a property owner in Grant County who lives in Hampshire County, explained that in Hampshire there is a \$100 ambulance fee for ambulance services.

“I don’t know why something like this isn’t being done in this county,” Urich said. “I know nobody likes taxes but we pay school levy taxes and I’m sure these senior citizens would rather have the extra insurance of having it go to ambulance service. They pay taxes for kids, but they need to know they have an ambulance that is in the area and going to come.”

She also said that she would also be concerned for her job if her boss asked her to reapply for her existing job.

## EMS Workers Speak Out

This point was revisited by Funk as well, saying that if a reapplication process was going to be required then the commission should explain to the employees why that process was necessary.

“If everyone, including myself and Jeremy, then why?” Funk said. “They want to know that. Most of the questions I get are why do I have to do this? Because they are worried.”

The commission said the concept behind the request to have employees reapply was based on concern that some employees had said they were searching for other jobs and did not intend to stay after the reorganization. During the

Sept 19 meeting, the commission said the reapplication process would allow for in-person discussion with employees to ensure they intended to stay with the county and if they wanted to remain full-time or part-time.

In this meeting, they clarified that this suggestion had been made by their legal counsel.

Funk said he had spoken with the employees and the roster was accurate.

“If I’m going to lose my job as director, why would I put all of this work into this,” Funk said. “To try and make this work for the county. Nothing against you three, but I work for the people. I take care of people and that is what I want to do. And this is part of that. But I’m not going to go the extra mile if my job is up for bids and I might not get it back. Sure, you guys offered me full time on the truck, and I like doing that too, but I like doing this too. But that is how the staff looks at it. They are afraid for their jobs, and I am speaking for Jeremy and myself too.”

This fear was very much echoed by other EMS employees, several of which who spoke out during the meeting saying it “felt like a slap in the face” and saying they feared it would make finding new employees difficult.

Community member Ashley Kitzmiller pointed to another concern she had with reduced crews, saying that Union Educational Complex does not have a school nurse and depends on the Grant County Ambulance crews in cases of emergency.

One portion of the discussion also centered on the management structure of the agency. Both Funk and Hottinger pushed back against the idea of reducing management to one position instead of two.

“I just know that if you are going to go to one manager, I’m not going to be that manager,” Funk said. “I will go back on the truck like you offered. I’m not going to be the only manager if I am going to have to take care of this whole thing.”

Multiple community members and employees spoke in support of Funk.

Community member Kristy Fink also asked for clarification on what the employees were being asked to reapply.

Employee Ruby Crown suggested the commission take Funk and Hottinger’s

proposal and re-evaluate its success or failure in six months.

Susan Long also spoke during the meeting, who shared multiple issues facing the EMS as well as pointing to rising call rates

“It is also important to know that post-Covid the amount of patients that the ambulance is seeing, the hospital is seeing, the doctor’s office is seeing, that has all increased,” Long said. “Due to post-Covid issues. I had a MRI six weeks after having Covid. So things are happening to people who things don’t typically happen.”

She also encouraged the commission to meet with EMS leadership and employees in the county before future decisions are made.

“You guys may know something, but you don’t know everything,” Long said. “You are reaching out to people who do not have the knowledge. You need to reach out to the correct people. They have lived this job forever. They know what works and what doesn’t work.”

Long also suggested the commission consider an Ambulance Authority, a board that will help to oversee the ambulance organization.

Community member Amy Rotruck also spoke during the meeting, saying she wanted to ensure Mount Storm was well covered and not forgotten by the commission.

## Conclusion

Ultimately, the commissioners said that no action would be taken during this meeting.

“Keep in mind we are looking at different proposals,” Miley said. “There has not been a decision made. Our goal is to do what is best for the county and move forward. To be honest, we have more options now than we have seen in a long time.”

Funk urged the commission to make a decision soon.

“I will stand with my staff on this,” Funk said. “They deserve to know if they have a job.”

The commission said they would revisit the issue in the near future and that it would appear on the Sept. 26 agenda as it was tabled at the previous meeting.

The next meeting of the Grant County Commission will be Sept. 26 at 3:30 p.m. in the Grant County Courthouse.

# Coaches

Continued from front

and junior varsity boys basketball and cheer as winter sports and baseball as the only spring sport. Girls basketball was originally added to the list in the 1970s but was a fall sport before being moved to the winter in 1993.

However, the current list of sports has more than tripled, with 10 teams playing in the fall, including volleyball, golf and soccer and multiple sports now offering middle school teams; nine teams compete in the winter, including archery and multiple age categories of both girls and boys basketball and in the spring, the school hosts six teams, including track and three additional middle school teams.

Gray explained that the struggle to have space for all teams to practice in their season has been a growing issue, which is compounded by flex practices. Flex practices were added in the 2000s and allow coaches to work with their players out of season. This includes 12 practices and three weeks

in June.

Webster explained that the original idea had been to fundraise and request grants that would allow the school to build a new facility next to the high school, near where the school’s tennis courts currently sit.

However, due to practice space struggles, the coaches requested a more immediate solution, leaving the construction of the new facility to remain as the long-term plan. Landis explained that all the money that has been raised to this point for the facility will remain in place for that purpose.

“We have practiced for 20 years in the cafeteria,” said Weatherholt, who has been the PHS wrestling coach for more than two decades. “We move the tables, sweep the floor, roll out the mats, practice, then repeat that process. We don’t really have a problem doing that, but now our program has grown.”

Weatherholt explained that the wrestling program added a junior high team three years ago and also includes a youth wrestling program.

“We have to shuffle

everybody through there every night that we have practices,” Weatherholt said. “We, and I say we and I mean Coach Landis and I along with some other coaches, have come up with an alternative solution.”

Weatherholt explained that they were requesting permission to rent the building that once housed the old skating rink in Petersburg, adjacent to the Cochran Head Start Center. He said that they had spoken with the owner, Bruce Hyre, who had agreed to rent the building to them at a discounted \$1,000 a month.

Hedrick explained that the building would be leased on a short term basis, approximately five years. This would mean the full cost of the building would be \$15,000 over five years.

“When I first came to you [the board] I got approval to start working towards a building that will house baseball, softball and archery,” Landis explained. “But I think the great thing that is happening now, is after talking to Tony, we found out he was trying to

do the same thing. So you are seeing coaches combine efforts to make something happen for our kids.”

Landis said that he and Hedrick would often have to share gym use, with one team running the halls or pushed outside even in bad weather until the practice space was available. However, he explained that this was becoming even more difficult with middle school teams also vying for practice time. He also said that while the building will need some work he had already spoken with friends and community members who are willing to donate their time to help get it ready for the teams.

“The need is there,” Hedrick said. “As Mike said, he and I have worked really well together but by the time you get all of the kids together, there is a lot of kids you are trying to find space for. I’ve heard the coaches say ‘we are just kicking the can down the road.’ This is my 30th year with Grant County Schools and I think the wrestlers have been there the whole time. We have the cheerleaders in the hall, year after year after year. So the

need is there.”

All three coaches celebrated the middle school programs, saying the teams were a great addition to the schools roster.

The coaches said their teams would fundraise throughout the year to pay for the building.

Overall, the board was very supportive of the suggestion, with both Pandora Barr and Kelly Roby expressing the desire to have the board fund the rent entirely, pointing to the fact that no other teams have to fundraise for their practice space.

The board agreed to speak with their financial director and that the funds should not be an issue.

“I have watched Tony, watched our kids, my nephews, move the tables, roll out the mats, roll the mats back up, I have watched them do this for years,” Barr said. “I think it is time we stopped that. Tony needs a place where they can have their mats out and the kids can come in and start practicing right away.”

Roby agreed, saying she also did not want the teams to be required to fundraise for the space either.

Webster explained that the goal of building a new facility would still be in place and is estimated to cost approximately \$400,000.

“We are looking at a short-term fix and a long-term plan,” Webster explained. “The short-term fix would be starting immediately, if we get board approval.”

Board member Jared Alt suggested the school look into constructing the facility sooner if possible as opposed to spending the money on rent in the short term. He also cautioned that the space they were discussing housing the new facility is currently the space used by the Viking Marching Band, encouraging the teams and Webster to keep them in mind when planning.

Webster said the school did not have the funds to build the new facility but could potentially include it in the next levy call.

Overall, the board expressed their plans to move forward with the short-term rental plan and the item will be added to the next board agenda, meaning the teams could have a new home as soon as November.



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# WANTED

Did you bag a buck or bruin this year? Got your first deer?  
*We want to brag on our hunters!*  
Submit your photo and info to [news@grantcountypress.com](mailto:news@grantcountypress.com),  
through Facebook Messenger or drop off a photo.







Addison Day, 13, shot her very first West Virginia black bear while hunting in South Fork during youth season on Sept. 16. The bear weighed in at an impressive 403 lbs. Day is the daughter of Jamie and Elizabeth Day of Petersburg.



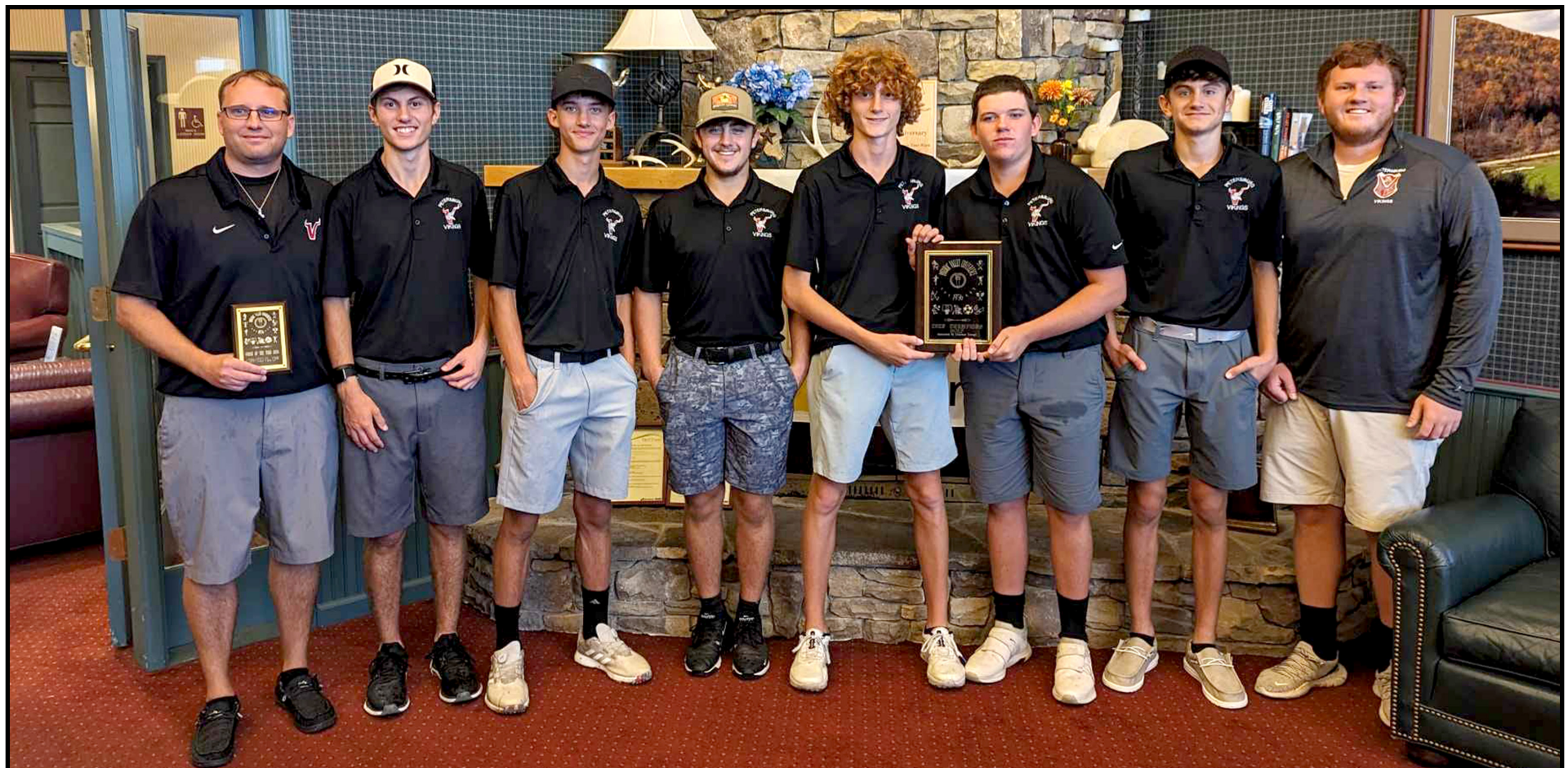
## Vikings and Tigers clash on mountain



### Viking Victory

Set One - 25-15, PHS  
Set Two - 25-13, PHS  
Set Three - 25-6, PHS

*Photos and livestream courtesy of the SECTC broadcasting program*



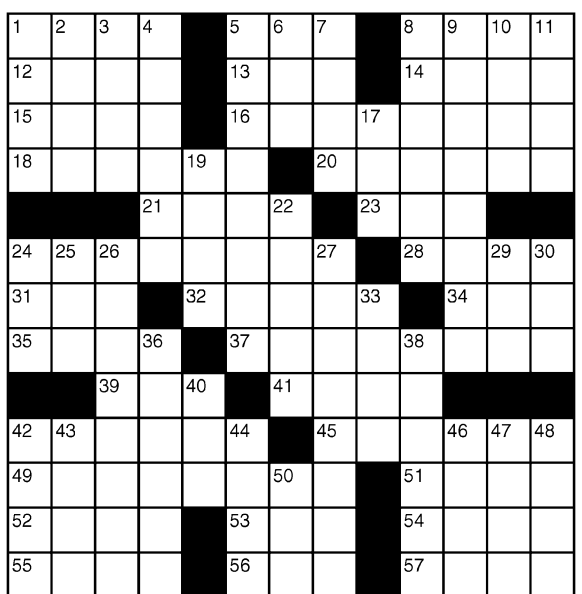
The Petersburg High School Varsity-A golf team were PVC champs again this year, taking the title after play at Snowshoe Resort on Sept. 13. Back-to-back PVC Champs! Lucas Riggleman, who shot an 82, was named to the All-Tournament team and as an All-PVC golfer. Also named as an All-PVC golfer was John-William Minnich who shot an 85. To round out the team's success, Todd Heare was named Coach of the Year.



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Filly's brother
- 5 Group of seals
- 8 Old U.S. gas brand
- 12 Sandwich cookie
- 13 Sailor's "yes"
- 14 "Pygmalion" writer
- 15 Nevada city
- 16 Tropical fruit
- 18 Nebraska river
- 20 Demons
- 21 Towel word
- 23 Bol. neighbor
- 24 Engages in make-believe
- 28 Tibia's place
- 31 PC key
- 32 Hotel offering
- 34 Bond rating
- 35 Brusque
- 37 Tormenting
- 39 Spanish gold
- 41 IRS agent
- 42 Rustic homes
- 45 TV type
- 51 Inky stain
- 52 Italian wine region
- 53 Notable time
- 54 Booty
- 55 Slugger
- 56 Letter sealer



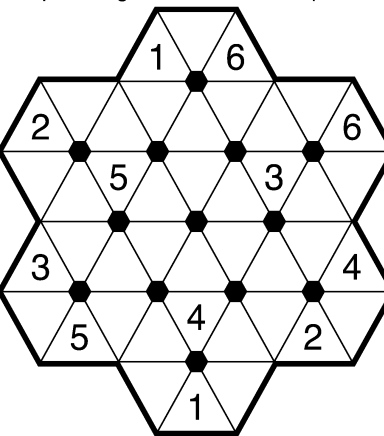
- 57 Like custard
- 9 Chinese city
- 10 Uttered
- 11 Has
- 17 Actress Long
- 19 Afternoon
- 22 Long-legged shorebird
- 24 Chest muscle
- 25 Baton Rouge sch.
- 26 Circus gymnasts
- 27 Short-lived levy of 1765
- 29 Author
- 30 Pester
- 33 Alike (Fr.)
- 36 One of the Nixons
- 38 Powerless
- 40 Low digit
- 42 Bookkeepers (Abbr.)
- 43 To boot
- 44 Diving duck
- 46 Trudge
- 47 Synthesizer pioneer
- 48 ABA member
- 50 Notre Dame's Parseghian

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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 just found out I'm color-blind. The news came out of the purple!

Of all the inventions of the last 100 years, the dry erase

board has to be the most remarkable.

What do you call a beehive without an exit? Unbelievable.

CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

M DSU'W WTMUP LQ SUC

ZJWWJF FJVFJGJUWSWMLU LQ

ZJSXWC WTSU GLHJLUJ ITL MG

XUSQFSME WL ZJ TJFGJYQ.

— JHHS GWLUJ

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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. Beauty parlor S \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ Eagle's claw T \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 2. Talkative bird P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ Bugs Bunny's treat C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 3. Verbose \_ \_ \_ \_ D \_ Fret \_ \_ \_ \_ R \_
- 4. Officer's brooch \_ A \_ \_ \_ \_ Dislodge \_ U \_ \_ \_ \_
- 5. Silver-tongued \_ \_ \_ \_ T \_ Kiss \_ \_ \_ \_ C \_
- 6. Originate \_ \_ \_ \_ N \_ Sink money into \_ \_ \_ \_ S \_
- 7. Courtroom event \_ \_ \_ \_ A \_ Warble \_ \_ \_ \_ L \_
- 8. Ice over F \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ Light wind B \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 9. Dishonesty \_ \_ \_ \_ I \_ Civilized \_ \_ \_ \_ N \_
- 10. Contraption \_ \_ \_ \_ G \_ Ponder \_ \_ \_ \_ K \_

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Cats Get Allergies, Too

DEAR PAWS: My cat, Tushy, sneezes several times a day, and her eyes water almost nonstop. This has been happening for a couple of weeks. She didn't seem to have this issue before. My local veterinarian's office is booked up for another two months, so I'm not sure what I can do in the meantime. Can you help? -- Harriet G. Roanoke, Virginia

DEAR HARRIET: It sounds like your cat is suffering from an allergy to something in her environment. That could be airborne irritants like pollen, dust or molds. Or, it could be a reaction to something in her food.

You can try to figure out what's causing her reaction in a couple of ways. First, dust and clean your home thoroughly, and consider adding an air purifier with a HEPA filter in the room that Tushy spends the most time in.

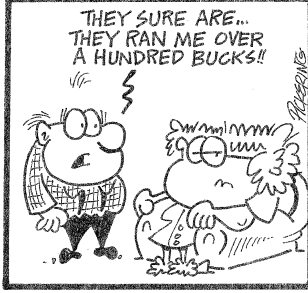
Next, try a different brand of pet food for a couple of weeks to see if that makes any difference. Some cats are sensitive to certain ingredients in pet foods, and because those ingredients vary from brand to brand, it's difficult to figure out which one is causing the allergy.

When Tushy is able to see the veterinarian, bring along your notes about her symptoms and what effect, if any, the environmental and dietary changes above had on improving her condition. The vet can offer additional treatment and support, such as adding essential fatty acids to her diet or prescribing a steroid to help with her symptoms.

In the meantime, monitor Tushy's symptoms closely. If they suddenly get much worse, or if she becomes lethargic, vomits frequently or shows other signs of serious illness, take her to an emergency vet immediately.

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The Spats

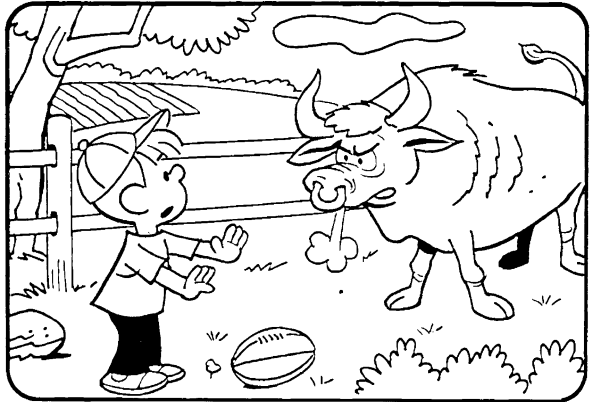


Differences: 1. Cap is missing. 2. Arm is missing. 3. Football is missing. 4. Cloud is different. 5. Horn is smaller. 6. Bull's tail is missing.

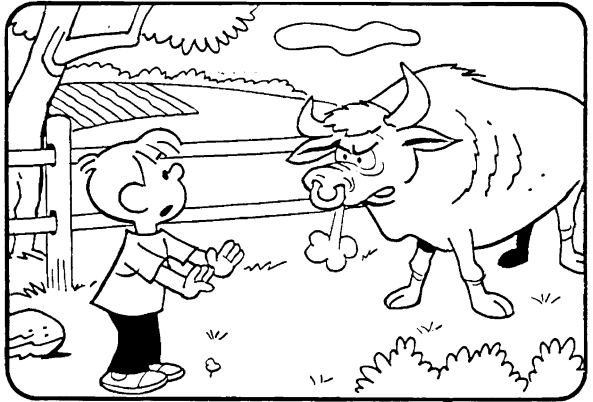
Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

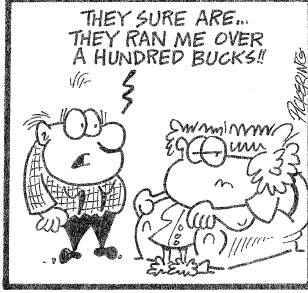


Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Cap is missing. 2. Arm is missing. 3. Football is missing. 4. Cloud is different. 5. Horn is smaller. 6. Bull's tail is missing.

by Jeff Pickering



LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS

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(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	5	5
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(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		

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26 26

f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)

2888 2839

g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))

212 261

h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)

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99 99

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Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months

No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date

a. Paid Electronic Copies

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3215 3201

c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)

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99 99

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Date

September 26, 2023

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).







# Cornelia Nelson is Resident of the Week at GRCC

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

The employees of Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center have chosen Cornelia Nelson as our GRCC Resident of the Week.

Cornelia has been a resident of our facility since September 14, 2022. She was born Nov. 29, 1938, in Cave, W.Va., to George and Ethel (Beverage) Bible. Cornelia was the next to the youngest of eight children.

Her siblings are Nola Williams, Patty Crane, Phyllis Brady, Forest Bible, Virginia Butler, Ruby Munch, and Joyce Swisher. Virginia, Joyce and Cornelia are the ones remaining.

George Bible was a farmer. In fact, the family ran two farms, one was at Cave and the other was at High Ridge on Jack Mountain Road. Her father lived on one, and her mother lived on the other, and the children would assist with maintaining both. Cornelia was a typical farm girl and helped make the hay.

She attended Franklin Elementary School, up to eighth grade, but did not complete high school, because she helped her family.

Cornelia met Raymond “Wilson” Nelson through friends. Wilson was an army veteran and had recently served in the Korean Conflict. They dated for a while and were married on December 26, in a double ceremony with Wilson’s brother, William, and Geneva (Rexrode) Nelson.

Wilson was an equipment operator for Moose Brothers Construction. He was also a member of the IBEW Local 70 union, and eventually retired.

While Wilson worked away, Cornelia would settle her family in her homeplace, the farm at Cave, and raise their family.

Cornelia and Wilson had five sons, Wayne, Jerry,

Charles, Lynn, and Kenny Nelson. They later adopted their granddaughter, Cassandra.

Cornelia ran the farm. They had sheep, cattle, and chickens. Cornelia loved horses and had her favorite horse named Pal.

While the children were at school, she mowed, raked, and baled the hay, and the boys would gather it in the evenings, after they came home.

In the spring, she would make maple syrup and sell it. She also loved to garden and can, providing her family with food throughout the years.

George Bible passed away in 1971. Ethel, Cornelia’s mother, lived with them until Cornelia could not meet her needs at home and had to be placed in the nursing home. Ethel passed away in 1988.

Cornelia stressed the

importance of education and working hard with her children. She ensured that they attended school and obtained their high school education. She was always there to help her children and stand by them.

Marsha Nelson, Cornelia’s daughter-in-law noted that when she was dating her husband, and she was in high school, she ran for Snow Queen, in which financial donations were made, and whoever had the most money, was the one who was crowned.

“She (Cornelia) collected all of the laundry money and donated it to her. I ended up winning, and I know it was due to her collecting the laundry money.” Marsha went on, “She went with me and my mother to pick out a wedding dress. I tried on the first one, and loved it, and thought I was done. But, no, she had me

trying on several, just to make sure, but I did get the first one. I could not have asked for a better mother-in-law.”

After the kids got into school, Cornelia worked at Hanover [shoe factory] until the company closed. She also babysat for her grandchildren. They have 12 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Cornelia and Wilson bought a house on Route 220. Unfortunately, it was flooded during the 1985 flood, but they went in and cleaned it out and lived there. While there, Cornelia tried to instill the value of working hard to her grandchildren.

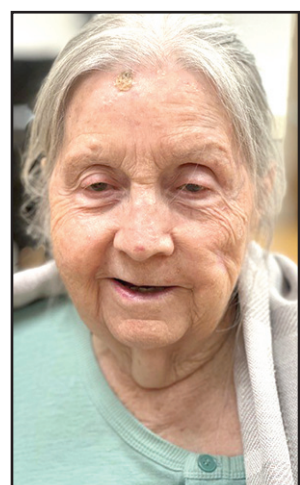
She told the grandchildren that she needed help, so they came down and helped her. She made them pick up rocks, so they were not happy about it and were suspicious when she asked

for help again.

Cornelia and Wilson took little trips throughout the area. “He would just tell me to get in the truck, and we would go,” Cornelia said with a grin. She often did not know where they would end up, but she was with Wilson, and that was what was important.

Cornelia loves to be sociable. She loved to attend the local lawn parties, St. John and Brandywine. She loved to listen to the musical groups. She enjoyed attending festivals, such as the Treasure Mountain Festival and the Forest Festival in Elkins.

Wilson was diagnosed with cancer and passed away on May 6, 1996. Cornelia was upset, but with the love and support of her family, she transitioned. She and Cassandra moved to Grottoes, Va. and eventually to Bridgewater,



Va. While there, Cornelia worked at Marshalls.

Cornelia is a member of Harper Chapel, and when her health permitted it, she attended regularly.

Cornelia moved back to Franklin, W.Va., but needed more supervision than the family was able to provide, and she became a member of our GRCC family.

At the facility, Cornelia likes to go to music and singing. Congratulations Cornelia on being GRCC’s Resident of the Week!



**Golden Lanes**  
**LEAGUE RESULTS**  
**ODD COUPLES**  
**MIXED LEAGUE**  
**September 12th**  
**TEAM STANDINGS:**  
Split Happens 13 – 3, Empire Strikes 12 – 4, Terminators 9 – 7, Country Cars & Trucks 9 – 7, NKOTB 8 – 8, WELD 8 – 8, Vetter’s Guns & Ammo 7 – 9, Lucky Strikes 6 – 10, Outlaws 6 – 10.  
**HIGH GAME MEN (SCRATCH):** Cohan Kesner 254, Larry Walp 244, Roger Earle 236, Ed Wompler 227. (HANDICAP):

Roger Earle 281, Jeff Constable 274, Larry Walp 263, Cohan Kesner 262.

**HIGH SERIES MEN (SCRATCH):** Cohan Kesner 713, Larry Walp 644, Ed Wompler 622, Roger Earle 569. (HANDICAP): Jeff Constable 760, Cohan Kesner 737, Ed Wompler 724, Roger Earle 704.

**HIGH AVERAGE (MEN):** Richie Burgess 211.08, Larry Walp 210.25, Troy McGreevy 204.67, Terry Wratchford 197.75.

**HIGH GAME WOMEN (SCRATCH):** Dee Anna McDonald 224, Carissa Michael 202, Emily Stark 174, Ashley Day 170. (HANDICAP): Dee Anna McDonald 272, Ashley Day 255, Sandra Knight 254, Sue Earle 251.

**HIGH SERIES WOMEN (SCRATCH):** Dee Anna McDonald 585, Carissa Michael 557, Emily Stark 490, Rachel Stark 443. (HANDICAP): Dee Anna McDonald 729, Sue

Earle 715, Carissa Michael 689, Emily Stark 682.

**HIGH AVERAGE (WOMEN):** Carissa Michael 182.50, Dee Anna McDonald 181.08, Emily Stark 159.58, Sarah Earle 155.86.

**THURSDAY NIGHT MEN’S LEAGUE**  
**September 14th**

**TEAM STANDINGS:** Builders Center 13.5 – 2.5, Golden Lanes 10.5 – 5.5, American Classic 10 – 6, Strikeforce 8 – 8, Petersburg Oil Company 8 – 8, Vetter’s Mini Mart 7 – 9, Country Cars & Trucks 6 – 10.

**HIGH GAME (SCRATCH):** Richie Burgess and Zachary Arbaugh 258, Trey Wratchford 257, Larry Walp 255, Terry Wratchford 244. (HANDICAP): Trey Wratchford 308, Richie Burgess 291, Randy Thorne 290, Larry Walp 279, Ed Turner 277.

**HIGH SERIES (SCRATCH):** Richie Burgess

and Larry Walp 704, Zachary Arbaugh 688, Cohan Kesner 671, Gary Leatherman 646. (HANDICAP): Richie Burgess 803, Jerry Propst 792, William Barr 789, Larry Walp 776, Trey Wratchford 755.

**HIGH AVERAGE:** Zachary Arbaugh 229.33, Kyle Davy 225.67, Cohan Kesner 218.42, Gary Leatherman 215.17, Terry Wratchford 213.67, Larry Walp 211.33.

**SBV WOMEN**  
**September 18th**

**HIGH GAME (SCRATCH):** Penny Sites 194, Denise McGreevy 189, Emily Stark 183. (HANDICAP): Kelley Green 245, Penny Sites 237, Kathy Vance 224.

**HIGH SERIES (SCRATCH):** Denise McGreevy 535, Emily Stark 513, Penny Sites 494. (HANDICAP): Kristi Weasenforth 626, Penny Sites 623, Kelley Green 604.



**SENIOR GOLF - 9/20**

Team #1 - Johnny Garza, Ben Fout, Dave Boland, Gary Koontz; -14, 1-hole card off.

Team #2 - Don Baker, Jerry Simmons, Tom Kelly, Vernon Webster; -14.

Team #3 - Mark Adolphson, Joe Fisher, Jim Tompkins, Darwin Simmons; -12.

Pin winners: #3 Joe Fisher, #6 Greg Liller, #13 John Crites, #15 John Crites, #17 Vernon Webster.

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GAMES!

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2023

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FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER

29TH

3:00 PM -

6:00 PM

Summit Community Bank Lawn

in Petersburg

90 S Grove St

Pep Rally with the Viking Band and Cheerleaders

GAME: 7:00 PM

Viking Memorial Stadium

Hope to see you there!

Summit COMMUNITY BANK

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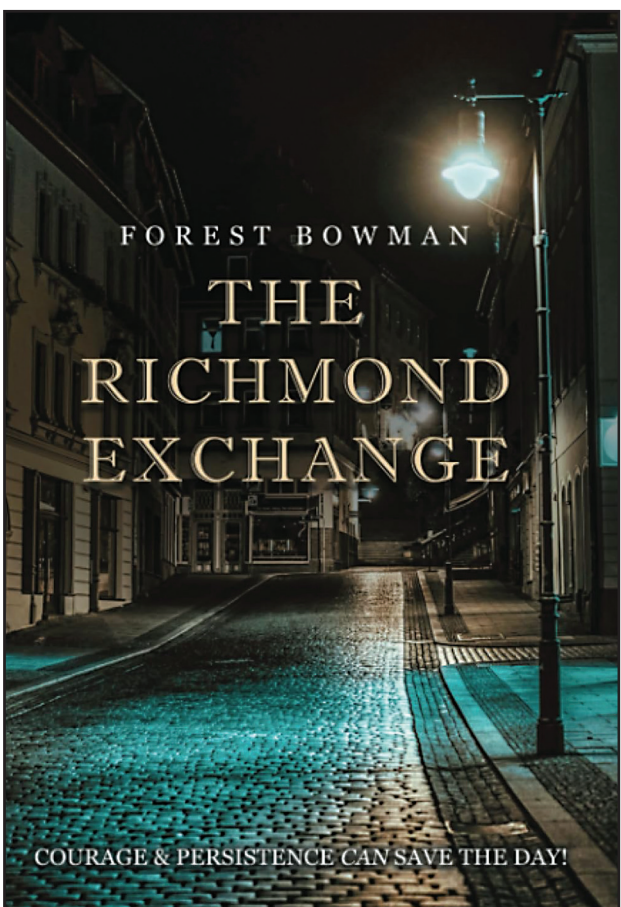
# Petersburg native receives award for novel, will be at South Side Depot for book signing

Petersburg native Forest “Jack” Bowman has been awarded a silver medal for his novel, “The Richmond Exchange” by Global Book Awards, an organization that recognizes talent in self publishing. The award was made in the historical thriller category.

“The Richmond Exchange” tells the story of a young, inexperienced U.S. Army lieutenant who uncovers a plot by the Confederate States of America to kidnap President Lincoln and bring down the United States government.

When his superiors refuse to listen to him and his enemies in Washington’s Confederate underground decide to kill him, the lieutenant takes on his superiors and his Rebel enemies, determined to save Abraham Lincoln and the Union.

“The Richmond Exchange,” which was released in May, is Bowman’s third thriller. His first, “The Secret of the 48th Foot,” which is set throughout West Virginia,



involves two WVU professors engaged in a search for the chest of gold and silver coins that disappeared following General Edward Braddock’s defeat near present-day Pittsburgh in

1755. His second novel, “All Our Yesterdays,” is the story of an under-sized orphan living in a small West Virginia town in the early 1900s. After being horribly

mistreated, and unable to obtain justice, he fashions a stunning and hair-raising revenge.

All three thrillers have been well received with reviewers calling the books “entertaining, action-filled, wonderfully and artfully written spellbinding stories.”

Global Book Awards are designed to recognize authors in the self publishing industry. Recipients of Global Book Awards receive digital medals which they may display on their books as well as their web sites and other places where their books are promoted.

“The Richmond Express,” “All Our Yesterdays” and “The Secret of the 48th Foot” are available for purchase on Amazon.com in both paperback and eBook format.

Bowman will be at Petersburg’s South Side Depot on Saturday, Sept. 30, with all three novels to greet friends and sign his novels.

## Landes Arts Center celebrates 15th anniversary



Pianist Don Stephens



Board member Jennifer Kessel Sites and guests



West Virginia Theater East memorabilia display



Guests talk with artist Kelson Thorne and his mother, Tonya Nesselrodt.



Sarah and David Imboden

The Landes Arts Center held its 15th anniversary Sept. 16, with a community celebration.

The event features artists Cindi Dunn, Albert Mach, Robert Nelson, Jennifer Kessel Sites (board member) and Kelson Thorne in the Ours and Wellington galleries, as well as a display of posters and memorabilia from past productions by West Virginia Theater East.

Attendees were greeted by Phyllis Cole and after a catered reception, entered the Harr Theater for updates and information from board members Mellissa Mallow, Rosanne Glover, Ann Harrison and WVTE president Kelly Crites Roth, plus a 15 year look back video produced by board member Rachel Stark.

Performing artists for the evening were board members Tiffany Parker and Joe Crites, pianist Don Stephens, the Serendipity Dancers and vocal selections by Sarah and David Imboden, all introduced by the center’s executive director, Julia Hartman.

The evening was well attended and the community was commended for its work in procuring and donating the funds for the construction of the facility.



**90TH BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER**  
on Oct. 7th, for  
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91 John Deere Ln.  
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**AUCTION SATURDAY SEPT. 30 10 A.M.**  
**ESTATE OF GARY HILLS**  
4911 BLACK THORN ROAD, SUGAR GROVE, WV  
**EQUIPMENT:** 20' gooseneck trailer, tractor 1720 New Holland 4wd diesel, 1014 hours, PTO angle blade, King Kutter II PTO rototiller, single plow, woods brush hog, pig pole, disc, rear bucket, Snapper 46" culvert pipe, riding mower, 14 light poles, 16' box trailer, lots of 8"-4" blocks, PVC pipe, iron pipe, conduit, 2" & 1" lumber, plywood, electrical wire, plumbing fittings, and more.  
**HARLEY DAVIDSON:** motorcycle trailer (Legend), motorcycle frame, HD parts new in box, HD wheels and tires, helmets and more.  
**TOOLS:** 2 air compressors, tool boxes, Dayton Welder, lots of tools, socket sets, wrenches, power-battery-electrical-hand-gardner, bench grinder, pigeon hole drawers, rototiller, table saw, drill press, scroll saw, router, radial arm saw, band saw, LED light bar, pressure sprayer, floor jack, handy man jack, rope, battery booster, lots of assortment of oils-lubs-nails-screws-bolts, ladders, salamander heater, lawn roller, hitches, fans AND MANY OTHER ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION!  
**MERCHANDISE ON DISPLAY MORNING OF SALE**  
**TERMS:** Cash or check with proper ID  
Not responsible for accidents or merchandise after sold.  
Food will be available  
For more information contact auctioneers Bruce "Icky" Hyre Jr. WV#494 304-257-3134 or pma@frontiernet.net; Larry Thompson WV#1613 304-668-9650  
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