

GRANT COUNTY PRESS

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PHS State Wrestling Results, page 1B

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Teacher strike closes school doors in 54 counties

Grant County Schools were closed on Feb. 19 as local teachers participated in a statewide work stoppage.

For the second time in two years, teachers all over the state went on strike, pointing to a controversial Senate bill, SB451.

Of note, while the strike lasted for two days, Feb. 19 and Feb. 20, Grant County, as well as several surrounding counties, closed their door on Wednesday due to a winter storm that piled snow throughout the region and caused dangerous roadway conditions.

One of the most contentious sections of the bill outlined the establishment of charter schools in West Virginia.

While multiple reasons for the strike were cited, the most prominent centered around charter schools.

Union leaders said the foundation of charter schools in the state would involve the move-

See Strike, page 7A

Marijuana, heroin, meth and a stolen rifle land local man in jail

On Feb. 8, Deputy J. Earle received information from Chief Deputy S. Wratchford of the Grant County Sheriff's Department of a home incarceration violation that occurred on Feb. 6.

Deputy Earle advised Senior Deputy J.E. Rohrbaugh, Senior Deputy D.R. Lambert and Deputy B.M. Ours of the violation and requested assistance for a home incarceration check located at 2972 Jordan Run Road, Maysville.

Pursuant to a lawful search, 11 baggies containing marijuana, three rubber containers containing marijuana, one clear plastic container containing marijuana and one glass container containing marijuana were located in the residence. In addition to the marijuana, one baggy containing crystal methamphetamine, one baggy containing heroin and 28 individual baggies commonly used in the distribution of illegal narcotics were located. In addition to the illegal narcotics, multiple smoking devices and two rifles with over 100 rounds

See Jail, page 7A



Members of the Grant County Sheriff's Department and the Petersburg Volunteer Fire Company responded to a reported accident last Tuesday after a logging truck rolled on Route 42 after hitting a culvert.

Logging truck makes unexpected delivery to Elm Lane Farm Road

On Feb. 19, the Grant County Sheriff's Department was dispatched to a reported vehicle accident on Route 42 in which a logging truck had gone off the road and rolled.

Upon arrival, Sergeant K.R. Thorne conducted an investigation and found the truck was owned by Potomac Trucking and Excavation and was operated by Johnny R. Evans of Maysville.

The truck was loaded and traveling south bound on Route 42. Prior to the

intersection of Elm Lane Farm Road, the truck traveled off the right side of the roadway and into a ditch.

After this, the vehicle was unable to be corrected out of the ditch and struck a concrete culvert, which caused the logging truck to roll onto its side. The truck came to a stop on Elm Lane Farm Road.

The driver sustained no injuries.

Thorne was assisted in the investigation on Chief Deputy S. Wratchford and Deputy J. E. Rohrbaugh.



Disconnected - Proposals in state legislature highlight internet issues in rural regions

A new bill recently proposed in the West Virginia Senate has cast a harsh light on the internet connectivity struggles faced by rural communities, such as Grant County.

The goal to bring broadband internet access has been an ongoing discussion with both the Grant County Development Authority and the Grant County Commission.

Recently, the development authority has worked toward funding a feasibility and propagation study that would, among other things, outline areas around the county most in need of internet updates. The commission has also worked to bring a new provider, HardyNet into the county arena.

Tammy Kitzmiller, director of the development authority, explained the group has been working diligently to improve internet connectivity in the county but says the process is a slow and expensive endeavor.

Kitzmiller explained that the primary issues facing internet in rural West Virginia is the geographical challenges and sparse population.

"If you live in a more densely populated area, internet providers are more inclined to set up the infrastructure they need to provide their service," Kitzmiller explained. "It is in the more rural areas, areas without that dense population, where we are working to bridge that gap."

Kitzmiller said the authority is currently seeking funding through grants and other means to expand internet access, including the expansion of fiber lines and the installation of hybrid options, such as wireless access.

These goals come alongside problems with the primary county provider, Frontier. Over the years, Frontier has faced legal issues in the state, including being required to pay a \$150 million settlement in which West Virginia claimed Frontier was not delivering their promised internet speeds and faced an onslaught of customer service complaints. In that suit, Frontier was required to pay \$500,000 to the state's Consumer Protection Fund, a payment to be used to offset investigative and monitoring expenses.

However, internet issues in the county were further highlighted with the introduction of Senate Bill 623, which would require notices regarding taxes due or delinquent taxes, to be sent electronically and not through the U.S. Postal Service. The bill would also move all legal advertisement online.

The bill is sponsored by state senator

Craig Blair, a Martinsburg native, who represents Senate District 15.

District 15 includes parts of Berkeley and Mineral counties as well as Hampshire and Morgan counties.

The bill, which was proposed on February 15, would require local tax commissioners to set up a system that would send tax information electronically, instead of through the mail. The bill could also remove delinquency lists from running in print and would instead require them to be posted online.

Currently, Grant County does offer an online service that allows community members to log in to a secure site and not only view, but pay their taxes digitally.

The Grant County assessor's office does request updated email addresses; however, as of now, the information is not mandatory and is likely not up to date.

The department advised that citizens need to ensure their information is up to date with the office, and can do so by contacting the Grant County Sheriff's Department or the Grant County Assessor's Office.

See Senate, page 7A

Man arrested for drugs and alcohol in Petersburg

On Feb. 20, Sergeant K.R. Thorne and Deputy J.M. Rohrbaugh responded to a call from Grant County Sheriff B.W. Ours at the parking lot of Carquest, located on South Grove Street in Petersburg.

Prior to the arrival of the two officers, Ours had conducted a traffic stop at the site and discovered the driver was heavily intoxicated.

Ours identified the man as Randy Moyers, who was driving on a revoked license due to a previous driving under the influence charge.

When Thorne and Rohrbaugh arrived at the scene, they ordered Moyers to exit the vehicle and perform a field sobriety test. Moyers' failed the tests but agreed to take a preliminary breath test (PBT).

Upon completion of the breath test, Moyers results were .287, which the officers describe as being "extremely" over the legal limit.

Officers then advised him that he was under arrest for driving un-

See DUI, page 7A

poll question

Do you support the proposed bill, SB 590, which would make guided bear hunts legal in West Virginia?

YES
NO



Last week's responses:

Yes: 66%
No: 33%

think America should move away from the two-party political system.

TUE FEB 26	FRI MAR 1
WED FEB 27	SAT MAR 2
THU FEB 28	SUN MAR 3

Weekly Forecast
Courtesy of weather.com

Local Flavor	2A	Sports	1B-3B
Opinion pages	4A-5A	Classifieds	1C
Obituaries	6A	Legals	1C

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BOGAL FLAVOR

By Camille Howard

The recent days off school have been a grade schooler's dream. Whatever the reason, spending a day at home, with family or a babysitter is definitely preferable to getting up and dressed and heading off to class. Snow days are what make winter bearable for kids.

I can't really remember snow days as a kid growing up in the Ohio school system. There weren't any mountains or even significant hills around and every grade school I attended was within walking distance except one.

Because we walked we had to be decked out in the customary boots, snow pants, coat, gloves, scarf and hat. When we got to school, we peeled out of all our layers and stored them in our cubbies to be retrieved for recess. The only reason we could ever stay inside was if we had a cold and note from mom.

We had those boots that pulled over our shoes, almost like rain boots. They were terribly hard to get on and off so we would put bread bags over our shoes and then they would slip right into the boots. This was a common practice with all the kids. They weren't the warmest but they keep our feet dry.

When I was in grade school they first came out with what we called shoe-boots. They were boots that had a fuzzy lining and worn like shoes. They looked like black go-go boots and they were all the rage. If you owned a



pair of these, you had to have a little zippered bag to carry your shoes in to school. I really wanted a pair, but they were higher priced than the usual snow boots so I was out of luck.

I don't know how our teachers kept track of everyone's gear throughout the winter. She probably spent an hour out of every school day in the winter helping us find, take off and put on our boots and mittens.

It was pretty cold on the playground. There were the usual sliding and snowball throwing. You've got to remember that when I was in grade school all the little girls wore dresses, hence the snowpants or corduroys. If you didn't wear them, you were guaranteed to be a popsicle by the time recess was over and have a painful thawing.

I'm sure we were sent outside so the teachers could get a break and possibly eat lunch. In my fourth grade class there were 40 students. It was wall-to-wall kids so recess must have been a daily gift from heaven for my teacher.

brown sugar. Heat and stir 5 minutes. Set aside ¼ cup oat mixture. Press remaining oat mixture into greased 9-inch square baking pan. Sprinkle banana over crust.

Melt chocolate chips and peanut butter together over low heat. Pour and spread over banana. Sprinkle with reserved oat mixture, press down lightly. Chill 2 hours before cutting. Store in refrigerator. Makes 24 bars.

On the way home we walked with our neighborhood friends and repeated the peeling process when we arrived. Mom was always there waiting to take our things and get them dried out for the next day.

If you've got kids at home for a snow day, and want to get their noses out of their iPads, you might try having them make a few snacks in the kitchen. It's a good way to teach them a life skill and the hands-on element will reinforce their math and

reading skills. There's also the reward at the end ... eating!

In my little library of cookbooks there is one called "Silly Snacks" and it's full of recipes for kids. It's really Erin's, a gift from her Grandma and Grandpa when she was 10.

These recipes may seem simple, but they are a good way to introduce kids to cooking. Small successes are the way to encourage their continued interest. Cooking with kids is always fun and filled with surprises. You may find you like having a helper in the kitchen.

I do have some good news about kids and snow days. Tara's two boys and her niece were in the office Thursday morning waiting for school to start and I asked them what they did on their snow day. They replied they built a snow man and did a lot of sled riding and a little shoveling.

Some things don't change.

SOUTH BRANCH VALLEY

HAM, BACON, EGG SHOW
MOOREFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
 Friday - March 8, 2019
 Sale: 5:30 pm
 Buyers Dinner: 4:00 pm
 Student products include Hickory Smoked Hams and Bacons, and Farm Fresh Eggs.
 FFA members from the East Hardy, Moorefield, Pendleton, and Petersburg FFA Chapters.

MAYSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
BINGO
 Special games available
 Crazy G jackpot \$500
 crazy G in 54 numbers or less
 March 2 & 16
\$25/person
 Doors open at 5pm
 Games begin at 6pm
 Concessions will be sold before and during games
304-749-7731
GUN BASH
 April 6 12-4 p.m.
 Doors open at 11 a.m.

GRANT REHABILITATION & CARE CENTER

 is now accepting applications for part-time positions in the food & nutrition services department
Dietary Aide: 4:00-7:30pm and/or 8:30am-4:30pm
 (shift will vary on weekends).
Baker/Cook: 7:30am-3:30pm (BAKER)
 Cook hours may vary.
 (This ad is for the Baker position; however, applicant must be willing to train as Cook for fill-in when/if needed)
 More information available on website.

Positions would be ideal for someone in need of less than 30 hours per week. Must be at least sixteen years of age to apply. Working a minimum of every other weekend and holiday is a requirement.
APPLY BY APPLICATION ONLY! Applications can be obtained by picking up one in our front office or by visiting our website and applying online.
 Specific benefits are available for part-time employees. They include vacation, personal leave hours, time and half pay for holidays worked, credit union, profit sharing plan, and supplemental accident/disability/cancer insurance through an outside insurance company.
127 Early Ave., Petersburg, WV 26847
304-257-4233
grantrehabilitationcarecenter.com
Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center is a non-profit facility and with respect to employment, provides equal opportunities for qualified individuals without regard to race, color, sex, age, nationality, or creed.

NO-BAKE BANANA PEANUT BUTTER FUDGE BARS
 1 ripe, large banana
 2/3 cup butter or margarine
 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 2 ½ cups rolled oats
 ½ cup packed brown sugar
 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
 ½ cup peanut butter
 Finely chop banana (1 ¼ cups). Melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat; stir in vanilla. Add oats and

PIGGY WRAPS
 1 package Lit'l Smokies
 2 8 ounce cans refrigerated crescent roll dough, cut into small triangles
 Preheat oven to 400°F.
 Wrap individual Lit'l Smokies in dough triangles.
 Bake 5 minutes or until golden brown.
 Piggy wraps may be frozen and reheated in microwave.

PURPLE COW JUMPED OVER THE MOON
 3 cups vanilla nonfat frozen yogurt
 1 cup reduced fat (2%) milk
 ½ cup thawed frozen grape juice concentrate (undiluted)
 1 ½ teaspoons lemon juice
 Place yogurt, milk, grape juice concentrate and lemon juice in food processor or blender container; process until smooth. Serve immediately.
 Makes eight ½ cup servings.

EASY PUDDING MILK SHAKE
 3 cups cold milk
 1 package (4-serving size) Jell-O instant pudding, any flavor
 1 ½ cups ice cream, any flavor
 Pour milk into blender container. Add pudding mix and ice cream; cover. Blend on high speed 30 seconds or until smooth. Pour into glasses and serve immediately. Makes 5 servings.

QUICK PIZZA SNACKS
 English muffins
 1 jar or can pizza sauce
 Mozzarella cheese
 Toppings
 Preheat oven to 350°F.
 Place English muffin halves on ungreased baking sheet.
 Top each muffin with sauce, cheese and any other toppings (mushrooms, pepperoni, peppers, etc).
 Bake about 5 minutes or until cheese is melted and lightly browned.

Some favorite garden vegetables attract pollinators, too

By Dean Fosdick
 Associated Press

Planting clumps of bright, successively blooming flowers is a popular method for attracting foraging pollinators like bees and butterflies. But savvy vegetable and fruit growers know flowering edibles will entice them, too.

Ornamental shrubs, trees, crops and vines will bring pollinators to your yard while at the same time provide nourishment for the family table.

Bees and many other species transfer pollen grains and seeds from one flower to another, fertilizing plants so they can thrive and produce food. The pollinators, in turn, are rewarded with the plants' sugary nectars.

"When we think of our diet, the rule of thumb is that one out of every three bites we take is dependent upon pollinators," said Ed Spevak, who manages the St. Louis Zoo's Center for Native Pollination. It was among the nation's first zoos to have a dedicated invertebrate department.

"When you want flavor, color and nutrition, then you really need to start thinking about bees and all the services they perform for our diets," Spevak said.

Familiarize yourself with the pollinators common in your area and learn which plants they prefer.

"Some bee species are active only in the spring or maybe just the summer, while others are active all season long, such as bumblebees and honeybees," said Frank Drummond, a professor of insect ecology at the University of Maine. "This relates to when you need to have plants flowering in your garden."

Some bees are generalists while others specialize in the types of blooms they seek.

"It is really an evolutionary thing," Drummond said. "Specialists usually have a very unique anatomy (specific tongue length and body size) and behaviors that have been finetuned over many generations, while generalists have anatomy and behaviors that allow them to be less efficient across all flower species."

Many pollinator species are in decline or disappearing because of habitat and forage losses, improper pesticide use, disease and parasites.

"Honeybees get all the press but are not in danger," Spevak said. "It's the native bees and bumblebees that are disappearing."

Install pollinator-friendly habitat if you want to help rebuild pollinator populations, he said. Many native plants that can support the increasingly endangered Monarch butterfly population also will help native bees, he said.

"You'll become a conservationist by planting a native garden with plants that provide a healthy diet," he said.

When landscaping to lure pollinators, it's really about flower diversity, not abundance, Spevak said. "If you're a tomato grower, for example, it would behoove you to recruit bumblebees and wild bees rather than honeybees," he said. "They're much better pollinators for those plants."

Other typical pairings of edible plants and pollinators include:

- Squash, pumpkins, melons - squash bees, carpenter bees.
- Lowbush blueberries, blackberries and raspberries - bumblebees, sweat bees, mining bees, digger bees, mason bees.
- Almonds - honeybees, bumblebees, mason bees.

- Tomatoes - bumblebees, seat bees, carpenter bees.
- Thyme - bumblebees, honeybees, digger bees, mason bees, sweat bees, yellow-faced bees.

Pollinators other than bees include hummingbirds, tropical bats, moths, flies, ants, hornets and beetles. Many of these are inadvertent pollinators.

Food allergies: An escalating problem

Thirty-two million Americans are now living with food allergies, according to new data published by The Journal of the American Medical Association Network Open and Pediatrics.

This equates to roughly one in 10 adults and one in 13 children (or about two in every classroom). What's more, over 50 percent of adults and 42 percent of children with food allergies have suffered a severe food allergy reaction such as potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis.

Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE), the largest private funder of food allergy research in the world, recently commissioned a state-by-state report analyzing the rise in diagnoses of anaphylactic food reactions between 2007 and 2016.

The results illustrate the gravity of this growing epidemic, with a 377 percent increase nationwide.

Advocates say that the increasing prevalence of food allergies demands action and escalates the need for new treatments and diagnostic tools that save lives and help alleviate the burden of this disease.

To learn more, visit foodallergy.org. (StatePoint)

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 in print and online: www.grantcountypres.com

Office of Student Services and Attendance to begin accepting transfer requests beginning April 5

By Melissa Smouse
Director of Student Services and Attendance
Grant County Schools

The Office of Student Services and Attendance is gearing up for school year 19-20. Beginning April 5, Grant County Schools will begin accepting transfer requests for the next school year. Parents who wish to transfer their child/children to a school outside their designated attendance zone are responsible for completing the following process annually:

All students must register at their home school. "Home school" is defined as the school the child would normally attend, which encompasses the geographic area in which the child currently resides, as outlined in GCS Policy 3050.

All children currently enrolled in a pre-k class at a loca-

tion other than their home school must register for kindergarten at the child's home school. No earlier than April 5, 8 a.m., the parent shall pick up, fill out, and sign a parental request for transfer form.

These forms can be found at all schools and the Grant County Board of Education office. The form must be given to and signed by the principal of the child's home school. The form must then be carried by the parent or parent's designee to the school the parent desires the child to attend. The form must be given to and signed by the principal of the school the parent desires the child to attend.



The completed form must then be carried by the parent or parent's designee to the Grant County Board of Education office, where the receptionist will take it and date stamp it. A copy will be given to the parent.

All date stamped forms will be forwarded to the director of attendance. **Note:** Only completed forms (those with original signatures of the parent and both principals) will be considered. Incomplete forms will be returned to the parent.

The attendance director will determine if the form is complete. The attendance director will review all parental requests for transfer. She will then de-

termine if there is space at the school and grade level requested.

If there is space at the school/grade level requested, the attendance director will recommend to the superintendent that the transfer be approved. If more than one request for a specific school/grade level exists, they will be considered on a "first come first served" basis.

"First come first served" is defined as all forms date stamped April 5 and thereafter will be considered in chronological order. In the event more than one form is date stamped on the same day, the attendance director shall supervise a drawing of the forms, assigning each form a number. These forms will be considered in numerical order of the drawing.

The superintendent will recommend those transfer requests that can be accommodated to the BOE for their approval. Parents will be notified in writing no earlier than August 1, as to the status of their transfer request.

WVU Extension Service encourages firefighters, first responders to attend WV Weekend at National Fire Academy

Each year, firefighters, first responders and other emergency personnel respond to thousands of emergencies, national disasters and other incidents.

WVU Extension Fire Service continues to provide outreach, education and training opportunities to these professionals to ensure they are prepared to handle these difficult situations.

The National Fire Academy (NFA) will host West Virginia firefighters and emergency personnel on May 4-5, in Emmitsburg, Md.

Dubbed "West Virginia Weekend," the two-day academy will feature courses on training operations in small departments; strategy and tactics for initial company operations; decision-making for initial company operations; and fire investigation. WVU Extension Fire Service assists NFA with re-

cruiting attendees and coordinates registration for the event.

"Being prepared, informed and well trained is critical for our first responders," said Mark Lambert, director, WVU Extension Fire Service. "This weekend is offered for our state emergency service and fire professionals - both volunteer and paid - to expand their knowledge and skills, which will allow us to do our jobs safely and effectively."

Cost for the two-day academy is \$100 and covers training, course materials, lodging, meals and other events and giveaways. Registration can be made online through WVU Extension Fire Service. Deadline to register is April 17.

For more information, contact Mark Lambert at mark.lambert@mail.wvu.edu.

Petersburg High School students in eighth grade recently completed NAEP testing and Maysville fourth grade will complete it on March 7.

We are also working hard preparing students for upcoming state testing. The SAT will be taken by the 11th graders beginning April 9. Grades 3-8 will take the WVGSA on specific dates which will be provided at a later date. The ELPA will be given to specific students on March 5. Those students will be notified by their designated teacher.

Grant Memorial, Hawse Health sign collaborative care agreement; some doctor's offices to relocate

In a joint statement issued Feb. 4, Melissa Walls, CEO, E. A. Hawse Health Center, Baker, and Robert Milvet, CEO, Grant Memorial Hospital, Petersburg, announced a collaborative care arrangement effective March 4.

This arrangement establishes E.A. Hawse Health Center as a primary care network for Grant Memorial Hospital.

As part of the arrangement, Drs. Solomon Mutetwa and Nishat Ally, in addition to family nurse practitioner Eleanor Berg, will become employed by E.A. Hawse Health Center and will provide services at the 111 South Grove Street clinic in Petersburg.

All three providers currently practice at the Grant Memorial Hospital outpatient clinics located at 65 Hospital Drive, and they will continue seeing patients at this location through March 1.

The collaboration will enhance the medical practices and ensure the continuation of quality medical services in the area. E.A. Hawse Health Center will bring to the practice as part of their federal mandate a sliding fee schedule to meet the financial needs of those patients with limited incomes. In ad-

dition, they will expand the current provider coverage at this location.

Both organizations will work together to help recruit other providers to the clinics at E.A. Hawse Health Centers, and Grant Memorial Hospital will offer x-ray services at the Grove Street location.



Milvet said, "E.A. Hawse Health Center has a solid reputation statewide and nationally for delivering high quality health care. They have received accolades year after year for the care they provide, and have been recognized as the top-performing health center in the state for years. I am very excited about this collaboration for our patients and the whole community."

Walls added, "E.A. Hawse looks forward to collaborating with Grant Memorial Hospital in providing services and meeting our mission of access to quality care by expanding services in the Grove Street office. The future of collaborating with GMH will help us in obtaining our goal of delivering health care which has a positive impact on the health status of our community members and our most vulnerable populations."

Grant Memorial Hospital is a 25-bed critical access hospital located at 117 Hospital Drive in Petersburg serving patients throughout the Potomac Highlands. For more information about the hospital and its services, call 304-257-1026.

E.A. Hawse is a Federally-Qualified Health Center (FQHC) whose main facility is located in Baker and has operated a health center at that location since 1981. It is one of 28 FQHCs in West Virginia that provide services at more than 218 sites statewide. E.A. Hawse currently offers medical, dental, behavioral health, pharmacy and school based wellness services. For additional information about services provided by E.A. Hawse, call 304-897-5915.

Allegheny Bancshares Inc. announces 2018 earnings

Allegheny Bancshares, Inc. (Allegheny), the parent company of Pendleton Community Bank, announces its results of operations for the 4th quarter and year ending Dec. 31, 2018.

Allegheny's net income for 2018 was \$3,825,122 or \$4.54 per share. This represents a 15.35 percent increase in net income from 2017's level of \$3,316,038. It also represents a 16.41 percent increase in earnings per share from 2017's earnings per share of \$3.90.

Net interest income grew \$556,744 (4.77 percent)

from \$11,667,753 in 2017 to \$12,224,497 in 2018. While assets grew by \$18.7 million (6.46 percent) in 2018, loans increased by \$15.8 million (6.91 percent) which provided 2018's growth in net interest income.

Deposit balances increased by 7.23 percent during the year which funded 2018's loan growth. Assets, at year end, totaled \$307,530,105 and total loans were \$244,039,376. Total loan loss provision for 2018 was \$370,000 compared to \$450,000 in 2017; 4th quarter provision totaled \$145,000 in 2018 as

compared to \$90,000 in fourth quarter 2017.

Allegheny's key financial performance indicators continued to be strong and compare favorably with state, national, and local peer group data. Allegheny produced a return on average assets (ROAA) of 1.27 percent and a return on average equity (ROAE) of 10.10 percent compared to 2017's results of 1.16 percent and 9.05 percent respectively.

W.A. "Bill" Loving, president and CEO, indicated he was pleased with 2018's performance. According to Loving, "We are excited to report that our 2018 earnings represent another record year of profitability for Allegheny Bancshares, Inc. 2018's net income and record performance was attributable to

the balanced organic growth in our loan portfolio and core deposits, strategic balance sheet management, continued focus on our net interest margin, and a reduction in the tax burden resulting from the recent change in the tax law. In addition, continued focus on asset quality allowed for a reduction in our provision for loan loss

"Our team consistently produces results that are well above our averages, while maintaining a strong community focus. I am confident that this dedication, along with the maturing of the strategic investments we have made in physical locations and technology will continue to propel us forward and set the stage for continued strong performance we accomplished in 2018."

Shop locally to save time, money and gas

The Ralph "Jim" Franz family would like to thank Grant Memorial Hospital doctors & nurses for their care for Jim & I all year the many times we were there as well as all of our neighbors & friends that sent cards, food, flowers & prayers. Thanks to Rev. Robert Spaid & Rev. Vivan Watts for their message. Thanks to Schaeffer Funeral Home for all they did & kind words. Many thanks to our family & everyone that helped us in many ways.

God Bless You All

Linda D. Franz, Dave & Linda Reel & family, Allen & Sandy Tritsch & family, and Jimmy & Beck Franz & family

GRANT COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL, INC. and Event Underwriter

PENDLETON COMMUNITY BANK present

4 PART ART CLASS
Taught by Joan Mace

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SAT., MARCH 16, 23, 30 AND APRIL 6
2:00 - 4:00 P.M.
VENUE IN PETERSBURG TBA
REGISTRATION AND INFO: 304-257-4891
ENROLLMENT LIMITED. REGISTER NOW!
COST: GCAC members \$10 supplies
Non-GCAC members \$40 registration and supplies

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

Grant County Schools Announce Pre-K & NEW Kindergarten REGISTRATION DATES

All eligible students for pre-k and kindergarten for the fall of 2019 will need to complete online registration at <https://tinyurl.com/GCS-PK-K>. Kindergarten students, CURRENTLY IN GCS pre-k, will NOT need to complete any further registration in March once the online registration is complete. Pre-K students will be contacted from the online registration to set up a time to attend registration in March.

PRE-K & NEW KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION DATES
 March 1 • Board of Education Offices • 8:30 - 4:00
 March 8 • Union Educational Complex • 8:30 - 3:30

For school planning purposes, it is extremely important that all students are registered during this enrollment period.

Students entering Pre-K and kindergarten for the fall of 2019 must either turn 4 years old before July 1, 2019 or be 3 years old with a documented disability as determined by Grant County Schools.

Parents must bring the following items with them to registration:

- Parent/guardian photo identification
- Child's State Issued Birth Certificate
- Child's Social Security Card
- Up-to-date immunization record
- Child's health check form
- Dental examination record (within the last 12 months)
- Court Order of Custody (if applicable)
- Verification of Grant County residency (at least two items documenting parent's 911 address)
- Income identification (pre-k registration only)
- Health Insurance Information (pre-k registration only)

Students not having the necessary information will not be registered until it can be provided.

Parents may contact Vanessa Harlow, Director of Elementary Education, for more information about Pre-K or new kindergarten registration at 304-257-1011, ext. 126 or vharlow@k12.wv.us

EACHS Head Start accepting applications for fall enrollment

The Eastern Allegheny Council for Human Services, Inc. (EACHS) Head Start program is currently accepting applications for Fall 2019 enrollment. EACHS operates stand alone classrooms for 3 year olds as well as collaborative pre-k classrooms for 4 year olds.

Registration will be from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Cochran Head Start Center located at 135 Hyre Ave. in Petersburg on the following days: March 4, 12, 20 and 28. All parents with children who will be three years old by July 1, 2019 are encouraged to apply. Parents should bring the child's birth certificate, immunization record, Social Security card, health insurance card and proof of family income (W-2, 1040 tax form, pay stubs, SSI, etc.) to the registration.

Once the applications are completed, they are scored based upon established selection criteria. Please contact the Cochran Center at 304-257-2846 for more information.

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Grant County Press
 Petersburg, W.Va.

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West Virginia

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Wind damage

By Camille Howard

State Sen. Randy Smith (R-Tucker) has once again introduced the bill to repeal the tax break wind farms received from the state.

For property tax purposes, windmills are categorized as personal property that is a pollution control facility; 79 percent of the windmill's total value is taxed at salvage rate which is 5 percent of the full assessed value.

Under SB 47, windmills would be considered real property and taxed at full assessed value.

This bill was first introduced to the Senate in 2017 by Sen. Smith and Sen. Dave Sypolt (R-Preston). These two senators represent the 14th Senatorial District which includes northwestern Grant County.

Grant County has several wind farms and has been diligently seeking interest in building more.

Last year when this same bill was presented to the Senate, it was sponsored by Smith only. Sypolt's name was missing, but after his re-election to the Senate, his name has reappeared of the 2019 version of the bill.

In a NCWV Media news article by Theresa Marthey in January 2018, Smith says "Usually when we grant a tax break, there is a sunset law limiting it for three-to-five years. These tax breaks have been ongoing for 18 years."

While he has a valid point, SB 47 does nothing to suggest enacting a sunset law, but immediately subjects wind turbine companies to full property value taxes.

That sounds pretty good, doesn't it? More tax money available to be used here?

What the bill doesn't address is the fact that it will jeopardize the financial viability of both existing and proposed wind projects here in Grant County.

"This changes what has already been discussed in existing contracts, which is not at all business friendly or fair to these companies who have already made plans here in Grant County," said Tammy Kitzmiller, executive director of the Grant County Development Authority. "A bill that specifically targets the wind industry in this way is very

The real kicker is that the state senators who represent us - Grant County - are the ones who introduced this same legislation for three years in a row.

concerning. Grant County strives to be welcoming to new industries and actions like this undercut that effort."

Last year, just the threat of the passage of the bill put a hit on NexEra when the U.S. Navy withdrew their intent to purchase power generated by the yet-to-be built turbines.

Why would West Virginia want to discourage businesses from locating here? Why do we have to be the coal state? Why can't we be known as the energy state?

If you're interested, go to the U.S. Energy Information Administration website at eia.gov and see a state profile map that indicates where energy production is located.

You'll see the state crisscrossed with gas pipelines and markers of dozens of coal mines until you get to the Eastern Panhandle and there you'll find one coal-fired plant (Dominion at Mount Storm) and several dots marking the placement of wind energy. Otherwise, the Panhandle seems devoid of energy production.

While the rest of the state is enjoying a boon in gas production we've yet to see anything of that nature. The increase in green energy production has been sought for decades, yet the Senate wants to squash any attempts being made here to promote it.

There are numerous arguments against the turbines but the fact remains that Grant County needs to draw more business within its borders and that includes wind energy.

The real kicker is that the state senators who represent us - Grant County - are the ones who introduced this same legislation for three years in a row.

While commissioners in other counties see immediate dollar signs, our commissioners and development authority see future jobs and dollars for Grant County.

How did our senators vote? Of course our 14th District senators, Smith and Sypolt, voted for the bill as well as 11th Senate District Senator Gregory Boso (R-Nicholas). The other senator who represents us in the 11th District, Bill Hamilton (R-Upshur), voted against passage of the bill.

In 2016 and 2017, the House of Representatives killed both bills regarding taxation of wind energy. This year's bill, SB 47, has been sent to the House Government Organization Committee. It remains to be seen what they will do with it.



The Rush-to-Judgment 500

At the Capitol: W. Va. Education bills and guns on campus draw attention



By Phil Kabler
Charleston Gazette-Mail
Capitol Correspondent for the West Virginia Press Association

After days of intense focus, and seemingly endless hours of debate, in a instant on Tuesday, the key issue of the 2019 legislative session, the omnibus education bill (SB451), died.

At 12:34 p.m., to the cheers of galleries filled with striking teachers, the House of Delegates voted 53-45 to kill the bill, using the rare parliamentary motion to postpone indefinitely any future consideration of the bill.

In calling for the motion, Delegate Mike Caputo, D-Marion, told delegates, "I believe

we need to reject this bill now. That's what ends this strike."

The sudden end for the controversial bill marked a dramatic 36 hours that saw the Senate on Monday take the House's stripped down version of the bill - which removed or diluted disputed provisions such as charter schools, educational savings accounts, and measures the teachers' unions regarded as punitive retaliation for the 2018 statewide teachers' walkout - and added an amendment restoring most of those measures.

That, too, proved controversial, as Senate Democrats demanded a recess to review the amendment, which they had received only moments before the Senate floor session began, in violation of Senate rules requiring one-hour availability of amendments prior to votes.

Sen. Mike Woelfel, D-Cabell, called it "legislation by ambush." Senate leadership granted the recess, and

the Senate that evening passed the amended version of the bill on a 18-16 vote -- which ultimately resulted in the House of Delegates taking up the Senate message on Tuesday, instead of Monday evening as originally intended.

By the time the House returned to the Capitol on Tuesday, striking teachers had mobilized, filling the Capitol with rallies reminiscent of the 2018 walkout that inspired other teachers' strikes across the country.

One theme was clear Tuesday, that teachers were willing to forfeit a \$2,000 pay raise in the legislation, if necessary, to assure defeat of the Senate bill.

"The Senate decided to go back to its retaliatory, anti-public education, anti-teacher bill, and that is why teachers all across West Virginia - bus drivers, school secretaries,

At the Capitol continued on Page 5A

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Lyme Disease Victims

Dear Editor,

West Virginia Lyme disease victims can now get financial help to combat this worst possible disease - even worse than cancer. Lyme can even protect itself with biologic films.

The West Virginia government has legislated and signed the 2018 bill, SB242, to force insurance companies to pay "for long-term antibiotic therapy for a patient with Lyme disease when determined to be medically necessary and ordered by a licensed physician after making a thorough evaluation of the patient's symptoms, diagnostic test results, or response to treatment."

In addition some states also have this notice to patients and doctors:

"Your health care provider has ordered a laboratory test for the presence of Lyme disease for you. Current laboratory testing for Lyme disease can be problematic and standard laboratory tests often result in false negative and false positive results, and if done too early, you may not have produced enough antibodies to be considered positive because your immune response requires time to develop antibodies. If you are tested for Lyme disease, and the results are negative, this does not necessarily mean you do not have Lyme Disease. If you continue to experience symptoms, you should contact your health care provider and inquire about the appropriateness of retesting or additional treatment."

These actions were and still are needed because, allegedly, the Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) conspired with insurance companies to

minimize insurance company benefits to patients for Lyme disease care and minimize Lyme disease diagnoses per a federal court case.

The West Virginia Insurance Commission, Consumer Services, can help with problems with insurance coverage. They are located at 900 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston, WV 25302. Their contact information follows:

Call toll free 1-888-TRY WVIC (888-879-9842); TTY 1-800-435-7381; fax 304-558-4965; email OICConsumerServices@wv.gov; or mail WV Offices of the Insurance Commissioner, Attn: Consumer Service Division, P.O. Box 50540, Charleston, WV 25305-0540

This effort was begun by us in Morgan County because Linda's friend has and still is suffering badly.

Linda collected petition signatures and Eric did Lyme disease research. State senator Charles Trump presented the petition and the Lyme disease bill to the 2018 senate and pushed it through the legislator with the help of many cosponsors in both houses. And, of course, Governor Justice signed this bill.

Sincerely,
Linda and Eric Pritchard
Berkeley Springs

Dear Editor,
Many people became aware of an unofficial government based in Brussels when many countries in Europe had their borders suddenly opened to uncontrolled immigration of people from foreign countries and of unknown backgrounds. Many suddenly learned that

their elected government had relinquished much of their control to an unelected unknown group known as The New World Order all without the knowledge of the people.

Their freedom of self government was thus limited. Once the English people realized their government had done so they began the "Brexit" movement and succeeded in voting to get themselves out of the European Union thus ridding themselves of the New World Order.

To this day however, their own government is trying everything possible to prevent the will of the people from being carried out.

Now thousands of people of unknown backgrounds are flooding across American borders illegally. Our Congress, like governments making up the European Union, has not only failed to take action to protect the American people from this invasion but has rewarded successful invaders with financial aid and a sanctuary environment.

Understanding the reason behind this ongoing politically created crisis lies in the words of an agreement signed by President George H.W. Bush in 1992 in Rio.

The agreement was titled Agenda 21 and making it work required a substantial transfer of wealth to reduce income inequality worldwide and a commitment to government management of the world's climate and environment.

The agenda requires centralized global management of both money and government. Annually a global economic forum is held in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland, while a global ex-

ecutive forum made up of many former government and business executives is held annually in Brussels.

The recent Nancy Pelosi trip canceled by President Trump included a meeting in Brussels.

As most are now aware the United States is over \$22 trillion in debt with nothing to show for it but 18 years of ongoing war with failing green programs and climate change propaganda at the top of the Congressional agenda.

Our Congress refuses to deal with the issues of immigration, debt, border security, voter corruption, sub-standard education etc. Members of Congress have however, announced the goal of impeaching our elected president who has declared his opposition to an unelected government controlling the United States of America.

The Democratic Party in the Washington sewer now stands against anything our president proposes with several representatives of the Republican Party called "never Trampers" supporting the effort.

The media says it is a stand against the president but in reality it is a stand against the American people and our way of life.

For too long, groups in our nation's capital have corrupted our government while the people have borne the cost. The government sewers flourish but not the people. We must clean the sewers and stop American carnage right here and right now.

What truly matters is not what party controls our government but that this government is controlled by the people

Jim Hinebaugh
Maysville, WV

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At the Capitol

Continued from Page 4A

para-professionals – have converged on Charleston, because they don't have a choice," said Randi Weingarten, national president of the American Federation of Teachers, who came to West Virginia to support the striking teachers.

With the demise of the omnibus education bill, the House took up a so-called "clean" pay raise bill, which includes raises for teachers and school service personnel promised by Gov. Jim Justice last fall, but no other educational measures.

That bill (HB2730) passed the House 89-8 on Friday, and goes to the Senate, where its fate is uncertain.

On Friday, Senate Finance Chairman Craig Blair, R-Berkeley, issued a statement of opposition to the stand-alone pay raise bill.

"I always said I would vote for a pay raise of 5 percent," he said. "I did it last year, and I did it this year already. But I also have said publicly that if they went out on strike that I would not vote for a pay raise."

With the demise of the education bill, one of the hot topics emerging at the Capitol as the 2019 regular session rolls into its final two weeks is a bill to allow persons with concealed carry permits to bring firearms onto campuses of public colleges and universities (HB2519).

On Thursday, the House Finance Committee advanced the bill to the House floor without amendment, undaunted by a fiscal note from the Higher Education Policy Commission indicating that the first year of implementation of the bill will cost state colleges \$11.6 million to make required security enhancements on campus, including hiring new police officers and security guards.

The NRA-backed bill appears to be on a fast track to passage, despite significant opposition, highlighted by a Feb. 11 public hearing, where opponents of the bill outnumbered proponents by a more than three-to-one margin, and included college administrators, students, parents, and law enforcement officers.

On Thursday, Marshall University President Jerome Gilbert issued a statement opposing the legislation, saying, "Marshall University remains steadfast in its opposition to guns on college campuses. The safety and security of our students, faculty and staff is of paramount importance to us, and this legislation threatens the very foundation of that responsibility."

At West Virginia University on Thursday, opponents rallied at Woodburn Circle to protest the bill.

WVU Vice President Rob Alsop said that while WVU administrators prefer that decisions on firearms safety be made by the university's Board of Governors, and not by the Legislature, the reality is that the bill has considerable support among legislators and is likely to pass.

Alsop said his focus has been on adding exceptions to the bill to create a number of places on campus where firearms would still be prohibited, including patient care facilities, mental health counseling facilities, and laboratories containing hazardous materials.

W. Va. House Health and Human Resources Committee advances HB 2953 regarding critical access hospitals

By Erica Young

West Virginia Press Association Capitol Reporter

The West Virginia House Health and Human Resources Committee on Thursday discussed HB 2953, which would allow critical access hospitals to apply to become critical outpatient medical centers.

The bill states in order to be eligible to apply, a hospital must have been designated as a critical access hospital for at least one year and, at the time of application, provide emergency and observational care to all patients (regardless of insurance status) 24 hours a day and seven days a week, and "have protocols in place for the timely transfer of patients who require a higher level of care."

Joe Letnauchyn, president and CEO of the West Virginia Hospital Association, answered questions to help make the bill's purpose clearer.

He said the bill is important because there is a possibility Congress will pass legislation that would allow more flexibility in this area, but since West Virginia only has a licensure category for critical access hospitals, it would not be able to create the new facility type without its passage.

Delegate Margaret Staggers, D-Fayette, had several questions for Letnauchyn, with her main concerns being how current hospitals and ambulances would be affected. Letnauchyn assured Staggers that ambulances would not be affected in any way and hospitals would only be affected if they chose to apply for the process.

Staggers also repeatedly asked Letnauchyn if this bill would be "just a name change" for the hospitals.

Letnauchyn said it goes beyond that, calling it "another option in the toolbox," and that "as we're moving through the healthcare continuum ... having more options for the delivery of care seems to make more sense for our communities."

The committee voted on HB 2953 and it passed unanimously. It will now be reported to the full senate.



Remember When



February 23, 1949

Grant County Schools superintendent C.P. Hott resigned after 18 years due to declining health. A. Neil Frye was appointed to fill the position.

Chester L. Vance, U.S. Navy, was chosen "Honor" Man of Co. 371 at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes.

Breathed Chevrolet company celebrated its 23rd anniversary, as a Petersburg business establishment.

Births at Veach's Clinic included: Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Erdman of Mount Storm, a son; Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Wilson of Moorefield, a daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fieury of Petersburg, a son; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ours of Petersburg, a son; Mr. and Mrs. Doan Harman of Onego, a daughter; Mr. and Mrs. John Hall of Petersburg, a son; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Rexrode of Franklin, a son; and Mr. and Mrs. Buck Miller of Moorefield, a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. O.M. Pennington entertained with a seventh birthday party for their daughter, Janet, Feb. 14.

February 25, 1959

Petersburg High School senior Harold Garber reached the finals of the '58-'59 National Merit Scholarship program.

Tommy Strawderman of Troop 63, sponsored by the Petersburg Kiwanis Club, was presented the Eagle Award, at a special court of honor at the Presbyterian Church.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Smith of Petersburg, a daughter, Feb. 17; Mr. and Mrs. Morris Bennett of Petersburg, a son, Feb. 17; Mr. and Mrs. Er-

nest Shumaker of Moorefield, a son, Feb. 18; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Keller of Fisher, a son, Feb. 20; Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Propst of Franklin, a daughter, Feb. 21; Mr. and Mrs. Lester Weatherholtz of Petersburg, a son, Feb. 23; and Mr. and Mrs. Vinton Ratcliff of Baltimore, a daughter, Feb. 22.

February 26, 1969

Terry Cook graduated from Airlines Training Division of Atlantic School, Kansas City, Mo.

Sgt. Douglas Alt arrived home, following a one year of duty in Vietnam.

The PHS Vikings boys basketball team had a 16-3 record, going into the final game of the regular season.

Births at Grant Memorial Hospital included: Mr. and Mrs. Coolidge Mace of Petersburg, a daughter, Feb. 17; Mr. and Mrs. Darl Troy of Moorefield, a daughter, Feb. 17; Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Mauzy of Petersburg, a daughter, Feb. 17; and Mr. and Mrs. James Webster of Moorefield, a daughter, Feb. 19.

Lester Shaffer retired after 31 years of service from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS). His replacement was Eugene Woodworth of Burlington.

February 28, 1979

The Grant County Board of Education decided that Carroll Smith of Dorcas was to take the position left vacant by Duke McDaniel. However, Larry Kitzmiller of Mount Storm, president of the BOE, gave his typed letter resignation.

Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Feaster celebrated their 63rd anniversary.

Last week in the W.Va. House of Delegates

The House of Delegates this past week advanced legislation to help rejuvenate the state's coal industry, repair pockmarked secondary roads, and improve salaries for members of the State Police, teachers and school service personnel.

The House Finance Committee on Friday originated two bills designed to help provide relief for and inspire investment in the state's coal industry.

"Southern West Virginia is still hurting from the lingering effects of the Obama 'War on Coal,'" said Delegate Zack Maynard, R-Lincoln, a member of the Finance Committee. "While President Trump has been a godsend, particularly for the metallurgical coal industry, steam coal producers are still struggling to get back on their feet."

"These bills will be a shot in the arm for Southern West Virginia and help us accomplish our president's goal of putting our miners back to work," Maynard said.

House Bill 3142 would reduce the severance tax on steam coal – the form that is used in power generation – from 5 to 3 percent. House Bill 3144 would provide a tax rebate on new machinery and equipment purchases and capital investment in coal production operations.

In addition to making steam

coal mined in West Virginia competitive with coal mined from other states, the severance tax cut will have an added benefit for power customers, as the tax cut savings will be passed on to power generators, and from them to electricity consumers.

The second bill will provide a rebate of 35 percent of the cost of any new machinery and equipment purchased for mining activity.

Both tax changes are structured so they won't affect the portion of severance taxes distributed to counties and municipalities, only the portion that goes directly to state coffers.

"These bills will help our coal companies hire more workers, expand their operations and compete with producers from other states," said Finance Committee Vice-Chairman Vernon Criss, R-Wood. "This will lead to more jobs, higher incomes and provide a needed boost to our state's economy."

Both bills now head to the full House of Delegates for consideration.

Meanwhile, the House Committee on Government Organization on Friday approved House Bill 2011, which creates the "Enhanced Road Maintenance Program" to improve road conditions across the state.

An electrical short was blamed in the fire that caused from \$50,000 - \$100,000 in damages to the Mount Storm Lodge.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Wells of Maysville, a son, Feb. 19; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hill of Petersburg, a daughter, Feb. 22; and Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Crites of Arthur, a son, Feb. 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Feaster announced the birth of a son, Eric Allen, Feb. 25.

Four out-of-state travelers were safe on the ground at the Grant County Airport, after their plane landed and got mired into the mud, at the field, under adverse conditions.

Friday, Feb. 15, 1901 edition

Petersburg resident Curtis Keplinger, recently stopped by a dropped off 1901, 1923 and 1929 editions of the Grant County Press that belonged to his great-great-grandmother, the late Mrs. Th.H. Coler of Greenland Gap. They were found among the belongings of his late mother, Josephine Keplinger, at her house on David Street.

In 1901, the Press was owned and published by J. Ed Frye (editor), D.P. Hendrickson, L.J. Forman and Arch J. Welton. Local agents were listed as C.H. Vossler of Maysville, E.H. Frye of Lahmansville and Cal Ours of Hopeville. The subscription price was \$1 per year.

News on the front page included "House Cat Fights a Woman," a news item from Hampshire County, the Pan-American Exposition, along small advertisements of local doctors, lawyers, veterinarians,

hotels, department stores and the Press' job printing department.

An interesting piece on page 2 was headlined "Swine Dine."

"A farmer living in the Quantico section of Grant County, started a few days ago with a large basket of dinner, which he was taking to a party of farm hands. On the way he had occasion to leave it for a short time, while he looked after some matters about the premises, and what was his dismay on coming back to it to find it had been set upon by a bunch of hogs and consumed, and the swine not knowing the intended use for a set of knives and forks found in the basket, deliberately chewed the handles off of them."

Mr. J.W. Johnson and Miss Blanche Babb were opening a Teacher's Normal Institute in Maysville, on March 25, 1901, for a three-month session. Tuition was \$7.50 per term or \$2.50 per month. Board could be obtained "in and about Maysville" for \$6 to \$10 per month.

State normal schools (colleges) enrollment was listed for the year as Marshall 452; Shephard 116; Glenville 132; Fairmont 427; West Liberty 186; Concord 238. Morgantown University was having problems and a special committee was sent by the Legislature to investigate. The report concluded that there should be a change in the presidency.

There are also market reports, a timetable for the W.Va. Central & Pittsburgh Railroad, multiple ads for linaments and cures and all kinds of goods and services.

All the local news was of marriages, deaths, travels and business dealings in the area.

This bill requires the state's Division of Highways districts to come up with detailed maintenance plans for the roads in their districts by Dec. 1. If the districts are unable to complete 90 percent of those plans in a given year on their own, the bill requires them to hire private contractors to perform this work.

"While voters approved the road bond last year to fund major road and bridge projects, the number one complaint we continue to hear from our constituents is the poor maintenance of our existing roads – particularly the secondary and tertiary roads," said Majority Leader Amy Summers, R-Taylor, the bill's lead sponsor.

"This bill will increase accountability at the DOH, while also allowing it to contract outside help to complete the work that they're unable to get to," Summers said. "This will allow DOH workers to focus on major tasks, while also ensuring the regular needed maintenance is accomplished."

The bill now heads to the House floor for further consideration.

Also on Friday, the House of Delegates approved House Bill 2730, which provides an average 5-percent pay raise to State Police, teachers and school ser-

vise workers.

Under the bill, State Police officers will receive a \$2,370 salary increase, teachers will receive \$2,120, and service workers will receive \$1,150.

The bill affects those workers whose salaries are set by state code. All other state workers are slated to receive a 5-percent pay raise as well, but those raises do not require specific legislation. Funding for those raises will be included in the budget bill that will be passed later this session.

Finally, lawmakers are facing a key legislative deadline in the coming week.

Wednesday, Feb. 27, marks the 50th day of the legislative session – a day commonly referred to as "crossover day." Under the Legislature's Joint Rules, this is the last day for a regular bill to be passed out of the house in which it was introduced.

Because of this, committees worked late hours this past week to review and approve as many House bills as possible so they can be placed on the calendar and read three consecutive days next week, as required by the state Constitution.

The crossover day rule does not apply to the budget, salary or supplemental appropriations bills, which can still be advanced beyond day 50.

THE STATE'S NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY PRESENTS

WEST VIRGINIA PRESS INSIGHT

POLICY AND IMPACT
NOT POLITICS OR PERSONALITIES

VIDEO FEATURING COVERAGE OF THE 2019 WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE SESSION THIS WEEK:

A look at the controversial Campus Self Defense Bill and where Legislative leadership stands on its goals.

INDEPTH: WVPA Executive Director Don Smith and AARP West Virginia State Director Gaylene Miller talk about Social Security income tax and other legislation important to West Virginia seniors.

WATCH: Visit our website at www.grantcountypress.com or our facebook to view.

OR VISIT WVPRESS.ORG



What's really important in America?

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Every day we face life. What is really important?

Social Security? We pay into Social Security all of our working lives. When we reach our 60s we anticipate collecting the benefits promised to us. Some will collect income at 62 while others will not collect it until 66.2 or later. The full retirement age should be returned to 65. Millions of Americans will never collect a penny of Social Security. Imagine paying into Social Security most of your life but dying early and never collecting a cent. This happens to millions of Americans.

Medicare? We pay into Medicare most of our lives but will it be there for us when we need examinations and procedures? Or will the government make it harder for us to receive quality healthcare? Social Security

is already telling us we will receive less benefits than we were promised because there isn't enough money to pay us. Whose fault is this? The government has squandered trillions of dollars that they took from us. Who will suffer from the wasteful actions of our government? You and I.

Health? Your mortality doesn't become much of a reality until you hit about 50. At 50 you know you are a half century old! The body begins to react to how we have treated it or to problems that we may have inherited from past generations. Colon polyps start showing up, the thyroid starts acting up, blood pressure, heart, diabetes and much more becomes a daily concern.

Listen to your body. Go see your doctor and don't be passive when your doctor tells you about health issues that you should address. Stay active. Focus on more vegetables, fruit, baked or grilled chicken and fish and cut out desserts. Sounds bad but my 97-year-old friend says she focuses on

vegetables and being active and she is still doing great.

Money? Americans are working today longer than ever it seems. Many senior adults are working into their 80s to keep food on the table or pay the rent. If you think you may be working into your 70s, consider preparing yourself for a job that you can physically and mentally do late in life. Underground coal mining may not be for you when you are 75. However, working out of your home two days a week as a plumber or carpenter might be enjoyable.

A friend of mine downsized his insurance agency but still takes care of a few clients a few mornings a week from his home. Find something that you enjoy doing. If you enjoy it then it doesn't feel so much like work.

Longevity? Life is short. We are just passing through this world. Life is a gift. All in all, our most valued possessions are being at peace with our souls and our Creator, spending time with our family and friends.

Local and area obituaries

CHESTER D. SITES

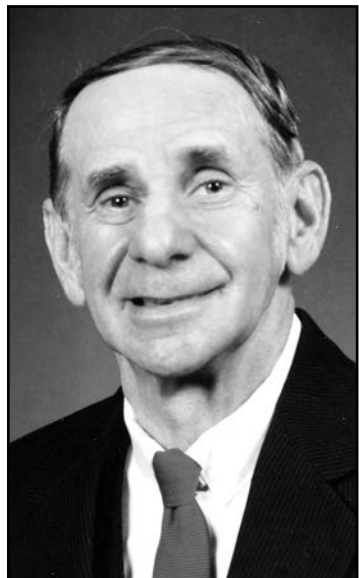
Chester Daniel Sites Sr., 83, of Petersburg, W.Va., passed away Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019, at his home.

Born Oct. 14, 1935, in Petersburg, he was the son of the late Marvin Edgar Sites and Elsie Virginia (Vance) Sites.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two infant sons, Kenneth Wayne Sites and Bruce Dwayne Sites; two brothers, Leearl Sites and Jessie Sites; one sister, Rosetta Smith; one sister-in-law, Arlena Rebecca Sites; and two brothers-in-law, LeRoy Ketterman and Johnny Smith.

Chester worked for 27 years for the West Virginia Department of Highways in the Bridge Engineer Department. He was Baptist by faith and attended the Brake Church of the Brethren where he taught Sunday School for many years and was a member of the men's fellowship. He was custodian for the church and caretaker of the Brake Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Sylvia Jean (Thorne) Sites; three sons, Chester Daniel Sites Jr. and wife Carol Mongold of Moorefield, W.Va., Dennis L. Sites and wife Janet of Kingwood, W.Va. and Anthony Earl Sites and Sheila Ann Simmons of Petersburg; nine grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; three brothers, Johnny (Janie) Sites of Petersburg, Lysle (Pat-



sy) Sites of Petersburg, and Norman (Ann) Sites of Winchester, Va.; three sisters, Carol (LeRoy) Skiles of Petersburg, Helen (George) Smith of Petersburg and Joyce Ketterman of Akron, Ohio; one sister-in-law, Ann Sites of Petersburg; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were Saturday afternoon at the Brake Church of the Brethren, Dorcas, W.Va., with the Pastor Craig A. Howard officiating. Burial was in North Mill Creek Cemetery, Dorcas.

Memorials may be made to Gideons International or American Cancer Society.

Condolences to the family may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com. (2-26-19)

CHARLES LEE MILLER

Charles Lee "Bud" Miller, 83, of Upper Tract, W.Va., passed away Sunday, Feb. 17, 2019, at his home.

Born on April 12, 1935, in Mozer, W.Va., he was the son of the late Roy Washington Miller and Lillian (Calhoun) Miller. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Lynn Westfall; and daughter-in-law, Kathy Miller.

Bud served in the U.S. Army. He was a life member of the Potomac Highlands VFW Post 6454, American Legion Post 30 in Franklin, W.Va. and member of the Disabled American Veterans. He was employed by Allied Egly for several years. He was a mechanic for Petersburg Motor Company for several years and later owned and operated Miller's Garage in Upper Tract. He was a member of Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church.

He is survived by two sons, Wilson L. Miller and wife Nancy of Upper Tract and Greg W. Miller of Jacksonville, Fla.; three grandchildren, Cody and Levi Miller and Heather Laverly; one stepgrandson, Christopher Foster; three stepgrandchildren; one great-grandson, Lane Laverly; former wife, Phyllis Miller of Petersburg; three sisters, Charlotte Miller of Upper Tract, Sue Knott of Bridgewater,



ter, Va. and Shirley Riggleson of Mt. Crawford, Va.; one brother, Roland Miller of Petersburg; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were Friday morning at the Schaeffer Funeral Home chapel, Petersburg, with the Rev. David Webb and the Rev. Stanley Kile officiating.

Burial was in Kline Cemetery, Upper Tract, with military honors by the Petersburg VFW Post 6454 and West Virginia Army Honor Guard.

Memorial donations may be made to Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church, 172 Ridge Road, Upper Tract, WV 26866.

Condolences to the family may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com. (2-26-19)

THEODORE E. "GENE" ALEXANDER

Theodore Eugene "Gene" Alexander, 74, of Petersburg, W.Va., passed away Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019, at Ruby Memorial Hospital, Morgantown, W.Va.

Born Dec. 18, 1944, in Petersburg, he was the son of the late Theodore Harrison Alexander and Anna Marie (Whetzel) Alexander Bennett. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Mary Jane Lough.

Gene retired from construction work and was a used car salesman. He owned and operated Gene's Used Auto in Petersburg. He was a member of South Mill Creek Church of the Brethren.

He is survived by his wife, Marlene (Borror) Heavener Alexander; one son, David Alexander and wife Julie of Moorefield, W.Va.; two stepsons, Bradley Heavener and wife Theda of Purgitsville, W.Va. and Eric Lee Heavener and wife Lisa of Sinks Grove, W.Va.; two daughters, Angela Dawson and husband Steve of Moorefield and Vickie Mace and husband Thurman of Moorefield; six grandchildren, Brandon Weese, Corinne Weese, Connor Fahey, Emily Fahey, Matthew Heavener and Sean Fahey; two great-granddaughters, Arayah Weese and Piper



Wariner; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were Saturday evening at the Schaeffer Funeral Home chapel, Petersburg, with Pastor John Vetter officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to West Virginia University Children's Hospital, One Medical Center Drive, Suncrest Center (Suite 350) Morgantown, WV 26505.

Condolences to the family may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com. (2-26-19)

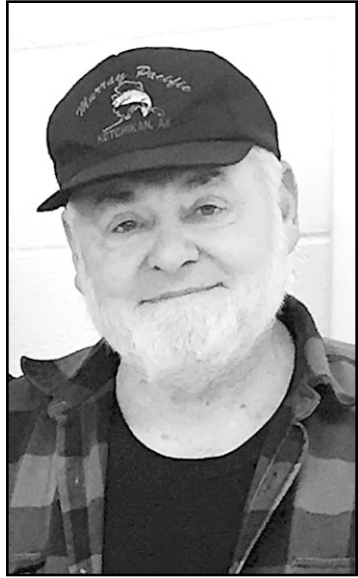
NATHAN G. HEDRICK

Nathan Gale Hedrick, age 70, of Franklin, W.Va., passed away on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, at his home.

Born on Sept. 18, 1948, in Franklin, he was the son of the late Galen Daniel and Cornelia J. (Simmons) Hedrick. On September 19, 1966, Nathan married Virginia Mae (Sites) Hedrick, who survives in Franklin.

Mr. Hedrick was a 1966 graduate of Franklin High School and member of Ruddle Presbyterian Church and he also attended Main Mountain Freewill Baptist Church in Upper Tract, W.Va. He had worked for 27 years for Allied Egly, in Petersburg, W.Va. He had also worked at ATCO and he retired in 2014 from Franklin Oil Company. Nathan was a loving and supportive husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He enjoyed hunting, gardening, riding his Kabota, and attending ballgames to support family and friends.

In addition to his wife, Nathan is survived by two daughters, Jamie Hedrick of Franklin, and Andrea Michael (Gary) of Petersburg; four grandchildren, Cassandra Smail, Randal Smail,



Ryanne Michael, and Drew Michael; and his faithful companion, "Buddy," his dog.

Funeral services were Saturday afternoon at the Basagic Funeral Home chapel, Franklin, with Pastor Glenn Sites officiating.

Memorials may be made to Franklin Volunteer Fire Company, Gideons International, or charity of choice. Memories and words of comfort may be left at www.basagic.com or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home. (2-26-19)

MURIEL MARCEIL LAYTON

Muriel Marceil (Kessel) Layton, 92, of Petersburg, W.Va., passed away Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019, at Winchester Medical Center, Winchester, Va.

Born Nov. 21, 1926, in Hardy County, W.Va., she was the daughter of the late Floyd G. Kessel and Cora (Fitzwater) Kessel. In addition to her parents, Muriel was preceded in death by her husband, Vernon E. Layton on Jan. 29, 2011; and one brother, the Rev. Wayne M. Kessel.

Mrs. Layton was valedictorian of Moorefield High School Class of 1943 and graduated from Catherman's Business School in Cumberland, Md. She later was employed by Farmers Home Administration and retired in 1982 after 36 years of service. She was an elder and trustee of the Petersburg Presbyterian Church and also served as deacon and secretary and had taught Sunday school for several years.

She is survived by two sons, Dr. Dennis Layton and wife Eva of Charlotte, N.C. and Steven Layton of Petersburg; three granddaughters, Dr. Elizabeth Depelteau of Satellite Beach, Fla., Maggie Layton of Jacksonville, Fla. and Yolanda Burney of Mooresville, N.C.; four great-grandchildren, Kylie Depelteau, Eva Dodson, Isabella Anderson and Cody Depelteau; one sister, Doris Allison of



Gainesville, Fla.; and one brother, Gene A. Kessel of Morgantown, W.Va.

Friends will be received from 6 - 8 p.m. today (Tuesday) at the Schaeffer Funeral Home, Petersburg. Funeral services will begin at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Petersburg Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Harold Tongen officiating. Burial will be in Lahmansville Cemetery, Lahmansville, W.Va.

The family suggests that memorials may be made to Petersburg Presbyterian Church, 20 North Main St., Petersburg, WV 26847 or Petersburg Volunteer Fire Company, 49 South Main St., Petersburg, WV 26847.

Condolences to the family may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com. (2-26-19)

MARSHA HILL STEPHENS

Marsha Hill Stephens, 71, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019, in Strongsville, Ohio.

She was born in Cumberland, Md. to the late Ray and Jean Dingess Hill.

Marsha was a graduate of Petersburg High School, class of 1965 and a graduate of Catherman's Business School, Cumberland. She was employed at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. for several years prior to her marriage. She was a very active member of the First Lutheran Church, Strongsville, where she served on various committees.

She is survived by her husband of 38 years, Robert Stephens; a twin brother, Edward "Eddie" Hill and wife Marcia of Marlinton, W.Va.; one nephew Brian Hill and wife Natalie and their children Braedyn and Rachael; and, one niece Chanda and husband Anthony Sciamanna and son, Luca.



Funeral services were Saturday, at the First Lutheran Church, Strongsville, with interment in the Strongsville Cemetery.

A memorial service will be held in Petersburg at a later date.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Jardine Funeral Home, Strongsville, and locally by the Schaeffer Funeral Home, Petersburg. (2-26-19)

NOLA S. (WIMER) LAMBERT

Nola Susan (Wimer) Lambert, 92 of Maysville, W.Va., passed away Thursday, Feb. 21, 2019, at Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center, Petersburg, W.Va.

Born Oct. 3, 1926, in Maysville, she was the daughter of the late Floyd Wimer and Zernie (Bible) Wimer.

In addition to her parents, Nola was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin Lambert Jr. on July 26, 2007; six brothers, Virgil Wimer, John Wimer, Harmon Wimer, Woodrow Wimer, Arthur Wimer and infant Emory Wimer; and two sisters, Mary McDonald and Dorothy Wimer. Nola was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

Nola was a loving wife, mother and grandmother and enjoyed working on the family farm. She was a homemaker for many families. She enjoyed cooking, baking, sewing and especially crocheting for her family these past years. She was a lifetime member of Potomac Highlands VFW Post 6454 Ladies Auxiliary.

She is survived by one daughter, Juanita "Slick" Haslacker and husband Steve of Maysville; two sons, David A. Lambert of Maysville and Melvin Lambert III and wife Tonya of Maysville; nine grandchildren, Zebulinne



Haslacker, Rhett Haslacker, Chad Lambert, Sandy Rivera, Ross Lambert, Nathan Lambert, Douglas Lambert, Angela Moyers and Startisha Keplinger; 15 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were Sunday afternoon at the Schaeffer Funeral Home chapel, Petersburg, with Pastor John Vetter officiating. Burial was in Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Maysville.

The family suggests that memorial donations be made to Shriners Children Hospital, 3551 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140.

Condolences to the family may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com. (2-26-19)

JEFFREY M. GOODWIN

Jeffrey M. Goodwin, 63, of Tippecanoe, Ohio, formerly of Petersburg, W.Va., passed away on Saturday, Feb. 23, following an accident while cutting trees on his property.

Born on March 27, 1955, in Morgantown, W.Va., he was the son of Judy (Davis) Dye and the late Charles Goodwin.

He loved anything outdoors, he especially enjoyed hiking, camping, and fishing. Over the years Jeff had fostered many children and had worked in groups, helping children. He was formerly employed by the Potomac Highlands Guild and worked in the day center.

He is survived by his wife, Deborah Renee (Adams), whom he married on Sept. 25, 1980; and two stepchildren, Daniel R. Vance of Canton, Ohio and Tawnya M. Vance of Florida.

In keeping with Jeff's wishes, he has been cremated without a public visitation. Those



wishing to honor his memory by a charitable contribution are encouraged to do so to a charity of choice.

All arrangements were under the direction of R.K. Lindsey Funeral Home, Dennison, Ohio. Condolences may be left on his obituary page at www.lindseyfh.com. (2-26-19)

BONNIE ANKERS

Bonnie Eloise Sayre Ankers, a resident of Bridgewater Retirement Community, passed this life on Feb. 24, 2019.

Born in Bridgewater, Va., on Aug. 6, 1924 on the Sayre family farm, she was the daughter of the late Jonas Earle and Nora Miller Sayre of Waynesboro, Va. On Oct. 15, 1955, she married Mahlon Fleming "Buck" Ankers, who preceded her in death on April 25, 2004.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded by her father and mother-in-law, Mahlon Austin and Mary Louisa Fleming Ankers; four brothers-in-law, Marvin Rowe, Temi Vakil, David Singley, and Floyd Mitchell; three sisters-in-law, Mary Ellen Singley, Gaynell Sayre, and Alice Mitchell; and one brother, Rev. John E. Sayre.

She is survived by three sons, Austin Earl Ankers and wife, Trudy, and Robert John Ankers and wife, Betsy, of the Greensburg community, Martinsburg, W.Va., and Philip Arthur Ankers and wife, Joan, of Petersburg, W.Va.; four grandsons, Mark Ankers and Andrew Ankers and girlfriend, Brittany, of Martinsburg, W.Va., Donny Ankers and wife, Lorie, of Bristol, Tenn., and James Ankers and wife, Megan, of Willow Grove, Pa.; granddaughter, Sarah Ankers of Petersburg; one stepgranddaughter, Cora Lentz of Martinsburg; great-grandsons, Nicholas, Zachary and Keith Ankers; great-granddaughter, Sophia Ankers; sisters, Betty Rowe of Stuarts Draft, Va., and Louise Vakil of Bridgewater; one sister-in-law, Austin Blanche Miller and husband, George, of Columbus, Ohio; and numerous nephews, nieces and cousins.

She was a graduate of Waynesboro High School, class of 1941, and attended Bethany College in Chicago and later

graduated from Bridgewater College, class of 1953, with a degree in home economics. She worked for Wright's Grocery and Crompton in Waynesboro, Va., and after college she was a Virginia extension agent in Madison, Loudoun and Clarke counties, and later was a part-time extension agent in West Virginia. She was active in volunteer work in the Fairview Homemakers Club, the Rescue Mission Aux, United Methodist Women, and was an assistant 4-H Club leader.

After Bonnie and Buck married, they operated the family dairy farm, "The Ankerage", in Loudoun County, Va. In 1963 they bought a farm near Martinsburg, which they also named "The Ankerage." They farmed for 50 plus years and became an active part of the Greensburg community. Bonnie was an active member of Greensburg United Methodist Church.

Per Bonnie's request, her body has been donated to the West Virginia Human Gift Registry.

A celebration of life in her memory will be held at Lantz Chapel in Bridgewater Retirement Community at 6 p.m. on Feb. 28. There will also be a memorial service at her beloved church, Greensburg United Methodist, at 11 a.m. on March 2. The family will receive friend's one hour prior to services.

Memorials may be given to Greensburg United Methodist Church, 2171 Greensburg Rd, Martinsburg, WV 25404, Bridgewater Retirement Community Harmony House, 302 N. Second St, Bridgewater, VA 22812, or a charity of giver's choice.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.johnsonfs.com. (2-26-19)

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Senate

Continued from front

There has also been concerns expressed over the possibility of online scams that send false emails claiming to be from the county's tax office and demanding money.

Similar phone and internet

scams have recently been a growing concern in the area due to more vulnerable populations. The Grant County Sheriff's Department released statements advising citizens to be cautious when giving

out any personal information through online or phone calls.

In their most recent release, they highlighted that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) does not use electronic communications or phone calls to

request money and will contact citizens via mail.

Both the local tax department and the development authority have expressed concerns that the move to require important communications

be forced online could pose unique challenges in rural and internet-restricted areas, such as Grant County.

Jail

Continued from front

West Virginia State Police of the Moorefield/Petersburg Detachment.

Michael Delmar Mallow, the home incarcerate, was then placed into custody.

DUI

Continued from front

substance and a smoking device located in his front left pants pocket.

He placed the items in evidence and Moyers was transported to the Grant County Annex facing charges of driving under the influence, driving on a revoked license and possession of a controlled substance.

Strike

Continued from front

ment of funds, already earmarked for public schools, being diverted to privately run charter schools, online classes and homeschooling.

The union cited an increased possibility of layoffs if funding were diverted from the state's already-tight budget for education.

"I regret that circumstances have led to the announcement of work stoppages in

many counties throughout the state," said Steven Paine, West Virginia Superintendent of Schools. "Though this is an uncertain and emotional time, we cannot forget that the best interest of students must be our top priority."

Overall, the strike lasted two days, with only one county school system, Putnam County, remaining open.

The bill was ultimately postponed indefinitely and teachers returned to work on Thursday.

of ammunition were located in the residence. One rifle was confirmed as stolen and is being investigated by the

der the influence of alcohol and driving on a revoked license.

At this point, Rohrbaugh began to search the defendant for weapons. During the search, he found a controlled



HONK IF YOU SUPPORT TEACHERS - On Feb. 19, teachers in Grant County participated in the statewide teacher's strike. During the work stoppage, teachers in Petersburg held signs near Judy's Drug Store expressing their concerns and calling for community involvement.



Sites in Hardy, Hampshire, Mineral and Pendleton counties awarded tree beautification project funding

Cacapon Institute has awarded 19 organizations with tree kits to plant on public sites across the Potomac Headwaters of West Virginia.

Of these locations, three are in Hardy County, two are in Mineral County, one in Pendleton County and two in Hampshire County.

No locations were awarded in Grant County.

In the past, the institute has assisted and hosted tree planting program in Grant County, including a recent project at Grant Memorial Hospital in Petersburg.

In total, the institute will be investing nearly \$60,000 into the 19 requests in the form of trees, materials, and technical assistance.

For more information on

the Cacapon Institute and to view a map of all those plant-

ings, visit the Forestry tab at www.CacaponInstitute.org.

Group Name	Site Name	Community	County	# Trees
Berkeley County PSSD	Administrative Office	Martinsburg	Berkeley	24
Blue Ridge CTC Rotaract	Orchard View Intermediate School	Martinsburg	Berkeley	16
Mountain Ridge Middle School	Mountain Ridge Middle School	Gerrardstown	Berkeley	24
Spring Mills High School	Spring Mills High School	Spring Mills	Berkeley	16
John J. Cornwell Elementary School	John J. Cornwell Elementary School	Levels	Hampshire	16
Town of Romney	Celebration Park	Romney	Hampshire	16
Eastern WV Community Technical College	Eastern WV Community Technical College	Moorefield	Hardy	16
Hardy County Extension Service	Moorefield Office	Moorefield	Hardy	16
Wardensville Garden Market	Wardensville Garden Market	Wardensville	Hardy	100
City of Ranson	N Preston St	Ranson	Jefferson	24
Deerfield Village HOA	Deerfield Village Subdivision	Shepherdstown	Jefferson	16
National Humane Education Society	Briggs Animal Adoption Center	Charles Town	Jefferson	16
Quail Ridge HOA	Quail Ridge Subdivision	Kearneysville	Jefferson	16
Shepherd University Tri-Beta	Shepherd University	Shepherdstown	Jefferson	16
Washington High School	South Jefferson Elementary School	Summit Point	Jefferson	16
Careers in Education	Keyser High School	Keyser	Mineral	24
Potomac State College	Potomac State College	Keyser	Mineral	16
Warm Springs Watershed Association	Berkeley Springs High School	Berkeley Springs	Morgan	24
Pendleton County Extension Service	Thorn Spring Park	Franklin	Pendleton	16

Hampshire County man charged with attempted murder following shooting

The Hampshire County Sheriff's Office released information surrounding an arrest of a Springfield man charged attempted murder after he allegedly shot a woman.

According to the report, Paul David Puffinburger II, age 48, of Springfield has been charged and arrested for attempted murder stemming from a shooting incident on Green Ridge Drive on Feb. 13.

Puffinburger is charged with shooting Diana Hovatter multiple times.

The department explained that Hovatter had gunshot wounds to numerous areas of her body and had told first

responding deputies the gunshots were self-inflicted; however the evidence at the scene did not support the gunshots being self-inflicted.

Over the weekend, the Hampshire Sheriff's Office investigators learned the incident of Hovatter being shot was recorded on Hovatter's cell phone.

"You can hear in the recording Puffinburger threatening to shoot Ms. Hovatter and then the multiple gun shots are heard," said the Hampshire Sheriff's Office. "You can then hear Ms. Hovatter pleading for Puffinburger to call for help."

The report claims Puffin-

burger refused to call for help until Hovatter agreed to tell first responders that she had shot herself. Puffinburger waited over seven minutes before calling 911 for help.

Hovatter remains hospitalized in critical but stable condition.

Puffinburger was arrested by deputies on Feb. 14 and charged with felony possession of marijuana. Sheriff's office criminal investigators are continuing to investigate and piece together facts of this case. Puffinburger is incarcerated at Potomac Highlands Regional Jail.

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CWU names Darlene Michael as "Valiant Woman 2019"

Church Women United in Petersburg named Darlene Michael "Valiant Woman 2019." The award is given to a woman who has given of herself to the Christian faith and to the goals and purposes of CWU.

The profiles and photos of valiant women are a part of the permanent files of CWU in their national office in New York City. The award is presented with special congratulations from the national staff of CWU.

"Recognizing that Christian women among us have been called by God to accept the roles of leadership and challenges of ministry, Michael lives the gospel message," states CWU president Ellen Kirby.

Michael is active in the Grace Lutheran Church where she assists the minister and is president of the Lutheran Women. She volunteers with knotting quilts at church. She represents the Lutheran women in Church Women United.

Michael volunteers with Hos-

pike, Grant County Maple Syrup Festival, Spring Mountain Festival, Tri-County Fair, Fort Mulligan Day, Landes Arts Center and the Peru Community Associates.

She is president of the Dorcas Community Educational Outreach Service (CEOS).

Michael is an expert at crocheting, knitting, tatting and gardening. She has won innumerable ribbons at the fair for her baking and gardening exhibits.

A graduate of Romney High School, while in Romney she worked as site manager for senior meals with the Committee on Aging, as janitor at the Lutheran Church and house worker and caregiver.

She has been married to Arlie Michael for 50 years. They live near Petersburg on a mountain farm where they raise sheep and cows.

The CWU certificate and pin will be presented to Michael at the World Day of Prayer celebration March 1. Kirby will make the presentation to be held



Darlene Michael

at the Main Street United Methodist Church at noon.

Everyone is welcome to attend and a donation of \$3 is requested for the meal. The program theme is "Come, Everything is Ready" with scripture Luke 14:15-24.

**Delores Alt
Reporter**



Lenten lunch schedule

Lenten lunches will be conducted at the Petersburg Presbyterian Church weekly, at noon, with a cost set at \$3.

March 6 - Ash Wednesday, hosted by Grove Street United Methodist Church, assisted by Hedrick Chapel. Speaker: Pastor Yvonne Black from Petersburg Church of God.

March 13 - Petersburg Presbyterian Church, assisted by Pendleton/Grant United Methodist Charge. Speaker: Pastor Roger Harrison, retired.

March 20 - Main Street United Methodist Church assisted by Sites Chapel. Speaker: Pastor Larry Hakes, Grove Street United Methodist.

March 27 - South Branch Methodist Charge. Speaker: Pastor Bobby Brown, Hillside Chapel.

April 3 - First Baptist Church of Petersburg assisted by Dorcas Baptist. Speaker: Pastor Craig Howard, Brake Church of the Brethren.

April 10 - St. Mary's Catholic Church, assisted by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

April 17 - Grace Lutheran assisted by Brake Church of the Brethren.

Memorials

PHS Scholarship Fund, Inc.
In memory of **Kathryn Morrison** by Ed and Jane Keeling, and Elaine Soltzberg.

In memory of **Olin Hawk** by Ed and Jane Keeling.

In memory of **Polly Alt** by Ed and Jane Keeling.

**VFW Post 6454
Scholarship Fund**

In memory of **Raymond Kile** by PHS Class of 1977.

Blue crayfish found in area

In our Feb. 5 edition of the Press, we ran an article about a blue crayfish, a new species, which was named after West Liberty University professor Dr. Zachary Loughman.

This photo was brought in by Vicki Ayers, who took the picture in 1998 when she and her husband, Emory, were visiting the Spruce Knob Lake area in Pendleton County, and came upon the crayfish in a small stream.

The Ayers live in Cabins and are readers of the Press.



Dominion Energy makes changes to services fees upon application

Dominion Energy West Virginia (DEWV) recently announced that it has filed a request with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia to modify its reconnection charge in certain circumstances.

DEWV is proposing a change to its reconnection charge from \$30 to \$60 in circumstances where customers have paid all

applicable charges after having been turned off for non-payment and choose to have service reconnected within eight hours of the request. This filing makes changes consistent with the revised Rules for the Government of Gas Utilities and Gas Pipeline Safety adopted by the Public Service Commission on June 11, 2018.

Anyone desiring to protest or intervene should file in written form prior to April 3. Correspondence should be mailed to The Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. Public input may also be filed online at www.psc.state.wv.us.

Grant Memorial Hospital Welcomes Dr. Theresa Rutledge to their General Surgery staff

Rutledge specializes in general surgery, endoscopy and advanced laparoscopic procedures. She is the daughter of Dr. Richard L. Snider, who practiced general and vascular surgery in Cumberland for 25 years.



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Stacia DeMoss, Au.D., CCC-A
Jason Kaposy - BS, BC-HIS, Owner

www.heritagehearingwv.com

UNION TIGERS Senior Night



TIGERS - UHS basketball seniors recognized last week were: Colton Reed, Ethan Broadwater, Blaine Sisler, Logan Kuhn and Charles Kelley. The players and their families were honored at Union Educational Complex last week.

photos courtesy of tina skeweris judy


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Three Vikings bring home medals from the West Virginia State Wrestling Tournament

 The Vikings traveled home last week with three new state place holders following the West Virginia State Wrestling Tournament in Huntington. Overall, five Vikings finished in the top eight of the event. Senior Alec Burgess stood tall on the final podium after picking up a third place medal in his weight class. The Vikings' other senior wrestler at the event, Doug Morral, also picked up a big win, bringing

home fifth place while freshman Thomas Ours also picked up a fifth place podium position. Ethan VanMeter and Eli Nazelrodt both finished in the top eight and Jacob Landes also continued to prove himself to be a strong wrestler, losing a tough match to a Nicholas County wrestler and falling just barely out of the top eight bracket. Overall, the team finished in ninth place as a group.

Coach Tony Weatherholt

said the team put in an impressive showing and pointed to his pride in the two graduating seniors.

"Our two seniors will be missed as leaders and mentors to the PHS wrestling program," Weatherholt said.

Weatherholt said the team was grateful for all the support throughout the year from the families, friends and community members that put in their time and efforts to make the 2018-19 wrestling season a success for PHS.



IN THE WINNER'S CIRCLE - Viking wrestling coach Tony Weatherholt, senior Alec Burgess, freshman Thomas Ours, senior Doug Morral and assistant coach Chad Vance.



LOCAL TALENT - Petersburg High School athlete Casey Watts signed earlier this season to continue her volleyball career at West Virginia Wesleyan College. Joining Watts at her signing day were PHS athletic director Kevin Board, former volleyball head coach Shannon Earle, current head coach Olivia Gaither, PHS principal Avery, former, her mother, Paula Watts and her father, Joey Watts. Watts is a senior at PHS and were among the students honored during PHS' recent Vikings girls' senior night.

Viking Casey Watts



Lady Vikings face off against Frankfort Falcons in Sectional Championship

See page, 2B





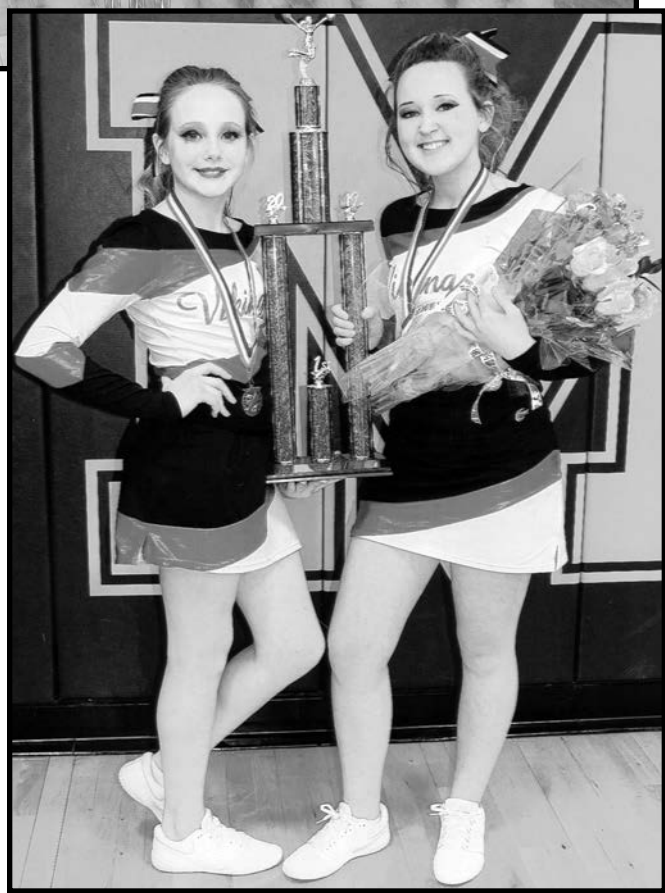
The Young Lady Vikings cheer Squad were named PVL Cheer Competition Champions for the 2018-19 season.

The competition was held on Feb. 9 at Moorefield High School. Seven middle school teams competed for the title.

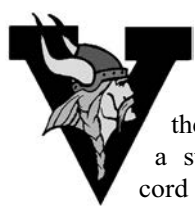
Team members were: Ariana Coakley, Molly Kuykendall, Katie Green, Drema Carr, Sophia Smith, Lexi Keplinger, McKenzie Oates, Jenna Burgess, Rylan VanMeter, Bree Hinkle, Marley Kesner, Kelsey Clark, Brianna Keplinger, Mady Evans and Makyiah Shirk.

Two Viking cheerleaders, VanMeter, daughter of J.R. and Alicia VanMeter, and Oates, daughter of Tony and Felisha Oates, were named 2019 PVL Cheerleaders.

The team is coached by Alicia VanMeter.



Lady Vikings fall to the Falcons in sectionals



The Lady Vikings are closing out their season with a strong, 15-9 record and a sectional win over the Keyser High School Golden Tornadoes.

The Vikings beat the Golden Tornadoes 61-52 on Feb. 21, qualifying them to compete in the sectional championship against the Frankfort High School Falcons.

The early sectional match-up against the Golden Tornadoes was a positive start to end season play. The Vikings had a season track-record of picking up wins over the Keyser team, already beating them 62-52 and 53-48 earlier in the season.

However, as the team moved into the sectional championship, the Vikings faced a much tougher opponent in the Frankfort Falcons.

The Falcons have a 19-4 season, losing only to Morgantown, North Marion, Bridgeport Senior and Fairmont Senior.

The Vikings had faced off against the Falcons already twice in the season, both times beating out PHS 74-41 and 60-25.

In the sectional championships, the team faced off against the Frankfort High School Falcons.

The team struggled against the Falcons, ultimately falling 73-34.

Beginning in the opening quarter, FHS maintained a secure lead over the Vikings. The first quarter ended 20-8, with a majority of the Falcons points coming from offensive player Abby Beeman.

The game moved into half-time with a score of 38-15 and ultimately entered the final quarter at 64-24.

Overall, Beeman picked up 27 points for the Falcons.

Top Viking scorers during the championship game were: Kayla Lantz with 15 points, Reece Hedrick with six points, Mickala Taylor with five points, Carley Turner with four points and Hannah Moyers and MacKenzie Kitzmiller with two points each.

The season was positive one for the Viking team, who faced a rough start at the season opening, picking up three back-to-back losses during the Hampshire Tip-Off Tournament and in their game against Elkins.

However, the team quickly turned things around, picking up wins against Keyser, Union, Pendleton, Berkeley Springs, Philip Barbour, East Hardy, Grafton and Moorefield.

The Falcons will now enter the regional finals tomorrow.



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Grant County Little League Basketball Tournament results



Goldizen's Electric - B-String Champions



Mike's Auto - Boys B-String Tournament Champions



Michael's Apartments - B-String Tournament Runners-Up

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Glenfield Farm
Thomas G. Simmons
304.358.7625 (home)
304.668.0647 (cell)
glenfieldfarm@gmail.com



Little league results continued.....



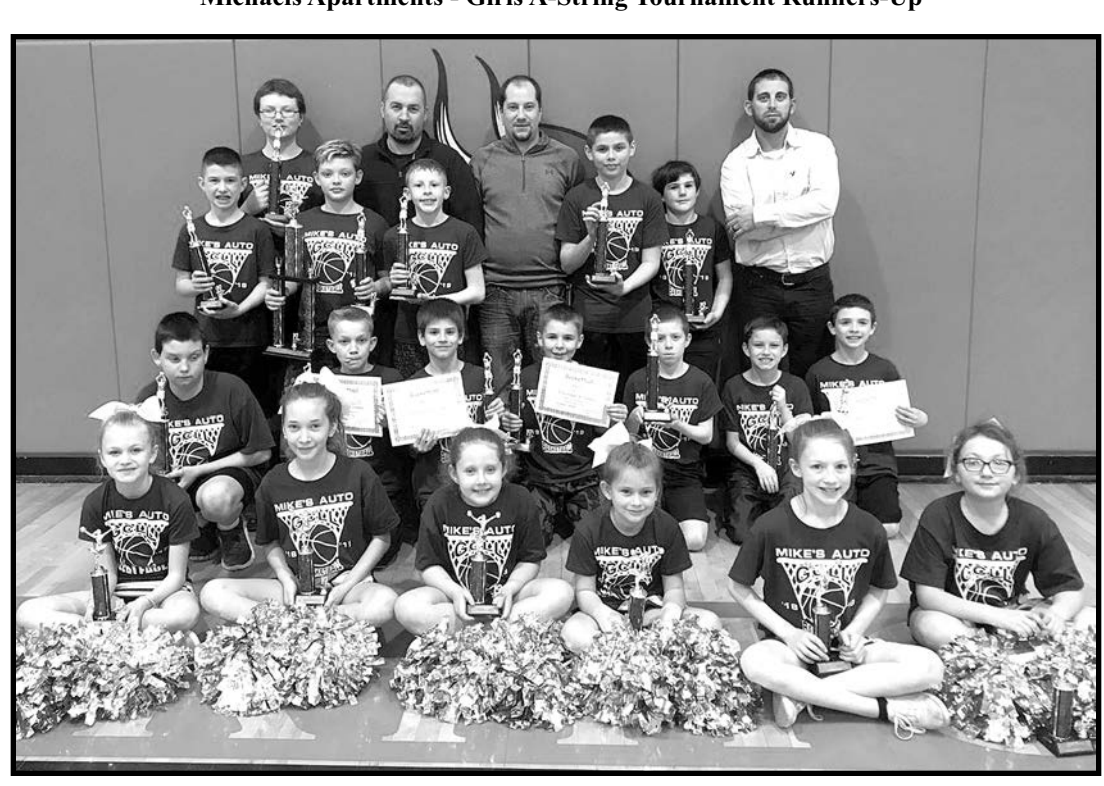
Fairfax - Boys B-String Tournament Runners-Up



Goldizen's Electric - Girls A-String Tournament Champions



Michaels Apartments - Girls A-String Tournament Runners-Up



Mike's Auto - Boys A-String Tournament Champions



Cookmans Insurance - Boys A-String Tournament Runners-Up

Three Union students named All-PVC basketball players

All-PVC Division 1A Small School Girls' Basketball Team:
 Sheridan Bonner (10) - Harman
 Jaymen Dudley (11) - Harman
 Bridgette Knapp (9) - Union
 Courtney Moreland (12) - Paw Paw
 Natalie Teeter (11) - Harman

All-PVC Division 1A Large School Girls' Basketball Team:
 Riley Evans (12) - Tucker Co.
 Lexi Gilhuys (9) - Moorefield
 Claire Heavner (12) - Pendleton Co.
 Terra Kuhn (11) - Tucker Co.
 Madison McGregor (11) - Moorefield
 McKinley Murphy (12) - Tucker Co.
 Lindsey Rinker (11) - Moorefield
 Katelyn Scott (11) - Pendleton Co.

All-PVC Division 1A Boys' Large School Basketball Team:
 Corrick Ambrose - Tucker Co.
 Jeff Snyder - Tucker County
 Aiden Funkhouser - East Hardy
 Cole Swanson - East Hardy
 Tim Thorne - Pendleton County
 Marcus Sites - Pendleton County
 Thomas Williams - Moorefield
 Chase Vance - Moorefield

Player of the Year - Marcus Sites, Pendleton County

Congratulations to the All-PVC Division 1A Boys' Small School Basketball Team:
 Brayden Huffman - Harman
 Michael Lambert - Harman
 Clayton Knotts - Harman
 Colton Reed - Union
 Devin Gaither - Union
 Dylan Moreland - Paw Paw
 Coby Ridgeway - Paw Paw
 Nick Hiatt - Paw Paw

Player of the Year - Brayden Huffman, Harman

WVTA to host spring fur auction

The West Virginia Trappers Association will hold their annual spring fur auction and rendezvous on March 1-3, at the Gilmer County Recreation Center, 1365 Sycamore Run Road, Glenville.

Vendors will be present throughout the weekend. Consignment for finished fur begins at 9 a.m., Friday, March 1, through Saturday, March 2, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Raw fur will be consigned Sunday, March 3, from 9-11 a.m. Fur auction begins Sunday, March 3 at 1 p.m. Board of directors meeting will be Friday evening, March 1 at 7 p.m.

The West Virginia Muzzle-loaders Association will have their spring shooting matches at the shooting range that weekend. Their board of directors meeting will be Saturday evening.

All events are open to the public, and free of charge. For additional information, call Briana Frederick 304-997-1863 or log onto www.wvtrappers.com

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 Cassi Davis
 PG-13

THE LEGO MOVIE 2
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HAPPY DEATH DAY
 Jessica Roth
 Ruby Modine
 PG-13

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 3
 DAILY 12:15 • 3:15 • 6:15 • 8:45 PG

FIGHTING WITH MY FAMILY
 Dwayne Johnson
 PG-13

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 Rebel Wilson
 Liam Hemsworth
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 FOR ONLY \$10 PER PERSON
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 SATURDAY..... UNLIMITED BOWLING FOR \$8 PER PERSON.
 COSMIC BOWLING 8:30-11:30 P.M. FOR ONLY \$10 PER PERSON
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- RN**, full-time, night shift, Emergency Room. Prior ER/SCU experience preferred. Current WV RN license required. ACLS, PALS and TNCC certification recommended. Must be capable of multitasking and have critical thinking skills. Apply by 3/4/19.
- RN**, full-time, night shift, Special Care Unit. Current WV RN license required. ACLS, PALS and TNCC certification recommended. SCU/ ER experience preferred. Must be capable of multitasking and have critical thinking skills. Apply by 3/4/19.

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EOE

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HEALTHY SATURDAY - The first Saturday of the month, from 7 - 9 a.m. in the Administration Hallway.

CPR CLASSES: Every first Thursday, RHI training room, 8 a.m.

GMH Gift Shop: MON/TUES/THURS - 10 to 2.

GMH BOARD MEETINGS are the fourth Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the board room at GMH.

Celebrating the 100th and 101st days of school



Brothers Jayce and Sam Kessel dressed "old school" on the 100th day of school. Faculty and students also dressed for the 101st day of school with a "101 Dalmatians" theme to celebrate.



Donna Scott, Michelle Whiteman and Michaela Alt



Elise Alt and Elianna Alt dress up for the 101st day of school.

Potomac State now offering electronic transcripts

West Virginia University Potomac State College is now offering an enhancement regarding their transcript services. Official, secure e-transcripts are now available to current students and alumni.

The WVU Potomac State Office of Enrollment Services is now live with transcript services from Credentials Solutions. Online ordering and electronic delivery offer current students and alumni quicker service from wherever they are located.

This enhancement will expedite transcript ordering and fulfillment processes without sacrificing the level of expected service.

Online ordering dramatically decreases processing time making electronic delivery capabilities virtually instantaneous.

The secure e-transcript option is only available to students with dates of attendance beginning with fall 2005. Students and alumni may still request to pick up transcripts in the enrollment services office or have them mailed.

For directions on requesting an official and secure e-transcript, visit go.wvu.edu/psctranscripts. If you have any questions, please contact enrollment services at 304-788-6820 or PSC-records@mail.wvu.edu.

Weather casualty



High winds in the area over the weekend brought trees and limbs down, tore shingles off and also knocked down the sign of Alexander Business Consulting Services on North Main Street.

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Grant Memorial Hospital is under Flu Restrictions until further notice

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Infection Control Officer

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TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee will, by virtue of authority vested in him by that certain Trust Deed dated August 11, 2012, by and between CALEB C. KESSEL to Mark H. Wright or Bradford Ritchie, Trustees, securing SUMMIT COMMUNITY BANK, in the payment of a certain Promissory Note, said Note now in default, and said Trust Deed of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Court of Grant County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 246 at page 593, on

Friday, March 8, 2019 beginning at 11:30 AM, of that day at the parking level entrance of the Grant County Courthouse, Petersburg, West Virginia, offer for sale at Public Auction to the highest bidder the following described real estate:

All that certain tract or parcel of real estate, situate, lying and being in Union District, Grant County, West Virginia, carried on the Land Books of Grant County as a portion of Map No. 287, Parcel 4, containing 4.05 acres. A plat of real estate and a complete metes and bounds

description is of record in the Grant County Clerk's Office in Deed Book 261 Page 669 for a full and complete description of the real estate.

And being the same tract or parcel of real estate conveyed unto Caleb C. Kessel by deed from Robert T. Kessel, Jr. and Francis H. Kessel, dated June 20, 2012, and of record in the Grant County Clerk's Office in Deed Book 261, Page 667. Reference is hereby made to said deed for any and all pertinent purposes.

Reference is hereby made to all instruments in the chain of title for any and all pertinent purposes. The subject property will be sold in "AS IS" condition. The Substitute Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

Said Substitute Trustee was duly appointed by instrument dated January 31, 2019 and of record in the Grant County Clerk's Office in Trust Deed Book 287 at page 81.

FEDERAL TAX LIEN: In the event that there are Federal Tax Liens against the property, the United States would have the right to redeem the property within

a period of 120 days from the date of such sale or the period allowable for redemption under local law, whichever is longer.

Pursuant to the Deed of Trust, the Trustee may postpone the sale by public announcement at the time and place designated or by posting a notice of the same, and act by agent in the execution of the sale. The parties secured by the Deed of Trust reserve the right to purchase the property at such sale.

TERMS OF SALE \$5,000.00 on day of sale and balance upon closing, not to exceed thirty days. Announcements made at sale take precedence over any written notice or advertisement.

Persons interested in the property may contact Tina L. Martin, Summit Community Bank, (304) 530-0522, or James Paul Geary II, 104 N. Main Street, Petersburg, West Virginia 26847, (304) 257-4155.

JAMES PAUL GEARY II SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE P. O. BOX 218 PETERSBURG, WV 26847 (304) 257-4155

2/19-3/5

PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA Department of Environmental Protection Division of Water and Waste Management 601 57th Street SE Charleston, WV 25304 Telephone: (304) 926-0495 Fax: (304) 926-0463

GENERAL WV/NPDES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT STORMWATER ASSOCIATED WITH INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES WV/NPDES PERMIT NO. WV0114157

The State of West Virginia, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water and Waste Management is proposing to reissue the West Virginia National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Water Pollution Control Permit for Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activities. The General Permit will authorize discharges to waters of the state from various industrial activities as defined in the General permit. It is proposed that this General Permit be issued for a five (5) year term.

The draft permit includes the following changes that have been made to the General Permit. All facilities covered under this General Permit are subject to public notice requirements the first time they apply. Clarification required of where all stormwater samples must be collected. Another change is the removal of all the allowable non-stormwater discharges from the permit. Stormwater is only allowed to be discharged from sites covered under this permit. Establishes a new requirement for a qualified person to prepare a sites Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan. Establishes a procedure to allow a permittee to close out an existing general permit registration when the site is no longer in operation.

The Director of the Division of Water and Waste Management retains authority to require any owner/operator to apply for and obtain an individual WV/NPDES Permit. This authority will be exercised when the Director determines that such individual permit will better protect the receiving water.

The Draft Permit and Fact Sheet may be inspected by appointment between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday from February 25, 2019 - March 29, 2019 at the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water and Waste Management, Public Information Office, 601 57th Street SE, Charleston, WV 25304. Copies of the documents may be obtained from the Division at a nominal cost.

Hearing impaired individuals having access to a Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) may contact our agency by calling (304) 926-0489. Calls must be made between 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The draft general permit and fact sheet will also be available for viewing on the DEP website at www.dep.wv.gov.

Any interested persons may submit written comments on the Draft Permit. Comments will be accepted until March 29, 2019. They should be addressed to:

Director Division of Water and Waste Management 601 57th Street SE Charleston, WV 25304 Attention: Sharon Mullins Phone: (304) 926-0499, Extension 1132 Fax: (304) 926-0463 E-mail: Sharon.A.Mullins@wv.gov

All comments received within this period will be considered prior to acting on the Draft Permit. Correspondence should include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer and a concise statement of the nature of the issues being raised. The Director may hold a public hearing whenever a finding is made, based on requests, that there is a significant degree of public interest on issues relevant to the draft General Permit.

Interested persons may contact Sharon Mullins (Sharon.A.Mullins@wv.gov) 304.926.0499 Ext 1132) to obtain further information.

State of West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection Division of Water and Waste Management PUBLIC NOTICE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE, 601 57TH STREET SE, CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25304-2345 TELEPHONE: (304) 926-0440

APPLICATION FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE GENERAL WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT NO. WV0115924 Public Notice No.: SM-13-2019 Public Notice Date: February 26, 2019 Paper: Grant County Press

The following has applied for coverage under the General WV/ NPDES Water Pollution Control Permit No. WV0115924 for this facility or activity:

Appl. No.: WVR110162
Applicant: DOMINION VIRGINIA ELECTRIC & POWER CO 5000 DOMINION BLVD GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

Location: MAYSVILLE, GRANT COUNTY

Latitude: 39:12:11
Longitude: 79:16:18

Receiving Stream: Stony River/North Branch Potomac/Potomac River

Activity: Construction Stormwater activity over 100 acres and exceeding 1 year

Business conducted: Industrial

Implementation: N/A

On the basis of review of the application the "Water Pollution Control Act (Chapter 22, Article 11-8(a)), and the "West Virginia Legislative Rules," the State of West Virginia will act on the above application.

Any interested person may submit written comments on the site registration permit application and may request a public hearing by addressing such to the Director of the Division of Water and Waste Management within 30 days of the date of the public notice. Such comments or requests should be addressed to:

Director, Division of Water and Management, DEP ATTN: Sharon Mullins, Permitting Section 601 57th Street SE Charleston, WV 25304-2345

The public comment period begins February 26, 2019 and ends March 28, 2019. Comments received within this period will be considered prior to acting on the permit application. Correspondence should include the name, address and the telephone number of the writer and a concise statement of the nature of the issues raised. The Director shall hold a public hearing whenever a finding is made, on the basis of requests, that there is a significant degree of public interest on issues relevant to the site registration permit application and this facility's coverage under the General Permit. Interested persons may contact the Public Information Office to obtain further information.

The application may be inspected, by appointment, at the Division of Water and Waste Management Public Information Office, at 601 57th Street SE, Charleston, WV, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on business days. Copies of the application and the General Permit and Fact Sheet may be obtained from the Division at a nominal cost. Individuals requiring Telecommunication Device (TDD) may contact our agency by calling (304) 926-0493. Calls must be made 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

PHG announces vivitrol clinics in Hampshire and Hardy counties

Potomac Highlands Guild, Inc. (PHG) is announcing the addition of Vivitrol clinics in the Hampshire and Hardy county offices.

Lena Yeater, PHG's physician assistant of over a year, administers the Vivitrol injections in the clinical setting as part of a treatment program that involves therapy, recovery coaching, and monthly visits to the clinic to monitor progress and help individuals remain free of their dependence on opiate drugs and alcohol.

Vivitrol, also known as Naltrexone, is a once a month (every four weeks) injection that blocks the effects of opioids and decreases alcohol dependence. It blocks the "high" and reduces the urge, or cravings, for more. Moreover, Vivitrol has the ability to protect an individual from opioid overdose, by blocking

the opioid receptors.

With the drug epidemic on the rise, PHG wants to be part of the solution. Vivitrol is not a cure for drug addiction or alcoholism, but a stepping stone to recovery.

Please contact your local PHG office to get more information or to set up an appointment to see if you qualify to start treatment.

PHG's professional staff are waiting to help individuals gain their independence and get their life back.

Grant County office 304-257-1155; Hardy County office 304- 538-2302; Pendleton County office 304-358-2351; Hampshire County office 304-822-3897; and Mineral County office 304-788-2241.

PHG plans to expand the Vivitrol clinics into the other county offices at a later date.

W.Va.'s innovative breakfast programs continue to lead the nation

The Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) announced that for the fifth year in a row, West Virginia is the top performing state in the nation for school breakfast participation. According to the Center's School Breakfast Scorecard, the state is ranked number one in participation of low-income students in the national School Breakfast Program.

In West Virginia last year, 83.7 low income students participated in school breakfasts for every 100 that participated in school lunch making it one of only two states that ranked above the national average and FRAC goal.

The West Virginia Department of Education's (WVDE) Child Nutrition Program supports counties' Grab-N-Go Breakfast, Breakfast in the Classroom and Breakfast After First Period programs to meet the needs of their students. The WVDE continues to explore avenues to address childhood nutrition through policy and practice.

"We know that hungry children cannot learn and when we meet the nutritional needs of our students, student achievement increases and classroom disruptions decrease," said West Virginia Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Steven Paine. "I am proud of the work our schools do every day to meet the needs of their students."

On the average school day

AG Morrisey finalizes \$300K settlement with Fiat Chrysler

West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey has finalized a \$302,500 settlement with Fiat Chrysler as part of a broader multistate settlement with the auto manufacturer.

Morrisey alleged Fiat Chrysler, including its subsidiaries FCA US, LLC, VM Motori S.P.A. and VM North America, unlawfully installed software to defeat emissions tests in model year 2014 - 2016 Jeep Grand Cherokee and Ram 1500 diesel vehicles sold in West Virginia and other states.

"This settlement highlights the importance of regulatory compliance," Morrisey said. "No company is above the law. This settlement proves that noncompliance will be brought to light and dealt with accordingly."

Attorneys general from multiple states found that Fiat Chrysler cheated federal and state emissions tests by calibrating the vehicles' software to conceal levels of emitted nitrogen oxides and misled consumers by marketing the vehicles as environmentally friendly, "Eco-Diesel" vehicles.

Nationwide, the multistate agreement will result in Fiat Chrysler paying \$72.5 million to 49 states, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia and Guam.

The settlement also requires Fiat Chrysler to fix the falsely marketed diesel vehicles, provide consumer restitution and address environmental harm from nitrous oxide emissions.

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2006 FORD F-450 SUPERCAB FLATBED 4X4, V-10, auto., loaded, white, 188K miles, Texas truck.....	\$8,995
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2013 SPARTAN GLADIATOR FIRE TRUCK, Drive home, clear title, red, 41K miles.....	\$69,500
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2012 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED 4X4, Runs & drives, silver, 44K miles.....	\$9,500
2012 FORD ESCAPE LIMITED AWD, Runs & drives, silver, 133K miles.....	\$3,900
2011 FORD F-250 SUPERCAB L/BED 4X4, Runs & drives, clear title, orange, 249K miles.....	\$6,900
2010 NISSAN FRONTIER EX, CAB 4X4, Runs & drives, black, 81K miles.....	\$9,500
2010 FORD RANGER S/CAB 4-DR 4X2, Runs & drives, 72K miles.....	\$5,900
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SHOP ONLINE

Last week's strange but true news from around the U.S.

OFFICIAL DRESSES AS MICKEY TO CRITICIZE GOVERNMENT SPENDING

A county official in Michigan dressed as Mickey Mouse to help draw attention to what he describes as wasteful spending on a Florida trip for employee training.

Genesee County Clerk-Register John Gleason held a news conference last Wednesday with play money and a suitcase as props while a woman dressed as Minnie Mouse stood behind him.

He says spending about \$25,000 to send three employees to the Disney Institute was "another junket."

County board coordinator Josh Freeman, who was among the attendees this month, says the expense was justified after about a decade of little spending on employee development and training. WJRT-TV reports the board president also defended the travel.

The Flint Journal reports commissioners approved the travel and lessons learned in Florida are to be shared with other county employees.

MAN SAYS HE STOLE PEPSI TRUCK TO GET TO THE AIRPORT

Authorities say an Oklahoma man stole a Pepsi truck as the driver was unloading soda in the back.

Tulsa police say no one was hurt. The driver jumped out of the back when he felt his rig move. A trail of sodas spilled out as the truck drove off.

Police say Steven Hart told them he was trying to get to the airport after an argument with his girlfriend. The girlfriend says he was searching for her.

Police say that when they caught up to the truck stopped in traffic, Hart jumped out and started to run off. Hart was arrested as the rig rolled into the back of a school bus. No children were aboard.

Hart is being held on pending charges that include larceny and attempted escape from the county jail as he was being booked into custody.

MAN'S SHOOTING RANGE WEDDING PROPOSAL WAS RIGHT ON TARGET

A New Jersey couple is giving marriage a shot after a man surprised his girlfriend by proposing at an indoor shooting

range, armed with a special target.

Kara Crampton was taking target practice Sunday at Re-loaderz in Wayne when a target spun around and showed the message "Will you marry me?" with the option for her to either shoot the words "yes" or "no." The range's owner created the target, making sure the "YES" area was a much easier to hit than the "NO."

The owner's son is a friend of Crampton's new fiancée, Jake Woodruff.

Crampton seemed stunned by the proposal and then turned around to see Woodruff on one knee holding an engagement ring. She quickly accepted his proposal, then formally made her answer official about 10 minutes later by putting three shots in the center of the "YES" target.

FLORIDA POLICE HOLD RATTLESNAKE IN THE BACK OF A PATROL CAR

A rattlesnake in Florida ended up in the back of a police car.

The snake was being carried by a homeless man walking around Jacksonville Beach on Monday morning.

Sgt. Larry Smith told local news stations the snake was 6 to 8 feet (2 to 2.5 meters) long.

When police stopped the man, they told him to throw the reptile into the back of their vehicle for safety.

In a WTLV-TV report, video shows a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officer pulling the snake from the patrol car's back seat. The rattles at the end of the snake's tail can be heard shaking as the officer drops the snake into a plastic container.

The snake was relocated to a wooded area. No injuries were reported.

HOME INVESTOR FINDS STAIRCASE BOOBY-TRAPPED WITH A KNIFE

A Philadelphia real estate investor says a home he was scoping out came with an unadvertised surprise - a stairway booby-trapped with a swinging knife.

Ekrem Uysaler says he and his team were looking at the home in January when one of his co-workers saw a small line on the home's staircase. WCAU-TV reports he stopped his construction manager from heading

up the stairs and recorded video as they pulled the staircase line with a spare rod.

Pulling the line triggered a fast-moving, downward-swinging crutch from above the staircase. Taped to the end of the crutch was a large knife pointing right to where a person's head would have been walking up the stairs.

Uysaler says he has never encountered something like this before. He says "It's like 'Home Alone' ... Philly style."

NIGHTMARE: MAN'S CAR STOLEN WHILE HE'S ASLEEP IN BACK SEAT

A man's nap in the back of his car in Delaware turned into a nightmare after the car he was sleeping in was stolen and crashed.

Musician Justin Koerner told the News Journal he had spent a night playing music with friends, went to sleep in his vehicle and had a dream involving someone jumping in his front seat.

A Newark police statement says someone drove off in the car Sunday morning and bailed after seeing the man sleeping in the back. Police say the car crashed.

Koerner says he awoke and saw car treads on a lawn and a destroyed bush, then realized he hadn't been dreaming. He says police appeared ready to take him away before another officer said a neighbor had security camera footage of the incident.

HUNGRY BEAR GOES FOR RIDE AFTER GETTING STUCK ON TRASH TRUCK

Drivers were startled to see a hungry bear that got stuck in the back of garbage truck and took a ride across a stretch of eastern North Carolina.

News outlets report that a motorist called Bertie County 911 on Wednesday morning about a bear hanging off of the truck on U.S. Route 17.

Apparently, the snack-seeking bear climbed into the trash truck during a stop and became trapped after the driver secured the netting that prevents garbage from blowing out.

Sheriff John Holley says a deputy stopped the truck with the bear perched on top just outside of Windsor. The driver, who hadn't been aware of the stow-away, pulled back the net and the bear ran off before the truck continued on to the landfill.

W.Va. regional jail starts inpatient treatment pilot program

For the first time, West Virginia has begun offering inpatient substance abuse treatment to jail-housed inmates via court referral. The promising pilot launched at the Western Regional Jail aims to break the cycle of addiction, save lives, and reduce crime and incarceration costs.

Circuit judges in the counties served by the jail have started sending eligible offenders to the program. The pilot provides individual and group therapy daily as well as medication-assisted treatment in qualifying cases. It has a capacity of 32 beds each for men and women, in separate sections and away from other jail inmates.

"Our goal is to return people so they can become contributing and productive members of society," said Corrections and Rehabilitation Commissioner Betsy Jividen, who links this effort with her agency's emphasis on strong re-entry programs that assist with housing and employment.

The pilot is voluntary and open only to non-violent offenders. The inpatient treatment is in lieu of a regular sentence, and is expected to take at least six months. If successfully completed, the treatment term would lead to a reduced sentence, supervised release or some other alternative to further incarceration.

"We've tried to make this a judge-led program," said assistant commissioner and inspec-

tor general Gary Johnson. "We leave it up to them as to who comes and what happens when we send (inmates) back to them after they finish the program."

Specially trained recovery coaches will continue to work with these individuals upon release as they rejoin their communities. These offenders would also be eligible for injections of naltrexone (Vivitrol), which blocks the effects of opioids. More than 375 exiting inmates have received these injections since July 2015.

Huntington and Cabell County have made gains targeting substance use disorders and overdoses. Officials such as Cabell County Prosecuting Attorney Sean "Corky" Hammers believe the pilot will further that progress.

"What I hear from the public a lot is, 'Why do these same people get arrested and they keep getting out after they serve their sentence, and they just keep getting arrested again and again?'" Hammers said. "We have tools to prevent that, and this is going to be another useful tool to protect the public and keep offenders from re-offending."

Successful outcomes will also reduce inmate crowding and the burden of incarceration on taxpayers. It costs an estimated \$75.85 a day to keep an inmate in prison, while the State Budget Office has calculated the jail per diem as \$53.20. Corrections and Rehabilitation hopes

to expand the pilot throughout the statewide network of 10 regional jails.

"When someone completes this program, we can then quantify the money we can save by cutting off a lot on the tail end of what their sentence could have been," said secretary Jeff Sandy of the Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety, which includes corrections and rehabilitation.

The pilot also promises to improve safety in the jails by reducing demand for drugs and therefore the smuggling of contraband, noted Jack Luikart, DMAPS' director of corrections substance abuse control. He also cited how more than half of the West Virginians who suffer fatal overdoses had contact with the criminal justice system, such as being in jail, within a year of their deaths.

West Virginia has long offered inpatient Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) in its prisons. It also has RSAT units, one each for men and women, at the Southwestern Regional Jail but for inmates who have been sentenced to prison and await bed space in one.

PVCD meeting

The Potomac Valley Conservation District will meet March 6, 7 p.m. at the USDA Service Center, Moorefield. The agenda is available three days before from 304-822-5174. The public is invited.

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Petersburg Elementary School Social Studies Fair outcome reported



First place winners were: (front) Lucy Groves, Rylie Armentrout, Teila Thorne, Natalea Brennan and Taylan VanMeter. (Back) Khloe Haslacker, Claire Kaposy and Owen Reel.



Second place winners were: (front) Belanna Moyers, Isaiah Reel, Paislee Alt and Ashton Evans (Back) Carter Hardy, Mariah Phares, Ella Chew and Summer Moyers. Not pictured: Kinsley Crites



Third place winners were: (front) Micah Ertel, Acayah Crites, Albert Ramos-Rivera and Kiersten Reel. (Back) John Minnich, Bryce See, Ava Gray, Tara Kimble and Ireland Gray. Not pictured: Caitlyn Ours.

Mace to teach four-part art class

Local artist Joan Mace will instruct a four part art class in March and April. Class participants will create one picture to take home at each of the four sessions.

All materials are provided. Class size is limited to a small number, so all participants can get individual attention.

This event, presented by Grant County Arts Council, Inc., and community underwriter Pendleton Community Bank, will be held at a venue in Petersburg to be announced. The dates and times are:

Saturday, March 16, from 2-4 p.m. - The class will paint a landscape without using traditional brushes.

Saturday, March 23 from 2-4 p.m. - The class will create a work on yupo (a non-absorbent synthetic paper) and will learn wash techniques, value control, and various other techniques

that enrich the surface of the painting.

Saturday, March 30, 2-4 p.m. - The class will paint a seascape on canvas using a household sponge instead of a brush.

Saturday, April 6, 2-4 p.m. - The class will create a picture by the technique called scratch board, which is an engraving technique. They will make their image using a special surface of black ink which overlays a white sub-layer.

As enrollment is limited, persons interested in taking the classes are urged to register now. For more information about cost and registration call 304-257-4891.

Mace is known locally as an artist of great natural talent and teaching

ability. She is skilled in many media, and she is particularly known for her sympathetic and appealing paintings of animals and nature. She has for many years exhibited in the Tri-County Fair and the Local Visual Artists exhibit. She also markets her works locally and online.

Persons requiring accessibility assistance should contact GCAC in advance at P.O. Box 988, Petersburg, or at GCArtsCouncil@gmail.com.



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