



SJM Health Services CEO Kevin Stalnaker, and SJMH Chief Nursing Officer Carole Norton present Kara Hoover, RN, her DAISY Award For Extraordinary Nurses.

Extraordinary Acute Care Nurse Recognized at Mon Health

Kara Hoover, RN, of Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital and Braxton native, was recently honored with The DAISY Award® for Extraordinary Nurses. Awarded to nurses biannually at Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital, The DAISY Award is part of the DAISY Foundation's programs to recognize the super-human efforts nurses perform every day.

The nomination submitted from one of Kara's patients read, "Kara was so caring and compassionate. She was on top of changing my IV meds and I didn't have to ring for her. She saw I was in so much pain and she offered me a heat pad. She was on the go non-stop. I left my door open, and she was up and down the hallway every little bit. I could not ask for better people to take care of me; she went above what I feel they needed to make sure I was comfortable. I can't thank them enough! A big, big thank you, Kara."

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, CA, and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late

1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

"When Patrick was critically ill, our family experienced first-hand the remarkable skill and care nurses provide patients every day and night," said Bonnie Barnes, FAAN, CEO and Co-Founder of The DAISY Foundation. "Yet these unsung heroes are seldom recognized for the super-human work they do. The kind of work the nurses at Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital are called on to do every day epitomizes the purpose of The DAISY Award."

Kara is a Registered Nurse in the Acute Care Department and has worked for Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital since January 2022.

"I really enjoy working here. I love the closeness of employees with each other, and the helpfulness of the entire staff," said

Kara. "I love nursing and am excited to see where any journey here takes me. Everyone is so kind."

"We are delighted to honor Kara with the Daisy Award. She has shown her dedication to her patients and the nursing profession," said Bertha Webb, MSN, RN, CMSRN, Director of Acute Care. "Her nominator noted that Kara went above and beyond her nursing duties in helping the patient. That is a real sign of her excellent nursing skills and compassion."

Kara is a Braxton County native and lives there with her son, Caleb. She obtained her nursing degree from Fairmont State University.

Nurses can be nominated by anyone who has been affected by their care - patients, family members, other nurses, physicians, other clinicians, and staff - anyone who has experienced or observed extraordinary, compassionate care being provided by a nurse. Say thank you to a nurse and nominate the for the DAISY Award by visiting MonHealth.com/DAISY. To learn more about the DAISY Award® for Extraordinary Nurses, visit <https://DAISYFoundation.org>.

Braxton to Receive Portion of \$3.6 Million in PILT Payments

U.S. Senators Joe Manchin, Chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and Shelley Moore Capito last week announced \$3,617,997 from the U.S. Department of Interior's Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program to 36 West Virginia counties including Braxton. These payments are made annually to counties with non-taxable Federal land within their borders to offset the

lost property tax revenue. Braxton County will receive \$77,108.

"For more than 40 years, PILT payments have helped ensure local governments across the Mountain State have the resources they need to help offset budget shortfalls caused by their inability to collect taxes on Federal lands. These critical payments provide our communities with crucial support for essen-

tial services, such as law enforcement, education, firefighting, road maintenance and public health. I am pleased to announce this significant funding, and I look forward to seeing the positive impacts of this investment. As Chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will always fight for vital

Continued on Page 2

Braxton Magistrate Report

Magistrate Beth Smith July 5: Lisa Marie Barker of Cairo, grand larceny, burglary, conspiracy, preliminary hearing waived, transferred to circuit court.

July 6: Christopher M. Armstrong, overweight vehicle, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed and paid.

July 7: Michael Willis McCord of Sand Fork, destruction of property, domestic assault-2nd offense, warrant issued, bond set at \$4000 cash

or surety; Randall Scott Kniceley of Flatwoods, strangulation, warrant issued, bond set at \$5000 cash, surety, or 10% to the court.

July 8: Desiree Grace Phillips of Frametown, shoplifting-2nd offense, guilty plea, fine/court costs assessed.

July 9: David Allen Carper of Gassaway, possession of meth, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$3000 personal recognition.

July 10: Justin Michael

Williams of Cowen, possession of controlled substance x2-meth and marijuana, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$2500 cash or surety.

July 11: Jeffrey Franklin James of Sutton, fugitive from another state, transferred to circuit court.

Magistrate David Singleton

July 11: James Harlen Roupe of Little Birch, DUI-controlled substance, no proof of insurance, warrantless arrest, bond set at

Continued on Page 2

Sheriffs' Department Arrests 3 on Drug Charges

At approximately 5:20 p.m. on July 11, Cpl. Cleve Westfall and Deputy



Bender



Stevens



Hayes

Marie Hayes, 35, of Sutton, a passenger. Prior to being transported for booking

Bradley Pickens of the Braxton County Sheriff's Office responded to assist a fellow officer. Deputy A.L. Groves who had executed a traffic stop near the downstream area of the Sutton Dam due to a darkly tinted cover over the vehicle's license plate.

Deputy Groves identified a backseat passenger in the vehicle as Jerry Lee Stevens, 30, of Erbacon and determined that there was an active Braxton County warrant for Steven's arrest. During a search of the suspect, Deputy Groves discov-

ered what appeared to be drug residue in a clear bag.

Officers subsequent search of the vehicle revealed a set of digital scales which appear to have residue on them, a black pouch containing empty baggies, a baggy contained a crystal-like substance, weighting approximately 5.44 grams believed to be meth and a prescription bottle containing suboxone. The discovery led to the arrest of the driver, identified as Heather Dawn Bender, 40, of Sutton and Megan

Haynes told officers that she had contraband down her pants. Upon arrival at the Central Regional Jail a female correctional officer retrieved a blue container believe to contain meth.

All three were charged with possession with the intent to deliver and conspiracy. The trio were arraigned before Braxton County Magistrate David Singleton. At press-time they remain incarcerated at the CRJ in lieu of \$25,000 cash only bonds awaiting additional court proceedings.

28th Annual Mule and Donkey Show Coming to Holly Gray Park

The Central West Virginia Mule and Donkey Show, sponsored by Holly Gray Park, will be held on Friday, September 9 beginning at 6:00 P.M. (Exhibitors Dinner, bring a covered dish), Saturday, September 10 at 2:00 P.M., and Sunday, September 11 at 10:00 A.M. Rain or shine.

Camping will be avail-

able with Primitive sites and Camper hookups. There will be restrooms and showers, concessions, and vendors on the park grounds. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the premises.

Requirements include a negative Coggins Test and out of state health papers.

This event is for all ages. For more informa-

tion including stall rentals and reservations, etc. please contact Darrell and Karen Shaffer at (304)864-0526, Tim and Stacy Smith at (304)532-5306, and Ross and Chris Young at (304)644-8135. You can find more information leading up to the event on Facebook at Central West Virginia Mule and Donkey Show.

Burnsville Resale Shop Looking for Volunteers

West Virginia Caring is looking for volunteers to assist with essential functions for the non-profit's Resale Shop's operation in Burnsville. The local shop offers a variety of gently used or new donated items including clothing, shoes, home goods, toys, furniture, video and books. And it is a great place to find those unique items that are not available at other stores.

The shop is conveniently located at 77 Mike & Ike's Plaza in Burnsville, right off I 79 at exit 79 and next door to the WV Caring's local Braxton Calhoun and Gilmer counties' office. It is open six days a week, Monday through Saturday with volunteer availability for any of those days. Local youth and civic organiza-

tions are also welcomed to volunteer as groups to assist the mission of WV Caring.

Volunteers will assist with sorting, pricing, and displaying donated items for the store. They will work with other volunteers in a fun working environment. Whether it's for an hour or a few days a week, it would be the volunteer's choice how they spend their time, as the organization is flexible to accommodate each volunteer's schedule.

The Resale Store will be holding a 'Christmas in July' event Saturday, July 23rd from 9am-2pm to further share the mission of WAA. The day will be filled with fun events, refreshments, sales, and a visit from Summer Santa.

WV Caring, offers hos-

pice and counseling, is a community based non-profit organization that operates the Resale Shop program to extend its outreach and education of hospice in a way that the community can give back and support its mission. Its concept and purpose are to provide funding for WV Caring's terminally ill patients and families, while offering the community good value and a pleasant shopping experience. All proceeds from the Resale Shops are used to fund patient support regardless of financial status.

For more information about volunteering in any way, contact Marissa Fox, Volunteer Service Coordinator, by calling (304) 853-2279, extension 602 or emailing mfox@wvcaring.org.

WIC Program to Hold Open House

The local WIC office will be open to the public starting on August 1st. "We are so excited to begin seeing everyone in person and also, welcome new potential participants who would like to learn about the many benefits of the WIC program and our increased income guidelines," said a representative.

To celebrate the open-

ing, as well as National Breastfeeding Month, the WIC Program will have an Open House all week, August 1st-5th from 8-4, at their Braxton County Clinic located at 537 Enterprise Drive, Gassaway (above Pizza Hut, next to The Works Salon).

The first 25 people will receive a gift for attending and be entered into a grand prize drawing.

Staff members will be on hand to answer questions about the WIC program, offering breastfeeding support, nutrition education and will have gift items for children. Current WIC participants and the public are welcome.



Legislative Update

By Delegate Brent Boggs

Over the years, the executive branch made available to the Finance committees their long-term fiscal projections which provided valuable insights into what direction the state budget revenue collections may be trending in the next several years. Otherwise known as the 6-Year Plan, this was a mandatory starting point for any discussions for budget cuts, increases in spending, and how we can responsibly give back to the taxpayers. Unfortunately, this valuable planning document is no longer provided to legislators for the past few years. Without the benefit of reviewing those projections of out-year revenue and expenses, proposing permanent spending increases or tax cuts has the potential to place the state in financial jeopardy. In short, it's difficult to do your due diligence if you don't have all the facts needed to make fiscally responsible decisions.

Last week, Governor Justice announced his desire to place an aggregate ten percent income tax cut for West Virginia state taxes. As of this writing, we still do not know what "aggregate" references, nor have legislators had the opportunity to see and review the proposed bill. Since I've not seen the bill, I can only go on the assumption that a 10 percent tax cut is across the board in all income brackets. If that is indeed the case, this cut will benefit the wealthy much more than low- and middle-income workers, who make up a majority of working West Virginians and need help coping

with the high cost of fuel, food, and other goods.

The proposal would have no impact on any federal taxes. I'll withhold final judgement until the bill comes before members, but here is a rough, back-of-the-envelope estimate as to what a 10% state income tax cut would do—or fail to do for WV taxpayers. According to the independent, non-profit Tax Foundation, with the proposed tax cuts, rather than seeing a 10% increase on paychecks, most West Virginians would like only to see an increase of a few dollars per pay period.

People making \$10,000 a year would expect to see a tax reduction of only \$40 over the course of a year. People making \$25,000 would save \$112.50; and those with an annual income of \$40,000 would see a tax reduction of \$240 per year.

People making more money, and therefore paying higher rates, would see the most savings. Those making \$60,000 would save \$390 a year, and people making \$100,000 would see savings of \$650. When you get to even higher income earners, the savings run into the thousands annually.

Several of us have previously proposed other options when similar tax reduction schemes were on the table that would put a more meaningful amount in the pockets of most working West Virginia families and retirees, such as a 3-month motor fuel tax holiday, or a direct rebate in a fixed amount to all taxpayers. These proposals would benefit everyone more reasonably, thereby giv-

ing more help to those needing a greater degree of relief.

West Virginia ended the 2022 fiscal year with a \$1.3 billion state surplus, due primarily to high energy prices and low revenue estimates. Will that be the case in two years? Three years? Five years? We've seen big surpluses before, only to see the national economy or energy prices tank, leading to emergency cuts in vital services and programs. Answering those multi-year budget and revenue questions would be beneficial in determining the responsible best path forward to provide economic relief to all West Virginians.

This fall, a constitutional amendment will be on the ballot in West Virginia that has the potential to cost as much as \$750 million annually, by phasing-in an exemption for equipment for large manufacturing entities, long sought by big businesses. Also included is a removal of the personal property tax on vehicles. This alone has the potential for a major blow to county budgets and school funding. This will be up to the voters to determine on a statewide basis.

One cautionary note. Next year and beyond, look for proposals in the House and Senate to give the Legislature the authority to "adjust" property tax rates. I predict this will be the way out when talks begin of how to "make counties whole" financially if the manufacturing equipment tax exemption amendment passes.

There will be much to consider during any special session the Governor calls, whether it's this month or later in the year. But make no mistake, a

special session now, the November election, and next year's legislative session and budget will have a deep impact on citizens across the State. What sounds good today may well lead to major cuts to vital services down the road if budgets need to be slashed mid-year.

To conclude this week, a sad note on the passing of a local Gassaway businessman, community leader and friend, Orlando "Shorty" Rader. Shorty was instrumental in the creation of the

Gassaway Area Improvement Council, dedicated to the beautification of downtown storefronts and streets, clean-up, and removal of dilapidated properties, and restoring pride to the community to attract new businesses, visitors and residents to Gassaway and central West Virginia. He battled ALS with courage and strength, and he will be greatly missed and well-remembered. Jean and I send our sincere condolences to his wife, Sherry, his kids, grandkids, and

extended family.

Now that the session has concluded, please contact me at my home office at: 151 Park Street, Gassaway, WV 26624. The phone number is 304-364-8411. For those with Internet access, my legislative email address is: Brent.Boggs@WVHouse.gov

Remember to thank a Veteran every day for their service and remember our troops - at home and abroad - and keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers. Until next week, take care.

American Legion Post 33 awards crossbow

A 15 year old bow hunter from Massachusetts won the Excalibur bow raffled by American Legion Braxton Post 33. Colin Grady from Falmouth, MA, comes to Braxton County to hunt. He is part of a hunting club that has a hunting lease on a farm, the Stone Street Charolaise Ranch, in Braxton County.

Colin is expected to return to Braxton County in a few weeks. In the meantime, his bow was accepted for him from Legion Commander, Paul Gillespie, by a friend, Kraden Mitchell, son of the Richard and Angela Mitchell of the Frametown area.

American Legion Commander, Paul Gillespie, expressed his thanks to the many people who purchased raffle tickets. "Income from the raffle helps us support an annual college scholarship, the food service at the Senior Citizens Center, the



American Legion Commander, Paul Gillespie and Kraden Mitchell.

posting of colors at community events, helping parades and performing dozens of military funerals.

Gillespie added, "We

also have a service to help any veteran who happens to be in Braxton County with any problem. Our retired veterans continue to serve."

Vicky Murphy, State Farm Agent hosts Back 2 School Supply Collection Drive

Vicky Murphy, State Farm is excited to kick off a Back 2 School Supply Collection Drive! It's a simple way to help kids in our community, and for every item donated, our office will match that with a supply kit!

- 1 Supply Kit includes:
- A Folder, • Paper, • Crayons, • Colored pencils,

- Washable markers, • Scissors, • A highlighter, • Erasers, • Pencils, • A glue bottle, • A glue stick, • A composition book, • A pen, • and a pencil bag!

Donations will be collected at the State Farm office in Gassaway, WV, from July 5th to July 22nd.

All items are donated directly to the schools of

Braxton County this August.

Make your donation today!

Magistrate...

Continued from Page 1

\$2500 cash, surety, or 10% to the court; Saladi M. Mohamed of Charlotte, NC, speeding, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed; Alfonzo Lamar Johnson, Jr. of Flint, MI, obtaining goods by false pretenses, conspiracy, preliminary hearing waived, transferred to circuit court; Lucas Mark Jones of Kincaid, fishing without license, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed and paid.

July 12: Megan Marie Haynes of Sutton, possession of meth with intent to deliver, conspiracy, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$25,000 cash only; Heather Dawn Bender of Sutton, possession of meth with intent to deliver, conspiracy, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$25,000 cash only; Jerry Lee Stevens of Erbacon, possession of meth with intent to deliver, conspiracy, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$25,000 cash only; William Charles Wright of Sutton, possession with intent to deliver x2-meth and heroin, prohibited person in possession of a firearm, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$25,000 cash only.

PILT...

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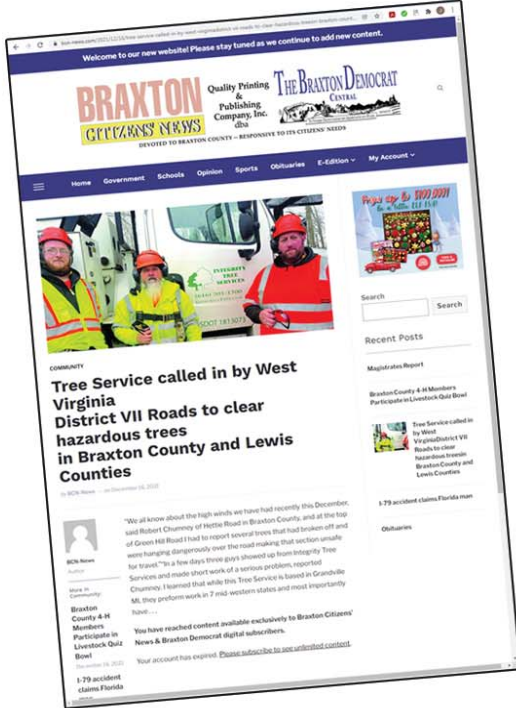
programs like PILT that invest in West Virginia," said Chairman Manchin.

"Funding through the PILT program helps offset shortfalls that our municipalities face in serving their residents and invests into our communities. It is welcome news to see this support heading to West Virginia, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact this will have in our counties across the state," Senator Capito said.

Take a look who is making their debut on the World Wide Web!

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Obituaries

L. Bean Duffield.

Art was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Sandra Mae Duffield; and his infant sister, Donna Lee Duffield.

Working on and tinkering with old cars was a favorite pastime of his. He enjoyed collecting guns and sport shooting. He was a certified public accountant and owned his own accounting business.

Art is survived by his son, Mark Lee Duffield of Gassaway; brothers, Terry Duffield and wife, Mary, of Gassaway; and Randy Duffield and companion, Carolyn Fisher, of Gassaway.

In keeping with his wishes he was cremated.

A private inurnment will be in the Sugar Creek Cemetery, Gassaway at a later date.

Words of comfort and fond memories may be extended to the family at www.roachfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements by Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway.

Norma Lee Friend

Norma Lee Friend, 90, of Cynthiana, KY formerly of Tornado, WV, went home to be with her Lord on Monday, July 4, 2022, in



Kentucky.

She was born January 29, 1932 in Bickmore, WV, the daughter of Bernard & Bessie Holcomb Legg. Also preceding her in death were her husband, Ernest Lee Friend whom passed in 2009; sister, Opal Morton; a infant brother; sister-in-law, Pearl Legg.

Norma was woman who loved the outdoors. She would plant a garden every year only to give half the vegetables to neighbors, friends and family. She also liked hunting in the fall with her son John near the family homestead in Indore, WV. She loved her flower garden which she was proud to have a variety of flowers thru out her yard.

Norma was a Christian by faith and loved her neighbors, friends, and family. We will all miss her boisterous laugh.

She is survived by her son, John Friend (Bonnie) of Cynthiana, KY; daughter, Doris Jeffers (Steve) of Sutton, WV; grandchildren, Chad Jeffers of Sutton, Brandi Noble (Michael Maggard) of Cynthiana, James Friend (Rebecca) of Cynthiana, Cory Jeffers of Tornado; great grandchildren, whom she loved dearly, Jeremy Noble, Kylynn Noble, Brandon Noble, Kayden Friend, Jax Friend, Landon Morrison, Kinsley Morrison, Wyatt Caswell; brothers, Bill Legg (Sandra) of St. Albans, Harold Legg of Beckwith, WV; many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Norma will truly be missed by all.

A graveside memorial service in Norma's honor will be held at a later date.

Online condolences may be sent to: greene-robertsonfuneralhome.com

Robert Preston "Robbie" Cook

Robert Preston "Robbie" Cook, 58, of Rose-dale, WV, passed away on July 2, 2022, at his brother home in Strange Creek.

He was born December 31, 1963 in Hinton, WV to the late Boyd Preston & Martha Glenda Bragg Cook. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Carol "Sissy" Cook Huppen-

thall; brother, Ricky Allen Cook.

Robbie was a Environmental Inspector and a Christian by faith. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, golf, Netflix, cooking and grilling.

He is survived by his sons, Tyler Cook of Roanoke, VA, Cameron Cook of Heaters; daughters, Taylor Cook, Brittany Lowther both of Charleston, WV; brothers, Steve Cook, Sam Cook, Frank Cook; sister, Sandy Robinson; grandchildren, Brinly Lowther and Preston Lowther.

Upon request the body will be cremated.

Greene-Robertson Funeral Home is humbled to serve the Cook Family.

Online condolences may be sent to: greene-robertsonfuneralhome.com

Billy Lee Skidmore, Jr.

Billy Lee Skidmore, Jr., 75 of Webster Springs, passed away on Monday, July 4, 2022 at Ruby Memorial. He was born June 14, 1947 in

Webster Springs to the late Billie Lee and Geraline Kathrine "Susie" Spencer Skidmore.

Billy was a member of Elk Valley Chapel; was a retired school bus driver for the Webster County Board of Education; a member of the Webster Springs Volunteer Fire Department for 25 years; a former police officer and Webster Springs Mayor; and was a former drum major at Webster Springs High School. He liked boating, skiing, and traveling to the ocean. He loved to cook and listen to music and was an avid Dallas Cowboys fan.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife Linda Sue Comuzie Skidmore.

He is survived by his daughter Julie Lee (Nicky) Skidmore; brother Jimmy Skidmore; sisters Kathy (Buck) Hamrick, Marjorie (Reggie) Stewart, and Connie (Ken) Skidmore; and several nieces and nephews and extended family and friends.

Funeral Services to celebrate Billy's life were held on Sunday, July 10, 2022 at 4:00 PM at Dodd & Reed Funeral Home. Interment followed in Holly River Baptist Church Cemetery, Diana. Friends joined the family for visitation two hours prior to service time at the Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.doddreedfh.com.

Dodd & Reed Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Skidmore family.

Sandra K. Campbell Firth

Sandra K. Campbell Firth Born September 23, 1946 as the eldest daughter of the late Hale Campbell and Kathryn "Bid-die" Singleton Campbell Duckworth.



She grew up in the Exchange community and graduated from Gassaway High School in 1964. She went to St. Mary's School of Nursing graduating in 1967. She joined the Army and did her basic training at Fort Sam Houston

in San Antonio, TX. She then was deployed to Vietnam and served as a nurse to most critically wounded soldiers for 14 months. She was exposed to Agent Orange and suffered PTSD for the rest of her life. She returned to Fort Knox, KY where she finished her commitment to the Army.

As a civilian nurse she worked at the "old" United Hospital Center and at Clarksburg Veterans Hospital. While working there she saw a spiritual need for the Veterans suffering with PTSD. Having relied on the Lord all her life she went back to college to get her degree in Biblical Theology and Counseling so she could become a chaplain. A requirement to be a chaplain is one must be a pastor. So she became a Methodist pastor to four small churches in Arnettsville, WV for 12 years. She served as chaplain at Ruby Memorial Hospital and Clarksburg Veterans Hospital until her retirement about five years ago.

Sandra was married to John William Firth and they had a son, John Christopher Firth. After her husband's death, Sandra raised her son as a single mom.

Sandra went home to meet her Lord on June 14, 2022, Flag Day for the country she loved and served, at United Hospital Center. She leaves behind to mourn their loss her son John, her sister Brenda, six grandchildren (Brandon, Daniel, Shayne, Harmony, Joshua, and William), and aunt Imogene Martson and two brother-in-laws (Stanley Firth and Carl Gray), a host of cousins and many friends.

She met her life's goals: to be a nurse, to be in the Army and to serve the Lord as best she could by serving others, "Well done thy good and faithful servant, enter into your rest."

At Sandra's request, cremation has taken place. A celebration of life will be held at 7:00 pm, July 21, 2022 at Quiet Dell Methodist Church as a gospel sing, singing hymns. She loved music and singing. She wants it to be a happy service.

B. Caroline Gillespie Cochran

B. Caroline Gillespie Cochran, 78 of Webster Springs, passed away on Thursday, June 30, 2022, seven days following the passing of her husband of 55 years, Melvin W. Cochran, who passed on June 23, 2022. She passed away of complications from pancreatic cancer, five days after learning of her diagnosis.

She was the tenth and last child, born to Clarence W. and Bertha Baughman Gillespie, on May 23, 1944, in Buckhannon. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by brothers Eugene, Jimmy, Bernard and Felix and sisters, Helen, Louise and Lucille.

Surviving is brother David of Webster Springs and sister Sammie (Bob) Allman of Buckhannon. She is also survived by son Max (wife Sandra) Cochran of Webster Springs; four grandchildren, Eddie Cochran, Max (wife Christina) Cochran Jr., Matthew (wife Vicky) Cochran, and Jessica Cochran; along with four great-grandchildren, Desirae, Matthew Jr., Grace, and Lauren; a great-great-granddaughter, Elena; and several nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

Caroline was a member of Emmanuel Assembly of God; she was a 1962 graduate of Webster Springs High School and Clarksburg Beauty Academy in 1963. After passing her WV state licensing exams, she operated her own beauty salon for 30 years in Webster Springs. She was originally hired by Charlie Dodd in 1969 as beautician for Dodd & Hurt Funeral Home and continued working when the business changed to Dodd & Reed Funeral Home.

She enjoyed traveling overseas and state side with her husband and grandchildren, and especially enjoyed spending time with the grandchildren at the beach. Caroline was a very competitive scrabble player. Reading historic fiction and WV murder mystery books was her pleasure.

Celebration of Life Services were held on Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 12:00 noon at Dodd & Reed Funeral Home with Pastor Marty Cowger officiating and Eulogy given by Jack Alsop. She was laid to rest beside Melvin at Big Run Cemetery, Diana. Friends joined the family for visitation two hours prior to service time.

Friends joined the family for Graveside Services at 2:30 PM at Big Run Cemetery, Diana.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be made to Emmanuel Assembly of God, PO Box 839, Cowen, WV 26206.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.doddreedfh.com.

Dodd & Reed Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Cochran family.

Always Blessed Connections Co Updated Pantry Days

Always Blessed Connections Co will open our pantry on the 3rd, 4th and 5th (if applicable) Friday of each month from 1pm to 5pm.

Fresh produce, pantry

staples and now USDA foods available.

Feel free to contact me direct to ensure you and your family are included in what our pantry is offering.

Robert Van "Buck" Hamrick

Robert Van "Buck" Hamrick, 62 of Valley Head, passed away on Wednesday, July 6, 2022 at Davis Medical Center in Elkins. He was born January 30, 1960 in Orrville, Ohio to Elzie and Linda McCullough Hamrick.

Buck enjoyed working with his hands, gardening, and spending time with his family.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife, Kathy Skidmore Hamrick; step-children Jerome (Salina) Greene and Stephanie (Scott) Holcomb; brother Steve (Carrie) Hamrick; sister Lavonna (Dave) Maxheimer; four grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, and other extended family.

Private Services for the family will be held at a later date.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.doddreedfh.com.

Dodd & Reed Funeral Home is honored to be serving Robert's family.

Richard Lane Black

Richard Lane Black, 86, passed away Tuesday, July 5, 2022, at his residence.



He was born Jan. 26, 1936, in Woodbine, W.Va., a son of Glen and Freda Casto Black.

Lane was employed by Youngstown Steel Door for many years, retiring in 1991, and then worked for the United States Postal Service in Youngstown until his final retirement.

Lane served his country during the Korean War in the Army.

Lane loved following basketball and stock car racing, and enjoyed bowling and playing cards, but his greatest joy was watching his grandchildren's sporting events.

Lane is survived by his wife of 59 years, the former Delores "Dolly" Petrycki; three children and nine grandchildren.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by one grandchild and a son-in-law.

Family called from noon to 1 p.m. Friday at the Lane Family Funeral Homes, Austintown Chapel, followed by a private service at 1 p.m.

Shorty (Orlando Lee) Rader

Shorty (Orlando Lee) Rader, a lifelong resident of Gassaway, went home to be with Jesus after a long struggle with A.L.S.

He passed away peacefully, at his home, on Saturday, July 9, 2022 with his loving wife and family at his bedside.

Shorty was born in Gassaway on January 12, 1950 to the late Tink and Lola Bender Rader.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by two brothers and one sister.

Shorty loved life and his hometown and always worked to better his community. He loved serving God and his church family. After graduating Gassaway High School in 1967, he was a barber for

twenty years, then went on to own and operate Sports connection, which he truly loved, for over thirty years.

He is survived by his cherished wife, Sherry; daughter, Sherri Jack (Lane); grandson, Trey; daughter, Karri Jo Rousset (Ric); granddaughter, Adrianna; son, Kenneth Browning (Trina); grandsons, Kyle and Jakob; brother, Fred Rader (Bernice) and several nieces and nephews.

Shorty's funeral service will be 2 P.M. Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway with Reverend Tom Harper officiating. Interment will follow in the Beall's Mill Cemetery, Gassaway.

Visitation was four hours prior to the service at the funeral home.

A special thanks to all of the caregivers at Kanawha Hospice for their compassionate care of Shorty.

Words of comfort and fond memories may be extended to the family at www.roachfuneralhome.com.

Frances I. Thompson

Frances I. Thompson, 93, of Gassaway, WV, passed away peacefully at the Laurels of North nursing home in Columbus, Ohio on March 1, 2022 with her sons, Roscoe W. Thompson, Jr. and Lonnie G. Thompson, at her side.



Frances was born in Progress, WV on April 20, 1928 to the late W.W. Riffle and Madge Gerwig Riffle.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Roscoe W. Thompson, her only daughter, Regina Thompson, and her six siblings.

Frances was a very special lady who was strong, independent, loving, smart, creative, and thoughtful. Although she had a warm and beautiful heart, she never failed to stand her ground. Frances worked many jobs after her husband passed in 1966 and she was best known as an excellent seamstress and for her 100% hand-made quilts that she loved to gift to family and friends.

Frances is survived by her older son, Roscoe W. Thompson, Jr. and his wife Patricia and their children, Roscoe III, Rosemary, and Robert, and by her younger son, Lonnie G., Thompson and his wife Ellen, and their daughter Regina. She also has 12 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Her Celebration of Life Service will be 1 P.M. Saturday, July 16, 2022 at Roach Funeral Home, 708 Braxton Street, Gassaway with her son, Reverend Roscoe W. Thompson, Jr., presiding. Inurnment will follow at Sugar Creek Cemetery, Gassaway.

Calling hours began at noon at the funeral home.

Words of comfort and fond memories may be extended to the family at www.roachfuneralhome.com.

Artley "Art" B. Duffield

Artley "Art" B. Duffield, 81, of Gassaway passed away on Monday, July 4, 2022 at Glenville Center.

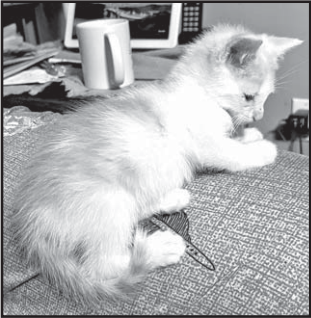
He was born on December 8, 1940 in Gassaway to the late Lala B. and Wilda

KITTY KORNER:

Affordable, Adoptable, Fixed Feline Friends

Just One Generation cat rescue was started in 2013 in response to the severe feline overpopulation in this area. Our initial emphasis was on the Trap, Neuter, and Release (TNR) of feral cats as well as to facilitate the spay/neuter of domestic cats. Adoption of ownerless cats and kittens came later, as was incorporated with the program because there was no place else for these animals to go. But, due to previously made travel plans and family commitments, Just One Generation will NOT be available to take in new animals or to adopt cats and kittens during the months of June, July, and August 2022. Our spay/neuter assistance program will continue during this time. If you have thoughtfully considered pet ownership, NOW may be the time to add a feline friend to your family. Our program currently has multiple healthy, social cats and kittens that are available for a modest adoption fee, that includes immunizations, deworming, flea protection, as well as spay/neuter and rabies vaccine when the kittens are four months old. Featured today are several of our kittens that were either too young or too small to leave on last week's rescue run. Our usual adoption fee has been

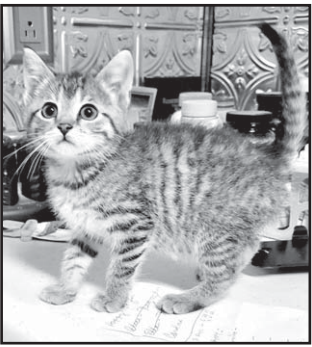
reduced to \$40 each of two for \$65, which includes the spay/neuter/rabies vaccine at Central WV Animal Hospital in Gassaway when they are 4 months old. Additional photos of these and other available cats and kittens can be seen on [petfinder.com](https://www.petfinder.com) by entering a search for CATS at location 26623 or on the Just One Generation Facebook page. Contact Sally Stewart. as 304-364-4136 to arrange a visit or for additional information.



PETE: Male, 7-8 weeks, orange and white short-haired, very social and playful.



BOOMER: Male, 8 weeks, long-haired Maine Coon mix, currently under treatment for respiratory illness but will be placed when fully recovered.



HAPPY: Female, 8 weeks, brown tabby short-haired, very social.



ARLO: Male, 10-12 weeks, tuxedo short-haired, very handsome and loving guy!



ASPEN: Female, 10-12 weeks, blended calico short-haired, sibling to Arlo.

West Virginia Caring and West Virginia Prevention Solutions Host Free Back To School Movie Night August 12th

Join West Virginia Caring and West Virginia Prevention Solutions for free Back to School outdoor movie night on Friday, August 12th at 8:30 P.M. at the Mike and Ike Plaza

in Burnsville, WV playing Middle School - Worst Day of My Life.

Bring camping chairs, blankets and enjoy an evening under the stars with kids.

The resale store will also be open up until 8:00 P.M. with special back to school sales. So, get there early, save your seats, and take advantage of huge discounts.

Concessions will be for sale to benefit WV Caring Hospice.

No large coolers, alcoholic beverages or tobacco products allowed.

Veteran Town Hall July 15

The Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center will host a Veteran Town Hall event that is open to the public.

The event will be held on Saturday, July 15 from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm at the Braxton County

Senior Citizens' Center.

Our goal is to ensure Veterans, their families, and beneficiaries have the opportunity to be heard, and have their concerns addressed by senior VA officials

Burnsville Elementary School Hosts Outdoor Open House

Burnsville Elementary School will host an outdoor open house on Tuesday, August 17th from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M. in front of the school.

We have fun for everyone including books, backpacks, school supplies, games and face painting. There will also be free gifts for parents/guardians that participate.

We hope to see you there!

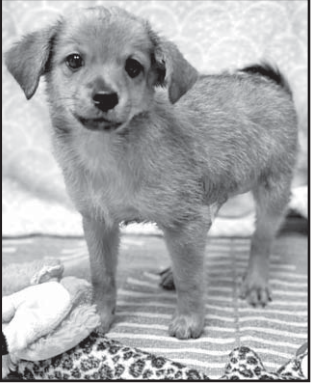
Dog Tails: Adoptable Dogs at the Braxton County Animal Shelter

Are you looking to add a four legged, tail wagging member to your family? Rescues from the Braxton County Animal Shelter are looking for their final "Forever" homes and are anxious to meet you.

There is a reason we call them man's best friend. We can learn so many things from a dog's behavior, personality, demeanor, resiliency, and most importantly, the willingness to provide their family members with unconditional love, loyalty, and companionship down to their very last breath. BCAS is open Monday through Friday from 10-3.

There is no charge to surrender a dog, but donations toward their care are appreciated. Adoptions are \$99.00 for male dogs and \$119.00 for female dogs, and include spay/neuter, rabies vaccination, parvo/distemper vaccination, kennel cough vaccination, flea treatment and deworming. No dog will leave the shelter unfixed and we are very willing to work with reputable 501c3 rescues.

Please call the shelter for vet pricing and ask for our adoption/rescue coordinator Megan at (304)765-2200



The Braxton County Animal Shelter has three, twelve week old Chi mix puppies available for adoption. These are Princess's babies and we have one female and two males. These puppies must be spayed/neutered before they can leave the shelter. They will be adopted in person with an adoption fee deposit by cash or check. The BCAS will work on a first come first serve basis and there will be no holds. If you would like to meet them stop by the shelter during business hours.



Shasta is a twelve to fourteen week old female Boxer. She is a sweet little

girl with lots of playful puppy energy and loves all the attention she can get. She is dog friendly. We don't believe she is house trained yet and hasn't walked on a leash yet, but she is smart and eager to learn.



Molly is a five month old female Blue Heeler/Beagle mix. Molly is crate trained and has lived indoors before but still needs some work with house training as she has had accidents when no one is home. She has been around small children and other dogs but does not do well with chickens! Molly loves toys and playing with other dogs. This girl is very sweet and would make an excellent family companion.



Rowdy and Rascal These sweet boys are litter mates who are now ten months old. Their momma is a Great Dane and we can't be sure the breed of the father of this litter. They have lived mainly outdoors and were very timid when they came to the shelter but they are warming up to our staff quickly. These guys have been around children and are very gentle, do not jump up at all. They are also dog social and have been around chickens and rabbits as well. They love a good game of tug with a rope or toy.



Meet **Josie**, She is a four year old female Black and Tan who came to our shelter as a stray from the Burnsville city limits area. We believe she has only ever lived outdoors. She walks excellent on a leash and is in great physical health. She has dog tested great here in the shelter and is a very gentle personality. We think she would be good with children bc she does not jump up and is very laid back. Josie does have that hound dog howl but we don't hear it often.



Phoenix was found on a farm as a stray in a hay field and the land owner took her home for a week. He brought her to us because he could not keep her, and he paid her adoption fee for her future adopter. We know that Phoenix is friendly with other dogs but hasn't been around kids or any other animals while he/we have had her. She walks well on a leash. We're guessing her to be one to two years old weighing about forty pounds. Phoenix loves all the butt scratches and attention she can get. She gravitates more to people than dogs so we call her a "people dog". When she gets really happy she gets low to the ground with her front legs stretched out and bounces.



Meet **Blue**. He's a seven month old male Catahoula Leopard/Cur mix who weighs approx 60lbs. He was surrendered and is now looking for a family to call his own! Blue has lived inside and out but is not completely housebroke. Blue does not jump up and is not super energetic like a puppy but he has been known to chew. He was gentle with children he has lived with other dogs of various breeds and sizes and is very dog social. He has also been around cats, birds and horses. Blue has a very sweet, eager to please disposition.

Braxton Co. Animal Shelter has been given the opportunity to provide five free dog spay surgery vouchers per month, to low-income Braxton County families. (One per household) These vouchers may be obtained by completing a Spay Assistance Application, which can be picked up and submitted at the animal shelter during business hours. Vouchers will be good for 30 days. BCAS reserves the right to deny financial assistance for any reason.

These free spay surgeries must be scheduled by the voucher recipient at Central WV Animal Hospital.

Gassaway Farmers and Flea Market

The Town of Gassaway has announced its first Farmers and Flea Market event for Sunday, July 17th at noon at the Train Depot.

Bring your home grown goods, homemade crafts, and yard sale items. Take advantage now of your first year as a vendor for free. Come join friends and neighbors every third Sunday monthly to shop and sell in one centralized area.

For more information, please contact Nik and Beth Salvo at (304)853-0002 or on Facebook at [facebook.com/gassawaymarket](https://www.facebook.com/gassawaymarket)

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This Week in West Virginia History

The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

July 13, 1861: The Battle of Corricks Ford took place in Tucker County. Confederate Gen. Robert S. Garnett was killed. He was the first Confederate general killed in the Civil War.

July 14, 1861: Union troops under Gen. Jacob Cox drove Confederate militia and cavalry out of Barboursville during the Battle of Barboursville. Union forces remained in control of Barboursville



thropist Michael Late Benedum was born in Bridgeport. He made a fortune in the oil and gas business, but he is best remembered for the establishment of the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation.



July 17, 1914: Singer Eleanor Steber was born in Wheeling. She made her debut with the Metropolitan Opera in 1940.



for the remainder of the war.

July 15, 1886: Congressman Cleveland Monroe "Cleve" Bailey was born on a farm in Pleasants County. He represented West Virginia's third congressional district for eight terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, 1945-47 and 1949-63.

July 15, 1988: Interstate 64 was completed when the final section between Sam Black Church and the West Virginia Turnpike was opened to traffic.



July 17, 1922: The Cliftonville Mine Battle took place east of Wellsburg, Brooke County. The gun battle between striking miners and sheriff's forces left at least nine people dead.

July 18, 1776: The Methodist bishop Francis Asbury first set foot in present West Virginia outside of Berkeley Springs. He worked extensively in what is now the Eastern Panhandle, preaching and lecturing almost every day, before



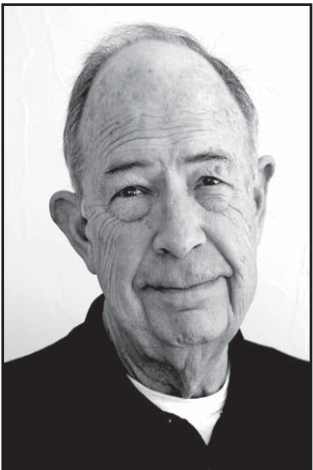
continuing farther into western Virginia.

Braxton County Farm Bureau

Braxton County Farm Bureau will meet on Monday July 25, 2022 at 5 PM at Holly Gray

July 18, 1893: Spencer State Hospital opened. With its connected brick buildings, a quarter-mile in length, the hospital was sometimes referred to as the longest continuous brick building in America. Spencer State Hospital remained in operation until June 1989.

July 19, 1863: A Confederate raid led by Gen. John Morgan came to an end on Buffington Island, near Ravenswood. The Confederates were overtaken by federal troops, local militia, and three U.S. Navy gunboats.



July 19, 1946: Author Stephen Coonts was born in Morgantown. After graduating from West Virginia University and serving in the navy during the Vietnam War, Coonts became a best-selling action and adventure novelist with the 1986 publication of Flight of the Intruder.

e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia is a project of the West Virginia Humanities Council. For more information, contact the West Virginia Humanities Council, 1310 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25301; (304) 346-8500; or visit e-WV at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Park for their annual picnic. Please plan to attend and bring a covered dish.



Pat's Chats

By Pat Ridpath

The teaching and study of health is a very active part of most Seventh-day Adventist churches, services, schools, studies, programs and wellness activities. We have not had much of that for the last two or three years in our church, partly because of Covid. It was rather disappointing to my daughter and me that Loma Linda, our Adventist medical university in California, didn't put out more guidelines and articles to help guide us through these times. At least some encouragement to wear masks and get vaccinated was scattered about, but nothing really pressing the importance of these things as much as we would have liked. It is my opinion that the devil, that created-

angel-who-rebelled-against-God-early-on, got so out-of-hand that he and his legions of angels-become-demons who were cast out of Heaven with him and ultimately confined to the planet Earth to await their final destruction, who is now going about as a roaring lion seeking whom he will devour, was instrumental in creating the viruses and diseases that plague us. I also believe that God works with His people (those who believe in Him and His goodness) and helps them develop remedies and vaccinations that help us in our battle against things like Covid and Monkeypox.

Here is a beautiful hymn that came to Robin's mind as she thought about all of this:

THE GREAT PHYSICIAN NOW IS NEAR

Caught Red Handed



A doe stands on her hind feet to reach apples.

By: Jeanette Riffle

I have been writing about all the critters that have been coming to our big apple tree and this is the biggest one yet. Hubby was having trouble with the old tractor. It wouldn't start. He went out to check it again and the dog followed him. All of a sudden Rascal started barking and was looking towards the apple tree. There stood a big doe standing on her

hind feet so she could reach up and get at the apples.

I saw them do that in the front yard over at Dad's one time. He had me go out and run the deer off and pick up the apples that had fallen to the ground. Those deer were actually shaking the tree to make apples fall. Dad wanted me to wash, peel, chop and cook him some applesauce. By the way, the problem with the old

1 The Great Physician now is near,
The sympathizing Jesus;
He speaks the drooping heart to cheer,
Oh, hear the voice of Jesus!
Sweetest note in seraph song;
Sweetest name on mortal tongue;
Sweetest carol ever sung:
Jesus, blessed Jesus!
2 Your many sins are all forgiv'n,
Oh, hear the voice of Jesus;
The veil 'twixt you and God is riven,
Redemption wrought by Jesus.
3 All glory to the dying Lamb!
I now believe in Jesus;
I love the blessed Savior's name,
I love the name of Jesus.
4 His name dispels my guilt and fear,
No other name but Jesus;
Oh, how my soul delights to hear
The precious name of Jesus!
Maranatha

tractor was a vapor lock and it started when it cooled off.

We are running the robot vacuum cleaner and I came to my chair to get out of the way. We have company coming tomorrow and we are cleaning house. I have enjoyed seeing what my relatives and friends did over the 4th. The pictures and stories go through my news feed on FB. We just enjoyed watching fire works from across the country, on big screen TV and we fixed good meals. When our son called home, I asked him what they did and he said they just went in the backyard and looked up at the sky. There were fire works everywhere. It is like that in the suburbs of Detroit. I will wrap this up for this time and get busy . People are traveling and going to beaches and visiting relatives. It's that time of year. Pray for safe travels.

Until next time everyone take care and God bless!

Mon Health Hospitals Receive Highest Rating in WV for Patient Safety

Mon Health Medical Center and Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital are proud to announce that both institutions have received The Leapfrog Group's distinction for Hospital Safety in its Spring 2022 report. The Leapfrog Group's Hospital Safety Grade rating is the highest earned by any hospital in North Central West Virginia.

"Providing the safest, highest quality care is at the heart of all we do at Mon Health," said David Goldberg, President and CEO of Mon Health System. "Our team strives to continually provide an extraordinary patient experience, compassionate care, and clinical excellence. Nothing makes us prouder than to have been recognized by independent, third-party evaluators for providing the best patient care and experience in the region. That is always our goal."

Developed under the guidance of a national expert panel, the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses over 30 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign grades to nearly 3,000 U.S. hospitals twice per year. The

Hospital Safety Grade's methodology is peer-reviewed and fully transparent. Results are free to the public.

"Patient safety has always and will always be a top priority for us," said Kevin Stalnaker, Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital Chief Administrative Officer. "Our hospital is a trusted part of this community, and we continue to strive for greater excellence in patient safety. Most importantly, we pledge to honor the trust of our patients by being transparent about our progress and working toward the highest possible standard of safety."


With decades of top-tier service, Mon Health continues its meaningful and sustainable service expansion to the communities it serves throughout the region. Mon Health leads WV in treatments for conditions that most affect its citizens, with highest marks for heart care, robotic surgery, and gynecologic care. Mon Health Medical Center has been recognized as a Center of Excellence in Robotic Surgery for its minimally invasive expertise. Ad-


ditionally, Mon Health Medical Center has been named a Center of Excellence for Minimally Invasive Gynecology with several physicians receiving distinctions as Surgeons of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology.

Mon Health Heart & Vascular Center is West Virginia's leader in cardiovascular care as the first and only hospital in West Virginia to earn an Atrial Fibrillation (AFib) Accreditation and is the first hospital in the region to offer the leading-edge Watchman FLX™ for AFib treatment. Also, Mon Health Medical Center has been recognized by U.S. News & World Report's Best Hospitals 2021-2022 as High Performing in Heart Failure and is the only regional hospital and 24th in the country to receive HeartCARE Center Designation by the American College of Cardiology.

To learn more about Mon Health, visit MonHealth.com. To see Mon Health Medical Center and Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital's full grades, visit HospitalSafetyGrade.org.

Peter Pan Cleaners






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Dress	17.90
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Heavy Coat (Long)	22.75



Laundry

Shirts	3.55
Pants (Extra Heavy Starch + 1.00)	9.40
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(10.25 minimum charge)	



Linens

Comforter (Full/Queen)	36.50
Comforter (King)	41.50
Quilt	23.00
(Down Filled + 5.00)	

Extra charge for silks, beads, leather trim, down filled, etc.



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CLASSIFIEDS

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HOMEMAKERS: Braxton County Senior Citizens Center is looking for caring individuals to work with disabled and elderly clients in all areas of Braxton and Webster Counties. Many opportunities for employment especially in the Burnsville Area of Braxton County. A valid WV Drivers license is required to be eligible for employment. No experience necessary. All necessary training will be provided at no cost to you.

All Classifieds are due by 4:00 P.M every Thursday!

Classifieds: \$5.00 FIRST 25 words, .20 per word after. Add \$1.00 for border.

Classified Display: \$6.75 per column in.

Business & Professional: 1 square \$7.00 per week, 2 squares \$14 per week.

Call: (304)765-5193

Fax: (304)765-2754

Email:

editor@bcn-news.com

Mail in or drop off:

501 Main St. Sutton, WV 26601

Interested individuals please call 304-765-4090. Preference given to those age 60 or older in accordance with the Older Americans Act. EOE. 7-147-28B

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MISC. ITEMS

GARAGE SALE: Thursday, July 14, and Friday, July 15, 9am to 6pm, and Saturday, July 16, 9am to 4pm. Drake residence on Big Run Hill on Wilsie Road, 2 mile off Rt. 4 from Frametown. 7-12p

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LEGAL NOTICES

Braxton Democrat-Central

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Your Place

By: Joseph J. Mazzella

Summer brings a literal explosion of LIFE here in the mountains of my home. The forested hillsides become an ocean of green leaves. In the meadows and along the roadsides you see buttercups, dandelions, sweet clover, daisies, black eyed Susan's and Queen Anne's Lace. Butterflies and bumblebees dance above them. In the trees dozens of species of birds are singing love songs, building nests, and raising babies. You can just feel the LIFE in the air each time you go outside.

Just last evening as I took my dogs out for their last walk of the day I saw: a majestic hawk

flying beneath the pink clouds caused by the setting sun, a thousand fireflies blinking their lights in the meadow behind my house, a squirrel scurrying up a tree with a nut in its mouth, a bunny rabbit hopping home from a day of nibbling grass, a deer coming out of the woods for a last meal in the meadow before it got dark, and my daughter's adopted stray cat, "Alice" laying down for her nineteenth nap of the day. As I looked at it all I felt a peace, contentment, and joy in my heart and I found it fitting that my home state's nickname is "Almost Heaven."

I also felt a great desire


welling up in me to take my place in all of this Life. I wanted to live. I wanted to learn. I wanted to shine my light. I wanted to share my love. I wanted to do good. I wanted to be kind. I wanted to help others. I wanted to make this beautiful, blessed world even better with the life I lived. I looked around one last time and thanked God for letting me be a part of this wonderful world and this sacred life.

God created this glorious universe and this beautiful planet for us to live, to learn, and to love in. Don't hide from it. Take your place in it instead. Live with purpose. Share your love. Shine your light. Let your sacred soul become one with this sacred life.

The Williams Farm

By Larry Knight

The homestead on Chop Fork a tributary of Knowls Creek. In the old picture bottom left is the Jim Williams log house. Jim's grandson once told me that he could remember a stone above the mantle that had the date carved in it 1829. A cozy homeplace to say the least. The farm was mostly self supporting in them days. To the right of the house was the chicken house, to the right of the chicken house was the hog house, then the apple tree and last was the big garden. Mostly in the big garden veggies were grown, along with field corn for the livestock. A special field corn was usually grown for corn meal. The usual animals on a farm were a team of horses, at least (2) cows, a couple of calves, a pair of hogs for pork chops and sausage. Sheep was a must for the wool to use in clothing or to sell. Chickens were a common item too along with a flock of turkeys that would be the farm variety. Back to the picture center right would have been the log barn, then another apple tree then the corn house or grainery. The creek flowed past just over the roof of the house past the barn doing a 90 degree turn then flowing



A Picture From A Long Time Ago 1948 Sept 14th.

on down the valley. The local county road wound along up the holler past the cornhouse and barn crossing the creek up past the apple tree. Just across the road from the apple tree was a willow cup. This was to help quench the thirst of a rock ledge. On a hot summer day the water was oh so cold. The (2) ladies in the picture I do not recognize. The picture shows our past when people were friendly toward one another. A persons problems were usually simple but could be a problem to be dealt

with just the same, Mr. Jim Williams I suppose lived his entire 80+ years on the farm. Jims father most likely built up the farm. Jim married a lady by the name of Sara Cayton. She was a member of the Cayton clan that had settled on the chop fork drainage of Knowls Creek. The Corps of Engineers about 50yrs ago purchased this property for the Burnsville dam project Charlie the only son of Jim Williams was the last to leave the area. Charley died in bed the last person that occupied Chop Fork.

Morrison United Methodist Church Gospel Sing

Morrison United Methodist Church, Airport Road, Sutton will be hosting a Gospel Sing on Saturday, July 16 at 6:00 pm. Admission is FREE.

The Gospel Sing will feature Carolyn Conner with a performance by The Shaver Sisters.

For more information call 304-517-0651 or 304-765-5819.

On the Other Side of the Mountain



First frame for those panels



Panels we built in the field

Like everybody else, we have to make decisions every day, some are easy, like what to make for lunch, what kind of clothes to wear to keep cool, things with little consequences. Then there are the harder ones, weather related, like when to cut hay to get it in dry and of good quality. Occasionally, we face incidents that demand searching for a resolution, that require more time and possibly financial involvement for decision making. In 2012 we had two storms, Derecho in the summer and Sandy in the fall, both causing extensive damage to our woods, requiring substantial clean-up for weeks. Both times we were without electricity for a long time. We were not as dependent on electricity when we first moved here, but over the years we built a business and relied heavily on refrigeration. We used to keep canned food safe in the root cellar, but now we have added 3 freezers where we keep frozen meat and vegetables that we like better frozen than canned. We had purchased a generator that runs on the tractor. We spent around \$1200.00 for running it in 2012 after the storms. We were also dependent on friends, Martha and Jim to bring

in diesel, since our driveway and the county road were impassible, who together with Melanie, all the way from Va. helped clean up the worst of the mess.. That's when the idea of electrification of our farm started. I want to point out that it is a long process and in our case it had to do with how to deal with power interruptions. It will have to be eventually implemented state, country and worldwide , not because of power outages, but because of climate change, to save our planet for our kids and all the life on it. Climate change is a fact and there are dire warnings of changing our CO2 emissions while we still have time. The changes on our farm will give an indication that transition does not happen over night.

Here is how we started. We contacted a solar installer and asked for advice. He offered to come out to our place to assess the situation.

Bill Anderson, owner of Milestone Solar, proved to be an expert and very helpful. He and his team installed our first solar panels on the roof of our house in the fall of 2012, while we were still cleaning up from storm damages. It was a tricky job, since the connection to the grid , the meter box, was up at

the cheese building, 200' distance. So proper breakers had to be installed. The whole system is connected to a battery storage. Now, when the electricity goes out, we do not even noticed it.

The whole thing switches over automatically to the batteries. When ever the sun comes up, the batteries are recharged first. We can watch the procedure on the computer. We also can monitor each individual panel output.

Next we wanted more security, so we installed free-standing solar panels by ourselves in 2014. They are not connected to the batteries.

They all have individual micro-inverters. It is now 10 years since we have not paid any electric bill, except the basic charge, \$5.00 a month.

We do not get paid for extra electricity we produce, but we are given credit for it, in case we ever need it. The panels on the roof are fixed, the ones outside in the field we can raise in the winter and lower in the summer to get the most of the angle of the sun.

We had to make a decision of replacing our car. in 2018. We use a GM credit card where we can gain points toward the purchase of a new GM vehicle. We had a credit of \$3500.00. We contemplated to make the move towards an EV car. With the fore-mentioned credit, a \$ 7500.00 tax break that could be extended over years and adding the trade-in for the old car made it financially possible to buy a BOLT, cheaper than a gas powered car. When problems with batteries in some Bolts (we never had a problem) emerged, GM offered to replace them, adding extra miles storage with the new ones. I love to drive it. We can put it in one drive that slows down the car when we remove the foot from the accelerator, it is a safety feature as well as a mode to recharge the battery on the road. The first solar installation came with a car charging unit, so we mostly charge the car at home. It can also be plugged into a 120 outlet, but it takes much longer. The Bolt has a 260 mile range.

At the beginning of

May in 2020 Greg fell from ladder, got his arm caught on a 2x6 and suffered from a dislocated shoulder. He had his arm in a sling and tied to his body because he was told any ,even a slight movement could yank out the shoulder again. It was a challenging summer on the farm with Greg not being able to do his part. It took till the beginning of September for him to do light work again, like putting up hay. He could drive a tractor but hooking up machinery was a challenge.

Another decision had to be made to stay independent. I am getting to an age when cutting 10 truck loads of firewood, loading, unloading and stacking became daunting. Greg was able by then to do his part, but what if something else happened before we were finished? We had a heat pump installed (mini-split) to have a back-up heat source in the living room and in the bedroom, just in case everything went South. We use it rarely in winter, just in the morning at the start of the colder season to warm up the living room a little. We also needed to find out if the unit would put out heat when the temperatures outside were very low. So far we tested it at 3 degrees and it worked perfectly. It uses very little energy and remember, all our use is drawn from the solar installation.

In the summer we use it as air conditioning. We can set a desired temperature and it will maintain it and circulate it around via



Panels on house.



Kwh production of field panels, July 4th as seen on computer

a built-in fan. Of course we still use firewood in our stoves in winter, but now we cut it with electric saws, which we bought, when the our Stihl gas saws needed replacing. We did the same thing when we had to replace weed eaters. We find these electric power tools safer. They turn off when I release the trigger and the chain stops running.

The most recent electrification module is our induction stove top.

No more gas leaks. It took me a little time to get used to it, but it is very efficient. It uses only magnetic pots, but if we use regular cook-ware we can put a diffuser plate (it is magnetic) underneath.

Now, I am just waiting for some gadget that can electrify my legs and my

brain and I think and we will be set!

We have to take steps to electrify our world to keep us from the damages of global warming. It is not just solar or wind energy, but there are so many options today and more seem to be popping up, like geothermal, heat pumps, “green” hydrogen, catching methane just to name a few. I have to admit we did not install solar panels for climate related issues, but rather to have a reliable source of energy. Once it was established, steps could be taken to further reduce our personal CO2 emissions and it lead to a realization of how each of us can contribute in infinitely, small ways to make the air cleaner. Small steps taken in a decade.



Judy's Garden Club.

Judy's Garden Club July 2022 Meeting

Judy's Garden Club, Appalachian District, held its regular meeting on July 9, 2022 at the pavilion at the Braxton County Senior Center. Regular business was discussed and various reports were read and approved. In addition to regular business, new members were welcomed to the club.

At this meeting a presentation was given by Debbie Friend, Braxton County Extension Agent. Mrs. Friend shared information in regard to the upcoming Fall Session of the Braxton/Clay Master Gardener Program. This program is offered through WVU and is being presented online. This is a unique opportunity to become educated in many aspects of gardening. If you are interested in becoming a WVU Extension Master Gardener, please contact Mrs. Friend at her office, 304/765-2809. She can answer any questions and assist getting you enrolled. Pictured are Braxton/Clay Master Gardeners who are also Judy's Garden Club Members.

Also, Judy's Garden



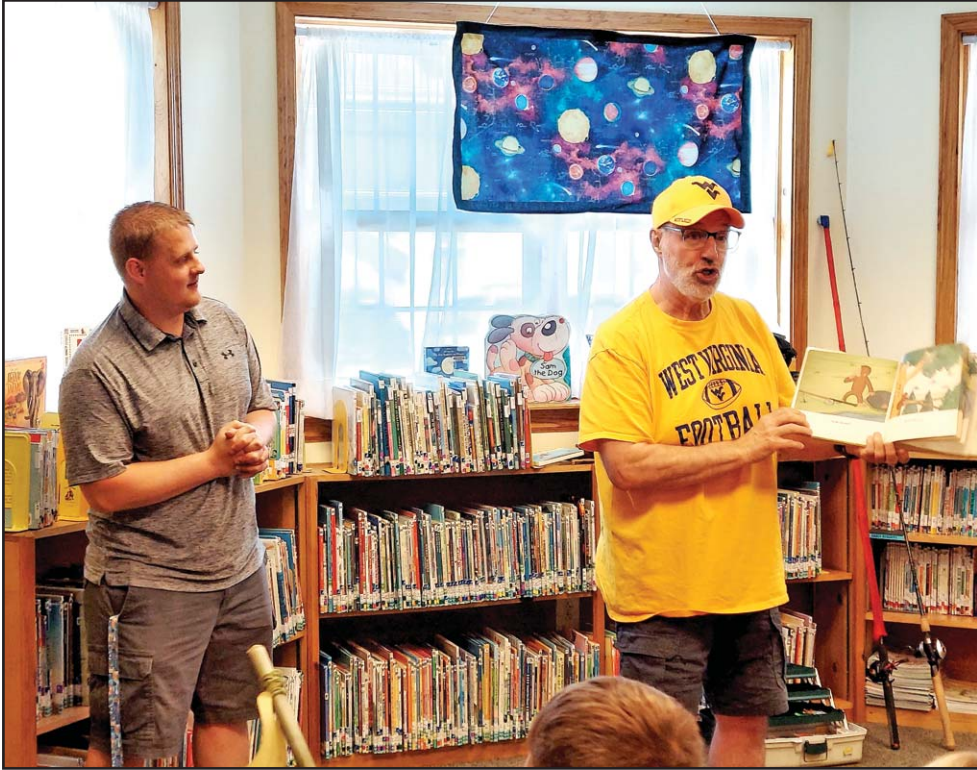
Mary Jacobson and Pat McPherson with the raffle quilt won by Josh Porto.

Club has been selling raffle ticket for a handmade Fairy quilt. The winner was drawn by Mrs. Friend. Josh Porto was the big winner of this lovely quilt. Congratulations to Mr. Porto.

The next scheduled meeting of Judy's will be August 6, 2022. You are invited to follow Judy's

Garden Club on their Facebook page where additional info and updates are posted. Please join us anytime in our efforts. We would love to meet you. Judy's Garden Club thanks you for your support.

From Judy's Garden Club, Happy Gardening!



Wil Blake reads aloud the book, Curious George Goes Fishing to the students participating in the Summer Reading Program.

Sutton Public Library goes fishing with Eric Thomas and Wil Blake

It was another great week of summer reading at Sutton Public Library.

This week Eric Thomas and Wil Blake led our program and students learned all about fishing!

Eric Thomas and Wil Blake read “Curious George Goes Fishing.”

Each child got to make their own bamboo fishing pole with a “banana” fish to take home. They even got to go fishing in our own special pond.

Can you believe there are only two weeks left of summer reading?

Make sure to join us Monday July 18 at 11:00 A.M.



Eric Thomas gives instructions on how to make a bamboo fishing pole.

Burnsville Lake to Host Heritage Weekend event



Heritage Weekend starts Friday, July 15th through Sunday, July 17th, 2022. Demonstrations and Hand-on Learning will include Butter Making, Looms, Grain Grinding, Watercolor Painting, crocheting, quilting and much more.

Burnsville Lake in Burnsville WV will host Heritage Weekend on Friday, July 15th through Sunday, July 17th, 2022. Times are different for each day. You may call the Bulltown Historical Museum for a full schedule with the times. The annual event offers visitors a chance to experience farm life in West Virginia through demonstrations and exhibits. There are also a few hands-on ac-

tivities for visitors to participate in.

This free event is sponsored by The Bulltown Historical Association in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Event takes place in the Bulltown Historical Area, located at the entrance to Bulltown Campground in Napier, West Virginia off Millstone Run Road. The area includes several log structures that predate the

Civil War. These buildings were reconstructed in a village setting along a section of the Weston & Gauley Turnpike. One of the structures is the Cunningham House, which belonged to Moses Cunningham, the only civilian injured in the Battle of Bulltown on October 13th, 1863.

Exhibits will include various traditional crafts and farm life demonstrations. Civil War living

historians will also be on hand to provide information about life at Bulltown during the War Between the States. Demonstrations will include Civil War cooking and Camp Life. Talks and tours will also be available throughout the weekend. If enough

Re-Enactors show up there may also be a Civil War drill.

Directions to the Heritage Weekend Event: from

the south, take exit 67 (Flatwoods) off of I-79 go north on US 19 - turn left onto Millstone Run Road and turn left again onto the Bulltown Campground Road and then left again to enter the Bulltown Historical Area parking lot (follow the brown signs); from the north, take exit 91 (Roanoke) off of I-79 and go south on US 19 - turn right onto Millstone Run Road and turn left again onto the Bulltown

Campground Road and then left again to enter the Bulltown Historical Area parking lot (follow the brown signs).

For more information about Heritage Weekend or the Bulltown Historical Area, contact Volunteers at the Bulltown Historical Area Museum, phone: 304-452-8170, or Park Ranger Lisa Hess at the Burnsville Lake Project Office, phone: 304-853-2371.

Burnsville Public Library Ocean of Possibilities and 100 Days of Reading Challenge Schedule

Oceans of Possibilities Learning Programs are each Monday in July.

Wiggle Worms (Birth through age five/Pre-K) from 11:00 A.M. to noon. Kingdom of Knowledge (ages five through twelve: Kindergarten through fifth) from 2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Teen Scene (ages eleven through eighteen or older: Sixth grade through college) from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M.

Under the Ocean Movie Night: Join the BPL for family movie fun each Tuesday in July, and August starting at 6:00 P.M. Concessions will be available for a small donation.

Sea of Suspense Movie Night: Join the BPL for suspense and intrigue filled movies each Thursday in July, and August starting at 7:00 P.M. Concessions will be available for a small donation. Please be aware these movie titles are not child friendly.

Pirate Saturdays: Join the BPL each Saturday from July 9th to August 6th starting at 12:00 P.M. to watch all the movies in a popular pirate franchise. Concessions will be available for a small donation.

Sunday Matinees: Join the BPL on specific Sundays in July starting at 2:00 P.M. There will be a new release movie on July 17th. A classic movie will be on July 31st. Concessions will be available for a small donation.

Tutoring spots are still available for Mondays. You can also call for more information regarding that program.

For a list of specific movies dates and titles, please contact the Burnsville Public Library at (304)853-2338.

Students can sign up for tutoring spots on Mondays. They have been working on spelling, days of the week, and double digits to name a few.



Myra works on a cursive worksheet perfecting her new learned skills.



Teen Scene students recently made tie dye tshirts during their Monday evening session.



Students in cybersecurity training course as a part of the Cybersecurity and Safety Workforce Development Initiative at Glenville State University. (GSU Photo/Kristen Cosner)

Free Cybersecurity Workforce Training Coming to Glenville State University

Glenville State University will be offering free cybersecurity training as a part of the Cybersecurity and Safety Workforce Development Initiative. The Initiative aims to create a more vibrant economic future for the coal-impacted North Central region of West Virginia.

The training will lead to certifications and national industry-recognized credentials for high paying and in-demand jobs.

“There is no better time than now to get certifications in cybersecurity. Job demand for employees with cybersecurity skills, in West Virginia and the United States, has seen a precipitous climb in recent years and is expected to continue this trend for many years to come. With the development of these free boot camps that provide each participant with all training materials and exams at no cost to the participant, central West Virginia residents have a unique opportunity to receive training and eventual certification in cybersecurity-related fields at little to no cost,” said Tim Henline, Project Director for the Cybersecurity and Safety Workforce Development Initiative.

All necessary materials and certification ex-

ams will be provided at no cost in addition to the training. Classes do not require any prior coding or cybersecurity training and will take place over the course of three to five days. Day, night, and weekend classes will be offered to accommodate a variety of schedules.

Training courses will consist of a three- to five-day weekday or weekend boot camp where an instructor guides and trains students to receive industry-recognized certification in a cybersecurity-related field. Current base level certifications ongoing are CompTIA A+ and CompTIA Network+ with higher-level cybersecurity certification training planned in the coming months.

For more information about the courses or to be added to the waitlist, contact Henline by email at

Timothy.Henline@glenville.edu or by phone at (304) 462-6119. You may also register for upcoming courses by visiting <https://workforce.glenville.edu/>.

This project was developed collaboratively with many diverse stakeholders and made possible by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) POWER Initiative Grant. To learn more about ARC’s POWER Initiative, visit <https://www.arc.gov/arcs-power-initiative/>.

A total of \$1,402,408 in local and federal funding is being provided for the project, 80% of which, (\$1,120,995) comes from the Appalachian Regional Commission while 20% (\$281,413) comes from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation and Glenville State University.

Flatwoods Cemetery Thank You

Thanks to those who donated for cemetery mowing/upkeep in 2021 as follows: Nancy B. Fowler, Marlin Hugh Butler, Keith Butler, Brian Dulaney, Ranell Minear, Pierson Butler, Jr., Carolyn Butler Barber, Angela Butler, Keith Wooddell, Dick Bright, Loran Kniceley, Johnson Reunion, and Mary Mc-

Coy Estate; 2022 as follows: Herb Floyd, George Butcher Family and Dick Bright. If you wish to donate please make check out to Flatwoods Cemetery and mail to Linda Brown 1353 Stone Run Road Flatwoods, WV 26621. Thanks again to all who have donated.