

Legislative Update...

By Lori Ditman
WV House of Delegates
63rd District

The 86th Legislature kicked off on Wednesday, January 11th. This was the first time in state history that House districts are represented by single members.

The session began with administrative duties. West Virginia Supreme Court Justice Beth Walker administered the oath of office to all members who then elected Roger Hanshaw, R-Clay, to his third term as Speaker of the House. Members also elected Stephen J. Harrison for another term as Clerk of the House, Marshall Clay as Sergeant-at-Arms and Robert Stewart as Doorkeeper.

The House welcomed Gov. Jim Justice to address a joint session of the Legislature for his State of the State address and to present his budget, which proposes a 50% reduction in the personal income tax to take place in three phases over three years. The legislation to carry out that plan, House Bill 2526, advanced from the House Finance Committee on Thursday, Jan. 12, after members made a change that included the Personal Income Tax Reserve Fund in the bill. The measure would begin with a 30% reduction in state personal income tax rates beginning with the 2023 tax year, and then reduce the original rates by another 10% the following year, and another 10% the year after that.

The newly elevated House Technology and Infrastructure Committee reported out two bills this week, HB 2218, a potential expansion and modernization of current distracted driving laws, and HB 2310, which would allow the

Magistrate Report

Magistrate Beth Smith
January 12: Coty L. Prunty of Burnsville, domestic battery, warrant issued, bond set at \$1,500 personal recognition.

January 13: Samuel M. Miller of Gassaway, no proof of insurance, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed.

January 15: Ladawn Mae Burroughs of Heaters, unlawful taking of vehicle, warrant issued, bond set at \$10,000 cash or surety; Paul Bernard George of Charleston, prohibited person in possession of a firearm, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$10,000 cash only.

Magistrate David Singleton
January 16: Ristie Nicholas of Gassaway, grand larceny, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$5,000 cash or surety.

January 17: Eugene D. Turner of Burnsville, no proof of insurance, guilty plea, expired MVI, guilty plea, fines/court costs assessed;

West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles to develop an "antique fleet" program to utilize a single registration plate for a person to rotate among multiple antique motor vehicles.

The House Health and Human Resources Committee also advanced two measures this week: HB 2016, which would allow specific information to be shared among child agencies or facilities when making referrals or providing services on behalf of the child, while still keeping the information private; and HB 2002, which would increase support for families through several methods, including increasing the adoption tax credit and allowing adopted children of West Virginia residents to participate in the Department of Health and Human Resources' early intervention services for children with developmental delays.

A total of 548 bills have been introduced in the House, and the 60-day, regular legislative session ends at midnight on March 11th.

It is truly an honor to serve the 63rd District and the citizens of Braxton and Gilmer counties.

I look forward to hearing from you and am dedicated to serving you to the best of my abilities and in your best interests. You may reach me at Lori.Dittman@wv-house.gov or 304-701-8600.

"I think there's no higher calling in terms of a career than public service, which is a chance to make a difference in people's lives and improve the world." (Jack Lew, former United States Secretary of the Treasury)

Charles J. Bitano, Jr. of Las Vegas, NV, speeding, guilty plea, fine/court costs assessed and paid; Curtis Matthew Cummings of Duck, driving suspended x2, no contest plea, no proof of insurance, no contest plea, fines/court costs assessed; Lonnieisha Desiree White of Charlotte, NC, possession of counterfeit with intent to utter, conspiracy, preliminary hearing waived, transferred to circuit court; Lloyd Ethelberth Style, Jr. of Charlotte, NC, possession of counterfeit with intent to utter, conspiracy, preliminary hearing waived, transferred to circuit court; Jermel Turrell Williams of Weston, possession of counterfeit with intent to utter, conspiracy, preliminary hearing waived, transferred to circuit court; Courtney Michelle Amick of Beckley, contraband into jail, preliminary hearing waived, transferred to circuit court.



Workman Receives Life in Prison for Murder of 3-Year-Old Boy

On January 9, Samuel Thomas Workman, 35, of Sutton came before the Honorable Richard A. Facemire, Braxton County Circuit Judge for sentencing following the plea he entered in October 2022. The state was represented by Prosecuting Attorney Jasmine Morton while Kevin Hughart and Jonathan Fittro served as counsel for the defendant.

On the 31st day of October 2022, Workman entered a no contest plea to fired Degree Murder with Mercy and a guilty plea to Child Abuse Creating Risk of Injury. The charges stem from an incident in February 2021 which resulted in the death of a 3-year-old child.

At the January 9th sentencing hearing, Workman's attorneys argued that the indictment was unconstitutional and vague and requested the plea be set aside. Following a review of the evidence, Judge Facemire denied the defense's motion. During the sentencing hearing, the Defendant and his counsel called individuals to the stand to speak in support of Workman. The Prosecuting Attorney and family members of the victim also addressed the Court.

Judge Facemire noted that Workman was convicted of first-degree murder of a 3-year-old child. He added that the Prosecuting Attorney, during the plea hearing, requested multiple times that the first-degree murder charge be dropped as part of the plea agreement. The Court rejected that request as not being in the best interest of justice. "Quite frankly, based upon the facts of this case the plea agreement proposed by the Prosecuting Attorney is contrary to the

Benefactors Solicited for Rotary Elimination Dinner

The Braxton County Rotary Club has announced the date for their 2023 Elimination Dinner. The event, the organization's largest fund-raiser of the year, will be held on Saturday, March 25 at Braxton County High School.

The club plans to again fund \$10,000 in scholarships to BCHS graduates as well as select smaller grants to worthy charitable organization in the county. Any club or organization that would like to be considered should put their request in writing, along with how much is needed and what the funding will be used for and provide it any Rotary member. Requests may also be mailed to: Braxton County Rotary Club, P.O. Box 313, Gassaway, WV 26624. Email requests can be sent in care of; editor@bcn-news.com. All requests must be received no later than January 31, 2023.



best interest of justice and severely depreciates the offenses for which you committed," wrote Judge Facemire in his sentencing order. Workman reconsidered and entered a no contest pleas to the murder charge as the Court was preparing to select a jury for trial.

The Court outlined the tragic events surround the death saying, the mother of two children, one of whom was Workman's son, left the 3-year-old and his 18-month old brother in Workman's care. During that time Workman left the children unattended and went to the neighbor's house to indulge in drug use. Workman told the Court that when he returned home from doing drugs with the neighbor, the pair discovered the 3-year-old boy deceased. Documents stated that no evidence was found that supported Workman's claim that some-

BCMS varsity boys foiled in comeback effort in last 30 seconds

Following a Knights' strong comeback effort in the second half, Webster scored a 51-47 win with a late shot. Braxton trailed by only one point after the first quarter. Coach Drew Taylor reported, "[the Knights] shot better in the second, but slacked defensively," and by halftime they were down 32-27.

In second half action, the score went back-and-forth, but Webster managed to go up by eight, 43-35, going into the fourth quarter. In the next five minutes, Braxton held their opponent to four points while scoring 12 for a 47-47 tie with 30 seconds left on the clock. Coach Taylor described the remainder of the game. "A tipped pass led to an easy Webster bucket," he said, "and an unforced turnover sealed our fate," he said.

The Knights' coach said he "was proud of the team's fight throughout the game, but interior defense and rebounding was our Achilles heel. We let one player [with 24 points] dictate

one else or some "demon or demonic being" was responsible for the death.

"The evidence clearly reveals that a murder occurred in this home. Evidence also reveals that you are the only individual that can be placed at the home before and after this brutal murder. I believe that you committed this heinous crime and that you have no remorse or sorrow," Judge Facemire wrote.

"You took someone's child, brother, grandchild, and family member from them. This 3-year-old boy will never attend school, will never graduate from elementary, middle or high school. There will be no Christmases, Thanksgivings, Halloweens, or special event for this little boy. There will be no weddings. This 3-year-old boy may have gone on to college to become a doctor, nurse, or became a police officer, firefighter,

the pace of the game." He continued to emphasize, "I want to see more consistent defense and shot-making against Gilmer.

Brady Toler and Landon Hart led Braxton's scoring. Toler scored 19 points, and Hart added 18. Ashton Stewart scored 5, Braeden Godfrey 4, and Trevor Edgerton 1.

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or emergency personnel and helped others in their time of need. This little boy will not know the pleasure of having a pet or a friend. You not only denied this 3-year-old boy by taking his life, but you denied and took from other individuals the opportunity to know this child and see this child grow, thrive, and succeed.

"I cannot impose a greater punishment than what the law allows. The offenses for which you are convicted are first degree murder which carries a life imprisonment and child neglect creating risk of injury which carries one to five years in a penitentiary.

I cannot imagine the fear, anguish, and pain that this 3-year-old suffered at your hands. This boy trusted you, that you would protect him, care for him, and let nothing happen to him. You ask this Court to show mercy and leniency upon you but what mercy and leniency did you show to that 3-year-old boy? The boy that you inflicted so much pain, so much suffering and injuries until his last dying breath," the Judge added before sentencing Workman to the penitentiary for the remainder of his life. He was also sentenced to one to five years on the child neglect charge. The sentences will run concurrently.

In the event Workman is granted parole anytime in the future he faces fines, court costs and will have 50 years of supervised probation as well as registering as a sex offender.

Workman was immediately returned to the Central Regional Jail to await transfer to a penitentiary.

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Editor's Note: See additional Braxton County Middle School sports coverage on Pages 6 and 8 of this edition.

Legislative Update

By Delegate Brent Boggs

I write this week with a heavy heart, as my father, Doyle Boggs, went home to be with the Lord on January 11. During his final two weeks, his health had declined rapidly after falling at home. It set off a chain of health events that led up to his passing. Thankfully, my mom and dad spent most of his final day together. After seventy-two years of marriage, the ravages of mom’s Alzheimer’s did not diminish her understanding and mourning at dad’s passing.

I was blessed with wonderful parents. Dad lived out his faith, service to others, work ethic, and believed that humility is a positive attribute. Beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather; church deacon, scout leader, little league basketball coach, railroad worker, friend to all, and so much more

throughout his life.

At sixty-seven years of age, this is my first experience losing a parent. He lived a long life of 92 years old, but it makes it no less difficult. We lived next door to one another. I talked with or visited him nearly every day. When going on a business trip or vacation, Jean and I would always call home to let him know we’d arrived safely; a trait that we’ve passed on to our kids. I will miss making those calls and hearing him say “you want to be careful”. I will especially miss hearing him pray. Thankfully, that is etched in my heart.

Over the past several days, I’ve watched our family rally together to provide 24/7 home care. I believe he appreciated our efforts to care for him as he selflessly cared for all of us so many times through the years. He loved God with all his

heart and lived it out daily. His focus has always been on family, especially our mom, Ethel Mae, wanting to focus on her care when he needed care just as badly.

I debated whether to write this week, but I know dad would want me to continue. No doubt, he would not want me to write about him. So many memories and I hope as time goes on, our tears of grief give way to smiles and tears of joy as we remember and celebrate his life.

You can reach 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 email address is: Boggs34@gmail.com

Thank our Veterans 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.

Sandra Kay Parkhurst Lynch

Sandra Kay Parkhurst Lynch, 80 of Summers-



ville, went home to her Lord on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at Ansted Center after an extended illness. She was born August 17, 1942 in Eagleville, Missouri, a daughter of the late Clarence and Doris Bowen Parkhurst.

She was a Christian by faith; enjoyed flower gardening, working, traveling, and spending time with her family. She was a very personable person, always wearing a smile; and was loved by all, especially her grandchildren. She was former owner of L&L Builders Supply and Town & Country Hardware in Webster Springs.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Leroy Allen Lynch; son Scott Lynch; daughter Sandra Leigh Lynch Osborn; sisters Kathryn Elise Henderson; brother Lyle Keith Parkhurst; and two great-grandchildren.

Sandra is survived by her children Mike Wyant, James (Becky) Lynch, Gwen Wyant, Rhonda Hudson, and Diane (Vic) Parkers; siblings Donna Irene Tull, Marvin Rex Parkhurst, Icel Nadeen Nigh, Ruby Marcene Osborn, Evelyn Leora McLain, Theola Pauline Palmer, Erma Christine Perry, Richard Neil Parkhurst, and Roena Faye Collins; 17 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren and 1 on the way; 3 great-great-grandchildren; and special friends James and Imogene Bennett of Senoia, GA and Brenda Estes of MO.

Friends joined the family for visitation on Saturday, January 14, 2023 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Dodd & Reed Funeral Home, Webster Springs. Celebration of Life Funeral Services were held on Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 2:00 PM at the Funeral Home with her son, Pastor James Lynch, and Pastor Ryan Trescott officiating. Private Burial took place in West Virginia Memorial Gardens.

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

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

Iva Lee Beamer

Iva Lee Beamer, 82, of Sutton, WV passed away



on December 31, 2022. She was born on September 21, 1940 to parents Henry

James Morton and Irene Barnett Morton.

Iva is preceded in death by her parents and stepfather J.C. Nave; husband: Walter O. “Ted” Beamer; great grandson: Levi Burroughs; brothers: Orlie Morton, Cecil Morton, Lenoard Morton, Charles Morton and Darrell Nave; sisters: Charlotte Street, Monnie Williams, Louise Ingram and Marion Hulse; stepsons: Rondal and Christopher Beamer.

She is survived by her daughter: Kathern Beamer; grandchildren: Christopher Westfall and Valarie Mollohan; great grandchildren: Dalton Brown, Owen Beamer, Willow Westfall and Gunner Westfall; sisters: Carolyn Lyons, Joyce Norman, Ruthie Lovelace and brother: James Nave; stepchildren: Robert and Richard Beamer; step grandchildren: Jennifer, Jon, Crystal and Cody Beamer; and step great grandchildren.

Iva was a Christian by faith and attended High Knob Church. She enjoyed sewing, canning, gardening and loved spending time with her family.

Service were held on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 1:00 PM at High Knob Church. Visitation was one hour prior to the service from 12-1 PM. Pastor Rod Nicholas officiated the service. Final resting place was at Mount Hebron Cemetery.

Stockert Funeral Home & Cremation is honored to serve the family of Iva Beamer.

Brenda Mae Oswald

Brenda Mae Oswald, 72, of Birch River, WV



went to her heavenly home with the Lord on January 9, 2023. Born March 1, 1950 in Sutton, WV a daughter of the late Ira Edward Canfield and Maude Eleanor White Dennison. She was preceded in death by her beloved sister Joyce Hickman.

Brenda was a Baptist by faith. She loved her family, friends, and pets. She enjoyed going to church, family gatherings, loved jewelry, the beach, dancing, going to yard sales, and playing cards. Brenda will be remembered for her beautiful smile, mischievous and playful shenanigans.

Left to cherish her memory is her beloved family including sons, John Wesley Dodrill (Drema) and Steven Neil Dodrill (Donna), grandchildren Joey Dodrill (Becca), Luke Dodrill (Chelsey), Vanessa Ellison (Brenton), and Autumn Sparks (Cody), sisters Betty Houghton of Ohio, Mavis Thomas (David) of SC, Barbara Nash of Ohio, Linda Fenwick of Ohio, Cindy Campbell (Greg) of WV, Sheila Groves of WV, and brother Steve Canfield of WV, four great grandchildren, Huck, Blaine, Hadley, and Riggs, as well as a fifth expected to arrive in the spring. Several friends and extended family are left to mourn her passing.

Funeral services to celebrate Brenda’s life were Saturday, January 14, 2023

at 1:00 pm at Greene-Robertson Funeral Home with Pastor Ronnie Tinney officiating. Friends called one hour prior to services. Brenda was laid to rest next to her mother at the Keener-Wood Cemetery, Morris, WV.

Greene-Robertson Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Oswald family.

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

Lucille Eagle Rhodes

Lucille Eagle Rhodes, 90, a long time resident



of Sutton, WV passed away January 13, 2023 peacefully at home surrounded by her family due to complications related to colon cancer.

She was born April 11, 1932 and was the daughter of the late Rev. Benjamin H. Eagle and Treacy Bell (Jackson) Eagle.

Lucille was a loving wife and homemaker until her two children were grown. She then went to work with the Braxton County Board of Education specializing in Special Education. She retired after 22 years with a Distinguished Service Award in 1992. Working with the school children was the most rewarding part of her career.

She was a member of Stump Chapel Church at Tesla, WV and later became a member of Sutton Baptist Church for many years.

Being outside working in her yard was her most enjoyable hobby and feeding the several hummingbirds that visited her yard daily. She enjoyed crossword puzzles and loving her two grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

Lucille was preceded in death by her husband of 47 years George Franklin Rhodes and her son George Kelly Rhodes, brother Donnie Eagle, and sisters Ruth Marsh and Ileen Fleming Freeman.

She is survived by her daughter Barbara Garrison of Third Lake, IL, grandson Kevin Garrison (Marcy) of Spring Grove, IL, and granddaughter Sarah Garrison (Andrew Glass) of Round Lake Beach, IL, 7 great-grandchildren including, Clayton, Cameron, Delaney, Alexis, Hunter and Haydon Garrison of Spring Grove, IL, and AJ Glass of Round Lake, IL.

Visitation was held on Monday, January 16, 2023 from noon to 1:00 pm at Greene-Robertson Funeral Home in Sutton, WV. Interment immediately followed at Sutton Cemetery, Sutton, WV.

Greene-Robertson Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Rhodes family.

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

Everett Jackson “Jack” Wine

Everett Jackson “Jack” Wine passed away January 11, 2023, during surgery at Ruby Memorial Hospital.



Jack was born August 16, 1958, in Sutton, WV to the late Clinton Wine and Arletia Teter Wine.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his precious son,

Storm Wine; his youngest brother, Joe Wine; his father-in-law, Patrick Kraus; and his beloved Boston Terrier, Leo.

Jack grew up in Corley, WV and attended Braxton Co. High School. He was carpenter and plumber by trade and could fix or build nearly anything. He often said he was “A Jack of all trades and a master of none”. He was a gifted and hard working man. Following a workplace injury in 2018 Jack retired and became a full time “Baba” to his cherished grandson, Silas. Jack often said it was the best job he could ever have.

Jack was a simple and sweet man needing very little to be happy and rarely asking for anything. He never complained even when he had a right to. He was quick to lend a hand, tell a joke, or offer quiet comfort and support to those he loved.

Jack is survived by his much loved wife of nearly 32 years, Tracy Current Wine; his beloved daughter, Katrina Wine or “Lovey” as she was called by her dad since birth; and his special grandson, Silas Jackson Wilkinson, all of whom lived with Jack in Weston, WV.

Jack loved his siblings and told many stories of their adventures growing up. He is survived by his sister, Patty (Bucky) Pritt of Copen, WV, his sister, Kathy Meckley of Flatwoods, WV, sister Martha Asbury of Birch River, WV, and brother, Jeff Wine of Corley, WV.

Jack is survived by his many nieces and nephews with whom he enjoyed spending time. He was always a kid at heart. He is also survived by aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends whom he loved dearly.

Jack is survived by his sisters-in-law, Kimberly Brady of Weston, WV, and Leslie (Jerry) Dukes of Horner, WV and his mother-in-law, Linda Kraus, of Weston, WV who will miss her best handyman.

In keeping with Jack’s wishes, he was cremated.

Please join us for a Gathering of Family and Friends at Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway, WV on January 21, 2023, from 12 pm to 2 pm to celebrate the life of this special man.

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

Nancy Phyllis Edna Bartlett

Nancy Phyllis Edna Bartlett, 82, of Webster



Spring, WV passed away peacefully on December 22, 2022 surrounded

by family.

Nancy was born in Webster Springs on November 15, 1940 to James Ross Cogar and Mae Rosalie Schradler. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband George Frederick Bartlett.

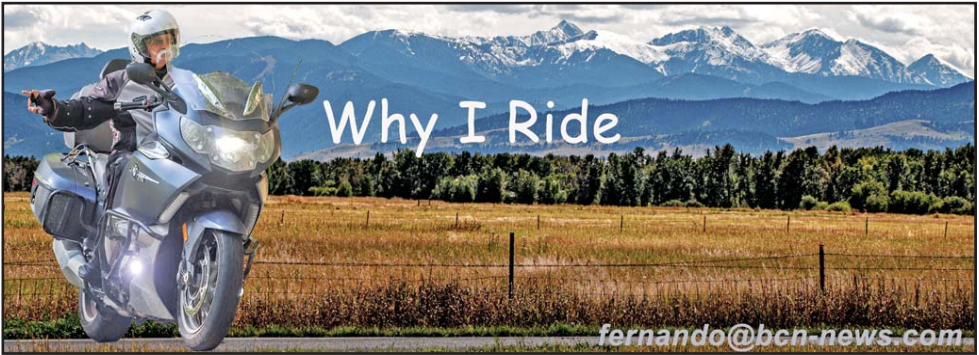
She is survived by her brother Dana Ross Cogar of Webster Springs and sister Lettie Jane (John) Rinko of King George, VA; nieces and nephews: Abraham “A.J.” Cogar of Morgantown, John (Terri) Rinko of Dahlgren, VA, Lisa (Tim) Henry of Morgantown, James “Jim” (Meredith) Rinko of Dahlgren, VA, Derinda Cogar of Webster Springs, Jason Phinney of Arlington, TX; eight great-nieces and nephews; stepchildren include David Gregory Bartlett of Mor-

Please turn to
OBITS

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Bike loaded and ready to go

Long-distance dog sitting



Just a-walking the dog!

Here's hoping the new year has brought you all good things so far, praying it stays that way.

Let's all crank the throttle a few times for Robert Edward "Robbie" Knievel II, who passed away last week from pancreatic cancer. Robbie began riding motorcycles at age 7 and joined his father Evel Knievel for his first show at Madison Square Garden at age 8. Robbie rode high-performance Honda CR500s and often replicated his father's jumps, completing over 340 jumps and setting 20 world records. Godspeed on that racetrack in the sky Robbie.

Early in 2018, my friend Shari and her partner Doug, who live in a gorgeous home in Big Sky Montana, (my favorite state in the nation, where my ashes will fly) called to ask me if I would dog/house-sit their abode and their beautiful Bernese Mountain Dog Amour, while they spent some time in Iceland. Silly Shari offered to pay for my air fare and time, because she

is such a kind and generous person. I've known Shari for over twenty years. Her husband Bob, may he rest in peace, was my Mathematics and Business Marketing professor at Miami Dade College, where I obtained my AS degree in accounting and offered me my first Higher Education Textbooks editing gig back in 2000. In other words, I would have done this for nothing, however, not to offend, I proposed that she give me the cost of the air fare and I would ride my bike out there.

Of course, being the greedy long-trip rider I am, turned the journey into a 5,000-mile trip covering 15 states, visiting my friends Brian and Joan in Tempe, AZ, and many points in between, including the Antique Archeology LeClaire, Iowa location, (American Pickers) the National Motorcycle Museum in Anamosa, Iowa, the Dignity Of Earth and Sky sculpture in Chamberlain, South Dakota, Badlands National Park, SD, West Yellow-

stone, home of the Wolf & Grizzly (and raptors) Discovery Center, the Yellowstone Historic Center, and where I purchased my first official cowboy hat, the Bozeman Museum of the Rockies, Yellowstone National Park, (sad fires at that time) Grand Teton National Park, portions of Historic Route 66, and so many more interesting places.

The area surrounding Shari's house is wooded and teeming with wildlife. Herds of Elk routinely strut through, and sometimes stay the night, lots of deer, eagles, hawks, small critters, and the occasional bear. Amour loves to run through the high grass, and she's so big that could easily be mistaken for a bear. She is a cuddle-blanket at home, and just oozes love of life. Amour is very appropriately named. She's pure dog-love, and a pleasure to be around. There are plenty of hiking trails and scenic hikes, waterfalls, and forests within a short drive of Big Sky. Yellowstone National Park is about 45 minutes away. Shari's house is really in Gallatin Gateway, just outside Big Sky. Gallatin Gateway is home to Ted Turner's Flying D Ranch, where over 1,400 bison are grazed and bred. Ted Turner is the second largest individual landowner in the U.S. owning approximately two million acres of personal and ranch land in eight U.S. states and Argentina. Ted manages a 45,000 bison herd across 14 ranches, the largest pri-

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 2

gantown and Kimberly Ann Jones of Glen Allen, VA; and many friends.

Nancy was an honor student throughout school and then graduated with honors from the WV Business School in Clarksburg. She worked for the United States Department of Agriculture in Elkins and then later went to work for Mon Power Company. She worked in the Webster Springs office initially, then transferred to Gassaway where she worked for many years and finally transferred to the Fairmont office where she retired.

She was an avid book reader and often helped the libraries raise funds by donating her crocheted afghans to be auctioned off. She said crocheting was relaxing for her and she enjoyed giving her works to others. Gardening and being outdoors were her favorite hobbies.

She enjoyed growing her own vegetables and flowers. Photography was another passion of hers and you rarely saw her without her camera.

There will not be a public service at this time. She did ask that if any donations were made, to please donate them to the Webster-Addison Public Library.

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

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

Elbert Kyle Anderson

Elbert Kyle Anderson, 71 of Hacker Valley, passed away on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at WVU Memorial Hospital, Ruby Memorial.

He was born February 12, 1951 in Webster Springs to the late Elbert K. and Thelma Simmons Anderson and worked the majority of his life in the coal mines.

He was Christian by faith; enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, grow-

ing a fruit garden, and was very much into nature. He enjoyed being as close to nature as possible. He loves sports and was Homecoming King when he played for Webster County.

Kyle is survived by his wife Nora Dean Nichols; children Lance (Joanna) Anderson, Destry Anderson, and Wilma (companion Mike Chisolm) Anderson; brother Jan Anderson; sisters Tewana Burch and Kathie Fisher; grandchildren Emma Chisolm, Ephraim Anderson, Vitressa Anderson, and Leighanora Anderson; his very best friend Derek Lake; and several extended family and friends to mourn his passing.

Private Memorial Services to celebrate Kyle's life will be held at a later date.

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

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



Shari, Doug, and I on a hike to Painters Point waterfalls.

vate herd in the world.

The diversity of the scenery seen while riding through this beautiful country we live in is a blessing. Granted that while on a bike ride, the

time for looking at anything but the road is limited, however, the ever-changing features of the land, the changes from flat to mountainous terrain, the colors of the grass and

trees, the snow-covered peaks, leave one no choice but to stop often and take it all in. Sigh! There's nothing better than watching an eagle soar from behind the mountains and scout the valleys for a snack. Get out there and experience this for yourselves people!

Pictures tell a much better story than I, so I have decided to post pictures on Facebook that will complement the weekly columns. Look for the album dated for the publication of the column, which is every Thursday. This week's will be 2023-01-19. I will catch up to the previous editions as time permits. <https://www.facebook.com/Frodriquez1951/> Ride safely and intelligently.



Some of the different types of scenery along the road.

Braxton County Schools presents Family Math Night Gellin' with Geometry

Braxton County Schools invites families to enjoy a family math night event, "Gellin' With Geometry", at Braxton County Elementary Schools the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 5:00 to 6:30 PM.

Get kids designing, building, and creating through fun and engaging activities in two and three dimensional geometry. Families will explore eight hands-on stations where they will be able to choose between three activity levels. They will create projects to take home at their own pace. Family Math Night reinforces classroom learning and it is a great way to connect with your community.

Please let your child(rens) school know if you plan on attending Family Math Night and the number of kids who will be with you so that enough ma-

terials are ready for everyone. If you are unable to attend Family Math Night at your child(rens) school, you are welcome to attend at another elementary school. Please, let the school know you plan to attend.

The follow is a schedule for Family Math Night: Sutton Elementary School enjoyed their Family Math Night Gellin' with Ge-

ometry on Thursday, January 12. To sign up for Frametown Elementary School on January 26 please call (304)364-5526, Flatwoods Elementary School February 9 (304)765-5821, Burnsville Elementary School February 9 (304)853-2523, Davis Elementary School March 9 (304)364-5291, Little Birch Elementary School March 23 (304)765-2042.

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**FRAMETOWN ELEMENTARY
LSIC TOWN HALL MEETING**
On Monday January 23, 2023, Frametown Elementary School will be holding a Town Hall Meeting. This will be our annual meeting to engage all stakeholders in conversations regarding the school's performance. This is an opportunity to make specific suggestions on issues you feel affect the students' academic performance. The meeting will be at the school from 6:00-7:00 PM. Everyone is invited to attend. Together we can make a difference. Hope to see you here.

1-12 1-19b

PUBLIC NOTICE
Pursuant to WV Code 11-3-24, the Braxton County Commission will sit as a Board of Equalization and Review on the following dates during the month of February, 2023,

to review the Tax Assessments for Tax Year 2023. Any taxpayer or group may at this time appear on the dates mentioned to discuss their assessments and ask for changes or relief if properly determined by the Board of Equalization. After the close of these meetings of the County Commission, any taxpayer who does not appear shall waive their rights for relief or corrections for the upcoming year. The dates for the Braxton County Commission sitting as a Board of Equalization are as follows:
Wednesday February 1, 2023 9:00am-2:00pm
Friday February 3, 2023 11:00am-2:00pm
Thursday February 9, 2023 9:00am-2:00pm
Tuesday February 14, 2023 9:00am-2:00pm
Friday February 17, 2023 11:00am-2:00pm

Wednesday February 22, 2023 9:00am-2:00pm
STATE(MINERALS & INDUSTRIALS)
Friday February 24, 2023 9:00am-4:00pm
SINE DIE
ANY PERSON WISHING TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW SHOULD CONTACT THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE AT 765-2805 FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR A REVIEW OF THEIR PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS ON ANY OF THE ABOVE DATES.
APPROVED: January 6, 2023
Lisa Mace Godwin
COMMISSION PRESIDENT
Melvin Gum
COMMISSIONER
Larry Clifton
COMMISSIONER
ATTEST: Sue Ann Rutherford,
Clerk
1-12 1-19b

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until March 16, 2023 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
003 2022870002	S387-REC/AL-23 00	STBG-2023(012)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS D-7 RECALL STRIPING 2023 DISTRICT WIDE COUNTY: BARBOUR, BRAXTON GILMER, LEWIS, UPSHUR WEBSTER

DBE GOAL: 7 % OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.
REMARKS:
Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractors' license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must submit electronically with their bid a Proposal Guaranty Bond for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater. The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com. The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

1-19 1-26b

Just One Generation: Kitty Korner

Just One Generation Cat Rescue was established in 2013 in response to the severe overpopulation of cats in our community. For the past ten years our group has taken in and placed homeless cats and kittens as well as assisted individuals and communities in the spay/neuter of cats. In the past 12 months, our group was able to place 217 cats and kittens and help provide sterilization for 249 domestic and feral felines. These numbers bring our total to over 1,000 adoptions and over 5,000 sterilizations since we began our work.

Beginning this January, we will be taking in fewer animals in order to redirect our resources and focus on spay and neuter services. Those animals accepted into our program will receive all basic medical care, including FVRCP vaccinations, deworming, and flea protection. Spay/neuter services are included with the adoption fee,

and are an important part of the adoption agreement.

This week we would like to introduce two of our program felines looking for loving, forever, indoor homes of their own.



NATALIE is a beautiful, multi-toned short-haired brown tabby. She is 18 months old, and a petite 6.5# for her age. Natalie is a bit shy, but responds quickly to kind words and gentle petting. She will make a great companion animal or family pet. She is already spayed tested for feline leukemia virus. Her adoption fee has been

partially sponsored for eligible adopters.



ROSIE is a 9 week old female tuxedo kitten. She has been living at an indoor foster home, where she gets along with the other family pets. She is small for her age, but is eating and growing well. Very social.

For further information on these or other animals, contact Sally Stewart at 304-364-4136 or by messaging Sally R. Stewart or Just One Generation FaceBook pages. Local residents interested in information on our spay/neuter assistance program should contact Diane Ratliff at 978-317-1941 for information and registration.

Coon Hounds

By: Jeanette Riffle

We heard coon hounds running a ridge on the hill behind us one night this past week. Our dog was barking down near the creek and when my husband went out to see what was there, he heard the hounds. It reminded me of Uncle Arlen's coon dogs. I grew up with hounds. Dad had fox hounds and his brother, Arlen Stewart, had coon hounds. Uncle Arlen and Aunt Mary Collins Stewart, lived in the rental house down the path from our house, before they went to Michigan to get work with General Motors. Coon hounds have a certain bark they make when they have something treed. It sounded like the ones here had something treed. It is a long drawn out "Ba ooh, Ba ooh."

Duane said they had a hound dog when he was growing up but it got into a bad fight with a coon when it was

young and was afraid and wouldn't hunt. Our dog has scars on his nose from getting into a fight with a mean coon recently. I wrote about that. At one time these hills were full of coons. They have been thinned out somewhat through the years. I remember a time when one of Mom's uncles from Clarksburg drove in with a car load of fox hounds and dumped them off on my dad. He had them in the back seat of his car. Dad already had one of his own. He wondered how he was going to feed all those dogs. He bought Gravy Train that you mix with water and it made like a gravy in the dog food. Now and then we would have a few biscuits to throw out the back kitchen door to them. Best

I remember, he ended up finding good homes for all of them. Dad went fox hunting with buddies but he didn't need that many hounds. My middle brother, Roger, had a hound he called, "Old Sue" and

she would eat anything if she thought another dog was going to get it. She even ate dill pickles. Most of the old folks had coon dogs back in the day. They ate wild meat. Mom's mother, Bessie Lowe Warner, sure knew how to fix a good coon. I walked up the road to clean house for them one Saturday and she wanted me to eat some dinner. She had baked a coon and had boiled potatoes, fresh lettuce and green onions from the garden with a yellow sauce that she had cooked in a double boiler and had homemade yeast bread. I had never eaten coon before. She had parboiled it and put it in a roasting pan with ketchup and sliced onions. To my surprise, it was very good. I had seconds. She also had a round, two layer butter cake, with a vanilla glaze on top. If groceries keep getting higher and higher, people will go back to the old ways

Until next week, take care and stay well. God bless!

On the Other Side of the Mountain

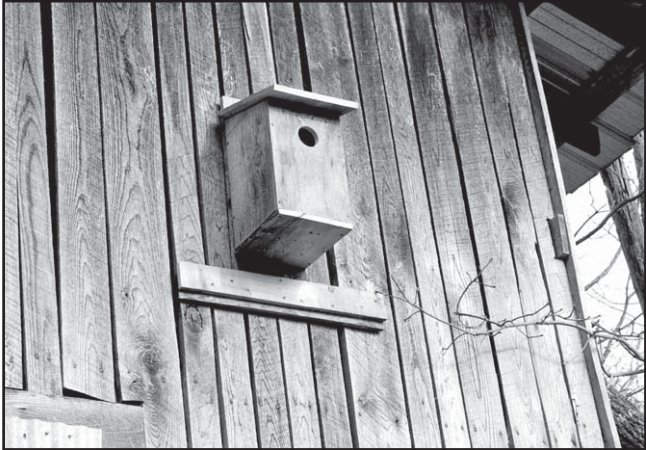
"If you build it, they will come", the famous quote from the movie, "Field of Dreams" was the inspiration for us to build an owl house. For years now I have dreamed of installing an owl house, but it was never a priority, other things took precedent. We can hear owls in the woods every now and then by night fall, if I have the hearing aids on, but I have never seen one. I had an obsession with owls since my childhood. We learned extensively about owls in fourth grade. We constructed an owl, made totally out of various seeds in art class. We all thought it was a wonderful experience and we were captivated by our owl impressions, but I don't recollect what happened to my project. Did it become a welcome food source for mice? When Greg built an owl house last week, it was like he had bought the most precious diamond for me. Of course our friends, Doug and Davetta are way much smarter and realistic than we are. They saw an owl in the vicinity and then built a box. We instead go by a movie excerpt and wait for the owl to make an appearance.

I found the following information on how to identify and learn about plants, animals, birds, footprints in the section "Earthtalk" in the Gazette-Mail worthwhile enough to make it available to people who missed it.

If we are looking to identify a plant or an animal that is foreign to us, we can use the ID app iNaturalist, a joint initiative of California Academy of Sciences and National Geographic to help us identify a plant or an animal, based on a list of possible species in our location. Take a photo of the mystery plant or animal and submit it.

Another app, iTrack Wildlife, can help us determine which creature left a clearly visible track behind, while passing through the area. We need to describe the size of the track, the number and shape of the toes and if claws are visible or not, then check the list of possible matches.

Bird lovers can consult the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Merlin Bird ID which uses AI to identify different species of birds, being able to get information from their extensive



Owl house.



Attaching owl house.

data collection. Cornell also has an app, called Birdnet. It uses recordings of common bird songs. Birdnet records the noises in our surroundings, then zeros in on a specific chirp and tries to identify which bird made it. They have over a 1000 recordings of the most common birds in North America and Europe.

If creepy-crawly things cross our paths we can use the app Picture Insect created by the company Glorify. It uses also AI to match the insect on our submitted photo against their database, which consists of 3 million photos sent to them to help identify the unknown, so we will know with what we are dealing. Picture Insect has other apps, Picture Fish, Picture Bird, Picture Mushroom, Picture Animal, Picture This (for plants), they all use AI to identify different living things of which we send photos.

LeafSnap, another app developed by the Smithsonian Institute and the Columbia and Maryland Universities uses visual recognition to identify thousands of plants, flowers, fruits and trees. They claim that their app can identify 90% of all known flora on the planet.

PlantSnap is a Colorado based start-up, which uses machine technology and AI to identify species of plants, shrubs and trees. They have 475 million plants in their database.

Now I have to admit

that I have no idea what the difference is between machine technology and AI, maybe somebody out there can fix my ignorance. Greg has tried our iNaturalist and he found it very time-consuming. Be prepared that downloading the apps will take sometimes a considerable amount of time. We are very familiar with the Cornell website, it is easy to use and offers great information.

Eventually we will try other apps to see their ease of use and how they can help us understand what we don't recognize or when we want a confirmation of what we think we saw.

I think it would be great if kids would learn at school how to use these apps. It awakens in us the interest in nature, in biology and in science in general. Once we care about living things around us, once we know how they live, we also care about the environment they live in.

Greg feeds the sheep and the chickens while I start in the goat barn where he joins me later on. We always carry walkie-talkies with us in case we need to communicate when something is wrong or when I discover I had forgotten the carrots (treat) for Carla, the donkey. Now I use the radio connection to tell Greg who is feeding the sheep that the owl has not moved in yet. Patience is a virtue, but only in certain cases.



Back Row: Charles Putnam, Addisynn McCombs, Nevaeh Bragg, Blake Woods, Adium Rose, James Rose, Bentley Crow, Brenna Hoard, Marionna George, Liam Lynch, TJ Markle, Elizabeth Reynolds
Middle Row: Mackenzie Morrison, Chelsie Kesling, Paxton Schrader, Austin Brooks, Aspy Lane, Levi Jamison, Averie Rose, Jaden Rhodes, Aiden Dorsey, Layla King, Annabelle Robinson, Bentley Reynolds
Front Row: Michael Stout, Jasmine Marks, Isabella Payne, James Bragg, Allison Marks, Violet Williams, Daisy Williams

Little Birch Elementary's 2nd nine weeks Honor Roll and Honorable Mention

Honor Roll 3.5-4.0	Bragg, Liam Lynch, Allison Marks, Elizabeth Reynolds, Annabelle Robinson.	4th Grade 3.0-3.4
3rd Grade	James Bragg, Levi Jamison, Aspy Lane, Jasmine Marks, Mackenzie Morrison, Isabella Payne, Jaden Rhodes, Averie Rose, Michael Stout, Daily Williams.	Chelsie Kesling, Layla King, Kris Mace, TJ Markle, Gabe McCourt, Bentley Reynolds, Adium Rose, Violet Williams
4th Grade	Nevaeh	5th Grade
		Austin Books, Bentley Crow, Aiden Dorsey, Blake Woods.

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.

Jan. 18, 1842: Wayne County was established from part of Cabell County. It was named for General “Mad Anthony” Wayne, a Revolutionary War hero who later defeated Ohio Indian tribes at the 1794 Battle of Fallen Timbers.

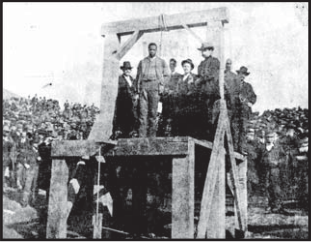
Jan. 19, 1818: The Virginia General Assembly established Preston County from part of Monongalia County. The new county was named for James Patton Preston, then governor of Virginia.

Jan. 19, 1820: Fairmont was established by the Virginia legislature on the farm of Boaz Fleming. The original name of Middletown was changed to Fairmont in 1843.

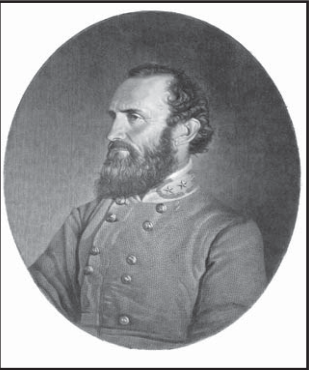
Jan. 19, 1844: The Virginia General Assembly established Taylor County from parts of Barbour, Harrison, and Marion counties. The county was named in honor of U.S. Sen. John Taylor, a soldier-statesman from Caroline County, Virginia.

Jan. 19, 1848: Wirt County was created by the General Assembly of Virginia from portions of Wood and Jackson counties. It was named for William Wirt, Virginia statesman and a presidential

candidate in 1832.



Jan. 19, 1894: Railroad worker John Hardy was hanged for killing a man in a drunken gambling dispute. The episode inspired the widely popular ballad “John Hardy.”



Jan. 20-21, 1824: West Virginia’s most famous soldier, Thomas Jonathan Jackson, was born near midnight in Clarksburg. When Virginia left the Union in 1861, Jackson went with his native state. He commanded the strategically important post at Harpers Ferry until being appointed a brigadier general of infantry. In the opening battle at Manassas on July 21, 1861, he won the name “Stonewall” for steadfastness at a critical point in the engagement.

Jan. 19-20, 1978: An overnight snowstorm paralyzed Charleston. Un-

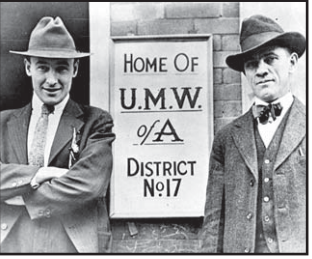
usual in that more snow fell in the capital city than in Randolph County, total snow depth in Charleston averaged 24 inches, the deepest on record for the city. January 1978 became the snowiest month for both Huntington and Charleston, and extended cold kept the snow cover on the ground into March, the longest known continuous snow cover for most towns in West Virginia.

Jan. 21, 1906: The first passenger train ran from Elkins to Charleston following completion of the Coal & Coke Railway. The new railroad, a project of former senator Henry Gassaway Davis, provided a much-needed north-south route through the heart of West Virginia.



Jan. 22, 1927: Confederate General John McCausland died. After the fall of the Confederacy, McCausland fled the country. He returned in 1867 and spent the remainder of his life on his large farm in Mason County.

Jan. 23, 1850: Raleigh County was established by an act of the Virginia General Assembly. The county’s founder, Alfred Beckley, named it after Sir Walter Raleigh.



Jan. 23, 1888: Union leader Fred Mooney was born in a log cabin on Davis Creek in Kanawha County. He was secretary-treasurer of United Mine Workers of America District 17 from 1917 to 1924 and was a radical leader in the West Virginia Mine Wars.

Jan. 23, 1890: The United Mine Workers was organized at a meeting in Columbus, Ohio, with John B. Rae, a Scottish immigrant, as the first president. Just three months later, in Wheeling, UMWA District 17, encompassing most of West Virginia, held its first meeting, elected M. F. Moran as district president and immediately launched what became a struggle of more than 40 years to unionize the



state’s coal mines.

Jan. 24, 1968: Mary Lou Retton was born in Fairmont. She made history at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles when, at 16, she became the first American woman ever to win a gold medal in gymnastics and the first native West Virginia woman to win a gold medal in Olympic competition.

Dog Tales: Stories from 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 “Furever” 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 \$149.00 for male dogs and \$169.00 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



Delta is an eight to ten month old female mixed breed who was found as a stray so we only know what we’ve learned in the short time we’ve had this girl. She has Heeler traits but we can’t be sure of her mix. Delta weighs about thirty pounds. She is very sweet and playful. Delta wants to play like a puppy with everyone she meets so she might do well with a playmate. She walks great on a leash and isn’t too vocal in the shelter. We don’t think Delta would do well with cats because of her energy level.



Kai is a one and half to two year old female pit mix who weights forty-five pounds. We think she may be mixed with Husky because of her blue eyes, curly tail, thicker coat and she is kind of vocal like she’s talking to you sometimes. Kai knows sit and will slam her booty down for a treat. She is super treat motivated and playful but does have dog manners and she walks on a leash. Kai has lived indoors some but has accidents after 6+ hours alone so might just need some training.



Mia is a two year old female pit weighing in at forty to forty-five pounds who was found as a stray in Braxton county. She was very engorged when she came in from being newly separated from her puppies. We found out her previous owner was an out of county resident who rehomed her. We know for sure her name is Mia. She has lived with small children and is very gentle with kids. She has lived with other adult dogs and is very dog friendly. She has also lived with cats and is cat friendly as well. We know she enjoys baths and that she is house trained and will sit by the door to let you know.



Gia is a one year old female Pit mix who weighs around forty-five pounds. Gia is playful but also calms after a good play session. She’s lived with children and is good with them. She has lived mostly outside and is very dog friendly. Not a top of the totem pole personality. Gia knows sit and stay and is learning quickly to walk on the leash



If you’re looking for your own personal Toto to love forever he’s here! Remi is a one year old male Schnauzer mix who weighs around thirty pounds. Remi has puppy energy and would need an active family to help him burn energy to be a good boy. He walks on a leash, knows his name and has lived mostly outdoors. No chickens for Remi boy although he is great with kids.



Moco is a five year old, spayed, female Great Pyrenees/Australian Shepherd mix who weighs around sixty-five to seventy pounds. She loved living on a farm and has always lived outdoors. Paws and Claws Pet Grooming gave her a beautiful new hair-do today and she’s looking and smelling fresh. Thank you Paws and Claws Pet Grooming! This girl walks on a leash and loves to give chin kisses. She can be shy at first but doesn’t take long to warm up because she loves attention



Baby is a seven year old, thirty-five pound, neutered, microchipped, male heeler/chi mix. Baby’s story is that he was an outside farm dog surrendered to the shelter and then adopted. He escaped under the fence at his new adopter’s home and ran into the woods. Baby was shot by a bow hunter and survived! He was brought into the shelter but a Good Samaritan who found him with a huge laceration and fixed up by Dr. Johnson. He has since healed up completely and is now looking for a brand new forever home with someone to love. Baby is playful and affectionate and loves everyone. Kid friendly and has been around cats, chickens and cows. He does like most dogs but at times can have a Chihuahua attitude where he’ll tell another dog he doesn’t want to play but he’s not aggressive. Baby walks on a leash and isn’t a huge barker.



Rose is five year old female cur mix looking for a great new home! Rose is gentle and affectionate with children, dog friendly, keeps her paws on the ground and walks great on a leash. Rose has only ever lived outdoors. She knows sit, stay and no. No chickens for Rose please. She’s been quiet since she has been with us here in the shelter. She would make an excellent family dog and is ready for all the attention she can get.



This happy dude is Merlin. He was picked up as a stray by Animal Control. Merlin has been with us for over a week and is now available for adoption! He’s around one year old and weighs thirty-five to forty pounds. Merlin’s got beagle coloring and pit features. He’s the funniest little guy. He prances with his front feet when he’s happy and smiles with his teeth a lot. Merlin gets along with everyone here! He’s super social and playful. He learned sit and lay down in just a short time of playing with him in the lobby. He has an itchy skin issues on his back that we’re going to have checked out by the vet but otherwise he’s healthy. He walks well on a leash and wants in our intake crate like he’s had a crate before. We love him!

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Lady Knights varsity and junior varsity both outscore Webster

By Shirley Shuman

The Lady Knights varsity girls defeated Webster 32-17 in a game played on the BCMS court. Coach Matt Pritt commented that his girls “played a

good defensive game, holding Webster to 17 points.” He also noted that their play on offense was better than it had been in their recent games. “We made better passes and had

less turnovers,” he said, adding “Rylan Criner had a great defensive game with several blocks and rebounds.” Aubrey Meadows led Braxton with 19 points. Jade Chapman added 6,

Avah Mollohan 4 and Rylan Criner 3. In a tighter scoring game, the junior varsity BCMS girls came back from a halftime deficit to edge Webster’s JV team 16-14. The young

Lady Knights trailed by four at halftime. In the second half, they outscored Webster 10-4, holding them scoreless in the fourth quarter. For Braxton, Zoey McQuain scored 6

points, Avah Mollohan 4, Zoey Kennan 2, BreMarsh 2, and Jaden Skidmore 2. Braxton played Gilmer Tuesday night, which was Eighth Grade Night.



Aubrey Mowery works the ball past a Webster defender.



Avah Mollohan drives the ball towards the basket. Photos courtesy of Janet Six.



Makenna Robinson shoots for two points for the Lady Knights.



Brooklyn Palett fights for control of the ball.



Rylan Criner shoots for two points under the basket.



Jade Chapman takes a shot for the Lady Knights.



The Lady Knights defense prepares to shutdown Webster County.

BCYBL finish regular season games

The Braxton County Youth Basketball League finished their final games on Sunday, January 15th before the first round of Playoffs begins next week on Sunday, January 22nd. Standings for week five for third/fourth grade teams are the Tigers 5-0, Mustangs 4-1, Cobras 3-2, Bruins 2-3, Bucks 1-4, and Falcons 0-5. Standings for fifth/sixth grade teams are Warriors 5-0, Bruins 4-1, Blue Devils 3-2, Panthers 2-3, Black Widows 1-4, and Tigers 0-5.

The first round of Playoffs will start at 2:00 PM against the Cobras and the Falcons for third/fourth grade and the Bruins and the Bucks will play at 3:00 PM. 4:00 PM starts the first Playoff round for fifth/sixth grade teams with the Blue Devils against the Tigers and the Panthers will play against the Black Widows at 5:00 PM. Come out and support all local youth basketball team at the Braxton County High School gym. Follow the Braxton County Youth Basketball Facebook page for the most up to date information regarding Playoff and Tournament schedules.



Mustangs VS Bruins



Falcons VS Cobras



Get the most up to date sports coverage. Check out the Citizens' News for Braxton County High School Eagles sports

and the Democrat-Central for Braxton County Middle School Knights stories, stats, and photographic coverage!



The Braxton Democrat

CENTRAL

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12-27 p

HELP WANTED



HELP WANTED: The Braxton County Sheriff's Department is currently accepting applications for Deputy Sheriff. We will be accepting applications for both certified and non-certified officers. Applications will be accepted until January 31st. Non-certified officers will be required

to attend the WV State Police Academy at a date to be determined. Certified officers will be eligible for a sign on bonus. Applications can be picked up at the Braxton County Sheriff's Department Tax Office or Law Enforcement Officer. 1-19 1-26b

FOR RENT

BRAXTON

FOR RENT: Apartment for rent. 55 years or older and handicapped.(304)-545-558

tfb

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom rental near Braxton-Nicholas County line on Old Rt 19. City water, newly remodeled. \$650 per month, utilities not included, with \$650 security deposit. Must pass criminal background check. (304) 619-7427

tf

BURNSVILLE TRAILER PARK: Trailer lots for rent

only, NO trailers for rent! Background check required. Trash & sewer included. Absolutely NO pets! Call (304)853-9103 today.

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Children's clothing store in Sutton has ribbon cutting

By Shirley Shuman Ally and Nathan Greene are contributing to the business section of Sutton with their newly opened children's clothing store. The business, Whiskey Ways, sits beside the movie [\[Read More...\]](#)

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Knights wrestlers place fourth in conference tournament

By Shirley Shuman

Wrestling in the CW-VAC tournament last Saturday, the Knights finished fourth. Coach Duane Williams discussed his team's ef-

forts and his take on their fourth-place finish. "As a team, we had a pretty good day," he said. "Obviously I would have liked for us to place higher, but

I think we made a good showing for a mostly sixth-grade team, which I think is shown by the fact that most of [Braxton's] wrestlers lost only one match."

Coach Williams also looked toward the future of these young wrestlers. "While we still have a few more weeks of wrestling to go, I can't help but look

towards the future and get a little excited about just how good this team is going to be," he said. "As a coach, you always temper your expectations when you have

such a young team, but they have exceeded my expectations every week and given me reason to be excited about what the future holds for them."



Cameron Fleshman



Colton Putnum



Grayson Hess



Landon Mays



Mason Smarr



Remington Huffman



Sean Foster



Skylar Duckworth



Trevar Edgerton

Knights' individual results for the CWVAC Championship Tournament:			
Weight	Wrestler	Day's record	Place
86	Colton Putnam	4-1	Third
94	Mason Smarr	3-2	Third
102	Remington Huffman	4-1	Third
110	Sean Foster	3-1	Second
116	Landon Moss	3-1	Second
128	Grayson Hess	2-2	Fourth
145	Skylar Duckworth	3-1	Fourth
171	Cameron Fleshman	2-2	Third
190	Trevor Edgerton	3-1	Second

BCMS junior varsity boys score two wins

By Shirley Shuman

The Knights jv boys defeated both Walton and Webster in last week's games. They outscored Walton 41-15 and Webster 38-28.

In the win against Walton, the young Knights led throughout the game. In first half action, Coach Nick Long explained, his team 'started off slow with some turnovers and missed shots in the first half.' He went on to explain that the players "had some good quality shots but they just would not go into the

basket consistently." The coach noted that his team played well defensively with effective rebounding, blocking and stealing. Braxton switched their full court defense to man-to-man defense after halftime, As a result, Walton committed several turnovers. This "allowed us to get a lot of fast break points on offense," Coach Long said. Braxton also committed fewer turnovers in the second half.


Against Webster, the Knights led all the way. They shot well

from the beginning and had few turnovers. Their coach explained that they played just as well defensively. "This was the first time in the past five games that Braxton played that consistently on offense and defense at the same time," he said. The Knights led 21-12 at the half.

Braxton played as strongly in the second half as they had in the first. Coach Long said of his team, "This group is starting to click and perform well throughout their games. They have improved tremendously since the first game of this season." He added, "I am very excited to see the future of this group because of their toughness, hustle, and work ethic. These traits cannot be taught. This group sets the bar high for the future of BCMS JV boys basketball.

The junior varsity Knights played at Gilmer Tuesday night.

Individual scoring for the Knights junior varsity boys against Walton and Webster:		
Player	Walton	Webster
Zack McQuain	9	7
Josh Anderson	2	0
Holden Lloyd	2	6
Rayden Davis	4	3
Brady Dever	4	0
Brode Prince	2	0
Cohen McPherson	4	0
Kallen Meadows	6	3
Deklan Meadows	8	9
Jackson Lewis	0	8
Hunter Short	0	2



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