

BRAXTON

CITIZENS' NEWS



**Yeti
Expo
held in
Sutton...**

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"DEVOTED TO BRAXTON COUNTY -- RESPONSIVE TO ITS CITIZENS' NEEDS"

www.bcn-news.com

WVU Medicine appoints Louis Roe Jr. President/CEO of local hospital

WVU Medicine system President and CEO, Albert Wright recently announced that Louis Roe Jr. would assume the role of President/CEO at both its Braxton Memorial Hospital and Summersville Regional Medical Center. Louis stepped in to serve as interim CEO in July, following the departure of former CEO, Karen Bowling, who accepted the same position at Princeton Community Hospital.

Louis has more than 25 years administrative and executive-level experience in healthcare and has worked in a variety of settings, including both for-profit and not-for-profit healthcare systems. He has had executive-level responsibilities in the areas of inpatient acute care, long-term acute care, home health, durable medical equipment sales, skilled nursing



facilities, inpatient behavioral health, and physician practices. Wright said in his announcement

"Since his appointment in July, I have gotten to know Louis and believe he is a highly skilled and talented hospital leader who will continue to do great things for Braxton and Summersville!" he added.

Louis came onto the BCMH and SRMC teams as VP of Operations immediately before the

start of the pandemic and has dedicated his undivided attention to providing support and leadership to both institutions. His passion is to see both facilities provide quality care as close to home as possible for the residents of West Virginia and create access to those services that cannot easily be provided in rural communities. He works diligently with the leadership team at the two campuses, as well as system leadership to ensure that the hospitals are continuing to improve the level of care provided and serving the community to the best of their capacities.

Roe says he looks forward to continuing to build relationships in his permanent role and working with his staff to achieve the hospital vision of exceptional care which leads to healthier communities.

Quick action saves life of alleged drug user

On Friday, December 2nd, Cpl. G.H. Jones of the Sutton Detachment of the West Virginia State Police received a call regarding an incident Wilson Ridge Road in Clay County due to no available law enforcement in that area. While on Wilson Road, enroute to the call, Cpl. Jones observed a residence front door opened with a male subject lying on the floor, and a frantic female waving her arms.

When Cpl. Jones stopped to investigate the female subject ad-

vised that the male was David Phares. The female stated that Phares had collapsed approximately ten minutes prior to the officer's arrival. Cpl. Jones observed that Phares' face was blue and he was unresponsive. Cpl. Jones began administering CPR and other first aid procedures. The officer observed the male had started breathing slowly. The female said she believed Phares' condition to be a result of a possible overdose and that she had given him two Narcan's prior to Cpl.

Jones's arrival.

Cpl. Jones radioed the information to Braxton 9-1-1 and retrieved Narcan from his cruiser. Cpl. Jones confirmed with medical command, through Braxton 9-1-1, it was safe to administer more Narcan. Cpl. Jones administered the drug, with the assistance of a neighbor.

Phares became responsive within a few minutes. Braxton EMS arrived and transported him to Braxton County Memorial Hospital where he recovered.

Sutton Council conducts lengthy regular meeting

The most recent Sutton Town Council meeting was held December 9. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor JD Hoover.

Present in addition to the Mayor were Recorder Laurel Petolicchio, and Councilmembers Robyn Dolan, Steve Facemire, Marsha Lloyd, Beth Atkins, and Catherine Hoover. Also present was Municipal Magistrate Clerk, Robin Smith.

Public citizens attending in person were Chris Kniceley, Jon Crum, Geary White, Louis Petolicchio, Carolyn Hoover and Fernando Rodriguez.

Mayor Hoover publicly thanked Gary Beamer for organizing the Christmas Parade. He also thanked the town employees and volunteers that have been working to fix up the town building and the councilmembers and CDC members who worked to decorate the town for Christmas.

The Mayor brought up the WV Surplus Auction and asked if anyone would be interested in attending. Councilmember Steve said he

would attend if he was able. Municipal Magistrate Clerk Robin Smith will get more details.

Councilmember Beth Atkins brought up the rental fee schedule for the Town Hall and suggested that council revisit that subject at the next meeting.

Councilmember Steve Facemire made a motion that the minutes of the November 11 meeting be approved.

Facemire made a motion that due to the fact that Chris Kniceley had a death in the family that council move his presentation to next on the agenda. Kniceley spoke to the council on their current insurance program. No action was taken.

Mayor Hoover presented the financial statements and the bills to be paid. Councilmember Beth Atkins made a motion to approve the bills as presented.

Recorder Laurel Petolicchio presented a financial snapshot of the Town's current financial state and what was coming up for the rest of the fiscal year.

Municipal Clerk Robin Smith informed

the council that the State Auditor's office was coming in for a full review of this year's finances beginning Friday, December 10.

Councilmember Steve Facemire said the North 5th Street issue is still ongoing.

Discussion was had regarding the complaints that came in due to the latest burning at the burn pile. Councilmember Steve Facemire said he had discussed the issue with the town workers.

Mayor Hoover gave council an update on the candidacy for the position of police officer.

The quote from Waste Management to transfer the garbage from the old truck and tire removal was discussed. Councilmember Steve Facemire made a motion that council table this discussion until the next meeting and ask Kim Cummings from Waste Management to come and discuss this with the council.

Municipal Clerk Smith presented the Netranom phone system to the council which includes wiring, computer

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Braxton Newspapers launches new website

Democrat-Central e-subscription now available

Braxton County Newspapers has a new presence on the world wide web. Publisher Ed Given announced this week that the bcn-news.com website has been modernized and the Braxton Democrat-Central will now offer an e-subscription. "We are very excited about our new design and the many new features and additions it affords readers," Given explained.

The redesign was the work of Tyler Channell and his Paywall Project of Morgantown. "Tyler has worked closely with the West Virginia Press Association and member newspapers to design sites that meet the specific needs associated with the print and digital media," Given added. Channell now manages seven state newspapers websites as well as those hosted by the West Virginia Press Association.

Current subscribers to the Citizens' News e-subscription will receive access to the new Democrat-Central site at no additional cost for the balance of their subscription period. New subscribers can take advantage of a 3-day free trial and look over the new website features. The same applies to the new e-subscriptions. In

addition, there are also expanded payment options. "The new website is designed to be user friendly. It is also very secure for payment options," Given added.

"We are working



diligently to provide new and different coverage in both newspapers. We hope readers will appreciate this opportunity to get the news that is important to them delivered in a timely fashion. We are experiencing more and more problems with postal delivery and there is little we can do about it. While we realize many of our readers would prefer the print copy, this new addition to our publications offers an alternative." The Citizens' News e-subscription will continue to be updated each Tuesday afternoon. The Democrat-

Central version will be uploaded on Thursday morning.

Given also commented on the expanded brand name. "When we first began operating a website, we chose the url of bcn-news.com. Of course, that stood for Braxton Citizens' New (bcn). While we didn't plan it that way, (bcn) also stands for Braxton County Newspapers. With our company now owning both newspapers we are pleased that patrons can keep up with all the happenings in Braxton County at bcn-news.com or through our print products so we believe the bcn portion of our web address more accurately represents Braxton County Newspapers."

"We will be adding new features to the website in the coming weeks. We will also be update stories as they develop after the print product is released. We hope to add more pictures of some events beyond what we have space for in our newspapers. As always, we encourage readers to let us know what they think of this new feature to their county newspapers. Email comments or suggestions to: editor@bcn-new.com

Board conducts expulsion hearing and other business

The Braxton County Board of Education conducted their most recent meeting on December 7. The meeting was called to order at 5:15 pm for a student expulsion hearing by board member Evelyn Post. Board President DeAnna Whipkey was absent.

An executive session was held to conduct the hearing from 5:16 to 5:46 pm. The board approved the superintendent's recommendation of a 365 day expulsion with placement in AEP once coming out of executive session.

Board member Dolores Wright requested an update on the status of new bus operators. Superintendent Kathy Hypes stated that a couple of the current applicants are close to completing the process to obtain their certification and one former operator may be returning. Evelyn Post asked about looking into different marketing strategies. Superintendent Hypes stated that Director Brenda Wells had tried several different methods of marketing, but the bus driver shortage was a problem throughout the country.

Evelyn Post presented a letter of interest from Frank Blake to sit on the facilities committee. She requested board members review the letter and consider adding him to the committee.

She also discussed Skidmore Development providing shoes for all students at Little Birch and Burnsville Elementary. Superintendent Hypes stated an out of state business provided shoes for Frametown.

Superintendent Hypes informed the board that the state board of education has given the county full accreditation for this school year. Evelyn Post asked if Little Birch and Burnsville Elementary schools would still be receiving state support. Superintendent Hypes stated the support would continue.

She also discussed enrollment and the state reimbursement formula. The official enrollment for Braxton County Schools for the 2021-2022 school year is 1722. That is a decrease of only 14 students from the previous school year. The current enrollment with the state formula allows for the number of professional staff to remain the same. However, service personnel staffing is over formula by 12.4. The county will have to pay the salary for those individuals.

Superintendent Hypes provided an update on the roofing project for the high school. The School Building Authority will be releasing the results the first of next week and the county will know at that time if the project will be funded by the SBA. Also,

the walk-in freezer project at the high school has received pre-bids and that project is moving forward.

Hypes also provided a brief update on COVID numbers. Eleven students tested positive and zero staff for the previous week with 83 students being placed on quarantine and no staff. Sissy Price from WVU Medicine stated that the omicron variant had not been seen in the state yet, but the delta variant was still prevalent.

Under regular action, the board approved the following consent agenda items: approval of the November 2, November 12, and November 16 meeting minutes; transportation requests; payment of bills; budget transfers and supplements; and treasurer's report.

The following professional, service, and extra-curricular personnel recommendations were approved on a single motion: employment of Kerri Lemon, special education (LD/BD/MI/AU) teacher (anticipated), BCHS, pending completion of certification requirements (alternative certification), Brandon Shinaberry, substitute teacher, Lisa Allen from kindergarten/first grade supervi-

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OPINION

Our views • Your views • Their views

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- Letters
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As I See It

By Ed Given



From our readers

Not the intent...

Dear Ed,
One of the headlines in your Dec. 7th paper caught my attention: “BCHS Building Construction Classes selling play-houses”. Since I retired from teaching building construction in 2012 I have held my tongue, but no longer. I was hired by Kenna Seal in 1978 with a mandateto grow a building construction program where the students would learn, via hands on experience, building real projects. We spent the next 34 years building that program up and while we were certainly far from perfect, class after class built a long list of houses, and other real buildings all around the county. I am not here to criticize the current instructor. I don't know him, and he is not responsible for the downhill slide of the program. He came on board later. When I retired, I had a couple of highly qualified candidates that I suggested would do as well, or better than me at this well-established program. But, Dr. Seal was no longer there, and I couldn't even get these guys an interview.

We had spent 2011 & 2012 building a large shelter on the campus so that the class could build modular houses and sell them in order to pay for the program. The students built the first one to prove this concept was viable. As far as I know, that building is nothing more than an a storage outbuilding, costing close to \$100,000 of local educational funds. I worked my butt off to build that program, and was hoping I could live to see grow, giving kids real life experiences and responsibilities.

Year after year we saw kids build work ethic, gain confidence, and get the satisfaction of knowing they helped building their community, including houses, the state police barracks, and most of the Sutton public library. Dr. Seal knew this was the best way to teach construction and I witnessed this for 34 years. Many of the students hated sitting in classrooms and needed an alternative way to learn. This hands-on program served these students well and needed to be continued for their sake. It was the right way to teach them then and it should be now.

I hope the program can grow back to what it was and go further. Nothing would make me happier than lasting long enough to write another letter to the editor, in a few years,praising what I see happening out there, but it will take more than playhouses. Kids are perfectly capable of rising to the occasion, and they proved it for 34 years. Will the school system help them realize their potential? Isn't that what our school what our schools are supposed to be doing?

Sincerely,
Michael Corlis,
proud to serve the students of Braxton County from 1978-2012

A big thank you...

Dear Editor:
The owners of the Mountain Laurel Country Store and The West Virginia Bigfoot Museum would like to thank the people of Braxton County in general, and the community of Sutton in particular, for their support of the recent Yeti Expo hosted by the Bigfoot Museum on Saturday.

An estimated 600+ people attended the event, not only from across West Virginia but also from several neighboring States including Pennsylvania and Ohio, and from as far away as Rhode Island and Georgia. These guests to our community were able to enjoy multiple musical entertainments, greet Santa Claus, Bigfoot and the Yeti, meet local Bigfoot researchers, and shop from among almost 30 vendors in multiple buildings.

We would also like to extend our special thanks to the Sutton Strumalongs, the Sutton Volunteer Fire

Department, and the many consignors of the Mountain Laurel Country Store, as well as our many friends and volunteers who actively worked to make the Yeti Expo a success.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
The Petolicchio Family

Letters to the Editor

Our policy...

We would like to remind readers that we welcome letters to the editor.

We would like to reiterate our policy of not publishing letters that do not contain the author's identification. You must enclose a phone number for verification purposes. The number will not be published.

We reserve the right to edit and/or refuse any letter. We do not accept letters refuting or endorsing candidates for any upcoming election.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, Braxton Citizens' News, P.O. Box 516, Sutton, WV 26601.

Those wishing to email should send them to: editor@bcn-news.com

Glenville becomes University with offering of master's program

During its Friday, December 10 meeting, the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (WVHEPC) approved several milestone items relating to Glenville State College.

Higher Education Policy Commission members approved the implementation of two graduate-level programs, a Master of Arts in Education and a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction. The programs, with enrollment expected to begin in the fall 2022 semester, will mark the first time graduate level coursework has been offered at Glenville State. The Higher Learning Commission already approved both programs in

November 2021.

The WVHEPC also granted the designation of university status for Glenville State College. Criteria for university status, as set by the Higher Education Policy Commission, includes offering at least one master's-level degree program, having an approved mission statement which provides for the offering of graduate programs, approval of the Higher Learning Commission to offer any master's degree program, and for at least two-thirds of tenured and tenured track faculty to hold the terminal degree, typically the doctorate.

“This is a momentous occasion for

Glenville State College,” said President, Dr. Mark A. Manchin. “These approvals from the Higher Education Policy Commission are among the final steps in what will be a significant advancement in the future of our institution. We feel these changes not only honor our past, but also directly reflect the mission of Glenville State and will truly impact the future of West Virginia and its residents.”

The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) will be a 36-48-hour credit course of study, varying by certification area. The program offers the opportunity to acquire

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A great loss...

Brent Boggs paid me a visit this week with some disturbing news. He came to tell me that he didn't plan to run for re-election in 2022. You can read more about his decision and the reasoning behind it in his column that appears on this page. We had a good chat and I certainly understand Brent's reasoning. But he will leave some very big shoes to fill. In fact, while someone else will undoubtedly be elected to represent us, I seriously doubt they will be the model public servant that Brent is.

I have often said that Brent Boggs is a great elected representative. He never forgets who elected him or who he represents. Most of all, he never puts himself first. Unfortunately, these are rather rare commodities in elected representative. Most of the time... once elected they know what is best for us and we shouldn't even question their reasoning. That has never been the case with Brent. Anyone elected to replace him should strive to do the job the way Brent has for the past 26 years.

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News from our Capitol

by Delegate Brent Boggs

Twenty-six years ago, I made the prayerful decision along with family and friends, to run for the House of Delegates. That decision was met with success. Armed with the knowledge beforehand that citizens are often skeptical of pledges or promises made by elected officials, my list was short. First, that I would be honest and do my best during sessions and work beyond the 60-day sessions all throughout the year in representing the citizens of Braxton and Gilmer Counties. The second promise was that I would be diligent in keeping you informed.

As regular readers of this space each week can attest, I jumped into writing a weekly column armed only with best intentions and my non-professionally trained but still evolving communications and journalistic skills. I've worked hard to do so each week for twenty-five years, fifty-two weeks per year, and still counting. Beforehand, if you didn't know me and Jean, our kids, and

grandkids, you probably do now, both in-person as we crisscross Braxton and Gilmer Counties, and through these weekly columns...right down to our golden retrievers and cat. Most importantly, each week I attempt to convey what goes on in the Legislature and state government and the impact and effects long after the session has adjourned. I have taken this task seriously and truly hope it is helpful in bringing to light the information that is timely, often overlooked or under the radar screen. My sincere thanks to Ed Given and Dave Corcoran for providing me with the opportunity to keep you informed each week.

Faith and family have always come first and one of my core beliefs is that God places you where he wants you for a reason. If you're blessed with being elected to a public service position of trust, you can best lead by humbling yourself and striving to serve others. Likewise, when it's time to step

aside and move in another direction, you need to listen to His voice and guidance.

It is in that same spirit and interest of keeping my pledge to always keep you informed that I have made the decision not to seek re-election for the House of Delegates in the 2022 election cycle. This was not an easy decision but one that was arrived at after much prayer, reflection and consultation with Jean, and our children. I know in my heart that this is the right decision and I'm at peace with it.

Please know my decision has nothing whatsoever to do with any swinging of the political pendulum or the partisan political rancor of the day. As a public servant, if you just stay above the mudslinging, knuckle down, and do your job in a bipartisan way, folks notice and are appreciative. Doing what's right has nothing whatsoever to do with having a "D" or "R" label after your name. And sticking with my core beliefs has always been an easy vote for me. Protecting the unborn. Protecting our Second Amendment rights. Protecting the rights of working men and women that make this nation great. Honoring the men and women of our armed services. Honoring our veterans.

To quote Mark Twain, “Doing the right thing is never wrong”. That's what I've tried to do in the many thousands of votes I've cast as one of the longest-serving members of the House of Delegates in continuous service. Reach across the political aisle, work for the good of all, and find consensus to get things done.

I have had the added opportunity to serve in all or part of four decades and in nearly all leadership capacities in the House. I've always used those positions to better serve each of you, my constituents. I've said many times that these are not lifetime appointments, but a job that requires being rehired every two years. I am so thankful and grateful that you have honored me with serving you for thirteen consecutive two-year terms.

As for our family, no one could ever ask for a more supportive spouse and partner than Jean, who has been on this journey side-by-side with me. When you elected me, you got Jean too, along with our entire family. Our kids were in middle and high school at the beginning of this journey and now they have their own kids ranging in ages

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SUTTON

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set up, phones, firewalls, and service. Councilmember Robyn Dolan made a motion that the town go ahead and complete the upgrade.

Smith presented the quote from C&M Plumbing to repair the leaking lines in the Town Hall. Recorder Laurel Petolicchio made a motion to get the repair scheduled.

A brief discussion took place regarding town fees. Councilmember Steve Facemire made a motion that the council table further discussion until the municipal ordinance book is reviewed and a better list is presented at the next meeting.

Fernando Rodriguez spoke briefly to the council concerning the Sutton Community Development Corporation. Councilmember Steve Facemire made a motion that we set up a work session for January 6 at 6:00 pm to meet with the SCDC and to cover other business.

Council member Marsha Lloyd discussed the need for an office notary. Councilmember Steve Facemire made a motion that Municipal Clerk takes the required steps to become a notary and the town would cover the expenses.

Councilmember Beth Atkins discussed the Civil War Trails Markers. They are \$200 per site annually. The Town is responsible for the Marker by the Courthouse. The bill hasn't been paid for several years. Councilmember Steve Facemire made a motion that the Town pay that bill this year.

Municipal Clerk Smith informed council that the West Virginia Archives called and said they would be picking up the broken sign that is currently located in the back of the council chambers.

Councilmember Steve Facemire updated the council on the Rail-Trail lawsuit.

The council discussed the construction permit for 341 West Main Street to set a 3 bedroom trailer. Some councilmembers were concerned about the state right of way. Councilmember Steve Facemire made a mo-

tion to table the Construction Permit until the owner of the property could provide a letter from the Department of Transportation that the Department would approve the placement of the mobile home.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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sory/instructional/transportation/ECCAT aide, Little Birch, to half-time cook (9:30 am to 1:00 pm), Burnsville, Robert Lloyd, assistant boys basketball coach, BCHS, and Jamie Given, \$1 assistant wrestling coach, BCHS; and resignations for G. Renae Friend, substitute secretary, Bryan Nottingham, school bus operator, and Tara Given, substitute aide.

The board also approved all fundraisers as presented and Braxton County Board of Education Policy 2306: Instructional Resources Adoption on separate motions. Superintendent Hypes stated that there were no comments or revisions needed on the policy.

The Superintendent discussed Policy 3210: Substitute Professionals in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage. The old policy needs to be revised and replaced by state code. The county has to submit critical needs areas yearly to the state. This policy allows for that and to cover using retirees to fill positions that can't be filled by certified teachers. Hypes stated she was very grateful to those retirees that fill those positions.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 21 at 6:00 pm. As always, members of the Braxton County community are encouraged to attend regular board meetings. Anyone wishing to speak as a delegate or with public concerns may do so by signing in up to 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

CAPITOL

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from 13 to 18. Throughout the years, each one remains as supportive as ever. My parents are now in their 90's and Jean's mother is not far behind. No one could have

asked for better examples of faith, family, love, humility, and responsibility than my mom and dad. We're still the same God-fearing, West Virginia working family of a quarter-century ago – just a little older and well-seasoned from life and experiences. Now it's time to devote more time to Jean and our family.

So, having laid all that out, my current term will conclude in about 12 months. This is no time to take our foot off the gas and let up, and I have no intentions of doing so. The groundwork laid over the years will be an important springboard for the growth of central West Virginia in the future. As always, I'll continue to work as hard as I can for the things our citizens so desperately need and deserve in Gilmer and Braxton Counties. Broadband, roads, bridges, jobs, new recreational, educational, and vocational opportunities. And I'll always be a tireless supporter of small businesses; senior citizens; expanded access to clean water; our police, volunteer firefighters and EMS; Glenville State College; and a much-needed all-sports athletic facility for Braxton County High School. These will always be important to me, and I'll be actively involved.

The formula for all that's been accomplished in the past and groundwork laid for the future started by working together with every citizen and with our towns, counties, state, and federal partners in a bipartisan way. Together, we've brought multiple millions of dollars into both counties for water, roads, bridges, wastewater, seniors, education, non-profits, towns, and county projects; and for smaller, but equally important initiatives and projects that many may never notice or realize. In doing so, I have been blessed beyond words to serve and most of all, with the friendships for life we've renewed and made in both Gilmer and Braxton Counties. Both counties will always be our home.

Moving forward, I'll certainly be open to considering future opportunities where I may continue in public service and put my experience to use for the citizens of central West Virginia. In doing so, I'll still employ the same principle that has guided decision-making throughout my life and for the past twenty-six elections...I'll pray about it.

As always, during the interim period between legislative sessions, I can be reached at my home at 304-364-8411; or please address mail to: 151 Park Street, Gassaway, WV 26624. For those with Internet access, my legislative email address is: Brent.Boggs@WV House.gov

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

AS I SEE IT

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In addition, he has always kept citizens informed as to what is going on in Charleston. I don't think his column has missed a single issue since he was elected. I have been a loyal reader of that space and could always

Way back when...

Long ago in Braxton County



Sutton Dam Dedication Parade...
Parades are always a great hit in our community. Such was the case in 1961 with the Sutton Dam Dedication Parade. Featured in this photograph is Burke Marple driving an antique Model T Ford with Corps of Engineers officials and then Congressman Cleveland Bailey through the streets of Sutton. The photo is courtesy of Craig A. Smith collection and is featured in a series of

historical books about Braxton County titled "Looking Back". The five volumes are filled with old pictures and county history. These books, The History of Braxton County, The History of Bulltown and Craig's three cookbooks are available for purchase at the Citizens' News/Democrat-Central Office, 501 Main Street, Sutton, WV. They make great Christmas Gifts?

depend on Brent for an inside, accurate view of legislative happenings.

I talked to Brent about continuing the column even if he isn't in the House. I know we will keep up-to-date with the goings-on in Charleston as well as the county and I am sure he can provide valuable reading for our subscribers.

It goes without saying that Braxton County will miss Brent being our Delegate. We owe him a debt of gratitude for the decades of quality public service that he has provided us. Fortunately, for us, he hasn't left yet. Thanks, Brent, for being our Delegate. And thanks for being my friend!

GLENVILLE

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an initial teaching license in the areas of Elementary Education (K-6), Biology (9-Adult), Chemistry (9-Adult), English (5-Adult), General Science (5-Adult), Math-

ematics (5-Adult), Social Studies (5-Adult), and Music (Pre-K-Adult).

The Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction (MACI) program will offer advanced education opportunities for teachers and educators who have already earned a bachelor's degree in education and have a teaching license or certificate of instruction.

Coursework for both master's programs will be fully online. The MACI program will include 30 semester hours beyond the bachelor's degree. Courses will be offered every 7.5 weeks in the fall and spring with a total of four terms between fall and spring and one full term in summer.

"There are currently no MAT programs being offered in Central West Virginia. Therefore, offering this graduate program at Glenville State will create a direct link between undergraduate and graduate-level education for current students, which is not only a natural fit for many of our preservice teachers,

but is also more convenient," said Glenville State College Provost, Dr. Gary Morris. "The Curriculum and Instruction program will provide a great opportunity for career advancement for those who have already earned their bachelor's degree in education."

Following university status approval from the WVHEPC, the Glenville State College Board of Governors will now affirm the new designation and set a date for the official name change. The West Virginia Legislature will also take up legislation to change any institutional references in state code to reflect the new name. Both are expected to take place in the new year.

"I appreciate the confidence that the Higher Education Policy Commission has shown in us throughout this process and beyond. We're excited to be celebrating our 150th anniversary in 2022 and we look forward to the next 150 years," Manchin added.

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...giving from the heart

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for with God, all things are possible.

New Arrivals:

- New Load: Windows, various sizes
- New Load: Sliding Patio doors
- 11/32" Beadboard siding
- New Load: Vinyl Flooring and underlayment
- New Load: Laminate flooring

Materials available:

- Treated Decking
 - Mobile Home Doors: 32" & 34"
 - Hand Sanitizer - 1 L Glass bottles
 - Butcherblock Counter Tops - Beech & Pine
 - Paint - 1 gal. Satin White
 - Kitchen & Bathroom Faucets
 - Flooring Laminate, Vinyl & Underlayment
 - Floor Tile: 12x12, 18x18, 6x24. 12x24
 - Tile Setting Materials & Tools
 - Fiberglass blow-in insulation - machine for rent
 - Roofing Shingles
 - Toilets
 - Wood Frame Mirrors
 - Selection of Vanity Tops
 - Granite/Stone Slabs
 - Door panels (interior)
 - Door Knobs
 - Tub/Shower units
- Other items too numerous to mention

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

@ Central West Virginia Outreach Center

We are open Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 am to 6 pm

Wednesdays & the 2nd Saturday of each month 9 am to 2 pm

The Central WV Outreach Center needs clean used oil to heat with this Winter. Please call for details.

With Deepest Sympathy

OBITUARIES

Margaret L. Frick
Margaret L. Frick, 81, passed away December 3, 2021 at home with her family by her side.

Born in Newville, WV to Alva and Pearl (Blankenship) Hamner, she lived in the Akron, Ohio area all of her adult life. Marge was a longtime member of Mogadore Baptist Church. She greatly enjoyed reading, her dogs, going to family reunions and spending time with her family.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Bob; 8 siblings. She will be sadly missed by siblings, Alice Williams, Peggy Hamner, James Hamner; many nieces, nephews, friends and her pups.

Per her wishes, cremation has taken place. A memorial service to celebrate Marge's life was Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 2:00

p.m. at Mogadore Baptist Church, 3750 Albrecht Ave., Akron. Arrangements by Newcomer, Akron Chapel. 330-784-3334.

George Dewey Keener, Jr.
George Dewey Keener, Jr., 86, of Sutton, passed away on Saturday, December 4, 2021 at Braxton Memorial Hospital, Gas-

saway.

He was born June 26, 1935 in Sutton, the son of the late George Dewey Keener, Sr. & Pearly Mae Crites Keener. Also preceding him in death was his sons, Lonnie Keener, Jeff Keener; daughter, Irene Pearl Keener; sisters, Mary Madeline Morris, Kathleen White, Jacqueline Caldwell; brother, Ralph Keener.

George was a retired Staff Sergeant serving in Vietnam in Air Force with the 101st Air Bourne and was also a Army Paratrooper. He was a member of Laurel Run Baptist Church.

He is survived by his loving wife, Patsy Keener; sons, Greg Keener (Charlotte) of Princeton, WV, Fred Keener (Yvonne) of Washington; daughters, Diana Keener (Roy) of Wilsie, WV, Janette Folk (Brian) of Maryland; 14 grandchildren; special nieces, Shelby and Sammy Bender; special great nephew, Micah Morlin.

Funeral services were held 1:00 pm, Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at Greene-Robertson Funeral Home, Sutton with Rev. Jason Allen officiating. Military graveside Rite followed at the funeral home with American Legion Post #33, with burial at Keener Cemetery, Sutton. Friends called 6 to 8 pm., Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at the funeral home.

Greene-Robertson Funeral Home is humbly serving the Keener family.

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

Darley James McCray
Darley James McCray, 63, of Ireland, passed away in the comfort of his home on Friday, December 3, 2021.

He was born in Buckhannon on November 15, 1958, a son of Lucille Boggs McCray and the late Ralph Welton McCray. In addition to his father, Darley was preceded in death by one brother, David McCray; and one sister, Margaret McCray Kelley

Forever cherishing their memories of Darley's loving nature are one daughter, Jessica Stalnaker of Ireland, WV; four grandchildren: Seth, Kaylee, Emily, and Brody Stalnaker all of Ireland, WV; two sisters: Brenda McCray Helmick and husband, Harold, of Roanoke, WV, and Carol McCray of Ireland, WV; one brother, Travis McCray of Ireland, WV; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Darley was a self-employed logger for over 35 years working for D. McCray logging. He had a passion for gardening and raising vegetables. He also enjoyed fishing and riding his 4-wheeler. Darley was a man with a huge heart willing to help anyone, but always at the center of his life were his grandchildren.

Family and friends gathered for a Graveside Service in McCutcheon Chapel Cemetery on

McChord Run Road in Walkersville at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, with Pastor Bob Mitchell officiating. Interment followed.

We, at Clutter Funeral Home – Alkire Chapel located at 190 Wildcat Road in Ireland, are honored and privileged to serve the family of Darley James McCray. Online condolences may be expressed at www.ClutterFuneralHome.com.

James Walter Simmons
James Walter Simmons, 75, born in Steubenville, OH on 4/29/46, passed away on 10/24/21 surrounded by family.

Survived by his loving wife Gayle of 16 years and his children, James Simmons, Michael Simmons, Sherry Wiltshire, Eric Young, Jamie Lynn and Scott Lynn in addition to 8 grandchildren and 1 great-granddaughter, sisters Janet Shoberg, Beverly Tyreman and brother-in-law John Tyreman. Also included are nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family and friends whom he considered family.

Jim proudly served in the US Navy from July 1964 – July 1970. He retired to Green Valley, AZ in 2009 after 39 years with the American Electric Power Co, Cardinal Plant in Brilliant, OH. He was Post Commander of American Legion Madera Post 131 in Green Valley, AZ from 2014 – 2016 and also an American Legion Rider as well as a member of the Elks Green Valley Lodge #2592.

He became a member of the Desert Hills Lutheran Church, Green Valley, AZ and truly enjoyed being a Mason at the Green Valley Masonic Lodge #71 and a Sabbar Shriner, Tucson, AZ.

He enjoyed playing his guitars, riding his motorcycle and playing golf. His infectious laugh was quite contagious and you knew when he was in the building. His West "By God" Virginia stories were memorable and told often. He loved being with his many wonderful friends through the years and his large extended family were very special to him. He will be extremely missed by all that knew and loved him.

A celebration of Jim's life was held at the American Legion Madera Post 131, Green Valley, AZ, on Nov 14, 2021 at 2:00 PM.



Glorified Grooming sponsors Fundraiser for the BCAS

Glorified Grooming will be hosting a raffle that will include three baskets, so you have three opportunities to win, where the proceeds will be split & half will be donated to Braxton County Animal Shelter & the other half will be donated to Summersville Animal Shelter. Tickets will be \$1 each or \$5 for 6. We can take payment through PayPal, in person or by mail (mail-in payment must be received before December 20th). The raffle will run until December 20th & the names of the winners will be announced that evening. Prizes can either be locally picked-up/dropped off OR they can be mailed. Please feel free to message Glorified Grooming or Julie Harper with any questions

Important Info to Know

- Email to send

payment thru PayPal is glorifiedgrooming@yahoo.com

-First name drawn will have first pick of basket, second name will have second choice & third name will get the remainder basket.

-Names will be drawn live, you don't have to be on live to claim prize.

-Description of items in baskets will be under the pictures.

-Bandanas may very depending on size you need.

-Other items may be added to the baskets at before date of winners announced

-Please share this fundraiser with our friends and family even if you can't purchase a ticket

-All items have been purchased & donated by Glorified Grooming.

For more information please visit and follow Glorified Grooming and Braxton County Animal Shelter on Facebook.



Members of the church kept cars moving in a safe, timely manner at last years backpack giveaway.

First Southern Baptist Church of Sutton hosts Annual backpack giveaway

Mark your calendars our annual Drive Through Backpack Giveaway will be Saturday, December 18th starting at 9:00 am until we run out of backpacks.

The Giveaway will be at Robinson's Sales & Service located at 732 Airport Road (located 7/10 of a mile from Lau-

rel Ct Go-Mart, big green building on the right.

You will be asked the age of children and backpacks will be handed to your children.

There are no income guidelines, backpacks are given on a first come first serve basis.

Come and get your child a Christmas Backpack.



Executive Director, Evelyn Post had Poinsettias delivered to the Sutton Office Staff of CWV Aging Services.

Sutton Office Staff CWVAS note of gratitude

The Sutton Office Staff of Central West

Virginia Aging Services would like to

personally thank our Executive Director, Evelyn Post for the beautiful Poinsettias she had delivered to our office on December 1st.

The flowers were beautiful and the entire staff appreciates all that you do for our agency and the community throughout the entire year.

Your kindness and compassion make us all want to be the best that we can be.

It's truly an honor to work for you.

Sutton Office Staff

Singleton note of thanks

The family of Linda F. Singleton would like to express our sincere appreciation of the flowers, thoughts, food, cards, and condolences expressed during our time of sorrow.

All these have been a great comfort to us in recent days.

A special thank you to all the ones who brought food to our home, Frametown United Methodist Church

for the wonderful meal that was prepared, Ray Teets for officiating the service, and Roach Funeral Home for providing an efficient, thoughtful, and comforting experience. Ryan and Heather went above and beyond anything we could have imagined. No detail was spared.

Linda's memory has been truly honored and we are forever grateful.

YOUR PREARRANGED FUNERAL CAN BE TRANSFERRED

Did you know that you can transfer a preneed funeral that is already set up with another funeral home to our funeral home. We are licensed with the WV Attorney Generals' Office and can simply transfer and honor your preselected arrangements. All of our preneed accounts are irrevocable, meaning that neither the funeral home nor the family can bother the money until time of death as directed by Medicaid. All monies are paid direct to the financial institution and a copy sent to the WV Attorney General's office. If you have a question or need to set an appointment,

"Don't Worry Call"

Greene - Robertson Funeral Home
600 Riverview Drive / PO Box 404
Sutton, WV 26601
304-765-5502

Steve Jeffers, Owner / Director / LIC
Doris Jeffers, Administrative Assistant
John Ware, Funeral Attendant
www.greene-robertsonfuneralhome.com



MAGISTRATE COURT

R-E-P-O-R-T

Magistrate Beth Smith's Court

December 3: Aden A. Yoder of Sugarcreek, OH, killing deer less than 14 inches outside spread, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed and paid; Kel Oliver Christianson of Owings, MD, killing deer less than 14 inches outside spread, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed and paid; David W. Spencer of Birch River, overweight vehicle, not guilty plea.

December 6: Anthony Charles Cogar of Sutton, domestic battery-2nd offense, bond set at \$10,000 cash or surety, sexual assault in the first degree, no probable cause found-no evidence presented by prosecution.

Magistrate David Singleton's Court

November 30: Carlos Barker of Ashford, permitting youth hunter under 15 without adult, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed; Herbert Dalton Dickey, IV of Shock, no MVI, dismissed proof provided.

December 1: Robert Daniel Marks of Strange Creek, no proof of insurance, dismissed proof provided.

December 6: Leonard E. Wyant, III of Gassaway, driving revoked for DUI x2, preliminary hearing waived, transferred to circuit court; Jerry Ray Claypoole of Ireland, opening burning of refuse, dismissed, defendant deceased; Randall Scott Kniceley

of Little Birch, expired operators, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed; Mark Cutlip, Jr. of Napier, hunting wildlife from a motorized vehicle, dismissed; Jennifer Kemp of Sutton, petit larceny, guilty plea, obstructing an officer, guilty plea, possession of controlled substance, guilty plea, trespassing, dismissed per plea, obstructing an officer, dismissed per plea, willful disruption of government process, dismissed per plea, disorderly conduct, dismissed per plea, public intoxication, dismissed per plea, 180 days of jail with credit for time served of 11 days, to serve 49 days in jail, 120 days suspended and placed on 18 months unsupervised probation, fines/court costs assessed.

December 7: Cody Austin Richards of Troy, speeding, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed.

December 8: Nicholas Ian Long of Sutton, possession of meth, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$5000 cash, surety, or 10% to the court; Ryan Duckworth of Frametown, fleeing with reckless indifference, warrant issued, bond set at \$10,000 cash only; Kenny Jenkins of Gassaway, DUI, guilty plea, 180 days of jail with credit for time served of one day, remainder suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation, fine/court costs assessed; Gerald

W. McKinney of Johnson City, TN, DUI, guilty plea, 180 days of jail with credit for time served of one day, remainder suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation, fine/court costs assessed and paid; Fermen Leo Rhoades, II of Glenville, overweight vehicle, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed and paid; Joseph Andrew Dodrill of Birch River, overweight vehicle, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed and paid; Daniel W. Hall of Sutton, driving revoked for DUI, no contest plea, 180 days of jail with credit for time served of two days, to serve 28 days on home confinement, remainder suspended, fine/court costs assessed; Jedidiah Joel Jones of Eglon, overweight vehicle, dismissed, officer will be charging different individual; Stephen Cutlip of Tazwell, VA, burglary, preliminary hearing waived, transferred to circuit court; Christina Marie Abel of Flatwoods, shoplifting-1st offense, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$250 personal recognizance, shoplifting-3rd offense, dismissed.

December 9: Colden W. Conley of Orlando, fraudulent schemes x14, warrant issued, bond set at \$15,000 cash, surety, or 10% to the court; Bradley S. Belcher of Gassaway, battery, warrant issued, bond set at \$1000 personal recognizance.



Members of Judy's Garden Club enjoyed light refreshments and a Yankee Swap at the December meeting.

Judy's Garden Club December meeting



Raffle ticket winners were pulled at the meeting for the tea basket (Rene Tyo) and Christmas cactus (Amanda Hamric).

Judy's Garden Club, Appalachian District, held its regular meeting on December 11, 2021 at the Sutton Public Library. Regular business was discussed

and various reports were read and approved. The club celebrated with Christmas spirit. Club members brought light refreshments and participated in a Yankee swap.

From Judy's Garden Club, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

"The Journey"

It is called "The Journey" of Hope and Restoration, these studies are through the "Living Free" program curriculum. These studies are done in a small group setting that meets each Monday at 6:00 pm. The lesson that we are currently studying is "Coping with Losses of Life". This is a biblically-based study and everyone is welcome to participate. We serve food at 5:30 PM each Monday at 602 Elk Street, Gassaway, WV. We have many areas that we are able to minister to others as well such as the areas of destructive behaviors, harmful emotions, negative attitudes, unhealthy relationships, and substance abuse. To register or if you have questions you can call Pastor Eric Veltre at 304-689-0000.

Movie nights

Christ Church United Methodist is hosting two holiday movie nights for those who are young or young at heart. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served. We are the large tan brick church as you enter Sutton. Friday, December 17 at 6:00 pm "The Star" Tuesday, December 27 at 6:00 pm "The Polar Express"-wear you PJs

Burnsville Elementary hosts Town Hall meeting

Burnsville Elementary will host a Town Hall meeting at the school on January 11, 2022. The meeting will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The issues to be addressed at the Town Hall meeting may include, but are not limited to: Parent and Community Involvement; The Learning Environment; Student Engagement; Attendance; Supports for At-Risk Students; Curricular Offerings; Resources; and The Capacity for School Improvement.

LBE LSIC Town Hall Meeting

Little Birch Elementary will hold the annual LSIC Town Hall meeting January 7, 2022 at 5:00 in the gym.

Annual Stewart Family Christmas Eve lunch

The Annual Stewart Family Christmas Eve lunch will be held at the Gassaway Community Building on December 24, 2021. The room will be open at 11:30 a.m. for set-up with lunch to be available as soon as all is complete. Please bring a dish and come join us.

Join us for a Christmas Dinner

Saturday, December 18th from 11-1 PM at the Shiloh Fellowship Outreach 602 Elk Street, Gassaway. First come serve. Drive thru

Braxton County Senior Center December Menu

December 14 Open-Face Turkey Sandwich Stuffing Corn Fruit, December 15 Potato Soup Broccoli Cornbread Fruit, December 16 CHRISTMAS DINNER Baked Ham Sweet Potato Casserole Green Beans Dinner Roll Cherry Crisp, December 17 Spaghetti w/ Meatballs Garden Salad Garlic Bread Fruit, December 20 Chicken Alfredo Garlic Bread Broccoli Fruit, December 21 Hamburger Steak w/ Onion Gravy Mashed Potatoes

Spinach Casserole Dinner Roll Fruit, December 22 Pork Riblet on Bun French Fries Fruit, December 23 Breakfast Bake Hash Brown Biscuit Spiced Apples, December 24 HOLIDAY CENTER CLOSED, December 27 Fish Sandwich w/ Cheese French Fries Coleslaw Baked Beans Fruit, December 28 Bean Soup Ham Salad Sandwich Stewed Tomatoes Fruit, December 29 Hot Dog w/ Chili Coleslaw Tater Tots Fruit, December 30 Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Peas Dinner Roll Fruit, December 31 HOLIDAY CENTER CLOSED, 2% Milk served with each meal. Menu subject to change due to Availability of foods.

Richmond Chapel Church hosts Christmas Play

Richmond Chapel Church will host the Christmas Play "Cricket County Christmas Carol" on Saturday, December 18th at 6:30 P.M. six miles out Chapel road from Gassaway, on the right and up the hill. Come out and enjoy a Blessing and lots of laughter. We hope to see you there.

Friday night indoor 3D shoot

Friday night Indoor 3D Shoot - 15 animals (shoot twice) - Doors open @ 6PM - Beef Chili and Cornbread available @ 6:30 - Shoot starts @ 7PM till ?. Mid State Archers 2415 Airport Rd. Questions - call Ronald 304.542.4353.

Braxton County Farm Bureau to meet

The Braxton County Farm Bureau will meet on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 6 PM at the Flatwoods Community Building. There will be a Yankee Swap for all those who choose to participate. No November meeting due to WV Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. Please plan to attend.

Kanawha Alumni Indoor Archery at night

Mid-State Archers is now opening on Tuesday nights for indoor target archery from 6-9pm, 2415 Airport Rd. For more information call 304.542.4353.

SJRC Mobile Outpatient Clinics come to BC

St. Joseph Recovery Center is bringing Substance Abuse and Mental Health Treatment to West Virginia Counties with our Mobile Outpatient Clinics. The Mobile Clinics will offer the same experienced, professional staff and comprehensive treatment that is available at our main office in Summersville, West Virginia. St. Joseph Recovery Center has a 12 bed Residential Unit and a 12 bed Detox Unit for men and women providing direct access for clients from the Mobile Units to receive a higher level of care if needed. The Mobile Outpatient Clinic will be in Braxton County every Tuesday from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. located at the Encore A Thrift Store at 229 River Street Gassaway, WV 26624. Services include: Professional Therapy, Medical Evaluation, Medication Management, Medication -Assisted Treatment (Suboxone and Vivitrol), Peer Recovery Support Services, Full-Service Laboratory On Board, Observed and Confirmed UDS, Same Day Appointments as available, Access to All Levels of Care, and Coordination of Care. No referral needed, walk-ins welcomed! For more information please contact P.R.S.S Tabitha Saye at (681)326-6866, Outreach Coordinator Russell Barrett at (304)481-4829, or call the main office at (304)362-0295.

Sutton Public Library Create to Donate

Don't forget that our Create to Donate drop-in class has restarted! Join us every Thursday from 12:30-2:30pm. All the materials are provided, just show up! No previous experience required.

A Jingle-Ball at Stonewall Resort

Review By: Allison Given-Nettles

Stonewall Resort's Jingle Bell Ball lived up to its name! It was an absolute ball! No matter your age, from young couples to a gentleman celebrating his 70th birthday fun really was had by all. The evening started with a gourmet dinner buffet, and while I am personally not a fan of buffets, this one was one for the books. Green beans with dried cranberries and slivers of almonds may sound like an odd combination, however, were amazing! I have never had any meat off a buffet that wasn't over cooked and dry. The chef in this case succeeded in moist and delicious chicken and mouth-watering beef medallions. As said before my buffet experience is normally a 2-3 when it comes to tasty food, I easily give this a solid 9!

Then came the dancing! The space was not overcrowded, yet plenty of people on the dance floor all night! Two DJ's and a live drummer set an ambience of upbeat entertainment playing a song selection from the 70's through current hits. I can honestly say it has been years since I have enjoyed myself that much! I will definitely be looking into attending their events on a more regular basis!

Now for the kicker, what does all this fun cost you might ask? Surprisingly more affordable than you probably think! For example, this Friday, Dec. 18th there will be a Ice Ball Family Dance Event, \$20 per ticket! And that includes an adult and a child buffet, served by elves, special character appearances in their wintery holiday-themed ballroom. You can upgrade that to a package deal with a room for the night so you and your little ones can relax and take advantage of the heated pool for \$229. Really there is fun for any budget! Visit stonewallresort.com for more info or to book. Trust me you won't regret it!

COMMUNITY CORNER

COUNTY STORIES

BY: JEANETTE RIFFLE

Over the river and through the woods

I was inspired to write this story after listening to a wonderful sermon this morning at Rosedale Baptist Church. My great nephew, Stewart Fitzwater, brought us a sermon on the importance of family. Jesus himself put a lot of importance on family. He spoke of love, closeness and concern for His own earthly family. This time of year our mind goes back to home and family. We have good memories of when we were growing up and we all looked forward to Christmas. Kids can't wait to see what all their parents and relatives got them. I remember one time of getting up too early on Christmas morning to see what all was under the tree for me and Dad put me back to bed. He and Mom were already up and putting presents under the tree.

Dad would go around to all the country stores and get oranges, nuts, and all kinds of candy. We already had plenty of Early Harvest apples in the cellar from my Stewart grandparent's orchard. My parents had gone through the Great Depression and they wanted to give us all they could. Dad said he and his siblings hung up a sock and they each got an apple, an orange, candy, and nuts. Times were hard. My parents shopped Montgomery Wards store at Clarksburg after Dad was able to get a car and had worked long enough for the Hope Natural Gas .Co., to save up enough money for Christmas shopping. When he first got back from WW 11 he and Mom had to start from scratch and their relatives had to help them.

That's what family is for. My good memories of Christmas is of special food. I loved my mother's mince-meat pie. Pumpkin pies were good, too, made from the butternut squash that my parents raised. Mom fixed chicken and dressing for years and when I was a teenager, Dad started buying a turkey from a farmer that raised them. Then Mom discovered how good the Tavern ham was and they switched to that. When they raised hogs, they had their own country ham. It was all good. I liked everything. Sometimes, off to Grandmother's house we went for her turkey dinner. We didn't have to go over the river and through the woods though, as the song goes. Stewart grandparents just lived a few miles up the road. I remember Grandmother's tree. She didn't like a lot of icicles. It was decorated with a lot of homemade ornaments and popcorn or cranberry ropes.

We are so blessed to have a good family, good church family and plenty of food and material blessings, but the greatest gift of all was when Jesus was born to save us all from our sins. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3: 16) May we never forget the real reason for celebrating Christmas. Until next time, take care. Stay safe and stay well. God bless! I am bringing back a story that I wrote previously as it is appropriate for this time of year.

Tree service called in by West Virginia District VII Roads to clear hazardous trees over Green Hill Road in Braxton County and Lewis Counties



Three West Virginia members of Integrity Tree Services; Brandon Boothe- Greenbrier County, Richard Holland-Wayne County, and Mike Cutright-Randolph County worked recently to clear hazardous overhanging trees from Green Hill Road.

"We all know about the high winds we have had recently this December," said Robert Chumney of Hettie Road in Braxton County, and at the top of Green Hill Road I had to report several trees that had broken off and were hanging dangerously over the road making that section unsafe for travel.

"In a few days three guys showed up from Integrity Tree Services and made short work of a serious problem, reported Chumney. I learned that while this Tree Service is based in Grandville MI, they perform work in 7 mid-western states and most importantly have a base in Dunbar, West Virginia."

Richard Holland has 32 years in the tree service industry, and I watched him cut the last overhanging tree from his extended bucket truck high overhead. He told me that his crew is under the

leadership of general foreman, Brandon Lilly from Raleigh County.

I also learned that Integrity Tree Services has its largest satellite office is in Dunbar, WV, currently with about 16 crews actively working in West Virginia right now.

Mike Cutright, was proud of his tenure with Integrity and stated that we have extremely high safety ratings, with a very low employment turnover rates and our company really works hard on mentoring and investing their workers. There is lots of room for advancement and we are growing and actively hiring all over the state here in West Virginia.

We offer many opportunities for professional development and advancement for our team members. We have several basic career paths; team members can graduate from an entry-level tree trimmer or equipment operator position and participate

in training and development to eventually become a Foreman.

Cutright added, "The estimated timeline for this career growth is relatively short around 30 months, depending on training and experience requirements. (If interested in employment just check out our website integritytree.com and click on the section "join our team")

Best of all Integrity offers bonuses, pay increases, and other benefits to encourage team members in their development which contributes to keep turnover rates."

Brandon Boothe who has been with the company for one year said, "Here in West Virginia our work crews' partner with departments of transportation to help keep roadways clear of overgrowth or dangerous trees and even clear rights of way for new roads to be built. But mostly our maintenance teams are all about keep-

ing roads safe for travel.

We even work with forest services around the mid-west to create firebreaks to help protect them from destruction by forest fires."


Cutright went on stating, that "Integrity Tree Services, is 23 years old and was founded in 1998. We also provide services to electric utilities and municipalities here in West Virginia, but we don't engage in individual residential work.

"These gentlemen told me they have actually done work in 17 states and will most likely be sending crews to help in Kentucky where that 250-mile-long tornado created such devastation.

I would like to thank District VII of the WV Department of Transportation for contracting and taking care of this safety issue up here in Northeastern Braxton and Southern Lewis County." finished, Robert Chumney.




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SAVING LIVES MATTERS!



BRAXTON COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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COMMUNITY CORNER

PAT'S CHAT

By : PAT RIDPATH



There are two tenets of the Seventh-day Adventist Church that many people have a difficult time understanding. Number one is that we believe in keeping holy the seventh-day of the week, which means we go to church on Saturday, calling it “Sabbath.” Most other Christians go to church on Sunday, the first day of the week. I have heard people say, “How could so many people be wrong?” Others ask, “What’s the big deal? Why not go along with everyone else?” There are many other questions asked similar to this.

The other tenet is that most Adventists are vegetarians or eat only what they call the “clean meats”! Many just consider it silly or unhealthy even.

My answer to both of these questions takes me back to the Creation of our planet and early history. Long before there was a Jew or Christian, these two tenets were born before man was created or soon after. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy reveal what happened. First words in the Bible are “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” It goes on to tell about how God spoke everything into existence, different things every day. Then on the sixth day, He no longer spoke things into existence. Verse 26 of Genesis 1, He says “Let us make man in our im-

age.” Then He tells how He created mankind in Chapter 2, verse 7. He got down (I like to think), on His hands and knees, and “formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” (That “breath of life” comes from the same word that means spirit, so it is God’s spirit that sparks life in human beings.)

Then Genesis 2, verse 2, “And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all his work which He had made.” Verse 3: “And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it; because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made.” Then, when God spoke to His people later, He gave them all the commandments: Exodus 31, verse 18: “And He gave unto Moses when He had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony tables of stone, written with THE FINGER OF GOD,”

That is why Adventists try to keep the Sabbath that has been His law since creation and was written in stone. There is no record that God changed His law. Malachi 3:6 says “For I am the Lord, I change not.”

God, who created us, also gave us instructions of what flesh meats were clean and could be eaten in Leviticus 11 and other places. When the ark was built to save some people when God destroyed evil with a world-

wide flood, he sent more pairs of clean animals into the ark than unclean because he knew His people would have to eat things nourishing till after the results of the Flood were over. He admonished men to eat only clean (or Kosher) flesh without any blood or fat in it. Some say we can eat anything if we give thanks for it (citing I Timothy 4:3 which says “commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving. . . for every creature of IGod is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving.” But as we have seen, not every creature was created to be received with thanksgiving. Those designated as unclean can be described as scavengers, cleaning up the surroundings. What God did makes sense.

The main reason most Adventists are vegetarians is because it is safer from disease and healthier, as proven by the Blue Zone results at Loma Linda California results as one of the Blue Zone where men and women live 8 to 10 years longer than average people.

Does this make Seventh day Adventists better than other Christians? No. It is not our being good that saves any of us or anyone. It is believing in Jesus as Savior of each of us and praying that as we study His life and His words, we will become more like Him. Our belief and faith is what saves us. Philippians 2:13.

Maranatha

Bobber the Water Safety Dog and Burnsville volunteers help the City of Glenville host its Annual Downtown Christmas Parade

Big things come in small packages, and that adage couldn’t rang truer than on Saturday night when the city of Glenville hosted its Annual Christmas Parade downtown.

Old Saint Nick headlined the event, but asked his close pal, “Bobber the Water Safety Dog” to participate in providing the children of Glenville an exciting evening of colorful lights, festive costumes and lots and lots of candy!

Burnsville Lake Ranger Josh Stanley and Volunteers Dawn Wilson and Sydney Ramsbottom escorted “Bobber” to College Street where the parade would begin its journey before a sharp right northwest onto East Main took the festivities past Santa Claus who was hanging out in the City Park.

Burnsville Volunteers passed out candy canes and coloring books, while Bobber passed out “Bobberducks” and plenty of hugs.

Afterwards, the kids got a chance to sit on Santa’s lap and pass along their Christmas wishes, while others chose to have their picture taken with Bobber.

It was this Ranger’s first Glenville Parade, but I hope it wasn’t my last, as the memories were truly lasting, and the people as genuine as the smiles on the children’s faces



Burnsville Lake Ranger Josh Stanley and Volunteers Dawn Wilson and Sydney Ramsbottom escorted “Bobber” to College Street where the parade would begin its journey.



Dawn Wilson and Bobber pass out treats and hugs while walking in the parade.

GASSAWAY NEWS

By: MELINDA FRAME



Hello, Everyone!

I hope this finds you well and that you have enjoyed your week.

The weather has been really odd for this time of year with the exception of the little skiff of snow last week. That little bit of snow caused several accidents along 79 and caused one fatality. Maybe because it was unexpected and people weren’t prepared, I am not sure, prayers for the family of the person lost. Special thanks to all of the first responders who get out there to help when road conditions are treacherous. Brave people!

Birthdays this week are: December 15th-Jackie Foster

December 16th-Emilee Putnam, Hazel Moats-Hughes

December 18th-Brent Boggs, Jack Phillips

December 19th-Mason Carr, Henry Holcomb

December 20th-Brianna Cunningham, Eric Dittman, Hannah Louise Dittman, Becky Oates, Tim Huffman, Nicole Horthy, Daniel Cool

Happy Birthday to all of you!!!

December 7th-Butch Lancaster, Courtney Stewart, Elizabeth Jane Dittman, Nancy Workman

December 8th-Marc Poling, Shely Frame, Sara Grace Green

December 10th-Zoe Moore, Travis Chapman, Cynthia Belknap

December 11th-Brady Bender, Jeannie Nottingham, Jennifer Legg, Pam Mollohan

December 12th-Keller Lemon

December 13th-Croix B Keener, Jesse Dalton Wilcox, Buddy Johnson, Jennifer Byrne-Floyd

Belated “Happy Birthday” to all of you! Hope it was awesome.

If you have news, a birthday, an anniversary or a recipe that you would like to share, email me at gassawaynews@gmail.com, message me on Facebook or you may mail it to 233 Walkers Way, Frametown, WV 26623. When mailing, please include contact information.

Please keep the following friends and neighbors in your prayers; Rick Rose, Debra Schwab, Joe Agostino, Barb Thompson, Tom Knight, Kathryn Greenlief, Jeannie Nottingham, Amy Crockett, Johnna Stalnaker, Karen “Bubba” Morris, Donna Ratliff, Sonja McCune Cooper, David Carr, Nathan Ault, Steve White, Bobby Facemire, Ralph Gay, Emma Grubb, Jill James, Thelma Hazel, Stan Corkhill, Brenda

Rogers, Fawn Miller, Erika McCormick, Denny Tanner, Rusty Walker, Troy Dennison, Amy Shaffer, Susan Petted, Bob Carr, William Petted and Keith Rose.

Did you get to see the Live Nativity at Flatwoods? It was spectacular!!!! How awesome for all of those passing by on the interstate. Thank you for blessing our community with such a wonderful display of the reason for the season!!

Christmas decorations all over our community are beautiful! I love driving around just to look at the lights. Have you had a chance to do so? If not, please make the time. It is well worth it!

This week’s recipe is for a possible appetizer while waiting for your scrumptious meal.

Bacon Pastry Twists With Beer Cheese Dip Recipe

Ingredients

- 2 sheets puff pastry
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 20-22 bacon strips
- 1 egg, lightly whisked
- 2 tablespoons sesame seeds

Directions

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Line 2 large baking trays with non-stick baking parchment. Unroll the pastry sheets with the wide end facing you. Sprinkle on the shredded cheddar. Arrange the bacon on top of the cheese, so it’s almost touching, but not overlapping. Slice

the pastry into strips, in between each bacon strip.

Twist each of the pastry strips so you get an even twist.

Place the twists on the two baking trays (not too close, as they will expand in the oven). Brush any pastry you can see with the whisked egg and sprinkle with sesame seeds.

Place in the oven for 20-25 minutes, until the pastry is golden brown and the bacon is crisp.

While the pastry twists are cooking, make the dip. Place all of the ingredients, except the beer, parsley and chili flakes, into a saucepan. Heat on medium until melted and thickened. Add in the beer and stir again, then simmer gently for five minutes. Pour into a heat-proof serving dish, then place under the broiler until the top is slightly charred. Carefully remove from the grill and sprinkle with parsley and chili flakes.

Serve the bacon-pastry twists and beer-cheese dip together. Mmmmm, dippy cheesiness!

Sympathy is extended to the families of George Dewey Keener Jr, Mary Louise Six, Clifford Benny McCourt Sr, Carol Marie Richardson, Michelle Lynn Evans, John “Danny” Facemire, Linda F Singleton, and Jeanne Yvette Hinely. Please keep them in your prayers.

“I heard a bird sing In the dark of December A magical thing And sweet to remember.

‘We are nearer to Spring Than we were in September,’ I heard a bird sing In the dark of December.”

- Oliver Herford, I Heard a Bird Sing

Until next week, take care and God Bless!

Braxton County Farm Bureau receives 2021 Quota Award



President Donald Burroughs of the BCFB receives an award

President Donald Burroughs of the Braxton County Farm Bureau is shown here receiving an award from the WV Farm Bureau President Charles Wilfong for Braxton making

the quota for 2021.

Braxton County was also represented at the Annual Meeting at Oglbay Resort & Conference Center by Brenda Burroughs and Linda Brown.

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Braxton Community Coalition sponsors Polar Express Interactive Experience at the Historic Gassaway Train Depot

The Braxton Community Coalition sponsored a Polar Express Interactive Experience at the Historic Gassaway Train Depot Friday, December 10th and Saturday, December 11th. The event was a sell out with 240 attendees enjoying a 90 minute walk through experience designed around the popular movie The Polar Express. Upon arrival guests received their golden ticket to board the experience and was greeted by the conductor who

punched their ticket as they started their adventure. The first stop was at Santa's Workshop where every child made a wooden toy train to take home with the help of Santa's elves. They were then welcomed into the Wintery Forest by Santa's reindeer who played games with them such as snowball tosses, candy cane pass, and a game of freeze. The next stop was for refreshments of Hot Chocolate and homemade sugar cookies served by the Polar

Express servers. Everyone enjoyed decorating their own cookie while sipping on their hot chocolate. The excitement continued as the next stop was to

experience the Classic large model train display as they learned about how the railroad worked and even some history on the depot itself. Following that,

guests enjoyed a cozy story time with Mrs. Clause as all the little ones gathered around to hear "Twas the Night Before Christmas". The final stop was to visit Santa where he presented each child a special bell, the first gift of Christmas.

The Braxton Community Coalition would like to thank all of the volunteers and cast members who made this event possible. A special thanks to the Town of Gassaway for the use of the beautiful Historic Depot

and for all of their assistance in preparing for the event. Cast members were volunteers from the Landmark Youth Theatre Ensemble, Communities In Schools, Braxton County Students, and other community members.

"We were so excited to offer this experience for families in Braxton County and thrilled to be able to host the first public event in the Historic Depot since it's renovation," Amanda Criner, BCC Director said.



The final stop was to visit Santa where he presented each child a special bell, the first gift of Christmas.



Guests enjoyed refreshments of Hot Chocolate and homemade sugar cookies served by the Polar Express servers.



Lilith Helmick received her golden ticket.



Guests enjoyed a cozy story time with Mrs. Clause as all the little ones gathered around to hear "Twas the Night Before Christmas"



Guests experience the Classic large model train display as they learned about how the railroad worked and even some history on the depot itself.



Upon arrival guests received their golden ticket to board the experience and was greeted by the conductor who punched their ticket as they started their adventure.



The first stop was at Santa's Workshop where every child made a wooden toy train to take home with the help of Santa's elves.



There were various activities for all ages to enjoy during the 90 minute walk through experience.



Guest were welcomed into the Wintery Forest by Santa's reindeer who played games with them such as snowball tosses, candy cane pass, and a game of freeze.



R

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Gassaway, WV 26624
304-364-2231

Sutton Public Library continues efforts for Cans for Canines in support of the BCAS

The Cans for Canines program is in its sixth month and so far has raised over \$600 for the Braxton County Animal Shelter.

This ongoing program encourages everyone to start saving and donating aluminum cans to the Sutton Public Library who will then deliver them to the recycling center to raise money for the Braxton

County Animal Shelter. If you are an individual or a company, if you have a few cans a week or a truck load to donate, just bring them by the library and leave them in the specially marked bins or large boxes on the parking ramp. They will accept crushed or uncrushed aluminum cans, not steel soup cans.

The library is also

looking for sponsors to match the money earned by one load or for the whole month. If you want to get involved in this worthwhile, environmentally friendly program, call the library at 304-765-7224. The next time you start to throw away a can, think about the animals at the shelter that could benefit from that can.

ATHENA'S STAINED GLASS

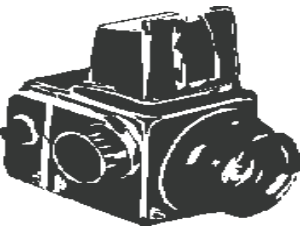
IS OFFERING STAINED GLASS CLASSES USING THE TIFFANY TECHNIQUE AT THE FLATWOODS COMMUNITY BUILDING.

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Your donation helps dogs like Max at the Braxton County Animal Shelter.

December 14, 2021



A Photographic Look at...

First Christmas Yeti Expo held in Sutton



Bigfoot and Yeti visited with attendees throughout the event.



One of the event organizers, Laurel Petolicchio, took a photo with Bigfoot and Yeti.



Les O'dell, West Virginia Bigfoot Hunter was on hand for book signings.



Children of all ages gathered in Mountain Laurel Country Store to visit with Santa Clause.



Various groups provided music in the Sutton Community Building.



The event had "Celebrities" including Les O'Dell, Yeti, Santa, Daniel "Boone" Smith, Bigfoot and an Elf.



Sutton Volunteer Fire Department sold food to raise money for a new truck.



Various vendors sold crafts set up in the Fisher Building and Sutton Community Building.



Guests enjoyed viewing the exhibits at the West Virginia Big Foot Museum including the new seasonal Yeti Exhibit.

Attendees of all ages enjoyed the meet and greet with photo opportunities featuring Bigfoot and Yeti.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON**

CASE NO. 21-0588-G-30C-PW HOPE GAS, INC., dba DOMINION ENERGY WEST VIRGINIA, Rule 30C application to adjust purchased gas costs. NOTICE OF HEARING On July 30, 2021, Hope Gas, Inc., dba Dominion Energy West Virginia (Hope) filed an application with the Commission to increase its purchased gas rate increment pursuant to Rule 14.2 (Historical Rule 30-C) of the Commission's Tariff Rules. Hope requested increased purchased gas increments representing an increase of \$0.510 per Mcf. By an Order issued on October 20, 2021, the Commission approved purchased gas rates, on an interim basis only, representing an increase of \$0.487 per Mcf for all service on and after November 1, 2021. The Commission has rescheduled the hearing previously set to begin on February 17, 2021 to begin on February 24, 2022, and to continue on February 25, 2022, if necessary. The hearing will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Commission's offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. HOPE GAS, INC., dba DOMINION ENERGY WEST VIRGINIA 12-14

EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE AUTHORITY BOARD APPLICANTS SOLICITED

Pursuant to WV Code 7-15-5, the Braxton County Commission is accepting letters of interest for appointment to the Braxton County Emergency Ambulance Service Authority Board. The aforesaid Board shall be lodged in a board of not less than five nor more than fifteen individuals who shall be known as members of the board and who shall be appointed for terms of three years each by the governing bodies of the participating governments. Any individual who is a resident of, or member of the governing body of any participating government is eligible to serve as a member of the board. Board vacancy is for a Business Appointment. Interested persons are to submit a Letter of Interest to the Braxton County Commission, Post Office Box 486, Sutton, West Virginia 26601, postmarked no later than Friday, December 24, 2021. EOE/Affirmative Action Employer. 12-14 12-21b

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF ESTATES TO THE CREDITORS AND BENEFICIARIES OF THE

WITHIN NAMED DECEASED PERSONS: I have before me the proposed final settlement of the estates of the following deceased persons, which shall be presented to the County Commission of Braxton County, West Virginia, at the courthouse thereof, in the city of Sutton, on the 17th day of December, 2021; at 9:00 o'clock a.m., which settlements I have either approved or have not approved as indicated below: APPROVED: EVERETT ROWAN, DECEASED AUSTIN ROBERT HARDESTY, DECEASED JOHN F. THOMAS, DECEASED MARY E. JARVIS, DECEASED ZONA OLETA LOUGH, DECEASED JUDITH A. DEMASTUS, DECEASED KARL K. BROWNING, DECEASED NOT APPROVED: None Any persons having any interest in the estate of such deceased persons, may appear before the County Commission at the time and place hereinabove specified and thereupon protect his or her interests as they may appear or else may be forever thereafter barred from asserting such interests. Given under my hand this the 6th day of December, 2021. Tamera L. Facemire 12-14
Fiduciary Supervisor 12-14b

NOTICE OF FILING OF ESTATES TO THE CREDITORS AND BENEFICIARIES OF THE WITHIN NAMED DECEASED PERSONS: I have before me the estates of the following deceased persons and the accounts of the fiduciaries of their respective estates:

DECEDENT: FLODA V. REXROAD FIDUCIARY: AGNES RESROAD 302 BRAXTON ST. GASSAWAY, WV 26624 DECEDENT: EARL KENNETH ALLEN FIDUCIARY: BARBARA ALLEN 2102 WALNUT FORK RD. CHLOE, WV 25235 DECEDENT: SHIRLEY JEAN NICHOLSON FIDUCIARY: IRENA ALMY 1723 HYERS RUN RD. BURNSVILLE, WV 26335 DECEDENT: EULA YOUNG FIDUCIARY: CONNIE PINGLEY 92 WALNUT DRIVE ELKINS, WV 26241 DECEDENT: JACK AUSTIN STALNAKER FIDUCIARY: SHIRLEY BROWN STALNAKER 736 ACORN COURT WARRENTON, VA 20186 DECEDENT: RETA ANN DAVIE FIDUCIARY: DALE DAVIS 12-14 12-21b

1535 HEROLD RD \SUTTON, WV 26601 DECEDENT: SUSANNA ROSE FIDUCIARY: SCOTT SIMMONS 400 LAKE DRIVE AMISSVILLE, VA 20106 DECEDENT: SHARON ELAINE MILLER FIDUCIARY: JAMES P MILLER JR 7453 CHAPEL RD GASSAWAY, WV 26624 DECEDENT: IDA BELLE DEAN FIDUCIARY: TERRY L. DEAN 8 BACK STREET BURNSVILLE, WV 26335 DECEDENT: SHIRLEY K. SWISHER FIDUCIARY: JAN FRAME 84 SOUTH HIGH ST. SUTTON, WV 26601 DECEDENT: FRANK HARVEY HENDERSON FIDUCIARY: SIERRA NOTTINGHAM ENTERPRISE DR GASSAWAY, WV 26624 DECEDENT: MARJORIE YOUNG FIDUCIARY: ROSS YOUNG 846 EUREKA RD. STRANGE CREEK, WV 25063 DECEDENT: DIXIE L. (DICK) GRAFF FIDUCIARY: RICHARD M. GRAFF P O 104 BURNSVILLE, WV 26335 ANCELLIARY ADMINISTRATION: DECEDENT: JEAN GARBER FIDUCIARY: MICHAEL J. GARBER 40297 FESTOON LANE MECHANICSBURG, MD 20659 DECEDENT: JAMES JACKSON FIDUCIARY: VIRGINIA COURT 530 DAVIS STREET NILES, OH 44446 All persons having any claims against the estate(s) of any of the above-named persons whether due or not, are notified to exhibit the same with vouchers thereof, legally verified, to the fiduciary of such deceased persons as shown herein with 60 days of the publication of this notice to the office of the Fiduciary Supervisor of Braxton County or the Fiduciary named above, not later than the 4th day of February, 2022; otherwise any or all such Claims may by law be excluded from all benefits of said estate(s). All beneficiaries of said estate(s) may appear either before the above-named fiduciary by the date first above shown or thereafter before the Fiduciary Supervisor by the date last above shown to examine said claims and otherwise protect their respective interests. Given under my hand this the 4th day of December 2021. TAMERA FACEMIRE 12-14 12-21b
Fiduciary Supervisor

Town of Flatwoods holds November meeting

The Town of Flatwoods Council held their meeting on November 16, at the Flatwood Municipal Building. Treasurer/Recorder, Lisa Hamrick, called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Opening Prayer was led by Councilman Luke Malensek. Present were Treasurer/Recorder Lisa Hamrick, Chief of Police Shawn Brown, and Council Members Jake Hamrick, Luke Malensek, and Dennis Miller. Attending by phone was Mayor Dale Ball and Council

Member Brenda Ball. Citizens present were Lorie J. Brown, and Danny Lee Smallwood Jr. Lisa Hamrick read the minutes from October 19, 2021 meeting. Dennis Miller made the motion to approve the minutes as read. Luke Malensek seconded. All were in favor, the motion carried. Lisa Hamrick read the Treasurer's Report. The vendor craft show will be held at the Flatwoods Community Building on Saturday, December 11th, 9 am to 4 pm.

Dennis Miller made a motion to cancel the Town of Flatwoods Christmas Parade due to lack of public interest. Jake Hamrick seconded. All were in favor, the motion carried. Lisa Hamrick read the bill list; Luke Malensek made a motion to approve the bill list as read. Jake Hamrick seconded. All were in favor, the motion carried. Jake Hamrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. Luke Malensek seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion carried.

KITTY KORNER: Affordable, Adoptable, Fixed Feline Friends

As the holiday approached, we remind you that pets are a lifetime commitment, and not just a present for under the tree on Christmas morning. Just One Generation recommends that new pets NOT be introduced to a household on or at Christmas morning, but rather several weeks before or after the event. This gives all the best chance for the pet to adapt to its new environment. Just One Generation cat rescue was formed in 2013 to help address the severe feline overpopulation problem in our area. All of our adoptable cats and kittens are looking for indoor homes, and are litter box trained, social, have been vaccinated, dewormed, and received topical flea protection. Spay/neuter/rabies is included with our

modest adoption fee of \$35, and older kittens and cats may already be done at the time of placement. This week we feature four of our recently arrived kittens, any one of which would make an excellent addition to any family. More adoptable animals can be viewed on petfinder.com by entering a search for CATS at location 26623, or by LIKING our Facebook page. Additional information can be obtained by calling Sally Stewart at 304-364-4136. CUPID: Female, 9 weeks old, white with black spots



GABRIEL: Male, 8 weeks old, white with gray spots



NOEL: Female, 8 weeks old, flame-tipped Siamese color and markings

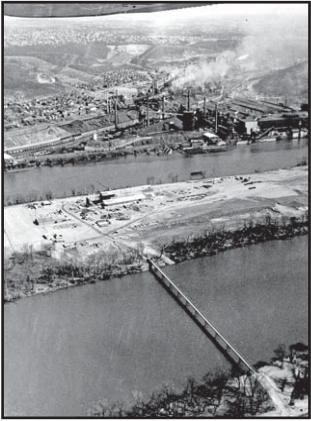


RUDOLPH: Male, 8 weeks old, tuxedo (black/white)

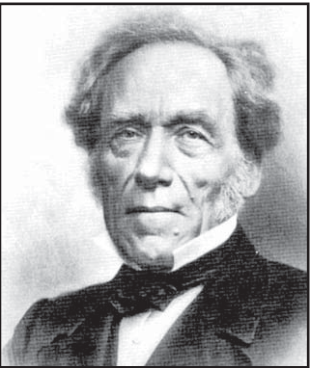
The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvencyclopedia.org. Dec. 15, 1879: Roman Catholic Bishop John Joseph Swint was born in Pickens. He was responsible for the building of many religious institutions in the Diocese of Wheeling (now the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston).



Dec. 15, 1967: The Silver Bridge at Point Pleasant collapsed, killing 46 people. The Silver Bridge was built by the American Bridge Company of Pittsburgh and opened to traffic on May 19, 1928. The accident led to the passage of legislation for a national bridge inspection and safety program.



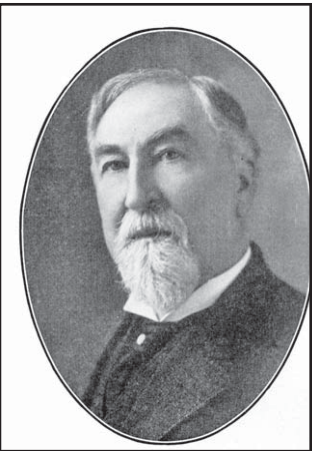
Dec. 15, 1972: An explosion at a Weirton Steel coke plant on Browns Island killed 19 men and injured 10 others. It was the worst industrial accident in Weirton's history.



Dec. 16, 1893: Al-

exander Martin died at the age of 71 in Greencastle, Indiana. Martin was the first president of the Agricultural College of West Virginia, which was renamed West Virginia University at his recommendation in 1868.

Dec. 17, 1957: The J. L. Stifel & Sons calico plant at Wheeling closed. For most of its history Stifel & Sons produced indigo-dyed prints and drills for clothing manufacturers. At its peak, the plant produced 3.5 million yards of cloth per month.



Dec. 18, 1842: U. S. Senator Nathan B. Scott was born. Scott rose to become one of West Virginia's four richest and most powerful men by 1900. Dec. 18, 1864: General Harry Hill Bandholtz was born in Michigan. Bandholtz was commander of the federal troops that intervened to end the West Virginia Mine Wars in 1921.

Dec. 18, 1816: Lewis County was formed. It was named for Colonel Charles Lewis, killed at the Battle of Point Pleasant. Dec. 19, 1794: A 40-acre tract of George Clendenin's land was selected as the site of Charlestown, later renamed Charleston. Clendenin, born in Augusta County, Virginia, in 1746, was one of the first settlers in the Kanawha Valley. Through Clendenin's influence the Virginia Assembly authorized the formation of Kanawha County from parts of Greenbrier and

Montgomery counties in 1789.

Dec. 19, 1832: The town of Ripley received its charter. It was probably named for Harry Ripley, a popular, circuit-riding Methodist minister who drowned in Mill Creek in 1830.



Dec. 20, 1943: German fighter pilot Franz Stigler protected the heavily-damaged B-17 bomber flown by Charlie Brown as it made its way from enemy territory back to England. The two war veterans met in 1990 and remained friends until their deaths.



Dec. 20, 2002: Grote Reber died. In 1937, Reber built the world's first parabolic radio telescope in his backyard. The Reber Telescope was moved to the National Radio Observatory at Green Bank in the 1960s and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1989.

Dec. 21, 1798: Wood County was established by the Virginia General Assembly. It was named for James Wood, governor of Virginia from 1796 to 1800. 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.

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 \$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)765-2

The Braxton County Animal Shelter still has puppies available for

adoption, If you think you could give them a great forever home contact the shelter.

This is **Max**. He is a fourteen month old microchipped, neutered male who was adopted



from our shelter and later returned. This guy does not do well with chickens! We don't believe that Max has ever lived indoors so he probably isn't yet house trained. He knows sit, stay, give kisses and come. He's very dog social and wants to play with other dogs but not overly energetic. He has also lived with a cat and is cat friendly. Max needs a fenced yard or boundaries. He loves toys and will take all the affection and play you can give. He also walks great on a leash and seems to be eager to please his people!

Jodi is an eight month old spayed female, black lab mix, weighing around fifty pounds. Jodi was surrendered because her owner was disabled and

could no longer care for



her. She is super affectionate and lays her head in your lap for pets. She has only ever lived outdoors so she isn't yet house trained but she is very smart and we believe she would learn quickly with time and attention. Jodi has lots of playful energy and loves other dogs so we believe she would do best in a home with another dog to play with to burn off energy and show her the ropes. She knows how to sit and walks on a leash and responds to a whistle.

Glorified Grooming will be hosting a raffle that will include three baskets. The proceeds will be split & half will be donated to Braxton County Animal Shelter. Tickets will be \$1 each or \$5 for 6. The raffle will run until December 20th. Contact Glorified Grooming for more info.

SPORTS

Reporting Braxton County's sports action

- Youth
- Middle School
- High School

Eagles win first basketball game of the 2021-2022 season

In their first game of the season, the Eagles defeated Gilmer 72-54. Braxton was led by Mason Abraham who scored 25 points and pulled down 16 rebounds for a double-double. "Mason had an outstanding game," Coach Josh Lunceford pointed out. "He carried us in the first half." Also scoring in double figures for the Eagles were D.J. Coomes with 17 points and William Forbush with 16.

Braxton trailed in the first quarter as Gilmer came out hot. However, the Eagles regained the lead by half-time and didn't relinquish it the rest of the game. Coach Lunceford

explained that the game was close until his team settled and started playing better in the middle of the third quarter. "We played with aggression but didn't execute well," he said.

Speaking of his team's start, the coach said that "things look good" and added "The program as a whole is on a good start."

The Eagles have a busy game this week with four games. Tonight they travel to Nicholas and tomorrow night they face Clay in the Braxton County Armory. On Friday they play Petersburg at Petersburg and travel to Moorefield Saturday for another away game.



Mason Abraham pushes his way to the basket



Matthias Garavaglia dribbles the ball to the basket keeping possession for the Eagles.

Eagles' scoring against Gilmer:	
Mason Abraham	25 points
Spencer Bosely	2 points
Lane Morrow	3 points
D.J. Coomes	17 points
William Forbush	16 points
Beau Liston	9 points



DJ Coomes moves the ball around a Gilmer defender.



Lane Morrow determines his next move on the play.



William Forbush shoots for the Eagles.

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DEVICE OR SMART TV AT

WWW.FB.COM/BRAXTONLIVEWV

December 23rd

**BCHS Boys VS
South Harrison**

BRAXTON LIVE



Little Caesars
\$10,000 CONTEST



Beau Liston dribbles the ball down the court as he rushes past a Gilmer County defender.

Spencer Bosely looks down the court for an opening

Photos courtesy of Janet Six.

Braxton Live announces new Little Caesars \$10,000 roll the dice contest

Braxton Live is excited to announce a contest for the ten upcoming Braxton Live basketball broadcasts. Little Caesars of Flatwoods is going to give four fans in attendance a chance to win \$10,000!

Basic Rules include: Everyone that attends the next ten Braxton Live broadcast games will be given a raffle ticket upon their paid admission.

If you bring a Little Caesars receipt from the Flatwoods location - you will receive 10 bonus raffle tickets (limit 2 receipts). Go to the Little Caesars table at the armory to claim your extra tickets.

- At the end of the 1st quarter - four raffle tickets will be drawn and those people will have a chance to win \$10,000 during half-time.
- Each person will be given one die to roll.
- On the dice are various prizes from Little Caesar's and Go-Mart (pizza, crazy bread, gift cards).

There is also one "\$". If ALL FOUR people roll a "\$" each person will win \$10,000.

- Contest will end if the grand prize is won.

Join us in person at the upcoming games for a chance to win and if you can't make it to the games - watch right here online.

BCHS Boys Games: December 23rd against South Harrison.

January 11th against Doddridge (Braxton Live Exclusive)

January 17th against Nicholas.

February 11th against Roane.

February 22nd against Lincoln.

BCHS Girls Games: January 13th against Calhoun.

January 24th against Notre Dame.

January 28th against Nicholas.

For more information, contact Braxton Live on Facebook.

BCMS KNIGHTS

Sports are now featured in the Braxton Democrat-Central



SPORTS

Reporting Braxton County's sports action

- Youth
- Middle School
- High School

Lady Eagles finish first week of season at 1-1

Braxton girls' first game proved the opposite of their second last week. They defeated Clay on Clay's court in the first game of the season but lost their

second game, played at the Braxton County Armory. Braxton outscored Clay 40-20 Tuesday night. The Lady Eagles led throughout the

game, although their coach, Bill Lunceford commented that his players "had to overcome a lot of fouls and physical play" by their opponents.

He did note that, although his team won, they didn't shoot very well. Leading scorer Erica Nicholson had 10 points. At the foul line, Braxton was 6 for 13. Clay was 10 for 32. Overall, however, the Eagles' coach thought his team "played well."

In the home game

against Webster, the visiting team doubled the score on Braxton. Led by Sydney Baird, who scored 25 points, Webster defeated the Eagles 70-35. Coach Lunceford pointed out that Webster had "made a run in the state tournament last season and are just as good this year." He added, "I felt like we played really good ball at timers but didn't have the energy we usually have. We were in the game at the end of the first quarter,

but they outscored us 19-6 in the second."

The Braxton coach continued to note that his team had a good game plan but just couldn't make the shots. "We had a lot of good looks but couldn't score and were ice cold in the second

and third quarters," he said. No Braxton player scored in double figures against Webster. SkyLynn Abraham led the Eagles with 7 points.

Braxton hosts Roane County, 1-2, Tuesday night and travels to Lincoln Thursday.



Paxton Conley goes for the jump ball starting the game against Webster County



Middle: Lainey Hunt shoots for two points for the Lady Eagles at the game at the Braxton County Armory. Left: Bree Smarr prepares herself for a shot from under the basket.



Erica Nicholson goes for two points for the Lady Eagles. Photos by Janet Six.

Braxton girls' scoring against Clay and Webster:

Player	Clay	Webster
Erica Nicholson	10	4
Lainey Hunt	9	3
Adrian Lunceford	7	2
Bethany Payne	6	4
Brooklyn Godfrey	4	2
SkyLynn Abraham	2	7
Laura Cain	1	0
Bre Smarr	0	5
Heidi Payne	0	4
Paxton Conley	0	2
Lily Fitzwater	0	2
Teegan Huff	0	1



Braxton County High School Eagle Wrestlers finished in first place at the Garry Bender Raider Cup.

Braxton wrestlers win Garry Bender Raider Cup tourney

Seven Braxton wrestlers finished in first place at the Raider Cup tournament last Saturday, and with 188 points, their team took first place. The second place team, Williamstown, finished with 126 pointyd.

Earning first were Braydon Helmick at 113, Blayne Jarvis 138, Logan Bennett 152, Jackson Davis 160, Bryson Spell

170, Colton Moore 195, and Ryder McLaughlin 285.

Evaluating his team's performance in their first competition Braxton head coach Sterling Beane said that he and assistants Rick Jarvis and Jamie Given "have a lot of work todo with our lighter weight classes." He added, "We need to improve a great deal to be competitive.

We need to get those guys scoring. That will help us a lot."

The Braxton wrestlers face a definite challenge on Saturday as they go to Point Pleasant where Coach Beane expects to see a challenging tournament. He explained that the top three teams in each region in the state from last year should be represented.

Weight class	Wrestler	Record at tournament	Place
106	Cody Stout	0 wins/3losses	4th
113	Braydon Helmick	2 wins/1 loss	1st
120	Joseph Posey	0 wins/3 losses	4th
126	Anthony Currence	3 wns/2losses	5th
132	Andrew Brandt	2 wins/3 losses	7th
138	Blayne Jarvis	5 wins	1st
145	Andrew McCalliste	2wins/3 losses	6th
152	Logan Bennett	5 wins	1st
160	Jackson Davis	5 wins	1st
170	Bryson Spell	5 wins	1st
182	Bryce Leegan	4 wins/1 loss	3rd
195	Colton Moore	5 wins	1st
220	Justin Bishop	4 wins/1 loss	3rd
285	Ryder McLaughlin	5 wins	1st

Junior varsity	Wrestler	Record at tournament	Place
152	Steven Deal	3 wins/0 losses	
152	Brett Bender	2wins/ 1 loss	
170	Ethan Campbell	2wins/3 losses	7th
220	Connor Facemire	4 wins/1loss	2nd

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Heavy Coats



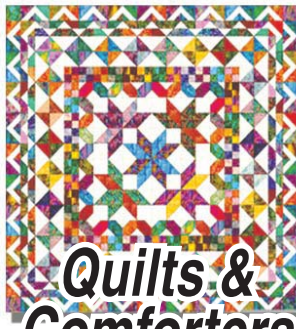
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