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50 CENTS

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

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New owners of Stockert Funeral Home and Cremations are Keith Dancy (left) and Quin Meador (right). Morgan Mayfield (center) is the facilities licensed funeral director.

Stockert Funeral Home reopens under new ownership

By Shirley Shuman

After being closed for some time, an establishment familiar to area residents for decades recently reopened under new ownership. Keith Dancy and Quin Meador are now operating Stockert Funeral Home and Cremation in Flatwoods,

Both men are lifetime residents of the county and therefore familiar with its residents and their needs. Dancy is well-known as a longtime business owner in the area. Meador, a licensed apprentice with the West Virginia Fu-

neral Service Examiners, is completing online work with the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science.

Meador has previous experience in other counties. As an apprentice, he is under the direction of Morgan Mayfield, Stockert's licensed funeral director in charge, according to Lana Dancy. Mayfield has been in the funeral home business for over forty years.

Meador noted that the business is a two-family establishment operated by Dancy and his wife Lana along with

Meador and his brother Seth. He referred to the business as being "a staple in the community for years" and gave that as one of their reasons for the decision to buy and operate the funeral home.

Stockert Funeral Home and Cremation is located at 378 Flatwoods Corner Road in Flatwoods. A spokesperson for the owners said the mission of the establishment is "to provide your family with excellent customer service, ensure attention to detail, and provide you with peace of mind in your time of need."

Braxton DNR officers receive promotions

In mid-December two Braxton County men and Department of Natural Resource Officers, Sergeants Tim White and Dwayne Duffield, were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant at DNR Headquarters in South Charleston.

Lieutenant White's career with the State of West Virginia started in 1998 as a correctional officer and counselor at the Central Regional Jail in Flatwoods. He was hired with the Natural Resources Police in 2001. After completing the academy, he served the citizens of Hampshire County until he was reassigned to Nicholas County, where he served for the next nine years. During his time in the field, he was selected as the NASBLA State Boating Officer of the Year in 2011. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in September of 2011, covering the Doddridge, Ritchie, Pleasants, and Tyler areas. Shortly after, he transferred to Webster and Pocahontas, before settling in the Braxton, Clay, and Nicholas area. In 2016, Sergeant White took over as the Regional Training Officer for District 3, where he was responsible for the coordination of officer training as well as



Braxton County natives and Department of Natural Resource Officers, Sergeants Tim White and Dwayne Duffield, were recently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

hunter and boater education for the district. Lieutenant Duffield's career with the State of West Virginia also started as a correctional officer at the Central Regional Jail. In 2002, he was hired as a Natural Resources Police Officer. During his years as an officer, he received several training credentials to include firearms, defensive

tactics, and water survival. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and took over the Regional Training Officer responsibilities for District 6, where he spread his expertise to other officers within the district.

Lieutenant Duffield will continue to serve the officers and citizens of the 6th District.

New look for County's Courthouse

The new year has brought a new look for the Braxton County Courthouse. Trees, believed to be well over 100 years old, were re-

moved just before the new year. Planning for the move has been in the works for some time after the trees were identified as deterior-

ating when they were professionally trimmed approximately four years ago.

The move was criticized by some, but the

County Commission, on the advice of experts who also said the trees couldn't be saved, believed they were presenting a hazard to the general public and were forced to proceed with the removal. They advertised for a bonded firm to remove the trees and stumps but only received two bids. The contract was awarded to Pro V Tree of Preston County, owned by Tim and Shane Osborne.

The Commission awarded the contract in the amount of \$6,600 to Pro V Tree for the removal of the three trees. Two were in front of the Courthouse with the third being located beside the old jail. "That tree was very close to the building, and we have been told it presented a potential danger to the foundation. So, we had it removed as well," explained Lisa Godwin, Commission President.

As employees and patrons returned for the new year a cleaner, brighter workplace was visible. "We were pleasantly surprised at the way the Courthouse looked without the trees," said Godwin. "We are also pleased with the quality of the work the Osborne brothers and their team performed."

President Godwin said that a decision whether to replant the trees will be made at a later date.



The first baby of the new year born at Stonewall Hospital in neighboring Lewis County was Remington Lee Conrad shown here with his mother Brooklyn.

Stonewall Hospital's first baby of 2022 has Braxton connection

Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital has announced their first baby of 2022, Remington Lee Conrad, born at 5:25 AM on January 2. Remington is the second child of Dakota and Brooklyn Harper Conrad of Weston. His big sister is two-year-old Jayden. The baby was delivered by Dr. Brian Bower and nurses Tiffany Berry and Vickie Teter.

Brooklyn said that she was not due until January 14 and when her labor began on Thursday, December 29,

she was surprised.

"I was really hoping that I would have our baby on my daughter's birthday, which is January 8. It is funny that my due date for Remington was January 14, too. He just came a little early," said Brooklyn.

Maternal grandparents are Sharon and stepfather Rodney Marteny, of Jane Lew, and Father Marty

Please turn to **BABY**
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As I See It

By Ed Given
A new beginning...

Well, here we are in 2022. It's too early to predict what kind of year it will be. After living through the last two, I believe about anything will be better. However, I am optimistic.

We celebrated the coming of the new year much like we have in years past. We gathered with our extended family, ate too much and ushered in another year. Jeanine and I did better than some past years. We have been known to have our heads hit the pillow about the time the big ball finishes it's decent. This year we managed about an hour after mid-night and for us... that's pretty good.

I guess the bad news is I still have several item on my To Do List that will have to be carried over. With work and the holidays, my good intentions haven't made much progress.

While we don't know what the new year will be like, I have at least one hope. I hope people in our county will get a break when it comes to going to the gas pumps. For a number of years, we faired well. We were right with the group of services stations with some of the lowest prices in the state. That certainly hasn't been the case this past year. We are the highest price in the area. One only has to travel to Weston to see the difference. Gas is 34 cents a gallon cheaper just 34 miles down the road. I try to look at the rise and fall of gas prices rationally. Often there are contributing factors. In this case I simply don't see it. Judging by the number of complaints that come to our office, it appears the general public doesn't get it either. The President released millions of barrels from the national reserve. That was supposed to reduce gas prices. It sure didn't in Braxton County. I realize we are not a metropolitan area with lots of competition, but I certainly can see no reason our prices should be that much higher. I hope we get a break in 2022.

Speaking of complaints... I fielded three calls late last week from taxpayers that were upset at the courthouse closing on Thursday and Friday without notification to the public. The callers were all ready to pay their taxes before the end of the month to avoid penalties, only to travel to Sutton and find the courthouse closed. It happens every year. This year it was a little worse than usual. The governor gives state employees the half day off they are scheduled to work before Christmas and on New Year Eve. This year he came back and gave more time since the holidays fell on the weekend. The county follows the Governor's lead which is not new. However, they should be more considerate and at lease make an attempt to notify the public that the actual deadline to pay taxes is not the last day of the month.

With gas and taxes out of the way, we can move on the bigger and better things in 2022!



A guest comentary...

Should Congress pass a tax credit to save local papers?

By: Joe St. George
Scripps Media, Inc.

For decades, before television and online subscriptions, newspapers were the only way news got delivered.

"We put emphasis on everything that's local," David Hedges, the publisher of Spencer Newspapers in Roane County, said.

Spencer believes publications like his are especially important in smaller communities.

"People want and need information about their local community," Hedges said.

But Hedges admits getting his weekly

newspaper out isn't easy.

His wife helps run the newsroom and his son runs the printing press.

In addition to being the publisher, Hedges writes and photographs the stories too.

Since 2004, around 1,800 newspapers across the country have shut down and more than 100 have stopped printing since the start of the pandemic.

"Not every week is a money-maker," Hedges said.

But there is an idea in Congress to save local papers.

The Local Journal-

ism Sustainability Act would create a tax credit to offset subscription costs. A version of it was included in the Build Back Better Act.

It would provide tax incentives for businesses to advertise with local news.

A tax credit would also be offered to media companies to pay for a portion of a reporter's salary.

The National Association of Broadcasters says local television stations could be eligible for benefits as well.

But are small town papers worth saving?

Don Smith, a mem-

ber of the West Virginia Press Association, is lobbying Congress for a vote next year.

"We aren't looking for a bailout but there has been a lot of assistance to a lot of people," Smith said.

He believes if help doesn't come soon, journalists like Dave Hedges will cease to exist.

"If it wasn't for Spencer Newspapers, there is no news coverage there," Smith said.

"Nobody would be better off if their newspaper closed," he added.

Just look at this!

A weekly photo of opinion in Braxton County... sometimes good and sometimes not so good.



Burnsville Public Library still has their super yummy, homemade, peanut brittle available! For \$5 you get two 8" rounds of brittle. Proceeds from the sales will go into the general fund to provide for the library's general operation, as well as to help with programs and services. If you would like to purchase any, please visit the Burnsville library.

From our readers

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

Read the **Citizens' News** on the World Wide Web

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News from our Capitol

by Delegate Brent Boggs

With this first update for 2022, I want to start by expressing my thankfulness for the health and safety of our family throughout 2021. Despite the challenges and uncertainty, we're heading into the New Year with faith and confidence. And I'm looking forward to the beginning of the 2022 regular session next week on January 12, hopeful that cool heads will prevail and that there is a genuine desire to put politics to the side, concentrating instead on the issues and policies that can make a difference for our citizens in every area of West Virginia. Meanwhile, COVID has claimed the lives of well over 5,000 of our fellow West Virginians of all ages as the virus continues to rage all around us.

I'm already hearing rumblings that some members are seeking to capitalize on 2022 being an election year and wanting to focus on politically expedient issues by introducing bills to address problems where they do not exist.

Attempts at scoring political points from either side of the aisle do nothing to improve our economy, grow our workforce and stem the out-migration of our brightest and best to other states. It would be great to see West Virginia and other state legislatures reject the partisan nonsense coming out of Washington, DC for several years and set an example of working together in a bipartisan way. Our nation cannot afford this divide and gridlock any longer, as our adversaries around the world are always watching and ready to take advantage in any way possible.

One of the most exciting aspects of the upcoming session will be the planned legislative action granting university status to Glenville State College. This is especially meaningful as this year marks the 150th anniversary of GSC. With the addition of new programs and the ability to begin offering master's degrees in some programs, I'm looking forward to helping make

the change from GSC to GSU. Hats off to GSC President Manchin, his leadership team and the GSC Board of Governors for working to make 2022 the year the criteria will finally be met to accomplish the legislative change. Look for this to occur sometime later in the session.

I'm also hopeful we can craft some reasonable and long-overdue legislation to provide grandparents more rights than they currently are granted regarding their grandchildren. Over the past five years, the number of grandparents and great-grandparents raising grandkids has increased considerably. Also, we need to look at better opportunities to place kids with willing grandparents when parents are deemed unable or unfit to raise their kids. All too often, grandparents are cut out of the equation when it comes to permanent custody. Most heartbreaking of all is watching situations where a parent has custody of a child and purposely deprives grandparents of a meaningful relationship with their grandkids out of anger or malice. This is a difficult area to find a legislative solution that will pass the scrutiny of the judicial system.

Due to the last two holiday weekends, there

was little news of a ransomware attack on the company that the State of West Virginia subcontracts pay and leave for over 37,000 state workers. Due to that ransomware attack, all pay for 140 state agencies had to be manually entered into new files to run checks for state workers for the last pay period of 2021. Now it appears, according to State Auditor J. B. McCuskey, the same will be needed to meet the first pay period of 2022.

Ultimately, the subcontractor will have to pay for the costs to the State for the attack. However, the need to make certain state employees are paid correctly and on-time is a top priority. This is an example of how important cybersecurity is to everyone and a stark reminder that criminals – foreign and domestic – are working to disrupt our way of life and inflict economic damage to our citizens.

Finally, 2022 certainly arrived with unexpected and unseasonal rain and wind, resulting in flooded roads and downed power lines for many West Virginians. And, as I write this Sunday night, the temperature is dropping quickly. Everyone needs to be prepared for winter weather, even if it arrives

Please turn to **CAPITOL**

BABY

continued from page 1

Harper, of Shinnston. Maternal great-grandparents are Carolyn and Fred Jones, of Lost Creek, and Mike Harper, of Tennessee. Paternal grandparents are Brenda Conrad, of Weston, who is also a Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital employee, and Stephen and Gina Conrad, of Weston. Great grandparents are Iva and Tiny Duely, of Gassaway, and Phyllis Conrad, of Roanoke. Remington weighed six pounds, eight ounces and was measured at 19 inches long.

As a New Year's baby, the family received a large supply of diapers and baby gifts from the Hospital. To learn more about Mon Health, visit MonHealth.com.

CAPITOL

continued from page 2

a month or two later than we normally expect. Don't get lulled into a false sense of security. Be careful out there. A fall on black ice during a short walk to the car or the mailbox can put you out of commission, regardless of your age or physical condition. During this final week before the ses-

sion begins, please continue to contact me at my home office 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@WVHouse.gov

The 2022 legislative session begins on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, and I will be in the Capitol office daily beginning on January 9 until the session ends in mid-March. The Capitol address is: Building 1, Room 258-M, 1900 Kanawha Blvd., East, Charleston, WV 25305. The phone number is 304-340-3142.

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

Educational Dinner Meeting Planned

WVU Extension will host an educational dinner meeting at Jackson's Mill on Wednesday, January 12, 2022. Dinner will be at 6:30 pm, with the program to begin at 7:30 pm.

Dinner is being sponsored by Eastern Gas Transmission and Storage. However, you do need to pre-register by calling the WVU-Braxton County Extension Office, at 304-765-2809, by January 5. If you would like to attend, but can't make the dinner, you are still welcome to attend the program, which will start at 7:30 pm. There is no cost and no pre-registration needed if you come only to the program. The topic this


Way back when...

Long ago in Braxton County



The Bank of Sutton was Home National Bank's competition until the 1930s. This building on Main Street was constructed about 1900. A major fire destroyed much of this building and the one to the right. The Façade still stands. The store front in the left of the photograph was the C.M. Singleton & Co. Ladies Style Shop. At the time of the blaze it housed the offices of the Braxton Democrat-Central. 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 Gifts if you forgot someone this holiday season.



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 - Door Knobs
 - Tub/Shower units
- Other items too numerous to mention

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OBITUARIES

Mary Leta Allen
Mary Leta Allen, 96, of Big Otter, WV became a Christmas Angel on December 26, 2021 at the home of her be-

loved granddaughter, Rebecca Lynne Brock. Mary was born and raised at Blue Sulphur in Greenbrier County. Her parents were Irvin and Vearie Milam Rhodes. Mary graduated from Smoot High School. While in nurse's training, she met and married Paul Allen. She and Paul were married in 1946 until Paul passed in 2000. Mary received training at Charleston Beauty Academy. Mary was founder and owner of the Clay Beauty Shop for many years. She knew hard work and long hours. Mary was a member of the Villa Nova Missionary Baptist Church. She enjoyed sewing, gardening, caregiving, housekeeping, bird-watching, babysitting, and being a grandmother and a great-

grandmother. A stronger person would be hard to find. Mary supported Clay County Schools and Clay 4-H activities.

Mary was the last to pass among all her and Paul's brothers and sisters and spouses. Left to cherish Mary's memory are her daughters, Paula Seal (Kenna) of Sutton, WV and Sharon Schlaegel (Lee) of Madison, WV; granddaughter, Rebecca Brock (Allen) of Scott Depot, WV and two great-granddaughters, Hailey McKenna and Amelia Shay, as well as several nieces and nephews. To Rebecca, Mary always said, "I love you. Always have. Always will!" Mary loved her kind, wonderful caregivers: Faith, Laura, Jackie, Sherry and Rose.

Graveside service were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, January 1, 2022 at Wallace Cemetery at the End of the Trail, Clintonville, Greenbrier County with the Rev. Rick Swearengin officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donation be made to the Kanawha Hospice Care, WV 1606 Kanawha Blvd. Charleston, WV 25387.

Rebecca would like to thank her work family, especially Jeanna, for all the love and kindness during this difficult time.

The family would like to thank Handley Funeral Home for their professionalism, kindness, and care with Mary.

You may express your condolences to the family at www.handleyfh.com.

Michael "Mike" Lee Harper

Michael "Mike" Lee Harper, 65 of Heaters, WV, passed away on December 24, 2021 at Ruby Memorial Hospital, Morgantown, WV. He was born

February 5, 1956, the son of Charles Dale and Audra Belle Krafft-Harper. Mike was preceded in death by his parents, sister Alice Carol Harper, whom he loved dearly, brother Charles Davis Harper, good friend Nathan Potts, who was like a brother to him and a special niece, Ronda Riffle.

Mike worked over 40 years in the coal industry at Bituminous Services, Salt Lick Coal, Central Coal, Summersville Five Block, Catenary Coal and Brooks Run Mining. He loved animals, farming, being outdoors, and spending time with his family. Mike was a devoted Christian, husband, father, grandfather and friend. Mike is survived by his wife of 43 years, Bonnie of Heaters, WV; daughter Dawn (Blaine) Cook and grandchildren; Chloe and Michael Cook of Lost Creek, WV; brother Ronnie (Helen) Harper of Heaters, WV; niece Michelle Barrett; great niece Ashley Teets (David) of Heaters, WV; and Barbara Claypool, who he thought of as an Aunt, of Falls Mill, WV. Mike is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

In respect of his wishes, a private graveside service will be held. Stockert Funeral Home & Cremation is honored to serve the Harper Family

George William Finney

George William Finney of Dunbar, born January 30, 1927, passed into the arms of Jesus on December 26, 2021 at Hubbard Hospice House,

just one month before his 95th birthday.

He retired from Local 80's Insulators. George attended Rebecca Chapel Church where he sang in the choir until his health began to decline and he was no longer able to do this. Yet he still could burst into song, singing "I Wouldn't Take Nothin For My Journey Now." This was one of his favorite songs and he sang it frequently to his family and visitors.

George liked to travel. He and his faithful wife, Frances, visited all the states except Alaska and Louisiana before her death in 2011. They also were "Florida Snowbirds," spending winters in Florida for 16 years where they made many friend from various states. This was easy because George never met a stranger.

About 5 years ago, his granddaughter Missy and her husband Scott, took him on an Alaska cruise. They also spent time in Seattle, Washington where he was stationed while in the Navy. He served on the USS Baltimore during his active duty.

George was an avid golfer, playing at least twice a week, usually at Big Ben golf course in Tornado. Approximately three times per week, he would play 18 holes and then come home and cut his grass. He also cut grass for about six neighbors when he had his health.

Along with his wife Frances, who died in 2011, he was preceded in death by his father, Dan; mother, Irene, who died when he was 18 months old; step-mother, Sallie; beloved grandson, Jason, whom he dearly loved; daughter-in-law, Robin Finney, who recently died in early December; and his brother Clyde.

George is survived by his daughter, Jean Bog-gess (Ronald); sons, Danny and Michael Finney (Susie); grandchildren, Beth Jenkins (Jeff), Missy Price (Scott), Aaron Finney (Melissa), Nathan Finney (Jamie), and Jamie Finney; great-grandchildren, Taylor Miller (Katie), Brianna Miller, Madison Finney, Grace and Cole Finney, and Jordyn and Parker Finney; great-great-grandson, Jack Miller; sister-in-law, Joyce Ford; and nephews, David Finney, Gary Ford, and Ronnie Ford.

A funeral service was held at 7 p.m. on Friday, December 31, at Keller Funeral Home, Dunbar with Rev. Aaron Finney and Rev. Ronnie Nida officiating. Friends visited two hours prior to the service at Keller Funeral Home, Dunbar.

Burial took place at 11 a.m. on Monday, January 3, in Grandview Memorial Park, Dunbar. A procession lined up at Keller Funeral Home beginning at 10:30 a.m.,

leaving at 10:45 a.m. for the cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hubbard Hospice House, 1001 Curtis Price Way, Charleston, WV 25311.

To send a flower arrangement or to plant trees in memory of George William Finney, please click here to visit our Sympathy Store.

Rena Muriel Posey

Rena Muriel Posey, 76, of Orlando passed away on Monday, December 27, 2021, at United Hospital Center following a brief illness.

Rena was born in Braxton County on August 23, 1945, a daughter of the late Earse Skinner and Clara McCauley. In addition to her parents, Rena was preceded in death by six siblings: Francis Skinner, Virginia Bartlett, Faye Skinner, Irving Skinner, Ray Skinner, and Jimmie Skinner.

She married Richard Posey on June 5, 1965. He will miss her dearly. Surviving her are two children Connie Johnson of Bridgeport and Rick Posey and wife, Sherri, of Weston; one grandson, Zackary Nicholson; two sisters: Veda Cantrell of Jane Lew and Reba Gae Luzader of Kent, OH; and several nieces and nephews.

Rena was a Label Inspector for Alkahn Label Factory for 31 years and later worked in the Laundry Room at Best Western for 10 years. She was a member of the Little Kanawha Independent Church for over 56 years. Rena enjoyed bird watching, gardening, and canning. Above all else, she loved spending time with her family, especially with her grandson, Zack.

Family and friends gathered for Visitation at Pat Boyle Funeral Home and Cremation Service located at 144 Hackers Creek Rd. in Jane Lew from 4-7 p.m. on Friday, December 31, 2021. Funeral Services were held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 1, 2022 at the Little Kanawha Independent Church located at 1259 Burnsville Rd, Burnsville with Reverend Ronzel Roberts officiating. Interment followed at Little Kanawha Memorial Gardens in Heaters. A dinner will be held at the church following the service, all are welcome to attend.

We, at Pat Boyle

Funeral Home and Cremation Service, are honored and privileged to serve the family of Rena Muriel Posey. Online condolences may be expressed at www.PatBoyleFuneralHome.com.

Gale Malcolm Ross

Gale Malcolm Ross, 68 of Webster Springs passed away Friday, December 24, 2021 at Ruby Memorial Hospital, Morgantown just hours before his 69th birthday.

He was born December 25, 1952 in Akron, OH, the son of the late Kenneth Elmer and Clare Christine (Nichols) Ross and was a part of the Muskogee Creek Nation.

Malcolm was a Drama and Mathematics teacher for the Nicholas County Board of Education, he taught at Richwood High School. He enjoyed acting in community theatre productions, woodcarving, and excelled at knitting. Malcolm had accomplished many things intellectually; but also physically, having been an Olympic Contender in Judo.

Left to cherish his memories are his loving wife, Mary (Bell) Ross; son, Jason Bookheimer; siblings: Merrie (David) Schwartz of Pensacola, FL, Kathy (Brian) Armstead of Milton, and Mike (Judy) Ross of OH; special niece, Paula Ross of Fairmont; and a host of other relatives and friends to mourn his passing.

In keeping with his wishes, no public services will take place.

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

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

Zeta Jean Mohr (nee Beall)

Zeta Jean Mohr (nee Beall), 85, of Wellington, loving wife, mother, sister, mamaw, great-grandma and friend, went home to be with her Lord and Savior the morning of December 29, 2021, at her residence, surrounded by her family.

She was born January 7, 1936 in Orton, West Virginia and was a resident of Wellington for the past 21 years. She was an employee of LaGrange Electrical Assemblies for over 30 years. Mrs. Mohr, a faithful follower of Jesus Christ, was a devoted member of Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church in Spencer and a charter member of Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church in Grafton. She was an avid traveler and visited 49 of the United States with the exception of Alaska. She also loved music, crocheting, playing cards and spending time with her beloved family.

Zeta will be remembered and deeply missed by; her three children, Carlton Mohr (Cyndi) of Spencer, Debbie Burns (Jason) and Liz Dean (David), both of Wellington; six grandchildren, Chelsea Ralston (Steven) of LaGrange, Corey Dean (Rachel) of Wellington, Jared and Noah Burns, both of Wellington, Joshua Glenza (Renee) of North Olmsted and Sadie Abate (Travis) of Wakeman; four great-grandsons,

Fundamentals of Faith (4)

“For which of you intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it—lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build and was not able to finish?” (Luke 14:28-30)

In dealing with Fundamentals of faith, I think back to this passage of scripture which deals with ability to finish a task. Whether building a tower or a house, the same necessity applies. Regardless of how strong a foundation we begin with, the material for the rest of the structure must be sound or that building will not withstand the storms of life.

In speaking of faith, we might consider it a sure foundation upon which we can build a sound structure. (Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17) If our faith isn't built on God's word we're on shaky ground when we stand before His Son to account for the life we've lived. (II Corinthians 5:10)

Since we're considering man in general which the Bible classes as sinners (Romans 3:23) we consider a second fundamental as being repentance. (Luke 13:3,5) A part of building our spiritual building is realizing without Christ, we're lost. He shed his blood on

Calvary so we might be saved. (Matthew 26:28) In repentance we determine we must leave a past life of sin and turn to God, following his direction in becoming a new creature. (II Corinthians 5:17)

We might also say that love is the spiritual nails which will hold our building together (John 14:15). In Matthew 22:36-39 we're given the greatest command to love God and closely associated with that our love for one another (Matthew 22:36-39) The peace that all Christians experience grows out of our love for one another.

Confessing Christ is a reinforcement of our faith. (Hebrews 11:6; Matthew 10:32-33) It's a way of letting others know who's side we're on. It's also reassurance we will be confessed before the Father. (Romans 10:9-10)

Smooth sailing, right? But, if so, have we contacted the cleansing blood of Christ? (Matthew 26:28; Acts 2:38) When Christ died on Calvary his blood was shed for the sins we committed. Since all have sinned (Romans 3:23) we must contact his blood for cleansing. In Romans 6:1-5 we're told how we may, “Buried with him in baptism”, we die to sin and are risen a new creature. Christ's blood was shed in his death and being buried in baptism with him we receive that cleansing, being also raised to a new life.

Jesus told Nicodemus, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of the water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.” (John 3:5) Is this in keeping with today's teaching that we are saved before baptism? If so, tell me what Mark 16:16 means? “He who believes and is baptized will be saved---” or I Peter 3:21 here is also an antitype which now saves us-baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,”

To me it's strange that while people profess faith in Christ, some want to block the door Christ opened and substitute their own false entrance. (John 10:7) So many things we will learn which Christ himself set forth as fundamental which much of the religious world set aside as non-essentials. Have you counted the cost? Are you building a complete spiritual house or trying to take shortcuts by using man made materials?

Free Bible Course: Contact Charles Brady
2615 Elk River Rd., Frametown, WV 26623
Sponsor: Church of Christ
742 Elk Street, Gassaway, WV 26624
(minister) Danny Lambey

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Donate your Christmas tree to Burnsville Lake

With Christmas right around the corner, keep in mind that your Christmas tree can have another home after the holidays. Did you know that Christmas trees can be reused as a very important fish habitat in lakes! With the Christmas Trees positioned it creates a reef like habitat and it is a resting point for game and non-game fish. Over the year the tree will decompose bringing nutrients that feed the growth of plankton, which in turn boosts the food web. Consider this year instead of throwing your tree to the land fill, bring it by to our drop off area to be used in our lake as a habitat. Drop off at the Burnsville Lake Marina parking area starting January 1, 2022. Please remove all decorations from the tree. Artificial trees will not be accepted.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Burnsville Public Library Board of Trustees meetings

Burnsville Public Library Board of Trustees meets the second Monday of each month at 4:30 pm at the library. Meetings are open to the public. During the pandemic, if you would like to attend but don't feel comfortable attending in person please reach out. We could arrange a way for you to attend virtually.

Mountaineer Food Bank volunteer opportunities

The Mountaineer Food Bank will have volunteer opportunities every second Saturday of the month. The MFB will take up to ten individuals in two hour increments. Each volunteer station will be sanitized between each time slot and masks will be provided. Please give time if you can! Call the Mountaineer Food Bank a call at 304-364-5518 to get scheduled.

Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery helps with all Hurts, Habits, and Hangups. Every Thursday evening, meet at 6:00 PM for light meal and fellowship, large group meetings begin at 7:00 PM with samll group meetings immediately following. Meetings held at the Pulse in Gassaway. If you have any questions please call Pastor Doug Smailes.

Burnsville Community Center event bookings

Are you looking for a place to host an event? If so, the Burnsville Community Center is available for bookings. Reasonable rates with or without kitchen. For more information or to book your event, please call 304-853-2605 Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm.

Meeting notice

The ‘Courage to Change’ Al-Anon meeting is held weekly from

5 to 6pm on Tuesdays at 506 Main St., in the Sutton Baptist Church, Kidd Annex. All friends, family and loved ones of a problem drinker or addict are welcome. Al-Anon is a mutual support group of people who share their experience in applying the Al-Anon principles to problems related to the effects of a problem drinker (or other addict) in their lives. No matter what relationship you have with an alcoholic, whether they are still drinking or not, all who have been affected by someone else's drinking or drug addiction can find solutions that lead to serenity in the Al-Anon fellowship.

Public Sevice Announcement

Since the outbreak of Covid 19 in the US, both addiction and alcohol use are on the rise. Alcohol sales showed a tremendous increase as on line alcohol sales skyrocketed. While short term alcohol abuse can have its own serious consequences, regular, heavy use of alcohol can result in long term damage to the body. Learn more about alcohol addiction and what can be done by visiting: <https://www.narcononewliferetreat.org/blog/signs-that-alcohol-use-is-getting-dangerous.html>

Addiction Screenings

Narconon can help you take steps to help those suffering from alcoholism. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 1-800-431-175

OBITS

Continued from page 4

Ryan, Jaxon, Myles and Felix; one sister, Evonne Mohr (Vonnice) of Normantown, West Virginia; and two brothers, David Beall of LaGrange and Doyle Beall Jr. (Barb) of Cox's Mills, West Virginia.

She was preceded in death by; her loving husband of 58 years, Glen Mohr in 2013; her parents, Doyle and Louise (nee Whitesel) Beall; two brothers, Jackie and Wendel Beall; a sister-in-law, Ruthie Beall; and a brother-in-law, Ring Mohr.

Funeral Service was 1 P.M. Saturday January 1, 2022 at Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway, West Virginia with Pastor Dave Turner officiating. Burial followed at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Normantown, West Virginia.

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

The family suggests that memorial contributions be made to the Mount Carmel Cemetery Fund.

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

Viola “Mae” Johnston Nicholson

Viola “Mae” Johnston Nicholson, 91, passed a way on December 29, 2021 at Autumn Lake Healthcare at Crystal Springs, Elkins, WV. Mae was born on May 6, 1930 to the late Charles Alton Carson and Jessie Mae Cosner Carson.

She is preceded in death by husband George M. Johnston whom she was married to for 49 years; husband Thurman “TK” Nicholson, brothers; Donnie

Carl Carson and James Russell Carson, sisters; Mary Heater and Carol Robinson, and grandson; Kelly Wayne Yeager.

Mae was a Christian by faith and previously attended Little Kanawha Independent Church, Stouts Chapel and Orlando Baptist Church. She was a member of the Gem Homemakers Club. She enjoyed gardening, canning, making apple butter, cooking for her family and feeding the hummingbirds.

Mae is survived by sons; Kenneth (Crystal) Johnston, Aurora, WV, David “Mark” Johnston, Beverly, WV, daughters; Donna Jean Lilly (Mont), Chapmanville, WV, Shirley Ann Yeager (Lee), Sand Fork, WV, Brenda K. Bleigh (James Arley), Sand Fork, WV, Karen Sue Addy, Anita Lynn Gibson, Elkins, WV and Janet Marie Nicholson (Kennith), Elkview, WV, brothers; Charles Ray Carson, Burnsville, WV, Glenn Lee Carson (Linda), Tioga, WV, John Sherman Carson (companion Kate), Buckhannon, WV, Ralph Alton Carson (Ruth), Burnsville, WV, sisters; Freeda Gay Perrine, Burnsville, WV, and Joyce Kay Moore, Cheshire, OH. She was blessed with 18 grandchildren and 32 great grandchildren.

The family of Viola “Mae” Johnston Nicholson would like to thank Colonial Place Assisted Living and Autumn Lake Healthcare for the compassionate care provided to their mother.

Visitation washeld on Monday, January 3, 2022 from 11:00-1:00 with the service following at 1:00 pm at Stockert Funeral Home & Cremation, Flatwoods, WV. Pastor Ronzel Roberts was officiating the service. Burial followed at the Canfield Cemetery, near Sand Fork, WV.

Stockert Funeral Home & Cremation is honored to serve the family of Viola “Mae” Johnston Nicholson.

Beatrice Grace Blake

Beatrice Grace Blake, 86, of Sutton, WV

passed a way Saturday, January 1, 2022 peacefully at home surrounded by family.

Daughter of the late Edgar Hugh James and Lydia Ethel Given James, she was preceded in death by her husband, Wilbur L. Blake and infant son, Steven James Blake.

She is survived by her daughter, Donna Jane James (Lowell), son, Wilbur Blake (Susan) all of Sutton, WV; grandchildren, Aaron James (Jenna) of Frametown, WV, Adrienne Rauccio (Frank) of Southport, NC, Angela Goss (Eric) of Lancaster, PA, Andrew Blake (Shannon) of Coventry, RI, Matthew Blake (Jeannine) of Sterling Connecticut, Joseph Fell of Warwick, RI, and Allyson Stocker (Nathan) of Buckhannon, WV; great-grandchildren, Austin James, Tyler Hoagland, Emmaleigh James, Brenley Hoagland, Charlie Rollyson, Roman Rauccio, Adriana Goss, Jocelyn Goss; and great-great granddaughter, Sophie James. She is also survived by brother, Don James and his wife, Shirley, of Maylene, Alabama, along with several nieces, nephews and cousins, all very dear to her heart.

She was a member of Hope Baptist Church of Frametown, WV, and

exemplified the love of Christ through lifetime demonstrations of generosity, sacrifice and kindness toward others. She loved her family with all her heart, and found the greatest joy in the company of children. Her lifelong profession had been bookkeeping and she served each employer with diligence and integrity, earning their respect and gratitude. An avid reader and gardener, she found great delight in a good mystery, and reveled in the beauty of the first spring flowers. A precious soul in every way - she was deeply loved by her family and friends. She knew that in Christ, good-byes are not permanent, and a reunion awaits those whose hope is in the Lord.

In keeping with Beatrice's wishes she will be cremated.

Memorial Service will be 11 A.M. Saturday, January 8, 2022 at Hope Baptist Church, Frametown with Reverend Rich Demastus officiating.

Friends may call one hour prior to the memorial service at the church.

Inurnment will be by her late husband in Middle Run Cemetery, Frametown.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Braxton County Animal Shelter, 10 Animal Shelter Lane, Sutton, WV 26601.

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

Beth Ann Jordan

Beth Ann Jordan, 36, of Ireland, passed

a way after a tragic accident on Monday, December 27, 2021.

She was born in Weston on March 9, 1985, a daughter of Thomas Sims II and the late Bonita Law Bennett. Greeting Beth at Heaven's Gate, along with her mother, are her sister-in-law, Brenda Harris; and brother, Thomas Sims III.

On September 23, 2011, Beth married the love of her life, James Thomas Jordan. The two of them shared the ups and downs of marriage and raising their sons, and he will miss her dearly.

Forever cherishing their memories of Beth's giving nature along with her husband and father, are three sons: Adam Jordan, Caleb Jordan, and Grant Jordan; three siblings: April Sims of Orlando, Amanda Sims

and Josh Sims both of Weston; one sister-in-law, Darlene Wyne and husband, John, of Ireland; one brother-in-law, Daniel Jordan of Ireland; mother and father-in-law: Harmand and Darlene Jordan of Ireland; her husky, Simba; and several nieces and nephews.

Beth graduated from Lewis County High School in the class of 2003. She was a homemaker and loving mother. Beth was formerly a manager at the Flatwoods McDonalds for over 10 years. She was a Christian by faith and loved to spend time outdoors: kayaking, camping, fishing, sightseeing, and admiring waterfalls.

Family and friends will gather for Visitation at Clutter Funeral Home – Alkire Chapel located at 190 Wildcat Road in Ireland from 12 to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 4, 2021. Funeral Services will begin at 2 p.m. in the Alkire Chapel with Pastor David Gillum officiating. Interment will follow at the Jordan Family Cemetery in Ireland.

We, at Clutter Funeral Home – Alkire Chapel, are honored and privileged to serve the family of Beth Ann Jordan. Online condolences may be expressed at www.ClutterFuneralHome.com.

Walkeria Joy Hudkins

Walkeria Joy Hudkins, 51, of Wilsie, passed away Friday, December 31, 2021 at Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital.

She was born July 27, 1970 in Charleston, WV.

Walkeria was a homemaker. She enjoyed flower gardening and thrift shopping. She was a loving wife, mother and daughter.

She will be remembered and deeply missed by her husband of 22 years, Tim Hudkins; son, Dusty Hudkins; parents, Noble and Anita Exline Rollyson of Wilsie; brother, Timothy Rollyson and wife, Savannah, of Gassaway; and several nieces and nephews.

Walkeria's funeral service will be 11 A.M. Saturday, January 8, 2022 at Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway, WV with Pastor Eric Veltre and Pastor Ed Rollyson officiating. Burial will follow at the Rollyson Cemetery, Wilsie.

Visitation will be 6 to 8 P.M. Friday, January 7th at the funeral home.

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

Arrangements by Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway.

Obituary Policy

- Obituaries should be received within 30 days of death.
- The deceased should be a current or former resident of the newspaper's coverage area (Braxton County and the surrounding areas), or have family members who have lived or are living in this area.
- Obituaries are accepted from funeral homes or funeral directors. Obituaries may also be provided from other publications or family members.
- Obituaries may be edited to conform to the newspaper standards and deadlines.
- There is no charge for obituaries that meet the aforementioned guidelines.

Call: (304)765-5193 Fax: (304)765-2754
Email: editor@bcn-news.com
Mail in or drop off: 501 Main St. Sutton

COMMUNITY CORNER

PAT'S CHAT

By : PAT RIDPATH



The Christmas Season, including New Year's Eve celebrations are over for the most part, but today there was a little celebration at the Buckhannon Seventh-day Adventist Church. Several of the people who had helped with caroling by actually driving the vehicle that carried the speakers on top of it, playing Christmas music, as they went up one side of the street and down the other, with Sheri going to the homes to request funds for community service. (There were other drivers, not pictured.) Some members and friends attended the celebration and enjoyed the pizza party with Sheri. This has almost become a lost art - literally caroling and collecting funds for helping people in our community. When I was young we actually donned our warm jackets, hats and gloves, and sang with

our group from house to house. People were usually very generous. When we arrived back at the church, there would be warm cocoa and cookies or some sort of treat. I remember people asking early in the season just when we would be coming to do caroling. No more. Many of us, my peers and me, are too old to walk far especially where it might be slippery paths.

Sheri Lyn Sapp, as I told you last week, remembers going caroling with her mom, Mrs. Elmer, Mrs. Black, Vonda Simons and others like her, some would go to the doors and others would sing. She loved doing it so much that when no one wanted to be a collector of funds, but would help drive the vehicle while Sheri went door to door, she decided she wanted to do it anyway, so we decided to do it.. Picture shows Sheri Sapp, the ONLY collector, with Bill Elmer on her, left, with Carol Holden, and Lisa Phillips on her left.

The yearly goal was met and exceeded

ed for donations to help with the Community Services adventures through 2022. Each year we ask our friends and neighbors to help us rebuild our funding for community projects. We help with different things throughout the year, like joining with many other groups and churches to create a fund to provide for activities that will help keep the Seniors and others joyful and happy over the graduation and proms activities without being tempted to be out in dangerous situations, such as driving, etc. We, along with other groups help people in our communities who have suffered from tragedies, storms, fires and other disasters in our community.

If you want to see the world-wide scope where Seventh-day Adventists live and work and help others, go to <https://www.adventist.org/world-church/> Wherever you go you can find your friends, the Seventh-day Adventists. Maranatha



Members and friends joined Sheri Christmas Caroling and fundraising for the community.

COUNTY STORIES

By: JEANNETTE RIFFLE

Holiday Sickness

We have never heard of so much sickness over the holidays as we have heard lately. There's head cold, sore throat, flu and COVID. Stomach bug and RSV. It makes a person want to hole up and hibernate. The news is full of the COVID virus and the variants. It is on the rage! I'm not going anywhere. Mr. R. goes by the safety rules and does the grocery shopping. His head cold is on the mend and so is my sore throat. I'm doing the Neti Pot salt water rinse for sinuses and the warm salt water gargle for the throat. Those home remedies are helping. I went to our doctor and got a two week course of antibiotic and that has helped a lot.

We have been enjoying good hot meals, our Christmas gifts and nap time, which is whenever the mood

hits. I am slowly putting things away. Sometimes . is hard to find a place to store the big things. We need to try and find the energy to bag up everything that we are not wearing or using and donate it to charity. You don't realize how tired and sleepy you are until the holidays are over. I was talking on the phone to a friend today and she said she stayed up until after midnight to see the new year in for the first time in her life. She wanted to do something different. She probably had to sleep in this morning.

Hubby and I were talking about what we did when we were growing up. I remember how New Year's Day was celebrated at our house. It is my oldest brother's birthday and Mom always

had him a chocolate cake and ice cream. Her aunt, Lula Lowe, had a restaurant in Glenville and she could order up a big bakery cake for our birthdays. Mom had each of us one birthday party at our house. She said that if you had more than that, you were just begging. My how times have changed! Almost everyone has a party for their children every year, nowadays. Hubby said they didn't do anything for New Years Eve or Day. They just put up the new calendar and like all of us, tried to remember to write the correct date on things. I put up a new calendar yesterday. I caught myself starting to write December or 2021 in my journal the past two days.

Some people think they have to have sour kraut or a cabbage dish of some kind for good luck. We never got into that. I don't believe in "good luck, bad luck." It's just an expression with me. God is in control and whatever happens is his will. It is all in his hands. We will pray that the sick get well andthat everyone will please follow the safety rules and let this awful virus die down.

Until next time, take care, be safe and God bless!

Mountaineer Food Bank volunteer opportunities

The Mountaineer Food Bank will have volunteer opportunities every second Saturday of the month. The MFB will take up to ten individuals in two hour increments. Each volunteer sta-

tion will be sanitized between each time slot and masks will be provided. Please give time if you can! Call the Mountaineer Food Bank a call at 304-364-5518 to get scheduled.

GASSAWAY News

By: MELINDA FRAME



Happy New Year!!!!

I hope this finds you all well and that you had a beautiful Christmas! It's time for the New Year. New beginnings, hope for a brighter future. We all must hang on to that. The last two years have had their challenges, but we, as Americans, will overcome. With our faith and hope, we can face whatever comes. That is my belief. Onward and upward. Ha ha!

I do want to apologize for not being here for a few weeks. 2021 didn't end well for me and the last couple of weeks have been very sad. I am, however, back and trying to be myself again. Thank you so much for your patience.

Birthdays this week are: January 4th-Connie Gallaher

January 5th-Rob Brady, Daniel Stewart

January 6th-Natalee Poling, Josh Wood, Kristy Jo Wood, Joe Smarr, Jessica Porto

January 7th-Katie Brianna Gaddy, Mary Beth Given, Susan Durnell, Mike Brady, Dee Myers Southall

January 8th-Christopher Shuman, David Singleton, Doug Heater, Rick Burrows

January 9th-Jossiah Thomas Gunter

January 10th-Save "Trainer" Beane, Stephanie Jackson

Happy Birthday to all of you!!!

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; 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 Fاعميرة, Emma Grubb, Jill James, Thelma Hazel, Stan Corkhill, Brenda Rogers, Fawn Miller, Erika McCormick, Denny Tanner, Rusty Walker, Troy Dennison, Amy Shafer, Susan Petted, Bob Carr, and Keith Rose.

Did you make a New Year's Resolution? I really don't do those because I never keep them. This year, however, I am going to try to slow down and make time for myself and those I love. It seems our world just moves so fast. Diets? Workouts? Not for me but I wish all of you who made those resolutions success.

This week's recipe is Creamy Tomato Bisque

INGREDIENTS

3 tbsp. unsalted butter

1 tbsp. olive oil

1 1/2 c. chopped yellow onion (1 large)

3/4 c. chopped shallots (2 large)

1 c. chopped leek, white and light green parts only (from 2 large)

3 (28-ounce) cans crushed tomatoes

4 c. whole milk

2 c. heavy cream

1/2 tsp. saffron threads

1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Grated Parmesan

and chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley, for garnish

DIRECTIONS

Heat butter and oil in a large pot or Dutch oven over medium-low heat. Add onion, shallots, and leek. Cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, 8 to 10 minutes. Add tomatoes, milk, cream, saffron, and red pepper flakes. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat and simmer, uncovered and stirring occasionally, until flavors are blended and soup is slightly thickened, 30 to 40 minutes. Season with salt and pepper.

Serve hot, garnished with Parmesan and parsley.

Make ahead: Prepare the soup completely and refrigerate up to three days. Reheat over medium-low heat, adding milk or water as needed for desired consistency.

Sympathy is extended to the families of William "Bill" Petted, Ralph C Gay, Iva Lee Jackson, Viola Johnston Nicholson, Michael Harper, Shirley Eubank, Charles Conrad, Beatrice Grace Blake, Walkeria Joy Hudkins, Zeta Jean Mohr, Vicky Elizabeth Jenkins, Johnny L Crislip, Betty Lou Tonkin Brannon, Zachariah Isaac Tanner, and Sandra Marlene Facemire. Please keep them in your prayers.

"Whose woods these are I think I know.

His house is in the village though;

He will not see us stopping here

To watch his woods fill up with snow."

- Robert Frost, Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Until next week, take care and God Bless each of you!

MAGISTRATE COURT

REPORT

Magistrate David Singleton's Court

December 20: Logan J. Griffith of Morgantown, expired MVI, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed and paid.

December 22: Jamie Marie Currence of Sutton, expired registration, no contest plea, no proof of insurance, no contest plea, fines/court costs assessed.

December 27: Jordan Scott Staley of Strange Creek, no seatbelt, no contest plea, fine assessed and paid; Charlie R. Allen of Burnsville, falsely reporting an emergency, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed; Martin Leny Bronkhurst of Sutton, obstructing an officer, no contest plea,

obstructing an officer x2, dismissed per plea, disorderly conduct, dismissed per plea, cell phone violation, dismissed per plea, fine/court costs assessed.

December 29: Joshua J. Luzader of Sutton, petit larceny, guilty plea, petit larceny x6, dismissed per plea, 30 days of jail, suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation, fine/court costs/restitution assessed; Joseph Raymond Reed of Gassaway, loud exhaust, dismissed, improper display of registration, dismissed; Ronald Jerry Criner of Sutton, driving suspended, guilty plea, no proof of insurance, guilty plea, 60 days of jail, suspended and

placed on 12 months unsupervised probation, fines/court costs assessed.

December 30: Jennifer E. Kemp of Sutton, petit larceny, entry other than dwelling (vehicle), warrant issued, bond set at \$5000 cash only; Brianna Kay Cook of Frametown, assault, battery, warrant issued, bond set at \$1500 personal recognizance.

January 2: Larry Allen Duffield of Widen, driving suspended-3rd offense, obstructing an officer, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$2500 cash or surety; Joseph Lee Rogers of Duck, trespassing asked to leave, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$1500 cash or surety.

Drug Testing

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Little Birch Elementary Holds First Semester Growth Parade

At LBE, we believe it is important to maintain a growth mindset and continually strive for improvement. With the help of parent volunteers Amy Jamison and Beth Snodgrass, students were gifted a personalized poster highlighting accomplishments and specific areas of improvement during the first semester. Parent volunteers decorated vehicles and created floats for each class. Family, friends, students, and staff lined the sidewalk to cheer for each student as their individual accomplishments were read aloud. Santa, Rudolph, and the Grinch made guest appearances. Following the parade, students and families had an opportunity for photos at a custom balloon photo frame. The students and staff at LBE would like to thank all who participated, came, and showed their support.

Pre-K – Mrs. Hughes & Miss Valerie

1. Elaina Edgell earned the good helper award, follows directions, counts to 10, and is a creative artist.

2. Emma Gregory earned the good helper award, can count to 5, follows directions, and is a creative artist.

3. Jax Reynolds earned the good helper award, follows directions, and can count to 10

4. Timmy Moore is a good helper, counts to 10, and follows directions.

5. Hunter Woods is a good helper, follows directions, counts to 10, and is a gymnast in PE.

Kindergarten & 1st Grade – Mrs. Duffield, Mrs. Burchett, & Miss Lisa

1. Mya Gregory is a polite, A+ student. She earned 179 Dojo points and improved 19 points on iReady reading and 10 points on iReady math.

2. Owen Jamison is part of the Lunchroom Leadership League and has improved his listening skills. He earned 11 points on iReady math.

3. Maddox Martin is a polite student who had the most iReady growth in September. He earned 213 Dojo points and improved 83 points on iReady reading and 19 points on iReady math.

4. Hayden Morrison is an A+ student who always listens. He earned 307 Dojo points, improved 57 points on iReady reading and 20 points on iReady math.

5. Carter Rhodes is a very well-behaved A+ student. He earned 210 Dojo points and improved 28 points on iReady Reading and 19 points on iReady math.

6. Denzil Shingler is an inquisitive, A+ student who had the most iReady growth in October. He is part of the Lunchroom Leadership League, earned 237 Dojo points, and improved 17 points on iReady reading and 35 points on iReady math.

7. Clayton Utt is a polite student. He is part of the Lunchroom Leadership League, has earned 197 Dojo points, and has improved 40 points on iReady math.

8. Mason Bragg is a loving student and creative storyteller. He earned 78 Dojo points.

9. Thaddeus Sartin is an A+ student and part of the Lunchroom Leadership League. He has earned 169 Dojo points and improved 22 points on iReady reading and 28 points on iReady math.

10. Kaiden Sears is a loving and kind student who has earned 118 Dojo points and improved 24 points on iReady math.

11. Arden Snodgrass is a polite, A+ student. He has earned 166 Dojo points and improved 11 points on iReady math.

12. Bethany George is an A+ student and part of the Lunchroom Leadership League. She earned 148 Dojo points and improved 33 points on iReady reading.

13. Lucas Hall is always willing to help, friendly, and an artist.

14. Annie McCourt is an A+ student and part of the Lunchroom Leadership League. She earned 148 Dojo points and improved 32 points on iReady reading.

15. Marlee Schrader is an A+ student and part of the Lunchroom Leadership League. She earned 150 Dojo points, improved 23 points on iReady reading, and 16 points on iReady math.

16. Brently Edgell is a very helpful student and part of the Lunchroom Leadership Team. He had the most iReady growth in October and improved 50 points on iReady reading.

17. Landon Rankin is part of the Lunchroom Leadership Team and had the most iReady growth in September. He earned 107 Dojo points, improved 49 points on iReady reading and 7 points on iReady math.

18. Wyatt Jenkins is kind and helpful to others and part of the Lunchroom Leadership League. He earned 90 Dojo points and improved 6 points on iReady math and 28 points on iReady reading.

Mrs. Montgomery's 2nd and 3rd Grade

1. James Bragg has good attendance and has improved 7 points on iReady math and 15 points on iReady reading. Congratulations James.

2. Levi Jamison is a persistent and inquisitive student. He has improved 19 points on iReady math and 80 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Levi.

3. Mackenzie Morrison is kind to others. She has improved 63 points on iReady math and 31 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Mackenzie.

4. Jaden Rhodes has shown improvement in reading and math. He is a responsible and

trustworthy student. Congratulations Jaden.

5. Averie Rose had the most iReady growth in September. She has improved 35 points on iReady math and 30 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Averie.

6. Jasmine Marks is a kind and helpful student. She has improved 17 points on iReady math and 27 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Jasmine.

7. Michael Stout is a helpful student. He has improved 36 points on iReady math and 15 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Michael.

8. Daisy Williams is a kind and helpful student. She has improved 45 points on iReady math and 40 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Daisy.

9. David Bragg has good attendance, has shown improvement in reading, and has improved 37 points on iReady math. Congratulations David.

10. Allison Marks is part of the Student Leadership Team, knows her multiplication facts, and has improved 20 points on iReady math and 23 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Allison.

11. Chelsie Kesling is a helpful student. She has improved 14 points on iReady math and 66 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Chelsie.

12. Layla King is kind to others. She has improved 48 points on iReady math and 75 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Layla.

13. Liam Lynch is an excellent speller. He has improved 5 points on iReady math and 18 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Liam.

14. Kristopher Mace had the most iReady growth in September. He has improved 18 points on iReady math and 21 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Kristopher.

15. T.J. Markle is a good friend to others. He has improved 19 points on iReady math and 30 points on iReady reading. Congratulations TJ.

16. Gabe McCourt is a good friend to others. He has improved 7 points on iReady math and 19 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Gabe.

17. Bentley Reynolds is a persistent student. He has improved 30 points on iReady math and 25 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Bentley.

18. Elizabeth Reynolds is part of the Student Leadership Team. She has improved 16 points on iReady math and 18 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Elizabeth.

19. Annabelle Robinson has shown improvement in reading and math. She is kind and a good friend to others. Congratulations Annabelle.

20. Adium Rose is kind to others. She has improved 22 points on iReady math and 20 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Adium.

21. Nevaeh Tinnel is a friendly student. She has shown improvement in math and gained 43 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Nevaeh.

22. Violet Williams is a kind and helpful student. She has improved 19 points on iReady math and 15 points on iReady reading. Congratulations Violet.

Miss Harper's 4th Grade

1. Austin Armentrout earned 713 Dojo points, gained 154 math facts, and has a positive attitude.

2. Austin Brooks has improved attention and time on task, gained 154 math facts, and improved 9 points on iReady reading.

3. Aiden Dorsey is on the Student Leadership Team, had the most iReady growth in September, gained 183 math facts, and improved 23 points on iReady math and 56 points on iReady reading.

4. Marionna George earned 1,089 Dojo points, mastered all multiplication and division facts, and meets the state math standard.

5. Simon Harman is the class scientist. He gained 167 math facts and improved 29 points on iReady reading.

6. Brenna Hoard is part of the Student Leadership Team. She mastered all multiplication and division facts and improved 8 points on iReady math.

7. Addisynn McCombs earned 1,001 Dojo points, gained 192 math facts, and improved 35 points on iReady reading.

8. Mallory Putnam earned 543 Dojo points, gained 56 math facts, and improved her math scores.

9. Brayden Rose exceeds the state standard in reading, mastered all multiplication and division facts, and improved 20 points on iReady reading.

10. Romey Rose is the class engineer. He

gained 147 math facts and improved 32 points on iReady math and reading.

11. Shechaniah Rose is the class artist. She earned 814 Dojo points and gained 151 math facts.

12. Paxton Schrader exceeds the state standard in reading, mastered all multiplication and division facts, and improved 20 points on iReady math.

13. Jada Spencer gained 86 math facts, improved 20 points on iReady math and 44 points on iReady reading.

14. Blake Woods has improved attention and time on task, gained 108 math facts, and improved 24 points on iReady math.

Mrs. Berry's 5th grade.

1. Gabbi Crow is new to LBE and has been wonderful adapting to class. She is nice and kind to everyone.

2. Gracie Coffman Dennison is great at describing events with details, pass the latest two lessons in IReady reading, and improved her ability to write an informative essay.

3. Landon Dehaven is quick when multiplying by 3, he can multiply products in less than a minute. He is also helpful and dependable.

4. Blake Dennison has improved his facts speed to under a minute and passed every iReady math lesson 25 out of 25.

5. Destani Edgell has improved her fluency with multiplication. She can solve for the products in less than a minute. She has improved over 50 points on iReady reading.

6. Maddison Marks is part of the Student Leadership Team and sensational writer. She creates fantastic narratives with descriptive characters and settings.

7. Lydia Gerwig is part of the Student Leadership Team. She has improved time management, phonics, and multiplication facts.

8. Alyssa Goodrich is on fire. She passed 6 iReady math lessons in a row and 17 reading lessons in a row.

9. Kyia Hermison has improved assignment completion and passed the last 4 iReady math lessons.

10. Shyann Jenkins has greatly improved in geometry and numbers and operations. She has passed 95% of her overall math lessons in iReady.

11. Jeremiah Morrison has improved his math facts speed. He can solve his 3 times tables under 30 seconds. He has also improved his reading strategies.

12. Cole Payne has improved his scores in reading comprehension. He has also improved in geometry and measurement.

13. Audrina Pugh is an expert at passing iReady math lessons and had the most iReady growth in September and October.

14. Colton Putnam has excellent writing abilities and has passed 5 iReady math lessons in a row and 3 iReady reading lessons in a row.

15. Ethan Rose is on fire, passing the last 6 lessons in math. He has improved all of his math facts for multiplication.

16. Cole Salisbury is on a math winning streak. He has passed every math lesson in iReady and is an impressive reader.

17. Hunter Sartin has increased math fluency and his ability to read and find the main ideas in passages.

18. Wyatt Stackhouse is a hard worker. He has completed 21 iReady math lessons and 32 iReady reading lessons. He is determined to achieve the highest amount of completed lessons.

19. Naddley Stevens is an amazing reader. She has the most participation points for volunteer reading and responses.



Students of Little Birch Elementary were gifted a personalized poster highlighting accomplishments and specific areas of improvement during the first semester. Each student was cheered for by family, friends, students and staff as they were individually read aloud as they made their way through the parade Photos courtesy of Little Birch Elementary School



Jessica Smarr of Sutton, West Virginia has completed her student teaching at Glenville State College (GSC).

Braxton County resident completes Student Teaching for Glenville State College

Jessica Smarr of Sutton, West Virginia has completed her student teaching at Glenville State College (GSC). She completed her student teaching in Early Education (PreK-K) and Elementary Education (K-6) at Burnsville Elementary School with Joyce Stump and in Multi-Categorical Special Education (K-6) at Robert L. Bland Middle School as a Clinical Teacher of Record with mentor Amber Richards. Dr. Shelly Ratliff and Dr. Will Vann were her GSC supervisors. She and her husband Nathan have three children, Andrew, Brehana, and Austin.

Senior teacher education students take part in an internship during their final semester at GSC. At the conclusion of their

internship students must complete a presentation illustrating their mastery of the Interstate New Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC) standards as well as the standards of their particular area of study.

For more information about the Teacher Education Program at Glenville State College, contact (304) 462-4119.

The Health Plan donates \$120,000 to West Virginia food banks

Mountaineer Food Bank in Gassaway receives \$10,000 boost



Shelf stable foods are in high demand for families across West Virginia.

The Health Plan is closing out 2021 by lending a financial hand to food banks through West Virginia.

The company is donating a total of \$120,000 to 12 food banks around the state, each getting a \$10,000

boost, as part of its annual "Spirit of Giving" campaign. The donations will help each organization fill its pantries and provide warm meals to West Virginians in need. These contributions allow each organization to continue changing lives and making an impact across the state.

The state nonprofits on the list include Christian Help in Morgantown, Union Mission Ministries and Campbell's Creek Church of the Nazarene in Charleston, Old Man River's Mission in Parkersburg, Huntington City Mission and Mountaineer Food Bank in Gassaway.

Christmas With The Corps note of thanks



Members of the Corps and Braxton County volunteers came together for Christmas with the Corps.

The Friends of Burnsville Lake would like to thank some very special people for making Christmas With The Corps such a successful project! The Burnsville and Sutton Lake Staff, along with

volunteers, were able to provide a Christmas shopping trip for 38 children from 5 Braxton County Schools. On a very short timeframe, our volunteers raised over \$3,600 from generous local donors.

This is truly the season for giving and seeing the smiles on the children's faces was the best Christmas present ever! We could not have done this without the generosity of our sponsors listed below:

Anonymous Donors, Bulltown Historical Association, Burnsville NAPA, Rob Singleton, Burnsville Docks Inc., Kristen & Daniel Smith, Burnsville Medical Center, Dr. Antoine Katiny, Evelyn Post, In memory of Pam, Fastlane Automotive, Harold "Pooge" Singleton, Friends of Burnsville Lake, Judy's Garden Club, Millstone Grocery, Tammy Koontz, Willie's TLC Car Repair LLC, Willie Wine

Town of Burnsville is still collecting names for fourth wall at Veterans Memorial



Veterans Wall in Burnsville, WV.

In Honor of our Local Veterans, Oras Ray McNemar, III, is still collecting names for a

fourth wall.

If you, a family member or a friend were missed the first time, please submit their names, rank, military branch and years of service.

If they were a confederate, union or served during a certain era of war, please submit.

You can leave the information here or contact Pam Wine at the Burnsville Town Hall to forward the information to Mr. McNemar.

Thank you in advance.

Peter Pan Cleaners

BRAXTON CITIZENS' NEWS

Your local drop off and pick up location!

New local Drop-off and Pick-up Location in Sutton

501 Main Street Sutton, WV

Monday Drop-off & Pick-up

Dry Cleaning

Pants	8.95
Skirt	8.95
Coats/Blazers	8.95
Suit	17.90
Dress	17.90
Blouse/Shirt	8.90
Sweater	9.50
Heavy Coat (Hip Length)	19.75
Heavy Coat (Long)	22.75

Heavy Coats

Wash & Fold

Laundry

Shirts	3.55
Pants (Extra Heavy Starch + 1.00)	9.40
Wash and Fold	2.05 Per Pound
	(10.25 minimum charge)

Linens

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

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

Quilts & Comforters

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Dinner for Novalee Bennett will be held at the Rosedale Senior Center in Rosedale, WV

Saturday, January 8th

From 4:00 - 7:00 P.M.

\$10 Dinner includes

Spaghetti

Garlic Bread

Side Salad

Dessert

and a beverage

Serve and Sit or take it To-Go!

There will be a Chinese Auction with lots of amazing items that have been donated to the Bennett Family

LIVE MUSIC from the Fisher Family of Braxton County

All benefits will go directly to Miss Novalee Bennett, 13 years old, of Rosedale, WV who is beginning her Chemo journey for a Brain Tumor that will take place over the next 70 weeks

January 4, 2022

Central WV Riding Club announce the 2021 Year-End High Point winners

The Central WV Riding Club 2021 show season has drawn to a close. Although our year was like most other organizations, having to deal with Covid while trying to make plans, we were fortunate to be able to host all of our events. Each year, starting with the first show in May and ending with the last show in October, the club member and his or her horse combined, are awarded points for plac-

ing first through sixth in any class in which they choose to participate. These points are tallied at the end of the year and those accumulating the highest number of points are awarded for their accomplishment. This year's presentation of awards was held on December 4 at the Braxton County Jamboree in Gassaway, WV. We would, especially, like to thank our class sponsors for all of their

support and are proud to announce the 2021 Year-End High Point winners.

Leadline class presented to Vivianne Bruffey and Billy Bob, sponsored by Larry and Carolyn (Hope) Litton

Open Halter or In Hand Class presented to Dwight Senter and Jazz, sponsored by Racking Horse Junction

48" and Under Halter class (3-way tie) presented to Maddox Huffman and Huck, sponsored by Jason and Ellen Hyre, Jo Ferguson and JT Superstar, sponsored by Meadows Farm and Port Perrine and Miss Mickey

Pee Wee Pole Bending Class presented to Jo Ferguson and Camille, sponsored by Richard M. Roach Funeral Home

Youth Pole Bending presented to Lillie Fitzwater and Skippy, sponsored by Eva Marie Tonkin

Pole Bending Open presented to Bobby Wayne and Tuey, sponsored by Hart's Pro

Hardware

Pee Wee Barrels presented to Jo Ferguson and Camille, sponsored by Craig Duckworth

Open Barrels presented to John Forbush and Jackson, sponsored by Chad J. Lancaster, DDS

Youth Barrels presented to Lillie Fitzwater and Skippy, sponsored by Saddlehorn Steel

\$100.00 Barrels presented to Jo Ferguson and Camille, sponsored by Peaches Projects

Open Trail Class (tie) presented to Elizabeth Cunningham and Drifter, sponsored by Jeffrey and Annabelle Miller, and Jo Ferguson and Camille, sponsored by State Farm Insurance-Vicky Huffman

Pee Wee Walking, Pacing or Racking presented to Jo Ferguson and JT Superstar, sponsored by Skidmore Farms

Juvenile Open Pleasure presented to Lila Fitzwater and Ranger, sponsored by Roger and Karen Smith

Gaited English Pleasure presented to Leanna Blankenship and Chrome's Fast Cash, sponsored by Terry and Sharon Campano

Slow Pace presented to Kim Miller and Fireball, sponsored in memory of the CWVRC founding members

Pee Wee Pony Pleasure presented to Jo Ferguson and JT Superstar, sponsored by Rader's Towing Service

Juvenile Pleasure (tie) presented to Lila Fitzwater and Ranger, sponsored by It Fits to a Tee, and Bradley Meadows and Commander, sponsored by Smith Trailer Sales

Open Driving presented to Port Perrine and Miss Mickey, sponsored by The Wild Scissors

Style Pace presented to Kim Miller and Fireball, sponsored by Oras and Amy Wade

Pee Wee Pleasure presented to Jo Ferguson and JT Superstar, sponsored by James Farm

Double Rider (2 riders) presented to Lila Fitzwater, Lillie Fitzwater and Ranger, sponsored by Gary and Marsha Hacker and Skidmore Auto and Diesel

Country Pleasure Rack presented to Colton Smith and Diamond J's Shining on Cheyenne, sponsored by All-N-One Collision

Egg and Spoon presented to Jo Ferguson and JT Superstar, sponsored by Karen Hoover

Ladies Pleasure presented to Amanda Shafer and The Java Jazz, sponsored by Brian and Rheta Clark

Western Pleasure presented to Lillie Fitzwater and Skippy, sponsored by Dress Western Designs

Country Fast Pace presented to John Given and Peach Cobbler, sponsored by Larry and Roberta Wilson

Plantation Pleasure Lite Shod Specialty presented to Harley Mace and Dragon in the Dollars, sponsored by Randy and Joy DeMoss

Open Pleasure presented to Amber Byrd

and Signature's Moonlight Jewel, sponsored by Crown and Glory Salon

Men's Pleasure presented to Harley Mace and Dragon in the Dollars, sponsored by Sports Connection

Amateur Pacing Horse presented to Larry Wilson and Saddle Tramp, sponsored by Jason and Jennifer James

Gaited Western Pleasure (tie) presented to Amber Byrd and Signature's Moonlight Jewel, sponsored by Danny and Sherry Gross and Harley Mace and Dragon in the Dollars, sponsored by Family Furniture

Juvenile Walking, Pacing or Racking presented to Lila Fitzwater and Ranger, sponsored by Allen and Kim Miller

Walk Trot Open presented to John Forbush and Ima Blue Eyed Rocket, sponsored by Spark's Equine Veterinary Services

Spotted Horse Pleasure presented to Harley Mace and I'm Just An Illusion, sponsored by T & S Stables

Open Fast Pace or Rack presented to John Given and Peach Cobbler, sponsored by J. E. Given Tack and Supplies in memory of Eugene Bollinger

Trail Pleasure Rack presented to Amber Byrd and Signature's Moonlight Jewel, sponsored by Robert Given

Jack Benny and Lucille Ball presented to Amber Byrd and Signature's Moonlight Jewel, sponsored by Huffman Stables

In addition to our regular awards, a special Sportsmanship Award was presented to Samantha Frame for her encouraging comments and encouragement to other riders throughout the year.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Central WV Riding Club, please check our facebook page for meeting dates and times or contact Kim Miller at 304-364-5576 or Kathy Given at 304-364-2273 or any other club member for information.



Dale Bollinger as Master of Ceremony.



Allen Miller, Club President and Kathy Given, Club Treasurer.



Open Barrel Class Winner-John Forbush with Jackson, Sponsored by Chad J. Lancaster, DDS



Slow Pace Class Winner-Kim Miller with Fireball, Sponsored in Memory of the CWVRC founding members.



2021 High Point Winners.



Leadline Class Winner-Vivianne Bruffey With Billy Bob, Sponsored by Larry and Carolyn (Hope) Litton



Open Trail Class (Winner (tie)-Elizabeth Cunningham with Drifter, Sponsored by Jeffrey and Annabelle Miller.



48" and Under Halter Winner (3-way tie)-Port Perrine with Miss Mickey.



Country Fast Pace Class Winner-John Given with Peach Cobbler, Sponsored by Larry and Roberta Wilson.

Braxton County Jamboree rings in the New Year with Festive New Years Eve Dance

The Braxton County Jamboree finished 2021 with busy hands filled with loved. On Friday, December 17th, children in Braxton County were invited for a fun evening visiting with Santa Clause where they were gifted a present and photo opportunity when they met Santa to tell him what was on their lists this Christmas. The Braxton County Jamboree would like to thank Connie Lane, Crazy Lady's, Joe and Phoebe Weekly, Joyce Black, Ray Rada-baugh, Gary School-craft, Diana Leggs, and Julie Bird for the donation of toys, money, bikes. A special thank you goes to the volunteers for all of their support in making the event a success.

On New Year's Eve Friday, December 31st guest welcomed in the New Year with a dance and the sounds of Retro Country. Guests enjoyed catching up and dancing the night away.

The Braxton County Jamboree would like to invite everyone out each Friday night from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. for the best Country and Bluegrass music.

Country Boys will be the first to take the Stage for the 2022 New Year on January 7th while the following weekend will showcase the Bluegrass Prserves on January 14th. Rounding out the month Dixie Highway will return on January 21st while the performers for January 28th has yet to be announced at press time.

Follow the Braxton County Jamboree on Facebook for the most up to date information on Friday shows or call Lena Parsons at (304) 364-5577.



Santa and his Elves were on location at the Braxton County Jamboree just before Christmas.

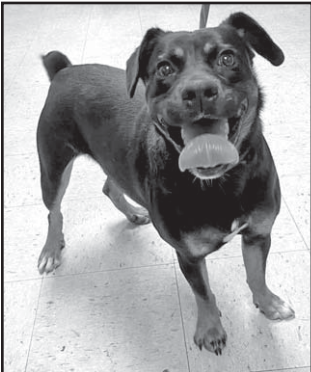


Country Retro entertained the crowd at the New Years Even Dance at the Braxton County Jamboree.

Dog Stories from the Braxton Tales: 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



Eddie is a one year old male mixed breed,

who weighs between forty and forty-five pounds. Eddie's was picked up by animal control after being hit by a car on the interstate. He was taken to the animal hospital for a dislocated hip and sutures. He has since fully healed and is ready for a brand new home with a forever family. Because he was found as a stray, we don't have much back story on this guy. He's got playful puppy energy and would make a great companion for someone with an outgoing lifestyle. His energy can be run off with activity outside and then he wants to be a lap



dog and soak up all the love. Eddie's only quirk is that he doesn't enjoy the company of most male dogs but getting neutered may change that. He does great with female dogs, and may do well in an only dog household if someone would throw a ball for him regularly or take him for walks and give him things to do to occupy his active/fun mind.

Jersey is a beautiful young female Beagle, who is under one years old, and around twenty-five pounds. She's smart and learning quickly to walk on a leash. She came to the shelter as a stray, but we do know

that she will chase cats. Jersey loves to play but is not overly energetic. She will soak up all the belly scratches and love you have to give and would make an excellent addition to any loving home



Marley is an approximate six month old mixed breed female who weighs around thirty pounds and likely will stay a medium sized dog. Marley is still a puppy with playful puppy ways. She was surrendered to animal control by a caretaker who didn't have time to invest in her. She walks on a leash and knows her name and is very smart and eager to please her human. Marley could easily be trained and is food motivated. Marley has lived mostly outdoors and isn't fully house trained yet. She loves all dogs and people and would love to have a puppy sibling to play with but probably wouldn't do well in a home with small children because she hasn't yet learned to be gentle when in play mode.



Sam, Joe and Pete are littermates looking for brand new homes this Christmas! Their Mom is a German Shepherd and we can't be sure about the Dad so they are listed as German Shepherd mixes. These handsome brothers are five months old (born July 13th) and will likely mature into big dogs. They have never lived indoors and are learning to walk on a leash but they are very smart and are learning quickly. These guys love to romp and play with each other and would do well with puppy siblings. They especially love a good tug of war with a rope and some belly scratches.



BPL Peanut Brittle. Burnsville Public Library Peanut Brittle Fundraiser

Are you looking for a last minute stocking stuffer or gift idea for the person on your list with a sweet tooth?

Stop by the Burnsville Public Library and pick up some of our super yummy peanut brittle.

At \$5 the library should be your choice for peanut goodness.

Follow The Burnsville Public Library on Facebook for additional information.

Sutton Public Library Little Readers resumes for 2022

In January, Little Readers will meet on Monday, January 10th, Monday, January 24th, and Monday, January 31st

There will be no Little

Readers Monday, January 17th due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

For more information follow the Sutton Public Library on Facebook.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Braxton County Commission will hold a public hearing on Friday, January 21, 2022, 10:00 a.m. at the County Courtroom 3rd floor of the Braxton County Courthouse. The Commission is considering submitting an application to the State of West Virginia Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain information on the community development and housing needs including the needs of the low- and moderate-income persons of Braxton County. All interested persons are urged to attend.

The State of West Virginia expects to receive \$14 million from HUD for the FY2022 CDBG Program; \$5 million in HOME Investment Partnership Program; \$3 million in Housing Trust Fund; \$1.6 million in Emergency Solutions Grant; and \$577,000 in Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS. These funds will be distributed to communities throughout the State for eligible community development projects which meet the national objective of 51% benefit to low and moderate-income persons or elimination of slum and blight.

This hearing will be an opportunity for interested citizens to express their views on a potential application to be submitted by the Braxton County Commission for CDBG funds. Written comments will be received by the Braxton County Commission, PO Box 486, Sutton, WV 26601, until January 20, 2022, for those unable to attend.

The Braxton County Commission is an equal opportunity employer and takes steps to affirmatively further fair housing. Language assistance for persons who have limited English proficiency will be made available with advanced notice. Special accommodations will be made available with advanced notice.

Please contact Heather Hardway at (304)765-2835 prior to January 20, 2022, to ensure that your needs will be accommodated.



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SPORTS

Reporting Braxton County's sports action

- Youth
- Middle School
- High School

Strong Frankfort team defeats the Lady Eagles

In a game played at the Braxton County Armory last week, Frankfort defeated the Braxton girls' varsity 67-39. Eagles' coach Bill Luncford gave a lot of credit to Frankfort. "They are a very well-coached team and make few mistakes," he said. "They are a state tournament team from last year and may be again this year."

The Braxton coach noted that, although his team lost, they "played one of the better games of the season." Continuing he explained that the Lady Eagles "are starting to shoot the ball bet-

ter," before adding "but we still don't rebound well." Two major factors contributed to the loss.. "We did better with turnovers but still had 20-plus, and we were once again in foul trouble."

Lainey Hunt, the only player in double figures, led the team in scoring with 16 points. Adrian Luncford added 6 while Erica Nicholson, Paxton Conley, and Heidi Payne each contributed 4. Bre Smarr had 3 points and SkyLynn Abraham 2.

Braxton's girls will travel to Lincoln County Thursday.



Heidi Payne dribbles the ball back down the court.



Brooklyn Godfrey works to keep the ball in Eagle possession.



Bre Smarr shoots for three points.



Lainey Hunt moves around a Frankfort defender.



Paxton Conley works the ball into position.

Photos courtesy of Janet Six

BRAXTON
LIVE

BRINGING LIVE VIDEO TO LOCAL SPORTS

YOU CAN WATCH BRAXTON
HIGH SPORTS ON FACEBOOK LIVE
OR YOUTUBE USE YOUR MOBILE
DEVICE OR SMART TV AT

WWW.FB.COM/BRAXTONLIVEWV

January 11th

BCHS Boys VS
Doddrige

BRAXTON
LIVE



Little Caesars
\$10,000 CONTEST



Eagles place fourth in Grafton Duals Wrestling Tournament

Three Braxton grapplers go undefeated for the day

Wrestling in the 12-team Grafton Duals last week, the Eagles went 4-1 in dual matches, and nine wrestlers had winning records for the day. Blayne Jarvis-138, Logan Bennett-152, and Colton Moore-195 went 5-0 on the day. Among Jarvis' wins was one over the #1 AAA 138-lb wrestler in the state, according to Eagles' coach Sterling Beane.

In duals matches, Braxton defeated Hurricane 48-34, and the Grafton All-Stars 72-3 in the first round. In that round, the Eagles had their only loss of the day as Berkeley Springs beat them 42-36. Braxton defeated Buckhannon Upshur 48-24 and Tyler Consolidatd 42-36 in the second round.

Coach Beane noted that he likes "the way the boys are going" and added, "They're getting better every week." The coach pointed out that he and his assistants "have tried to wrestle in some tougher tournaments." He explained, "We've tried to take on bigger challenges as learning experiences."

Braxton's next competition, which will be highly competitive, is the National Guard Duals at Summersville Friday and Saturday. Currently 23 teams are registered for that tournament.

Braxton's individual results for the Grafton Duals Tournament		
Weight	Wrestler	Day's record
106	Cody Stout	2 wins, 2 losses
113	Brayden Helmich	1 win, 4 losses
126	Anthony Currence	4 wins, 1 loss
132	Andrew Brandt	1 win, 4 losses
138	Blayne Jarvis	5 wins
145	Steven Deal	3wins, 2 losses
152	Logan Bennett	5 wins
160	Jackson Davis	3 wins, 2 losses
10	Ethan Campbell	2 wins, 3 losses
182	Bryce Leegan	4 wins, 1 loss
195	Colton Moore	5 wins
220	Justin Bishop	4 wins, 1 loss
285	Ryder McLaughlin	2 wins, 1 loss
285	Connor Facemire	2 wins, 1 loss
Junior varsity		
145	Andrew McCallister	2 wins, 2 losses
152	Brett Bender	2 wins, 1 loss

Eagles lose to Lincoln County in overtime game

Braxton's road game to Lincoln County last week ended with Lincoln County winning 58-52. Coach Josh Luncford pointed out that the Eagles trailed throughout the game but a basket by William Forbush in the last seconds of regular time put the game into overtime. There the Panthers outscored the Eagles 11-5 for the win.

Coach Luncford pointed out, "Our performance at the foul line cost us the game, and

it's been like that the whole season." Braxton made 9 of 23 free-throw attempts and shot poorly from the floor.

Only five players scored against the Panthers. D.J. Coomes led the team with 22 points, and William Forbush, also in double figures, added 19. Other scoring included Spencer Bosely 3, Mason Abraham 6, and Zach Shaver 2.

Braxton travels to Lewis County Friday for their next game.

Braxton County Senior Center Menu for January

Monday, January 3- Roasted Pork Loin, boiled cabbage, cornbread, spiced apples

Tuesday, January 4- Shepherd's Pie, green beans, dinner roll, fruit

Wednesday, January 5- Garlic Tomato, shrimp pasta, garlic bread, honey glazed carrots, fruit

Thursday, January 6- Cornish Pasti, peas, dinner roll, fruit

Friday, January 7- Pork Chops, scalloped potatoes, beets, dinner roll, fruit

Monday, January 10- Sausage biscuit with gravy, hash browns, fruit

Tuesday, January 11- Pork Riblet on bun, French Fries, fruit

Wednesday, January 12- Open Face Turkey Sandwich, stuffing, green beans, fruit

Thursday, January 13- Stuffed Green Peppers, scalloped potatoes, dinner roll, fruit

Friday, January 14- Pepperoni Roll, Tomato soup w/Cheddar Cheese Crackers, fruit

Monday, January 17- Holiday CENTER CLOSED

Tuesday, January 18- Chicken Alfredo, peas, garlic bread, fruit

Wednesday, January 19- Country Fried Steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, dinner roll, pea salad, fruit

Thursday, January 20- Beef Vegetable Soup, cornbread, broccoli casserole, fruit

Friday, January 21- Pinto Beans, Cornbread, beets, fruit

Monday, January 24- Chili, sweet potatoes, crackers, fruit

Tuesday, January 25- Chicken ala King, rice, dinner roll, fruit

Wednesday, January 26- Meatloaf, mashed potatoes with gravy, broccoli, dinner roll, fruit

Thursday, January 27- Breakfast Bake, hash browns, biscuit, spiced apples, juice

Friday, January 28- Pork BBQ Sandwich, sweet potato fries, coleslaw, fruit

Monday, January 31- Fish sandwich with cheese, French Fries, baked beans, fruit

Menu subject to change due to food availability. 2% milk served with each meal.

Shaver family note of gratitude

Thank you for your thoughtfulness, your generosity and support during this difficult time. It was greatly appreciated.

The family of Argil Earl Shaver wants to thank everyone who sent cards, flowers, keepsakes, or food. We thank Roach Funeral Home for all they did for us. We thank Charles McCumbers and helper for opening and closing the grave. Special thanks to Pastor Eric Veltre and the grandchildren Wesley Perrine, Paul Mayse, Kayla Smith, Billy Mayse, Jacobi Hinesman and Heath Cottrill for being pallbearers.

DHHR warns of spam messages regarding vaccine status


The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) has received reports of individuals receiving spam text messages asking them to validate their driver's license through the state's Division of Motor Vehicles in partnership with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

No such message has been generated by DHHR and should be immediately deleted. Do not click on the link provided in the text message.

The spam text message reads: "West Virginia Covid-19 Vaccine Driver License Waiver Validation. Validate your details below" (with a clickable link). It then states, "Department of Health | State of West Virginia. Text "STOP" to stop msg."

An additional spam message reads: "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in partnership with the West Virginia State DMV requires an immediate validation of your Covid-19 status. This is a waiver validation update and a compulsory one-time validation for all West Virginia residents."

DHHR will never ask for personal information via text message.



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THIS WEEK IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY



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

Jan. 5, 1810: The Virginia General Assembly recognized 20 acres of land owned by farmer and trader Thomas Buffington at the confluence of the Guyandotte and Ohio rivers as the new village of Guyandotte.

Jan. 5, 1887: Governor Emanuel W. Wilson hosted a ball and banquet to formally open the new capitol in Charleston. The so-called Victorian capitol, the second one in Charleston, incorporated the 1870 capitol.



Jan. 6, 1828: Ward Hill Lamon was born in Jefferson County. Lamon was friend, law partner and unofficial bodyguard to President Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln sent Lamon to Richmond on business, and the President was assassinated while his bodyguard was away.



Jan. 6, 1921: Anderson "Devil Anse" Hatfield died. He was the patriarch of the Hatfield family and their leader during the Hatfield-McCoy feud.



Jan. 6, 1911: Louise McNeill was born on the family farm in Pocahontas County. She was appointed poet laureate by Governor Jay Rockefeller in 1979, holding that title until her death in 1993.



Jan. 6, 1948: Bob Wise was born in Washington D.C. He served in Congress and was the state's 33rd governor.



Jan. 7, 1955: The Cedar Lakes Conference Center officially opened, though it was not named until 1957. The name was chosen for its two lakes and an abundance of native cedar trees.



Jan. 8, 1866: William Gustavus Conley was born near Kingwood in Preston County. Conley was the 18th governor of West Virginia, serving from 1929 to 1933.



Jan. 8, 1926: Comedian Soupy Sales was born Milton Supman. Raised in Huntington and graduating from Marshall College (now Marshall University), he achieved fame as a wacky television personality.



Jan. 9, 1911: Louise McNeill was born on the family farm in Pocahontas County. She was appointed poet laureate by Governor Jay Rockefeller in 1979, holding that title until her death in 1993.



Jan. 9, 1914: Hazardous chemicals were discovered leaking into the Elk River, contaminating the water supply for a nine-county region.



Jan. 10, 1846: Wetzel County was created from a part of Tyler County. It was named for Indian fighter Lewis Wetzel.



Jan. 10, 1860: Webster County was created from parts of Braxton, Nicholas, and Randolph counties. The county was named for Daniel Webster.



Jan. 10, 1923: Musician "Curly" Ray Cline was born in Baisden, Logan County. He was one of the most significant bluegrass fiddlers from West Virginia from 1938 until his retirement in 1993.



Jan. 10, 1925: Judge Elizabeth Virginia Hallanan was born in Charleston. She was West Virginia's first female federal court judge.



Jan. 10, 1928: Gov. Howard Gore appointed Minnie Buckingham Harper to fill the unexpired term of her husband, E. Howard Harper. She was the first African-American woman to serve as a member of a state legislative body in the United States.



Jan. 10, 1940: The Pond Creek No. 1 mine at Bartley in McDowell County exploded. The blast killed 91 miners, with another 47 escaping. Rescue teams worked five days to retrieve the bodies, but found no additional miners alive.



Jan. 11, 1893: U.S. Senator Harley Martin Kilgore was born in rural Harrison County. Kilgore served as a senator from West Virginia from 1940 until his death in 1952.



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.

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A year in review: 2022

Reprinted from the January 12, 2021 issue

Braxton County Memorial Hospital celebrates 40th Anniversary



These BCMH staff members have been with the hospital since the doors opened: (L to R) Dr. Doug Given, M.D., Terry Hoover, John Backus, and Kim Frazier.

Tuesday, January 5, marked the 40th Anniversary of the opening of Braxton County Memorial Hospital.

With the closing of the doors of the Sutton Hospital around 1966 followed by the Gassaway Hospital in 1975, the Braxton County community being left without a hospital for a number of years, soon realized the need to re-establish a local healthcare facility.

Dedicated individuals from various walks of life coordinated their efforts by

contributing countless volunteer hours in addition to monetary donations.

Their commitment resulted in a ceremonial grand-opening event in October 1980 followed by Braxton County Memorial Hospital opening its doors in January of 1981 to begin a legacy of providing compassionate healthcare services to the community and surrounding areas.

During the four decades of existence, the critical access hospital has faced many changes, but

always remained steadfast in its goal to provide quality, dependable care to the community. The most recent of changes was being welcomed into the WVU Medicine Health System in January 2019.

This well accepted transition has enabled the hospital to provide much needed services to the citizens of central West Virginia.

Through the assistance of WVU Medicine, BCMH provides quality specialty services such as general surgery, cardiology services, orthopedic care, women's health, and much more. Much needed specialty services, just a short drive from home.

With the Community's well-being constantly at heart, the Board of Directors, Administration, Providers and Staff, work together to fulfill the vision and mission of Braxton County Memorial Hospital, focused on steadily improving the services available to those who live and work in the central West Virginia area.

Reprinted from the March 30, 2021 issue



Those participating in the ground breaking for the new BCHS greenhouse included (L to R) Donald Burroughs Vice Chairman of the Elk Soil Conservation District, Deanna Whipkey and Dolores Wright of the Braxton County Board of Education, Steve Cutlip of Weyerhaeuser, WV Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt, BCHS – FFA students Ellen Collins and Julianna Rexroad, BCHS Agricultural Instructor Josh Porto, Board of Ed Member Evelyn Post and Jean Boggs representing her husband Delegate Brent Boggs.

Groundbreaking for new BCHS greenhouse held

A groundbreaking ceremony for a new BCHS greenhouse was held at the building site Friday. Agriculture instructor Josh Porto, who initiated the drive for funds to build the new greenhouse, said that 28 people, including WV Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt, attended the ceremony.

Porto opened the event by welcoming those present and giving a brief account of the overall project. Following the invocation by Board of Education member Dolores Wright, Commissioner Leonhardt congratulated those who have contributed to seeing the fruition of the project and discussed its importance to the area.

He stressed the impact of the soon-to-be greenhouse not just on the students in the program but also on the whole community.

Following the ac-

tual groundbreaking, those present enjoyed refreshments.

Attendees included Porto's wife Jessica, high school administrators, BOE members and Superintendent Kathy Hypes, central office personnel, a representative from Weyerhaeuser—one of the donors to the project, members of the Elk Conservation District, and Jeannie Boggs representing her husband, Delegate Brent Boggs.

Some agriculture students also attended the ceremony.

Porto explained that this project began in September 2019 when the idea came to him. "At that point, I started looking at and applying for grants," he said. "After receiving promise of a \$20,000 grant from Weyerhaeuser and other responses in October and November, I felt that this could be a realistic project."

Most of the funding

has come from grants with some monies from donations. Porto said that he has "the possibility of another grant, and after that, the Board of Education will provide the rest." Porto estimated that his efforts have resulted in 87 percent of the money raised.

The agriculture instructor maintains that the new greenhouse "will benefit not only students at the high school but also those in lower grades throughout the county." He added, "It will really benefit the community as a whole."

We do a lot of work with civic groups in the community and at the same time offer student-grown products at reasonable prices."

Porto emphasized that it is "extremely exciting and gratifying at the same time to see the project on which I worked with my students became a reality."

Reprinted from the April 6, 2021 issue

Mountaineer Food Bank honors Denver Drake

Retired Principal named MFB's 2020 Lifetime Volunteer of the Year



Denver Drake

By Shirley Shuman

Denver Drake of Gassaway recently received an award from Mountaineer Food Bank for being selected 2020 Lifetime Volunteer of the Year. Gabri Bonazzo, Communications Coordinator for MFB, explained the basis of the award and commented on Drake's contributions as a volunteer.

"The award is based on the number of his volunteer

hours," Bonazzo said. "Denver has over 1100 volunteer hours since he began volunteering here."

Drake, he said he "actually started about 10 years ago." At first, said, his volunteering "was sporadic" as he "went with a friend on deliveries to food pantries mainly." At that time, Drake, an educator, was still working.

Following his retirement from the principal's position as Braxton County

Middle School in 2016, his volunteering increased. "At that time, I probably volunteered one afternoon a week for four to five hours," he noted. Now he occasionally goes on runs with volunteer Beth Simmons, but he basically "works with their mail and files."

"Denver has been really essential in doing office work and getting things done, like answering the phone," Bonazzo noted. "Denver has also assisted with distribution and deliveries as well as working in the warehouse." Drake, who said he is "honored and touched" about receiving this award, explained why he volunteers, not only at Mountaineer Food Bank but also at the Christian Outreach Center and the Christian Food Pantry.

"God has given me good health most of the time," Drake said. "I've always wanted to volunteer even when I was working full time. Now when I have more time, I like to keep busy, and I feel the places where I do volunteer work are worthwhile."

This man, who gave so many years to the students of Braxton County, is still giving, but now to a wider range. One can safely assume that, as long as he is able, he will continue to give. That's Denver Drake.

Reprinted from the June 15, 2021 issue

Jill Lemon named Braxton County Teacher of the Year



Jill Lemon is Braxton County Teacher of the Year. By Shirley Shuman

The 2021 Braxton County Teacher of the Year is BCHS science teacher Jill Lemon. A graduate of Braxton County High School and West Virginia Wesleyan College, Lemon obtained a Masters in Secondary Education from West Virginia University. She has been teaching 21 years, all at the local high school. This past year she taught tenth grade Biology, Human Anatomy and Physiology along with dual credit Biology for Glenville State College.

Reacting to her selection, Lemon said being named Teacher of the Year "is definitely an honor" and added, "It's a very humbling experience, but I'm happy to represent Braxton County. It has been a very challenging

year."

Discussing the teaching experience itself, Lemon commented that the most rewarding part of her job "is watching kids mature, seeing them 'grow up.'" She explained.

"They come in as sophomores, sometimes timid, and then you often see them again as juniors and seniors and they're much more mature."

Tenth-grade Biology, in which she meets the students she watches mature, is Lemon's favorite class to teach. "I get to see such a wide range of students, and the course covers so much material that there's always something new. This class keeps me on my toes," she explained.

Teaching can be a difficult undertaking, and of course Lemon, in 21 years, has ex-

perienced difficulties. One particular difficulty which she mentioned was "dealing with circumstances beyond the control of the teacher, especially this year with the pandemic." She continued, "It seemed like we had constantly changing circumstances, a definite challenge."

The hardest part of teaching under "normal circumstances" is something teachers face throughout their careers. "For me, it's trying to reach the students who are 'reluctant learners.' These are the kids with low motivation," she said.

"They challenge my creativity and motivate me to try new things."

In addition to her teaching, Lemon is also a mentor/sponsor for HSTA (Health Sciences and Technology Academy). She has been involved with the HSTA program for 19 years.

BCHS Principal Jessica Pierson expressed her appreciation of Jill Lemon's work. "To say that I am proud of Ms. Lemon for being named Braxton County Teacher of the Year would be an understatement."

Ms. Lemon is a fabulous teacher and is a heartbeat at BCHS," she said. "She teaches at a rigorous level and has her student's best interest at heart. Ms. Lemon is well deserving of this honor, and I am proud to have her as one of my teachers at BCHS."