

Board of Education Lifts Mask Mandate; Begins Search for New Superintendent

The Braxton County Board of Education conducted their most recent meeting on Tuesday, March 1. Board member Evelyn Post acted as chair of the meeting as Board President DeAnna Whipkey and board member Dolores Wright were only available through TEAMS and not at the meeting in person. Two major topics highlighted the meeting. The Board has lifted the mask mandate for students and teachers. Superintendent Kathy Hypes announced that she would not be requesting a contract extension resulting in the Board beginning a search for her replacement.

The meeting opened with one parent, Mindy Mussano, asking the board to remove the universal mask mandate. Evelyn Post moved the discussion of covid updates up on the agenda to allow for her concerns to be addressed.

Superintendent Kathy Hypes spoke briefly on the recent changes in the guidelines release by the WVDE and the state health department. Face coverings are at the county board discretion and the new guidance does not mention universal masking. She also discussed the changes released by CDC relaxing masks indoors and on school buses.

The three school nurses, Morgan Dennison, Courtenay Smith, and Stephanie Moore all reported the number of positive covid cases has dropped significantly in the last month in all of the schools. Stephanie Moore also provided board members an update of the number of students vaccinated based on the WV DHHR website. On a motion by Dr. Kenna Seal with a second by DeAnna Whipkey, the board ap-

proved to allow masks optional effective immediately and to continue with mitigating efforts including positive students and staff to wear mask if they return for the six to ten day time frame as required by the CDC.

At the end of meeting Superintendent Kathy Hypes read a letter stating her decision to not seek renewal of her contract which ends on June 30, 2022. She thanked the county and the school system for her time serving as superintendent the past three years. In the letter, she spoke highly of the students and staff especially during the pandemic. Superintendent Hypes stated she wanted to give the board adequate time to hire her replacement.

Flatwoods and Sutton Elementary delivered their LSIC presentation to board members. Again academics and at-

tendance were discussed at both schools. Family engagement, school climate, and school safety were also address by the schools. Both schools show improvement in iReady benchmark testing since the beginning of the school year. The schools discussed the mission statements and programs they have in place for improving scores, attendance, and the school climate, and increasing family engagement.

Superintendent Hypes discussed the new WV Grow Your Own program. The program was developed by the state to address the issue of teacher shortage to encourage current students to become teachers and return to their home counties to teach. Currently 18 counties are participating in the program including Braxton. High school students will complete 30 hours of coursework

during their junior and senior years which will give them college credit towards their BA degree in education. After two years of coursework on campus, the participants come back to their home county as "clinical teacher of record" for their third year of college. Once that is completed, the students will then graduate with their BA and have their teacher certification. This program allows for large cost savings for the students. Superintendent Hypes noted she had an upcoming meeting on March 14 to discuss options including high schools partnering with more than one college for the program.

Under regular business, the board approved the following consent agenda items: approval of February 15 meeting minutes; transportation requests; payment of bills; budget transfers and sup-

plements; and treasurer's report.

The following professional, service and extra-curricular recommendations were approved by the board: employment of 2022 summer teachers for K-12 core instruction, enrichment/activity, and credit recovery as needed, contingent on number of students-Laura Allen, Heather Arnold, Rebecca DeNuzzo, Trisha Gregory, Lindsay Harman, Faith Harper, Kathryn Singleton, Erica Toler, Kelsie Tonkin, Dawn Ward, Sue Ann White, Tina Knight, Jennifer Miller, Alice Smith, Ethan Backus, Melinda Devilleneuve, Anita Lambert, Joshua Porto, Shawn Crow, Sharon Desper, Jami Hefner, Susan Kearns, Patricia Gillespie, and Marinda Locke; Cory Stout, substitute teacher, Lori Ferrel, instructional tutor, Little Birch, Johnna

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Braxton Students Graduate from Glenville University

Seven Braxton County students have received their degrees from Glenville State College, now Glenville State University, as members of the Winter 2021 graduating class.

Richard "Jack" Boyce of Sutton graduated with an Associate in Arts degree in General Studies as a part of Glenville State's Milestone Initiative.

Kourtney Davis of Sutton graduated with an Associate in Arts degree in General Studies as part of Glenville State's Milestone Initiative.

Cody Dobbins of Gassaway graduated with an Associate in Arts degree in General Studies as part of Glenville State's Milestone Initiative.

Raven Friend of Exchange graduated Summa Cum Laude with an Associate in Arts degree in General Studies as part of Glenville State's Milestone Initiative.

Daniel Hoard of Gassaway graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource Management with a major in Forest Technology.

Jessica Smarr of Sutton graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Education degree in Early Education (PreK-K), Elementary Education (K-6), and Multi-categorical Special Education (K-6).

Andrea Vidal of Sutton

graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Behavioral Science and a minor in Behavior Disorders.

The Milestone Initiative at Glenville State signifies the important academic accomplishment of students who are working toward a bachelor's degree.

Founded in 1872, Glenville State University is a public liberal arts university located in Glenville, West Virginia. The institution offers a variety of traditional and online degree programs and several NCAA Division II athletic teams. GSU is celebrating 150 years in 2022.

Local residents receive Academic Honors at WV Wesleyan College

West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon has recognized their honor students for the Spring semester which ended December 2021. The private institution offers undergraduates degrees in 33 fields of study complemented by five graduate programs. The school has a total enrollment of around 1,400 students from 35 US states and 26 foreign countries.

To obtains the Presidents List students must earn a 4.0 for the semester while completing at least 12 semester hours with no incomplete grades. Those who average 3.5 GPA or above for the semester while carrying at least 12 hours are named to the

prestigious Dean's List.

Several local students have obtained Wesleyan's highest academic honors. They include Presidents List - Kelly Houghton of Sutton, Maria Hughart Birch River and Anna Swearingen of

Frametown.

Those earning a spot on the prestigious Dean's List are Kylie Carter of Duck, Madison Groves of Frametown, Kirsten Hamrick Sutton, Zane Hissam French Creek and Emily Keesucker of Sutton.

Free Tire Collection Event Set for March 12

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection will host a tire collection on March 12 in Gassaway. Tires will be collection from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Kenton Meadows Warehouse, just across the bridge over Elk River on Little Buffalo Road.

The following criteria

BCMS Finish Third in CWVAC Tournament, Several Knights Receive Conference Honors



Owen Lowther, Brady Toler, and Jamie Nettles received honors at the CWVAC Tournament.



Cadence Ramsey and Sophia Cool were named to the All-Conference Cheer Squad.

With two wins and one loss, the BCMS Knights finished third in the conference tournament last week. In their first game, their play-in game, the Knights won 40-35 over South Harrison in what Braxton coach Randall Brown called "a fantastic game played by both teams."

Three individual basketball players and two cheerleaders received Conference honors at the awards ceremony at the end of the event. Jamie Nettles was named to the All-Tournament Team. Brady Toler and Owen Lowther received All Conference honors. Candance Ramsey and Sophia Cool were named to the All-Conference Cheer Squad.

He reported that South Harrison led from the opening tip, but, he added, "BCMS continued the game plan we designed and were able to take control using our defense. The Knights managed to hit some long shots near the end of the game to



BCMS Knights placed in third at the CWVAC Tournament.

take and hold the lead. Brady Toler paced his team with 15 points.

In the semifinal game, George Washington (Putnam County) outscored Braxton 40-32. in that game the Knights took an early lead as they came out running. They held that lead through the first half. However, Coach Brown said, "[Braxton] just imploded." He explained, "Numerous turnovers led to GW points. We were also out-rebounded the whole night,

and little mistakes cost us the game." Leading the Knights scoring in that game was Owen Lowther with 10 points.

A 57-27 victory over Ravenswood gave Braxton third place in the CWVAC. Jamie Nettles put in 20 points to pace the Knights, and Stevie Boggs added 10. Coach Brown explained that Ravenswood gave his team "a great first half." The Knights had a short lead at halftime. "Then," Coach Brown said, "our athleti-

cism took over. We were able to cause numerous turnovers that we turned into points."

The Braxton coach concluded by saying, "The last game for the eighth graders was bittersweet, but I'm glad we were able to pull off a victory."

See Page 8 of this edition for additional photographic coverage.

Legislative Update

By Delegate Brent Boggs

Last Friday, February 25 marked the forty-fifth day of the 2022 Legislative session. To date, 2,205 bills have been introduced; the House has introduced 1,480 bills; in the Senate, 725 bills have been introduced. 160 bills have passed the Senate; 143 bills have passed the House. Thirty-two bills have passed both houses. The Governor has signed 19 bills.

While this column is a legislative update, I think it fitting and proper to mention the heroism of the brave Ukrainian people and their military personnel as they defend their democracy against the war waged on them by Russian criminal leaders and aggressors. The Ukraine struggle should be a stark reminder to all who love freedom and democracy as to how another evil and deceptive leader began his sinister plans in 1939 with an invasion, setting the stage for WW II in Europe. The last several years of pretending Putin is our friend and that Russia can be trusted has proven foolish and dangerous.

Last Tuesday and Wednesday were important days for central West Virginia and for higher education in our State. The House passed HB 4264, changing the designation of Glenville State College to Glenville State University. Not only did we pass the bill in the House last Tuesday; the House immediately transmitted the bill to the Senate where they suspended the rules and passed the bill moments later. Hundreds of Glenville State faculty, students, staff, community and county and community leaders, joined President Mark Manchin, the GSC Board of Governors for citations on the House and

Senate floor and in the galleries to witness the legislative action.

By the end of the day, the completed bill had been enrolled and ready for the Governor to act. Thank you, House Speaker Hanshaw and Senate President Blair for coordinating and prioritizing this legislation. Then, last Wednesday morning, a small group of House and Senate members, along with GSU President Mark Manchin and some of his senior administrative staff, met for a bill signing ceremony in the Governor's office, making the legislative and executive action complete. GSC is now officially GSU. I'm proud to have a pen and signed copy of the bill to commemorate the event. As the bill's sponsor, I want to thank my friend, colleague, and fellow Gilmer Co. delegate, Speaker Roger Hanshaw, along with Delegates Steve Westfall, Dave Pethtel, Ed Evans, Ben Queen, John Kelly, and Laura Kimble. The bill passed both the House and Senate unanimously.

This action is more than merely a name change. It designates that Glenville State University has met the rigorous standards and requirements outlined and approved by the WV Higher Education Policy Commission and accreditation bodies that are necessary to attain university status. With the new Registered Nursing program beginning this fall; the ability to begin offering master's degree programs in some programs with more to come; with a renewed focus on teacher education; and working to improve on-campus, off-campus, and non-traditional student access, GSU is positioned to continue to meet the ever-evolving

higher education needs of central West Virginia and well beyond.

Chances are that the vast majority of the readers of this column are former students of teachers, educators and administrators that earned their undergraduate degree at Glenville State. Moreover, with an institution that has the highest per capita rate of its graduates choosing to remain in West Virginia in pursuit of their careers and fields of study, this positive impact will continue to expand. University status is a noteworthy accomplishment, made even more special by coinciding with the 150th anniversary of this esteemed institution of learning. Congratulations Glenville State University!

Happy birthday wishes to my wife, Jean, as we celebrated her birthday last week. Appropriate to this week's column, we met on the campus of Glenville State in 1975. I've said it on many occasions over the years... no one can effectively perform public service unless their spouse is engaged and supportive. I have been richly blessed with her unwavering support, active participation and her love of our family, friends and neighbors in Braxton, Gilmer and around the state.

Now that the session is underway, please contact me at the Capitol office at: Building 1, Room 258-M, 1900 Kanawha Blvd., East, Charleston, WV 25305. The phone number is 304-340-3142. For those with Internet access, my legislative email address is: Brent.Boggs@WVHouse.gov

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

WVU Medicine Healthy Minds offers programs at Burnsville Public Library

WVU Medicine Healthy Minds - Clarksburg is offering a free community support and outreach event on March 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the Burnsville Public Library. The first event was held on March 1st.

Programs will be offered onsite or virtually.

Evidence based pro-

grams for youth, young adults and family will include: resources, referrals, substance use and/or co-occurring mental health, nurturing parenting, FEP, strengthening families and peer support.

Healthy Minds University (HMU) is a collaborative partnership with Carruth Center for Psychological Services (CCPPS) to ex-

tend student mental health services to those who would benefit from longitudinal continuity of care.

Healthy Minds University does not replace the services that Carruth Center for Psychological Services offers, but instead supplements and serves as an additional entry point into the system to ensure access is met.

Mountaineer Food Bank loves their volunteers

If you have some time and enjoy helping others, consider volunteering with the Mountaineer Food Bank.

Volunteer opportuni-

ties are available at our Gassaway and Sutton locations, as well as our Weston, and Charleston warehouses.

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 sani-

Board...

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Cable, instructional tutor, Davis, Emily Oates, substitute aide, Robert Mitchell, bus operator, Robert Lloyd, head track coach, BCHS, Lee Given, \$1 assistant softball coach, BCMS, and Cody Dobbins, \$1 assistant baseball coach, BCHS; leave of absence for Patrick Face-mire; and resignations for Katrina Dennison, fifth grade teacher, Frametown and Nathan Smarr, athletic director, BCHS.

The board also approved the following items on separate motions: fundraisers; parent volunteers for Davis-Karla Conrad, Daisy Thomas, and Leo Thomas; parent volunteers for Little Birch-Beth Snodgrass, Amy Jamison, Donna Harper, and Jerry Rose; permission to post ESY (Extended School Year-Special Education) teacher; and permission to post two part-time positions funded through Step 21 Project: Division of Rehabilitation Service-Transition Program Coordinator and Extended Day Transition Program Specialist.

Superintendent Hypes reviewed the first reading of the new Braxton County Board of Education Policy 3125: Extra-Duty Assignments-Service Personnel. Currently no policy is in place that outlines what is considered extra-duty or extra-curricular and the pay rates for each. The new policy used input from the county's service personnel and is based on WV Code.

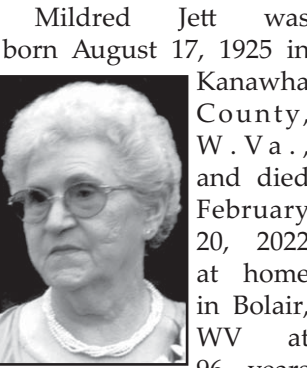
The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 15 at 6:00 pm. As always, members of the Braxton County community are encouraged to attend regular board meetings. Any parent or concerned community member wishing to speak as a delegate or with public concerns may do so by signing in up to 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

Healthy Minds University is designed to provide outpatient psychiatric treatment for students at WVU as well as therapy services for those who require longer term continuity than CCPPS is crafted to provide.

For more information contact Darcie Scott, Supervisor, Clinical Grants at Darcie.scott@wvumedicine.

Obituaries

Mildred Jett



Mildred Jett was born August 17, 1925 in Kanawha County, W. Va., and died February 20, 2022 at home in Bolair, WV at 96 years of age. She was known to be outspoken in her opinions and beliefs and was a proud supporter of the Democratic Party. She was a miner's wife, a mother of three, grandmother of six, and great grandmother of four. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ivan Jett, her mother, Eva Shaffer, and her father, David Gillie. She had been a resident of Webster County for 75 years. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Bolair since 1958.

Mildred is survived by her children, Susan Pflug, Beverly Harris, and Michael Jett. Her grandchildren include Jana Moore, Brian Harris, Keith Harris, Jason Pflug, Abby Meek, and Cayley Jett. Her great-grandchildren are Emeline McCaleb, Isabelle Pflug, Alexandra Pflug, and Henry Pflug. Mildred had four siblings, two of whom survive her: Norma Kessler and Ellen Samples.

Mildred loved gardening, reading, and cats, especially Baby, a tail-less cat who survives her. She took great pleasure in learning she was a descendent of King Henry VIII when her granddaughter, Jana, traced her family tree.

Her ashes will be interred next to her husband, Ivan, at the West Virginia Memorial Gardens in Calvin, WV.

There will be a private burial and family service in the spring because Mildred stated, "I don't want to be buried in the cold." Memorial donations may be made to Samaritan's Purse Care for Mothers and Babies Program, <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/donation-items/prenatal-and-maternity-care> OR to your local animal shelter.

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

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

Gary Wayne Ratliff

Gary Wayne Ratliff, 63, of Ireland, passed away



on February 22, 2022 at J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown.

Gary was born in Sutton on March 2, 1958, a son of the late Samuel Wade and Mary Arminta Allen Ratliff. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, Alan Wade Ratliff.

He is survived by one daughter, Chrystal Skinner and companion, Ronald Pearson, of Jane Lew; two grandchildren: Adrian Skinner and Sydney Pearson; five siblings: Polly Teter of Pigeon Roost, Dorothy Mae Voshell and husband, Jack, of Dover, DE, Charlotte Ann Marple and husband, Junior, of Ireland, Connie Bailey and husband, Jim, of Weston, and Jerry Ratliff and wife, Carmen, of Ireland; special friends: Heather Nuzum and Billy Helmick; and special K-9

friend, Patches.

Gary was a graduate of Braxton County High School, Class of 1976. He was a Jack-of-all-trades. Gary was employed with Robert Tomblyn & Sons Funeral Chapel, Alkire Funeral Home, and Village Hardware for over 20 years. He also worked at Louie Glass Factory and Upshur Monument Company. Gary was a Christian by faith. He was a member of Stonecoal Fishing Club because of his love for fishing and hunting. Gary's other hobbies included tinkering on small engines, taking his grandchildren on four-wheeler rides, and reading westerns.

Family and friends gathered for Visitation at Clutter Funeral Home - Alkire Chapel located at 190 Wildcat Rd. in Ireland from 1-2 p.m. on Sunday, February 27, 2022. Funeral Services began at 2 p.m. in the Alkire Funeral Chapel with Pastor Jeff Ramsey officiating. Interment followed at Little Kanawha Memorial Gardens in Heaters, WV.

We, at Clutter Funeral and Cremation - Alkire Chapel, are honored and privileged to serve the family of Gary Wayne Ratliff. Online condolences may be expressed at www.ClutterFuneral-Home.com.

Carol Estep-Blake

Carol Estep-Blake, age 73, was called home by the



Heavenly Father to her celestial home on Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

She lived a dedicated Christian life and gave unselfishly to all.

Carol was the daughter of Walter and Rose Burdette Anderson. Carol was born December 8, 1948 on Bufflick, near Clendenin in Kanawha County. Carol was one of four Anderson children. All of her siblings survive her: Richard, Erma and Betty.

Her husband of 24 years, Frank Blake, maintains their home near Gassaway, Braxton County.

Carol is survived by her beloved three sons. They are James, Jr., and wife Melissa of Morgantown, Douglas and wife Michele of Fairmont and Walter and wife Ruth of Frametown.

Carol had seven grandchildren: Adam, Catie, Jacob, Christopher, Caylin, Ethan and Emma and three great grandchildren: Cooper, Adaline and Christian James.

Carol and her sons enjoyed a close relationship throughout their lives and her sons are incredibly proud of their mother and feel blessed that God made her their mother.

Carol's love for her sons was only rivaled by the love she had for her grandchildren. They brought her great joy and she spent time with them whenever possible.

Carol received enormous joy spending time with her great grandchildren. They in turn loved her deeply clamoring at the door of her every visit. Although short, the time she spent with them had an impact that will last forever.

Carol was a longtime member of the First Southern Baptist Church, Sutton, located on the hill above the Braxton County

Please turn to **OBITS**

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OBITUARIES

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Senior Citizen Center. She served on several committees and was a prominent provider of the church's hospitality.

Carol's family was forced to move from Buffleck in Kanawha County in 1974. Highway officials bought their farm for right-of-way for Interstate 79. They purchased a farm in Frametown and lived beside the Frametown Volunteer Fire Department.

Carol committed her life to taking care of her father and mother in their later years. Her dedication to them was an incredible tribute to the love of a daughter for her parents. For a short time, her mother was a resident of the Braxton Health Care Center. Carol visited daily even during the Covid lockdown visiting by cell phone, talking through the window regardless of the weather.

There will be a life celebration 1:30 to 3:30 P.M. Saturday, March 5, 2022 at First Southern Baptist Church, Sutton with Pastor Shane Boggs officiating.

Inurnment will be in the Beall's Mill Cemetery, Gassaway, beside her first husband, James Estep, Sr.

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

Arrangements by Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway.

William Lloyd Jackson

William Lloyd Jackson, 83, of Flatwoods, passed away from this life and had his long awaited reunion with his daughter, Deborah on January 28, 2022

He was born in Sutton at home on January 6, 1939 to the late Loyd L. and Mary Belle Leeson Jackson.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his daughter, Deborah Ann Jackson; siblings; Jeanette Keith, Emery Frame, Janice Taylor, Katie Paschal, Leon Jackson, Kenneth Jackson, Ialene McNeal, Aldine Stewart, and Jack Frame.

In William's life he drove an 18 wheeler truck and was an equipment supervisor for the state of WV. His true passion was being around his grandchildren. He so enjoyed being father, grandfather and great grandfather. He also liked to be outdoors riding his four wheeler. William was the last remaining sibling in his family.

He is survived by his daughter, Kimberley Pierson and husband, Cliff, of Sutton; grandchildren, Jessica Pierson, Allen Pierson and wife, Kayln, Phillip Pierson and wife, April, and Kyle Pierson and wife, Traci. He is also survived by his six great grandchildren, Taylor, Judah, Willow, Ellie, Paisley, and Jackson.

In keeping with William's wishes he was cremated and no services will be held.

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

Arrangements by Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway, WV.

Vickie L. Smallwood

Vickie L. Smallwood, 72, of Gassaway went to be with the Lord on Sunday, February 20, 2022.

She was born



October 10, 1949 in Washington, DC to the late William Wesley Shirley and Gertrude Garland Hall Shirley.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her loving husband, David Smallwood.

Vickie is survived by her five children, Patricia Talbert, Barbie Lantz and Mary Stevens, and two sons; three siblings, Rodney Shirley and family, Glendora and family and Thelma Gayle and family. She leaves behind numerous grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Vickie loved to fish, play board games, and watch movies. She will be missed by all. Love you Mom.

Funeral service was 12 Noon Saturday, February 26, 2022 at Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway, WV.

Interment was in the Dunn Cemetery, Canfield.

Visitation was one hour prior to service at the funeral home.

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

Ronny Dale Long

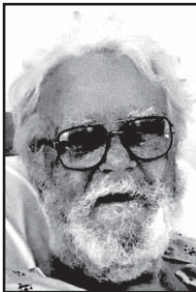
On February 24, 2022, at 4:17 AM, God sent a beautiful horse to take Ronny Dale Long, age 60, to his heavenly home. There to meet him with open arms was his mother, Joann "Josie" Linville Long; infant sister, Peggy Ann Long; brother & best friend, Ricky Lee Long; grandparents Dewey & Laura Jackson Long and Edgar & Marie Hayes Linville; Aunts & Uncles: Melvin Linville, Lessie & wife Gracie Jackson Long, Dana & wife Arzee McCloy Long, Billie Sue Long Hamil & husband Joseph, Virginia Mullins Long, Billie Jackson, and Carl Linville & wife Dora.

Ronny was born May 14, 1961, in Sutton, WV, the son of Donny Lee Long of Windy Run & the late Joann "Josie" Linville Long. He was a 1980 graduate of Braxton County High School. Ronny will be loved and forever missed by his father, uncles & aunts: Thelma Long Jackson, James Long, Nancy Long Linville, and Golden Long, many loving cousins, the family of the late Orville & Betty Jenkins, the Carder family, and his many friends from the horse show over the past forty-plus years, where he was a faithful volunteer.

Ronny loved to hunt, ride horses and ride four-wheelers. He made canes, benches, and anything made from wood. He loved making wooden animals to give away.

Ronny was so loving and kind. His smile and laugh could melt your heart. He never met a stranger. He would do anything to help anyone. Just a hand shake, pat on the back, or a thank you was payment enough.

Family and friends were received on Sunday, February 27, 2022, at 2 PM for a graveside service with the Reverend Lynn



Schiefer officiating at the Tesla Cemetery on Tesla Run Road.

The Greene-Robinson Funeral Home in Sutton, WV feels privileged to support and assist the Long family in honoring Ronny Dale Long. Words of comfort and fond memories can be shared with the family on the funeral home website greene-robertsonfuneralhome.com

Crystal Rose Lennox

Crystal Rose Lennox, loving wife, superior mother and grandmother, passed on to become another angel in our heavens at only 44 years old.

Crystal met her husband while working road construction upon working together 24/7 for over twenty years. She then went on to get a supervisor position at the FBI Academy located in Quantico.

Survivors include the love of her life and soul-mate who will always be her life partner, Mark with a little intervention of her dachshund, Bogus; Father Harry Dean; Mother Ruth Dean; Brother Emery Dean; Sister Michelle Johnson; Son Harry; Daughter Tamara; Step-Daughter Shelby; and multiple grandchildren.

The family received friends from 5 to 7 P.M. on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at Covenant Funeral Services, Fredericksburg. A service was held at 1 P.M. on Friday, January 14, 2022 at the funeral home.

Interment followed in Sunset Memorial Gardens.

Helen Louise (Steele) Mathes

Helen Louise (Steele) Mathes, 91, of Cowen, passed away peacefully on Sunday, February 20, 2022 at West Virginia University Extended Care in Summersville.

Born June 7, 1930 in Bolair, she was the daughter of the late Arretus and Mintie (Handschumacher) Steele. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Irven Mathes; daughter and son-in-law, Debbie (Darrell) O'Brien; infant daughter, Linda Louise Cogar; grandson, David Dwayne Brown; son-in-law, Bill Jarvis; sisters: Margaret, JoAnn, Mary, and Virginia; and her brother, Alva.

Helen enjoyed quilting and crocheting. She was an excellent cook, and hosted Sunday dinner every week for the entire family. She was a member of the Rebekah Lodge #161 in Cowen, and held many positions in the organization throughout her tenure there.

Left to cherish her memory are her children: Cindy (Nathan) Barbe of Summersville, Susan Jarvis of Cowen, and Charlotte (David) Brown of Camden-on-Gauley ; grandchildren: Shalimar O'Brien, Travis Miller, Stacey (Josh) Williams, Angela (Gary) Powers, Pam (Kenneth) Martin, and Ronnie Jarvis; sister, Brenda Pritchard of OH; numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends to mourn her passing.



Thursday, March 3, 2022, The Braxton Democrat-Central — 3

Services will be held 2PM, Friday, February 25, 2022 at Adams-Reed Funeral Home, Cowen, with Pastor Jim Varney officiating. Burial will follow at Odd Fellows Cemetery, Cowen. Friends may join the family for visitation from 12PM-1PM.

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

Adams-Reed Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Mathes family.

Shelva Jean Perkins

Shelva Jean Perkins, 81 of Diana passed away Saturday, February 19, 2022. Shelva was born April 7, 1940 on Fisher Run and was the daughter of the late Stowie Russell and Lula Baker Fisher. Along with her parents she was also preceded in death by her husband Romeo Perkins and also several brothers and sisters.

Shelva was a born again Christian. She enjoyed tending to her flowers, watching the birds, loved her dog and cats and spending time with her family.

Surviving are her two boys; Alan Perkins and his wife Anita, Ivan Perkins; brother, Arnold Fisher; sister, Belva Carpenter; grandchildren, Matthew Perkins, Brandon Perkins and his wife Jessica and a great granddaughter Aubrey Young.

Service was 11:00 AM, Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at Dodd & Reed Funeral Home with Pastor Larry Cochran officiating. Burial followed at Perkins Family Cemetery, Diana. Friends joined the family for visitation 6PM-9PM Monday evening at the funeral home.

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

Dodd & Reed Funeral Home, Webster Springs is honored to be serving the Perkins family.

David Aaron White

David Aaron White, 73 of Richwood passed away on Sunday, February 13, 2022. He was born May 1, 1948 in Charleston to the late Harry Wilbur White and Maggie Ellen Jones White Selman. Along with his parents he was also preceded in death by a brother Gaylord White.

David enjoyed music, especially playing the guitar, and his dog, Digger.

He is survived by his son David Eric White; daughter Bobbie White; brother Kenneth "Butch" Paul White; sister Kathie (Virgle) Lane; six grandchildren; and several other extended family and friends to mourn his passing.

In keeping with David's wishes, no services will be held at this time and cremation has taken place.

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

Adams-Reed Funeral Home is honored to be serving the White family.



Blue Jays visiting the back yard of Jeanette Riffle 's seed feeders last Fall.

What Happened To The Jays?

We had one blue jay at our backyard seed feeders last fall but it didn't hang around for long. We haven't seen any since. They are beautiful birds but are known as "bullies." I've seen them try to run birds away from the feeders. When we lived in a suburb outside of Dearborn, Michigan, we heard a loud squawking sound of birds one morning and we ran to the kitchen window to see what was going on in the backyard. Several blue jays were chasing a big yellow cat and did a dive bomb at it. They were mad at it for something. It "flew the cat hole" as the saying goes. It ran and disappeared. We think it probably went under our house.

We have one male cardinal and two females coming every day now. A tree climber woodpecker likes to land on the pole and makes it's way up to one of the feeders, that hang from the cross bar. The red wing black birds are coming back, and we finally saw some robins. There was a whole flock of them out front in the field one day. We had a couple warm days and the earth worms were coming to the surface. Robins were pulling them up out of the ground. Robins aren't interested in seed feeders.

It's a good thing that goldfinches are small and not bullies because at times there are about 50 of them on the ground where doves kick the seeds off feeder trays. Doves are big and would rather eat down on the ground. We have squirrels eating on the ground, too. They get along pretty good with the birds. Hubby put up some shiny flashing about half way up the pole to keep squirrels from going up on the feeders. He gets a kick out of watching a squirrel trying to climb that stuff.

We had a lot of rain this past week and the creek out back was up, muddy, and rolling on, but it didn't come out of it's banks. Trees started uprooting on muddy banks and falling on power lines, though. Our whole house generator kicked on in the wee hours of the morn and woke us up one day. We knew what was wrong. Mon Power was out in no time and stayed right with it. Our power wasn't off too long until it was restored. Then we lost it again with more lines down. We took a drive over in Braxton Co. Saturday and saw where the trouble was. It looked like 4 new poles had been set up. Trees had fallen on electric lines bringing them and the polls down, too. Those Mon Power guys really had their hands full. Until next time, may the Good Lord bless and keep you in his care.

Norman and Rosalie Nottingham will celebrate their 70th Anniversary on March 7th.

Norman and Rosalie Nottingham celebrate 70th Wedding Anniversary

Norman and Rosalie Nottingham are celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary!

They were married on March 7th, 1952 at the home of Rosalie's parents in Serbia, and they are currently retired from Nottingham's Store in Duck.

They are the parents of two daughters—Lois Milane (Rocco) of Craigs-ville and Brenda Wright (Charles) of New Martinsville.

They are called Papaw and Mamaw by four grandchildren—Erica

Craft (Cory) of Uniontown, PA, Alex Milanese (Alicia) of Craigs-ville, Jared Wright (Katie) of New Martinsville, and Jennifer Piekarski (Eric) of Paden City.

They are proud to be great-grandparents to Anthony, Oakley, Aubrey, Meadow, and Joey. If anyone would like to drop them a note of congratulations, please address it to 1053 Clinic Dr., Ivydale, WV 25113.

Happy 70th anniversary Mom and Dad—we love you!





LEGAL NOTICES

Braxton Democrat-Central, Page 5
March 3, 2022



NOTICE

Continued from page 4

the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$1,283.57
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$215.65
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$1,766.23
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2 2-17 3-3b

NOTICE TO REDEEM

2020-S-00000069 - Braxton County – WVVI LLC
To: COASTAL COAL-WEST VIRGINIA LLC, COASTAL COAL-WEST VIRGINIA LLC, COASTAL COAL-WEST VIRGINIA LLC, GREEN FLORA HRS, OCCUPANT, OCCUPANT, OCCUPANT, IRS, ATTN: TECHNICAL SERVICES ADVISORY GROUP MANAGER, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all unknown heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT HOLLY
MAP 9S PARCEL 0045 000033003
You will take notice that, the purchaser of tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000069, 120/960 71.8AC LITTLE BIRCH, located in HOLLY, which was returned delinquent in the name of COASTAL COAL-WEST VIRGINIA LLC, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Braxton County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of October, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.-\$195.58
Amount of subsequent years taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.-\$96.21
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021 following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$1,298.82
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$258.78
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$1,849.39
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2 2-17 3-3b

NOTICE TO REDEEM

2020-S-00000120 - Braxton County – ROBERT B BOURN
To: MARLENE G PRICE C/O KAREN PIERCE, JOHN AKERS, DOROTHY ELLEN AKERS, ALLEN W PRICE, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all unknown heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT BIRCH
MAP 6T PARCEL 0012 000033002
You will take notice that ROBERT B BOURN, the purchaser of tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-000000120, WOLF PEN 1/3 OF 90AC, located in BIRCH, which was returned delinquent in the name of PRICE MARLENE G, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Braxton County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of October, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate

will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.-\$435.31
Amount of subsequent years taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.-\$322.07
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021 following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$425.13
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$242.52
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$1,425.03
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2 2-17 3-3b

NOTICE TO REDEEM

2020-S-00000002 - Braxton County – SAM SKIDMORE
To: LUBE EQUIPMENT INC, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS LLC, CLEVELAND BROTHERS EQUIPMENT CO. INC., ANDERSON EQUIPMENT CO., STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, CORPORATE BILLING INC, RYAN MARSTELLA CROWN HILL EQUIPMENT, RUDD EQUIPMENT CO INC, RISH EQUIPMENT CO, BROOKS RUN MINING CO LLC, COASTAL COAL-WEST VIRGINIA LLC, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all unknown heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT HOLLY
MAP 10QPARCEL 0021 0000
You will take notice that SAM SKIDMORE, the purchaser of tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000002, WOLF CREEK 59.28 AC 1748, located in HOLLY, which was returned delinquent in the name of COASTAL COAL-WEST VIRGINIA LLC, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Braxton County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of October, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.-\$1,162.00
Amount of subsequent years taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.-\$994.94
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021 following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$989.75
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$301.91
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$3,344.60
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2-10 2-24b

NOTICE TO REDEEM

2020-S-00000008 - Braxton County – RICHARD D MITCHELL
To: FLOSSIE HARRIS, JAMES SKIDMORE, ICIE SKIDMORE, JAMES SKIDMORE, ICIE SKIDMORE, PATRICIA PERRY DICKERSON, KATHLEEN MCCULLOUGH, RICKY SKIDMORE, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all unknown heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest

in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT OTTER
MAP 5K PARCEL 0012 0000
You will take notice that RICHARD MITCHELL, the purchaser of tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000008, OBRIEN 33.25 AC, located in OTTER, which was returned delinquent in the name of SKIDMORE JAMES & ICIE, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Braxton County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of October, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.-\$366.34
Amount of subsequent years taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.-\$256.05
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021 following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$466.16
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$301.91
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$1,390.46
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2-10 2-24b

NOTICE TO REDEEM

2020-S-00000018 - Braxton County – TLC DEVELOPMENT
To: MICHAEL G KANTOS, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all unknown heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT SALT LICK
MAP 9C PARCEL 0017 0000
You will take notice that TLC DEVELOPMENT, the purchaser of tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000018, 22.29AC LITTLE KANAWHA, located in SALT LICK, which was returned delinquent in the name of KANTOS MICHAEL G, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Braxton County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of October, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.-\$283.34
Amount of subsequent years taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.-\$179.02
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021 following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$743.24
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$43.13
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$1,248.73
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2-10 2-24b

NOTICE TO REDEEM

2020-S-00000031 - Braxton County – ELEMENTAL RESOURCES LLC
To: M.B HINKLE, L.E. HINKLE, LUELLA E HINKLE, LOE E HINKLE, LIEWELLA E HINKLE, LUELLA M HINKLE, AUDRIA

MARDELL MCQUAIN, PEARL BALLARD HINKLE, PEARL RETA HINKLE, MORTIE J HINKLE, MICKEY D MCQUAIN, BYRON J MCQUAIN, JOHNNY M MCQUAIN, MICKEY DELL MCQUAIN, BYRON J MCQUAIN, JOHNNY MCQUAIN, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all unknown heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT HOLLY
MAP 9999 PARCEL 0600 0003
You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES LLC, the purchaser of tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000031, 83.27AC O&G FLATWOODS RUN, located in HOLLY, which was returned delinquent in the name of HINKLE M B HRS, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Braxton County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of October, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.-\$113.38
Amount of subsequent years taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.-\$18.09
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021 following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$1,003.73
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$289.39
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$1,424.59
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2-10 2-24b

NOTICE TO REDEEM

2020-S-00000032 - Braxton County – ELEMENTAL RESOURCES LLC
To: HELEN S. HOLCOMB, HELEN FRANCIS HOLCOMB, JERRY A HOLCOMB, WILLIAM LORY HOLCOMB, JOHN OTTO HOLCOMB, SUE HOLCOMB, DOROTHY HOLCOMB, BEULAH SKIDMORE SECREST, JERRY A HOLCOMB, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all unknown heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT HOLLY
MAP 9999 PARCEL 0600 0120
You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES LLC, the purchaser of tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000032, 1/7 OF 110AC O&G WOLF, located in HOLLY, which was returned delinquent in the name of HOLCOMB HELEN S, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Braxton County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of October, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay

on the last day, March 31, 2022 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.-\$97.37
Amount of subsequent years taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.-\$3.43
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021 following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$968.53
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$113.13
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$1,182.46
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2-10 2-24b

NOTICE TO REDEEM

2020-S-00000121 - Braxton County – ROBERT B BOURN
To: MARLENE G PRICE C/O KAREN PIERCE, JOHN AKERS, DOROTHY ELLEN AKERS, ALLEN W PRICE, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all unknown heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT BIRCH
MAP 6T PARCEL 0017 0000
You will take notice that ROBERT B BOURN, the purchaser of tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000121, WOLF PEN 1/3 OF 9AC, located in BIRCH, which was returned delinquent in the name of PRICE MARLENE G, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Braxton County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of October, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.-\$120.87
Amount of subsequent years taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.-\$25.67
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021 following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$425.13
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$242.52
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$814.19
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2-10 2-24b

NOTICE TO REDEEM

2020-S-00000122 - Braxton County – ROBERT B BOURN
To: BROOKS RUN MINING COMPANY LLC, APPLIED INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES INC, ANDERSON EQUIPMENT COMPANY, RISH EQUIPMENT COMPANY C/O RYAN S MARSTELLER ESQ, RUDD EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC, M-B LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, CLEVELAND BROTHER EQUIPMENT CO INC, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS LLC C/O LEGAL DEPARTMENT, LUBE EQUIPMENT INC, CROWN HILL EQUIPMENT INC C/O RYAN MARSTELLER ESQ, STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, COMPLIANCE DIVISION, AMU RE: ACCOUNT #2213-7948, XTREME LABOR SOLUTIONS LLC, CITICORP NORTH AMERICA INC, CORPORATE BILLING INC, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all unknown heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT OTTER
MAP 8P PARCEL 0037 0000
You will take notice that ROBERT B BOURN, the purchaser of tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000122, 140AC INCL COAL BUFFALO 1745-1746, located in OTTER, which was returned delinquent in the name of COASTAL COAL-WEST VIRGINIA LLC, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Braxton County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of October, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.-\$1,220.10
Amount of subsequent years taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.-\$1,061.11
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021 following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$561.82
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.-\$903.82
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Lou Dellamea, Sheriff and Treasurer of Braxton County.-\$3,746.85
Cost of Certification of Redemption – cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.-\$35.00
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Return to:
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division,
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2-10 2-24b

NOTICE

The Braxton County Sheriff's Department is accepting bids for the purchase of two (2) 2022 Ford Explorer Police Interceptors. Please forward all bids to braxtonlaw1@gmail.com Attention Captain Scarbro. 2-17 2-24b

NOTICE

The Braxton County Commission will be accepting applications for two (2) part time Court Monitoring Security positions. Job description and applications can be picked up at the County Clerk's Office on the first floor of the Court House. Applications will be accepted until the jobs are filled. Applications can be mailed or hand delivered to the Braxton County Clerk, P.O. Box 486, 300 Main Street, Sutton, WV 26601. Marked PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL. EOE. 2-24 3-4

Braxton Manor

Exclusively designed for
the person 62 years of age
and older and person
handicapped or disabled
Rent is based on income

Equal Housing Opportunity

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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer



Immediate opening for an In-take position for a Social Services agency in Sutton. Multi-county travel required. Job Requirements: Four-year college degree preferred in a Social Work related field or education field, reliable transportation, valid WV Driver's License. Very competitive salary schedule with a full benefit package including holidays, mileage, health insurance, Vision/Dental, Sick Leave and Annual Leave, and 401-K with a 7.5 percent employer share. Experience with the geriatrics/disabled population, having a dynamic and energetic persona and the ability to also market agency programs are real pluses for the successful candidate. Computer literacy required with working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Outlook, Excel, and other operating systems as needed. Pre-employment drug screening, OIG, CIB checks as well as clearance through the WV Cares Registry required. Fax resume and cover letter to Executive Director, 304-472-4673 or e-mail to kurrence@cwvasi.org Position will remain open until filled by qualified individual. EOE/AA Employer

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Disabled Residents Only**

Rental Assistance Available

**Call: 304-765-2433
or 606-683-3100**


EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY



We also received a call this week from a local res-

A close-up photograph of a very fluffy white kitten. The kitten is sitting on a person's hand, which is visible at the bottom of the frame. The kitten has large, dark eyes and a pink nose. It is looking directly at the camera. The background is slightly out of focus, showing some wooden furniture.

We enjoyed Shirley's coffee and zucchini bread followed by Valentine chocolates and treats. We remembered the absent members by signing cards expressing hope of seeing them in March. Visiting with friends made the time go by rapidly, so everyone left feeling pleased. Our club is open to the community, so visit or join us at the Mayor's Office March 9th.

Donations accepted until April 2.

ELK THEATRE
192 Main Street Sutton WV 304 765 2519
Doors Opens 1/2 hour Before Show

TICKET PRICE \$8.00 a person
MARCH 3 - 6 2022
Special Show Thurs 6 PM
Fri & Sat 7 PM Sunday 3 PM

The BATMAN
Rated PG 13 Runs 2 Hr 55 Min

Sorry for price increase.
They raised cost to bring in films.

<https://www.facebook.com/elktheatre> www.elktheatre.com

The true treasure

By: Joseph J. Mazzella

The television this morning was hyping some new adventure movie about the hunt for a treasure ship full of gold. It reminded me of all the other movies just like it I had seen over the years. Later in the day I was at the gas station in line to pay for a filling up my car when the guy in front of me traded a handful of cash for a handful of hope in the form of Lotto tickets.

Where did this desire for treasure come from? I know I myself am guilty of it. As a boy I would walk in the woods and daydream of finding buried treasure there. Then as an adult I would fantasize about some un-

known relative leaving me a fortune or of my two self-published books miraculously becoming best sellers. Maybe we all just think that having a lot of money will solve all of our problems and make our lives easy, happy, and perfect. Of course when I see all the rich and famous people on television I can see that they aren’t that happy and that they have their own unique set of problems.

Maybe the real problem is that we are all looking for the wrong treasure. There really is a true treasure out there that will make our lives so much better and the most amazing thing of all is this treasure is absolutely free.

DHHR extends application period for Low Income Energy Assistance Program

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) has extended the application period for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) until Friday, March 18, 2022, or until funds are exhausted. The federally funded program assists eligible state residents in paying home heating bills.

Eligibility for LIEAP benefits is based on income, household size and whether the household is responsible for paying its heating bill. To qualify, households must meet all program guidelines, which includes an applicant’s annual income being at or below 60 percent of the state median income. In situations where

a heating emergency exists, applicants must contact a DHHR worker for case evaluation. The maximum allowable gross income levels for LIEAP Fiscal Year 2022 are listed below:

Household Size	Gross Monthly Income Limit
1 -	\$2,005, 2 - \$2,621,
3 -	\$3,238, 4 - \$3,855, 5 -
\$4,472, 6 -	\$5,088, 7 - \$5,204, 8 -
\$5,583, 9 -	\$6,150, 10 -
	\$6,718

For each additional person, add \$567. Households whose income exceeds the maximum amount are not eligible; however, some types of income may be excluded for LIEAP. Social Security and Veterans income will be excluded for the cur-

Flatwoods-Canoe Run PSD

The Flatwoods-Canoe Run PSD has filed with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (PSC) a tariff containing increased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing sewer service to approximately 1,252 customers at Gassaway and Sutton areas and vicinity in Braxton County, WV. The proposed increased rates and charges will become effective March 27, 2022 unless otherwise ordered by the PSC and will produce approximately \$224,412 annually in additional billings, an increase of approximately 17.98%. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will increase by approximately 17.98%. The average monthly bill will increase as follows: residential customers by approximately \$6.47; commercial customers by approximately \$32.34; public authority customers by approximately \$96.56; industrial customers by approximately \$103.03; landfill customers by approximately \$338.88; and flat rate cus-

tomers by approximately \$8.09.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the PSC in its review of this filing. Any increase in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the PSC. If a hearing is scheduled, notice will be given of the time and place of hearing.

Anyone desiring to protest or intervene should file a written protest or petition to intervene prior to March 27, 2022. If the PSC suspends the effective date, it may establish a final deadline for intervention. Failure to timely protest or intervene can affect your rights to protest any rate increases or to participate in future proceedings. All protests or requests to intervene should brief-

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. Jo-

seph 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 Larry at 304-368-9530. Region VI is and Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. If you have a hearing impairment and need assistance plea, call WV Relay 7-1-1.

This treasure is GOD’S LOVE. God loves us all so much and when we invite His Love into our hearts and lives we become rich, our days are filled with smiles, and our lives are full of joy. When we have God’s Love inside us the problems of this life lose their power over us and while our lives may not be perfect, they are happy.

The true treasure of life is already inside of you. You just need to open the chest and spend it like crazy. And the funny thing is the more you share it with others, the more of it you have within yourself. Embrace God’s Love for you then. Share it with the world. It is a treasure that does not decay or disappear. It is a treasure that lasts forever.

rent LIEAP application period.

Applications are available online at www.wv-path.org and may also be obtained at local DHHR offices, Community Action Agencies, or senior centers operated by an Area Agency on Aging.

Completed applications should be delivered or mailed to the DHHR office located in the applicant’s county of residence. A list of local offices may be found at <https://dhhr.wv.gov/bcf/Pages/MapList.aspx> or by calling 304-352-4431. Mailing the application to any other office or to a utility company may delay the receipt by DHHR and prohibit processing the application.

press release

ly state the reason for the protest or intervention. Requests to intervene must comply with the PSC’s rules on intervention. All interventions may be mailed and addressed to the Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, 201 Brooks St., Charleston, WV 25323, or may be hand-delivered. Protests may be filed on line through the PSC website (www.psc.state.wv.us) using the “Submit a Comment” link or may be mailed to the Executive Secretary at the same address as above.

A complete copy of this tariff, as well as a representative of the District to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or their agents at the District’s office at 406 Main Street, Sutton, West Virginia 26601. A copy of the tariff is also available for public inspection at the office of the Executive Secretary of the PSC at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

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.

On the other side of the mountain

By Verena Sava

As bleak as the current scenery seems to look, there are these natural treasures that infuse us with a dose of dopamine and bring us joy, giving us a good reason to be thankful. The grass is turning slightly green due to the last few days of warm temperatures that triggered photosynthesis. Snowdrops are gracing the surroundings with their white, little bells, now joined by the first crocuses and hellebores. Take the white sycamores standing out among the other dark tree trunks and branches and I have to admit, it is a beautiful world.

We are fortunate to live in a state with such stunning attraction, surrounded by forested mountains, full of unexpected gems and beauty.

I don’t always have the space to specify the information I gave the week before. I mentioned that we can cover the winter crops with several layers of material to protect them form extreme low temperatures (single digits and below zero). Coleman from Maine pointed out that there is a limit to the protection. Eventually the soil below them will turn frigid too and when ever there is a break in the weather, he recommends to remove all but the clear plastic to let the soil recuperate. Of course we are much further South, so we only might have a few days of extreme cold and as soon as the inside of the hoop house is above 32 degrees, we can lift all covers and let air in, let the soil warm up, if the sun comes out. These winter crops are fairly hardy!

Another factor that plays a role is the number of hours of daylight.

Plants stay “dormant”, meaning they don’t grow, f the average day light is 10 hours and below, which starts around middle of November in WV, with 9.6 hours in December, 9.9 hours in January and 10.8 hours in February. This makes it fairly clear why crops in hoop houses start growing again in February, not so much due to an increase in temperature but increase in light. Of course, warmer days help too. The outdoor growing season in WV is defined by the first and the last day of frost during the growing season. On our farm, we can expect the last frost around May 10th or so and the earliest one by the middle of October.

Keep a record of your frost days, they are fairly consistent, maybe a few days variation. Growing zones in WV vary from 5 to 7, 7 being on a warmer scale. The zones are determined by the lowest temperatures that can incur in any particular zone. We are in zone 6A with possible low temperatures of minus 10 to minus 5 degrees. You can find out your zone by going to planthardiness.ars.usda.gov and entering your zip code.

The zones can help us guide our schedule for gardening. Cold and frost sensitive plants should not be set out till all danger of frost is passed. These seedlings can be bought at the proper planting time in garden centers or can be started indoors in pots. I did start all our peppers, celeriac, celery, onions and leeks this week. Peppers take a long time to germinate and by the time I will put them outdoors in late May, I will have transplanted them to bigger pots for proper root development. If the seedlings



Crocus group



Hellebore



Snowdrops

get root bound in small containers it affects their future growth. Also, keep in mind that you don’t need potting soil that contains fertilizer. The seed has everything in itself to make a start, all it needs is proper temperature and adequate moisture. More on that another time.

I would recommend for a home gardener to have two gizmos that I find very helpful. One of them is a soil thermometer. Measure the soil temperature at about 4” in depth. Apparently, it is best to do it in the morning when conditions are still similar to the night. The morning readings indicate an average of the temperature, while afternoon measurements might be too high to make decisions about seeding or planting. Best germination temperatures are between 68 and 86 degrees.

Peppers, tomatoes, eggplants and beans pop up faster at the higher temperatures. Of course, you can seed at low temperatures (below 68 degrees), but you risk losing the seeds to rot, as the germination can take several weeks. Why take a chance, if you can measure the temperature and seed when it is ideal and when germination occurs in a week or so? Moisture is equally important and I emphasize “moisture” not sogginess. When plants start growing, water availability is important.

When the soil temperatures are low, it inhibits water uptake and slows down photosynthesis. Roots take up water by osmosis by fine hair-like particles that draw moisture into the cells of the root and if the soil is too cold, water becomes more “sticky” and osmosis comes to a halt.

The second handy gadget is a pH meter. I am aware that we can take soil samples and send them to WV labs for testing. This is probably the most ac-

curate way to find out your soil pH and soil fertility, but as far as the pH is concerned, I have small areas in the garden, each one growing plants that have different pH requirements. Th pH values are very important because each plant absorbs nutrients differently according to its ideal pH requirement. I use our pH meter after I wash it thoroughly and dry it off with a paper-towel each time I test a new plot. I only make the test when the soil is wet. I insert the probe to the recommended level and wait for the results to show up on the little screen. I repeat the test a few yards away to see if the meter works.

Sometimes I try it out in an area that I know is totally acidic, like the blueberries and check if the results are different from a place that I expected to be alkaline, just cross checking. If the pH for a crop is inadequate it will greatly affect its growth and production. I like the meter because the pH range might change over the growing season because of excessive rain, certain types of fertilizers and I have a device that lets me check the soil during the season without filling out forms and making trips to the post office to send the samples. As I said they are more accurate, but I like this easy, instant verification.

The busy season has already started for us. We are in the process of pruning the grapes and it occurred to us that we have never had so much winter-kill among the vines. Many side shoots are dead. Maybe it was the mild spell in December and beginning of January when some of the bushes near the grapes started sprouting, then got killed by very cold temperatures. It might have also harmed the grape vines. Nevertheless, it is beautiful outside, what a nice world to live in.

Christ Church United Methodist Ash Wednesday

Christ Church United Methodist is having an Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, March

3rd at 7:00 P.M.

We are located in Sutton beside the movie theater. Everyone is welcome.

Knights finish third in the CWWAC Tournament last week



Knights Defense.



Owen Lowther takes a shot from the 3 point line.

BCMS scoring for the CWWAC tournament			
Honors:			
All Conference: Brady Toler Owen Lowther			
All Tournament: Jamie Nettles			
Player	South Harrison	G. Washington	Ravens wood
Brady Toler	15	5	4
Aidan Crockett	94	9	
Carter Lewis	7		
Stevie Boggs	47	10	
Jamie Nettles	44	20	
Owen Lowther	110	7	
Ashton Stewart	2		
Brodi Smarr		2	
Brandon Godfrey		2	
Jesiah Lennox		1	



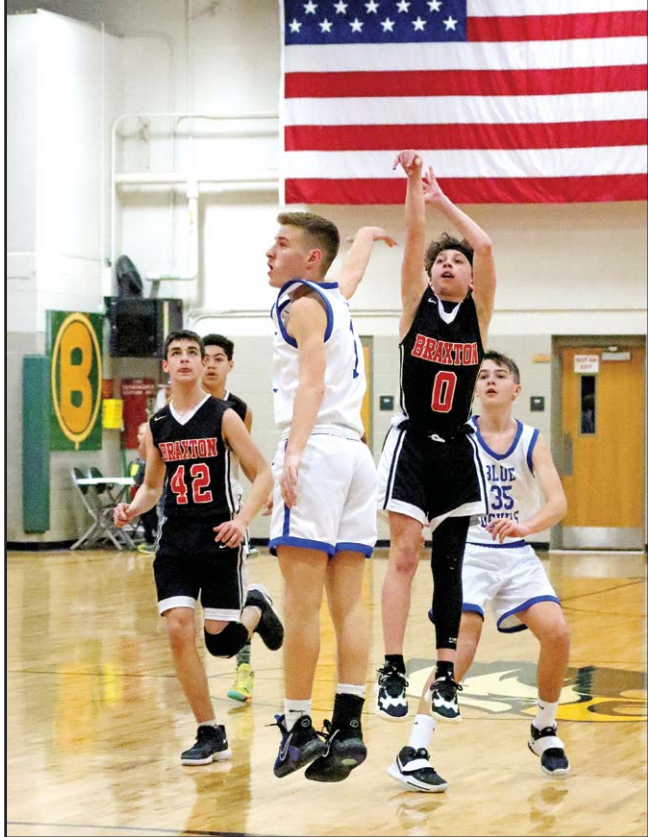
Stevie Boggs works the ball under the basket setting up the shot for the Eagles.



Aidan Crockett moves past a Blue Devil defender.



Jamie Nettles makes an easy basket for the Eagles.
Photos courtesy of Janet Six.



Brady Toler takes a shot for three points.

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