

Braxton’s Frank Blake has been the public announcer at both the Boys and Girls State Tournaments for nearly 50 years.

Braxton Resident Announces High School Tournament

Frank Blake Began Announcing Both Boys and Girls State Basketball events in 1972

By Shirley Shuman

The voice known statewide as the public announcer of West Virginia high school tournament games—both girls and boys, and this season as the announcer of BCHS games, is that of a Braxton county resident. Frank Blake began announcing the state tournament games in 1972. This is Blake’s 49th year at the job.

He has already declared that he looks forward to March of next year to make it 50 years; then he’ll says he’ll “turn the job over to someone younger.” Blake has been using his voice to make a living for a long time and in many ways.

He began at radio station WHAW in Weston with a summer job the year he graduated from high school. After studying broadcast journalism two years at WVU, Blake said, “I thought I wasn’t learning enough so I joined the Air Force.” While in the Air Force, he reported, he turned down 15 commissions because he “wanted to work rather than order someone else to do the work.”

Another achievement for Blake during his Air Force tenure, this one outside of broadcasting, was editing the US Air Force newspaper for all the bases in Korea. Since there were no printing facilities in Korea, he went to Tokyo once a week to

print the paper. “That was a real commute,” Blake commented.

His next venture came after he left the Air Force and returned to WVU to finish his degree. While there he earned a summer internship with the Voice of America, the first non-Ivy League student to do so. During his time there, he said, “The listenership was 80 million.” Here Blake mentioned that he met famed newscaster Edward R. Murrow, who asked him how a young man from West Virginia could possibly obtain the highly desired internship. “I told him that I had taught myself the international phonetic alphabet. At that, Mr. Murrow just smiled,” Blake said.

After his WVU graduation, he worked for the WVU Extension Service out of Morgantown. In that position, he continued using his vocal skills as he did two radio shows a week aired by over 50 stations in the state.

An achievement of which Blake is especially proud is his work with the Children’s Miracle Network to raise money for WVU’s children’s hospital.

As TV host for the event, he “got to work with singer Marie Osmond and with John Snyder of ‘Dukes of Hazard,’” They raised several million dollars for the hospital.

Another accomplishment of which this ver-

satile man is proud was “putting a television station on the air from scratch.” That was public television station Channel 9 in Beckley. Still later, as executive secretary for WV Public Broadcasting, he initiated the WV Public Radio Network.

Then came ownership, with partners, of three radio stations followed by 16 years of work for FEMA. “I worked in media relations,” Blake explained, “and in 16 years, as their spokesperson, handled hundreds of interviews on radio and television.”

Then came the time he had had enough variety. “At age 77, I decided to quit working on a regular basis, but I stayed with broadcasting basketball tournament games. As general manager of the station in Beckley, I did play-by-play for three girls and three boys championship game.”

What followed was that for which West Virginians best known Frank Blake—announcing the state basketball championship games. He’s in Charleston this week for the boys tournament. After one more year, however, he plans to hand the microphone to the next generation—except the microphone at the Braxton County Armory. “I’ll still announce Braxton sports,” he said, “as long as I’m physically able.” That should please local sports fans.

County Magistrate Report

Magistrate Beth Smith

March 4: Justin Michael West of Sutton, expired registration, dismissed proof provided, no proof of insurance, dismissed proof provided; John Edgar Phillips of Mt. Zion, driving suspended, dismissed, littering, dismissed, due to age of citation.

Magistrate David Singleton

March 7: Robert Anthony Jarvis of Frametown, obstructing an officer, possession of meth, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$3000 cash or surety; Jonathan Tyler Rollyson of Burnsville, speeding x2, no contest plea, fines/court costs assessed.

March 8: Billy Benjamin Graham of Conway, SC, possession of meth, guilty plea, disorderly

conduct, dismissed per plea, 90 days of jail with credit for time served of 13 days, to serve 17 days more for total of 30 days served, 60 days suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation, fine/court costs assessed.

March 9: Kristen N. Booher of Rosedale, driving revoked for DUI, guilty plea, 90 days of jail, to serve 30 home confinement, 60 days suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation, fine/court costs assessed; Richard Paul James of Frametown, conspiracy to violate DNR, guilty plea, fine/court costs assessed; Hunter James of Frametown, illegal possession of wildlife, guilty plea, hunting when license revoked, guilty plea, hunting during closed season, guilty

plea, guilty plea, fines/court costs assessed.

March 10: Joshua M. Bryant of Birmingham, AL, speeding, guilty plea, fine/court costs assessed; Amber Nicole Dyer of Sutton, driving revoked for DUI, warrantless arrest, bond set at \$3000 cash or surety; Brittany Jade Ritter of Gassaway, speeding, no contest plea, fine/court costs assessed.

March 11: Jeremiah Scott Walker of Huntington, contraband into jail, warrant issued, bond set at \$10,000 cash only; Logan Huffmaster of Gassaway, no seatbelt, no contest plea, fine assessed and paid; Gevin Troy Mathene of Galliano, LA, driving suspended for general, dismissed; Danielle Blair of Rosedale, no seatbelt, fine assessed and paid.

Area Residents Have Day in Circuit Court

Several Braxton County Circuit Court hearings have recently been completed by the Honorable Judge Richard A. Facemire. Jasmine R.H. Morton, Braxton County Prosecuting Attorney, represented the state during the court proceedings. Jacob Foster and Matt Haley from the Braxton County Probation Office were also present for several of the hearings.

On February 24, arraignment hearings were held for Chester C. Marsh and Ernest Samuel Weaver, III.

Marsh failed to appear but his attorney Kevin Hughart was present and a warrant for his immediate arrest was issued. Later in the afternoon Marsh appeared in court. He then proceeded to enter a not guilty plea to the two felony counts of possession of a controlled substance with intent to

deliver for methamphetamine and fentanyl and the one felony count of conspiracy.

Weaver appeared before Judge Facemire with his attorney Jonathan Fittro. He entered a not guilty plea to the felony charge of possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver.

Jury trials for both Marsh and Weaver were set for May 11.

Justin Matthew Hannah and attorney Andrew Katz came to court for a sentencing hearing. The defense requested his client’s sentence run concurrent with the one he is currently serving if an alternative sentence was not granted by the court. The state stood silent per the plea agreement. On the felony offense of burglary, Hannah was sentenced to one to fifteen years. The court ordered the sentence run concurrent to his cur-

rent sentence.

Coty Wayne Bird appeared in court for his sentencing hearing. He was represented by Andrew Katz. A motion was made requesting an alternative sentence by the defense with the state staying silent per the plea agreement. Judge Facemire denied the motion and sentenced Bird to one to five years on the felony charge of conspiracy. It was also ordered that sentence run consecutively to the one the defendant is currently serving.

Joshua Lynn Fletcher and his attorney Jonathan Fittro came before Judge Facemire for a plea hearing. The defendant entered a guilty plea to the felony offense of aiding escape and other offenses relating to adults in custody or confinement. The state agreed to recommend the sentence

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West Virginia Gold Rush Trout Stockings Returns

Includes County Tributaries

All anglers who catch any of the 50,000 golden trout being stocked are able to receive a special coin

Governor Jim Justice announced this week that the West Virginia Gold Rush will return for its fifth year on March 29 and provide anglers and their families 12 days to catch golden rainbow trout and win prizes.

The prize fish will be stocked in a number of local tributaries and lakes. They included: Burnsville tailwaters, Elk River, Stonewall Jackson Lake and tailwaters, Sutton Lake tailwaters, Williams River and Wallback Lake.

“The West Virginia Gold Rush is proof that a whole lot of good things happen when we combine a big idea with our unmatched natural resources and invite the rest of the world to come enjoy it all with us,” Gov. Justice said. “We truly have something special here in West Virginia. As someone who’s been in our pristine waters his entire life and just loves everything to do with fishing, I can say that the Gold Rush

is one of the most exciting events you could be part of. I encourage everyone to get out and experience the joy of fishing in West Virginia.”

From March 29 to April 9, the WV Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) will stock 50,000 golden rainbow trout at 62 lakes and streams around the state, including waters in or near 15 state parks and forests. Additional stocking locations and details about the Gold Rush can be found at wvdnr.gov/goldrush.

To celebrate the return of Gold Rush, the WVDNR is giving anglers a chance to win incredible prizes.

All anglers who catch any of the 50,000 golden trout being stocked during the event can enter their information on the Gold Rush Giveaway website and will be sent a special coin celebrating the program’s 5th anniversary.

Additionally, out of the 50,000 golden rainbow trout that will be stocked during the event, 100 will receive a specially numbered tag. If an angler

catches a trout with one of these tags, they can enter the tag number online for a chance to win a free WV lifetime fishing license, a one-night stay at a state park or forest cabin, a WV State Parks gift card, or exclusive Gold Rush merchandise.

“All it takes to get someone hooked on fishing is an exciting opportunity to catch an incredibly beautiful Golden Trout, and the Gold Rush provides just that,” said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion. “I want to thank Governor Justice for helping us promote the Gold Rush year after year and for his endless support of our state’s natural resources.”

To commemorate the Gold Rush’s fifth year, the WVDNR also is giving away free Gold Rush decals that can be requested online at wvdnr.gov/gold-rush.

All anglers 15 and older are required to have a WV fishing license with a current trout stamp and a valid form of identification while fishing during Gold Rush. Licenses and stamps can be purchased online at wvfish.com. Anglers must also follow

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County OES Director Speaks to BCHS Criminal Justice students

Braxton County High School’s Criminal Justice cluster recently en-

tertained a special guest speaker. Lee Given, instructor of the Law and



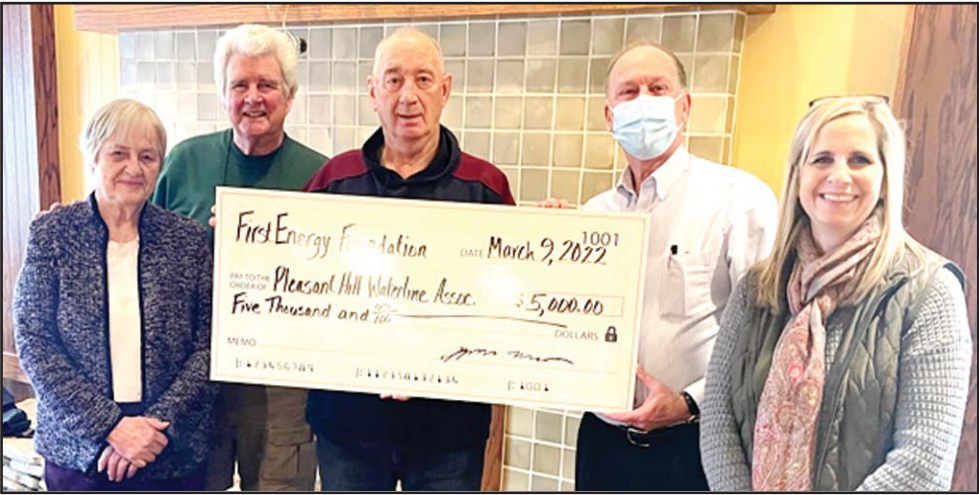
John Hoffman County OES, 9-1-1, and EMS Director, tells students about opportunities as first responders.

Public Safety classes solicited John Hoffman, Braxton County Office of Emergency Services Director, come and speak to students about the state and counties professional opportunities as well as the dramatic shortage of area first responders.

Following the presentation, Jackie “Austin” Fleming felt he could make a difference and joined the Flatwoods Volunteer Fire Department where he hopes to contribute to his neighborhood and fellow man.



First Energy Foundation grants the Pleasant Hill Waterline Association \$5,000



Sharon West of Lowther Hollow, John Cobb, Green Hill Road, Eddie Williams Route 19 South, John Norman FirstEnergy, Manager External Affairs, and Brenda (Gabby) Gregory of Rabbit Hill Road at Lunch Wednesday to accept the Grant Check from FirstEnergy Foundation.

Several members of the Pleasant Hill Waterline Association (PHWA) Board met with FirstEnergy representative John Norman on Wednesday, March 9, 2022, to receive a five-thousand-dollar grant on behalf of over 150 families waiting to receive water. The non-profit organization (PHWA) has been working toward a new waterline in Northeastern Braxton County since January of 2018. This waterline will bring potable water to over 156 families on the north end of Braxton County past the Burnsville Lake and Bulltown campgrounds.

Gabby Gregory, Treasurer of PHWA, said of the grant, "This is absolutely an amazing company. The FirstEnergy Foundation is committed to helping the areas in which they operate. This grant is proof of that commitment and goes a long way in support of PHWA's mission to bring water Northeastern Braxton County." Continuing, Gregory added, "If you go to the FirstEnergy website, you will come across a segment titled 'Community Involvement: Bringing Good Energy to Our Communities'. I love that concept!"

Helping others does bring good energy to the soul and here you have an energy corporation that is putting their efforts and money into our small community and helping a project that will change lives forever. We are so very grateful to FirstEnergy for this incredible gift."

FirstEnergy's commitment to our community and the relationship that developed with Mr. John Norman began in 2010 during a meeting that was called by Sharon West at a little church (The Fall Run United Methodist Church) to address power outages.

"It is interesting, noted John Cobb, Pleasant Hill Waterline Association President, that John Norman and Sharon West developed a positive working relationship that has also helped our rural community in another way.

Since back in 2010 many area residents were

upset with the frequent power outages that were common at that time. It was then that FirstEnergy and Mr. Norman stated that they would improve the service in the area, and they have.

It was just two years after that initial community meeting with FirstEnergy, that our area experienced its first Derecho. That was June 29, and the 2012 Mid-Atlantic and Midwest derecho was one of the deadliest and most destructive fast-moving severe thunderstorm complexes in North American history.

The progressive derecho tracked across a large section of the Midwestern United States and across the central Appalachians into the mid-Atlantic states on the afternoon and evening of June 29, 2012, and into the early morning of June 30, 2012. It resulted in a total of 22 deaths, millions of power outages across the entire affected region, and a damage total of US \$2.9 billion.

"Our area in Northeastern Braxton and Southern Lewis counties were hit especially hard and everyone's power was out for over 10 days, recalled Mr. Cobb, I lost not only power but a lot of valuable commercial timber."

It was at the meeting last Wednesday with John Norman that we learned that the derecho did have one good effect. That was the first time that FirstEnergy was able to get the WV Public Service Commission to acknowledge that there had to be funds applied to cutting dead trees along powerlines.

"So that's why I invited Sharon West to the meeting, said John Cobb so she and John Norman could chat with each other over lunch and reminisce about the times when we used to experience power outages for two or three days at a time. But not today as FirstEnergy has kept the powerlines free from dead fall for the most part and power outages now last hours instead of days. All thanks to Sharon West and John Norman.

So how did this meeting and the transfer of \$5,000 from the FirstEnergy Foundation come about.

Well about three years ago, there was another meeting it was held between Mr. John Norman and former Braxton County Sheriff, Mr. Eddie Williams. Their discussion of power company rights-of-way set the wheels in motion for PHWA to apply for a FirstEnergy Foundation grant in the amount of \$5,000.

Working with Andrea Bortoluzzi, Consultant, Community Involvement at FirstEnergy and Mr. John Norman, the PHWA submitted the application, and it was approved.

The FirstEnergy Foundation is funded solely by FirstEnergy Corporation and provides support to non-profit, tax-exempt organizations in areas served by FirstEnergy's 10 electric operating companies throughout Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia, Maryland, and New York. According to FirstEnergy's 2020 Community Impact Report, FirstEnergy Corporation has invested \$100 million in the FirstEnergy Foundation since 2015. The report further explains that \$7 Million was provided to nearly 1,600 organizations.

"Pleasant Hill Waterline Association President, John Cobb, Jr. stated, "We have requested grants from several local companies this year but this \$5,000 from FirstEnergy puts us at \$65,000 total raised since 2018 when we started our work on this waterline extension."

"Interestingly, after the meeting, I learned from Sharon West that she is interested in genealogy and is in fact related to Gabby our Treasurer's Mother-in Law, Nettie Gregory through Nettie's late husband Ford Gregory. Sharon's brother George Hardman, Jr. was married to Jane Gregory, who was Ford's aunt", continued Cobb. "If I had known that I would have invited Nettie to the meeting as well."

What a small world as Nettie Gregory with her multiple yard sales over the past few years has helped the Pleasant Hill Waterline Association raise over \$11,000 of its funds to date.", finished, Cobb.

The presentation of the grant on last Wednesday was a very exciting moment for PHWA Board Members. For those present and the entire 156 members of the Pleasant Hill Water Association, they know that FirstEnergy doesn't just talk the talk, they walk the walk and are committed to bringing good and reliable energy to Braxton County as well as helping our small community work towards getting potable water to our rural residents.

Legislative Update

By Delegate Brent Boggs

As I write this Sunday afternoon, the final day – day 60 of the Second Regular Session of the 85th West Virginia Legislature – ended in the early morning hours of Sunday morning, March 13. Although all legislative business ended at midnight, all the other pending business concluded after the time changed at 2 AM, so I'm still somewhat bleary-eyed as I type. The heavy snowstorm on Friday night caused many legislators and staff that commute finding difficult travel conditions on Saturday morning. At one point, a portion of I-79 was closed between Wallback and Amma, due to several severe accidents. With Rt. 4 also blocked for a time from fallen trees, Speaker Hanshaw was caught in the closure.

As was predicted, the House and Senate agreed to a State budget, but not without controversy in the House by members of both parties. For reasons I fail to understand, the final agreed-to version of SB 250 was obscured by a lack of transparency when questions were raised about the specific changes between the House and Senate versions. For nearly two weeks, I asked for information that was traditionally available to Finance Committee members, only to be provided a verbal list of the changes, which in a 200-plus page document, can be challenging and difficult to accurately brief non-Finance Committee members. Compounding the problem was the "revenue readjustment letter" from the Governor, not made available to members until one day before the session ended.

When members of both parties attempted to ask questions and reconcile differences in the two documents, including

how the determination was made on the changes, the questions set off a series of questions being deflected and answering questions with questions. This isn't acceptable. At one point, a legislator not on the Finance Committee simply asked for a side-by-side spreadsheet of the areas of disagreement between the House and Senate versions and the final figures. One senior majority party leader refused the request and told the member to get a copy of both versions and go through them page by page, line by line and figure out the differences for herself. All this after a 13-hour day, at 10 pm the night before we were to vote on the budget less than 12 hours later.

The process was called out by members of both parties on Saturday morning. We finally did get a somewhat improved explanation of changes on Saturday, with the Speaker acknowledging that there could be some validity in concerns and that changes may need to be adopted in the future. I appreciate his looking at this objectively and I trust he will follow through on a more transparent process.

I hope the budget process gets reformed and returns to the budget conference process. Keeping the budget conferees in Charleston for two or three days of after the session financial reconciliation makes sense. It involves House and Senate finance staff and about a dozen conference committee members holding open meetings and then providing a thorough briefing for all members called back before a final vote. It allows an opportunity for everyone to clearly understand their yes or no vote. Most important, it can glean more in savings than the current non-public agreement between the two fi-

nance chairmen.

Is there a better way or one that is a hybrid of the process of the last few years? Maybe. Whatever the outcome next year and beyond, members and the citizens they represent deserve access to better, more accessible information regarding how spending priorities of government are determined.

My greatest concern with the budget lies with the spiraling uptick in spending. The bottom line of the general revenue budget is relatively flat from last year at about \$4.7 billion, the budget contains spending in the "surplus section" at over \$1 billion. Some of this funding is for valid reasons but a large portion seems to be set aside for unknown reasons. Since a sizable portion of the legislation seems to benefit the eastern panhandle, I'll be watching to see how much is carried back to a handful of counties and the expense of the others that are truly hurting economically. Sadly, an amendment I offered to provide a one-time \$1,000 stipend to state retirees and educators was defeated. Also, vital volunteer fire department funding never received a vote in the Finance Committee. Let's hope some of these are addressed in a special session planned for later this year.

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.

Court...

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generation—except the microphone at the Braxton County Armory. "I'll still announce Braxton sports," he said," as long as I'm physically able." That should please local sports fans.

run concurrent to any sentence he is currently serving and to dismiss other charges pending. After accepting the plea agreement, the court set the sentencing hearing for May 9.

On February 14, Tammy Jean Haggerty and attorney Andrew Katz appeared in court for a hearing on revocation of home confinement. The defendant admitted to allegations contained in the petition for revocation. The defense requested she be permitted to attend a 28 day treatment program to address her drug issues. The state argued she should be sentenced to prison

as she cannot comply with the conditions of an alternative sentence. Judge Facemire denied the motion and sentence Haggerty to one to three years in prison on the felony charge of driving while license revoked for DUI, 3rd or subsequent offense.

Kevin D. Detamore came before the court with his attorney Andrew Shaffer for a motion to reconsider sentence. The defendant had successfully completed the rehabilitation program at LifeHouse and therefore asked to be granted probation as he is trying to turn his life around. The state commended Detamore for completing the program and noted he would be a good candidate for alternative sentencing. He was sentenced to one to five years for the felony offense of possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver. However, the court granted

the motion and suspended the sentence. The defendant was admitted to five years of probation.

On October 6, Jacob Ryan O'Dell appeared before Judge Facemire with his attorney Kevin Hughart for a sentencing hearing on the felony charge of cultivation of a controlled substance-psilocybin. The defense requested an alternative sentence because of his limited criminal history and employment. He told the court he regrets the pain he has caused his children and does not want to repeat this kind of behavior. The state stood silent per the plea agreement. The court agreed he was a good candidate for alternative sentencing and suspended the one to five years sentence. O'Dell is to be admitted to six years of probation.

Gold...

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WV's fishing regulations. For more information about stockings and other fishing resources, visit wvdnr.gov.

To encourage anglers and their families to plan a Gold Rush adventure, WV State Parks is offering a 15% discount on lodge room and cabin stays booked between March 23 and April 30. To receive the discount, book online at wvstateparks.com and use offer code GOLD at checkout.

Auditions take place at the Landmark Studio for the Arts

The Landmark Studio for the Arts and LYTE presents auditions for Disney's Beauty and the Beast: The Broadway Musical.

In person auditions start on Saturday, March 19, 2022 at the Landmark in Sutton, WV from 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Virtual auditions are Friday, March 19th and Saturday, March 20th. Post all virtual auditions to our

Facebook group page at www.facebook.com/groups/lytesbeautyandthebeast/

Performance dates will be April 28th through April 30th and May 5th and 6th at 8:00 P.M.

For audition packet or more information contact Becky at (304)644-7122 or request to join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/lytesbeautyandthebeast/

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Obituaries

John C. Squires

John C. Squires, 81, of Gassaway passed away at home on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 surrounded by his family.

He was born March 26, 1940 in Gassaway to the late Frank and Vera Mattie Brown Squires.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his brothers, William "Bill" Squires, Sr. and Fred Squires; and sister, Margaret Friend.

John had a strong work ethic as he held several jobs in his lifetime. He was employed for Minnich's Florist in Gassaway for 30 years. He also worked at Lloyds Saw Mill as a saw filer for 18 years. He was a 2nd generation member of the Gassaway Volunteer Fire Department for 70+ years where he served in multiple offices. In his younger years, he would often go on fire calls with his father. He was an avid outdoorsman. If you walked by his house it was easy to notice that his yard and landscaping were immaculate. He helped his neighbors often lending a tool or lending his ear. Most importantly he was a family man who loved his wife, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Left to cherish his memories are his wife of 60 years, Barbara Mayes Squires; two daughters, Teresa "Tish" Johnson and husband, Jeff, and Sharon Squires; grandchildren, Maddie Conley and husband, Barry, and Clayton Johnson and wife, Breanna; great grandchildren, Levici, Andersen, and Maris Conley and Cooper Johnson; and sister, Norma Jo Fleisher of Ohio.

John's funeral service was 1 P.M. Friday, March 11, 2022 at Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway with Pastor Mark Stump officiating.

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

In keeping with John's wishes he will be cremated after his services.

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

Alan Weese

Tuesday, March 8, 2022, our rebel Angel, Alan Weese, gained his wings. With a grin from ear to ear, Alan took his last mortal breath after a long battle with cancer and ascended to the Heavenly Kingdom. There he was met by his parents, Dennis Randall and Ella Louise McIntyre Weese.

Alan was born Novem-

ber 28, 1965 in Gassaway, WV.

He is survived by his loving wife, Hope Weese; adopted daughters, Katy and Alicia (Mark); grandchildren, Maria, Randall, Michael, Chasity, Harmony and Alison; siblings, Dennis "PeeWee" (Cherri) Weese, DeeDee (Shane) Dean, Patty (John) Piasiecki, Leslie (Kim) Weese; adopted siblings, Rodney, Doug, Jeff, Brad, Donald, Carolyn, and Dale; several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and special friends.

Alan had the biggest heart and spent most of his adulthood volunteering his handyman service to anyone who needed a helping hand. 10 years ago he showed up at the door of Encore in Gassaway and was a vital part of the daily operations ever since.

Following the generous nature of Alan, the family asks that in lieu of flowers, please make donations to your local Food Pantry or Hospice.

Funeral service was 2 P.M. Sunday, March 13, 2022 at Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway with Pastor David Gunter officiating. Interment was in Fairview Cemetery, Chapel.

Visitation was 6 to 8 P.M. Saturday, March 12th 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.

Norman Lee Hart

Norman Lee Hart, 71, of Frametown, passed away on Friday, March 4, 2022.

He was born May 11, 1950 in Braxton County to the late Edward Byrne Hart and Helen Louise Carr Hart.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, James E. Hart; and sister-in-law, Linda K. Engel Hart.

Norman was a member of the West Virginia National Guard. He attended Sugar Creek Baptist Church. After earning a four-year degree in education from Glenville State College, he began a long career that became his life's work. Norman taught at Logan Middle School in Logan County for 30 years, where he also coached the girls' basketball team. He was also an assistant coach for the Logan High School baseball team. Most recently, he was a substitute teacher for Braxton County Board of Education. Norman deeply loved and cared for his family and

other people in his life. He enjoyed talking to and helping people, especially his students. Sports of all kinds, were his pastime, but he particularly enjoyed hunting, fishing and playing golf with friends and family.

Left to remember him are his nephew, Rick Hart, of Chapel; niece, Becki Chaffins and husband, Jeff, of Huntington; great nephew, Ryan Hart and fiancée, Sarah Phipps; great nieces, Kristen Camp and husband, Jason, and Abby Chaffins; and one great grandniece, Hannah Camp.

Norman's funeral service will be 11A.M. Monday, March 14, 2022 at Roach Funeral Home, Gassaway with Pastor Rick Hart and Pastor Joe Brown officiating.

Interment will follow in the Hall & Hart Memorial Cemetery, Clem.

Visitation will be from 6 to 9 P.M. Sunday, March 13, 2022 at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial donations be made to the Norman L. Hart Memorial Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 40, Gassaway, WV 26624.

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

Lester C. "Charlie Bill" Singleton

Lester C. "Charlie Bill" Singleton, 94, of Burnsville, WV passed away on March 5, 2022. He was born on May 1, 1927 to parents Samuel and Dolly Ratliff Singleton.

He was preceded in death by his parents; Son: Jerry Singleton; Brother: Melvin Singleton; and Companion: Alma Rush and her Sons: Barry and Jerry Rush.

Lester served in the ARMY during the Korean war and was a Christian by faith. He retired from General Motors with 30+ years' service. Lester enjoyed gardening, fishing, small game hunting and going to flea markets.

He is survived by his Son: Ricky Singleton of West Milford, WV; Brother: Marvin Singleton of Burnsville, WV; two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews; Extended Family: Connie Kniceley of Buckhannon, WV and Peggy Woodruff of Florida and nieces and nephews.

Service were held on Friday, March, 11, 2022 at 1:00 pm at Stockert Funeral Home & Cremation, Flatwoods, WV. Friends may call from 11:00-1:00 prior to the service. Pastor Dennis Estes officiated the service. Interment followed at Little Kanawha Memorial Gardens, Heaters, WV.

Stockert Funeral Home & Cremation is honored to serve the Singleton family.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Lester C "(Charlie Bill)" Singleton, please visit our Heartfelt Sympathies Store.

Rhonda Hope (Smith) Goad

Rhonda Hope (Smith) Goad, 69, of Sutton, went home to be with her Lord on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at Glenville Center, Glenville, WV. She was born January 16, 1953 in Ravenna, OH to Oras Harold & Gladys Pricillia Wamsley Smith.

Rhonda is preceded in death by her husband, Paul David Goad; brother, Oras Harold "Butch" Smith, Jr. Rhonda was a faithful

follower of Jesus. She talked about God to whomever she met and was a light to all who met her. She was a generous giver, to a fault and invested in many different ministries. She was an avid prayer warrior and prayed daily for family and friends. Especially her boys whom she loved dearly. When Rhonda said she was praying for you, it was not cliché, she actually was. She faithfully attended her church, Gassaway Midstate Church of God and was part of their prayer team, women's ministry and enjoyed traveling with her church family to revival meetings. For several years Rhonda enjoyed being part of a stringed instruments group, Strum-Along, who played for nursing homes and other community service venues.

Left to cherish her memories are her sons, David James Goad and Donnie Chad Goad (LaVaughna) all of Sutton; brothers, Charlie Smith (Donna) of Ohio, Paul (Shawna) Chilcoat of North Dakota; sisters, Sandy Adams (Wayne) of Michigan, Debi Estes (Jim) of Oregon, Wilma Lormis (Chuck) of Illinois; grandchildren, Cory Morrison, Kayla Morrison fiancé' Derek Rose, Courtney Goad, Isaac Goad; great grandchildren, Katurah Hanshaw, Azariah Rose, Shechaniah Rose, Lakyen Rose.

Funeral services were held 1:00 pm, Monday, March 14, 2022 at Greene-Robertson Funeral Home, Sutton with Pastor Rodney England and Rev. Wilma Lormis officiating. Burial followed at Bug Ridge Community Cemetery, Bug Ridge Rd. Sutton, WV. Friends called one hour before the funeral at the funeral home.

Greene-Robertson Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Goad fam-

ily.

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

Shirley Jean Rose

Shirley Jean Rose, 84, of Sutton, passed away Sunday, March 6, 2022 at Braxton Health & Rehabilitation Center, Airport Rd. Sutton.

She was born September 7, 1937 in Charleston, WV to the late Henry & Virgie Dye Moore. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Hazel Rose.

Shirley was a homemaker and a Baptist by faith. Her favorite colors were Pink and Red. She enjoyed music and dancing. She was a loving woman and had a cute little giggle according to the nursing home staff.

She is survived by her son, Arthur Rose; daughters, Tammy Bosley Marshall, Pam Facemire; step daughter, Jaunita Rose Long.

Funeral services were held 11:00 am, Thursday, March 10, 2022 at Greene-Robertson Funeral Home, Sutton with Rev. Linn Schiefer officiating. Burial followed at Jackson Cemetery, Little Birch. Friends called one hour before the service.

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

Lois Ilene Brenwald

Lois Ilene Brenwald, 87 of Sand Fork, WV; departed this earthly life in the early morning hours of Saturday, March 5, 2022 at her residence with her loving family by her side.

She was born September 26, 1934 in Gilmer

County, WV; daughter of the late Charles and Frances Hayes Crook.

Ilene is a graduate of Sand Fork High School, class of 1952. She was a homemaker who loved caring for her family, spending time outdoors, working puzzles, and spoiling her grandchildren and great-grandchildren whenever possible.

Ilene is a Baptist by faith and longtime member of the Sand Fork Baptist Church.

On June 28, 1952 Ilene was united in marriage to Dewey Denver Brenwald, who preceded her in death on October 6, 2008.

Surviving are 4 children, Joyce Ann Gainer (Jack) of Amity, PA; Jayne Saul of Charlotte, NC; Mike Brenwald (LouAnn) of Charleston, WV; and Darin Brenwald (Barbara) of Sand Fork, and 1 sister, Jeanette Dean of Burnsville.

Also surviving are 6 grandchildren, Brandon, Jamie, Jeffrey, Steaven, Jozlyn, and Jada, 3 great-grandchildren, Jayce, Taliah, and Ellyson, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, her church family, and many other wonderful family and friends.

Along with her parents and husband, Irene is preceded in death by a sister, Patsy Greynolds.

A funeral service will be conducted at the Ellyson Mortuary, Inc., 2 Vanhorn Drive, Glenville, WV; 26351 at 1:00 PM; Wednesday, March 9, 2022 with Pastor Bryan Groves officiating. Burial will follow in the Sand Fork Cemetery in Sand Fork. Friends will be received from 11:00 – 1:00 Wednesday at the mortuary in Glenville.

Ellyson Mortuary, Inc., is honored to assist the family of Ilene Brenwald with arrangements.

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

THE BRAXTON DEMOCRAT

CENTRAL

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In Loving Memory



Dencil Roy Stout

March 14, 1928 - August 14, 2009

Gone but not forgotten
Your presence we miss.
Your memory we treasure.
Loving you always, forgetting you never.
Sadly missed by wife Lorena
and all of the family

NOTICE
The Town of Burnsville will be offering for sale by public auction a 2006 Ford F550 V10 Triton truck with a 10ft steel dump bed with 22,227 miles. Also for sale will be an Airflow Stainless Steel 8' Salt/ Sand spreader. Equipment will be sold as is and the seller can reject any bids. Equipment can be viewed at 106 Municipal St., Burnsville or call 304-853-2605 for more information. Link will be active for bidding starting 3/21/22 and ending 3/30/22 https://www.govdeals.com/TOB 3-10 3-17

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION
Cert No. 044798 James W Jenkins & Linda K Jenkins
To: , BRENT S KNIGHT, TRUSTEE, BRENT S KNIGHT, TRUSTEE-REGULAR MAIL, TAMARA MORRISON, TRUSTEE, TAMARA MORRISON, TRUSTEE-REGULAR MAIL, BENEFICIAL W VA INC, BENEFICIAL W VA INC-SECRETARY OF STATE, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MINORA ADLINE NICHOLSON FREEMAN, JUNIOR DALE FREEMAN, JUNIOR DALE FREEMAN-PERSONAL SERVICE, 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 8R PARCEL 0051 00010000
You will take notice that James W Jenkins & Linda K Jenkins, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 044798, located in OTTER District, .014AC TWO LICK RUN, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of NICHOLSON MINORA, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Braxton County at the sale of delinquent taxes on 10/20/2021. James W Jenkins & Linda K Jenkins requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 4/6/2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 10/10/2017 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 4/6/2022 \$225.58
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 4/6/2022 \$0.00
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 4/6/2022, \$930.94
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest to 4/6/2022. \$0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to The Honorable Louis Dellamea, Sheriff of Braxton County.-\$1156.52
You may redeem at any time before 4/6/2022 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Given under my hand 2/8/2022 G. Russell Rollyson Jr.
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of Braxton County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division, 1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-118 Charleston, West Virginia, 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 3-3 3-17b

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION
Cert No. 044877 George Jarrell and Joanna Groves
To: CHARLES W KEETON, CHARLES W KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON, MICHAEL KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, SAMUEL T KEETON, SAMUEL T KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, SAMUEL T KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, REGINA DUFFIELD, REGINA DUFFIELD-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT, JENNIFER BRITT-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT-SECRETARY OF STATE, ESTATE OF JAMES W WHITE,, 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 GASSAWY MAP 8 PARCEL 0069 00006002
You will take notice that George Jarrell and Joanna Groves, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 044877, located in GASSAWAY District, LOTS 18 19 & 20 BLK 11 which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of GEIGER MOTHIE J KEETON CHARLES ETAL (2020), and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Braxton County at the sale of delinquent taxes on 10/20/2020. George Jarrell and Joanna Groves requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 4/6/2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 10/10/2017 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 4/6/2022 \$1747.49
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 4/6/2022 \$0.00
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 4/6/2022. \$1270.19
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest to 4/6/2022. \$0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to The Honorable Louis Dellamea, Sheriff of Braxton County.-\$3017.68
You may redeem at any time before 4/6/2022 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Given under my hand 2/8/2022 G. Russell Rollyson Jr.
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of Braxton County, State of West Virginia
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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



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

quent and Nonentered Lands of Braxton County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division, 1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-118 Charleston, West Virginia, 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 3-3 3-17b

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION
Cert No. 044878 George Jarrell and Joanna Groves
To: CHARLES W KEETON, CHARLES W KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON, MICHAEL KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, SAMUEL T KEETON, SAMUEL T KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, SAMUEL T KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, REGINA DUFFIELD, REGINA DUFFIELD-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT, JENNIFER BRITT-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT-SECRETARY OF STATE, ESTATE OF JAMES W WHITE,, 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 GASSAWY MAP 8 PARCEL 0069 00006001
You will take notice that George Jarrell and Joanna Groves, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 044878, located in GASSAWAY District, LOTS 18 19 & 20 BLK 11 which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of GEIGER MOTHIE J KEETON CHARLES ETAL (2020), and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Braxton County at the sale of delinquent taxes on 10/20/2020. George Jarrell and Joanna Groves requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 4/6/2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 10/10/2017 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 4/6/2022 \$2775.41
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 4/6/2022 \$0.00
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 4/6/2022. \$1270.19
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest to 4/6/2022. \$0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to The Honorable Louis Dellamea, Sheriff of Braxton County.-\$4045.60
You may redeem at any time before 4/6/2022 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Given under my hand 2/8/2022 G. Russell Rollyson Jr.
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of Braxton County, State of West Virginia
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NOTICE OF REDEMPTION
Cert No. 044879 George Jarrell and Joanna Groves
To: CHARLES W KEETON, CHARLES W KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON, MICHAEL KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, SAMUEL T KEETON, SAMUEL T KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, SAMUEL T KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, REGINA DUFFIELD, REGINA DUFFIELD-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT, JENNIFER BRITT-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT-SECRETARY OF STATE, ESTATE OF JAMES W WHITE,, 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 GASSAWY MAP 8 PARCEL 0070 00000000
You will take notice that George Jarrell and Joanna Groves, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 044879, located in GASSAWAY District, ALL OF 17 & P/O LOT 16 BLK 11 100X37.5X62X25X38X12.5 which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of GEIGER MOTHIE J KEETON CHARLES ETAL (2020), and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Braxton County at the sale of delinquent taxes on 10/20/2020. George Jarrell and Joanna Groves requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 4/6/2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 10/10/2017 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 4/6/2022 \$331.89
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 4/6/2022 \$0.00
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 4/6/2022. \$1270.19
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest to 4/6/2022. \$0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to The Honorable Louis Dellamea, Sheriff of Braxton County.-\$1602.08
You may redeem at any time before 4/6/2022 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
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Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of Braxton County, State of West Virginia
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Just One Generation Kitty Korner

It happens. In a community with increasing numbers of senior citizens, it is inevitable that some of those caring for pets in their home will face declining health and a need to rehome those pets that have provided love and companionship for them.
This week, Just One Generation would like to feature three two year old cats that are in that situation.

All three have been spayed/neutered, but due to declining health of their caregiver, they need to be rehomed. These cats were born as two litters that arrived in close proximity back in 2020.

They have been indoor/outdoor, but are used to the quiet life. At this time, they are shy around those unfamiliar to them. But we know that with some time, patience, and love, that they can adapt to a new environment.

These cats are available at no charge to good homes. Anyone interested can contact the owner directly by calling Danny at 304-644-8322.

City National Bank offices in Flatwoods, Sutton, and Gassaway are accepting donations for Just One Generation Cat Rescue

The items needed to include are foster homes, litter boxes, scoops, water/food bowls, litter, Purina Complete Cat Chow, Purina Nurture Kitten Chow and again, foster homes.

Cash donations for veterinary costs and for vaccinations and dewormers also needed.

All donations go towards the help of the adoptable kitties below.

Sparks: Short-haired black male. Neutered.

Andy: Medium-haired orange and white male. Neutered.

Angel: Medium-haired gray female. Spayed.

ing 1, Room W-118 Charleston, West Virginia, 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 3-3 3-17b

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION
Cert No. 044879 George Jarrell and Joanna Groves
To: CHARLES W KEETON, CHARLES W KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON, MICHAEL KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, SAMUEL T KEETON, SAMUEL T KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, SAMUEL T KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, REGINA DUFFIELD, REGINA DUFFIELD-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT, JENNIFER BRITT-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT-SECRETARY OF STATE, ESTATE OF JAMES W WHITE,, 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 GASSAWY MAP 8 PARCEL 0070 00000000
You will take notice that George Jarrell and Joanna Groves, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 044879, located in GASSAWAY District, ALL OF 17 & P/O LOT 16 BLK 11 100X37.5X62X25X38X12.5 which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of GEIGER MOTHIE J KEETON CHARLES ETAL (2020), and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Braxton County at the sale of delinquent taxes on 10/20/2020. George Jarrell and Joanna Groves requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 4/6/2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 10/10/2017 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 4/6/2022 \$331.89
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 4/6/2022 \$0.00
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 4/6/2022. \$1270.19
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest to 4/6/2022. \$0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to The Honorable Louis Dellamea, Sheriff of Braxton County.-\$1602.08
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NOTICE OF REDEMPTION
Cert No. 044943 H3 LLC
To: , RIDLER KUMJA LIFE-REGULAR MAIL, GUY JEAN-PIERRE, GUY JEAN-PIERRE-REGULAR MAIL, SHELIA JEAN-PIERRE, SHELIA JEAN-PIERRE-REGULAR MAIL, GUY RIDDLER, GUY RIDDLER-REGULAR MAIL, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE-REGULAR MAIL, KUM JA RIDLER, GUY JEAN-PIERRE RIDLER, SHELIA RIDLER, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE RE: LIEN 6/711, 6/712 & 9/591 OR HEIRS AT LAW, DEVISEES, CREDITORS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, TRUSTEES, ATTORNEY IN FACT, REPRESENTATIVES, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, CO-OWNERS, OCCUPANT, OTHER PARTIES HAVING AN UNDIVIDED INTEREST IN THE DELIQUENT PROPERTY AND OTHER PARTIES THAT MAY HAVE ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, 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 9999 PARCEL 0125 01600000
You will take notice that H3 LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 044943, located in SALT LICK District, 66AC COG SALT LICK, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of RIDLER KUMJA LIFE & GUY JEAN-PIERRE &/OR SHELIA, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Braxton County at the sale of delinquent taxes on 10/20/2021. H3 LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 4/6/2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 10/10/2017 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 4/6/2022 \$360.50
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 4/6/2022 \$0.00
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 4/6/2022. \$1172.99
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest to 4/6/2022. \$0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff – cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to The Honorable Louis Dellamea, Sheriff of Braxton County.-\$1533.49
You may redeem at any time before 4/6/2022 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Given under my hand 2/8/2022 G. Russell Rollyson Jr.
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of Braxton County, State of West Virginia
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NOTICE OF REDEMPTION
Cert No. 044879 George Jarrell and Joanna Groves
To: CHARLES W KEETON, CHARLES W KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON, MICHAEL KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, SAMUEL T KEETON, SAMUEL T KEETON-REGULAR MAIL, MICHAEL KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, SAMUEL T KEETON-SECRETARY OF STATE, REGINA DUFFIELD, REGINA DUFFIELD-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT, JENNIFER BRITT-REGULAR MAIL, JENNIFER BRITT-SECRETARY OF STATE, ESTATE OF JAMES W WHITE,, 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.
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Andy: Medium-haired orange and white male. Neutered.

Angel: Medium-haired gray female. Spayed.



Sutton Moose Lodge 825

(304)765-5270



B.I.N.G.O.
\$1000.00
Jack Pot
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Advantage Valley’s FASTER WV program announces Tourism Business Webinar

Advantage Valley’s FASTER WV Program announces its 17th webinar in its Entrepreneurship Series: Starting or Growing Your Tourism Business. The free, one-hour webinar is scheduled for Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 6 pm. Come learn about tourism-related business opportunities in the region, learn how to partner with The Department of Tourism to promote your business, and learn about free business coaching, online classes, and loan funding through the FASTER WV Entrepreneurship Program.

The West Virginia Department of Tourism is designed to promote West Virginia as a world-class travel destination and offers industry partners a wide variety of promotion and development services. Our guest Katie Light, Industry Partnerships Coordinator with the WV

The Department of Tourism, will present how to become an industry partner and the type of services available to assist your business. In addition, Terrell Ellis, Executive Director of Advantage Valley will present new developments and business opportunities related to the Hatfield-McCoy Trails, the Coal River Water Trail, and the Elk River Trail.

“Join us to learn about the critical need for businesses to house, feed, transport and provide sales and services to support the thousands of travelers who come to our region’s rivers, mountains, hiking and biking trails, and outdoor adventures,” says Ellis. “There are many easy-entry businesses in tourism right now that can support some incredible tourist destinations in our region.”

The FASTER WV program helps launch new

businesses, and grow existing businesses in Boone, Braxton, Cabell, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln, Putnam, and Wayne Counties. Partners include the WV Small Business Development Center, BridgeValley Community & Technical College, Unlimited Future, Inc., and The Wyoming County Economic Development Authority, manager of the revolving loan fund. Major funding for the FASTER WV program is provided by the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, with additional support from the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, Truist, and Unlimited Future, Inc.

To register for the webinar or to learn more about FASTER WV, please go to:<https://advantagevalley.com/entrepreneurship/> or call Advantage Valley at 304-352-1165.

Mon Health welcomes Dr. William Ryan Walker to Primary Care team in Fairmont

Mon Health Primary Care in Fairmont is pleased to announce the addition of Dr. William Ryan Walker to its dedicated team of physicians, Drs. Marilyn Bonfili and Lisa Flower. Dr. Walker brings nearly eight years of experience as a primary care physician to the Fairmont clinic.

“Across Mon Health System, our patients are our primary focus,” said Dr. Bradford Warden, Chief Administrative Officer of Mon Health Medical Group. “Dr. Walker is an incredibly talented medical professional, and we are thrilled to be able to provide accessible primary care and services to the Marion County community.”

Dr. Walker graduated from West Virginia University School of Medicine before completing his residency at Fairview Hospital/Cleveland Clinic. During his residency, he was named Chief Resident as well as Recruitment Resident for the program. Most recently, he has been practicing as a primary care physician at Mount Carmel Taylor Station Family Medicine since 2016.



Dr. William Ryan

As a primary care physician, Dr. Walker has cared for patients of all ages managing chronic health problems, doing preventive care visits, and advocating for patients to ensure they receive the highest quality care in a safe environment.

“As a Bridgeport native, I’m excited to be coming back home. I’m looking forward to joining the Mon

Health team and to provide care to the patients of Marion County,” Dr. Walker said.

Dr. Walker will start seeing patients on March 28, 2022, at Mon Health Primary Care in Fairmont located at 1 Huntington Way, Fairmont WV 26554. To make an appointment with Dr. Walker, call 304-368-2422 or visit MonHealth.com/PrimaryCare.

New River CTC offers CNA training in Summersville

A six-week certified nursing assistant (CNA) class is scheduled at New River Community and Technical College’s Nicholas County Campus in Summersville starting April 18, 2022.

“New River CTC’s CNA class helps students establish their career in the nursing field while also helping the community as they put to work what they have learned to care for others,” Instructor Michelle Johnson said.

Johnson has worked in nursing for over 40 years. She is a registered nurse and holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Johnson has taught in New River CTC’s practical nursing program for 13 years. She has experience in surgical, medical surgical, cardiac care and geriatric care nursing and is currently working in clinical nursing with WVU Medicine.

The CNA class will meet from 5 to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 3 to 7 p.m. on Friday. The class has

both an in-person lecture along with a lab and clinical component.

Tuition for the CNA class is \$1,800 and includes textbooks, a background check, a drug test, uniforms, a stethoscope and exam fees. New River CTC’s CNA class is approved for tuition assistance funding through Workforce West Virginia’s WIOA program and Workforce HEAPS.

Registration for the

Mid-State Archers indoor Archery at night

Mid-State Archers is now opening on Tuesday nights for indoor target archery from

class is required by April 1, 2022. To register online, visit <https://www.newriver.edu/workforce/> or contact Gloria Kincaid (304-793-6101, gkincaid@newriver.edu).

New River CTC’s Workforce Education Division provides community education classes and employable educational opportunities including noncredit courses, workforce development programs and customized training.

6-9pm, 2415 Airport Rd.

For more information call 304.542.4353.

Attention Sutton Residents

The Town of Sutton is updating ordinances and fees. The public is invited to review and comment on the new fees which can viewed in the Mayor’s office, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Approval of new fees will take place at the March 24 regular meeting.

Any questions, contact Robin at 304-765-5581.

Who are we?

By: Joseph J. Mazzella

I stopped to take a peek at my 55 year old face before shaving this morning. The wrinkles around my eyes and on my forehead were deeper than ever. My face’s baby fat had fled long ago. My thin skin was speckled with age spots. The black hairs on my balding head had mostly been replaced with gray ones. There was some white whiskers on my chin too. All in all I was looking older than ever. Still, when I smiled my wrinkles crinkled and I liked how they looked.

I have often said that there is a young person trapped in every old person’s body. But this isn’t entirely true. The truth is there are many people inside there. Part

of me is still that little boy who longs to sit on his Nana’s lap or to run into his Mommy’s arms. Part of me is still that struggling adolescent fighting through his hormones and trying to figure out life at the same time.

Part of me is that young adult working so hard to get ahead but often falling further behind in life’s rat race. Part of me is a middle aged man with more peace, love, and joy than he had in his younger years. Part of me is even a wise old man striving to share what he has learned about life and love with everyone willing to listen. The truth is all of these people live inside of me and help make me who I am. Yet,

I know that I am much more than just them.

Who are we? We are more than these aging bodies that carry our souls around. We are more than the hormones that rage through us. We are more than the years we have lived. We are more than the things we have learned. We are more than our thoughts and feelings. We are MORE!

Who are we? We are beloved Children of God. We are eternal souls in temporary bodies.

We are beings of light. We are spirits of joy. And we are only here for a short time. Let’s use it all living, learning, and loving. Let’s use it all growing closer to God. Let’s use it all deepening our wrinkles by sharing a million smiles.

Is it Summer or Winter

By Jeanette Riffle

One day this past week it got up to 70 degrees and that night it went down to 3. A winter storm blew across the country and Saturday we got up to 7 inches of snow and only 10 degrees. By evening we had 8 inches of snow on and deep drifts. Our dog had a ball eating snow and dancing on hind legs to catch snow flakes in his mouth. We put him in by the fire though on real cold nights. He can only come out when the sun warms things up a bit. His favorite food is deer droppings and snow. We feed him good and there is always a pan of fresh water in the garage for him. He prefers mud puddles and snow.

Our son called home from Michigan. They have had real cold weather too, but only 3 inches of snow and it melted off. Gas prices and groceries are getting high up there. It’s ridiculous ! I’m glad he and our granddaughter have good jobs so they can afford to drive back and forth from work and buy groceries. Some people are car pooling to save on gas money. I have seen jokes on FB of people posting a picture of a man on a horse and the caption was , “ My new car.” Go back to the old ways of getting around. We have a picture here of my husband’s Riffle grandparents on Bear Fork, using a cow to get around on. They didn’t have a horse. When I was growing up there were lots of men traveling the road on horses. It was a way of life. We also had the hobos on foot. Those would stop

and ask for something to eat. It was the era of the hobos.

Hubby was telling me about the coal banks for free fuel to use in a pot belly stove. His Grandpa Riffle had a coal bank on the property that he was taking care of for Hunter Bennett on Bear Fork.

A coal bank is where erosion has washed dirt away and coal is exposed. It gives people a place to start digging in an outcropping of coal. Grandpa put the coal on a sled and hauled it back to his cabin. He had a coal pile to go to and would round up the coal bucket and a shovel to get it into the little door of the

stove. In later years he had to go get Charlie Perrine or someone with a big truck to take him to coal mines up above Glenville, to buy coal. After so many years of digging out of a coal bank, you have to stop or the hill would cave in on you. I hope everyone is well and looking forward to spring as we are. There is a bad virus going around now. That Rhinovirus is like a bad head cold. You can use home remedies and doctor is as you would flu or a cold. It isn’t a variant of Covid. Until next time, may the Good Lord bless and keep you in his care.

BC Farm Bureau to meet

Please mark your calendars for Monday, March 21, 2022 at 7 PM for our regular meeting.

Speaker for the evening will be Ryan Hart DVM. Also as we help spon-

sor the Ronald MacDonald houses please bring some canned goods; we will collect in March and April.

Hope to see a full house.

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BCMS Knights prepare for the Spring season.

BCMS track coach will be working with 39 athletes

Last season, Knights’ track coach Jennifer Grindo saw her female athletes win several meets along with placing highly in most of the rest and then end the season by becoming conference champions. However, the team had too few boys to field a boys’ team. This year that has changed. The 2022 team consists of 16 boys and 23 girls. With that many athletes and a nucleus of successful girls returning from last year, Coach Grindo looks forward to a successful season, which begins tonight in the Walton Tiger Invitational at Roane County High School.

Among that group of successful girls returning, Brooklyn Paletti, a seventh grader, will run the 100 and 200. The others Coach Grindo mentioned are all eighth graders. Aubree McDonald runs the 100 meter hurdles and is part of the shuttle hurdle relay team. Bianca Grindo puts the shot and throws the discus. Running the shuttle hurdle relay will be Paletti, Grindo, McDonald, and Rylan Criner. Addison Lloyd and Mackenzie Budner, who did well in distance running last season, are both back. Others who saw competition last year are Alex-

is Herndon and Bryane Davis—both in the shot and discus, and Cierra Crawford, who runs in the 4x100 and 4x200. The two returning boys are Austin Smarr, who competes in the 400, 1600, and long jump along with Jack Lowther in the 800, 3200 and long jump. Their coach pointed out that both did well last year. Coach Grindo and assistant coach Leah Herndon “get more and more excited” watching improvements in the athletes’ times which they already see. “We can’t wait to see how they’ll do,” Grindo said.



BCMS Knights are ready to load the bases Monday night on the Braxton Field.

Knights’ baseball team will play first game Monday

BCMS baseball coach James Huffman, in his first year as head coach, looks forward to the upcoming season which begins Monday on the Braxton field. Braxton’s team includes 13 players, three of them returnees. The coach regards the lack of experience with which he and assistants Bobby Hart and James Lowther will be working a challenge. The three returnees are eighth graders Owen Lowther and Seth Conley along with Remington Huffman, a seventh grader. Lowther, the third baseman, also pitches, and Conley will play second. Huffman, the varsity catcher last season, will remain behind the plate. Two other eighth grade players—Elijah Markham and Robert Myers, are both newcomers. Coach Huffman named Lowther, Landon Hart, and Tyler White as the base of his pitching staff and added that Huffman will be on the

mound sometimes. Discussing the strengths he sees in his players, Huffman said, “We’re powerful in the infield. We have strong defense.” Offensively, the coach indicated that he sees “a couple of power hitters, but added, “We’ll be playing small ball, getting base hits and being crazy on the bases. We’ll be stealing, and we do have the speed for stealing.” Along that line, Huffman noted that the coaching staff “is working on knowledge of

leading off,” a skill the players haven’t developed. The coach recognizes that he has a young team and sees the size of the varsity field as something the new players will need to adjust to. “The field is of course bigger than the Little League fields they know,” he said. “We’re going to compete,” Coach Huffman said, “as long as they keep their heads in and listen to us. We’re going to coach them up and win some games.”

BCMS parent teacher conference March 21

Braxton County Middle School will be holding a BCMS parent teacher conference on Monday, March 21 at 6:00 PM.

Bingo bingo bingo

Normantown Food at 5:30... 5 games for \$3.00. Pantry will host Bingo on Regular bingo starts at April 2 at the Arnoldsburg 6:00, 20 games for \$20.00. Community Building. Toys , Star Wars, lots of Doors open at 4:30 raffles, buy in games ,food Early Bird games start and fun, don’t miss it.

BCSC Annual Spring Bingo rescheduled for March 19th

Due to inclement weather, the Braxton County Soccer Club Bingo at the Sutton Moose Club has been rescheduled for March 19, 2022 at noon. Ticket packets of twenty bingo games will be sold at the door for \$20.00 per packet. Prizes will include: Coach, Dooney and Bourke, Fossil, and Born handbags. Craft Baskets, Sports Baskets, Oil Changes and detailing certificates, Massage and beauty gift certificates and more! Food and refreshments will be available for purchase. Come out and play bingo, eat some food and support the BCSC.



One of the baskets available to win at the BCSC Bingo on Saturday, March 19th

Meet a MFB Food Banker

This week, the Mountaineer Food Bank is highlighting Emmitt Wayne. Emmitt is a member of the Mountaineer Food Bank warehouse team and has been with MFB since October of 2020. A graduate of Glenville State College, Emmitt holds a B.S in Natural Resource Management: Environmental Science with a Business Minor. In his free time, Emmitt enjoys riding horses, writing songs and spending time with his family and friends. Thank you, Emmitt, for all you do from all of us at the Mountaineer Food Bank.



Emmitt Wayne, MFB Warehouse Team.

SPL Annual Peanut Butter Egg sale

It is that time of year! Peanut Butter Egg season! You can place your order with a Friends of the library member or directly with the library by calling (304) 765-7224. They are \$6 each. This fundraiser by the Friends of the Library is one of the biggest fundraisers to help cover the library utilities and salaries of our staff. Volunteers work tirelessly for many weeks to prepare these eggs. For many years, the Friends of the Library have absorbed the rising cost of supplies but this year they made the hard decision to raise the price by \$1 to help cover the additional costs not only for the fundraiser but to help rising costs for the li-



Each egg is decorated with a colorful flower on top. supporting our library through this fundraising understanding and er.

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.

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BRAXTON CITIZENS' NEWS

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Stories from the Braxton County Animal Shelter

Are you looking to add a four legged, tail wagging member to your family? Rescues from the Braxton County Animal Shelter are looking for their final “Furever” homes and are anxious to meet you. There is a reason we call them man’s best friend. We can learn so many things from a dog’s behavior, personality, demeanor, resiliency, and most importantly, the willingness to provide their family members with unconditional love, loyalty, and companionship down to their very last breath. BCAS is open Monday through Friday from 10-3. There is no charge to surrender a dog, but donations toward their care are appreciated. Adoptions are \$99.00 for male dogs and \$119.00 for female dogs, and include spay/neuter, rabies vaccination, parvo/distemper vaccination, kennel cough vaccination, flea treatment and deworming. No dog will leave the shelter unfixed and we are very willing to work with reputable 501c3 rescues. Please call the shelter for vet pricing and ask for our adoption/rescue coordinator Megan at (304)765-2



Bella is a four to five year old female (pink leash) and **Beck**, two to three year old male (yellow leash) were picked up as strays in the Bee Run area. They are now available for adoption and searching for their forever homes. Both dogs are quiet in the shelter and very sweet dogs! They are affectionate and love all the attention they get. Both are great on a leash, clean in their kennel, dog friendly and we imagine they would be gentle with children as well.



How about these hound dog eyes?! This pretty lady **Dahlia**. She is a four year old female redtick weighing approximately fifty pounds. She is easy going, quiet in her kennel, walks well on a leash and gets along well with other dogs. Dahlia came to our shelter as a stray so we don’t have any history on her but we know she’s a gem.



Rico is a nine month old male hound who was found stray at around 6 months and fostered until we had available kennel space to bring him into the shelter. He was staying in a home with three other dogs so we know he is dog friendly, playful and sweet with other dogs. He knows sit and no. He loves to ride in the car and play ball! While being fostered he has become completely house trained. He is crate trained and did well in a crate but they hadn’t needed to crate him while they weren’t home for over a month now because he was a great house guest and well behaved. Rico also respects a wireless collar. He’s an overall great guy! We love him. If you would like to meet Rico stop by during business hours or give us a call to set up a meet and greet!



These 3 handsome dudes are **Sam**, **Joe** and **Pete** who are littermates looking for brand new homes. Their momma is a German Shepherd and we can’t be sure about the daddy so they are listed as German Shepherd mixes. They 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. Update: Sam (lightest brindle) has been adopted!

Burnsville Lake’s Fifth Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Burnsville Lake is hosting its Fifth Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 16 at 1:00 P.M. Due to a cancellation in weather, make up date is Saturday, April 23.

This free family friendly event will be held at the Burnsville Lake Downstream area.

There will be prizes for each age group and an “eggtravagant” amount

Braxton County Jamboree April Music Schedule

The Braxton County Jamboree has announced its music schedule for April 2022.

April 1 Retro Country, April 8 Whiskey River, April 15 Jessica Schoonover Anderson and Rick Tinchier and The Birch River Band. April 22 Frank Conn and the Partners, April 29 Buck and Company (Bluegrass) Concessions will be available for purchase. No



This boy was brought into our shelter as a stray today. He is possibly a boxer/pit mix, young dog, around sixty-five pounds. He was found in the area of the old Foodland in Gassaway. If you recognize him and would like to reclaim him, please call the shelter with proof of ownership. He has been placed on a five day stray hold in an attempt to find his owners and he will then become adoptable on March 18th.

Braxton County Animal Shelter has been given the opportunity to provide five free dog spay surgery vouchers per month, to low-income Braxton County families. These vouchers may be obtained by completing a Spay Assistance Application, which can be picked up and submitted at the animal shelter during business hours. Vouchers will be good for 30 days. BCAS reserves the right to deny financial assistance for any reason. These free spay surgeries must be scheduled by the voucher recipient at Central WV Animal Hospital. This program has been fully sponsored by our rescue partner Awesome Paws Rescue of Buffalo, NY. This rescue has been an amazing asset to Braxton County for nearly five years, by pulling hundreds of dogs from our county and finding them amazing new forever homes. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to the folks at Awesome Paws! Spaying female dogs is important because: It helps to reduce pet overpopulation, It can reduce aggression issues, It can reduce the chances of roaming dogs, It can lower the risk of cancer, It can increase lifespan three to five years. Update as of Monday, March 14th the Braxton County Animal Shelter has zero vouchers available. Watch this column for weekly updates for April 2022.

of eggs to search for.

This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Burnsville Lake and the Burnsville Lake, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

For questions and additional information, please contact the Friends of the Burnsville Lake and the Burnsville Lake, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Facebook page.

Alcohol Permitted at any event. The Braxton County Jamboree is Handicap-Accessible.

For more information and to follow the Braxton County Jamboree please visit Facebook or online at <http://braxtoncountyjamboree.WebStarts.com/>

You may also contact Lena Parsons at (304) 364-5577 or by email at elparsons804@gmail.com

On the other side of the mountain

By Verena Sava

We are just about 20 minutes away from equinox. I love the longer day light, but I am less enthusiastic to adhere to daylight savings time, coming up shortly, getting used to climb out of bed when everything is pitch dark again. We still see juncos, which means they have not started their migration back north, also warning us that some snow might still be expected. The red-winged black birds and phoebes have returned to our area, adding their songs to the bird spring symphony concert in the morning.

Around March 20th I start seeding the brassicas (broccoli, cabbages, cauliflower) inside. Peppers, early tomatoes, onions, leeks and celery were started the second week of February and are already up.

The last indoor seeding will be middle of April for the heirloom tomatoes to be planted outside around May 20th. When we start our own seeds we can make choices for early maturity, disease resistance and for brassicas good performance during hotter weather in summer. It is easier to sometimes just buy the bedding plants from garden centers, it saves time and space indoors, but you buy what is available.

There are many potting soils available in stores, but we can also mix our own. The old timers just filled an old metal wash tub with garden soil and they had plenty of seedlings to set out. If we mix our own, we should use a gallon or quart container whatever is easier for us. This helps with the different parts we want to combine. Do not buy commercial potting soil that contains fertilizer.

Here are some possibilities for mixing potting soil. Use 2 parts compost and 1 part garden soil, then incorporate a few handfuls of perlite. Perlite improves the structure of the potting soil, making it lighter. Another option is 1 part compost, 1-part Pro-Mix (available at Southern States). Pro Mix consists of peatmoss, perlite, limestone and mycorrhizae. I love the option of compost and Pro Mix the best. Pretty much any kind of seed will germinate well with Pro Mix added to make potting soil. It is very porous, its consistency makes it hard to over-water the seedlings, the drainage is perfect. When we over-water young plants they might dampen off, or be killed by mold or fungus that thrive in wet and cold conditions.

Mycorrhizae is a fungus that lives in a symbiotic relationship with a plant’s roots, which allows the plant to draw more nutrients and water from the soil and at the same time it increases the plant’s tolerance for environmental stresses, like drought, heavy metal contamination or high salt content in soil. The fungus gets carbohydrates in the form of glucose and sucrose in exchange for its services to the plant. These carbohydrates are formed in the plant by photosynthesis. Many plants, including trees, grains, almost anything that looks green rely on this symbiotic relationship. Some plants work in union with only one specific mycorrhizae, others collaborate with a variety of them.

Apparently, there are about 150 different species of mycorrhizae (Identified till now) around the world and in different types of



Junco predicting snow.



Daffodils protected by snow.



A picnic on snowy table?

soil.

Mycorrhizae (fungus) forms a delicate, very fine web-like structure around the roots of the plants. Some types just grow around the root system, some penetrate the roots. Not only does it make absorption of nutrients more efficient it also protects plants from pathogens. I found it extremely interesting that brassicas don’t have a mycorrhizal relationship at all, while it seems that everything else depends on it for proper growth. I even read that brassicas tend to destroy the fungi.

Mycorrhizal products are available for hydroponic systems and soil-less medium. They come in the form of a powder that can be added to the water or mixed into the medium. However, the fungi do not reproduce like they do outside in soil, so mycorrhizae has to be added according to instructions for use of the product.

Back to seed starting. It is helpful to use a heat-mat under the growing containers. These mats are thermostatically controlled and keep the starting mixture at a constant temperature. I only need the 2 mats, since the seeding is staggered and it is recommended that once the seeds are up, to discon-

nect the mats. This is usually the time I need them for the next crop.

Once the little sprouts are plainly visible, I put them under some kind of artificial light. A generous soul gave me a grow-stand with light fixtures, but before I was so lucky, I put the young seedlings along a window, facing south. Then Greg installed a frame with PVC pipe to attach shop lights above the flats. Keep the lights as close to the plants as possible. If the seedlings don’t get enough hours of light, they turn weak and spindly. I turn on the lights when we get up and turn them off about 8 o’clock at night. The grow rack is a luxury, but one can do it the harder way too. Use fish emulsion and Maxicrop (kelp) as fertilizer, once the plants develop their first true leaves. You can also add these fertilizers to a spray bottle to use as a foliar feed.

I probably should not have mentioned the juncos at the beginning, because 24 hours later we woke up to 8” of the good old, fluffy white stuff and this morning to a temperature of 4 degrees. Take that on the day when daylight savings starts. Be glad you were not in my company this morning!



Good luck to the BCHS Eagles Basketball team.

BCHS Eagles head to WV State Tournament

The Braxton County Eagles Basketball team heads to the state tournament to play against St. Mary’s.

Braxton County High School students and staff as well as many Braxton County community members and business’s showed their support

with decorated signs during the morning send off on Wednesday morning.

Pick up a copy of the Braxton Citizens’ News on Tuesday, March 22nd or sign up now for an online E-Subscription for headlines and photographic coverage.