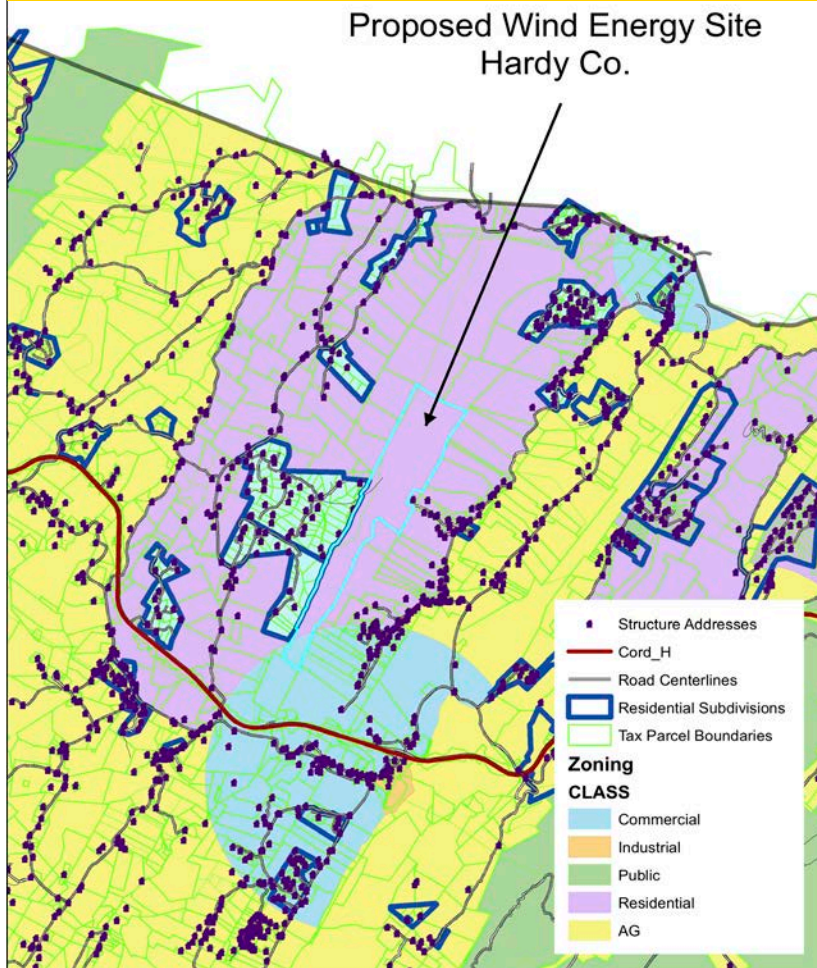




Wednesday, January 12, 2022



Map of proposed Invenergy Short Mountain Wind Energy Project

Planning Commission denies initial request for windmill project in Baker residential zone

By Milda M. Mullins
Moorefield Examiner

The Hardy County Planning Commission has rejected the initial request from wind energy company, Invenergy, which is overseeing a proposed windmill project in the county.

Invenergy's initial request is to construct and operate 19 large renewable wind energy turbines on approximately 2,000 acres of property in a residential zone in Baker.

According to Josh Hreha, Invenergy's lead developer for the Short Mountain Wind Energy Project, the windmills will provide energy that will take "the path of least resistance" and go to the Baker substation.

Hreha explained that there is not a tangible way to measure how much of the energy stays in Hardy County or West Virginia, but that it will add to the grid and pass through Baker's station.

If constructed, the lifespan of the project

would be around 50 years and Hreha reported that Invenergy would return the landscape back to how it was, or as close as possible, after the project is concluded.

Hreha presented to the Board of Education at their last meeting on Monday, Jan. 3, regarding property tax revenue and that the project will bring the state and county as well as the tax revenue that will aid school districts.

According to a report provided to the board from Hreha, the Short Mountain Wind Energy Project will bring in an annual average of \$119,005 of tax revenue for Hardy County Schools, starting with \$179,400 in 2024.

The collected funds will depreciate by around two to three thousand dollars over time, with the gap widening as the windmills age. By 2053, the anticipated end year of the project's lifespan, the schools can expect around \$55,827 according to the information Hreha provided to the board.

He told board members they could re-

ceive around \$3,570,135 in a cumulative total through tax revenue for the schools by the end of the project.

Additionally, Hardy County could reportedly see \$2,631,595 in property taxes by the end of the project with an average annual property tax income of \$87,720.

The State of West Virginia will reportedly receive \$46,007 by the end of the project with an annual average of \$1,534 – with both county and state revenues following the same depreciating value over time as the windmills age.

Invenergy reports that under their current timeline, they are currently under a development stage that includes solar resource assessments, environmental studies, interconnection studies, permitting and more. Invenergy reports their development stage to be from 2021 to 2023.

The company then anticipates project construction to occur from 2023 to 2024 with the

Continued on page 5

COVID-19 Death toll rises to 43

Ours discusses state of the county with Commissioners

By Milda M. Mullins
Moorefield Examiner

Another Hardy County resident, an 82 year old man, has passed away due to COVID-19, bringing the county's death toll to 43 as of Monday, Jan. 10.

Hardy County Health Department Administrator Bill Ours presented an update to Hardy County Commissioners at their last meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

"I'll try not to be all doom and gloom... when I came into the room before the meeting, I said 'we got a blizzard coming.' If you guys recall, I've sat here before you for two years now and I believe I've nailed about everything that I said was going to happen has happened. If not I'm pretty daggone close," said Ours.

"The problem is we're not even dealing with Omicron. What we're dealing with now is Delta (the variant strain)."

Continued on page 5

Area has first snowfall of 2022



Photo by Carl Holcomb

A snowy scene facing westbound at the overlook along U.S. 48 Corridor H as seen on Friday, Jan 7. More photos from the snow day can be found on page 12

Moorefield donates \$50,000 to WHEMS

by Hannah Heishman
Moorefield Examiner

The Moorefield Town Council's first meeting of 2022 was held Jan. 4, and opened with information and a request from newly-formed West Hardy EMS.

Disclosure: This reporter is on the WHEMS board of directors.

Council member Mary Jo Johnston, who is the West Hardy board president, abstained from discussion and voting on the request.

West Hardy treasurer Billie Biddle told the council it will take the organization six more months for certification to bill Medicare and Medicaid, which covers roughly 85 percent of their customer base.

Continued on page 3

Commissioners handle funding requests, New Year business

By Milda M. Mullins
Moorefield Examiner

The Hardy County Commission voted on a variety of items from funding requests to board appointments for their first meeting of the new year on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

Commissioners approved two funding requests – one request from the Hardy County Emergency Ambulance Authority and another from the Hardy County Prosecutor's office.

Assistant prosecutor Orin Stagers requested a salary increase and funds for part time help in the

prosecutor's office. Commissioners unanimously approved.

Additionally, they unanimously approved a \$65,000 draw down request from the HCEAA.

Commissioners also signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the South Branch Valley Day Report Center.

Darren E. Taylor, Day Report's new Executive Director, provided a brief report to commissioners regarding the status of Day Report and notified them that he is the new point of contact. Former Executive Director Cary Ours had her last day at Day Report on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

In other business, Commissioners

voted to maintain regularly scheduled meetings to be held at 9 a.m. on the first Tuesdays of the month and they also approved new board appointments.

Commissioner Jay Fansler is appointed to sit on the Board of Education Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan Board, the Local Emergency Planning Council Board, the 911 Board, and the Hardy County Rural Development Authority Board.

Commissioner Steve Schetrom will sit on the Corridor H Authority Board, the Work Investment Board, the Moorefield and Hardy County Regional Wastewater

Authority, the Day Report Center Board, the Hardy County Rural Development Authority Board, the Planning Commission Board, the Hardy County Child Care Center Board, and the Region 8 Board.

Commissioner Dave Workman was appointed to the Hardy County Rural Development Authority Board, the Farmland Preservation Board, the Hardy County Park Board, the County Extension Service Board, the Eastern W.Va. Community Action Board, the Hardy County Convention and Visitor's Bureau Board, the Hardy County Geographic Information System Board, West Hardy Emergency Medical Service

Board and the Region 8 Solid Waste Authority Board.

Closing out the meeting, Commissioners reported that the jail bill for the month of October, which was the latest information available, was \$44,052.25.

Farmland Preservation money collected for the month of December totaled to \$14,274.70 with the total collection for 2021 totaling to \$235,904.90.

The next County Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 1, at the Hardy County Courthouse at 204 Washington Street in Moorefield.

Ambulance Authority buys new equipment, provides raises

By Milda M. Mullins
Moorefield Examiner

The Hardy County Ambulance Authority board unanimously passed a motion to purchase a new cot and cardiac monitor for one of their new ambulances at their last meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 29, which was a special meeting.

The board received bids from two agencies for the equipment, Stryker and Ferno.

They ultimately decided to get a piece of equipment from each – the cot from Stryker

and a Phillips cardiac monitor from Ferno. The cot will cost \$21,290.30 and the cardiac monitor will cost \$43,060. Both total costs include warranties for both items.

Along with the new equipment purchase, the HCEAA board also passed a motion to give market matches for raises to their staff to give them a "more comparable salary to surrounding EMS agencies," according to HCEAA Executive Director Derek Alt.

Part time hourly EMT's will now receive \$15 an hour and part time hourly medics will receive \$21 an hour. Full time employees received a four percent raise as well.

In other business, a contract between the Ambulance Authority and West Hardy EMS, which is taking over the service area for the now-retired Fraley Ambulance Service, took effect on Jan. 1, 2022.

The total expenses for the HCEAA for the month of Dec. were \$76,472.60 with the total revenue being \$90,865.27. The Hardy County Commission provided \$65,000 to the income, services brought in \$25,832.38, and other incomes provided \$32.89.

For the month of Dec., the HCEAA received 110 alerts, which was reportedly "our busiest month on record and the first time I know of

that we broke 100 calls," according to Alt's report to the County Commission on Tuesday, Jan. 4. They also conducted 66 transports.

The next Ambulance Authority meeting is scheduled to be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 12, at the 911 Center at 157 Freedom Way in Moorefield.

The Hardy County Ambulance Authority meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in alternating locations between the Moorefield 911 Center at 157 Freedom Way in Moorefield and the Ambulance Authority building at 17940 W.Va. 55 in Baker.

West Virginia candidate paperwork filing begins Monday

Associated Press

Candidates planning to run for office in West Virginia's May 10 primary election may file their paperwork beginning Monday, Jan. 10, Secretary of State Mac Warner said.

The certificate of announcement may be filed with the secretary of state's office or the county clerk's office, depending on the office being sought. Paperwork and filing fee must be submitted by midnight Jan. 29.

The paperwork must be filed in the secretary of state's office for candidates seeking federal, statewide, legislative, and judicial other than magistrate offices, and for those running for office in more than one county. All other candidates file at their respective county clerk's office.

Offices on the ballot this year include U.S. House; state Senate and House of Delegates; county commissions; county boards of education; conservation district supervisors; political party executive committees for state, congressional, delegate, senatorial and county districts; and any vacancies for unexpired terms that are to be filled.

WEATHER Source: AccuWeather

Wednesday
CLOUDY
High 52°



Thursday
RAIN
High 46°



Friday
CLOUDY
High 32°



GET IT IN DIGITAL
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\$30 PER YEAR



OPINION

From the Examiner of January 10, 2007

Need to Consider

Over the Holidays we were approached by some folks who had issues they thought should be addressed.

The first one was sidewalks. We've written about this before, but perhaps while governing bodies are looking to the future in the new year they might consider the problem again.

Moorefield desperately needs sidewalks on both the north and south end of Main Street. With shopping centers located at both ends of town, people who walk are putting their lives in danger. We don't know if it's the town or the state who has responsibility or even if it's the federal government since US 220 is a federal highway. It doesn't matter who is in charge, the situation should be corrected before someone is killed while trying to navigate the unsafe streets of Moorefield.

The town also needs to find some dollars to put sidewalks on Spring and Maple. As population increases and traffic gets worse, these are roads leading to the Town Park, the Post Office, the Senior Center and the Health Department. We've also seen a lot more people walking on Winchester Avenue past the Brethren Church toward Spring. Again, this is a state route, but another of the areas without sidewalks which are accidents waiting to happen.

Secondly, we were asked what has happened to the by-pass? Our response was that we don't know, but will find out as soon as possible. In the meantime, maybe someone in the Department of Highways or the Town can lead us to an answer.

The third problem related to Olivet Cemetery and the number of old gravestones which are leaning precariously toward the east or the west due to settling. There are staked and broken headstones which should be returned and reset in their rightful location. The majority of these are in the very old section of the cemetery. Since most of those buried there have no one to look after the grave sites it is up to the Olivet Corporation to keep them up under the perpetual care agreements.

We were also asked if there was a map of the cemetery with the location of those buried there. Years ago, Earl Thrush maintained a map of Olivet and who was buried where. We haven't seen that map in years and don't know what happened to it. If the Olivet folks can help find that it might give them a start on a data base of burial sites.

The last question was why doesn't Moorefield have a railroad station? Romney has one. Petersburg has one. But there is no where to access the numerous trains which carry passengers to and from Moorefield to other areas. Passengers have been on-loaded on Cunningham Lane, Spring Street or at the original station location on Jefferson.

The Potomac Eagle comes to Moorefield for Heritage Weekend, the Fourth of July, during the fall leaf peeping, and this year added a North Pole Express to the local stops. Other groups get on in Moorefield, too. We met our brother at the Jefferson Street crossing in November when he came here with a bus tour from Fairfax to take the train through the Trough to Greenspring.

The handicapped are truly left out when it comes to "climbing aboard" trains in Moorefield. They have to be mobile or lifted onto the train and that's not acceptable. There's plenty of space at Jefferson Street for a station with a loading ramp and bathroom facilities. An area for someone with initiative to offer coffee, soda, tea and snacks to those who ride the train could also be included with a gift shop. Best of all there is parking because both the Stock Yard and Fire Company have been gracious about letting people riding the train use their parking areas.

Four problems. Not such easy solutions, but solutions are possible. We hope the governing bodies involved will put these issues on front burners and try to solve them.

Now Fifteen years later . . .

Most of the areas noted above as needing sidewalks have not had any sign of construction or plans.

The bypass died for a lack of a second. Just think how the truck traffic in downtown Moorefield could be rerouted and make the area both safer and quieter.

A lot has improved at Olivet, but as with all problems, more needs to be done.

And finally, the railroad issues . . . there doesn't seem to be a lot of interest in improving the access or additional opportunities to rail service. We need a group to push improvements and people to back them.

And finally, we look around at efforts being made to improve life in Moorefield and Hardy County and we see the biggest problem is a lack of individuals who care and who are willing to give time, money and energy to the efforts.

We know you're busy with families, jobs and other commitments. But don't complain about things that need to be done unless you can find a couple of hours here and there to help.

To those who do, we say many thanks.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor:

I strongly oppose the proposed massive wind turbines and rezoning of RESIDENTIAL land along Short Mountain, in Baker WV. I also strongly oppose Invenegy, an energy company based over 600

miles away in Chicago, telling the residents of Hardy County how their county should be zoned and how land should be used. There are more suitable areas for these giant turbines already zoned for industrial use which have been proposed by the

planning commission. These towering structures would undoubtedly be the most prominent feature in the entire county, at over 450 tall. To preserve the integrity of our mountain tranquility and scenery, our county leaders must ensure Short Mountain

remains zoned residential.

My wife and I, Colonel Sharon Evans, searched West Virginia far and wide, before finding the amazing natural features and wonder-

Continued on page 3

MY UNBASED OPINION

By DAVID O. HEISHMAN

"Sick and tired." An expression of disgust I've heard most of my life. Said with sufficient volume and emphasis, it conveys the idea that you don't really want to hear any more about whatever topic is being presented.

It became common, even prominent with me during the televised political shenanigans Democrats went through attempting to be rid of President Donald Trump. It seemed every moment of their misguided displays of anger were rerun incessantly on evening news. It got to where I couldn't digest food and news same time at the supper table. "Sick and tired."

It's happening again. Now Democrats are attempting to keep Trump's head down long enough to limit the damage he might do to their headline majorities in congress in midterm elections in 2022 and to the presidency in 2024.

January 6th, 2021 attack on the U. S. Capitol happened on Trump's

watch in the waning days of his administration. His denouncing the "Big Lie" election which gave control of the highest office to Democrats was at least indirectly responsible for the unrest which set off the riot.

Simple fact remains, that all the actions Mr. Trump rails against, happened while he was President. Why? Why did Mr. Trump allow all this alleged Democrat hanky panky in vote counting during his own administration. The Boss, the Leader, the Chief Executive Officer, the President of any organization holds final responsibility for actions, which occurred while he was in charge. Mr. Biden didn't become President until January 20, 2021, 14 days after the riot.

So, yes, I believe Mr. Trump bears ultimate responsibility for events he claims robbed him of the Presidency. I believe he should now back off, sit down and shut up about it. Allow me an evening meal in peace.

BUT, then Mr. Trump was well

taught by master teachers in the art of political deception. He spent four long years, enough for a college Bachelor's Degree, receiving instruction from Democrats who were attacking the legitimacy of his Presidency. Democrat leadership whaled him incessantly with proven deceptions and falsehoods about collusion with Russian leaders who they alleged helped him win the 2016 election against Hillary Clinton.

Barack Obama was President during the time Mr. Trump was supposedly resorting to Russian influence. Collusion was not even legally noted as grounds to consider impeachment which Democrats attempted twice and failed both times. Mr. Obama was completing second and final term as President and he didn't really care about political squabbling, which took place beneath his notice.

So far we've been subjected to most of six years of Donald Trump's problems. He began by winning the Presidency against most accepted

GLANCING BACKWARD

FROM THE MOOREFIELD EXAMINER ARCHIVES

Fifteen Years Ago January 10, 2007

Roger D. Champ was elected president of the Hardy County Commission.

Commissioners were asked to consider changes to the Subdivision Ordinance and Building Code.

U. S. Senator Robert C. Byrd was sworn in for a record ninth term in the Senate. He said, "We have the opportunity to work for the people and put their priorities first. Good jobs, access to better health care, improved class rooms."

The City Council decided to get more information before making a decision on their insurance coverage.

John Martin Vermilyen, 76, Romney, died Jan. 3...Ruby Funkhouser Hottinger, 58, Baker, died Jan. 1...Virginia Merritt Dean, 87, Old Fields, died Dec. 28...Garland Odell See, 82, Junction, died Dec. 28.

April Miller and Courtney Knight were married Dec. 31.

Thirty Years Ago January 8, 1992

The West Virginia Supreme Court agreed to hear an appeal from the Potomac Valley Soil Conservation District to overturn Judge John Hamilton's decision to refuse the power of eminent domain to condemn property for a flood control dam.

Carol Bean Lindsey, a native of Baker, was named administrator of the War Memorial Hospital in Berkeley Springs.

The Hardy County Board of Education voted to run a special school bond election in March to construct a middle school and improve existing facilities.

Herman Edward Zirk, 83, Milam, died Dec. 30...Overton Edward Miller Evans, 73, Purgitsville, died Dec. 30... Dorothy Philips Williams, 90, Knob Fork, died Dec. 27...Michael S. Tanner, 45, Terra Alta, died Jan. 1...George Earl Vincent, 98, Fairmont, died Dec. 30...Leah Halterman Heishman, 79, Timberville, died Dec. 31.

Stacy Marie Rumer and Robert Funk were married.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller, a daughter, Emily. She was the first baby born in 1992 at Grant Memorial Hospital.

Moorefield defeated Circleville 58-39...East Hardy defeated Tygarts Valley 64-44.

Forty-five Years Ago January 12, 1977

Clyde M. See, Jr. was elected Majority Leader of the House of Delegates. He was the first delegate from Hardy County to hold that position.

Plans for the E. A. Hawse Retirement Village were presented to the County Commission.

Fires at the City Dump would be allowed to burn unless structures or human life were threatened.

Mary Riggleman Ryan, 75, Lost City, died Jan. 4...Herman Charles Head, 77, Mount Storm, died Jan. 7...Zella Judy Dasher, 73, Statesville, NC, died Dec. 26... Ira B. Basler, Jr., 57, Baltimore, died Dec. 29...Ivan S. Cullers, 76, Broadway, died Jan. 9...Margaret Smith Sherman, 65, Paw Paw, died Jan. 3.

Sarah Laurie Jenkins and Jerry Wayne Pence were married Nov. 6. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Ross L.

Webster, a son...to Mr. and Mrs. William Wilson, Jr., a son, Jonathan Michael.

Wardensville defeated Circleville 64-62...Mathias lost to Eastern Menonite 93-58.

Sixty Years Ago January 10, 1962

Hardy County was the first county to join the Mountain State Visitors Bureau which will promote travel in West Virginia.

The Lions Club reported the distribution of 71 baskets to needy families before Christmas.

Editor Ralph Fisher told the Woman's Club that the threat of Communism was real, that Communists wanted to take over the United States, and that there were 50 to 60,000 Communists working in every phase of American life.

Mary Ellen Michael, 74, Wardensville, died Jan. 2.

Barbara Sue Evans and Jimmy Allen Cornell were married Nov. 18... Judy Ann Raines and Melvynn E. Johnston were married Dec. 9... Naomi Funkhouser and Lloyd Austin Glaize were married Dec. 2.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Davis, a daughter, Pamela Jean...to Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Fultz, a daughter...to Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Crites, a daughter...to Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Whiteman, a son...to Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Delp, a daughter...to Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Ludwig, a son, Alan Cliff...to Mr. and Mrs. Ersel Funk, a

daughter.

Moorefield lost to Piedmont 55-36.

Seventy-five Years Ago January 8, 1947

C. B. Hiatt released Dec. figures for the Community Cannery. A total of 4209 pounds of lard was rendered; a total of 2,330 pounds of sausage was made; one beef and one veal were butchered; pudding made totaled 156 pounds and scrapple totaled 33 pounds. Canned meats totaled 743 quarts. New patrons for the year were 165 women and 53 men.

Reginald Saville was reelected president of the Hardy County Game and Fish Association.

Gov. Clarence Meadows ordered West Virginia ballots for the impending senate elected of Sweeney/Kilgore be impounded.

Margaret Wilson Clinedinst, 78, Edinburg, died Jan. 12... Francis W. Pingley, 84, Winchester, Frederick County Game Warden, died Jan. 6.

Elma Rumer and Calvin Fitzwater were married...Mable Kathryn Rogers and Pfc. Alfonse Costello were married Jan. 5... Wilma Layman and Loyd Smith were married Dec. 21...

Geneva Kohn and Denis L. Strawderman were married Dec. 25...Mrs. Blanche Wilson and Darrel Wageley were married Jan. 3... Beal Frye and Forest Alkire were married...

Janet Randolph Moore and J. Allen Potts were married Dec. 21...Margaret Ann Nagy and Blair Ernest Hott were married on Sept. 29...Maxine May and Garlen Vernon Souder were married on Jan. 11.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Austin Strawderman, a daughter...to Mr. and Mrs. Cleal Rittenour, a daughter, Virginia Sandra...to Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Collins, a daughter, Bonnie June...to Mr. and Mrs. John Hawkins, a daughter.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Frye had died and schools were closed... Esther Herbaugh was ill with scarlet fever in Lost City and Ward Wood was also ill.

The County Court had elected John Clower as president. F. B. Chrisman had appointed C. C. Wise, A. W. Mathias, T. B. Cunningham and George Paskel as his deputies. The salary of the sheriff was set at \$1,800, salary of circuit clerk Welton at \$33.24 a month and as county clerk \$41.66.

T. J. Bergdoll completed a new barn for Mrs. J. William Gilkeson on her farm near town. He had contracted to erect a barn for Jim VanMeter in Old Fields.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Inskeep, a son.

None of these sites are less than 50 miles and most are more. Too bad there's no one around here willing to establish a drop off location.

Found Us

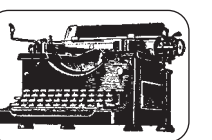
An AP news story caught our attention recently. During the week of Dec. 22-28 an average 378 children with the coronavirus were admitted per day to hospitals. According to the CDC that was a 68 percent increase over the previous week. During the Dec. 22-28 week there was an av-

erage of nearly 10,200 people of all ages admitted per day. The bad news was that none of the children admitted to Philadelphia Children's Hospital, just one example mentioned, had been vaccinated. The good news is that vaccine is being made available to younger and younger children. We'll be happier when the under-six can be vaccinated since we have grandchildren in that age range.

Because I'm part of the handling age group, I'd like to enjoy my few remaining suppers in peace and quiet conversation with friends and family. I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired.

I'd like to see him out of the picture. Give me a break from petty political pushing and shoving. Pass his good deeds on to another worthy leader and join all other aged top leadership of both parties in handling grand children in retirement. Turn America over to younger folks who are likely to be around to live with their own decisions.

Because I'm part of the handling age group, I'd like to enjoy my few remaining suppers in peace and quiet conversation with friends and family. I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired.



MOOREFIELD EXAMINER

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EXAMINER SAYS

Winter

Be glad you didn't have to drive I-95 in Virginia last week. After getting a foot of snow on Monday, hundreds of motorists were stranded for more than 24 hours as 48 miles of I-95 were closed.

Has Finally

For some time we have thought about where dry cleaning could be found nearby. We remember when there used to be drop off sites in Moorefield and other communities

which was so convenient. No more and not for a long time. We picked up on an inquiry from Chip Combs recently and it garnered several bits of information. First of all, there's no dry cleaning source or drop spot in the Valley from Pendleton to Hampshire. Second, if you want dry cleaning you'll have to go to Cumberland, Winchester or Oakland. Don't know about Harrisonburg or other communities in the Shenandoah Valley, but maybe someone out there knows.

None of these sites are less than 50 miles and most are more. Too bad there's no one around here willing to establish a drop off location.

Found Us

An AP news story caught our attention recently. During the week of Dec. 22-28 an average 378 children with the coronavirus were admitted per day to hospitals. According to the CDC that was a 68 percent increase over the previous week. During the Dec. 22-28 week there was an av-

NEWS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



ful people of Hardy County. From Harpers Ferry, Berkeley Springs, Thomas, Davis, and all the way to Greenbrier, we couldn't find a more picturesque coupling of wonderful people/local business and incredible mountain landscapes. Once we were fortunate enough to find a beautiful mountain plot, we set out to design the home we have been dreaming of our entire lives, especially now that the prospects of working from home now and/or in the future are so prevalent. Many people like us have realized we don't need to wait until retirement to begin enjoying mountain home dreams. This is a TREMENDOUS draw to bring people to support and build a more vibrant community, generating additional tax revenue for Hardy County. Ironically, our newest "soon to be" neighbors also have military backgrounds and came to Hardy County looking for a more tranquil setting—away from the perils of a big city and big industry.

My wife and I are very active in our community. We support local government, law enforcement, fire and rescue departments, local charities, and as much local business as we can. We made a commitment to support the local community when we decided to relocate to Hardy County. We selected a local bank, a local architect, a local builder with local team members, and are sourcing products from local companies. We support businesses in Wardensville, Lost River, Moorefield, and beyond. We believe in the importance of spending money in your own community, as it will only help the community to grow and thrive with the services and infrastructure it needs.

Be wary of believing claims you may hear from Invenergy, as they can be widely disputed. The company describes the creation of local jobs; however, those limited jobs would inevitably be VERY temporary, where few or none may be permanent for local residents. The wind-created energy itself can be argued as fungible and may not benefit the residents of WV at all. The peril of this project far outweighs the "proposed benefit" to the county.

While my wife and I support alternative and sustainable energy, we DO NOT SUPPORT and do not feel it necessary to destroy many facets of a natural environment to make it happen. Dozens of acres of mature hardwood forest would need to be cleared PER TURBINE. Natural habitats for a wealth of animal species (including some under federal protection) would be decimated. Noise and light pollution, possibly leading to health and quality of life issues for residents within a miles-wide area, would be the "new normal." Many would see a decline in home and property value, perhaps as high as 40%, and some could be as far as two miles away from the project! Residents cannot allow a change to zoning on Short Mountain which leads to these negative outcomes.

To quote the Hardy County Comprehensive Plan: "Pristine rolling hills provide the scenic views and outdoor recreational opportunities that draw hikers, bikers, cyclists, and explorers—as well as those seeking to build or buy homes with tranquil, natural surroundings."

These massive turbines will not only destroy the "tranquil, natural

surroundings," of those currently residing or owning property in Hardy County, the turbines will work hard to keep people AWAY from Hardy County. Short Mountain must remain zoned RESIDENTIAL.

If you would like to sign a petition to STOP THE REZONING / WIND FARM PROJECT ON SHORT MOUNTAIN, please email: noturbinesonshortmountain@gmail.com to receive a link to a petition.

You may also contact your Hardy County Commission at 304-530-0284 and the Hardy County Planning Commission at 304-530-0257. Tell them you oppose rezoning Short Mountain and the proposed wind farm.

Derek Cole
Baker, WV

Editor:

In response to the article from the HCEAA meeting that was published on December 15, the Wardensville Volunteer Rescue Squad was disappointed by the comments made by a community/board member and a community business owner. Yes, he is correct; we do respond in street clothes on many calls because we are UNPAID volunteers of an unmanned station serving our community. We respond as rapidly and professionally as possible with personnel that have the same level of training as any other organization. We also do the above on a limited budget and with extremely limited volunteers.

We work hard to do the best job we can. Out of the ambulance fee, that you pay, we receive \$15,000 per year which barely covers our insur-

ance premiums and the remainder of our costs (vehicles, building, utilities, fuel, supplies and training) come from community support, fund raisers and the minimal billing that we bill for our services. While the other units in the area operate off the ambulance fee that we all pay, (including our own volunteers) that well exceeds one-million dollars.

We will continue to do our absolute best and will continue to provide quality and caring patient care to our neighbors, friends, and by-passers in our community. We invite HCEAA to better fund our squad and would be happy to have the board member that made the comment, his family, and others to learn more about our squad and to obtain an application to be active members or serve our squad in some capacity.

We would also like to stress that we as a squad respect and appreciate the challenging work and dedication of every EMS, Fire, Law Enforcement, and volunteer organizations that serve our community paid or unpaid.

We serve because we love our community. We are working hard on getting more volunteers and to do better for the people of Wardensville and are offering a EMT class starting in February. If interested, please contact a member or message our Facebook page. We cannot thank our community enough for those that have reached out in support of us after reading the article.

Sincerely,

Members of the Wardensville
Volunteer Rescue Squad

Moorefield Donates

Continued from page 1

West Hardy will be able to bill Medicare and Medicaid for calls occurring before certification, but until that time, their only income will be through private insurance or self-paying patients.

The organization, which has applied for non-profit status, also took out a loan through a local bank.

"We're just asking for anything we can get," Biddle said. "We'll be thankful for anything."

Biddle explained that payroll fluctuates depending on call volume, and that there is only one full-time employee. Daytime shifts are paid shifts; evening and night shifts are paid per call.

Six months of payroll and payroll taxes is estimated at \$88,000.

Council member Roger Pratt, reviewing West Hardy's known and anticipated expenses, asked if any cheaper spaces were available. Biddle said no other suitable spaces were available.

When asked if the Hardy County Commission had assisted, Biddle acknowledged that they bought West Hardy's equipment, totalling over \$380,000.

Biddle also invited the council to attend meetings, or review financial data, if they wished.

"Our meetings are open. Our books are open. Our goals are huge," she said.

The council ultimately donated \$50,000 from Recovery Act funds, while noting they could revisit donating more in a few months.

Code Enforcement

In December, the Town approved three building permits, with a total \$6000 value. The 2021 totals are 101 approved permits, with just under a \$2.9 million improvement value.

Vic Shockey, who's both the building inspector and code enforcement officer, said he contacted 23 property owners in Dec. about 39 violations. Of those, 37 are already resolved.

Most constituted yard junk and clutter.

From May to December, he contacted 281 property owners about 575 violations. The owners resolved 570 of them, or 99 percent.

May 2021 is when the Town hired Shockey, and therefore when he started tracking data.

Shockey told the council that

Town Planning Commission is creating a new codebook chapter to cover landlor and tenant responsibilities. They're using code examples from Martinsburg, Charleston, and Elkins.

Their next meeting is Jan. 24.

Shockey emphasized that abandoned and junk vehicles are a major issue in city limits. Vehicles must be licensed, or in a building.

Moorefield Police

Chief Stephen Riggelman said the MPD responded to 160 calls for service in December, including 17 felony arrests, 48 misdemeanors, 64 traffic citations, and 107 traffic warnings. Officers supported Cram the Cruiser and the Town's Christmas parade on Dec. 11.

The department received ordered license plate readers, and has begun receiving Special Response Team equipment.

Following an executive session, the council accepted an MPD officer's letter of resignation.

Public Works

Water personnel installed a water tap for the new restrooms by the new basketball courts at the Town Park, and pumped out the old clear wells at the old water plant.

Sewer crews installed a tap at the same location, as well as one for the new community building at Moorefield Elementary School. They pulled pumps at the South Branch Inn pump station twice.

Park personnel helped re-install and redecorate the Town Christmas tree, which blew over on a windy night. They're also working on new picnic tables for the shelter at the new basketball courts.

Street crews conducted maintenance on equipment and facilities, cut brush along the fence line by the new water plant, and changed some streetlights from brighter bulbs back to the yellow bulbs.

Assistant Public Works Director Doug Mongold also notified the council that guidelines for earning Commercial Drivers Licenses change this year to include a four-week class.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. The public is encouraged to attend. Social distancing is observed; masks are optional.

FRAN WONDERS

By FRAN WELTON

Our Southern Border, our President and Congress—

What wonders this West Virginia housewife has about our southern border with Mexico, wide open with millions and millions of people crossing illegally into our country every day?

Let me clarify right up front: I am not against people from other countries entering our United States and territories legally. In fact if my family, both sides, had not followed the rules to enter the country at the turn of the century, none of us would be here today. The key is legally. I do not approve of drug dealers, sexual

dealers, murderers, robbers, smugglers or shysters of any kind being able to enter our country at all. We raise enough to this class of folks on our own.

So I do wonder who is behind the organized mass movement of all those who have crossed our borders so far. The key word here is organized. Some say to follow the money. OK, is it our political parties, all of them? Is it individual elected officials, individual wealthy people like the often mentioned George Soros, big businesses and industry, organized gangs, unions, mob or mafia groups, religious groups or other

countries themselves sponsoring or paying those doing the crossings?

Their clothing, backpacks, tents, etc. that we see them wearing or bringing into the country from our media reports look new and expensive to me. I can't imagine all the folks crossing having that kind of money to pay for their expensive journey to America. I wonder how they access the money they need for their border crossings?

I wonder why the border states have not organized themselves to pay for and finish the border wall and set up their own program for controlling who enters and who must

stay in Mexico or Canada? Wonder why they can't then divide the cost of finishing the border with all the other states, and then the states sending their bills to the President of the United States, or congress? My understanding is the border wall money is still available so if the president or congress won't pay for the expenses, then why not a class action lawsuit against him and/or congress being presented before the Supreme Court? I wonder when and why the United States President and Congress forgot their responsibility to keep our country safe and secure according to our Constitution.... Fran Wonders!

NEWS BRIEFS

The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WV-DACH) is accepting submissions for the 2022 Youth Congressional Art competition through Friday, Feb. 4, 2022. The competition is open to high school students only. Artwork submissions can be mailed or hand delivered to the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, in Charleston. Students can get entry forms with a complete list of rules and guidelines from their school's art teacher(s), or by contacting Charles Morris, WV-DACH director of museums, at (304) 558-0220 or charles.W.Morris@wv.gov.

West Virginia University is committed to providing an on-campus learning experience as the spring 2022 semester approaches. However, with the rise in COVID-19 cases across the country and throughout the state because of the omicron variant, the University is implementing several updated campus health and safety protocols ahead of the start of classes that began on Monday, Jan.

10. Questions related to COVID-19 and WVU's health and safety protocols can be submitted or sent via email to returntocampus@mail.wvu.edu

The WV Department of Agriculture will be hosting a virtual refresher Acidified-Only Better Process Control (BPC) class on January 26. To be eligible to attend this class you must have previously completed the BPCS course. This is only a four-hour refresher class and will not provide certification. There is no cost for the refresher class, however, space is limited and will be on a first-come-first-serve basis to the first 27 students. Registration will close on Wednesday, January 19th at 4 p.m. on the link provided: <https://agriculture.wv.gov/wvda-events/> For questions related specifically to the BPCS, contact Leslie Boggess at lboggess@wvda.us or 304-558-2210.

According to AAA last week, the average price for regular gas in West

Virginia was at \$3.210. The national gas price average was at \$3.293. Gasoline prices barely budged over the past week, as fears of an omicron-driven economic "soft shutdown" dominate the news. "There is a lot of uncertainty about the potential economic impact of the COVID-19 omicron variant. Will it peak quickly and vanish as some hope, or will it linger as others fear?" said Andrew Gross, AAA spokesperson. "And we are seeing this reflected at the pump in the form of uneasy price stability." Across the state, Beckley was high as \$3.324 and Morgantown was low at \$2.92. Hardy County's gas average was \$3.388. Area prices were Hampshire \$3.345. Mineral \$3.192. Grant \$3.385, Pendleton \$3.359. In Moorefield Sheetz was \$3.37. BP was \$3.37. Exxon was \$3.39. Liberty was \$3.37. Old Fields Sunoco was \$3.37. Mathias Pure was \$3.38. Wardensville Kerr's Shell was \$3.37.

Attorney General alerts consumers to emerging jury duty scam

By Mary Stortstrom

Attorney General's Office

West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey is alerting consumers to an emerging jury duty scam with an alarming twist.

The Attorney General's Office received a report from the West Virginia Fusion Center earlier this week regarding a jury duty fine scam that may include a potential personal safety element.

"Scammers are constantly devising new schemes to scare consumers into giving them their money," Attorney General Morrisey said. "If you get a suspicious call, even if it comes from a number that looks legitimate, don't feel pressured to act immediately. Pause and give our office a call — it might save you from potentially

being scammed."

A consumer in Kanawha County was contacted by a caller representing himself as being with the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office. The call appeared to come from a legitimate Kanawha County Sheriff's Office telephone number. The caller had the consumer's work location, home address, work and cell phone numbers, and potential relatives prior to the consumer providing any sort of information. The caller told the consumer they had failed to appear for jury duty and had multiple warrants out for their arrest. The consumer received instructions to meet at the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office, in-person, and to bring \$1,900 in bail money, to be paid either in cash or by debit card.

The West Virginia Fusion Center

also recently received three additional reports from the Putnam County Sheriff's Office of scam calls involving similar spoofed calls appearing to be from law enforcement requesting payment for a supposed failure to appear for jury duty.

If consumers receive a suspicious call from someone claiming to represent law enforcement, they should check directly with the legitimate agency to confirm whether the call is authentic.

Anyone who believes they may have been affected by this scam should contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at 1-800-368-8808, the Eastern Panhandle Consumer Protection Office in Martinsburg at 304-267-0239 or visit the office online at www.wvago.gov.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

MES Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will be held at Moorefield Elementary School on January 14. Please call 304-530-6356 during the week of Jan. 3 to Jan. 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to schedule your appointment time. Only children who did not attend PreK (during 2021-2022) need to register for Kindergarten.

Pre-K Registration

Hardy County Pre-Kindergarten registration for children who will be four years old before July 1, 2022 will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 27, and Thursday, Feb. 17. Moorefield area school students will report to the Moorefield Early Learning Center, the Head Start building on 112 Bean's Lane in Moorefield and the Baker, Wardensville, and Mathias area school students

will report to East Hardy Early Middle School on the aforementioned days. Participating community members should bring the following: legal state-issued birth certificate, up to date immunization records, social security card, verification of income, health insurance information, and the most recent well-check (medical) and dental records. Registration is also available online. Complete the enrollment form on the hardycountyschools.com website by February 25, 2022 or obtain a paper copy at the Hardy County Board of Education Office. Please call 304-530-5511 for an appointment.

Project Hello There

Lost River Projects invites people of all ages to send holiday greetings to residents of E.A. Hawse Nursing Center. You do not need to know anyone personally! Please send

notes and letters to Hello there! c/o Lost River Projects P.O. Box 23, Baker, WV 26801. Lost River Projects will deliver your notes and letters to E A Hawse Nursing Center in Baker.

Flu and COVID Shots

Hardy County Health Department will be giving flu and/or COVID shots at the following times:

Flu shots will be given on Monday and Wednesday only, from 8:00 – 11:30 and 1:00 – 3:30. You do not need an appointment for a flu shot. Bring your insurance cards. If you do not have insurance, you can still get a flu shot. The Moderna booster is now available. COVID shots are by appointment only and will be scheduled on Thursday or Friday, depending on which shot you need. Call the health department at 304-530-6355 to schedule an ap-

pointment.

Dead Animals

The West Virginia Division of Highways wants to remind the public of its policy regarding the pickup and disposal of dead animals. The DOH will only pick up carcasses on state owned highways and will not go on private property. To report a dead animal on a state owned road, please notify your local district DOH office at 304-434-2525.

Spay and Neuter

Christmastime -- Get the cat or dog spayed or neutered! Spay Today, (Main Office: Charles Town, WV) is our area's non-profit, reduced-fee spay and neuter program. MANY participating vets over a WIDE area! Gift certificates can be purchased and used later. Spay Today: 304.728-8330 or <https://spay-today.org>

Drug Take Back

The Moorefield Police Department maintains a permanent collection site for unwanted or expired prescription medication, located within the Police Department. It is located at 206 Winchester Ave. and is available to the public Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information check Moorefield Police Department Facebook page or call 304-530-1777.

Food Pantry

The Moorefield Church of God Food Pantry is open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The church is at 212 S. Elm St. in Moorefield. They provide commodities in accordance with federal USDA policy.

Heritage Tiles Available

The 2021 Heritage Week-

end Tile House tiles are now available for purchase at the Hardy County Public Library. The tiles are \$15 each, with all proceeds benefiting the ongoing efforts of the Hardy County Tour & Craft Association.

Honor Veterans

The American Legion wants to make sure they honor each Veteran who is buried in Hardy County with a flag on their grave for Memorial Day. Please contact Karen Malcolm at 304-257-6458 with the name and grave site of these honored veterans. You can text the name and site or leave her a voicemail. You can also email her at kcmalcolm@hardynet.com.

Free Classes

Earn your WV High School Equivalency diploma. Prepare for college and careers. Call Hardy County Adult Education at 304-434-8000, Ext. 9234.

SCHOOL

MIS recognizes November Leaders of the Month



By Amber Champ, MIS Principal

From left to right, Anna-Leia Champ, Summer Heavner, and Zakkary Keplinger are the Moorefield Intermediate School Leaders of the month for November. Congratulations to the MIS November Leaders of the Month. The MIS Leader of the Week and Month program is supported by Old Fields Country Store, Potomac Lanes, South Branch Cinema 6, Sheetz, and Sweet Rose Ice Cream.

Fahey named to D&E President's List

By Linda Howell Skidmore
Davis an Elkins College

Connor Fahey of Moorefield, West Virginia, a student at Davis & Elkins

College, has been named to the president's list for the fall 2021 semester. The president's list includes all full-time students with a 4.0 GPA for the semester. Related to the Presbyterian

Church (U.S.A.), Davis & Elkins College is located in Elkins, West Virginia, and offers 45 academic programs. For more info, visit the College website at www.dewv.edu.

Moorefield High DECA students earn certifications

By Jessica Markwood
Moorefield High School

Moorefield High School DECA was recently awarded the Achievement Level recognition in the 2021-2022 DECA Membership Campaign for the 2021-2022 school year. The results were announced on decadirect.org.

Each year, DECA recognizes leading chapters that have built strong local programs focused on serving an exceptional number of members, advisors, alumni and business partners. These chapters and individuals dedicate their year to academic and career preparation, community service projects, membership recruitment, school outreach activities and other DECA-related endeavors. The chapter's advisor and student leaders have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to DECA.

DECA's membership campaign is designed to help chapters grow by making the DECA experience available to more student members, keeping alumni involved and engaging professional members such as

administrators, teachers, parents and business partners.

Of the 3,000 DECA chapters, only 450 chapters earned recognition in DECA's chapter campaigns and only 775 chapters earned recognition in DECA's membership campaign.

The following DECA members and business students also earned their Microsoft Office Specialist and Microsoft Office Expert Certifications during Fall 2021 semester. The MOS Word Associate certification measures a student's capabilities with Microsoft Word to create professional and informative documents in the workplace. Congratulations to the following students for successfully earning a Microsoft Office Certification on their following exams. Kevin Aleman, Office Word 2016; Dalton Ault, Office Word 2016; Courtlynn Ault, PowerPoint Associate and Word Associate; Michael Cost, PowerPoint Associate and Word Associate; Emma Cremann, Word Associate; Amelia Gagnon, PowerPoint Associate and Word Associate; Trenton Henry, Office Word 2016; Leah Hose, Office Word 2016; William

Kimble, Office Word 2016; Abigail Leininger, Word Expert; James Minor, PowerPoint Associate; Martina Nesselrodt, Outlook Associate and Word Expert; Shawn Reed, Office Word 2016; Pedro Romero, PowerPoint Associate; Cassie Taylor, PowerPoint Associate; Tony Vega, Word Associate; Sarah Weatherholt, Excel Associate, Powerpoint Associate and Word Expert; Gage Wolfe, Office Word 2016.

DECA is a career and technical student organization that prepares over 225,000 emerging leaders and entrepreneurs who are interested in careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management. DECA enhances the preparation for college and careers by providing co-curricular programs that integrate into classroom instruction, apply learning, connect to business and promote competition. DECA student members leverage their DECA experience to become academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible, experienced leaders. For more information about DECA, visit <http://www.deca.org>.

Shenandoah students earn honors

By Brad Fauber
Shenandoah University

Shenandoah celebrates the 428 students who made the President's List for the Fall 2021 semester. Students who achieved this prestigious academic recognition attained a grade point average of at least 3.90.

Jeremiah Hines of Moorefield, Perry Whetzel of Mathias, Kaly Ne- whouse of Moorefield, and Rebecca Whetzel of Mathias all earned a

President's List.

Also honored are the 1,024 students who made the Fall 2021 Dean's List. To be considered for the Dean's List, students must complete at least 12 semester hours and earn a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Jeremiah Hines of Moorefield, Perry Whetzel of Mathias, Kaly Ne- whouse of Moorefield, and Rebecca Whetzel of Mathias all earned a

place on the Dean's List.

Shenandoah University was established in 1875, and is headquartered in Winchester, Virginia, with additional educational sites in Clarke, Fairfax and Loudoun counties.

Shenandoah is a private, nationally recognized university that blends professional career experiences with liberal education. For more information, visit su.edu

PSC professor describes new fossil fish with international team of researchers

By Debi Cruse
Potomac State College

Nathan Van Vranken, a visiting instructor at West Virginia University Potomac State College in Keyser, W.Va., recently published a paper describing the remains of dinosaur-aged fossil fish as part of an international collaboration with Swiss and Uruguayan paleontologists. Their paper appeared in the November 11, 2021 issue of PLOS ONE, an open access, peer-reviewed journal (doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0259292).

The new fossils were found by Bradley Carter, a private collector, in March 2020. Carter regularly scours the fossil-bearing outcroppings of the Woodbine Formation, a 96-million-year-old sandstone and limestone formation near Dallas, Texas that's well-known for ample dinosaur and crocodilian remains. He has also had two fossil fish species named after him.

The new fossils belong to a previously known extinct genus of coelacanth, Mawsonia. Until Carter's discovery, Mawsonia was only known from Africa and South America. Coelacanths are often called living fossils and thought to have changed little through time. During the Mesozoic Era (252 to 66 million years ago), coelacanths were very diverse and varied in behavior, body shape and habitat. Their lineage

today is restricted to two species of deep-water marine fish living in the Indian Ocean.

After finding the fossils, Carter reached out to Van Vranken, whom he had befriended during Van Vranken's undergraduate days at The University of Texas at Arlington. The two began writing a description of the fossils and soon brought in additional collaborators, Lionel Cavin and Pablo Toriño, both of whom are internationally renowned coelacanth researchers.

These new fossils excite Cavin, a Swiss paleontologist from the Natural History Museum in Geneva, who was also the lead author on the study. Cavin believes this evidence proves that more North American coelacanths are waiting to be discovered or may be sitting unrecognized in museum collections.

Cavin noted that the fossils of eastern North America are especially understudied in comparison to the frequently studied sites of western North America, which have been explored extensively since the late 1800s. Cavin and his fellow researchers think this new fossil is evidence that mawsoniids may have been more broadly distributed than previously believed.

Though modern coelacanths are deep water predators who slowly swim and eat whatever they can find, Mawsonia was likely an active

predator, similar to the Arapaima, a voracious predatory fish native to the Amazon Rainforest. According to Uruguayan paleontologist Toriño, who serves with the Universidad de la República in Montevideo and was part of the paper, Mawsonia could grow up to four meters long (13 feet), though the fossils found in Texas appear to be much smaller.

Van Vranken, who also studied the marine going lizards known as mosasaurs (popularized by the 2015 film Jurassic World) for his Master's work at The University of Texas Permian Basin and just this past October described one of the youngest records of mosasaurs in the Hell Creek Formation of North Dakota, has become captivated by fossil fish. Two years ago he published new examples of aspidorhynchids from the southeastern United States, unusual fossil fishes similar to modern needlefish but not related. He has collected additional new species of fossil fishes from Texas awaiting further description.

Furthermore, Van Vranken is not limiting himself to north-central Texas but has been eyeing what secrets our region may yield as well. He has been working alongside PSC Librarian Nick Gardner, who dabbles in paleontology in his spare time and has been exploring the region's paleontology riches since the mid-2010s. They co-presented last year at an

online conference on their urban paleontology experiences in the Washington Metropolitan area and are working on a short paper describing the fishes, marine reptiles and sharks they found. They both credit their findings to the passion of amateurs and avocational paleontologists throughout the region who helped them uncover many localities that had been long forgotten by researchers. Gardner notes that paleontologists can benefit from the passion of amateurs and private collectors who are out there every weekend, wading in creeks and walking along roadcuts.

While his primary focus is on teaching undergraduate students in biology, geography, and geology, Van Vranken's background and active research outside of the classroom in paleontology, informs these areas of study and deepens his teaching. For example, he recently took PSC students to a 370 million-year-old rock outcropping located on the College campus, where they not only applied their classroom activities in the field measuring sections of the rock, but also collected examples of common fossils from the layers.

Anyone interested in learning more about programs of study at Potomac State College can visit: admissions.potomacstatecollege.edu or call 304-788-6820 or email Go2PSC@mail.wvu.edu.



WVU Potomac State College Professor Nathan Van Vranken displays some of the new dinosaur-aged fossil fishes from Texas. Van Vranken recently co-authored a paper detailing a new discovery. (Photo credit: Nicholas Gardner, WVU Potomac State College).

Dominion giving Equity Scholarship

By Christine Mitchell
Dominion Energy

Dominion Energy will award \$500,000 in scholarships to 60 students in 2022. Students can apply for scholarships until Jan. 25, 2022.

Through its Educational Equity Scholarship Program, Dominion Energy is awarding \$500,000 in scholarships to 60 students in 2022. In its second year of the six-year \$10 million initiative, the program assists with undergraduate higher education expenses for underrepresented minority students who reside in the company's service area.

"We recognize the importance of education as an equalizer in society," said Robert M. Blue, Dominion Energy's president and chief executive officer. "This program helps reduce the financial hurdle many underrepresented students face, which allows scholarship recipients greater access to post-secondary education and additional opportunities to propel their futures."

The scholarship application period is open Nov. 30, 2021, through Jan. 25, 2022, 4 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

To be eligible, students must: self-identify as Black or African American; Hispanic or Latino; American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian; or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander with higher education expenses be high school seniors or gradu-

ates, or current college undergraduates residing in Connecticut, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Idaho, Wyoming or Utah, with plans to enroll full time at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school for the entire upcoming academic year; and have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent).

In all, 60 scholarships totaling \$500,000 will be awarded in 2022. Of those, 20 scholarships of \$5,000 each will be made available for students enrolled in two-year schools, while 40 scholarships of \$10,000 each will be awarded to students enrolled in four-year schools.

Scholarship recipients will be able to renew scholarships as they progress in school, provided they meet certain criteria, such as GPA requirements and residence in an eligible state.

The program is administered by Scholarship America, a nonprofit specializing in managing scholarship and tuition assistance programs. Scholarship America will support Dominion Energy in the selection of finalists.

Students can learn more and apply at DominionEnergy.com/EquityScholarships.

Clinton Washington III, a student at Furman University in South Carolina, was among the 2021 first class of Dominion Energy Educational Equity Scholars from eight states in

the company's service area.

"In early December, life was extremely stressful due to the impact of COVID-19," Washington said.

"Between having only my mom working, and balancing school with financial stress, it was very difficult to maintain a happy state of mind going into my spring semester. When I received the news regarding the Dominion Energy Educational Equity Scholarship, I was so ecstatic because I knew it would create an immense amount of relief for my family and myself going into my senior year. This scholarship has truly changed the trajectory in my mental health by giving me the freedom to pursue all my goals for my senior year. Rather than spending an immense amount of time pursuing on campus jobs, I can go all in on school, graduate school plans, and my clubs/organizations. The amount of gratitude that I have for this scholarship does not suffice by just words alone, and I truly hope this can be continued for future students like myself."

About 7 million customers in 13 states energize their homes and businesses with electricity or natural gas from Dominion Energy (NYSE: D), headquartered in Richmond, Va. The company is committed to sustainable, reliable, affordable and safe energy and to achieving net zero carbon dioxide and methane emissions from its power generation and gas infrastructure operations by 2050. Please visit DominionEnergy.com to learn more.

Open Educational Resources New program offering alternatives to textbooks saves college students \$250K in pilot semesters

By Jessica Tice
WV Higher Ed Policy Commission

Earlier this year, West Virginia's public higher education office launched a program, Open Learning WV, that gives faculty the opportunity to implement Open Educational Resources (OER) as alternatives to traditional textbooks for their students. When the program was piloted in the Spring 2021 semester, 34 faculty members created or adopted OER, and a handful more faculty adopted OER over the Summer – resulting in more than \$250,000 in savings for approximately 1,200 students.

"Going to college in West Virginia remains incredibly affordable thanks to our state financial aid programs, but something like costly textbooks can result in a student delaying their education. If we can prevent that from happening, we absolutely should," said Dr. Sarah Armstrong Tucker, West Virginia's Chancellor of Higher Education. "We're only just starting Open Learning WV, but we are thrilled with the early savings students have seen. Our state leaders have really stressed the importance

of making course materials more accessible and affordable, so we've worked hard to secure supporting funds to make alternative resources available to faculty. I'm looking forward to seeing these savings grow for our students."

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the need to make learning materials more easily accessible, but even before that – in 2019 – the West Virginia Legislature passed legislation that encourages the use of OER as a strategy to reduce the financial burden on students. As outlined in House Bill 2853, OER are materials that live in the public domain or are otherwise released under an open license that allow for low-cost and easy access to students.

As a direct result of this policy and thanks to a more than \$1 million collaboration that began with a seed grant from the Ascendium Education Group, West Virginia's Higher Education Policy Commission and Community and Technical College System piloted a grant opportunity to support faculty in implementing OER for use in their courses. Through Open Learning WV, faculty applied for \$1,000 grants to modify course materials for an existing

course to exclusively use OER either by selecting a material for adoption or creating a new one.

A participant survey found that 100 percent of participating faculty agree that the switch was worthwhile, and 98 percent of them agree that the materials they used were high-quality. Of impacted students surveyed, 71 percent of them reported that they have delayed or avoided purchasing course materials in the past because they didn't have enough money, and 91 percent said they are more likely to take a course with a low-cost option in the future.

One student said they "did not have to stress" about purchasing materials for a class, thanks to Open Learning WV, and that it was "extremely helpful" since they're from a one-income household.

Further implementation of OER through Open Learning WV is taking place in the fall 2021 semester and will continue through the spring 2022 semester. Interested faculty are encouraged to contact the Higher Education Policy Commission's Division of Academic Affairs at 304-558-0261 for information about future opportunities.

COVID-19

Continued from page 1

He continued, "the reason I say a blizzard is coming – I told you all one of the worst case scenarios for Hardy County and the state would be if the flu hit and COVID hit at the same time, well it's happened."

Later in the meeting, Commissioner Dave Workman asked, "is the flu bug running parallel with this?"

Ours replied, "yes."
"Is it taking its own spikes?" Workman questioned.

"I'm going to say it's about 3 to 1 with COVID to the flu," said Ours.

"The third piece to that puzzle is we do not have people getting their booster shots like they need to. I don't know if they think that if they have had two shots they're fully vaccinated now – but they are not," Ours explained.

"If you are six months out past your second shot you're basically walking around just like not having a vaccine at all. So, we basically got a bunch of people walking around unvaccinated."

Ours reported that booster rates are below 50 percent across the board and decrease in younger individuals.

Individuals 71 years old and up are 47 percent vaccinated with their

booster while 38.5 percent of 61 to 70 year olds have taken their booster shot.

There are 23 percent of 51 to 60 year old residents boosted, 8.8 percent of 31 to 40 year olds boosted, and 5 percent of 21 to 30 year olds are boosted.

Commissioner Steve Schetrom asked how Hardy County compared to neighboring counties in terms of vaccines. Ours replied explaining that with the original two-round vaccinations, Hardy County led the area in vaccinations, but noted that those numbers excluded data regarding the third-shot or booster.

"We need to increase our booster percentage. This thing is never going to go away. You will never get enough people vaccinated to get the herd immunity you need. My guess is they'll keep working on vaccines and so on and so forth and I hope someone is smart enough to combine the COVID and flu, said Ours.

"Just like the flu, depending on what kind comes out, did we hit it or did we not? I'm hearing we haven't hit it this year so far, we'll have to see what comes out."

He continued, "the vaccines are doing their job. If you're boosted they say you can get along good with

it (COVID). It's lesser than Delta, and doesn't make you as sick, but if you're immune-compromised or elderly or you have some other health issues going on, it can kick you in the ass pretty good."

Ours explained that complications from COVID could ripple across the county, especially in terms of healthcare and what can be provided to county citizens.

"I listen to West Hardy on the scanner and half to three quarter of their calls are COVID cases now. We're going to be in a situation where we have all our ambulances out on COVID cases and the car wrecks, the heart attacks, and the other emergencies are going to have to wait," warned Ours.

"I don't know what to do about it. I'm just making you all aware of what I foresee coming."

He added that while there are currently no cases of Omicron in the county or neighboring counties including Hampshire, Grant, Pendleton, and Mineral, the virus variant is close by in Berkeley County.

"It's going to hit and it's going to hit hard," Ours said of Omicron to the Commissioners.

"It's (COVID) is just going to keep on going until we're just, I

don't know – I never thought I'd see this. I never thought I'd see where the public in general has just refused to get on board with the methodology of stopping it."

Ours, frustrated, continued, "They just won't. They won't get vaccinated, they won't buy in – they're going to do their own thing and it doesn't matter what the hell is going on, they're going to do what they want to do and no one is going to tell them any different."

Another point Ours brought up was the CDC guidelines that essentially create a 5 day quarantine period. The quarantine period is shorter and as a result, depending on if individuals "feel better" 5 days after their symptoms start, they could be added onto the current case numbers and then dropped shortly after. Ours explained reported numbers are going to fluctuate as a result of the guidelines.

Commissioner Dave Workman asked if boosted individuals – those who received their third COVID vaccine shot – would need to get another shot six months down the line and Ours indicated that that was a likely possibility.

Additionally, Ours emphasized the need for mask-wearing again, noting

that the use of masks helps minimize the spread of the virus according to data from last year where Ours cites the flu being "basically eradicated" due to the use of masks.

"There is a huge discrepancy (difference) if people put their mask on and just wear them in the grocery store and wear them in large meetings. Just go back to where we were for a month and let us get through this thing," said Ours, also emphasizing the need for vaccines.

"We have had no issue with children or adults. We haven't used an epi pen since we've been giving shots for two years now. It does hit people differently. Some people say it knocks them down, some people say they have no problem with the booster or regular shot at all. I guess it just depends on the individual. But we haven't had any serious issues from the vaccine and I haven't grown any horns and neither have you."

"And, we don't glow in the dark," added Hardy County Coordinator Wendy Branson. "And, we don't glow in the dark," Ours echoed.

Ours concluded thanking Commissioners for wearing masks and encouraging them to have everyone entering the courthouse wear a mask as well.

Vaccines for COVID-19 as well as booster shots are being given by appointment on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays depending on who is receiving the shot and what kind of shot is being received. COVID-19 vaccines and boosters are free to receive.

The Health Department is also still giving flu shots. To get a flu shot, bring an insurance card. Individuals without insurance can still get a flu shot.

COVID-19 testing is still free and open to the public. Testing times are as follows:

- Tuesdays: 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Hardy County Emergency Ambulance Authority building on 17940 Route 55 in Baker and from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Moorefield High School at 401 North Main Street in Moorefield.

- Thursdays: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Ambulance Authority building in Baker and from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Moorefield High School.

The Hardy County Health Department is located on 411 Spring Avenue in Moorefield. For more information, to get a COVID-19 vaccine or booster, or to get a flu shot, call the Hardy County Health Department at 304-530-6355.

AT THE LIBRARY

CLOSED

The library will be closed Monday, January 17th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We will reopen Tuesday, January 18th at our regular hours.

New Fiction

The Starless Crown (Moon Fall; 1) by James Rollins – An alliance embarks on a dangerous journey to uncover the secrets of the distant past and save their world.

The Maid by Nita Prose – A charmingly eccentric hotel maid discovers a guest murdered in his bed, turning her once orderly world upside down – and inspiring a motley crew of unexpected allies to band together to solve the mystery.

Twenty Years Later by Charlie Donlea – Hiding her own dark past in plain sight, a TV reporter is determined to uncover the truth behind a gruesome murder decades after the investigation was abandoned.

Targeted (Bob Lee Swagger; 12) by Stephen Hunter – After being accused of reckless endangerment and forced to answer to the U.S. Con-

gress, master sniper Bob Lee Swagger must protect political hostages in a once-in-a-lifetime standoff.

When You Are Mine by Michael Robotham – A young female police officer faces danger on all fronts – from a clever victim of abuse, her colleagues on the force, and even her own mobster father.

Reckless Girls by Rachel Hawkins – Six stunning twenty-somethings are about to embark on a blissful, free-spirited journey – one filled with sun-drenched days and intoxicating nights. But as it becomes clear that the group is even more cut off from civilization than they initially thought, it starts to feel like the island itself is closing in, sending them on a dangerous spiral of discovery.

Her Hidden Genius by Marie Benedict – The story of Rosalind Franklin, a woman who sacrificed her life to discover the nature of our very DNA, a woman whose world-changing contributions were hidden by the men around her but whose relentless drive advanced our understanding of humankind.

Olga Dies Dreaming by Xochitl Gonzalez – A status-driven wedding

planner grapples with her social ambitions, absent mother, and Puerto Rican roots – all in the wake of Hurricane Maria

Sunrise (Sky King Ranch; 1) by Susan May Warren – A decade after leaving his family's bush pilot operation to become a pararescue jumper, Dodge Kingston is back home in Alaska. He hadn't counted on meeting up again with Echo, a girl with a spirit as free as the sky. When she goes missing, he hopes all her skills will keep her safe until he can reach her – and that she'll accept his help when he does.

Life Flight (Extreme Measures; 1) by Lynette Eason – Helicopter pilot Penny Carlton is used to stress, but an emergency landing in a raging storm with a critical patient on board would test the limits of the best of pilots. When news of a serial killer reaches her, it's clear the stress has just begun.

No Lan to Light On by Yara Zgheib – A young Syrian couple in the throes of new love and on the cusp of their bright future is ripped apart by a travel ban on the eve of their son's birth.

The Last Dance of the Debutante

by Julia Kelly – In an effort to appease her traditional mother, aspiring university student Lily Nichols agrees to become a debutante and do the last Season, a glittering and grueling string of countless balls and cocktail parties. In doing so, she befriends two very different women. But the glorious effervescence of the Season evaporates once Lily learns a devastating secret that threatens to destroy her entire family. Faced with a dark past, she's forced to ask herself what really matters: her family legacy or her own happiness.

The School for Good Mothers by Jessamine Chan – One lapse in judgement lands a young mother in a government reform program where custody of her child hangs in the balance.

Anthem by Noah Hawley – A band of unlikely heroes sets out on a quest to save one innocent life – and might end up saving a lot more.

New Non-Fiction and Bios

The Good Lie Method: Reasoning Through the Big Questions of

Happiness, Faith, and Meaning by Meghan Sullivan and Paul Blaschko – Sullivan and Blaschko offers readers a guide to tackling the big questions of being human with the wisdom of the ages.

How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America by Clint Smith – Smith examines the legacy of slavery by highlighting the continued preservation of monuments and landmarks that hold violent and racist symbolism.

Let's Get Physical: How Women Discovered Exercise and Reshaped the World by Danielle Friedman – Friedman explores the untold history of women's exercise culture – from jogging and Jazzercise to Jane Fonda – and how women have parlayed physical strength into other forms of power.

The Last King of America: The Misunderstood Reign of George III by Andrew Roberts – Roberts paints a deft and nuanced portrait of the much-maligned monarch King George III and outlines his accomplishments, which have been almost universally forgotten.

The Black History Book (Big Ideas Simply Explained) by DK Publishing – Discover the rich and complex history of the peoples of Africa, and the struggles and triumphs of Black cultures and communities around the world.

Taste Makers: Seven Immigrant Women Who Revolutionized Food in America by Mayukh Sen – Sen honors seven extraordinary women, all immigrants, who left an indelible mark on the way Americans eat today.

Under Jerusalem: The Buried History of the World's Most Contested City by Andrew Lawler – Lawler takes readers into the tombs, tunnels, and trenches of the Holy City, bringing to life the indelible characters who have investigated this subterranean landscape.

The Steal: The Attempt to Overturn the 2020 Election and the People Who Stopped It by Mark Bowden and Matthew Teague – Journalists Bowden and Teague offer a week-by-week, state-by-state account of the effort to overturn the 2020 presidential election.

Windmill Project

turbines being operational starting in 2024.

Planning Commission board members unanimously agreed in a previous meeting to refuse the terms of the project, specifically due to the project's location residing on a ridge within a residential zone in Baker.

According to Hardy County Planner Melissa Scott, the residential zone where the windmill project is currently planned has 556 parcels, 10 residential subdivisions, 267 subdivision plots, 315 addressable structures and approximately \$33,000,000 worth of building value. "The site proposed by Invenery for a utility scale wind project is currently zoned 'residential.' In our opinion, there is no path forward for zoning approval

for such a project in an area zoned 'residential' due to the potential conflict of the two uses," Scott reported in a proposal packet on behalf of the Planning Commission.

"It is the belief of the Planning Commission that, based on the current ordinance, this project application can only move forward if the proposed project area is rezoned."

The report continued, "After much analysis and discussion between the Planning Commission and staff concerning the language, purpose, and intent of the various zoning districts, the Planning Commission (at a special meeting called for Oct. 28) came to the conclusion that if the applicant (Invenery) intends to immediately submit an application, the proposed

project would be most suitable in the Industrial District."

Hreha and another Invenery representative had previously discussed the possibility of the project being more appropriately zoned for the Agriculture District, but Planning Commission board members unanimously disagreed and noted the project, due to the bigger scale of the windmills and project, would be more appropriately zoned as Industrial.

The Planning Commission's proposal for the project indicates that the Planning Commission believes the path forward is for Invenery to petition the Hardy County Commission for a text amendment that would create a path for the company to apply for the project in the Industrial

District.


If the amendment is adopted as part of the ordinance, then Invenery can return to the Planning Commission to obtain re-zoning permission for the Industrial District. The process would include public hearings through the Planning Commission and County Commission.

If Invenery wanted to pursue an amendment to the current ordinance that could create a path towards putting the windmills in the current proposed location in Baker, they would need 51 percent or more of residents of the area to petition to amend the zoning ordinance in a way that favors the project.

For more information on the Short Mountain Wind Energy Project, visit

"www.shortmountainwind.invenery.com" and for more information on how to contact members of the Planning Commission, call 304-530-0258 or email hardyvwplan@gmail.com.

Hardy County Planning Commission regularly meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Planning Office in the lower level of the Hardy County Courthouse at 204 Washington Street in Moorefield.

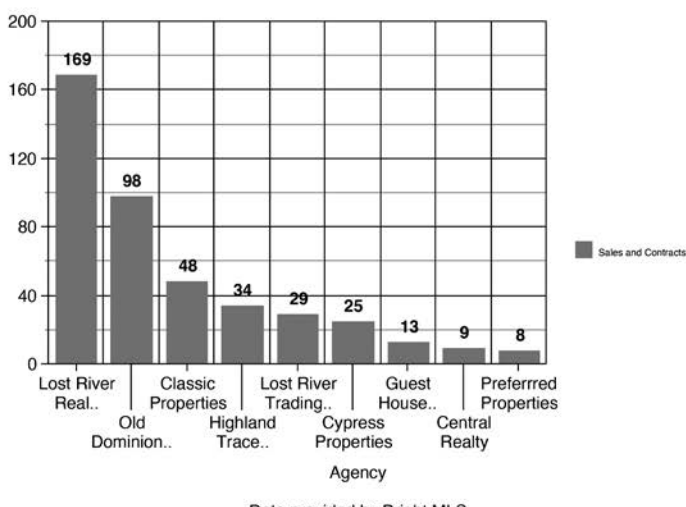


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OBITUARIES

RALPH DONALD MATHIAS



Ralph Donald Mathias Sr., 86, passed away at the Brenntown on Dec.

31, 2021 in Melbourne, Fla.

He was born April 8, 1935, in Mathias, to the late Agnes Mathias May.

Ralph served 22 years in the USAF retiring as Master Sergeant, and worked another 20 years at Cape Canaveral, Fla. before retiring.

Surviving children are Lorraine M. Clutteur of Harrisonburg, Va., Patricia M. McDorman of Harrisonburg, Va., Ralph D. Mathias, Jr. (Amanda) of Fla., and Elizabeth Turko (David) of Fla.; step-children, Rick Brown (Phyllis) of Colo., Donna Martinez (Jessie) of Colo., and Susan Gallagher of Colo.; 6 grandchildren; 8 step grandchildren; 4

great grandchildren; 13 step-great grandchildren; sisters Carolyn (Jennings) Whetzel of Mathias and Ann Weaver of Pa.; brother-in-law, Bruce Hottinger of Va.; sister-in-law, Helen May of Mathias; beloved cousins, Carol Strawderman, Anita Rogers, and Sam Detamore of Mathias; and other extended family members.

In addition to his mother, his wife, Patricia Brown Mathias, preceded him in death. Also preceding him in death were Ann Detamore (cherished aunt), Kathleen Hottinger (sister), and Randall May (brother).

Ralph was a kind man with a tender gentle spirit. He was a wonderful father, grandfather, and best big

brother. Ralph loved his family. He traded his fishing boat for a camper and traveled with Pat to Colorado and West Virginia many times. He enjoyed fishing at Port Canaveral, playing Skipbo, and cooking for others.

Sharon Sager Shumate of Fla. was by his side during the final days of his life.

Private services will be held at a later date in W.Va. Online arrangements may be sent to the family at www.grandlefuneralhome.com.

Grandle Funeral Home in Broadway, Va. handled arrangements.

RONALD FRANKLIN REYNOLDS



Ronald Franklin Reynolds, age 80, of Moorefield, passed away on Monday, Jan. 3, 2022, at his home on Jenkins Run Rd. He was born on October 23, 1941, in Petersburg, the son of the late William Franklin

Reynolds and Rada Alice (Riggleman) Reynolds.

On January 19, 1962, Ronald married Wilda Mae (Stump) Reynolds, who preceded him in death on March 16, 2003. Mr. Reynolds attended Petersburg High School and Charity Baptist Church in Moorefield.

He had worked for many years at Virginia Electric Power Co. in Mt. Storm, W.Va. where he retired as a Control Room Shift Supervisor. Ronald was a member of the NRA, an avid hunter and fisherman who enjoyed the outdoors. He also enjoyed making maple syrup and spending time with his grandchildren, whom he loved very much. He never missed an opportunity to spend time with them and faithfully attended every graduation.

Ronald is survived by: 3 daughters, Wilda Fox of Huntington, W.Va., Rhonda Reynolds of Dorcas, W.Va., and Karen Mullan (Glenn) of Petersburg, W.Va.; 4 sons, Michael Reynolds of Petersburg, W.Va., Ronald Reynolds (Tyra) of Moorefield W.Va., Robert Reynolds of Moorefield, W.Va., and William Reynolds of Petersburg, W.Va.; 2 sisters, Penny Ours of Petersburg, W.Va. and Loretta Allen of South Carolina; 3 brothers, William "Bill" Reynolds (Betty) of Kennedale, Texas, Roy Reynolds (Judy) of Maysville, W.Va., and Larry Reynolds (Barb) of Jordan Run, W.Va.; 18 grandchildren, including, Ethan Reynolds, whom he raised as a son; and 25 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by 1 brother, Dale

Reynolds; 2 sisters, Donna Vance and Shirley Bryam; 1 infant son, Ronald F. Reynolds Jr.; 2 granddaughters, Amanda Haggerty and Samantha Haggerty.

Funeral services were held on Friday, Jan. 7, 2022, in Basagic Funeral Home chapel in Petersburg. Pastor Matt Perrine officiated. Interment was in the South Branch Valley Memorial Gardens in Petersburg.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital at P.O. Box 1000 Dept. 142 Memphis, TN, 38101-9908 or at <https://www.stjude.org/>. Memories and words of comfort may be left at www.basagic.com or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home.

Arrangements were handled by Basagic Funeral Home in Petersburg.

EARL RANDOLPH 'RANDY' SHILLING



Earl Randolph "Randy" Shilling, age 44, of Chipley Lane in Moorefield, passed away Thursday morning, January 6, 2022, at his residence.

Born on April 15, 1977, in Warrenton, Va., he was a son of Patricia Ann Whiteman Shilling of Moorefield and the late Stephen Wayne Shilling.

Randy was a devoted husband, son, brother, uncle, and friend. He put his family above all else and would give anyone the shirt off his back. He was a hard worker and took

pride in all his accomplishments. He enjoyed singing karaoke, collecting antiques, and riding his motorized bicycle around town. Randy never met a stranger and left a huge mark on the hearts of so many. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Surviving is his wife Melissa Ann Riggleman Shilling; a sister, Carrie A. Cook of Moorefield; special nephew, Michael Cook; and special niece, Kaitlin A. Cook of Moorefield along with numerous cousins.

Funeral Services were conducted on Monday, January 10, 2022, at the Fraley Funeral Home Chapel at 107 Washington Street. Pastor Bruce Jackson officiated. Interment followed in the Olivet Cemetery.

Condolences, shared memories and photos may be left on "Randy's" Tribute Wall at www.fraleyfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Fraley Funeral Home.

HERMAN DAVID HALTERMAN



Herman David Halterman, formerly of Moorefield, West Virginia, returned to his Heavenly home on Thursday, January 6, 2022. Mr. Halterman was born in Moorefield on September 28, 1934, the son of Herman Price and Margaret Catherine Jenkins Halterman. He is survived by his wife Hwal Sun (Suna) Han Hal-

terman and their daughter, Sharon Halterman, both of Tampa, Florida. He was preceded in death by his first wife Wanda Rosalie Fox Halterman.

David served in the U.S. Army for 22 years, retiring as a Major in 1975. During his military career, he was a member of Detachment A, stationed in Berlin, Germany, the only clandestine Special Forces unit operating during Cold War tensions between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. His service also included tours in Japan with the 187th Airborne Infantry Regimental Combat Team and two tours in Vietnam, during which he served in Special Forces-Delta Project, the II Corps Mobile Strike Forces, and flew De Havilland Otter aircraft for Special Forces operations.

After a tour at Monterey Army Language School in California where he and his wife Rosalie learned to speak Farsi, he was transferred to Tehran, Iran, where he provided

technical assistance to the Imperial Gendarmerie while his wife taught English at the Iranian Command and General Staff College.

After he retired from the Army, David returned to Moorefield and turned his grandmother's former farm on "The Hill" into a Christmas Tree farm. For more than 20 years, David and Rosalie resided at the old homeplace.

After Rosalie's death in 1993, David moved to Tampa, Florida, where he married Suna and adopted her daughter Sharon. While a resident of South Tampa Fellowship Church. He volunteered at "Mobility Worldwide," a faith-based humanitarian organization, and helped build wheelchairs specifically designed for undeveloped countries. To date more than 100,000 mobility carts have been distributed in 104 countries.

David is also survived by his sister

Deanna Halterman Savage and her husband Richard Savage of Provo, Utah, nieces Stacy Elizabeth Merchant and Kathleen Jeanette Merchant, and a nephew Jonathan Alexander (Jennifer) Merchant. He is also survived by his aunt, Mary Farr Ogling, and many cousins.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022, at the Duffey Memorial United Methodist Church in Moorefield, beginning at 2 p.m. with Pastor Mark Flynn officiating. Family and friends can also pay their respects on Saturday, Jan. 15, at the Elmore Funeral Home from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Interment at the Olivet Cemetery will follow the funeral service.

Due to the current pandemic situation, wearing of masks will be required and social distancing is encouraged.

Elmore Funeral Home is honored to be assisting the family with David's arrangements.

ELMER RAY 'HANNER' RIGGLEMAN



Elmer Ray "Hanner" Riggleman, age 82, of Daisy Lane in Moorefield, passed away Thursday evening, Jan. 6, 2022 at the Grant Memorial Hospital in Petersburg.

Born on December 24, 1939, in Hardy County, he was a son of the late John Alvin Riggleman and Ruby Alice Mongold Riggleman Getz. A son, Carl Ray "Bub" Riggleman, a daughter-in-law, Vickie Charlton Riggleman and four brothers also preceded him in death. He is the last member of his immediate family.

Hanner joined the U.S. Navy in 1960 and after a 4-year active-du-

ty enlistment, he stayed in the U.S. Navy Reserves for another 26 years. He was a member of the John M. Golliday Post #64, American Legion. Hanner worked for SCoop and WACO for many years as a welder/foreman. For the last 20 years he has operated the old "Rig Store." Although he enjoyed hunting and fishing, his enjoyment was being at the old "Rig Store."

Surviving is his wife of 62, years, Patsy Ann Bensenhaver Riggleman; two daughters, Rhonda (husband Mark) Mullenax of Petersburg and Carla (husband Jay) VanCuren

of East Berlin, Pa.; grandchildren, Nathan (wife Jessica) Riggleman, Elizabeth (husband Robert) Smith, Sarah Mullenax, Abraham, Rebecca and Isaac VanCuren; great-grandchildren, Gage and Ryan Riggleman, Robbie and Jaxson Smith, and Gideon VanCuren and Iesha Wolfe

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Condolences, shared memories and photos may be left on Elmer's Tribute Wall at www.fraleyfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Fraley Funeral Home.

DREAMA TUESDAY KEPLINGER



Dreama Tuesday Keplinger, age 55, of Moorefield, went to her eternal home in Heaven on Saturday, January 8, 2022, at Meritus Hospital in

Hagerstown, Md.

Dreama was born December 28, 1966, in Petersburg and was a daughter of Naomi P. Keplinger of Moorefield.

Dreama was preceded in death by her aunt and uncle Doris and Wimp George and cousin, Jurnee Cullers.

Dreama is survived by her mother, Naomi P. Keplinger; two sisters, Creama (Doug) Shetler of Berkeley Springs and Tanya Crites of Moorefield; one brother, Ryan Keplinger and fiancé Phyllis of North Carolina; five nephews, Corey Shetler, Steven Shetler, Scott Crites, Christopher Crites and a special nephew close to her heart, Keaton East; six nieces, Keri Shetler, Jessica Alt, Cassandra Staples, Rebecca Crites, Sarah Keplinger and Kaylee Keplinger; a

number of great nieces and nephews; aunt and uncle, Raymond and Effie Keplinger of Moorefield; and several close cousins whom she loved very much.

Dreama was a graduate of Moorefield High School Class of 1986. She worked at numerous jobs in the community, but her all time favorite passion was being a DJ. at the Richardson Top Hat Supper Club. Dreama loved her music and loved to dance. She was always known as the "life of the party."

She had an infectious laugh and could tell stories like no other. She was a giving person always thinking of others. Dreama was very protective of her baby brother and if you messed with him, you certainly paid for it. She loved spending time with

family and friends by playing cards, board games and attending Moorefield Presbyterian Church and good fellowship. She loved reading her Bible. She was an all around loving and giving person.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022, at noon in the chapel of Schaeffer Funeral Home with Pastor Wade Armentrout officiating. Family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until the time of service at noon. Interment will be in the Lahmansville Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the family, c/o Schaeffer Funeral Home, 11 North Main Street, Petersburg, WV, 26847.

Schaeffer Funeral Home in Petersburg is handling arrangements.

Church Services

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Rt. 55, Moorefield, WV
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Saturday Mass 5:00 PM
Sunday Mass 8:00 AM

Moorefield Seventh-Day Adventist Church

504 Trough Road
Moorefield, WV
Sabbath School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship - 11:00 a.m.
304-703-8997

Rig
Assembly of God Church
Rev. Brad Taylor

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- Sunday Night Service at 6 p.m.
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SS - 9:45 a.m.

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Rig
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SS - 10:45 a.m.

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Mon. Jan. 17: Martin Luther King Day/Center Closed

Tue. Jan. 18: Beans, cornbread, kale, buttered potatoes, pears

Wed. Jan. 19: Birthday Meal/ Ham, sweet potatoes, coleslaw, roll, green beans, orange cake

Thur. Jan. 20: Ham dumplings, carrots, peas, peaches

Fri. Dec. 21: Beef vegetable soup, pimento cheese sandwich, mandarin oranges

The Center is now open to serve meals inside. The grab and go meals are still being done at this time. That will end but not sure when. Please call in and let us know if you are picking up or eating in with us. Thank you for staying with us thru all of the changes.

Meals are to be eaten here at the center or at E.A. HawseCommunity room in Baker Thursdays only. Persons under the age of 60 are welcome to come eat with us at a cost of \$5.25 per meal. "That's A Deal." Any donation over \$5.25 would be greatly appreciated.

Those making donations were Food Lion and the Moorefield Examiner. We would like to thank each and everyone of you for your donations: They are greatly appreciated. Have a safe and happy week.

HCCOA receives funding from federal and state entities including W.Va. Bureau of Senior Services and Upper Potomac AAA, local government, donations and memorial contributions.

DONATIONS NEEDED

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(smileamazon.com), the AmazonSmile foundation donates 0.5 percent of purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Please remember us as you do your online shopping. AmazonSmile is an easy and convenient way to donate to your local Senior Center. Donations are used to offset the expenses of our nutrition program, which provides on-site meals, as well as home-delivered meals to eligible seniors in Hardy County. For more information, please call us at 304-530-2256 Option 5 or stop by the Senior Center at 409 Spring Ave. Moorefield, W.Va. Thank you for your support!

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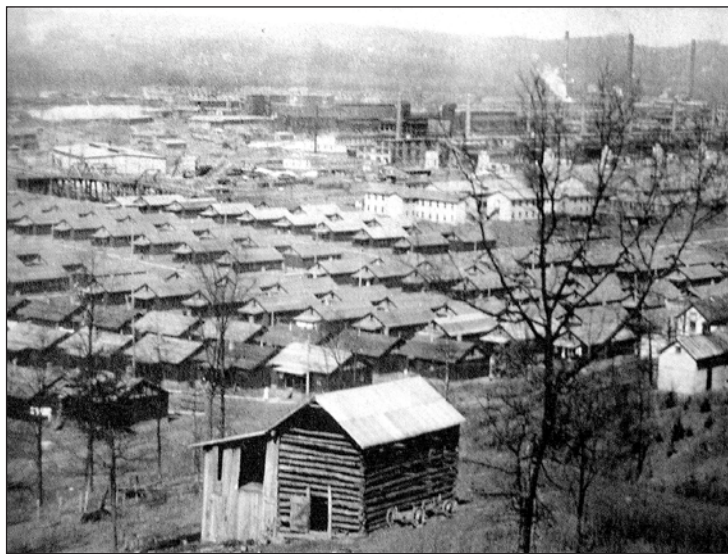
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THIS WEEK IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY



Herschel Coombs Ogden



Nitro Site in 1918



Frances Benjamin Johnston

By Michael Keller
WVa. Humanities Council

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

Jan. 12, 1869: Newspaperman Herschel Coombs Ogden was born near Fairmont. In 1888, he relocated to Wheeling and entered the newspaper business.

Jan. 13, 1905: Joseph H. Diss Debar died in Philadelphia. A supporter of the movement to create West Virginia, Diss Debar was commissioned in 1863 to design the Great Seal of West Virginia.

Jan. 14, 1842: Marion County was established and named after Revolutionary War hero Francis Marion. Middletown was chosen as the county seat, but the name was changed to

Fairmont the following year.

Jan. 14, 1873: The first session of the Glenville Branch of the State Normal School began in the old Gilmer County courthouse. In 1943, the legislature changed the name to Glenville State College.

Jan. 15, 1799: Monroe County was established. It was named for James Monroe, the newly inaugurated governor of Virginia and later president of the United States.

Jan. 15, 1836: Braxton County was created from Kanawha, Lewis, and Nicholas counties. It is named for Carter Braxton, a Virginia statesman and a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Jan. 15, 1848: Hancock County was established and named for statesman John Hancock.

Jan. 15, 1864: Frances Benjamin Johnston was born in Grafton. Johnston gained national renown as the first female press photographer, and

enjoyed a long and remarkable career as one of the nation's leading documentary, portrait, and artistic photographers.

Jan. 16, 1790: Henry Ruffner was born in Luray, Virginia. In 1819, he organized two Presbyterian congregations in the Kanawha Valley. He is best known for his controversial 1847 anti-slavery treatise, Address to the People of West Virginia.

Jan. 16, 1850: Lawman Dan Cunningham was born in Jackson County. His remarkable career involved him in the Hatfield-McCoy Feud, the West Virginia Mine Wars, and the destruction of moonshine stills.

Jan. 16, 1869: Ephraim Franklin Morgan was born in Marion County. Morgan, a Republican, was governor during the tumultuous West Virginia Mine Wars.

Jan. 17, 1918: The War Department hired a New York engineering firm to build the DuPont munitions

plant in Nitro. Within 11 months, the powder plant and a complete town with houses, a civic center and a hospital were completed.

Jan. 17, 1956: Musician Blind Alfred Reed died. He was a street singer and fiddler from Pipestem, Summers County.

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

e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia is a project of the West Virginia Humanities Council. For more information, contact the West Virginia Humanities Council, 1310 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25301; (304) 346-8500; or visit e-WV at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

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HARDY COUNTY

SPORTS

Wrestling in East Hardy

Baker Brawl grapples with snow and milestones

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

A foot of snow wasn't going to pin the grapplers at the annual Baker Brawl Wrestling Tournament held by East Hardy as nine teams visited this eastern panhandle haven for competition and Moorefield's Matthew Delawder kicked off the morning session with his 100th career victory.

The teams attending the Baker Brawl hosted by the Cougars included four from Virginia: Broadway, Clarke County, Mountain View and Woodgrove. Squads joining from the Mountain State were: Moorefield, Petersburg, Keyser, Musselman and Bridgeport.

"We were very happy with the level of competition at the Baker Brawl.

We had a great turnout by the fans to support our local wrestlers. It was a great event for our wrestling program and our school. I have to thank the boosters, the school staff and the parents for making it a great event," East Hardy coach Steven Miller stated.

Woodgrove won the 2022 Baker Brawl championship with a 54-25 victory over Clarke County, as both teams were top for their pool and faced off in the final session.

The Cougars edged out Keyser 39-38 for third place, followed by Musselman earning the fifth place spot with a 48-36 win over Broadway.

Bridgeport defeated Mountain View by a score of 34-21 in the seventh place match (fourth place pool seeding).

The X-Team combined wrestlers from each squad and defeated the tag team effort of Moorefield and Petersburg 36-27 in the last place match. Moorefield/Petersburg was credited for the ninth place finish due to the X-Team being a conglomerate of individuals from each team in the tournament.

Despite losing to eventual Baker Brawl champion Woodgrove in the opening round of pool play by a score of 58-18, the Yellow Jackets made history with a milestone and joined forces with the Vikings to complete the roster.

Moorefield 182-lb. senior co-captain Matthew Delawder earned his 100th career victory with a 4-3 decision against Woodgrove's Jon Meyerowitz.

"This is very exciting. I wanted to get 100 wins at home against Northern Garrett, but the snow storm canceled our match. It is actually very special to accomplish this goal here at the Baker Brawl. This is the result of a lot of hard work. I am proud to be a member of a select number of wrestlers in our program to earn 100 wins," Moorefield senior Matthew Delawder remarked.

Delawder becomes the sixth member of the 100-win club in Moorefield Wrestling history, joining Wil Schoonover, Matthew Wright, Isaac Van Meter, Kevin Wetzell and Tyberious Clayton.

Clayton and Delawder collected their 100th career victories this season and that double milestone achievement for the same year hap-

pened for Van Meter and Wright.

In the opening session for Pool A: Clarke County defeated East Hardy 46-30, Broadway beat X-Team 33-29, East Hardy edged Broadway 42-32, Clarke County won over Mountain View 54-9, Broadway edged Mountain View 34-24 and East Hardy won 46-30 against the X-Team.

East Hardy's Milton Funkhouser (106) pinned Clarke County's James Casey at 3:58, Shane Riggle (120) and JB. Shipe (170) took forfeits, Damian Iman (160) pinned Clarke County's Kaylee Anderson in the first period at 1:55 and Mason Miller (182) pinned Clarke County's Titus Hensler in the third period at 4:49.

During the win against the Gobblers, East Hardy's Milton Funkhouser (106), Madison Heishman

(113), Shane Riggle (120) and Brennen Miller (285) garnered forfeit points. The Cougars collected three more wins by pin against Broadway: Tyler Tarallo (152) pinned Caiden Jones at 3:05, Mason Miller (182) collected a pin at 0:49 over Aiden Wimer and Matthew Harman (220) pinned Herschel Hoffeditz at 0:52.

The Pool B results in the first session were: Woodgrove over Moorefield/Petersburg 58-18, Keyser edged Musselman 48-36, Musselman beat Moorefield/Petersburg 48-36, Woodgrove defeated Bridgeport 63-12, Musselman edged Bridgeport 39-33 and Keyser won against Moorefield/Petersburg 56-18.

Moorefield 195-lb. grappler Ryan Harbarger garnered a pin at the 4:35

Continued on page 9



Photo by Carl Holcomb

East Hardy's Sarah Merritt launches the ball as Pendleton County's Gabby DePue leaps for a block attempt in the Baker Den.

Young and the Wildcats Declaw East Hardy

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

The Wildcats pounced into the Baker den with Ana Young leading the attack with a game-high 29 points to dispatch East Hardy 46-36 during last Tuesday's contest.

"We had no answer for Ana. She is one of the best players I have seen in this area. We have a lot of work to do and need to continue to practice to get better. We will have to face Pendleton County again in the playoffs and need to be prepared," East Hardy coach Calvin Mongold stated.

Young opened up the scoring with a 3-pointer for Pendleton County at the 7:30 mark coming off a defensive rebound collected by Brandy Bowers and the Wildcats never trailed in the game.

Bowers grabbed another carom and was tied up for a jump ball, then Avery Townsend sank a mid-range jumper for a 5-0 lead.

Both teams hit iron with Young trying to save the ball leaping along the baseline with the Cougars' Tori

Pratt making an interception.

Young swiped the ball back and netted a breakaway layup for the Wildcats.

East Hardy's first point of the game was on a free throw at the 5:13 mark by Chloe Miller, 7-1.

Gabby Miller hauled in a defensive rebound for the Cougars and nearly had it swiped by Townsend, but managed to corral the ball and was fouled.

East Hardy missed the next three shot attempts with rebounds by Chloe Miller and Brooklyn Tinnell prior to Young snatching the latter board and scoring a layup at 3:55.

Townsend stole the ball and was fouled, then added one foul shot to extend the advantage to 10-1.

The Cougars responded as Gabby Miller drove into the paint and dished outside to Taylor Strawderman for a mid-range jumper at 3:24.

Pendleton County's Lizzie Alt recorded a shot on the ensuing possession, then the Cougars hit the rim and Alt was there for the rebound.

Pendleton County had a simple game plan on its chart with two

words "box out" as the team focused on rebounding during the game.

After a walk by the Wildcats, Alt swiped the ball and scored for a 14-3 lead with 2:05 remaining in the opening frame.

Strawderman notched two charity stripe shots on the following series for East Hardy at 1:52.

Kinsley Hartman garnered a free throw for Pendleton County at the 1:34 mark and Gabby Miller collected the rebound.

The Cougars missed two free throws and Sarah Merritt collected the rebound, but the ensuing shot was blocked by Bowers.

Pendleton County forced a turnover and failed to convert for points as Tinnell made the defensive rebound.

Both teams missed a couple more shots in the final minute before Chloe Miller notched a layup off an assist from Gabby Miller as the Cougars cut the deficit to 15-7 with ten seconds on the clock.

East Hardy's Emma Heishman blocked a shot before the buzzer.

Young started the second period

grabbing a defensive rebound and made a jumper on the other end for the Wildcats.

East Hardy answered with a basket in the paint by Gabby Miller at the 7:29 mark, 17-9.

Both teams missed shots, then there was a scramble for a loose ball and Gabby Miller went diving for it only to have it ricochet out of bounds.

Autumn Crites stole the ball and garnered a breakaway layup for the Cougars at the 5:50 mark, 17-11.

The Wildcats responded with a 3-pointer from Young just 15 seconds later.

Over the next two minutes there were missed field goals twice on both sides, then Pendleton County lost the ball out of bounds.

East Hardy's Brooklyn Tinnell drilled a 3-pointer at the 3:47 mark to close the deficit to 20-14.

Gabby Miller swiped the ball, but lost control of the dribble and Merritt recovered the ball before the Cougars missed a shot and Young took the ball the other direction for

Continued on page 9

Mountain Lions shred the Hive

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

The Mountain Lions netted 11 free throws in the final stanza to seal a 65-54 victory over Moorefield last Saturday.

Tucker County connected 21-of-33 charity stripe baskets for the game, while the Yellow Jackets sank 10-of-14 foul shots.

Tucker County's Owen Knotts recorded a game-high 14 points in the win, followed by Haden Wamsley with 13 points and Levi Bennett added 12 points.

The Yellow Jackets had four players garner double-digits in the scoring department guided by Dean Keplinger and Coleman Mongold with 11 markers apiece, while Ronald Greist and Ryan McGregor contributed ten points each.

Tucker County built an 18-12 advantage after the first period with Wamsley setting the pace with two 3-pointers and the Mountain Lions made five free throws out of nine in that frame.

Moorefield made all four of its free throws in the opening period as Keplinger and McGregor led the way with both charity stripe opportunities and added one field goal apiece.

The Yellow Jackets edged Tucker County in the second period by a score of 16-15, but the Mountain Lions maintained a 33-28 lead at halftime.

Levi Thompson led the scoring for the Yellow Jackets in the second period with six points on three jumpers, while Keplinger drilled a pair of 3-pointers.

Moorefield's Karson Reed and Ronald Greist notched one field goal apiece in that frame.

Moorefield struggled to find the basket in the third period with four of its six total points coming at the free throw line with Coleman Mongold netting four points (two FT) and Silas Inskeep added the other two charity stripe buckets.

Tucker County held a narrow scoring edge netting 11 points (11-6) in the third period with field goals coming from five different players including a 3-pointer by Maddox Anderson.

The Mountain Lions started off the fourth quarter with a missed shot, but the ricochet was tipped and corralled by Levi Bennett, who located Haden Wamsley for a 3-pointer and a 47-34 lead at 7:40.

Moorefield's Ronald Greist made a sharp drive into the paint, crashing into a Mountain Lions defender causing a whistle for a charge, then Tucker County fumbled the ball out of bounds moments later.

Moorefield's Karson Reed grabbed an offensive rebound along the baseline, but stepped out in the process.

Tucker County's Ashton Lycliter drew a foul and made both free throws at the 6:43 mark.

After the Yellow Jackets committed a turnover, Levi Thompson blocked a shot attempt by the Mountain Lions.

Anderson swiped the ball and dished to Bennett for a trifecta at the 5:29 mark as Tucker County went up 52-34.

Moorefield responded within nine seconds on a perimeter basket by Greist.

The Yellow Jackets applied full court pressure and forced a turnover as the Mountain Lions passed back to the inbound player, who hadn't come into the court yet.

After a missed shot, there was a scramble for the ball and jump ball given to Moorefield.

McGregor drew a foul and made one free throw for the Yellow Jackets, then Reed stole the ball during the press and fed Greist for a layup.

The Mountain Lions lost the ball out of bounds under the pressure again and Moorefield's Coleman Mongold drilled a jumper to cut the deficit to 52-42 with 4:02 remaining.

Continued on page 9



Photo by Carl Holcomb

Moorefield's Coleman Mongold drives into the paint against Tucker County's Maddox Anderson and Owen Knotts.

Baker Brawl



Moorefield senior Matthew Delawder recorded his 100th career victory and stands with assistant coach Rob Pillus and head coach T.J. Van Meter.



East Hardy's J.B. Shipe positioned Keyser's Clayton Fox for a third period pin during the Baker Brawl.



East Hardy's Madison Heishman had a huge smile having her hand raised for a win in the Baker Brawl.



East Hardy's Nahkita Bauserman has a headlock on Musselman's Gwenivere Kackley during the Baker Brawl girls wrestling duals match.



East Hardy's Nahkita Bauserman garnered a victory during the Baker Brawl with a pin against Musselman's Cicely Collins.



East Hardy's Mason Miller was victorious over Woodgrove's Griffin Smith with a first period pin during the Baker Brawl.

Continued from page 8
mark against Woodgrove's Christian Moffett.

During the match against Woodgrove, Petersburg's Thomas Ours won by a 16-10 decision and Colton Vance was victorious with a 3:16 pin. Moorefield lost to Musselman 48-36 with Ryan Hardbarger collecting a win by pin at 0:52 against Andy Leonard, plus Layne Spitzer and Matthew Delawder took forfeits.

The second session results of the Baker Brawl were: (Pool A) Mountain View 42, X-Team 24; Clarke County 60, Broadway 6; Clarke County 61, X-Team 12; East Hardy 48, Mountain View 18; (Pool B) Keyser 46, Bridgeport 24; Woodgrove 76, Musselman 4; Woodgrove 66, Keyser 15; Bridgeport 36, Moorefield/Petersburg 24.

During East Hardy's 48-18 win over Mountain View, Shawn Bodkin pinned Octavian Rinker (0:35), Damian Iman pinned Braxton Biller (0:08) and Matthew Harman pinned Hunter Rinker (1:38), while forfeits were given to Funkhouser, Riggle, Tarallo, Shipe, and Mason Miller.

Moorefield/Petersburg lost to Bridgeport 36-24, but Moorefield's Matthew Delawder earned a win via pin at 2:19 over Sam Coburn, in addition to teammates Layne Spitzer and Dylan Colasessano taking forfeits. Petersburg's Colton Vance added six points by forfeit for the team.

There was a girls duals competition featuring East Hardy and Musselman.

East Hardy was represented by Madison Heishman, Samara Pyles, Gabby Miller, Caitlyn Ward and Nahkita Bauserman. In previous matches during the Baker Brawl, Victoria Ames and Courtney Shank competed.

Musselman won this meeting 19-6 which was the first girls duals match in West Virginia history.

Miller garnered a pin against Musselman's Kerrington Bennett at 1:59.

Bauserman and Heishman earned victories in previous matches.

Moorefield/Petersburg lost to the X-Team in the consolation bracket by the score of 36-27.

Moorefield's Matthew Delawder won by a 7-4 decision over the X-Team's Griffin Smith.

Moorefield's Layne Spitzer (0:17), Ryan Hardbarger (2:25) and Riley Pillus (1:57) earned victories by pins against the X-Team.

East Hardy vs Pendleton

Continued from page 8
a Wildcats score.

Young made another steal and layup to extend the Pendleton County lead to 24-14.

Strawderman drew a foul and added one free throw for the Cougars at the 2:34 mark.

Heishman made a steal, but East Hardy couldn't create a point.

The final point of the first half was a free throw by Young to give the Wildcats a double-digit advantage 25-15 with 37 seconds on the clock.

A trap by the Cougars forced a turnover, but the final shot went awry entering the break.

The second half began with a missed shot by the Wildcats and the tip was corralled by East Hardy's Autumn Crites, but Young created a jump ball.

Young snatched a defensive rebound, but the Wildcats lost the ball out of play rushing down the floor.

Crites hauled in an offensive board and was tied up for a jump ball and Pendleton County's Bowers netted a bucket at 6:24.

East Hardy missed two field goals with rebounds going to Strawderman and Hartman, then the Wildcats drew iron and Tinnell grabbed the board.

Gabby Miller sank a jumper in the paint for the Cougars at the 4:42

mark to cut the deficit to 27-17.

Tinnell and Strawderman collected the next two rebounds, then Young swiped the ball and garnered an old-fashioned three-point play at 3:56.

Both teams missed a couple of field goals over the next minute and change before Hartman made a put-back for Pendleton County to take a 32-17 advantage at 2:21.

Young forced a turnover and made a breakaway layup for the Wildcats.

Gabby Miller hauled in an offensive rebound and drew a foul, but missed both shots with Hartman getting the carom.

Pendleton County's Young and

ShyAnna Frazier sandwiched perimeter baskets around a jumper by East Hardy's Sarah Merritt in a 23 second stretch for a 40-19 lead.

Gabby Miller added a jumper for the Cougars with 47 seconds left in the third period as Pendleton County carried a 40-21 edge into the final stanza.

The first couple of minutes in the fourth period featured six combined turnovers and four missed shots by East Hardy and a pair by the Wildcats.

A steal and layup by East Hardy's Brooklyn Tinnell broke the drought at the 5:33 mark, 40-23.

A minute later, Young stole the

ball twice and scored layups both times to create a 44-23 advantage.

Heishman netted a jumper for the Cougars on the following series, then Chloe Miller hauled in a defensive board and setup another basket from Heishman to cut the deficit to 44-27 at 3:44.

After a layup by Pendleton County's Lizzie Alt, then the Cougars responded with jumpers from Chloe Miller and Heishman in a span of 52 seconds to make it 46-32 with 2:06 remaining.

Miller stole the ball and drew a foul to add two more free throws at 1:21.

In the last minute and change of

the game, the Wildcats committed four turnovers with steals by East Hardy's Tinnell and Heishman.

East Hardy managed to add two more free throws by Chloe Miller and Crites off of the turnovers with Pendleton County holding off the late rally for a 46-36 victory.

Chloe Miller paced the Cougars with eight points, followed by Gabby Miller with seven points.

East Hardy hosts Berkeley Springs tomorrow and greets the Yellow Jackets on January 19.

Moorefield vs Tucker

Continued from page 8

Tucker County's pass went awry and sailed out of bounds, then Owen Knotts stole the ball back and was fouled despite being close to a back-court violation.

Lycliter notched a rebound and basket for the Mountain Lions.

McGregor stopped on a dime in

the paint and launched a jumper with the ball spinning around the rim and into the net for two points at the 2:51 mark.

The Mountain Lions made two out of five free throws over the next 30 seconds, then Lycliter blocked a shot.

Mongold knocked down a 3-point-er in the corner for the Yellow Jackets to cut the deficit to 57-47 with 1:52

left.

Over the next 32 seconds, Moorefield sent the Mountain Lions to the free throw line three times and only two points were accumulated.

During that stretch, the Yellow Jackets missed two field goals and Keplinger added one foul shot.

Karson Reed's third rebound during that time would lead to a 3-point-

er from McGregor to make it a 59-51 game with 1:11 to go.

A quick foul by the Yellow Jackets created one point by Knotts for Tucker County.

Five seconds later, McGregor zipped a pass to Greist for a 3-point-er with 58 seconds remaining as Moorefield cut the deficit to a two-possession game, 60-54.

Bennett hit one free throw after four seconds elapsed, then the Yellow Jackets hit the rim and Bennett grabbed the rebound with a return trip to the charity stripe and added both shots for a 63-54 lead with 47 seconds on the clock.

Knotts blocked the next Moorefield shot, then Anderson grabbed the ricochet and scored a layup with 33

seconds to go, 65-54.

Keplinger made a spinning move and throw up to the basket, but was called for a walk and the Mountain Lions passed the ball around to end the game for the 65-54 win.

Moorefield hosted East Hardy yesterday and visits Frankfort tomorrow.

BOWLING NEWS

ODD COUPLES MIXED LEAGUE 12/28/2021

TEAM STANDINGS: WELD 50 - 18, Vetter's Guns & Ammo 48.5 - 19.5, Strike Force 41 - 27, Livin on a Spare 38.5 - 29.5, Split Happens 36 - 32, The Tidy Bowlers 35 - 33, Country Cars & Trucks 29 - 39, Terminators 21 - 47, Lucky Strikes 20 - 48.

HIGH GAME MEN (SCRATCH): Larry Ware 236, Roger Earle 235, Larry Walp 227, Troy McGreevy 227. (HANDICAP):

Tyler Halterman 262, Larry Ware 258, Roger Earle 257, Kevin McDonald 257.

HIGH SERIES MEN (SCRATCH): Jon Hedrick 624, Troy McGreevy 617, Terry Wrathford 606, Roger Earle 605.

(HANDICAP): Kevin McDonald 728, Tyler Halterman 716, Joel McDonald 701, Pete Luttrell 692.

HIGH AVERAGE (MEN): Jon

Hedrick 201.10, Ed Wompler 195.67, Devin Keplinger 194.93, Roger Earle 193.37.

HIGH GAME WOMEN (SCRATCH): Denise McGreevy 204, Dee Anna McDonald 172, Sarah Earle 170, Emily Stark 167, Peggy Wompler 167. (HANDICAP): Denise McGreevy 256, Peggy Wompler 234, Sue Earle 224, Emily Stark 221.

HIGH SERIES WOMEN (SCRATCH): Denise McGreevy 516, Dee Anna McDonald 486, Sarah Earle 467, Rachel Stark 425. (HANDICAP): Denise McGreevy 672, Sue Earle 653, Peggy Wompler 615, Dee Anna McDonald 606.

HIGH AVERAGE (WOMEN): Carissa Michael 178.57, Dee Anna McDonald 169.96, Tonya Keplinger 164.06, Denise McGreevy 156.07.

THURSDAY NIGHT MENS LEAGUE 12/30/2021

TEAM STANDINGS: Builders Center 38 - 26, Vetter's Mini Mart 36.5 - 27.5, Golden Lanes 32 - 32, Petersburg Oil Company 30 - 34, Strike Force 30 - 34, Country Cars & Trucks 25.5 - 38.5.

HIGH GAME (SCRATCH): Cam Vance 236, Devin Keplinger 235, Tony Robinson 234, Gary Leatherman 232, Tyler Halterman 227. (HANDICAP): David Robertson 270, Cam Vance 263, Tyler Halterman 258, Tony Robinson 256, Jerry Propst 256.

HIGH SERIES (SCRATCH): Tony Robinson 649, Terry Wrathford 636, Gary Leatherman 634, Bradley Vetter II 625, Devin Keplinger 621. (HANDICAP): Tony Robinson 715, Bradley Vetter II 715, Tyler Halterman 705, Kevin McDonald 693, David Robertson 687.

HIGH AVERAGE: Terry Wrathford 209.09, Gary Leatherman 203.89, Roger Earle 202.29, Jon Hedrick 202.17, Richie Burgess 201.38, Larry Walp 198.71.

THE OLD MASTER

By JAY FISHER



The men's basketball team returned to full strength against Kansas State last weekend. The Wildcats were slightly shorthanded, missing a couple of players and head coach Bruce Weber (although, truth be told - maybe that was a good thing for KSU). The Mountaineers were welcoming back Taz Sherman, Gabe Osabuihen, and Kobe Johnson from the covid list. The three had not practiced much, and you could tell the Sherman and Osabuihen were both feeling more tired than usual. Still they were able to make plenty of key plays to help WVU to an ugly 71-68 win on Saturday. The first half was absolutely awful. WVU fell behind by as much as 17 in the first half, and trailed by 13 at halftime. The "Mutts Gone Nuts" was really the highlight of day at that point. They were sloppy with the ball, giving up 6 steals. Their shooting was poor: just 10/31 overall and 2/10 on three pointers. Meanwhile, KSU had plenty of open

jumpers, and made most of them, including 9/19 from three point territory. In the second half, WVU improved in all facets. They allowed only 1 steal, and their shooting improved to 16/32 overall (and 5/12 on the three-pointers). Kansas State still had some open shots, but they weren't as hot, going down to 4/15 for threes, and 11/36 overall. To be sure, WVU did play better defense, too. The win was a nice comeback, and showed a lot of fortitude for the Mountaineers. But to win games, they will have to ramp up their quality of play - if you play another first half like that against better Big 12 teams, there will be no comebacks. The games get a LOT tougher, too, as they face a pair of top 10 teams in their next two games. They head to Kansas to take on the Jayhawks this Saturday, and then next Tuesday the 18th, they host the defending national champion and current #1 teams, the Baylor Bears. Turning back

to football for a moment, I left out another wish list item for the 2022 season. WVU needs the defense to force more turnovers. This year, the Mountaineers were near the bottom of the NCAA standings in turnovers gained (T-94th), and the previous two years weren't much better. Forcing more turnovers often gives the offense a shorter field and therefore better scoring chances. The lack of turnovers means that WVU's anemic offense is forced to try to score on longer drives, which doesn't always work out, to say the least.

Notes: The exact gametime of the Kansas game has not been set as of press time. It will be on CBS, and is expected to tip either 1:30 or 2:00, so check your listings... The Baylor game will start at an unusual time: 5:00pm on Jan 18, and it will be on ESPN2...Leddie Brown was invited to the NFL Combine which will be in the first week of March.

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Hawse Health

is still recruiting **Behavioral Health Therapists** who would like to make a difference in the lives of our community. If you are interested in providing high quality, affordable, comprehensive health care then please contact Ken Powers, Director of Behavioral Health Services at 304-897-5915 Ext 99643 or by email (kpowers@hawsehealth.com).

Behavioral Health Therapists will provide assessment, psychotherapy and counseling services as part of our behavioral health program. Applicants will work independently and collaboratively as a member of a Primary Care Team. Behavioral Health Therapist will be utilized in our Health Centers and School Based Centers.

Experience working with adults, families, children, and adolescents is preferred. Applicants must have a Master's Degree and West Virginia license (LPC, LGSW, LCSW, LICSW, or Psychologist).

Sign Bonus \$5000 for LICSW/LPC, \$2500 for LCSW/LGSW

Competitive salary (\$43,000 to \$80,000 dependent upon licensure/experience/performance)

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E.A. Hawse Health Center is an equal opportunity employer.

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 (Substitute that can replace a teacher for no more than 10 consecutive days)

Qualified applicants must be at least 21 years of age with an associate degree or meet the minimum equivalency hours. Equivalency in lieu of a conferred associate degree should include a minimum of 60 semester credit hours or 90 quarter of completed course work with a 2.0 cumulative GPA or higher. Coursework should provide evidence of competencies in core areas such as English, reading, writing, and mathematics. Courses may include but are not limited to communications, social sciences, humanities and fine arts, analytical and inferential reasoning, and computational skills. These hours must be reflected on an official transcript of an accredited institution. Applicant must be of good character and physically, mentally, and emotionally qualified.

Reimbursement of certification expenses provided following one day of substitute teaching for any qualified applicant.

Contact Information
 Ms. Nicole M. Hevener, Associate Superintendent
 Pendleton County Board of Education
 P.O. Box 888
 Franklin, WV 26807
 Telephone: (304) 358-7065 x122 Email: nhevener@k12.wv.us
 County Website: www.pendletoncountyschools.com

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees
 Notice is hereby given that the following estate(s) have been opened for probate in the Hardy County Clerk's Office at 204 Washington Street, Moorefield, WV

26836-0200. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provisions of West Virginia Code 41-5-11 through 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representa-

tive or the venue or jurisdiction of the court, shall file notice of an objection with the County Commission within 60 days after the date of the first publication or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred. Any person interested in filing claims against an estate must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-2 and 44-3 and/or 44-1-14A(10).

Settlement of the estate(s) of the following named decedent(s) will proceed without reference to a fiduciary commissioner unless within 60 days from the first publication of this notice a reference is requested by a party of interest or an unpaid creditor files a claim and good cause is shown to support reference to a fiduciary commissioner. If no reference to a fiduciary commissioner is listed herein, claims against the estate(s) must be filed in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-1-14A(10).

First Publication Date: Wednesday, January 5, 2022
 Claim Deadline: Sunday, March 6, 2022

ESTATE NAME: MAYSELLE FLORENCE KIMBLE AKA BETTY
 CO EXECUTRIX ROBIN DENISE KIMBLE PO BOX 86 MOOREFIELD WV 26836
 CO EXECUTOR WILLIAM DOUGLAS KIMBLE 3070 SR 55 MOOREFIELD WV 26836-9149
 ATTORNEY WILLIAM H JUDY III JUDY & JUDY PO BOX 636 MOOREFIELD WV 26836-0636

ESTATE NAME: CHRISTOPHER CLARK ZENITTINI
 ADMINISTRATOR MATTHEW W ZENITTINI 15805 LANGLEY WAY EDMOND OK 73013-0001

ESTATE NAME: CYNTHIA ALAINE CORWIN WALTERS
 CO EXECUTOR NATHAN H WALTERS 1951 PINE RIDGE ROAD WARDENSVILLE WV 26851-8428
 CO EXECUTRIX RACHAEL WALTERS BRIGHTWELL 3000 RHODENHAVEN DRIVE NW ATLANTA GA 30327-1226

ESTATE NAME:

SOPHIA FLORETTA SEE
 ADMINISTRATOR DONALD F SEE PO BOX 235 26836-0235 MOOREFIELD WV
 ATTORNEY WILLIAM H BEAN BEAN AND BEAN PO DRAWER 30 MOOREFIELD WV 26836-0030

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 12/30/2021
 Gregory L Ely
 Clerk of the Hardy County Commission 1/5, 1/12 2c

Notice of Ancillary Filing without any Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees

Notice is hereby given that the following foreign will or affidavit of heirs has been filed in the Hardy County Clerk's Office at 204 Washington Street, Room 111 Moorefield, WV 26836-0200, and no appointment or administration is being made pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code 44-1-14b.

An interested person(s) objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this state must file a statement with the Hardy County Commission through the County Clerk's Office at the address listed above within 60 days after the date of first publication or 30 days of service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not timely filed, the objection is forever barred. The Hardy County Commission upon receiving any timely objection thereto shall schedule a hearing or hearings thereon and order relief, if any, it considers proper including, but not limited to, an order directing that full and complete ancillary administration of the estate of the nonresident decedent be made in this state.

First Publication Date: Wednesday, January 5, 2022
 DATE FILED 12/15/2021

ESTATE NAME: SHERRY LEIGH RICHARDSON 283 BORUM STREET STRASBURG VA 22657-2338
 AFFIANT DONALD RICHARDSON 363 SAND RIDGE ROAD TOMS BROOK VA 22660-2353
 ATTORNEY WILLIAM H BEAN BEAN AND BEAN PO DRAWER 30 MOOREFIELD WV 26836-0030

DATE FILED 12/15/2021
 ESTATE NAME: FREMONT EUGENE DAY ROUT 11 SOUTH PO BOX 465 MOUNT JACKSON VA 22842

AFFIANT JANET WERNER 157 KENSINGTON DRIVE FISHERSVILLE VA 22939-2106
 ATTORNEY WILLIAM H BEAN BEAN AND BEAN PO DRAWER 30 MOOREFIELD WV 26836-0030

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 12/15/2021
 Gregory L Ely
 Clerk of the Hardy County Commission 1/5, 1/12 2c

BOARD OF REVIEW AND EQUALIZATION 2022

The Hardy County Commission, sitting as a Board of Review and Equalization, will meet on Wednesday January 26th at 9:00 am, in the Hardy County Commission Room, 204 Washington St. Moorefield WV 26836, for the purpose of reviewing and equalizing the assessments made by the Assessor.

Any person desiring to apply for relief at this or any subsequent meeting of the Commission while sitting as a Board of Review and Equalization may make an appointment.

The subsequent meeting dates and times are as follows:
 Tuesday/February 1st at 1:30 pm
 Friday February 4th at 9:00 am
 Thursday February 10th at 9:00 am
 Wednesday February 16th at 9:00 am

Appointments can be made by calling the office of the Hardy County Clerk at 304-530-0250 or writing said Clerk at 204 Washington Street, Room 111, Moorefield, West Virginia 26836
 Gregory L. Ely
 Hardy County Clerk 1/12, 1/19 2c

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HARDY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
 IN RE: THE CHANGE OF NAME OF Donald Lee Raigner**

**Donald Lee Hott
 NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF CHANGE OF NAME:**
 Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of March, 2022 at the hour of 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as this matter may be heard, Donald Lee Raigner will apply by Petition to the Circuit Court of Hardy County, WV, at the Courthouse thereof in the City of Moorefield for the entry of an Order by said Court changing the name from Donald Lee Raigner to Donald Lee Hott.

Any person who has objection to the change of said name for any reason may appear at the time and place set forth above and shall be heard in opposition to such change. The publication shall contain a provision that the hearing may be rescheduled without further notice or publication.

Given under my hand this 5th day of January, 2022.
 Kelly Shockey
 by Mary Brennskaag 1/12 1c

IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF HARDY COUNTY, WV

ORDER
 The County Commission of Hardy County, sitting in Special session this 13th day of December, 2021, does hereby ADOPT the following redistricting plan:
 Capon Magisterial District shall include the following precincts: Precinct Numbers 1, 2, 3 and 15.

Lost River Magisterial District shall include the following precincts: Precinct Numbers 5, 6 and 7.
 Moorefield Magisterial District shall include the following precincts: Precinct Numbers 13 and 14.

Old Fields Magisterial District shall include the following precincts: Precinct Numbers 12 and 16.

South Fork Magisterial District shall include the following precincts: Precinct Numbers 18, 19 and 20.

Each Magisterial District shall have 1 Executive Committee District (which shall elect one male and one female from each district in accordance with W.Va. Code § 3-1-9(c)). The Executive Committee Districts shall be the same as the Magisterial Districts (comprised of the same precincts).

The County Clerk shall, if necessary, divide any precinct that does not comply with the provisions of W.Va. Code § 3-1-5 regarding the number of voters per precinct by an alphabetical split within the precinct boundaries. Further, the attached precincts are described as closely as possible, by census blocks, will become effective with the entry of this Order.

It is further ORDERED that Precinct 13 previously voting at the Moorefield Town Office shall be moved to a new polling place location established at the Moorefield Church of the Brethren Fellowship Hall, located at 117 Clay Street, Moorefield WV 26836; that the Precinct locations of all the other polling places have not changed.

These changes are being made due to polling place availability and the shift in population in accordance with the most recent Census. This will be a permanent change effective with the entry of this Order. Changes of Magisterial and Precinct lines are available for review at the Hardy

County Clerks Office, 204 Washington Street, Rm 111, Moorefield WV 26836.
 ENTERED this 13th day of December, 2021.
 HARDY COUNTY COMMISSION

Paul S. Fansler
 David S. Fansler, President

David J. Workman
 David J. Workman, Commissioner

Steven Schetrom II
 Steven Schetrom II, Commissioner

Attest:
 Gregory L. Ely, Hardy County Clerk

12/22, 1/5, 1/12 3c



JOB OPENINGS

CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT, part time, day shift, with occasional evenings and weekends, required. Current West Virginia license required. Knowledge of Medicare, long term care and skilled nursing regulations preferred. Apply by 1/14/22.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, part time, day shift, with occasional evenings and weekends, required. Current West Virginia license required. Knowledge of Medicare and skilled nursing regulations preferred. Apply by 1/14/22.

PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT, part time, primarily day shift with occasional weekends, required. Knowledge of Medicare, long term care and skilled nursing regulations preferred. Current West Virginia Physical Therapist Assistant license required. Apply by 1/14/22.

STAFF PHYSICAL THERAPIST, part time, primarily day shift with occasional evenings and weekends, required. Knowledge of Medicare and skilled nursing regulations preferred. Current West Virginia Physical Therapist license required. Apply by 1/14/22.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, full time, day shift, with occasional evenings and weekends, required. Current West Virginia license required. Knowledge of Medicare and skilled nursing regulations preferred. Apply by 1/21/22.

FULL TIME RNs, night shift, with alternating weekends required. Positions currently needing filled are the Emergency Department, Medical Surgical Unit, Special Care Unit, and Mother Infant Care Center. Operating room also needs filled and is day shift, with on call hours. Current WV RN license required. Experience preferred but not required. We offer sign on bonus, outstanding benefits including generous time off, health, vision and dental insurance and a retirement plan. Apply by 1/31/22.

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 P.O. Box 1019, Petersburg, WV 26847
 304-257-1026** EEO

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First Snow Day of 2022



A view of the valley from Weese Farm in Fisher, which saw about 8 inches of snow. Photo taken by Emily Morris.



When snow started to fall in Fisher Thursday evening. Around 8 inches fell. Photo by Jennifer Miller.



Darah and Margo See sled in the first snowfall of the season in Moorefield. Photo taken by Morgan Hill See.



A view of U.S. 48 Corridor H. Photo taken by Paarth Chauhan.



Hinkle Mt. along the South Fork. Photo by BJ Haggerty.



Cousins Hadley Weese, Jackson Morris, Jude Weese, Remi Weese, and Jacob Weese enjoying their first sled ride of the season. Photo taken by Emily Morris.



Mila and Layne Ridgway enjoying their first snow day. Photo by Keira Ridgway.



Easton enjoying the first snow fall in Fisher. Photo taken by Bridget Sions.



Kids sledding in around 8 inches of snow in Fisher. Photo taken by Sammie Sherman.



Golden retriever, Memphis, enjoying snow from Triple S Farm in Fisher. Photo taken by Bridget Sions.



A Calf enjoying the snow from Triple S Farm in Fisher in around 8 inches of snow. Photo taken by Bridget Sions.



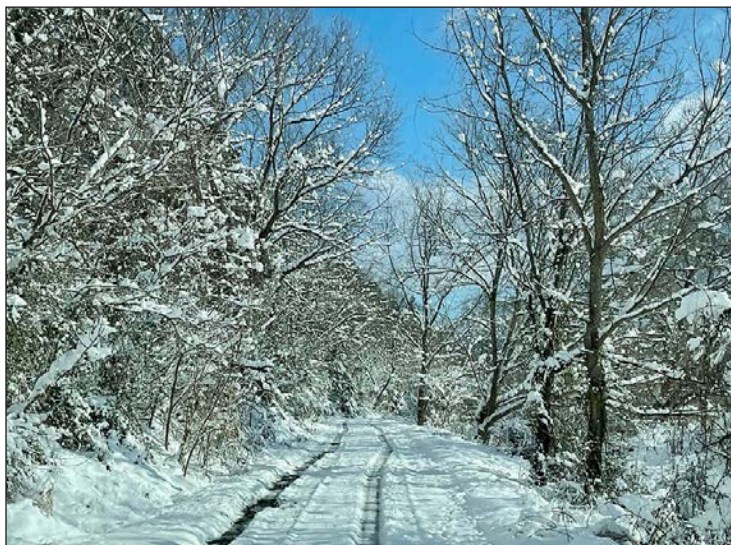
Parker enjoying the first snow fall of around 8 inches 2022 in Fisher. Photo taken by Bridget Sions.



Broken W Farm in Old Fields, which received around 12 inches of snow. Photo taken by Rita Walker.



Rhett Morris enjoying his very first sled ride with his uncle, John Weese, in Fisher. Photo taken by Emily Morris.



Weese Farm in Fisher. Photo taken by Rita Walker.



Ryman and Sparkle in a foot of snow in Purgitsville. Photo by Brittany Dennison.



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